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6 local teams pick up week 7 wins

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'It feels like home'

Florida couple makes Cullman Oktoberfest an annual tradition

Anabelle Howze
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman's Oktoberfest is one of the city's biggest celebrations of the year, but its impact travels far beyond city limits. For Ken and Kay Mayo of Tallahassee, Florida, the event has become a beloved tradition that feels like coming home.

"We first discovered Cullman's Oktoberfest back in 2008. We used to travel to Missouri for business and often stopped in » PAGE 2



CONTRIBUTED BY THE MAYOS

Ken and Kay Mayo of Tallahassee, Florida, regularly attend Cullman Oktoberfest celebrations.

Cullman County Fair returns Oct. 9–18 with pageants, rides, farm fun



2018 TRIBUNE FILE PHOTO

The Cullman County Fair will take place Oct. 9-18, 2025.

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The countdown is on for the 2025 Cullman County Fair, set for Oct. 9-18, at the Cullman County Fairgrounds, 1501 Sportsman Lake Road NW. The opening ceremony will take place Thursday, Oct. 9, at 5 p.m.

The annual fair parade took place this past Saturday's downtown, and this Thursday, the gates will open to a slate of pageants, livestock exhibitions, contests and shows that have made the fair a fall staple for generations.

Fair admission is $10 for ages 10 and older, with children 9 and younger admitted free. Ride arm bands are available for $30 Monday through Thursday and $35 Friday through Sunday and can be purchased at the fairgrounds. All-in-One Passes are $30 and include admission and rides. These passes can be purchased at most Peoples Bank locations through noon on Thursday, Oct. 9. (Organizers note that supplies are limited and encourage fairgoers to purchase early.) The midway is provided by Kissel Entertainment.

The Coca-Cola Theater will once again host the annual Fair Queen and Princess competitions, a tradition that draws contestants from across Cullman County each year.

Pageants are open to a range of age groups, giving young participants the opportunity to step on stage, showcase their poise and represent their schools or communities.

The most anticipated event is the Miss Cullman County Fair pageant, set for Tuesday, Oct. 14, when high school representatives compete for scholarship opportunities and the chance to serve as an ambassador for the fair.

The winner not only earns a crown, but also carries the responsibility of representing Cullman County at appearances throughout the year.

Each pageant begins at 7 p.m. and follows this schedule:

- Tiny & Petite Fair Princess — Thursday, Oct. 9
- Little Fair Princess — Monday, Oct. 13
- Miss Cullman County Fair — Tuesday, Oct. 14
- Junior Fair Princess — Wednesday, Oct. 15
- Teen Fair Princess — Thursday, Oct. 16

In addition to rides and pageants, the fair will feature a variety of special events and daily attractions designed for all ages. From contests that highlight creativity to interactive shows that entertain the whole family, these events help set the Cullman County Fair apart as one of the region's premier fall gatherings.

- Senior Citizens Day — Wednesday, Oct. 15, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Painted pumpkin competition — daily, Oct. 9–18
- Scarecrow contest — daily, Oct. 9–18
- Petting zoo — » PAGE 3

Michael Golden
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Cullman, Alabama 35055

Library hosts 'Picnic with a Purpose'



ANABELLE HOWZE/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Cullman County Public Library hosted "Picnic with a Purpose," on Saturday, Oct. 4, 2025. » PAGE 7

Wallace State to be featured on Amazon Prime show 'The College Tour'

» PAGE 8

CCPS students learn about Oktoberfest



CULLMAN CITY SCHOOLS

With the annual Oktoberfest celebration in Cullman, young Cullman City Schools students had the opportunity to learn a bit about the history, culture and tradition of the beloved Cullman festival that celebrates the area's German heritage. » PAGE 8

Cullman County Youth Football week 7 scoring recap



BOBI JO CREEL/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Vinemont Eagles took on the Danville Hawks last Saturday. » PAGE 2

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Oct. 6

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Oct. 6, 2025. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

GJ = grand jury; **FTA** = failure to appear

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

Oct. 2

- harassment; CR 1118
- domestic violence; 2nd Ave. SW
- burglary; Hwy. 91
- domestic violence; Hwy. 278W
- theft of property; US. 31
- harassing communications; CR 1718

Oct. 3

- possession of controlled substance; Wesley Ave. N
- possession of controlled substance; Hwy. 157
- theft of property; Hwy. 278W
- attempt to elude law enforcement officer; CR 940
- criminal mischief; harassment; CR 1719
- harassment; Hwy. 278E
- harassment; CR 617

Oct. 4

- domestic violence – criminal mischief; CR 1145
- burglary; CR 1606
- burglary; CR 142
- domestic violence; Wesley Ave. N
- possession of controlled substance; illegal possession of prescription drugs; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 831
- domestic violence; CR 703
- criminal mischief; Commercial St. SE
- possession of controlled substance; Welcome Rd.
- harassment; CR 656
- receiving stolen property; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 216
- possession of controlled substance; possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 1107

Oct. 5

- possession of drug paraphernalia; Wesley Ave. N
- possession of drug paraphernalia; Industrial Blvd.
- criminal mischief; College Dr. NE
- domestic violence; CR 703

ARRESTS

Oct. 2-5

Baker, John S.; 59
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Bradford, Katelynn A.; 36
- possession of methamphetamine
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Brown, Stacy O.; 54
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs
- possession of methamphetamine
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Byrne, David W.; 30
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Couch, Thomas D.; 29
- VIOLATION OF RELEASE – sale of stolen property
- VIOLATION OF RELEASE – possession of dangerous drugs
- VIOLATION OF RELEASE – possession of drug paraphernalia
- VIOLATION OF RELEASE – possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Gulley, Ronald C.; 61
- possession of methamphetamine

Harkey, Kaila D.; 28
- GJ – forgery-counterfeiting

Harvell, John R.; 33
- VIOLATION OF RELEASE – escape
- VIOLATION OF RELEASE – assault-disarming an law enforcement or correction office

Hill, Donald E.; 40
- FTA – unlawful possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Jackson, Michael L.; 66
- VIOLATION OF RELEASE – possession of dangerous drugs (2 counts)
- VIOLATION OF RELEASE – possession of drug paraphernalia (2 counts)
- VIOLATION OF RELEASE – possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Jacobs, Alma C.; 55
- possession of methamphetamine

Kerns, Brianna M.; 33
- possession of methamphetamine

Landers, Barry W.; 41
- receiving stolen property
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Lynn, Brent T.; 35
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Marsh, Thomas M.; 47
- FTA – theft-shoplifting, less than $500

Mitchell, Tiffany L.; 36
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Muller, Mark R.; 29
- unauthorized use of auto-no force (joyriding)

Richardson, Sharon D.; 47
- PROBATION VIOLATION – sell/distribution of dangerous drugs

Rouse, Sarah A.; 36
- possession of methamphetamine
- illegal possession of prescription drugs
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Sanford, Christopher L.; 41
- attempting to elude a police officer

Self, Michelle; 43
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs (2 counts)
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Sellers, Tasha D.; 34
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- negotiating worthless instrument

Silvas, Eric; 43
- public intoxication

Smith, Hamza; 37
- GJ – theft of services

Stone, Ted; 45
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Thomson, Ashton M.; 23
- stalking-2nd degree

Vega Ponce, Agustin S.; 35
- assault-aggravated assault police officer-other weapon
- public intoxication
- resisting arrest

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Oct. 1
- harassing communications; person

Oct. 3
- domestic violence-3rd degree; person; Main Ave. SW
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $70; Olive St. SW

Oct. 4
- retail theft of property-2nd degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $529; Olive St. SW
- retail theft of property-2nd degree; criminal trespass-3rd degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $1,853; Olive St. SW
- leaving the scene of an accident; person; damage to '19 BMW; $1,800; Hwy. 157
- domestic violence-harassment; person; damage to '25 Infinity; $15,000; Hwy. 157
- theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $484; Olive St. SW

ARRESTS

Oct. 3-4

Davidson, Kaitlyn S.; 28
- DUI

Sanford, Christopher L.; 41
- FTA – violation of protection order
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – criminal trespass-3rd degree
- FTA – driving without license

Harvell, John R.; 33
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA – public intoxication

Ortiz, Amanda R.; 30
- domestic violence-3rd degree

Welborn, Faith E.; 27
- theft of property-4th degree

Sotherland, Jaden I.; 19
- retail theft of property-2nd degree

Marsh, Thomas M.; 47
- retail theft of property-2nd degree (2 counts)
- criminal trespass-3rd degree
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree

Horton, Briana D.; 40
- public intoxication

Stringer, Ronald O.; 49
- public intoxication

Robinson, Hugh L.; 45
- public intoxication

Byrne, David W.; 30
- theft of property-4th degree

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

Find arrest and incident reports online Monday-Friday at www.CullmanTribune.com.

Home (from Front)

Cullman for the night," said Ken Mayo.

"One year, we happened to be here during Oktoberfest and thought, 'This is amazing.' We love all things German."

The couple's appreciation for the festival's heritage comes from experience. "Our work took us to Germany quite a bit," he said. "We worked with a faith-based organization that was administered out of an office in southwestern Germany."

After retiring, the Mayos made Oktoberfest an annual trip.

"We've been here nine consecutive times since we retired," Ken Mayo said proudly.

Kay Mayo said it wasn't just the music or food that brought them back, but the kindness of the people in the community.

"We both sat here thinking, 'This just feels like home.' Everyone was so friendly and welcoming. We thought, 'We want to be part of this.'" They said Cullman's Oktoberfest carries the same warmth and hospitality they experienced in Germany. "Germans are very friendly and hospitable, and we feel that same spirit here," she said.

"It's so family oriented. Kids, parents, grandparents, everyone together. That's what makes it so special."

The Mayos said they've attended other Oktoberfests around the Southeast, but none compares to Cullman's. Some of their favorite memories include meeting residents, Senior Day, winning bingo twice and bringing family along to share in the fun.

"Watching our daughter and granddaughter enjoy everything we've come to love was wonderful," Kay Mayo said. "You look around, and people are just happy. Smiling, laughing, having fun," she added. "It's good, wholesome joy."

Ken Mayo nodded, "That's why we keep coming back. It feels like home."

