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Agriplex expansion moving closer to completion

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The North Alabama Agriplex is moving closer to the completion of its new Community Hub, which it began raising funds for in late 2022 and broke ground on this year.

Director Rachel Dawsey said February 2026 is the target move-in date for the 8,525 square-foot facility that will feature a fully equipped teaching kitchen and workspace shared with the Cullman County Extension Office, the North Alabama Agriplex and farm » PAGE 5



JANET CHANDLER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The North Alabama Agriplex is moving closer to the completion of its new Community Hub, seen here on Friday, Oct. 17, 2025.

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CMS among just 5 Alabama schools to reach i-Ready learning stretch goals



CULLMAN CITY SCHOOLS

Cullman Middle School reached an achievement only five other schools in Alabama could claim this year, hitting stretch goals on i-Ready lessons with at least 55% of students reaching stretch goals in their studies.

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman Middle School reached an achievement only five other schools in Alabama could claim this year, hitting stretch goals on i-Ready lessons with at least 55% of students reaching stretch goals in their studies.

Cullman Middle School was one of five schools in Alabama, and just 172 schools nationwide, to earn the award. Having that many students meet their stretch goals shows CMS is effectively using i-Ready tools for student learning and achievement.

The i-Ready diagnostic is an adaptive assessment that pinpoints each student's strengths and areas for growth in reading and math. Based on the results, i-Ready provides a personalized learning path with lessons tailored to individual needs. This approach helps teachers deliver targeted instruction, keeps students engaged at their own level and supports measurable academic growth over time.

"The faculty, staff and students at CMS do a great job of making learning fun," Cullman City Schools Superintendent Kyle Kallhoff said. "This effort is best documented in their Alabama Comprehensive Assessment Program scores in math and ELA which are some of the highest in the state."

The Cullman Middle School i-Ready Reading and Math Challenge was a schoolwide effort to motivate students to engage deeply in their personalized learning pathways and work toward meeting their i-Ready stretch growth goals. The challenge, which ran from March 3 through April 4, encouraged students to increase their time and effort in i-Ready while building a spirit of friendly competition among students.

"Each week, teachers tracked the total number of passed lessons in both subjects for each pod. Students continued to meet their regular weekly goal of passing one i-Ready reading and one math lesson, but this challenge added an exciting layer of motivation and teamwork," Courtney Waters, who serves as West Elementary School's assistant principal and coordinated the challenge, explained. "At the end of the challenge, the pod with the highest average number of passed lessons across reading and math earned a group reward, and the top reading and math students in each pod received gift cards in recognition of their outstanding effort. Through the initiative, students took greater ownership of their learning while celebrating growth and perseverance."

Local man dies following shooting
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Voss resigns as Abbot of St. Bernard Abbey



ST. BERNARD ABBEY

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Oct. 17

Cullman Tribune staff
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Oct. 17, 2025. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

GJ = grand jury; FTA = failure to appear

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

Oct. 14

- domestic violence; Stadium St. SE Hanceville
- unlawful breaking and entering motor vehicle; CR 222
- domestic violence; CR 1101
- theft of property; CR 1242
- burglary; CR 1545
- permitting dogs to run at large; CR 656
- criminal trespass; criminal mischief; Sportsman Lake Rd.
- harassment; CR 1101
- domestic violence; harassment; Self Ave. NE
- theft of property; CR 1289

Oct. 15

- harassing communications; CR 1108
- assault; CR 1670
- theft of property; CR 1089
- domestic violence; CR 747
- harassment; Hwy. 91
- theft of property; CR 1094
- theft of property; 1st Ave. S Hanceville

ARRESTS

Oct. 13 – Oct. 15

Austin, Sonya L.; 61
- GJ – organized retail theft
- GJ – retail theft-2nd degree

Blankenship, Adam W.; 41
- assault-2nd degree

Brand, Tamara R.; 44
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

Files, Jeffrey L.; 64
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Fortenberry, Stephen B.; 40
- criminal trespass

Frock, Donovan M.; 39
- violation of a domestic violence protection order

Gee, Joshua F.; 36
- theft-miscellaneous

Heatherly, Raymond C.; 49
- theft of article from auto

Johnson, Bobby E.; 50
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Johnson, Donald D.; 71
- FTA – unlawful breaking and entering a vehicle (no theft or damage)
- FTA – theft of property-2nd degree, $1500-2500

Kelley, Matthew W.; 50
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – unlawful possession with intent to distribute a controlled substance

Logan, Angela D.; 41
- FTA – forgery-other objects (will/contract/codicil)
- FTA – possessing forged instrument
- FTA – theft-miscellaneous
- FTA – driving while license suspended

Marks, Jordan A.; 29
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs
- FTA – driving while suspended, revoked or canceled

Pruett, Crasanda F.; 40
- DUI (alcohol)

Wright, Crystal D.; 38
- assault-domestic-simple assault-family

Yancy, Katrina J.; 42
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Oct. 15
- theft of property-4th degree; West End Laundromat; cart; $260; 4th St. SW
- theft of property-4th degree; Dollar General; miscellaneous; 3rd St. SE
- unlawful breaking and entering motor vehicle; person; safe box & contents; Olive St. SW

Oct. 16
- theft of property-2nd degree; person; cash
- theft of property-2nd degree; person; medication; McNabb Dr. SW
- domestic violence-3rd degree; person; CR 1400

ARRESTS

Oct. 15-16

Hill, Jonathan C.; 62
- public intoxication

Logan, Angela D.; 41
- FTA – driving while suspended

Dixon, Douglas L.; 35
- FTA – criminal trespass-3rd degree
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia

Grey, Jeremy B.; 55
- burglary-3rd degree
- theft of property-4th degree

Kelley, Joshua D.; 34
- sexual misconduct

Cobb, Kevin D.; 49
- domestic violence-3rd degree
- resisting arrest

Wallace, Dalton A.; 20
- menacing
- criminal mischief-2nd degree

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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



AARP Alabama urges Medicare beneficiaries to review Coverage during Open Enrollment

Staff Reports
Contributor

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — AARP Alabama reminds Medicare beneficiaries that Medicare Open Enrollment is now underway and runs through Dec. 7, 2025. This is the annual opportunity for individuals to review their current Medicare coverage and make changes to ensure their health and financial needs are met in the coming year.

During Open Enrollment, beneficiaries can:
- Switch between Original Medicare and Medicare Advantage
- Change Medicare Advantage plans
- Join or switch Medicare Part D prescription drug plans

AARP Alabama encourages everyone to take their time reviewing options and to seek unbiased, trustworthy information. Beneficiaries can visit Medicare.gov to compare plans available in their area or speak with a State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) counselor for free, personalized guidance. Alabama SHIP counselors can be reached by calling 1-800-AGELINE (1-800-243-5463).

"It's important not to rush this decision," said Candi Williams, AARP Alabama state director. "Review your Annual Notice of Change from your current plan carefully. Make sure your coverage still fits your needs, especially if your health or prescriptions have changed."

