Initial Impression
Make your mark!
Graphic Design | Embroidery | Laser Engraving | More!
2038 Pear Drive Cullman, AL 35058
256-735-4400 sales@initialimpression.net initialimpression.net/products

The Cullman Tribune

SERVING CULLMAN – IN THE HEART OF DIXIE – SINCE 1874

VOL. 153 • 50¢ PER COPY | THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2026 | USPS 139-700 • NO. 121

SUBSCRIBE TODAY



TRIBUNE.STORE

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

OBITUARIES

Tonya Monk Beasinger, Jeanette Davis, Ruth Eloise McCormick, Vicky Darlene Lindsey Suggs
» PAGE 7

WEATHER

89 59
SOURCE: WEATHER.GOV
SUNNY

Arrests and Incidents
» PAGE 2

Community Calendar
» PAGE 2



KATIE DRUMMOND/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cullman Oktoberfest sees record attendance

» PAGE 7

7 93888 98541 4

PART 2 OF 3

Aging out? Former cardiology nurse alleged age discrimination; judge found insufficient evidence

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. - Physician pay proposals were one part of Cullman Regional Medical Center's cost-cutting discussions detailed in records examined in part 1 of "Aging out?" Records in a separate lawsuit describe the March 2023 termination of cardiology nurse Amanda McCormick and reassignment of her pacemaker clinic duties to an existing practice coordinator.

"I retained all of my other responsibilities as Physician Practice Coordinator and none of my other duties were removed or modified to account for my new Pacemaker Clinic duties," Glenda Pelfrey said in her declaration.

McCormick sued, alleging age discrimination. CRMC denied discrimination and said its employment decisions were based on legitimate, nondiscriminatory factors.

U.S. District Judge Harold D. Mooty III granted CRMC summary judgment Aug. 14, 2026. The accompanying "Final » PAGE 5

CCBOE cuts ribbon on new Good Hope Elementary School



CHASADY WOODS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

The Cullman County Board of Education on Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2026, cut the ribbon on the new Good Hope Elementary School at 703 County Road 447.

Chasady Woods
chasady@cullmantribune.com

GOOD HOPE, Ala. – The Cullman County Board of Education on Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2026, cut the ribbon on the new Good Hope Elementary School at 703 County Road 447.

The facility, adjacent to the primary school, will welcome students on Monday, Oct. 12.

Cullman County Schools Superintendent Dr. Shane Barnette thanked board members, school faculty, tech and maintenance staff who assisted with the development.

He explained that the location of the new school will allow for several phases of additions, which will help because, he said, Good Hope is one of the fastest growing communities in the Cullman County Schools District.

"We have plans for phases 2, 3 and 4 going out the back if needed," Barnette said. "We will be able to expand as the community grows."

He acknowledged and thanked Good Hope Elementary's new principal, Emily Paschall, who was appointed in May, for taking on her role and making the transition to the new site five months later.

Paschall, prior to cutting the ribbon, stated, "Schools are the community center and all of this is for our kids and the future of Good Hope. I want to thank every single person who has poured into helping us make this a reality."

Earlier this week, Cullman County Schools reported that students from all seven county high schools, as part of the Superintendent's Advisory Council, helped faculty and staff move into the new school.



CHASADY WOODS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

"Now our kids are going to be ready for a bright and shining new building come Monday morning, with teachers who feel supported. It's just a great, great place and I'm thankful to get to be a part of it," Paschall added.

Cullman County Schools created a video demonstrating regular pickup procedures at the new school. See it at www.facebook.com/reel/1123737996880814.

KNIGHT-FREE INSURANCE AGENCY
Your agents. Your neighbors. Your friends. For three generations.
80 YEARS
Thank you, Cullman, for the best 80 years of our lives.
80 YEARS ANNIVERSARY 1943-2023

Ivey declares emergency for 40 counties as Isaias approaches; Cullman could see wind, rain » PAGE 7

Beignets & Brew plans Cullman location with drive-through » PAGE 3

Cullman Today launches Howl-O-Ween Pet Costume Contest presented by First National Bank of Cullman » PAGE 4

Cullman senior Isaac Heinze named Semifinalist in 2027 National Merit Scholarship Program