Recap (from Front)

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

Week seven of the youth football season is now over, and with the playoffs getting closer and closer with each passing week, each game around the local area was huge. The Fairview Aggies faced off against the Holly Pond Broncos, the Vinemont Eagles hosted the Danville Hawks, the West Point Warriors battled the West Morgan Rebels, the Cold Springs Eagles faced off against the Good Hope Raiders and the Hanceville Bulldogs took on the Cullman Bearcats.

FAIRVIEW AT HOLLY POND

- Fireplug: Aggies 21 - Broncos 6
- Wee-Wee: Aggies 27 - Broncos 6
- Pee-Wee: Broncos 32 - Aggies 8

DANVILLE AT VINEMONT

- Fireplug: Eagles 30 - Hawks 12
- Wee-Wee: Eagles 26 - Hawks 20
- Pee-Wee: Hawks 39 - Eagles 6

WEST MORGAN AT WEST POINT

- Fireplug: Rebels 24 - Warriors 0
- Wee-Wee: Rebels 36 - Warriors 0
- Pee-Wee: Rebels 28 - Warriors 12

COLD SPRINGS AT GOOD HOPE

- Fireplug: Raiders 13 - Eagles 7
- Wee-Wee: Raiders 39 - Eagles 0
- Pee-Wee: Eagles 14 - Raiders 13

HANCEVILLE AT CULLMAN

- Fireplug: Bulldogs 34 - Bearcats 24
- Wee-Wee: Bulldogs 8 - Bearcats 6
- Pee-Wee: Bearcats 6 - Bulldogs 0

CULLMAN FOOTBALL ACADEMY

- 8u Cullman 19 – Elkmont 6
- 9u Cullman 45 – Monrovia 12
- 10u Cullman 32 – Elkmont 0
- 12u Cullman 38 – Elkmont 0

RECORDS AFTER WEEK 7

Fireplug
- Vinemont (6-1)
- West Morgan (6-1)
- Fairview (5-2)
- Hanceville (5-2)
- West Point (4-3)
- Good Hope (3-4)
- Cold Springs (3-4)
- Holly Pond (2-5)
- Cullman (1-6)
- Danville (0-7)

Wee-Wee
- West Morgan (7-0)
- Good Hope (6-1)
- Vinemont (5-2)
- Danville (5-2)
- Hanceville (4-3)
- Fairview (3-4)
- Cullman (3-4)
- West Point (1-6)
- Holly Pond (1-6)
- Cold Springs (0-7)

Pee-Wee
- West Morgan (7-0)
- West Point (6-1)
- Danville (5-2)
- Holly Pond (4-3)
- Fairview (4-3)
- Cold Springs (3-4)
- Vinemont (3-4)
- Cullman (1-6)
- Good Hope (1-6)
- Hanceville (0-7)

WEEK EIGHT SCHEDULE (OCT. 11)

- Vinemont at Holly Pond (9 a.m.)
- Cold Springs at West Point (9 a.m.)
- Good Hope at Hanceville (4 p.m.)
- Danville at Fairview (4 p.m.)
- West Morgan at Cullman

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Fair (from Front)

daily, Oct. 9–18
• Stone Age Show — daily, Oct. 9–18
• Dinosaur and caveman performers, acrobats, jugglers and interactive acts — daily, Oct. 9–18

Livestock competitions will take center stage in the barns during the first week of the fair, with categories spanning cattle, goats, sheep, horses and pets. These events showcase the hard work of area youth and families involved in agriculture and 4-H.

The livestock show schedule is as follows:
• Dairy Cattle and Goat Show — Saturday, Oct. 11, 6 p.m.
• Youth Pet Show — Sunday, Oct. 12, 5 p.m.
• Combined Sheep and Goat Shows — Monday, Oct. 13, 5 p.m.
• Youth Cattle Shows — Tuesday, Oct. 14, 5 p.m.
• Youth Horse Show — Thursday, Oct. 16, 6 p.m.

In addition to livestock, visitors can explore exhibits in home arts, crops, crafts and creative works, all on display throughout the fair's run from Oct. 9-18.

Organizers describe the Cullman County Fair as more than just rides and entertainment.

It's a gathering place where neighbors reconnect and traditions are passed down. The fair's mix of pageantry, agriculture, music and midway attractions continues to bring generations together each fall.

The 2025 fair promises familiar favorites and new memories, ensuring the community's annual celebration remains one of the best fall events in north Alabama.

Get more info, including details on competitions, and a full schedule of events at www.cullmanfair.org and www.facebook.com/CullmanCountyFair.

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256-352-2221

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Submit your calendar items or public notices to wendy@cullmantribune.com

NOTICE: Holly Pond Cemetery Clean-up Day
The Holly Pond Homemakers will be doing their fall cemetery cleanup on Oct. 15. If there are flowers or memorials you would like to keep, please pick up before the 15th. Reminder: Only one flower or decoration should be on the ground for each grave. For questions or concerns, call 256-385-2851 or 256-708-3202.

It's not too late! Grace Episcopal Church Women Extending Cheeseball Sales Through Oct. 12
Because of continued demand, we are extending cheeseball sales through Sunday, Oct. 12. We have eight delicious flavors to choose from at $11 each. You can purchase your cheeseballs online at www.gracecullman.org or order by calling the church office at 256-734-6212 from 9:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday, Oct. 7-9. Cheeseballs will be ready for pick up on Thursday, Nov. 20, at the church. Proceeds from the sale include supporting many well-deserving local ministries here in Cullman.

The Poetry of Recovery: Recovery Support Group
Every Saturday at 10 a.m. at 514 Cleveland Ave. SW in Cullman. Facebook/The Poetry of Recovery. Contact Jeff at 727-542-6413 or John at 256-636-0612.

Cullman County Historical Society Meetings
We meet the fourth Sunday of the month from 2-4 p.m. at the Cullman County Museum. Each meeting features a specific program or speaker. Join us!

Attention Senior Citizens
If you are 60 or over, please come to the Cullman Senior Center at 1539 Sportsman Lake Road NW and have some fun with us and eat lunch. Good fun, good friends and good food. Different things going on Monday through Friday, 8 a.m.-noon. Volunteers needed to deliver meals to homebound. Call Commission on Aging for info. 256-734-1241.

Grief Support: Lost a Loved One Recently? Thinking about the coming holidays?
Come to a six-session support group once a week from Oct 12-Nov. 16, Sundays at 2 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church located at 615 Third Ave. SE, Cullman, AL 35055. For more information contact Reverend Warren Ruland at 256-962-2521.

Cullman County Republican Women Monthly Meetings
Second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the Cullman VFW. President Cathi Bradford: "We are going to begin training to track legislation in Montgomery. If you need information, you can directly message me on Facebook." Full meals at 5:30. Meetings start at 6.

The Crossing Food Bank
The Crossing is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m.-noon and 1-3:30 p.m. We are located at 1503 Second St. SW, Cullman (in the Housing Authority).

Cullman Low Vision Support Group Meetings
Third Tuesday of every month, from 10-11:30 a.m., at the Alabama Career Center, 1201 Katherine St. NW in Cullman. Contact Olivia Wade, case manager, at 256-389-2502.

Baileyton Bargain Days
First Saturday of each month from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. at the old Baileyton fire station next to the town's park. Beauty and health products, toys, home goods, pet items, food and many everyday items. A donation of $20 will allow a shopper to fill up a bag, and for $40 a shopper can fill a large box. Some of the items of greater value will require a larger donation. There will be some restrictions and product limits on the items. Cash and checks accepted. Proceeds will be used for park improvements and capital improvements for the town.

Alcoholics Anonymous
The Grace of God group of Alcoholics Anonymous has open AA meetings (all are welcome) Mondays and Thursdays from 7-8 p.m. at the Carriage House, located next to Grace Episcopal Church, 305 Arnold St. NE Cullman. Contact phone numbers: 256-347-1097, 256-841-2209 or 256-708-1340

Alcoholics Anonymous
Sundays, 3 p.m. at Cullman First Church of the Nazarene, 5415 Alabama Highway 157. CLOSED literature study. Handicap accessible.

TOPS (Take off Pounds Sensibly) Meetings
Fridays, 9:30-11 a.m., at the Donald E. Green Adult Active Center, 1625 Cleveland Ave. SW. The first meeting is free. TOPS, a national program, is a hands-on/pounds-off approach to weight loss and management through weekly meetings providing information, accountability, support and encouragement where you make the changes that make sense to you.

Cullman NAR-ANON Group Meetings
The NAR-ANON family group meetings are a worldwide fellowship for those affected by someone else's addiction. We offer Help by sharing our experiences, strength and hope. We carry the message of hope by letting others know that they are not alone by practicing the 12 Steps of NAR-ANON and changing our own attitudes. We Respect Your Anonymity. Our program is not a religious one, but a spiritual way of life. Meetings will be held at The Ruehl Building (Family Life Center of St. John's Church) Tuesday evenings at 6 p.m. Contact Jamie Weathersby Smith 256-708-7122 or Don or Nancy McKenzie 256-736-3327 or 256-736-3470 for more information.

Cullman Al-Anon Meetings
The Al-Anon Family Groups are a fellowship of friends and family whose lives have been affected by alcoholism. The Cullman Serenity Al-Anon Group meets each Monday at noon at 1519 St. Joseph Dr. NE. There is also a Zoom meeting each Tuesday at noon. The Courage to Change Al-Anon Family Group meets on Thursdays at 6 p.m. at Grace Episcopal Church at 305 Arnold St. NE in the Carriage House, located between the church and the Arnold House on the corner. For more information call 256-734-2231 or 256-531-4429.

The Pantry at The Link
• 708 Ninth St. SE, Cullman, AL 35055
• Tuesday and Thursday 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
• Closed for lunch noon-1 p.m.

Church Services: Spirit Life Church of GOD
• 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
• Wednesday, Oct. 8 – 7 p.m. Children and youth classes. Adult worship, teaching and testimonies in the sanctuary. Free pizza at 6:30. Van runs in the 5 Points Area at 6. Call Betty Hays at 256-338-3728 for pickup.
• Friday, Oct. 10 – Celebrate Recovery. Fellowship and testimonies. Hurts, habits and hang-ups are a part of everyone's life. Come and see how to overcome these and more! Dinner at 6 p.m. Meeting starts at 6:30. Childcare provided.
• Sunday, Oct. 12 – 9 a.m. Van runs in 5 Points Area. Call Betty Hays at 256-338-3728 for pickup. Breakfast at 9:30. Bible study classes for children, youth and adults at 10. Praise and worship and message by Pastor Bobby Dodd at 11.