AARP Alabama also warns beneficiaries to be on alert for scams, which tend to increase during Open Enrollment. Be cautious of unsolicited calls or messages offering Medicare plans. Never share your Medicare number or personal information with anyone you don't know and trust.

For more information and resources, visit www.aarp.org/medicare, www.Medicare.gov or call 1-800-AGELINE to speak with a SHIP counselor.

CCSO hosting free Public Safety & Awareness Training Oct. 21

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County Sheriff's Office is hosting a free Public Safety & Awareness Training "in response to the recent surge in violent incidents nationwide." The event will take place Tuesday, Oct. 21, at Temple Baptist Church on Alabama Highway 157.

"This free event is open to the public and aims to equip citizens with the knowledge and tools to recognize danger, respond effectively and increase their chances of survival in violent or threatening situations," the CCSO said.

Door will open at 5:30 p.m., with the training from 6-8.

Topics will include:
- Home, workplace, school and church safety
- Personal safety and situational awareness
- Firearms, concealed carry and the legal use of deadly force

Guest speakers will be Sheriff Matt Gentry, Cullman County District Attorney Champ Crocker and Cullman Police Chief Joey Duncan.

"This training is about empowering our community," said Gentry.

"We want our citizens to be informed, prepared and confident in their ability to protect themselves and their loved ones. At the end of the day, we want everyone to go home."

Presentations will be led by Investigator Dustin Bentley and Lt. Chad Whaley of the CCSO, both of whom bring extensive experience in law enforcement and public safety education.

There is no cost to attend, and no registration is required.

Shooting (from Front)

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — A local man has died following a shooting that happened in the Simcoe area on Wednesday, Oct. 15. Cullman County Coroner Jeremy Kilpatrick identified the victim as Jessy Hooper, 29.

Deputies with the Cullman County Sheriff's Office responded to a report of a shooting in the Simcoe area Wednesday.

Upon arrival, the CCSO said, the deputies located a man who had been shot.

Kilpatrick said Hooper died later that day at an area hospital.

Authorities said the person believed to be responsible for the shooting was detained at the scene.

At this time, they said, no arrests have been made, and the investigation remains ongoing.

The CCSO said the shooting appeared to be an isolated incident and there is no ongoing threat to the community.

Further updates will be provided as more information becomes available.

Voss (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Right Reverend Marcus J. Voss, O.S.B., on Friday, Oct. 17, 2025, announced his resignation as Abbot of St. Bernard Abbey, effective immediately, for health reasons.

Abbot Marcus, who has served as the 10th Abbot of St. Bernard, leaves a legacy of dedicated service to his monastic community, the Abbey said in a press release.

"During his long career of leadership, St. Bernard has experienced significant growth and renewal, including the recent renovation of the monastery building. Abbot Marcus has long worked to develop lasting relationships with alumni and friends, relationships which continue to enrich the St. Bernard community.

"The monks extend their profound gratitude to Abbot Marcus for his six years as Abbot, as well as his more than 61 years of fidelity to monastic life," the release read.

Br. Brendan Seipel, O.S.B., the Prior of St. Bernard Abbey, has been appointed as Temporary Administrator.

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Time to listen for the call of fall at Alabama State Parks

Matthew Capps
Alabama State Parks

When I think about fall in Alabama, I do not just think about the cooler mornings or the changing leaves. I think about the way the season feels.

One of my favorite memories is sitting by a campfire with my kids, the sparks lifting into the night sky while we roasted marshmallows. The laughter when the s'mores got a little too messy was as warm as the fire itself.

I also think about crisp October mornings at DeSoto State Park, hiking along the trails as my girls picked up leaves like priceless treasures.

I think about how a fallen tree at Joe Wheeler State Park quickly became a seesaw for my girls to play on. Those small moments are etched in my memory far deeper than any photograph.

As the director of Alabama State Parks, people ask me all the time which park is my favorite.

My answer is always that it depends on what you are looking for. Every park has something remarkable to share.

Some offer the simple peace of a campsite and a glowing fire ring. Others lift you up to sweeping views from a mountaintop. Still others let you wander along the beach with the sound of the waves and the salt air moving around you.

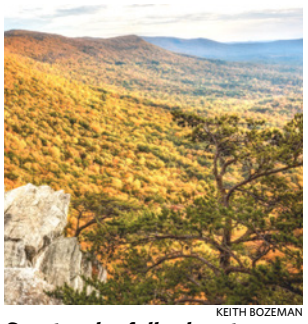
Fall is one of the best times to visit an Alabama State Park. The season announces itself gently. The air grows crisp, the light softens, and then, almost without warning, the hills of North Alabama begin to glow with red, gold and orange.

In the south, the colors arrive differently. Golden marsh grasses ripple in the breeze, the live oaks let their leaves fall in quiet rhythm, and the sunsets spill warm light across the dunes. Each place has its own kind of beauty, but together they tell the story of Alabama in autumn.

What makes fall special is more than the view. It is the smell of woodsmoke drifting through the trees, the sound of leaves crunching underfoot, and the sight of a red-tailed hawk circling high above.

It is gathering with family around a fire, sharing food, stories and laughter. Fall has a way of slowing us down and reminding us of the simple, lasting things that matter.

Whether you are zip-lining through the trees at Wind Creek, biking through Oak Mountain State Park, breathing in the view from Bald Rock at Cheaha or simply sitting still beside a fire with your family, fall is the perfect season to reconnect with nature, with loved ones, and even with yourself.