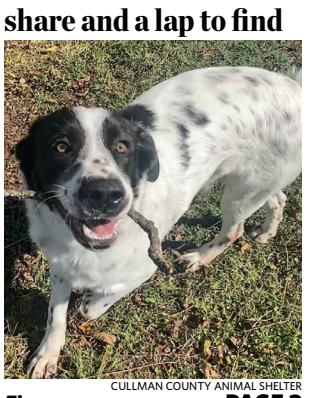


CULLMAN CITY SCHOOLS

Isaac Heinze » PAGE 2

PET OF THE WEEK

Finn has a smile to share and a lap to find



CULLMAN COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

Finn » PAGE 3

Bill Smith
BUICK GMC
WE ARE PROFESSIONAL GRADE
ALABAMA'S LARGEST BUICK GMC DEALER
GMC DEALER OF THE YEAR 9 YEARS IN A ROW!
THANK YOU TO OUR LOCAL AND REGIONAL CUSTOMERS FOR MAKING BILL SMITH 2025 DEALER OF THE YEAR!
2026 Buick Envista Sport Touring
WAS $29,880
NOW $25,679
1.2L EcoTec Turbo Engine
Heated Steering Wheel
Leather
Remote Open/Remote Start
Split Folding Rear Seat
SAVE $5,000!
STK# 64271
BILLSMITHBUICKGMC.COM • 1940 SECOND AVE NW • CULLMAN, AL 35055 • 256-734-4472
*Notates all rebates applied, must have 2005 or newer qualifying trade in. Prices are plus tax, title, & fee. Color may vary.

CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Oct. 7

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. – Below are the arrests and incidents reported Oct. 7, 2026. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

No arrests or incidents reported.

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Oct. 1

• theft of property-1st degree; theft of property-3rd degree; fraudulent use of credit/debit card; person; miscellaneous charges

• theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $150; Olive St. SW

• theft of property-4th degree; Wal-Mart; general merchandise; $31; Olive st. SW

ARRESTS

Oct. 5

Ellis, Tanya A.; 48

• theft of property-4th degree

Witherstine, Dylan T.; 23

• DUI

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

Jake Dueland of Cullman among scholars advancing mission to improve rural healthcare

Stephanie Pettis
Contributor

TUSCALOOSA, Ala. - For more than three decades, The University of Alabama College of Community Health Sciences' Rural Programs has prepared students to bring healthcare to rural communities, where it is most needed.

CCHS welcomed its 31st class of Rural Medical Scholars and fourth class of Rural Dental Scholars this fall, continuing the College's commitment to develop future physicians and dentists who will serve rural Alabama. The Rural Medical Scholars Program and Rural Dental Scholars Program are part of the College's Rural Health Leaders Pipeline.

The pipeline was created to address the shortage of primary care physicians and dentists in Alabama's rural communities.

"These students have already shown they are bright, ambitious and dedicated to serving rural Alabama as primary care physicians and dentists," said Dr. Meghan Rivera, assistant director of CCHS Rural Programs. "We know they will do great things."

Rural Medical Scholars Program

The Rural Medical Scholars Program is a five-year medical education program exclusively for rural Alabama students who want to become physicians and practice in rural communities. The program includes a year of study, after students receive their undergraduate degree, that leads to a master's degree in Rural Community Health and early admission to the UAB Heersink School of Medicine.

Rural Medical Scholars spend their first two years of medical school at the Heersink School of Medicine's main campus in Birmingham and return to CCHS for their final two years of medical school, which are the clinical education years.

The class includes Chloe Cater, of Calhoun County; Rebecca Chancey, of Houston County, Jake Dueland, of Cullman County; John Harrell, of Walker County; Jake Hays, of Colbert County; Zachary Love, of St. Clair County; Tevi Pauley, of Colbert County; and Christy Xie, of Chilton County.

Rural Dental Scholars Program

The Rural Dental Scholars Program is exclusively for students from rural Alabama and provides a separate admissions pathway to the UAB School of Dentistry. The program includes a year of study and a master's degree in rural community health, after students receive their undergraduate degree, and early admission to the UAB School of Dentistry.

During the year of study at CCHS, students take biomedical science courses designed to adequately prepare them for a rigorous dental school curriculum. They also participate in seminar courses on rural health and community engagement experiences, and they shadow dental providers.