Shirley Burden Public Library – Hanceville
• Families are invited to join us for fun at the library! Library is open Tuesday-Friday 8 a.m.-5p.m., closed from noon-1 p.m. Saturdays 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Join us on Facebook for weekly event details.
• Wednesday, Oct 8, 10 a.m.: Hanceville's new Fire Chief Bart Absher will teach about fire safety at story time
• Wednesday Oct 15, 10 a.m.: The art club will be painting little-miniature 5″ pumpkins. Bring your real pumpkin in, and we will provide the paint to decorate the face. Contest will be judged by Hanceville City Council and the winner will be announced Oct. 29.
• Wednesday, Oct. 22, 10 a.m.: Book club
• Wednesday, Oct. 29, 10 a.m.: Join us for a Halloween party with activities. Come and take your picture with Dracula
• Saturday, Nov. 8, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.: Hanceville celebrates Mud Creek Arts and Crafts Festival and the library will have the annual book sale

North Alabama Agriplex Programs
• www.agriplex.org
• Tuesday, Oct. 14, 6-8 p.m., Living Landscapes - Family Pumpkin Glow. Bring your family for fall treats, pumpkin carving and tales around the bonfire. $30 family fee, includes one pumpkin. $10 per additional pumpkins.
• Thursday, Oct. 16, 6 p.m., Military Veteran & Beginning Farmer — Farm Demo Day. Visit one of our local farmers to see best ag practices with Brandon and Amy Hines.

Heartland Quilt Guild Meeting
Thursday, Oct. 9, at 6:30 p.m. at Christ Covenant Presbyterian Church, 1310 St. Joseph Dr. in Cullman.

Breakfast and Leadership Inspiration
Saturday, Oct. 11, at 7:30 a.m. at Seventh Street Baptist Church, 708 Seventh St. SW, Cullman. Everyone is welcome to join us for a hearty breakfast and a powerful morning of encouragement. Former Alabama football player and team captain, attorney Rod Steakley, will be our guest speaker. Come hungry and leave encouraged! More info: 256-739-8724.

28th Annual Falkville Fall Festival
Saturday, Oct. 11, from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. in downtown Falkville. Color Me Downtown 5K run and walk, arts and crafts vendors, food trucks, kids' activities, pancake breakfast, live entertainment, tractor show/parade. For more information, go to www.Falkville.org.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School Community Fall Festival
Sunday, Oct. 12, from 2-5 p.m. at 510 Third Ave. SE, in Cullman. This family-friendly event will feature delicious food trucks with something for everyone, a lively dunk tank, a festive Trunk or Treat for kids of all ages and much more fun and fellowship! For more information, contact St. Paul's Lutheran School at 256-734-6580.

Cullman Chapter of NARFE Meeting
Monday, Oct. 13, at 11 a.m. at Freddie Days Eats, 1628 Second Ave. NW, Cullman. All active and retired federal employees, guests and annuitant spouses are urged to attend. There will be a private Dutch lunch provided at 11 a.m. Our guest speaker, Jennifer Prosser of United Healthcare, and business meeting will begin at noon. Questions: 256-708-3871.

Cullman County Commission on Aging Loaded Barbecue Potato Fundraiser
Thursday, Oct. 16, from 4-6:30 p.m. in the Cullman County Courthouse's south parking lot at 500 Second Ave. SW. Plates are $15 and include a loaded barbecue potato, a drink and dessert. Drive-through. Cash or check only Presale tickets are available at the Commission on Aging office, located at 1519 Sportsman Lake Road NW in Cullman.

Holiday Haus
Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism will host a Holiday Haus shopping event at the OmniPlex Friday and Saturday, Oct. 17-18, from 10 a.m.-8 p.m. The event will feature a wide variety of vendors showcasing goods and crafts inspired by every season and celebration. The cost to enter will be $5, and kids 5 and younger get in free. 1634 Field of Miracles Dr. SW, Cullman.

Pleasant View Missionary Baptist Church Annual Homecoming
Sunday, Oct. 19, beginning at 10:30 a.m. Lunch will be served. We will start back singing about 1:30 that afternoon. We will have singing featuring Point of Honor. Everyone is invited. All former pastors and members and their families have a special invitation to come. We will not have Sunday School or service that night. We are located on U. S. Highway 278 East approximately 2 miles East of Holly Pond on the left. For more information, call 256-339-1862 or 256-590-1501.

Hyatt Family Reunion
Sunday, Oct. 19, from 1-4 p.m. at the Baileyton Senior Center, 195 Fire Station Road, Baileyton, AL 35019. Covered dish lunch.

Cullman Police Department Trunk of Treat
Tuesday, Oct. 28, from 6-8 p.m. at the police department, 601 Second Ave. NE. Candy, music, police cars, fire trucks, helicopter.

Small Business Christmas Market
The Small Business Christmas Market will welcome dozens of vendors and will take place at the Cullman County Agricultural Trade Center on Saturday, Nov. 22, from 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. $3 entry and free parking available. The first 60 shoppers in line will receive a free gift. For more information, contact Shayla Waldner at 256-595-8133 or Shayladenney2018@gmail.com. Get more details at Facebook/Small Business Christmas/Easter Market.





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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
OCTOBER 7, 2025

PREP FOOTBALL

6 local teams pick up week 7 wins

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Another week of the high school football season is in the book and six local teams collected six more wins in week seven. Fairview picked up a 35-28 region win over Russellville, Good Hope handled Curry 48-8, Vinemont outraced Hanceville 78-42, Cold Springs shut out West End 28-0, Addison dominated Waterloo 45-0 and Meek hammered Shoals Christina on the road 58-6.

Fairview 35 – Russellville 28

Fairview hosted Russellville for a regional matchup with big postseason implications Friday night, and it ended up being another great one between these two squads. The score was knotted at 14 at halftime but the Aggies came out strong in the second half to pull ahead 35-21 and fended off the Tigers down the stretch the secure a 35-28 win.

Russellville got the ball first to start out the game, and they struck gold on its opening series, as a 56-yard touchdown pass gave them the early lead less than a minute into the contest. Fairview looked to respond on its opening drive. A big run by Jake Harper gave them a first down at the 46, but two plays later, a touchdown got called back because of a penalty. Later on in that drive, the Aggies were faced with a fourth and seven from the 43, and they ran a trick play. Kolt Redding gave the ball to Rex Chandler, who then proceeded to find a wide-open Ayden Batz in the end zone for a 43-yard score to tie things up at seven with 7:53 remaining in the first quarter.

Some big plays by the Golden Tigers on its next drive put them in position to score another touchdown, but a holding penalty and two straight incompletions had them settling for a field goal. They missed it, and the score remained knotted up at seven. The Aggie offense went on a long methodical drive on its next possession. Redding found Batz for eight yards to start out the drive, then the trio of Harper, Redding, and Rex Chandler helped them get to the 28. After Redding found Conner Scott for eight yards, Fairview kept it on the ground the rest of the way. Jace Stevens ended up scoring from 13 yards out to give them a 14-7 lead with 8:53 remaining in the first half. A pair of big plays by Russellville quickly got them past midfield, and they finished things off with a 28-yard touchdown pass to tie it up at 14. Neither team was able to break the tie after that, as the game was tied at 14 at the half.

Fairview kept the ball on the ground to start out the second half, as the Redding/Harper duo helped them get to the 42. Two plays later, Redding converted a huge fourth down to help keep their drive alive. The running game continued to wear down Russellville's defense, and Harper finished off the drive with a three-yard score up the middle to give the Aggies a 21-14 lead.

A quick three-and-out gave the ball to Fairview, and back-to-back big runs by Harper and Stevens quickly had them on the doorstep of another score. Three straight carries by Chandler put the Aggies at the 16. A holding penalty nullified a rushing touchdown, but three plays later, Harper wasn't going to be denied this time, as his 10-yard score extended their lead to 28-14.

The Golden Tigers went on a long, methodical drive of their own, which included a pair of third-down conversion, and one fourth-down conversion. They ended up scoring on a five-yard touchdown pass to cut it to 28-21 with less than six minutes to go in the contest. Fairview quickly responded on its next drive, as Harper found a big hole on the right side and scored on a 42-yard run to make it a 35-21 game. Russellville was far from done, though. They continued to give the Aggie defense fits through the air, and a 20-yard touchdown pass made it a one-score game again with 1:52 remaining in the game. A penalty on the kickoff gave the ball to Fairview, and a Harper first down helped seal a huge, 35-28 region win for the Aggies.

Harper finished with 164 yards on 25 carries and three touchdowns. Chandler finished with the 43-yard touchdown pass, and Stevens added a score on the ground. Fairview (6-0) will be on the road Friday night for another region game at Priceville.

Good Hope 48 – Curry 8

After collecting a dominant road win at Addison last week, Good Hope was back home for a region matchup against Curry Friday night. The Raiders jumped out to a 34-0 lead in the first half and with the hot clock running the second half, Good Hope cruised to a 48-8 homecoming win over the Yellow Jackets.

The Raider defense stuffed the Yellow Jackets on 4th and 1 early in the first quarter to take over on downs near midfield and just a few plays later, Carter Rutherford took a handoff 30 yards into the end zone for a touchdown to put Good Hope in front 6-0. After another turnover on downs from Curry, the Raiders scored on a 9-yard touchdown pass from quarterback Parker Johnson to Tucker Keef, extending the lead to 13-0 with just over two minutes to play in the first quarter.

The Yellow Jackets were forced to punt the ball away on the ensuing possession and a big return by Rutherford set up the Good Hope offense with excellent field position. A couple plays later, Mason Drake punched one into the end zone from 5 yards out to make it a 20-0 game early in the second quarter. The sequence that followed the next Curry punt was an exciting one for Raider fans.