KEITH BOZEMAN
Spectacular fall color at Cheaha State Park

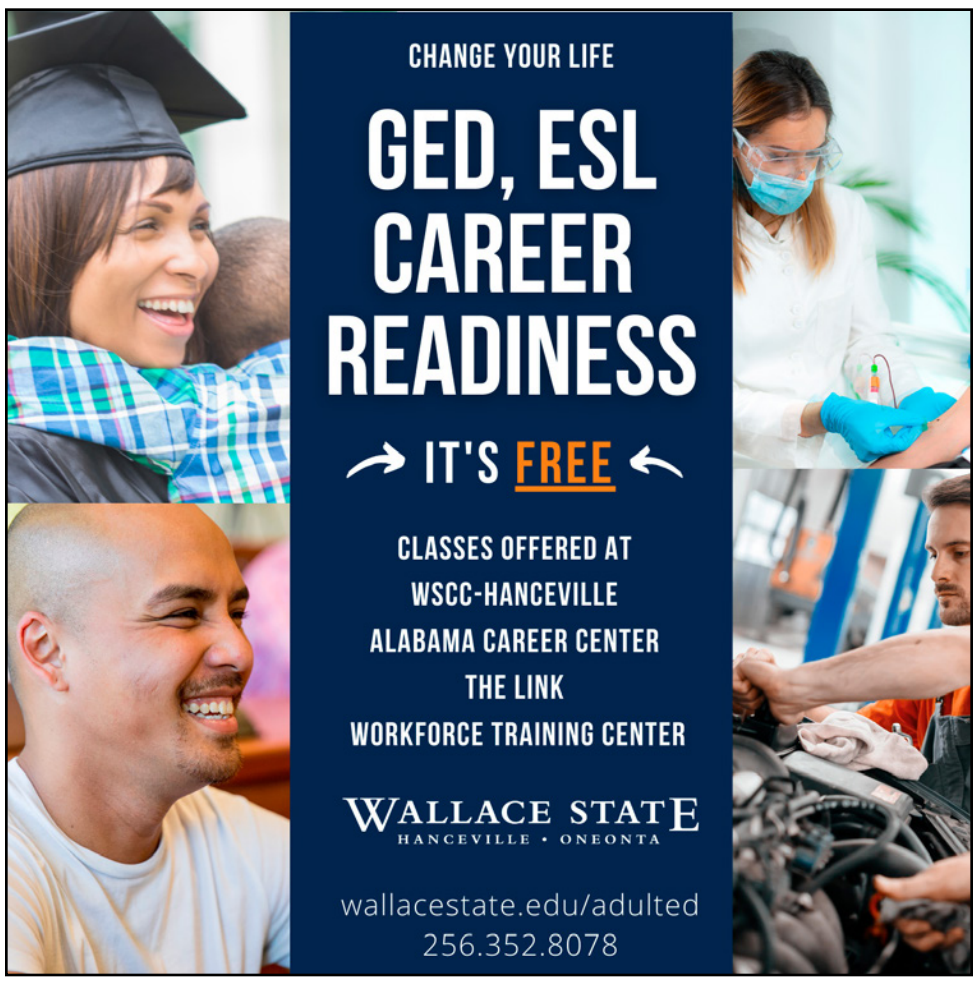
Our parks have a place for everyone to stay, play and explore. From cabins and chalets to lodges and campgrounds, there are plenty of ways to extend your adventure.

But even a single day trip can give you what you are looking for — a deep breath of fresh air and a memory to carry with you long after the leaves have fallen.

If it has been a while since your last visit, I hope you will come see us this fall. Let the trails lead you, let the trees surprise you and let yourself be drawn into the rhythm of the season. Find your next adventure at www.alapark.com.

I'll see you on the trails!

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

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 through 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
- Saturday, Oct. 18 – 9-11 a.m. Drive-through food bank
- Sunday, Oct. 19 – 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. 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
- Thursday, Nov. 6, 9-11 a.m., Heritage Homeschool Elementary – Meteorology with James Spann. Introduction to the science of weather. Learn all about forecasting, thunderstorms, tornadoes, hurricanes, snow and more from a local legend. $15 fee. $30 Max per family.
- Thursday, Nov. 6, 9-11 a.m., Heritage Homeschool Secondary – Meteorology with James Spann. Introduction to the science of weather. Learn all about forecasting, thunderstorms, tornadoes, hurricanes, snow and more from a local legend. $15 fee. $30 Max per family.
- Thursday, Nov. 6, 6-8 p.m., Heritage Skills – Make and Take Christmas Ornaments. Let's get a jump on Christmas decorations! This is a make and take class where we will use a variety of mediums to make Christmas ornaments. Youth, ages 12 to15 must register and be accompanied with a paid registered adult. $30 fee
- Friday, Nov. 14, 10-11 a.m., Little Farmers – Fritz and the Beautiful Horse. Jan Brett is a renowned author illustrator whose books have been loved by many for decades. Each month, we will center our storytime, stations, craft and snack around a different Jan Brett book. $8 per child, max $16 per family.
- Saturday, Nov. 15, 9-10:30 a.m., Farm Kids Club – Agriplex Barn Dance. Grab your partner and head to the pavilion for a family friendly lesson in this fun, traditional dancing style. All ages welcome! Fees: $15 per child, Max $30 per family.
- Tuesday, Nov. 18, 6-8 p.m., Living Landscapes – Natural Parenting Class- Farmhouse Midwifery. Join us as we learn a holistic approach to parenting. We will cover baby wearing, making your own baby food, cloth diapering, natural remedies for common illnesses, the importance of sunlight and bare feet and more. Max $15 per family.

Renovation Church Fall Camp Meeting
Through Oct. 19, at Renovation Church, 14142 Alabama Highway 157, Vinemont. Enjoy powerful praise and worship and soul stirring messages all weekend from Evangelists Noah Owensby, Jeremy Ivy and Ashley Ivey. Services start at 6 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. All are welcome! Pastors are Ryan and Brittany Wilburn.

Holiday Haus
Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism will host a Holiday Haus shopping event at the OmniPlex Saturday, Oct. 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.

Holly Pond Lions Club Pancake Breakfast
Saturday, Oct. 25, from 6-9 a.m. at the Holly Pond Lions Club Building. Enjoy all-you-can-eat pancakes, bacon, sausage and a drink for a donation to eat in or take out. Come join us and bring your friends! Thank you in advance for your support and generosity. The proceeds will benefit the Lions Club projects.

First Priority Cullman Cornhole Classic
Saturday, Oct. 25, at Crosshaven Church in Hanceville, beginning at 8 a.m. with practice. Bags fly at 9. Two-man teams, double elimination. Social division $30 per team, championship division, $50 per team. All entry fees benefit Curt's Closet. For info or to register, go to www.fpdecatur.org or call 256-432-7900.

Seventh Street Baptist Church FREE Community Fall Carnival
Sunday, Oct. 26, from 5-7 p.m. 708 Seventh St. SW, downtown Cullman. Enjoy an evening full of fun with carnival rides, hay rides, a rock climbing wall, bounce castle and tropical marble slide, popcorn and cotton candy, carnival games and prizes, face painting, music, candy, hot dogs and sodas, and a fall carnival photo wall. It's going to be a night of food, fun and fellowship for all ages, and best of all, it's completely free! We can't wait to see you there!

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.

Chambers Family Annual Reunion
Sunday, Nov. 2, at 11 a.m. at the Berlin Community Center, with dinner starting at noon. The address is 3309 U.S. Highway 278 East, Cullman (same location as many previous years). Plan to attend and invite others and share in good family/friend fellowship. Bring several favorite food dishes along with photos, stories, family research and information to share. If you can assist with setup, arrive at 10. For further information, contact Rodger Walling at 256-734-8235 (message), 256-347-2092 (text) or Rodger's Facebook page.

Cullman Elks Annual Craft & Vendor Expo
Saturday, Nov. 8, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Handmade crafts, Christmas decor, jewelry and more. Benefits Elks local charity, 1525 Brantley Avenue NW, Cullman. With entry fee you are entered for door prizes.

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 18, 2025



NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Cullman Bearcats defeated Decatur 18-14 Thursday night to win this year's TVFL eighth grade championship.