The class includes Kirby Payton, of Cleburne County; Lynn Pham, of Marengo County; Trenton Roden, of Colbert County; and Jack Stoudenmire, of Clarke County.

Rural Community Health Scholars

CCHS also welcomed Abbi Calhoun, of Chilton County; Erica Doss, of Covington County; and Nia Jones, of Etowah County as Rural Community Health Scholars. Calhoun is completing her second year of the Rural Community Health Scholars Program.

The program is for rural Alabama college graduates interested in health professions. Scholars complete a year of studies alongside the Rural Medical Scholars and, like the Rural Medical Scholars and Rural Dental Scholars, receive a master's degree in rural community health.

Heinze (from Front)

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. - Cullman High School on Oct. 7, announced that senior Isaac Heinze was named as a Semifinalist in this prestigious 2027 National Merit Scholarship Program.

The 2027 National Merit Scholarship Program announced the names of more than 16,000 Semifinalists in the 72nd annual National Merit Scholarship Program.

Heinze is one of only two students who the NMSC Semifinalist named from all of Cullman County and Cullman City high schools. He now has the opportunity to continue in the competition for about 6,700 National Merit Scholarships worth approximately $24 million that will be offered next spring. To be considered for a Merit Scholarship award, Heinze must fulfill several requirements to advance to the Finalist level of the competition. About 95% of the Semifinalists are expected to attain Finalist standing, and approximately half of the Finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship, earning the Merit Scholar title.

The National Merit Scholarship Program honors individual students who show exceptional academic ability and potential for success in rigorous college studies. Over 1.2 million juniors in about 20,000 high schools entered the 2027 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2025 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT), which served as an initial screen of program entrants. The nationwide pool of Semifinalists, representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest-scoring entrants in each state.

From over 16,000 Semifinalists, more than 15,000 are expected to advance to the Finalist level, and in February they will be notified of this designation. All National Merit Scholarship winners will be selected from this group of Finalists. Merit Scholar designees are selected on the basis of their skills, accomplishments, and potential for success in rigorous college studies, without regard to gender, race, ethnic origin or religious preference.

THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS!

Vehicle Title Problem?
We have a Solution!
Unclaimed/Abandoned Vehicles, Mobile Homes & Surety Bonds
JSE:Alabama's Vehicle Title Recovery Service!
We can help with most Titled Vehicles in Alabama, including Cars, Trucks, Motorcycles, RV's & Trailers. Stop in, by phone or online!
Free Phone Consultation
Call 1-256-850-0527
www.JSEAL.com

VIRGIL B. FOWLER
Real Estate and Insurance
AGENCY
Quality Since 1935
734-3821
vbfowlerinsurance.com
Successors to
WILLIAM RICHARD & SON INSURANCE
" Established 1885 "
Virgil B. Fowler 1895-1978 - Virgil B. Fowler Jr. 1937-2019 - Dorothy S. Fowler - Jason S. Fowler

NOW HIRING TIRE TECHS
SAME DAY APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW + COMPETITIVE PAY
COLLEGE TIRE
315 MAIN ST. NW HANCEVILLE
256-352-2221

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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

PUBLIC NOTICE:
The Welti Cemetery will be participating in the Wreaths Across American event honoring our deceased veterans. If you know of a deceased veteran buried at Welti whose grave does not have a military marker, please contact Gary Reid at 256-339-7236 by Dec. 1, 2026.

Grace Episcopal Church Cheeseball Sales are Underway! Place Your Holiday Order by Oct. 16.
The Grace Episcopal Church Women are currently selling their popular cheeseballs for the holidays! This year we are offering nine cheeseball flavors. The deadline to order has been extended to Friday, Oct. 16. You may place your order by going to www.gracechurch.org where you can order online or print out an order form to mail in. You can also call the church office 256-734-6212 on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. to place your order. Cheeseballs will be ready for pickup on Thursday, Nov. 19, at Grace Episcopal Church. All proceeds from our cheeseball project go to outreach including Committee on Church Cooperation (CCC), the Good Samaritan Health Clinic, The Pilot Light Home, The Willow Path (formerly Victim Services), Hope Horses, Cullman Caring for Kid and Wallace State Campus Ministries.