Rutherford returned a punt for a touchdown that was brought back by a penalty and on Good Hope's next offensive snap, Rutherford scored on a long touchdown pass that was also nullified by a flag. However, Johnson wiped out a disappointing moment for Raider fans when he raced 95 yards to the end zone on the very next play, stretching Good Hope's lead to 27-0 with just under five minutes remaining in the first half. The Raiders were able to add one more score before halftime when Rutherford took another handoff 71 yards to the house, giving Good Hope a commanding, 34-0 lead at the break.

With the clock running, the Raiders added to their lead on the first play of the second half when Karson Hollis broke one for 60 yards and a touchdown to make it a 41-0 game.

A 19-yard touchdown run by Hunter Miller put Good Hope in front 48-0 later in the third quarter and Curry was able to find the end zone in the final frame to avoid the shutout but the Raiders wrapped up a 48-8 win to remain unbeaten.

Good Hope (6-0) will be on the road Friday for a big region battle at Hamilton.

Vinemont 78 – Hanceville 42

Vinemont made the short trip down Hwy 31 to Ray Talley Stadium in Hanceville for a regional battle with the Bulldogs Friday night and stops were hard to come by in this one. The Eagles led 35-21 at halftime but their offense was just getting started. Vinemont racked up 43 more points in the second half to put things out of reach for Hanceville and returned home with an eye-popping 78-42 win. Vinemont posted a new school record for most points in a single game in the win.

Early in the first quarter Hunter Black found Zavier Malcom for a 5-yard touchdown to put the Bulldogs ahead 7-0. Karson Arbet found Caleb Slain for a 42-yard touchdown to even the game at 7 with just under 9 minutes remaining in the opening quarter. After a three and out Vinemont's Gabriel Herrera raced 34 yards to put the Eagles ahead 14-7 midway through the first quarter. Late in the opening quarter Herrera raced 75 yards to extend the Eagles led to 20-7.

Herrera pushed the lead to 28-7 early in the second quarter from 6 yards out. Hanceville cut into the lead when Nick Davis intercepted the pass and returned it 80 yards for a touchdown to make it 28-14. Vinemont quickly responded with a touchdown when Dalton Bryan punched it in from 3 yards out to put the Eagles ahead 35-14 with less than a minute remaining until halftime. As time expired in the first half Hunter Black found Javis Leusby for a 48-yard touchdown to send the game to halftime with Vinemont ahead 35-21.

Coming out of the locker room Vinemont quickly found the end zone when Gabriel Herrera raced 53 yards on the second play of the drive to put the Eagles up 42-21 with under a minute off the clock. Hanceville went for it on fourth down on their next possession but was unable to convert, three plays later Caleb Slain scored from 15 yards out to extend the Eagles lead to 49-14 with 8:45 remaining in the third quarter. Midway through the third quarter, Hanceville's Hunter Black found Nick Davis for a 52-yard touchdown to cut the lead to 49-28. Less than a minute later Vinemont answered on a 13-yard touchdown run by Chase Blair pushing the lead to 56-28. Hunter Black found Drake Bentley for a 22-yard touchdown, cutting the lead to 56-35 with three minutes remaining in the third quarter. Chase Blair pushed the lead to 63-35 on an 18-yard run late in the third quarter.

Early in the fourth quarter Zach Johnson scored from 15 yards out to put the Eagles up 71-35. With just under four minutes remaining in the game Hayden Puckett scored from a yard out to extend the Eagles' lead to 78-35. The Bulldogs answered quickly when Hunter Black got the ball to Drake Bentley who raced down the sideline for a 63-yard touchdown cutting the lead to 78-42. Vinemont ran out the last two minutes of the game to wrap up the win and remain unbeaten in region play.

Vinemont (5-2) will hit the road Friday night for a region game at Gordo and Hanceville (0-6) will travel to play Midfield.

Cold Springs 28 – West End 0

The Cold Springs Eagles collected a road win over Lynn last week and they returned home for a region matchup against West End Friday night. Cold Springs led 12-0 at halftime and the Eagles held firm on the defensive side of the ball in the second half to shut out the Patriots 28-0.

Cold Springs took a 6-0 lead midway through the first quarter on a rushing touchdown by Cooper Johnson. Eli Voce intercepted a Patriots pass just before the end of the first quarter to set up the Eagle offense and Tycen Kilgo ran one into the end zone later in the second quarter to make it a 12-0 game. Cold Springs' defense forced a turnover on downs just before halftime to preserve a 12-0 advantage at the break.

Neither offense was able to get much going in the third quarter, but the Eagles finished the third with a big play on defense when Ayden Black picked off another West End pass. Cold Springs took advantage of the scoring opportunity when Johnson punched in a touchdown and a two-point conversion midway through the fourth quarter, stretching the Eagles' lead to 20-0.

Cold Springs continued to shine on the defensive side of the ball as Cason Alexander intercepted a third Patriots pass on the ensuing possession. A touchdown pass from Black to Tidus Light added to the Eagles' lead and Johnson ran in the two-point conversion to wrap up a 28-0 region win for Cold Springs.

Cold Springs (6-1) will remain at home for a big region showdown against Coosa Christian Thursday night.

Addison 45 – Waterloo 0

After suffering their first loss of the season to the ranked 4A Good Hope Raiders last week, the Bulldogs were back home at A.G. Hicks Stadium Friday night for a region game against Waterloo. Addison was in control of this one from start to finish and improved to 4-0 in the region with a 45-0 win over the Cougars. The Bulldogs (6-1) will host a region matchup against Meek on Friday night.

The festivities kicked off with stunning Senior Maggie Gilliland being named Addison's 2025 Homecoming Queen. Miss Gilliland will represent the school well as she has a very accomplished academic record as well as being a cheerleader for the Bulldogs.

The Bulldog Band under the direction of Garrett McCurley, who is in his seventh year as director, has the band improving dramatically each week of the season. Well done Bulldog Band members.

Addison also honored a longtime teacher and band director who passed away unexpectedly this year. Mr. Jim Head led an adventurous life, traveling the world and becoming a beloved member of the faculty of Addison for over 27 years. Mr. Head led the band for over seventeen years and was a respected colleague to his fellow teachers and was extremely well liked by his students. Mr. Head was represented by his widow Emily and his daughter Ellen at midfield prior to kickoff.

Meek 58 – Shoals Christian 6

After resting up on a bye last week, the Meek Tigers hit the road Friday night for a region matchup against Shoals Christian, and this one was never in doubt. The Tigers built a 52-0 lead in the first half and cruised past the Flame in the second half on their way to a 58-6 win.

The Tigers got things going early with a 15-yard touchdown pass from Evan McCay to Jackson Brown and Hunter Wyatt punched in the two-point conversion to make it an 8-0 game. Later in the first quarter, McCay hit Brady Baxter through the air for 35 yards and a touchdown and McCay ran in the two points to stretch the lead to 16-0.

A 2-yard touchdown run by Wyatt added to Meek's lead and McCay connected with Parker Ferguson for the two-point conversion to put the Tigers in front 24-0 going into the second quarter.

A 1-yard touchdown run by Wyatt stretched the lead to 30-0 early in the second quarter and McCay found Baxter through the air once again for 40 more yards and another touchdown to make it 36-0. The Tigers' defense got in on the scoring before halftime as well. Ethan Miles picked off a pair of Shoals Christian passes on back to back possessions to give Meek a commanding, 52-0 lead going into the locker room at halftime.

A 3-yard touchdown run by Max Powe made it a 58-0 game midway through the third quarter, but the Flame were able to find the end zone before the end of the period to trim the lead to 58-6 at the start of the fourth. With the clock running, neither team put any more points on the board in the final frame and the Tigers returned home with a dominant, 58-6 win.

Meek (4-2) will be back on the road Friday for a big rivalry and region game against Addison.



BOBI JO CREEL/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Vinemont's Tucker Robinson (28) goes up for a touchdown catch during the Eagles' 78-42 win at Hanceville Friday night.



AMBER BLACK/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Fairview quarterback Kolt Redding breaks a tackle in the Aggies' 35-28 win over Russellville Friday night.

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The 40 Acre Wood opening for field trips

Anabelle Howze
anabelle@cullmantribune.com



WENDY SMITHSON

Beginning Nov. 1, 2025, The 40 Acre Wood will welcome school field trips, allowing students to learn and play outdoors while exploring the natural beauty of Cullman County.

CULLMAN, Ala. — Beginning Nov. 1, The 40 Acre Wood will welcome school field trips, allowing students to learn and play outdoors while exploring the natural beauty of Cullman County.

Owner Wendy Smithson said her goal is to help children step away from technology and classrooms and into the natural world. "We want them to learn while they're here, but also to have fun memories of being outdoors and enjoying God's creation," she said.

The property features wide walking trails, a rustic playground with swings and zip lines and trails that highlight the land's historical sites, including the foundation of an old homestead dating back to the late 1800s. Students can also participate in a "Bigfoot hunt." Smithson and her husband have cleared land, widened trails and added a picnic area with seating for 120. The public restrooms are currently under construction and are expected to be completed this fall. Field trips will cost $10 per student, while teachers may attend free of charge.

Smithson emphasized the importance of affordability. "There's a lot of planning that goes into field trips. Teachers deserve to enjoy the day without extra costs," she noted.

The venue is also being developed to host various events, including weddings, reunions and scout outings. While open year-round, the restrooms will close from December through March due to freezing conditions.

Bookings are already underway, and Smithson encouraged local schools to schedule early, as dates are filling quickly. Field trips are best suited for students in grades 1 through 7.

For information, rules and regulations, visit www.facebook.com/TheFortyAcreWood or www.thefortyacrewood.com or contact Wendy Smithson at 256-708-4849 or wwsmithson@gmail.com.

The Forty Acre Wood is located at 195 Seven Bark Dr. NW, Cullman, AL 35057.

Get to know Rise & Shine Hope Ranch

Anabelle Howze
anabelle@cullmantribune.com



JADY AND PAMELA PIPES

Rise & Shine Hope Ranch is located at 274 County Road 805. Find out more at Facebook/Rise & Shine Hope Ranch LLC.

CULLMAN, Ala. — For Chaplains Dr. Jady and Pamela Pipes, faith is at the center of everything they do. "First of all, we want to give God all of the glory and honor for what He has done in our lives. We have been allowed to show others His love and grace." The couple now operates a nonprofit ministry dedicated to serving veterans, first responders, medical workers, clergy, public servants and their families. Rise & Shine Hope Ranch, situated on 10 acres in Cullman County, offers a place of healing, rest and encouragement, all at no cost to its visitors.