MIDDLE SCHOOL FOOTBALL

Cullman rallies to defeat Decatur 18-14, wins TVFL Championship

Nick Griffin
nick@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman Middle School was once again hosting the Tennessee Valley Football League's eighth grade championship game on Mark Britton Field at Oliver Woodard Stadium Thursday night and for the second time in three seasons, the Bearcats are league champions. The 'Cats trailed Decatur 14-12 with just over two minutes on the clock, but a fumble gave the ball back to the Bearcats near midfield with one last chance to win it. Just a few plays later, Jordan McClain punched the go-ahead score into the end zone with 38 seconds remaining to put Cullman in front 18-14. The Red Raiders were able to drive down inside the 5-yard line in the final seconds of the game, but the Bearcats held them out of the end zone as time expired to secure an 18-14 win and the league title.

Cullman Head Coach Gerald Turner was proud of the way his team stayed focused and kept fighting when Decatur had a chance to put the game away and said when they came up with the turnover, he knew it was meant to be.

"I think with the way they fumbled it when they did to give us a chance, the good lord was taking care of us. He meant for us to win this one tonight," Turner said.

"These kids have worked hard. They got downgraded a little bit last year and I've been reminding them every day. This is the return right here.

"I can't ask for anything better from my assistant coaches, they're the greatest. I just thank God we got that fumble and that it was meant to happen for us tonight. Sometimes it's just meant to happen."

After the game kicked off, Cullman put together an impressive opening drive. The 'Cats ran 14 plays and drove all the way down to the 2-yard line but were stopped on fourth down and Decatur's offense took over.

The Raiders punted the ball away at the start of the second quarter and the Bearcats began moving the chains again.

Cullman drove down inside the 5-yard line, but an interception cut the scoring opportunity short, and Decatur took over inside its own 5-yard line.

Two plays later, a Decatur fumble was recovered by Cullman, and it didn't take long for the 'Cats to take advantage.

Quarterback Everett Swindall lofted one to Jordan McClain near the front pylon and he went up over a Raider defender to haul in a 15-yard touchdown and put the Bearcats in front 6-0 with 1:30 to play in the first half. However, Decatur answered the score before the break, connecting on a 70-yard touchdown pass to tie the game at 6 going into halftime.

The Red Raiders came out strong to start the third quarter, driving down the field and putting another touchdown on the board to take a 12-6 lead.

Decatur tacked on the two-point conversion to make it a 14-6 game with 4:40 to play in the third. Cullman's next possession ended with a turnover on downs and was followed by another punt from Decatur a few plays later.

That's when the 'Cats got back on the board, leaning on some tough running from John Mark Stephens to keep the chains moving.

Stephens capped off the drive with a 2-yard touchdown run to bring the lead down to 14-12 but Cullman was unable to add the two-point conversion and Decatur got the ball back with just under four minutes on the clock.

The Raiders were running the ball and keeping the clock moving on the ensuing possession, but they fumbled near midfield and the Bearcats jumped on it to take over with two minutes to play.

The 'Cats picked up a couple first downs to move deep into Decatur territory and with 38 seconds on the clock, McClain dove into the end zone from 2 yards out to give Cullman an 18-14 lead.

The Raiders hit a couple of explosive plays and took advantage of a penalty to drive down to the 5-yard line with just a few ticks remaining, but their final pass fell incomplete, and the Bearcats held on to win it 18-14.

McClain led the way offensively with 96 yards and a touchdown on the ground and he added 70 yards and a touchdown on seven receptions as well.

Swindall completed 11 of his 15 passes for 112 yards and a touchdown through the air to go with 24 yards on the ground.

Stephens added 64 rushing yards and a touchdown in the win and Barrett Johnson caught three passes for 22 yards.









NICK GRIFFIN/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Vinemont Eagles defeated Holly Pond 3-1 Thursday night to win this year's 3A, Area 11 Tournament.

PREP VOLLEYBALL

Vinemont downs Holly Pond 3-1 to claim area title

Sammy Confer
sammy@cullmantribune.com

HOLLY POND, Ala. — The Class 3A, Area 11 tournament tipped off at Holly Pond High School on Thursday and the day got off to a wild and crazy start. Locust Fork started the day off by outlasting Hanceville in five sets and that was followed by Vinemont holding off J.B. Pennington in another five-set match. Holly Pond swept the Hornets in the next match and the night ended with the Eagles knocking off the Lady Broncos in a back-and-forth match 3-1 to take home this year's area championship.

Vinemont 3 - Holly Pond 1 (25-21, 26-24, 14-25, 26-24) (Area Championship Game)

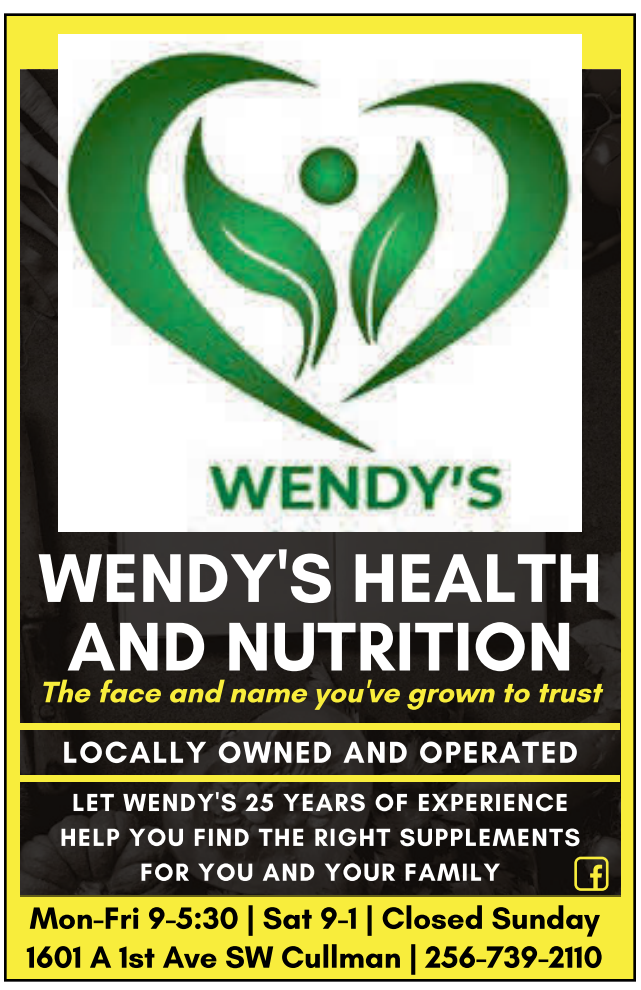
Holly Pond got out to an early 4-1 lead in the first set, but a big run by Vinemont saw them take a 10-5 lead. The Lady Broncos, though, went on a run of their own to make it a 13-12 game, and things stayed close after that. Vinemont held a slim 18-17 lead late in the set and ended up stretched their lead to 20-17. Holly Pond rallied to tie things up at 21, but it was all Lady Eagles after that, as they ended up scoring the final four points to take the first set 25-21.