Jady Pipes, a U.S. Army veteran who retired after 43 years as a police officer and served 25 years as a chaplain, has long worked with those facing PTSD and moral injury.

Pamela Pipes is a retired nurse with 40 years in the medical field, who also serves as a chaplain. They said they were determined to create a place where those who give so much to others could find rest and renewal.

When the couple purchased their property, only 2 acres around the house had been cleared. The rest of the area was heavily wooded, but they began transforming the land. An old potato barn and a small barn were converted for storage and livestock. Chickens, ducks, turkeys, goats, sheep and horses now call the ranch home, providing fresh eggs, milk and company for visitors.

A 175-foot well supplies water to the ranch, and guests are welcome to fish in the two ponds stocked with fish. Donations of horses have made horseback riding possible, with plans for fencing and a barn underway.

Rise & Shine Hope Ranch is now a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit. The vision includes building seven tiny homes, seven cabins and seven RV hookups, allowing families to stay for more than just a day. Visitors at the ranch can enjoy activities such as fishing, horseback riding, gardening, collecting eggs and relaxing in the countryside. More importantly, they are offered prayer, counseling and fellowship designed to promote emotional, physical, mental and spiritual healing.

"We provide hope, healing, support, honor and encouragement. This ministry is about giving back to those who have sacrificed so much," said Pamela Pipes.

The ranch is growing with every season, and the couple is grateful for those who have supported their journey. They welcome anyone interested in volunteering, donating or simply spreading the word about the ministry.

"We are honored, thankful and express gratitude for those who have dedicated their service to our country, community, church and others. We covet your prayers and support for the ministry as God continues to open doors for His glory," they said.

Rise & Shine Hope Ranch is located at 274 County Road 805. Find out more at Facebook/Rise & Shine Hope Ranch LLC.



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CASA shares fundraising need

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman County CASA shared it is in desperate need of funds to be able to purchase goods to serve local families.

Program Director Candace Lingo said since it's now normal for the nonprofit to serve over 1,000 people/families per month, CASA is looking to gain financial support from the community.

"We are in need of funds to be able to help purchase more goods as needed for those that we serve," Lingo said.

"We are also needing more funds to help the CASA programs. Funds help us train and maintain volunteers to advocate for the abused and neglected children."

CASA has 190 kids served by 21 volunteers. Lingo said, outside of basic costs, there is a serious lack of local foster and therapeutic homes.

"That means the volunteers must drive two hours or more to see their assigned kids," Lingo said. "We also help ensure they have what they need, love to take snacks or food, and encourage interests (sports, art, school, birthdays and holidays). We definitely need more money to be able to continue helping in the way that we need to."

Donations can be made online at cullmancaringforkids.com or brought to the office at 402 Arnold Street NE, Ste. W-1, in Cullman.



STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
COUNTY OF CULLMAN * CASE NO. AD2025-041

IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION PETITION OF JAMES CHAPMAN GOODWIN III and JENNIFER STREET GOODWIN.

NOTICE OF ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS

Notice to: UNKNOWN FATHER OF M.M.J. (DOB 10/14/2024)
whose whereabouts and location are unknown

Please take notice that a Petition for Adoption of M.M.J., a minor child born October 14, 2024, to Mary Marie Jones, was filed on the 2nd day of October, 2025, in the Probate Court of Cullman County by Petitioners James Chapman Goodwin III and Jennifer Street Goodwin. If you should contest this adoption, you must file a written response within thirty (30) days of the date of the last publication herein with counsel for said Petitioners, whose name and address are as shown below, and with the Clerk of the said Probate Court of Cullman County, Alabama, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, Alabama 35055.

DONE this 3rd day of October, 2025.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate

NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by **RITA N. WOOD, an unmarried woman,** to Traditions Bank, as follows: Mortgage securing the property described below, said Mortgage executed by Rita N. Wood dated January 24, 2019, and recorded on January 24, 2019 in Mortgage Book 1868 Page 991 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, the undersigned Traditions Bank, as mortgagee, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgages, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the main entrance of the Cullman County Courthouse in Cullman, Alabama, on the **15th day of October, 2025,** between the legal hours of sale, the following described real estate situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:

Lot 1, Ashwander Estates Subdivision, as shown by map or plat of said Subdivision in Map Book 3 page 36 (A-132) in the Probate Records of Cullman County, Alabama.
Also:
The East half of Lot 2, Ashwander Estates Subdivision, as shown by map or plat of said Subdivision in Map Book 3 page 36 (A-132) in the Probate Records of Cullman County, Alabama.

Property Address: 1614 Edmondson Road NE, Hanceville, AL 35077

This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure.

PUBLICATION DATES: September 23, September 30 and October 7, 2025

NEWSPAPER: *The Cullman Tribune*

TRADITIONS BANK
Mortgagee
Steven C. Smith
SMITH & SMITH, LLP
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
Telephone: (256) 734-4721
Fax: (256) 734-4774
steve@smithandsmithllp.com

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF
FREDDY PAUL PRIVETT,
Deceased. CASE NO.: PC 2025-325

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to TRAVIS OVERTON as Personal Representative of the Estate of FREDDY PAUL PRIVETT, deceased, on the 29th day of September, 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claims against the said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same be barred.

Travis Overton
Personal Representative

Sherry H. Barrett
Smith & Smith, LLP
Attorney for Personal Representative
PO Box 398
Cullman, Alabama 35056

TO: **The Publisher of The Cullman Tribune**

Please publish the foregoing notice once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks and send an Affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

STATE OF ALABAMA * **IN THE PROBATE COURT OF**
CULLMAN COUNTY * **CASE NO.:** PC2025-340

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF ANTHONY LOUIS GOODWIN, DECEASED,

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY ADMINISTRATOR

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to KENNY GOODWIN, as Administrator of the Estate of ANTHONY LOUIS GOODWIN, Deceased, on the 22nd day of September, 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claims against the said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

KENNY GOODWIN
Administrator of the
Estate of Anthony Louis Goodwin, Deceased

PERRY D. KNIGHT
Attorney for the Estate of
Anthony Louis Goodwin, Deceased
412 First Avenue SE
Suite 101
Cullman, AL 35055
256-734-4090

TO: The Publisher of THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Please publish the foregoing notice once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks and send an Affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate

DISTRICT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
500 SECOND AVENUE SW
ROOM 303
CULLMAN, AL 35055

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

BIVINS ECONOMY MOTORS, INC.,
Plaintiff,
vs. **Case No: DV-2025-900056**
CHRISTOPHER MICHAEL YATES,
Defendant.

NOTICE OF FILING OF LAWSUIT

DEFENDANT YATES CHRISTOPHER MICHAEL, whose whereabouts are unknown, must answer the complaint brought against him by the **PLAINTIFF, BIVINS ECONOMY MOTORS, INC.**, for $6,426.30 plus court cost, cause of action being: Breach of Contract.

ANSWER TO THE COMPLAINT MUST BE MADE BY THE SAID DEFENDANT on or before the 21st day of October 2025, or a default may be rendered against her in the above styled cause.

DATED THIS THE 29th day of September 2025

Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain, District Court Clerk
Cullman County, Alabama.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE MATTER OF:
ONZELLE H. DUREN, **CASE NO. PC-2025-313**
Deceased.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT

LETTERS TESTAMENTARY of said deceased having been granted to **RONALD JAMES AKERS** on the 3rd day of October, 2025 by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Court Judge of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within six months after the grant of Letters or within five months from the first publication of this notice, whichever is the latter to occur or the same will be barred.

/s/Ronald James Akers
Ronald James Akers, Personal Representative of the Estate of Onzelle H. Duren

Seth B. Thompson, Attorney for Petitioner
Ronald James Akers

Of Counsel:

The Thompson Law Firm, LLC
201 Second Avenue Southeast
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Phone: 256.734.4591
Fax: 866.826.4785

TO THE PUBLISHER OF THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Please publish the above notice for three successive weeks in said newspaper.

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

IN THE PROBATE COURT FOR CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of
PHILLIP WILLIAM MARKS,
Deceased
Case No.: PC-2025-354

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to Carey Deann Marks as Personal Representative of the Estate of Phillip William Marks, deceased, on the 29th day of September, 2025, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all persons having claims against the said Estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Carey Deann Marks
Carey Deann Marks
Administrator of the Estate of
Phillip William Marks, deceased

TO: The Publisher of *The Cullman Tribune*

Please publish the foregoing notice one a week for 3 consecutive weeks and send an Affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

Beverly Paschal Poston,
Attorney for the Estate of
Carey Deann Marks, deceased.
201 2nd Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

STATE OF ALABAMA)
) NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE
COUNTY OF CULLMAN)

WHEREAS, default has occurred in the performance of the covenants terms and conditions of that mortgage from St. Sebastian Estates, LLC, an Alabama Limited Liability Company, to BankFirst Financial Services, dated April 4, 2023, and recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama on April 10, 2023, in Mortgage Volume 2046 at Page 304; and

BankFirst Financial Services, as mortgagee, having declared all of the indebtedness secured by said mortgage due and payable and such default continuing, notice is hereby given under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, that BankFirst Financial Services, as mortgagee, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the main entrance of the Court House in Cullman, Cullman County, Alabama during the legal hours of sale (between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.) on the 30th day of October, 2025, the following property, situated in Cullman County, Alabama together with hereditaments and appurtenances there unto belonging and all buildings, structures, fixtures and other improvements now or hereafter existing, erected or installed thereon to-wit:

LOT NUMBER 1 OF SAN ANTONIO, A RESIDENTIAL SUBDIVISION AS SHOWN AND KNOWN ON THE RECORDED PLAT THEREOF FILED IN PLAT BOOK 2019 PAGE 44 IN THE OFFICE OF THE JUDGE OF PROBATE, CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

Said legal description being controlling, however the property is more commonly known as:

15 San Antonio Drive, Cullman, Alabama 35057;
Parcel ID: 22-03-05-0-001-015.002

Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, all outstanding liens for public utilities which constitute liens upon the property, and any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, easements, rights-of-way, zoning ordinances, restrictions, special assessments, covenants, the statutory right of redemption pursuant to Alabama law, and any matters of record, including, but not limited to, those superior to said mortgage first set out above.

Said property will be sold on an "AS-IS" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. This sale is made for the purpose of paying the indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure. This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation.

ALABAMA LAW GIVES SOME PERSONS WHO HAVE AN INTEREST IN PROPERTY THE RIGHT TO REDEEM THE PROPERTY UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES. PROGRAMS MAY ALSO EXIST THAT HELP PERSONS AVOID OR DELAY THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS. AN ATTORNEY SHOULD BE CONSULTED TO HELP YOU UNDERSTAND THESE RIGHTS AND PROGRAMS AS A PART OF THE FORECLOSURE PROCESS.

BankFirst Financial Services,
as Mortgagee

Lowe, Mobley Lowe & LeDuke
Attorneys for Mortgagee
c/o Jonathan B. Lowe
1210 21st Street
P.O. Box 576
Haleyville, Alabama 35565
Tel: (205)486-5296

Jeff Clemons, *Chairman*
Kerry Watson, *Commissioner, District 1*
Garry Marchman, *Commissioner, District 2*

Cullman County COMMISSION

Kelly Duke, *Commissioner, District 3*
Corey Freeman, *Commissioner, District 4*
John Bullard, *County Administrator*

ADVERTISEMENT FOR SEALED BIDS

Cullman County is taking bids for one or more Roof and Upper Gable Metal Buildings and one or more 3-Wall Enclosed Metal Buildings for Parks and Recreation. Sealed bids will be received by the Cullman County Commission at 500 2nd Avenue SW Room 105, Cullman, Alabama 35055 until 2:00 PM Central Time on October 16, 2025, and then publicly opened as soon thereafter as practicable. Award will be made at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Cullman County Commission. All bids must be marked with the word "BID" on the outside of the bid package along with Bid Proposal for one or more Roof and Upper Gable Metal Buildings and one or more 3-Wall Enclosed Metal Buildings.

Any questions regarding this bid should be directed to Kenneth Cornelius, at 256-550-0493.

All bids must comply with the State of Alabama bid requirements

Bidders shall be responsible for complying with all Federal, State and local laws, ordinances and regulations, and shall possess all proper licenses.

The Cullman County Commission reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids and to waive any formalities in the bidding.

THE CULLMAN COUNTY COMMISSION

500 Second Avenue, S.W., Room 105 Cullman, Alabama 35055 Phone (256) 775-4878 Fax (256) 739-3525
www.co.cullman.al.us

STATE OF ALABAMA)
) NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
COUNTY OF CULLMAN)

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

Date & Time of Sale: **Monday, Oct 20 2025 at 11:15 a.m./p.m.**
Sale Location: **Cullman County Courthouse East Entrance, 500 Second Avenue, S.W., Cullman, Alabama 35055**
Writ of Execution Parties: **Edgefield Holdings, LLC vs. Kristen Shedd, 10890 County Road 222, Logan, AL 35098**

By virtue of an Execution issued to me by Circuit Clerk Lisa McSwain, pursuant to the Code of Alabama, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Execution issued on a judgment, with interest and cost. Upon the expiration of proper notice and advertisement, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder at the date, time, and location listed above, all right, title, and interest of Kristen Shedd, to the property, described as follows:

Commence at the Southeast Corner of Section 21, Township 9 South, Range 5 West and run thence North 02 degrees, 12 minutes, 20 seconds West 1501.35 feet to the point of beginning of tract herein described. Said point being further described in Deed Book 429, Page 91 as being 160 foot, more or less, North of the Southeast corner of the Northeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 21, Township 9 South, Range 5 West; thence run North 02 degrees 12 Minutes 20 seconds West, along the forty line a distance of 500.00 feet; thence run North 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds West, 500.00 feet to a point on the East right of way line of County Road 1082; thence South 14 degrees 20 minutes 11 seconds East along said right of way line a distance of 237.83 feet; thence South 18 degrees 11 minutes 37 seconds East, 283.37 feet; thence leaving the right of way line, run South 90 degrees 00 minutes 00 seconds East, 371.88 feet, to the point of beginning. Said tract lying in and being a part of the Northeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 21, Township 9 South, Range 5 West, Cullman County, Alabama.

LESS AND EXCEPT: A parcel of land located in the NE ¼ of the SE ¼ of Section 21, Township 9 South, Range 5 West Cullman County, Alabama, being more particularly described as follows: Commence at SE corner of SE ¼ of the SE ¼ of said Section 21, being a found yellow painted rock, and run N 00°01'24" W along ¼ - ¼ line, 1499.12 feet; thence leaving ¼ - ¼ line N 87°32'49" W, 277.36 feet, said point being the Point of Beginning of the herein described parcel; thence continue N 87°32'49" W, 95.10 feet, to a found 5/8" capped rebar on the Easterly right-of-way of Jones Chapel-Battleground Road; thence along said right-of-way N 16°00'43" W, 242.16 feet, to a set capped rebar (Long CA50221); thence leavings said right-of-way S 87°40'42" E, 94.39 feet, to a set capped rebar(Long CA50221); thence S 16°19'17" E, 242.59 feet, to the Point of Beginning. According to that certain survey by Andrew D. Long, PLS Alabama License Number 40145 dated June 3, 2025.

Source of title: Pursuant to the description provided in Plaintiff's Writ of Execution issued on or about 3 September 2025 in case DV-2025-900232 in the District Court of Cullman County, Alabama.

THEREFORE, according to said command, I shall expose for sale at public auction, all the right, title, and interest of the above-named Kristen Shedd in and to the above-described real property on the date listed above, subject to all prior encumbrances of record.

Dated this the 17 day of Sept, 2025.

BY: Matt Gentry, Sheriff
Sheriff Matt Gentry

STATE OF ALABAMA)
) NOTICE OF SHERIFF'S SALE
COUNTY OF CULLMAN)

TO THE OWNERS OF THE WITHIN DESCRIBED REAL ESTATE AND ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

Date & Time of Sale: **Monday, Oct 20 2025 at 12:00 a.m./p.m.**
Sale Location: **Cullman County Courthouse East Entrance, 500 Second Avenue, S.W., Cullman, Alabama 35055**
Writ of Execution Parties: **Edgefield Holdings, LLC vs. Danny Ponder, 5935 County Road 1114, Vinemont, AL 35179**

By virtue of an Execution issued to me by Circuit Clerk Jacqueline Anderson Smith, pursuant to the Code of Alabama, requiring me to make the sum as provided for in said Execution issued on a judgment, with interest and cost. Upon the expiration of proper notice and advertisement, I will expose at public sale to the highest bidder at the date, time, and location listed above, all right, title, and interest of Danny Ponder, to the property, described as follows:

Commencing at the Northwest corner of the Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter, Section 17, Township 9 South, Range 4 West, thence South 0°00" East a distance of 667 feet to a point, said point being on the North right of way of Alabama Highway #157; thence South 52° 14' East a distance of 410 feet to the true point of beginning; thence South 52° 14" East a distance of 410 feet to the true point of beginning; thence continue along said right of way a distance of 435 feet to a point where County paved road intersects said right of way; thence North 13° 25' East along County road a distance of 345 feet to a point; thence South 89° 25' West a distance of 436 feet to a point; thence South 0° 00' East a distance of 59 feet to the point of beginning. Said land lying and being situated in the Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter, Section 17, Township 9 South, Range 4 West, Cullman County, Alabama.

LESS AND EXCEPT THE FOLLOWING: Commence at the Southwest corner of said Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter; thence Northerly along the West line of said Southeast Quarter of the Southeast Quarter a distance of 198 meters, more or less, to the present Northeast right of way line of Alabama Highway No. 157; thence Southeasterly along said present Northeast right of way line a distance of 125 meters, more or less, to the West line of the property herein to be conveyed and the point of beginning; thence Northerly along the West property line a distance of 18 meters, more or less, to the North property line; thence Easterly along said North property line a distance of 57 meters, more or less to a point that is 35 meters northeasterly of and at right angles to the centerline of said project; thence S 51° 09' 22.9" E parallel with the said centerline, a distance of 65 meters, more or less, to a point that is 35 meters Northeasterly of an at right angles to said centerline at Station 66 + 40; thence Northeasterly along a line a distance of 16 meters, more or less, to a point on the present northwest right of way line of County Road No. 1224 that is northwesterly of and at right angles to the centerline of said road at Station 10 + 55; thence Southwesterly along said present northwest right of way line a distance of 68 meters, more or less, to said present northeast right of way line; thence northwesterly along said present northeast right of way line a distance of 133 meters, more or less, to the point of beginning.

Source of title: Pursuant to the description provided in Plaintiff's Writ of Execution issued on or about 14 August 2025 in case CV-2010-900261 in the Circuit Court of Jefferson County, Alabama.

THEREFORE, according to said command, I shall expose for sale at public auction, all the right, title, and interest of the above-named Danny Ponder in and to the above-described real property on the date listed above, subject to all prior encumbrances of record.

Dated this the 10 day of Sept, 2025.

BY: Matt Gentry, Sheriff
Sheriff Matt Gentry

Picnic (from Front)

Anabelle Howze
anabelle@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County Public Library hosted "Picnic with a Purpose," on Saturday, Oct. 4, to raise funds for ongoing improvements. The event was hosted during Cullman's Oktoberfest festivities and featured homemade baked goods made by members of the Friends of the Public Libraries of Cullman County (FPLCC), with all donations benefiting the library's capital campaign.

"We wanted to highlight the space that we already have and allow people to come in and enjoy our outdoor space," said Jill Meggs, chairman of the Cullman County Public Library Board and member of the FPLCC.

"Along with that, we want to create ways for everybody to take part in the capital campaign.

"It doesn't have to be a big donation; today you can bring your pocket change and fill up one of our jars, and all of that money will go toward the new facility."

The event was held on the library's porch and front lawn and drew attention from visitors attending Oktoberfest, some even bringing their lunches to have a picnic on the porch.

According to Cullman County Public Library System Director Amber Thornton, funds from the capital campaign will go toward several major updates.

"Everything from trying to create ADA-compliant bathrooms to the roof to adequate meeting rooms for all of the programs that we host.