The second set started out close, then four straight points by Vinemont helped them take a 6-3 lead. The Lady Broncos cut it to 7-6, but the Lady Eagles went on another big run, as that gave them a 12-7 lead. A 7-2 run by Holly Pond tied it up at 14, and later on in the set, they scored six straight points to take a 20-16 lead. Vinemont came back to tie things up once again at 21. Both teams went back-and-forth after that, but in the end, the Lady Eagles pulled away late, as they ended up winning the second set 26-24.

The third set was the first one that wasn't close, as Holly Pond jumped out to a 14-7 lead. Vinemont cut it to 14-9, and later, to 17-11, but the Lady Broncos quickly pulled away from the Lady Eagles after that. At one point, they scored six in a row to extend their lead to 24-14, and they kept their hopes alive by defeating Vinemont 25-14.

The Lady Eagles quickly got out to a 5-0 lead in the fourth set and held a 6-3 lead. Holly Pond cut it to 7-6, and they would later tie it up at 10. It would be another classic back-and-forth set between these two teams. Holly Pond held a slim 17-16 lead, but four straight points by Vinemont helped them take a 20-17 lead. The Lady Eagles held a 23-18 lead and were just two points from taking home the title. The Lady Broncos, though, went on another big run to get back in the game, as their 6-0 run gave them a 24-23 lead. Vinemont closed things out by scoring the final three points of the set, and they ended up defeating Holly Pond 26-24 to win the Class 3A, Area 11 championship.

Both teams will advance to play at the North Regional tournament next week.



Agriplex (from Front)

technical assistance providers. The Community Hub is located on the Agriplex's current property in Cullman just off U.S. Highway 278 and Interstate 65.

"The windows and door frames, as well as internal walls will be the next to be installed," Dawsey said.

"We are out of space at our current facility. We host over 6,000 on-site participants annually and are limited to one field trip or scheduled program at a time. This expansion will allow us to host multiple events simultaneously."

Dawsey said there is just $200,000 to go to reach the Capital Campaign funding goal for the project.

"Our Capital Campaign started at $2.3 million and due to the raised construction costs, we had to bump up to $3.2 million," Dawsey said.

"The Community Hub will be adjacent to our current John T. Williamson Heritage Center, with a sidewalk connecting the two facilities. We will still utilize our current facility for programming."

Dawsey said the teaching kitchen will be one-third of the building. One-third will be Agriplex offices and the last third will be the Cullman County Extension Office for regional agents.

The Agriplex will also be home to 4-H and the Cullman County Master Gardeners.

"We will also teach garden-to-table programming and do not have a proper kitchen space," Dawsey said.

"The new kitchen will have four wall ovens, a dishwasher, a washer and dryer for linens and actual kitchen work stations for kids and all ages to prepare fresh food to eat.

"Also, having the Extension staff on campus will allow us both to expand our programming and outreach to the community.

"We hope to offer more field trips, cooking classes, nutrition and diabetic education classes.

"We can host workshops on topics like breads from around the world, canning and preservation, ServSafe and so much more in the new kitchen facility.

"We will also teach value-added product classes and Cottage Food Law classes in partnership with Extension for our growers and farmers. The teaching kitchen space will be multipurpose and able to hold workshops and classes on all topics not just kitchen related."

Dawsey expressed her appreciation to all the donors who have made this project possible.

To get more information and updates on the project, visit www.agriplex.org/WPtest/capital-campaign.

Cancer (from Front)

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The sixth annual Kicking Cancer in Cullman line dance workshop and social will take place Saturday, Oct. 25, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at The Active Adult Center. The event welcomes dancers of all experience levels, from beginners to intermediates. Preregistration has closed, but admission will be available at the door for $25.

All proceeds from the event will directly benefit Cullman County Bosom Buddies, a local nonprofit that provides support and resources for individuals facing breast cancer. Following the success of the event, a total donation check will be presented to Bosom Buddies at a later date.

The workshop will include a 30-minute lunch break and participants are asked to wear gym or dance shoes only — no boots or street shoes will be allowed on the gym floor. Water and snacks will be provided throughout the day.

This year's event features four dance instructors, all of whom are breast cancer survivors: Jackie Talley, Helen Woods, Patra Bowman and Sherry Boatright. Together, they'll teach a variety of new dances and revisit familiar classics in what has become one of Cullman's more popular charity events.

Boatright, who has been a line dance instructor for 16 years and a breast cancer survivor for 22, shared why the event holds such a deep personal meaning to her, "Bosom Buddies was there for me when I needed them and I love line dancing," Boatright shared. "It's an amazing feeling to be able to give something back — not only that, but it's also incredible to see 100 dancers on the floor at the same time."

With 106 dancers already preregistered, Boatright shared her excitement for a full day of kicking and dancing. "We're looking forward to a fun day of dancing, with more than 100 dances requested," she said.

For more information on the Kicking Cancer in Cullman event, contact Sherry Boatright at 256-352-5080 or email duckcreek@bellsouth.net. For more information on the Cullman County Bosom Buddies Foundation, email CCBBFinc@gmail.com or visit www.cullmanbosombuddies.com.

The Active Adult Center is located at 1625 Cleveland Ave. SW in Cullman.



KICKING CANCER IN CULLMAN

The 6th Annual Kicking Cancer in Cullman line dance workshop and social will take place Saturday, Oct. 25, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at The Active Adult Center. The event welcomes dancers of all experience levels, from beginners to intermediate, and serves as a fundraiser for the Cullman County Bosom Buddies Foundation.



WE NOW HAVE APPLES!
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LEGALS

Legal Notice

Surplus property of Wallace State Community College (Hanceville Campus) will be offered for sale on the website www.govdeals.com Various sales will occur on this website, please check the www.govdeals.com website weekly to see any current sales. This is a government auction website and you MUST be registered on the website to bid on any items. You may view the surplus property to be sold without registration. The govdeals.com website will contain detailed information including descriptions and photos. Items may be inspected by APPOINTMENT ONLY: Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Contact Wesley Sams at inventory@wallacestate.edu to schedule any appointments. All items listed are to be sold "AS IS, WHERE IS". Wallace State Community College reserves the right to reject any or all bids.