"We've just seen our community evolving and changing, and we're trying to also evolve and change to meet those needs as they arise," said Thornton.

For those who missed the event, Meggs said there are still plenty of ways to get involved.

"They can sign up and join the Friends of the Library to find out about other fundraisers.

"They could subscribe to our newsletter; we're always putting in opportunities for people to help out, or they can just come in and ask."

Meggs added that no contribution is too small. "Even the smallest donation goes a long way with the capital campaign. Sometimes when people hear the word 'capital campaign,' they think of large-scale corporate donations, but there are so many ways that you can get involved to meet your budget and still be a huge, vital part of what the library is trying to do."

Get more info at www.facebook.com/cullmancountypubliclibrarysystem or https://sites.google.com/cullmanlib.org/ccpls.

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LEGALS

IN THE JUVENILE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN THE MATTER OF *
D.L.S., * CASE NO.: JU 19-341.05
a minor, DOB: 12-22-2009 *

NOTICE OF TERMINATION HEARING

The unknown father of the above child born to Julie Lynn Massey on December 22, 2009, must answer the Petition for Termination of Parental Rights filed by the Cullman County Department of Human Resources by the 12 day of November 2025, or thereafter a judgment terminating his parental rights may be entered against him in the Juvenile Court of Cullman County, Alabama.

Done this the 25th day of Sept., 2025.

Lisa McSwain
Circuit Clerk

Petitioner:
Cullman County Department of Human Resources
P. O. Box 990
1220 St. Joseph Street NW
Cullman, AL 35056

Perry D. Knight
Attorney for Petitioner
412 First Avenue SE
Suite 101
Cullman, AL 35055
256-734-4090

EST. 1873
CULLMAN
ALABAMA

BUILDING DEPARTMENT

201 2nd Avenue NE
Cullman, Alabama 35055

256.775.7203
www.CullmanAl.gov

City of Cullman
Zoning Board of Adjustments

On Monday, October 20, 2025, at Cullman City Hall Auditorium at 5:30 P.M., at the regular meeting of the City of Cullman Zoning Board of Adjustments, a public hearing will be held to allow affected parties to voice their concerns related to the following items:

1. Variance request at 1404 2nd Avenue NE on lot sizes and setbacks

For further information, contact Brian Landreth or Amber Duke at the City of Cullman Building Department at 256-775-7203.

Obituary Announcements: Oct. 4-6

Jayne Byrd 'Cha Cha' Autry, 82

Jayne Byrd Autry, born November 30, 1942, passed away peacefully on October 3, 2025, at the age of 82. A life joyfully lived and dedicated to family, faith, and education, she was a blessing to and blessed by everyone she met. Born and raised in the small town of York, Alabama, she attended the University of Montevallo, where her vibrant spirit and leadership were recognized by her peers when she was elected "Gold Leader" for the popular College Night event. After graduating, Jayne moved to the "big city" of Birmingham, where she met the love of her life, Tom Autry, drawn at first to his red Corvette, and then to his infectious spirit. They were married within a year, on the day of the very first Super Bowl. Ever the spirited couple, they spent their honeymoon evening searching for a hotel with a color television to watch the game in style. Their happy marriage was a testament to their love and lasted until Tom's passing in 2013. Jayne and Tom were devoted members of Raleigh Avenue Baptist Church, where they made many life-long friends and faithfully served in the youth ministry. Later, they found a new church home at The Church at Brook Hills, where they made another cherished circle of friends. Throughout her thirty-year career in education, Jayne was a source of care and guidance for generations of students. After beginning as a business teacher at John Carroll Catholic High School, she later transitioned into a role as a counselor, both at John Carroll and then at Pelham High School. Her commitment extended far beyond the classroom, as she dedicated her time to extracurriculars, serving as the yearbook sponsor, moderator for the high-stepper dance team, and a constant chaperone at student events. In 2004, she retired to fully embrace her most cherished role as a full-time grandmother and dedicated caregiver to her husband. She was known affectionately as "Cha Cha", at first only to her granddaughters, and then to all. Throughout her life she freely shared smiles, laughter, and compassion with everyone she encountered. Jayne was preceded in death by her loving husband, Thomas Franklin Autry. She is survived by her two devoted daughters and their spouses: Kimberly Autry Hughes (Wayne Hughes) and Keely Autry Lancaster (Timothy Coughlin), and four granddaughters —Emma Hughes Jenkins (and her husband Cade Jenkins), Bess Louise Hughes, Ella Jayne Lancaster, and Margaret Deason-Coughlin. A celebration of life will be planned in the coming weeks. Information will be provided at a later date.

Billy James Smith, 44

A memorial service for Billy James Smith, 44, of Hanceville will be 6 p.m. Monday, October 6, 2025, at Hanceville Funeral Home Chapel. The family will begin welcoming friends at 5 p.m. at the funeral home. Born on Sunday, September 6, 1981, in Cullman, Billy was a man whose hands and heart were always busy building, creating, and caring for others. From a young age, his strong work ethic and passion for life shined through in everything he did. He picked up a paintbrush at just eight years old, beginning a lifelong love of painting that reflected both his creativity and his patient spirit. By the age of fifteen, Billy was already driving trucks, finding peace and purpose on the open road. He later worked as a skilled machinist for several years, always taking pride in a job well done. Whether it was through his work or his many hobbies, Billy had a natural gift for learning and doing. He took up karate lessons, played guitar with heart, painted beautiful works of art, drew detailed sketches, and loved to build things with his own two hands. One of Billy's favorite times was early morning—driving as the sun began to rise. The quiet roads and the glow of dawn were therapeutic for him, offering moments of reflection and peace. More than anything, Billy loved his two boys. They were his world, his greatest pride, and his deepest joy. He was a nurturer at heart, always ready to lend a hand, listen, or try to fix the problems of those he cared about. His kindness, determination, and love for life touched everyone who knew him. Billy will be remembered not only for his hard work and talents but for his big heart and the way he made people feel seen, loved, and valued. His spirit will live on through his family, his art, and the many lives he quietly and profoundly impacted. Survivors include his two boys, Daltin James Smith & Coltin Phillip Smith; mother, Loretta Smith; brother, Gary Wayne Smith (Lisa); and a host of many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and cousins. He was preceded in death by his father, Willard Smith; brother, Ritchie Smith; and sister, Yvette Smith. Hanceville Funeral Home is honored to serve the Smith Family.

Sharron Diane Gibson Jenkins, 73

Sharron Diane Gibson Jenkins, 73, of Kimberly, Alabama, was welcomed home by her Heavenly Father on October 3, 2025. Ms. Jenkins was born in Cullman County, Alabama, on January 14, 1952, to the late T.C. and Valera Eliza Fortner Gibson. Ms. Jenkins is preceded in death by her parents; beloved husband, Gary Jenkins; and brother-in-law, Jerry Kyser. Those left to cherish Ms. Jenkin's memory include her son, Brian Gober and wife Mandy; father of her child and dear friend, Charles Gober; siblings, Vickie Kyser, Mike Gibson and wife Sandra, Bobby Gibson and wife Karen; grandson, Caleb Gober; granddaughter, Lexi Gober; and a host of treasured nieces and nephews. Ms. Jenkins was a supervisor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham in the computer center for over thirty years. Sharron enjoyed growing beautiful flowers in her garden and she also loved to bake. Sharron and her late husband, Gary, were members of Cross Roads Church in Hayden. Ms. Jenkins loved worshipping her Savior alongside her husband as long as her health allowed her to. Ms. Sharron was a child of God and her love and trust in Him and His plans for her sustained her throughout her life, especially in the years following Gary's passing. Ms. Sharron was a genuinely kind person. She loved her family unconditionally and her adoration for them was evident. Ms. Jenkins was a loving wife to her husband for twenty-five years and her heart was truly broken when Gary passed. Brian, Mandy, Caleb, and Lexi were very dear to Ms. Sharron as well, and her conversations and writings all spoke of her love for them. Sharron was a true example of a Godly wife and mother, and her legacy of love and kindness will be remembered for generations to come. Friends are invited to join the family for a time of visitation on Thursday, October 9th, 2025, in the Holly Pond Funeral Home Chapel beginning at 11 a.m. and concluding at 12:30 p.m. A graveside service will begin at 1 p.m. at Brooklyn Church Cemetery where Jason Kyser, Jamie Kyser, Jeremy Kyser, Bobby Gibson, Robert Nelson, and Casey Dill will serve as pallbearers with Mike Gibson and Charles Gober serving as honorary pallbearers. The family would like to extend their heartfelt gratitude to Sharron's sitter, Linda, as well as the ProHealth Hospice Staff and hospice nurse Felicia, for their skilled and compassionate care of Ms. Sharron. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Jenkins family.