James L. Sassano
Eric T. Deighton
Maureen Zink Delaney
Jerry N. Higgins, MSSW, JD *

Gerald K. Carlisle - Deceased
Richard L. McNellie - Of Counsel
William T. Rini - Deceased
Phyllis Ulrich - Retired
Paul E. Biser – Of Counsel ††††
Stephen J. Crawford – Of Counsel §

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†††††ADMITTED IN WEST VIRGINIA
#ADMITTED IN INDIANA AND KENTUCKY
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NOTICE OF MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by **Charles A. Bailey and Wife, Rosemary Bailey,** to the United States of America acting through the Rural Housing Service or successor agency, United States Department of Agriculture, as follows: Mortgage securing the property described below, said mortgage dated June 28th, 2010, and recorded on June 29th, 2010, in Mortgage Book 1628 Page 110 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, the undersigned United States of America acting through the Rural Housing Service or successor agency, United States Department of Agriculture, as mortgagee, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage(s), will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the main entrance of the Courthouse in Cullman, Alabama, on the **5th day of December, 2025,** between the legal hours of sale, the following described real estate situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:

A parcel of land in the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 12, Township 10 South, Range 4 West, being more particularly described as follows:

Commence at the Southwest corner of said forty; thence South 89 degrees 18 minutes 07 seconds East 256.82 feet to an iron 1/2 inch capped rebar set in a branch and the point of beginning: Thence along said branch the following bearings and distances: North 20 degrees 15 minutes 55 seconds East 36.11 feet, North 44 degrees 25 minutes 46 seconds East 83.83 feet, North 48 degrees 50 minutes 02 seconds East 55.18 feet, North 76 degrees 00 minutes 14 seconds East 118.13 feet to an iron 1/2 inch capped rebar set; thence South 28 degrees 54 minutes 09 seconds East 185.60 feet to an iron 1/2 inch capped rebar set; thence North 89 degrees 18 minutes 07 seconds West 317.08 feet back to the point of beginning. Containing 0.75 acre, more or less. ALSO a 20 foot right-of-way along an existing paved drive the center line of which is described as follows: Commence at the Southwest corner of the Southwest Quarter of the Northwest Quarter of Section 12, Township 10 South, Range 4 West; thence South 89 degrees 18 minutes 07 seconds East 256.82 feet to an iron 1/2 inch capped rebar set in a branch; thence along said branch the following bearings and distances: North 20 degrees 15 minutes 55 seconds East 36.11 feet, North 44 degrees 25 minutes 46 seconds East 83.83 feet, North 48 degrees 50 minutes 02 seconds East 55.18 feet, North 76 degrees 00 minutes 14 seconds East 118.13 feet to an iron 1/2 inch capped rebar set; thence South 28 degrees 54 minutes 09 seconds East 68.10 to a point in the middle of a paved drive and the point of beginning of the centerline of said 20 foot right-of- way; thence North 69 degrees 42 minutes 01 seconds East 169.47 feet along said drive to a point on the Southwest right-of-way of Alabama Highway 278 and the point of ending of the centerline of said 20 foot right-of-way.

Property address: 2593 U.S. Highway 278 W, Cullman, AL 35057
Parcel: 18-01-12-0-001-016.006

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

The property is being sold "as is, where is." No representation or warranty, express or implied, is made to the condition of the property, title, or zoning.

The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid for and purchase the real estate and to credit its purchase price against the expenses of sale and the indebtedness secured by the real estate.

This sale is subject to any unpaid taxes and assessments and all other matters of record.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Mortgagee
Derek A. Harvey, Jr.
Ulrich, Sassano, Deighton, Delaney & Higgins Co., L.P.A.
CARLISLE LAW
3426 Paoli Pike
Floyds Knobs, IN 47119
Phone: (216) 360-7200
Facsimile: (216) 360-7200
dharvey@carlisle-law.com

Notice is hereby given to all owners, secured parties and lienholders of the following described motor vehicle, which I have a right to sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, in accordance with the State of Alabama abandoned motor vehicle law, Statues, Chapter 13, Section 1-8, Title 32 and Alabama Law Act Number 83-494-S-80:

VIN#1N4BL11E66N300014 2006 Nissan Altima

If not claimed, this vehicle will be sold for towing, repair and work done. Sale date is

Saturday, November 15, 2025 at 8:00 a.m. Call Vance Johnson at 256-339-5752

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF STEVEN JEFFREY BYRD, SR. Deceased. * **CASE NO.: PC 2025-338**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to Beatrice Erin Hagemore, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Steven Jeffrey Byrd, Sr., deceased, on the 2nd day of October, 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.

Beatrice Erin Hagemore
Personal Representative

Shelbie G. Hankey
409 Second Avenue, SW
Cullman, Alabama 35055

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

Please publish the above Notice once a week for three 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
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC 2025-360

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF GARY EDWARD HOLLAND, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to Taylor Lang Holland on the 1st day of October, 2025, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County. Notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same within the time allowed by law or the same will be barred.

Taylor Lang Holland
Personal Representative

To the publisher of *The Cullman Tribune:*

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

Tammy Brown
Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate

Steven C. Smith
Attorney for the Estate
Smith & Smith, LLP
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
(256) 734-4721

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF WELLS RUTLAND TURNER, JR., Deceased. * **CASE NO.: PC 2025-371**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters Testamentary of said deceased having been granted to ESTHER H. TURNER on the 10th 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 later to occur or the same will be barred.

Esther H. Turner
Personal Representative

Robert M. Galloway
Galloway,Wettermark & Rutens, LLP
PO Box 16629
Mobile, Alabama 36616-0629

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

Please publish the above Notice once a week for three consecutive weeks and send an affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

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

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of)
DOLLIE EUGENIA WHITE, also known as DOLLY EUGENIA WHITE) CASE NO. PC-2025-381
DECEASED.)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to Kevin William White, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Dollie Eugenia White, also known as Dolly Eugenia White, deceased, on the 17th day of October, 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.

Kevin William White
Kevin William White
Personal Representative of the Estate of
Dollie Eugenia White, also known as
Dolly Eugenia White, 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 (PAS001)
Attorney for the Estate of
Dollie Eugenia White, also known as
Dolly Eugenia White, deceased.
201 2nd Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama, 35055
bposton@beverlypaschalposton.com
(256) 739-3970

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

Obituary Announcements: Oct. 16-17

James 'Jim' Ruddle Smith, 86
Funeral service for James Ruddle "Jim" Smith, 86, of Cullman will be at 2 p.m., Friday, October 17th, 2025, at Jones Chapel First Baptist Church with interment in Jones Chapel Cemetery, Bro. Randall Edmondson and Bro. Chris Chambless officiating. The family will receive friends at the church from 11-2 p.m. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mr. Smith passed away October 15th, 2025, at CRMC. He was born March 21,1939. Jim was a member of Jones Chapel First Baptist Church and a member of the Masons, Hartwell Lodge # 101 of Alabama. He loved football, all sports, and spending time with his family. He retired from American Proteins after many years. The family would especially like to thank Gentiva Hospice and Woodland Village Health Care for the special care given to Jim. Mr. Smith was preceded in death by his parents, Alven & Orland Dorsey and a step-son, Jon Mosher. Survivors include his wife, Wanda Smith; son, Michael (Julie) Smith; daughter, Kristine (Vern) Sahyleh; step-daughter, Sherry (Kenny) Robinson; brothers, William 'Bill' (Linda) Dorsey, John Phillip Dorsey; sisters, Mary Rose (Danny) Junkins, Scherry (Greg) Chambers, Angie Donlin; granddaughter, Willa Sahyleh; step-grandsons, Jonathan Adams, Corey Robinson, Jacob Mosher, Justin Mosher; nieces, nephews, family and friends. Pallbearers will be Jonathan Adams, Vern Sahyleh, Jacob Mosher, Justin Mosher, Craig Thomas, Cole Brown. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Jack L. Smith, 91
A memorial service for Jack L. Smith, 91, of Cullman will be November 4th, 2025, at 11 a.m. at Gold Ridge Community Center. Mr. Smith passed away Thursday, October 16, 2025, at his residence. He was born January 18, 1934, to Ernie Lafayette & Odell Clara Rasco Smith. He was an avid trader and collector of antiques and valuables. He loved to barter and trade. He was preceded in death by his parents; his wife, Bonnie Ruth Smith; two brothers and a sister. Survivors include his sons, Kevin (Archilene) Smith, Michael (Brenda Walker) Smith; grandchildren, Anthony Smith, Natalie Smith, Stephanie Goolsby (Jason), Stephanie (Phillip) Ashley, Andy Smith; great-grandchildren, Wyatt Smith, Wesley Smith, Callan Smith, Branson Danecker, Ashlyn Danecker, Jase Goolsby, Charlie Ashley, Cara-Grace Ashley, Colt Ashley, Cade Ashley; family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to assist the family.