Josephine 'Jo' Warren Fowler, 88

Josephine 'Jo' Warren Fowler, 88, of Cullman went home to be with the Lord surrounded by her loving family at her residence, Sunday, October 5th, 2025. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Fowler was born September 14, 1937, to Andrew Chester and Lucille Cargo Warren. She lived in Jones Chapel for 54 years. She loved her family and friends. She enjoyed going to Jones Chapel Senior Center. She was preceded in death by her parents; a brother, Charles Edward Warren; an infant brother; a sister, Dean Newton; numerous nieces and nephews. Jo is survived by her spouse, F.N. 'Buddy' Fowler; son, Duell Fowler; daughter, Rhonda Fowler Carden; sisters, Barbara Armstrong, Diann Broccolo; grandchildren, Shane Fowler, Stacey McLain and Clayton Carden; five great-grandchildren; three great-great grandchildren; family and friends. No services are planned at this time. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

James "Jim" D. Kastner, 87

James D. Kastner, age 87, of Crane Hill, Alabama, passed away peacefully on Saturday, October 4, 2025. He was born July 31, 1938, in Oak Park, Illinois. Jim was in retail department store management and sales in Prospect Heights, Illinois, before moving to The Great Outdoors in Titusville, Florida. There, he was active in the Great Outdoors Church and the Prison Book Project. In 2022, due to declining health, Jim moved permanently to Smith Lake in Crane Hill, Alabama. Jim is lovingly remembered by his wife of 17 years Joyce Kastner; his sons Alan (Sharon) Kastner, Andy Kastner, and Austin (Barbie) Kastner; his stepsons Kevin (Susan) Harris and Ed (Paula) Harris; his grandchildren Liann Kastner, Danielle Kastner, Niamh Kastner, Melanie Harris, Rachael Cordes, Dillon (Claire) Cordes, Rebekah (Jon Thad) Rodgers, Aubrey (Riley) Moore, and Ben (Mary) Harris; as well as eight great-grandchildren who brought him much joy. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Claudia Kastner; his stepdaughter, Alesia Harris; and his parents, Joseph and Florence Dohnal Kastner. A visitation will be held on Tuesday, October 7, 2025, from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. at Smith Lake Baptist Church, 1858 County Road 222, Crane Hill, AL 35053. A Celebration of Life Funeral Service will follow at the church. James will be laid to rest during a graveside committal service at Bethany Baptist Church Cemetery, 1612 Co Rd 201, Crane Hill, AL 35053. Jim will be remembered for his love of family, his strong faith, and the legacy of kindness he leaves behind. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Prison Book Project, P.O. Box 592 Titusville, FL 32781 or give online at www.prisonbookproject.org. The family would like to thank Southern Care Hospice and caregivers, Michelle Winstead and Savannah Speegle. To leave condolences for the Kastner family visit mossservicefh.com. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
OCTOBER 7, 2025

Who are the 'Hay People'? CCPS students learn about Oktoberfest

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — With the annual Oktoberfest celebration in Cullman, young Cullman City Schools students had the opportunity to learn a bit about the history, culture and tradition of the beloved Cullman festival that celebrates the area's German heritage.

Cullman City Primary School (CCPS) students participated in a unique lesson via a partnership between Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism and CCPS. The lesson was built around the story "The Magical Adventures of Hans and Frieda Hay," which introduces students to the tradition of hay people and their connection to Oktoberfest.

As locals well know, the large "Hay People" — constructed from large bales of hay and decorated to look like a German couple — are a staple of Cullman's Oktoberfest atmosphere.

Students engaged with the story using conversation guides, copies of the book and stuffed Hans and Frieda figures.

These tools helped them make connections between the story, familiar local landmarks and the history of Cullman's German heritage.

"In STEM class, students sketched, designed and built their own hay people.

They practiced estimating the height of their creations, measuring accurately, and then comparing their results with classmates," CCPS STEM & Math Intervention Teacher Anna Anderson explained.

"This focus on finding the difference ties directly into grade-level math standards.

"Science skills were developed through hands-on problem solving as students tested structure and stability. Social studies connections reinforced learning about community traditions and local history, while digital literacy and computer science standards were supported through planning, collaboration and guided reflection."

Students also received a flyer highlighting Oktoberfest children's activities, helping connect classroom learning with community celebrations.

Thanks to the work of Mr. Ross Jochum, who helps set up the hay people each year at CCPS, students were able to make even stronger connections to the hay people display they see on campus, giving deeper meaning to the history and tradition.

"The encouragement of our principal Dr. Elizabeth Shaddix and vice-principal Tyler Skinner for outside-the-box partnerships allows creative lessons like this one to take place, bringing special and memorable learning experiences to students," Anderson added.

"This collaboration highlights how CCPS and CPRST work together to create experiences that tie academic standards in math, science, social studies, and digital literacy to local culture, giving students both strong learning outcomes and a sense of community pride."



CULLMAN CITY SCHOOLS



CULLMAN CITY SCHOOLS

With the annual Oktoberfest celebration in Cullman, young Cullman City Schools students had the opportunity to learn a bit about the history, culture and tradition of the beloved Cullman festival that celebrates the area's German heritage.

Hanceville library to host fire safety storytime Oct. 8

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Hanceville Fire Chief Bart Absher will participate in a fire safety storytime on Wednesday, Oct. 8, at 10 a.m. at the Shirley Burden Public Library in Hanceville.

Library Manager Teresa Rivera said since Absher is the new fire chief, this will be a great collaboration.

"Although he has been a fireman for a long time and has served the community of Hanceville for many years, he was recently named fire chief," Rivera said.

"Since I have been here at the library over five years, he has always brought the firetruck with his team to assist with our summer reading program.

"This time, in celebration of October being Fire Safety Month, he will read a story and talk about fire safety to children and families to assist with the knowledge needed to keep our environment safe."

To ensure a spot, Rivera suggests participants sign up on the library's Facebook page to join the event.

"We will also have a pumpkin decorating contest on Oct. 15, and a Halloween party on Oct. 29, where we encourage everyone to wear a costume," she said.

"All of these events will be on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. The winner of the pumpkin contest will be announced on Oct. 29."

The library will host a book sale on Nov. 8.

The Shirley Burden Public Library is open Tuesday-Friday from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. It is located at 201 Commercial St. in Hanceville.

Get more information at Facebook/Hanceville Public Library.

Wallace State to be featured on Amazon Prime show 'The College Tour'

Special to The Cullman Tribune

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Wallace State Community College announced its upcoming feature in the Amazon Prime television series "The College Tour." The episode will showcase the vibrant campus life, academic excellence and diverse programs that make Wallace State one of the top community colleges in the nation.

A film crew will be on campus Oct. 7–9, to capture stories from students representing a wide range of programs, including academic transfer, applied technology, health sciences, athletics and performing arts.

Featured students include Dianna Boatright, Jackson "Tiger" Flanigan, Johnathan Gray, ReAnna Rusk and Anna Wynn.

Wallace State President Dr. Vicki Karolewics will also be interviewed in a special online segment titled "Coffee with the President," offering viewers a deeper insight into the college's mission and vision.

"We are delighted to welcome 'The College Tour' to our campus and eager to share with the world what makes Wallace State so special — through the voices of our students," said Kristen Holmes, WSCC vice president for students. "This is a wonderful opportunity to highlight why we're recognized as one of the Top 3 community colleges in the nation."

Created by Alex Boylan, Lisa Hennessy and Burton Roberts — entrepreneurs with a passion for storytelling and adventure — "The College Tour" offers an authentic look at college life across the country and around the world.

Each episode features real students, faculty and alumni sharing their experiences, covering topics such as academics, housing, athletics, career preparation, campus culture and more. Learn more at www.thecollegetour.com.

"The idea for 'The College Tour' came from my 16-year-old niece," said Boylan.

"Due to the pandemic and financial constraints, she couldn't travel to visit colleges.

"So, we created a series to help students like her explore campuses virtually. It's been an incredibly fun and rewarding project."

Boylan will host a special Lunch and Learn event on Thursday, Oct. 9, from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. in the Gudger Student Center.

He will share insights from his career as a television producer and his experience as a contestant on "The Amazing Race."

Troutman receives scholarship from Farmers Federation

Federation plants seeds of success through scholarships

Maggie Edwards
Alabama Farmers Federation

AUBURN, Ala. — Eighty-three college students from 61 Alabama counties received scholarships from the Alabama Farmers Agriculture Foundation (AFAF) Sept. 29 in Auburn.

The annual scholarship banquet at Lazenby Farms honored recipients from Auburn University (AU). The partnership between the AFAF and county Farmers Federations awarded over $150,000 to undergraduates pursuing degrees in agriculture, forestry and related fields.

Those students include Autauga County's Madison Thrailkill.

"My journey to AU has been one I worked toward for a long time. This scholarship made the dream a reality," said Thrailkill, a junior studying agricultural business and economics with a poultry sciences minor.

"When I began looking at options for college, I realized the expense associated with a college education. This scholarship helps ease the burden for me, my family and the other students among me."

Thrailkill said this scholarship is more than financial support.

"We know there is an organization standing being us, believing in us and caring for our success," said Thraillkill, who interned with Alabama Farmers Federation partner entity Alfa Insurance last summer. "It's not just a check into the account. It's a personal investment in our growth and future."

Chris Carroll chairs the AFAF Scholarship Committee. Also the Federation Southeast Area vice president, Carroll expressed his appreciation for Thrailkill and other recipients.

"This organization puts effort into serving the future of agriculture," said Carroll, the Dale County Farmers Federation president.

"I want to say 'thank you' to the recipients for pursuing a degree in agriculture. Agriculture is facing some tough times, but through tough times, innovation and efficiency are born. Food security is national security.

"A nation that cannot feed itself cannot defend itself. With that, I truly thank each student for what they do."

During the scholarship banquet, four special scholarships honored past and present leaders who left a legacy on Alabama agriculture.

Limestone County's Jessa Usery received the inaugural Jerry and Dianne Newby Scholarship. This scholarship was established to honor Limestone County farmer and former Federation President Jerry Newby and his wife, Dianne. Usery is a sophomore studying agricultural communications.

The Mike Henry Memorial Scholarship was presented to Montgomery County's Ashbee Norman, a freshman studying pre-vet and animal biosciences.

Cullman County's Harper Lafon, a junior majoring in pre-vet and animal biosciences received the R.W. Donaldson Memorial Scholarship. Lee County's Nate Payne was awarded the Jimmy Witt Memorial Scholarship. Payne is a junior studying horticulture.

Additionally, Lawrence County's Karen Hood, mother of scholarship recipient Taylor Hood, addressed the crowd on behalf of all parents.



ALABAMA FARMERS FEDERATION

Cullman County native and Auburn University student Luke Troutman received a $2,000 scholarship from the Alabama Farmers Agriculture Foundation and the Cullman County Farmers Federation. Troutman was recognized during the Alabama Farmers Federation scholarship reception Sept. 29 at Lazenby Farms in Auburn. Troutman is a senior studying geospatial and environmental informatics. From left are Federation President Jimmy Parnell, Troutman, Cullman County Farmers Federation President Lee Haynes, Federation District 4 Director Darrell Lee and Federation North Area Vice President Mark Byrd.

"This scholarship is a tremendous support," said Hood, who lives on her family's cattle farm in Moulton.

"We express our heartfelt gratitude to the county Federations for these scholarships and the ones given in the past.

"We've been blessed both our children, Tanner and Taylor, have pursued degrees from AU and stayed in agriculture. The Federation cares for our children's success, education and dreams. This foundation is planting seeds that will bear fruit for decades to come."

2026-2027 scholarship applications open Nov. 1 at AlfaFarmers.org/scholarships. The deadline to apply is Feb. 1, 2026.