Charlotte Miller, 79
Funeral Service for Charlotte Miller, age 79 of Vinemont, will be at 1 p.m. on Monday, October 20, 2025, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home with Bro. Rodney Turner and Bro. Richard Roberts officiating; burial at Pleasant Grove Cemetery. Visitation will be from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Monday, October 20, 2025, at Cullman Heritage Funeral Home. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. Mrs. Miller passed away on Thursday, October 16, 2025, at her residence. She was born, September 13, 1946, to James Henry Thompson and Treecie Viola White Thompson. She was preceded in death by her parents; sisters, Glenda Duncan & Imogene Galin; brother, Stanuel Thompson and her husband, Wilbur Lee Miller. Survivors include her daughter, Monica (Rodney) Turner; son, Wilbur Lydon Miller; grandson, Kyle Turner; brother, Ted (Janice) Thompson; sister, Joyce (Doug) O'Brien, friends of 50 years, Vicky Pitts & Emma (Richard) Roberts and a host of nieces, nephews, family & friends.

Rhonda Charlene Malin, 72
Funeral services for Rhonda Charlene Malin, 72, of Logan will be at 2 p.m., Monday October 20, 2025, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Center Grove Cemetery, Rev. Shane Stewart, Rev. Mike Markham and Joshua Strevel officiating. Visitation will be Sunday evening from 5:30-8 p.m. at the funeral home. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Malin was born on August 3, 1953, to David and Lois Imagene Wilkins Cleghorn. Rhonda was a woman dedicated to love and in turn she was loved by many. She poured her heart and soul into being a pastor's wife and nurse. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister and aunt. She loved having fun and most of the time she was the center of it all. Mrs. Malin was preceded in death by her parents; sisters, June Spain and Deloris Thomas; brothers, Dewis Cleghorn, James Cleghorn, and Michael Cleghorn. Survivors include her husband of 53 years, Carl Malin; daughter, Clara (Bryan) Malin Strevel; brother, Charles (Donna) Cleghorn; sister, Brenda Gaines; grandchildren, Christopher (Riana) Strevel, Joshua (Alecia) Strevel, Jason (Lynnsie) Strevel, Cara Strevel; great-grandson, Cooper Waylon Strevel; and a host of nieces, nephews, family and friends.

Lawrence Albert Brown, 90
Lawrence Albert Brown, age 90, of Cullman, Alabama passed away on Thursday, October 16, 2025. Lawrence was born in Cullman on May 27, 1935, to Clyde and Esther Ruth Long Brown. He is preceded in death by his loving wife: Fannie Bell Brown, daughter: Doris Brown McBrayer, daughter-in-law: Zelda Brown, son-in-law: Larry McNabb, granddaughter: Heather McBrayer, great grandchildren: David Austin, Brodie Miller and Koby Tankersley. Lawrence is survived by: daughters: Carol McNabb, Linda (Teddy) Pannell, son: Robert Brown, brothers: Frank (Martha) Brown, Clyde (Sally) Brown, sisters: Frances Wall, Louise Nelson and Shirley Brown, eight grandchildren, a host of great and great great grandchildren. A Celebration of Life Funeral Service will be on Monday, October 20, 2025, at 11 a.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home Chapel. Interment will follow services in Bethsadia Cemetery. Visitation will be held on Sunday October 19, 2025, from 5:30 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home. Please share condolences and memories with the family at www.mossservicefh.com Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Jessy James Hooper, 29
Jessy James Hooper, age 29, of Cullman, Alabama passed away on Wednesday, October 15, 2025. Jessy was born on May 30, 1996, in Birmingham to Johnny Wayne and Doris Middleton Hooper. He is preceded in death by his mother: Doris Hooper and a sister: Misty Sims. He is survived by: Father: Johnny Hooper, Sisters: Christy (Andy) Ramey, Keeshia (Brian) Barnett, Daughter: Annaleigh Hooper, Nieces and Nephews: Josh Ramey, Tyler Ramey, Mattie (Ethan) Gandy, Katelynn (Nathan) Free, Shelby Sims, Sarah Burkhalter, Colt Sims, Jocelyn Barnett, Braylee Barnett, Hunter Barnett, Great niece and Nephew: Kenna Ramey and Banker Ramey. A Celebration of Life Funeral Service for Jessy will be on Tuesday October 21, 2025, at 11 a.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home Chapel with Dr. David Chambers officiating. Interment will follow services in Fairview Baptist Cemetery. Visitation for Jessy will be on Monday October 20, 2025, from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. at Moss Service Funeral Home. Please share condolences and memories with the family at www.mossservicefh.com. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Moss Service Funeral Home
1901 Second Avenue Northwest
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BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

Batteries not needed

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



The words "Batteries not included" are found on many of the things we purchase these days. If we had to buy enough batteries at one time for everything we own, we might have to re-mortgage the farm! It seems that most everything we use or play these days either has to be plugged in or we plug in batteries. Almost everything our children or grandchildren play with is electronic. I'm not casting stones. I'm writing on one of those gadgets right now, but that certainly was not how my generation grew up. We had a few electronic toys or gadgets but most of them were what I like to call "people powered." Instead of saying, "Batteries not included," they may have said, "Batteries not needed." As we old codgers often say, "Those were the good ole days." I'm certainly not anti-electronic, but some of my fondest childhood memories were playing with things that didn't have a cord or battery.

Have you ever seen an electric yo-yo? Well, actually, they do make some now that require batteries because they light up as they spin or they are high-speed responsive. I hope those things don't come back up too fast or you might jam a finger or two! Just give me an old-fashioned wooden yo-yo. Then we got fancy and had plastic ones. Duncan came out with one called "The Butterfly," but it still operated manually.

How about spinning tops? I'm talking about the kind of top that was pictured on your grandma's dipping snuff cans. That was so long ago that I probably couldn't spin one now. I'm not sure I even remember how, but I think I wrapped the string around the top, starting at the small end and going down toward the larger end. I either tied a loop on the end of the string or fastened a button to it. I held the top upside down, attached the loop to my middle finger and hurled the top out as hard as possible. If you were good at it, the top flipped over and spun across the floor. These worked best on a cement or tile floor.

My generation lived dangerously. We not only rode manually powered bikes and skateboards, but we did so without helmets. That may explain why we now have such a hard time remembering things. Our skateboards had steel wheels. When those unforgiving wheels hit the smallest pebble, we practiced our flying skills!

We also played with clackers. No, those were not ducks...those would be quackers. Clackers were two fiberglass balls attached to opposite ends of a string.

We held the middle of the string between a thumb and finger, letting the balls hang evenly. The object was to make them clack against one another so hard and fast that they clacked when they were down and then again when they were up. We should have worn pads!

The noise was louder than a pickleball game! Veteran clacker clackers displayed their bruises like a badge of honor! We didn't get gold medals...just black and purple forearms. I'm not sure who thought that toy was a good idea, but it was definitely fun...until one of those balls flew off and blackened an eye or knocked out a tooth. Some kids even bragged of broken arms! I wonder if there is a video game of clackers. That might be safer, but probably not as much fun as the real thing.

Some of the best toys ever did not need batteries. Here's an idea...how about having an unplugged family night, maybe gather around a Scrabble board or a friendly game of Monopoly?

Bill King can be reached at bkpreach@yahoo.com or 334-728-5514 (office).

HISTORY

Files from Yesteryear: Oct. 18, 1945

From the files of Oct. 18, 1945

Mt. Pisgah News
Mrs. Wanda Adams and Sandra visited Mr. and Mrs. Milton Wheeler Sunday.

Cpl. Doris M. Jackson returned to Oliver General Hospital Monday after a 14 day furlough with her parents.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Huddleston and Raymond spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Grady Dye.

Cpl. Doris Jackson and Lillie Mae Holcomb spent Saturday night with Gertie Poplin.

Good Hope News
Barnie Easterwood arrived home with his discharge Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. M. R. Mize and Robert of Birmingham were the Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. B. E. Mize.

Mr. and Mrs. George Henke are the proud parents of a baby boy.

Addie Reid has returned from Birmingham.

Eddie Miller is the new superintendent of the Good Hope Church.

Mrs. W. C. Henke has returned home after a short visit with her daughter, Eta, in Mobile.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Gillespie (Delwyn Ryan) Colorado Springs, are visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. E. Ryan.

Pete Livingston is home on a forty-five day furlough with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Mack Livingston.

Aughey Hinkle is home from Hawaii.

Welcome News
Freeman Miller is ill.

Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Willingham of Arab, spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. John Miller.

Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Miller of Decatur, spent the week end with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Miller.

Mr. and Mrs. Collins Pruett visited Mr. and Mrs. Jack Dye, Saturday afternoon.

Dorothy Grimes visited Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hall, Thursday night.

Seaman first class, Duvall Waldrop is on a 30 day leave with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. T. O. Waldrop.

Mr. and Mrs. Walt Miller spent Saturday with Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Helms of Cullman.

Bethany News
Mrs. Gladys Eady and family spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Columbus Harbison and family.

Herman Williams arrived home from Germany Tuesday with an honorable discharge. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Louise (Goodwin) Williams. He has a son 22 months old that he had not seen before his return from overseas.

Ogle Campbell arrived home Sunday morning from Germany with an honorable discharge. He is the son of Mrs. Evazie Campbell and husband of Mrs. Oleta Campbell.

Mr. and Mrs. Jewel Howlett and son spent Saturday night with Mr. and Mrs. Boatner Speegle of Howard's Chapel.

Offie Calvert has received an honorable discharge from the Army. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifton Calvert.

Mr. and Mrs. Columbus Harbison and Mr. and Mrs. Gladys Eady and Mavis and Mrs. Ezell Campbell and family Sunday evening.

Holly Pond News
Mrs. Alma Reid and Mrs. Bernice Gorham of Ensley, are visiting Mrs. Esther Gorham. Mrs. Gorham is on her vacation.

Here from Tennessee are Mrs. Gorham, Mr. Curtis Reid and Mrs. Gorham. They came to Tennessee, Sunday, to see Pfc. Clyde Gorham who is recovering from wounds received in action in Germany.

Miss Eloise Stisher of Tennessee visited Mr. and Mrs. Henry Reid Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Reid visited Mr. and Mrs. Richard Shoemaker Sunday afternoon.

Here from overseas visiting their families here are Henry Elland of the Navy and Dewey Elland of the Army.



POET'S CORNER

Autumn Melody | By: Randy C. Hale

I would love to hear from you if you enjoy Poet's Corner. randyhale62@yahoo.com

The Wind blows through these autumn woods.
Beneath a tree of shade I stand,
and listen to its melody.

The strewn leaves spinning,
snapping like a snare drum's cadence.
Joining the score with a thudding
bass, an occasional limb falling.

A buck, bugles his mating call, and an acorn descends to the ground
like a triangle ting, becoming part of the symphony.

The decrescendo of summer's past, now a whisking breath of wood winds blowing, as shadows faintly set.

I listen to the ROM POM POM!
As tops of trees sway.
The wind blows through these autumn
woods, a living breathing way.

CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH

OCT. 18

H	A	Y	A	D	S	A	N	K	V	D	R	R	I	D
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J	U	G	R	L	P	F	I	E	T	N	L	O	T	S
O	O	S	P	I	E	S	S	I	E	O	L	F	N	K
B	T	I	H	P	R	U	B	Z	R	U	S	F	A	E
P	H	S	U	E	B	O	W	E	N	G	R	I	P	D
W	E	I	T	T	D	U	A	S	H	H	S	S	X	D
H	R	G	S	S	W	E	D	I	M	A	U	E	A	R
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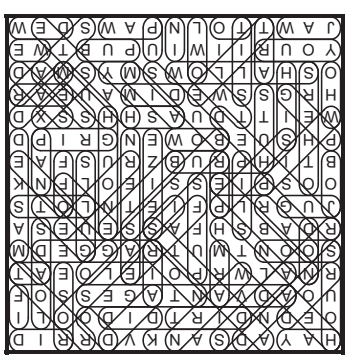
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CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU

OCT. 18

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	4				8		7	
7						1		
		9	6					
3		8	5					
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	5	6		4			9	

ANSWERS:



3	9	8	2	4	7	6	5	1
2	5	6	9	1	3	4	7	9
1	4	7	6	9	5	8	2	3
4	3	2	5	7	6	9	1	8
6	8	1	4	2	9	5	3	7
9	7	5	8	3	1	2	4	6
5	1	3	7	6	2	9	8	4
8	2	4	1	3	6	7	9	5
7	6	9	3	5	4	1	6	2

LION FEST

10.25.25 **9AM-12PM**

FIND YOUR REASON TO ROAR!

Campus Tours

Information Sessions

(Advising, Financial Aid, Admissions, etc.)

Program Demonstrations

Student Organizations

Food & Family Fun Activities



RSVP HERE

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OCTOBER 20

CLASSES BEGIN

JANUARY 7

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