PUBLIC NOTICE:
The Cullman County Special Education Program is seeking to locate children with disabilities ages 0-21 within the Cullman County School District. Ages 0-3 call Kristie Smith, 256-734-3253. Ages 3-21 call Katie Meigs, Special Education Coordinator, 256-739-0486, Ext 2.
The system is also seeking to locate intellectually gifted and talented children, with the emphasis on second-grade students. Contact Special Education Coordinator Katie Meigs at 17600 U.S. Highway 31 N, Cullman, Al 35058.

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 North Alabama Agriplex Heritage Building. 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.

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.

Alpha Delta Kappa Invitation
Are you a woman educator looking to connect, grow, serve, and make a difference? We want to invite you to contact our local Cullman chapters Alpha Theta or Beta Delta. Alpha Delta Kappa is a national honorary organization of more than 25,000 women educators who share a commitment to valuing all people and promoting quality education.
• Build lifelong friendships
• Connect with educators who share your passion
• Grow through leadership and professional opportunities
• Serve your school, community and beyond
• Celebrate the important work of women educators
Your dedication to education matters. Your voice matters. You belong with us.
For more information contact President of Alpha Theta Laurita Hogland 256-531-2298 or Presidents of Beta Delta Rhonda Vanzant 256-708-7980 or Lisa Hullett 256-962-4252.

Church Services: Spirit Life Church
• 1650 St. Joseph Dr. NW, Cullman
• 256-739-3326
• spiritlifechurchcullman@gmail.com
• FB-Spirit Life Church Cullman
• Friday, Oct. 9 – 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. 11 – 8:15 a.m. Van runs in 5 Points Area. Call Aimee at 256-841-2060 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 in Hanceville
The library is open Tuesday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. (closed from noon-1 p.m.) and Saturdays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Join us on Facebook for weekly details or please feel free to call us at 256-352-0685. Follow Facebook/Hanceville Public Library for event details.
• Saturday, Oct. 17, at 10 a.m. Adult book club
• Saturday, Oct. 17, at 10 a.m. Colin Hyde is back by popular demand to talk about bats, their habitats and where to find them in the area
• Saturday, Nov. 7, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Mud Creek Festival and BIG BOOK SALE
• Wednesday, Nov. 11, Closed in honor of Veterans Day
Wednesdays, 10 a.m. Storytime
• Nov. 18, Susan Melton
• Nov. 25, Closed for Thanksgiving
• Dec. 2, Dorenda Doyle as Mrs. Claus!
• Dec. 9, Anita Whitlock
• Dec. 16, Kerri with Cullman 4-H
• Dec. 23 and 30, No program
• Jan. 6, Beth Ellis will read "The After Christmas Tree"
• We have T-shirts for sale. Children's sizes are $15 and adult sizes are $20. Proceeds to assist the library's programs.
We are looking for community volunteers to read storytime on Wednesdays. Contact Teresa Rivera for details. Volunteers make our library successful, so we thank our local community.

Nimble Thimbles Quilt Guild
Are you a quilter or wanting to learn? We will meet Thursday, Oct. 8, at 10 a.m. St. Andrew's Methodist Church, 614 Main Ave. SW, Cullman.

Cullman Chapter of The National Association of Retired and Active Federal Employees Meeting
Monday, Oct. 12, at 11 a.m. at Williams BBQ in section Z (this Monday only). Lunch followed by a business meeting. A venue for our November Federal BCBS information meeting is yet to be determined.

Chambers Family Reunion
Sunday, Nov. 1, at 11 a.m. at the Berlin Community Center. Begins at 11, with dinner at noon. All family members and friends are invited to attend. Those attending, please bring a meat dish, vegetables and desert so there will be enough food. Also, bring family photos, stories and family research to be presented to others attending. If you are able to arrive early (9-10 a.m.) to assist in setup, it would be appreciated. Contact Rodger Walling at 256-734-8235 or 256-347-2092.

Holly Pond Lions Club Pancake Breakfast
Saturday, Nov 7, from 6-9 a.m. at the Holly Pond Lions Club Building. Enjoy pancakes, bacon, sausage and coffee or juice by eat-in or takeout for a donation. The proceeds will benefit the HP Lions Club project fund and the food pantry located between town hall and the fire department. Come join us! Everyone is welcome. Thank you in advance for your support.

Location (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. - Beignets & Brew plans to open a Cullman shop, bringing its New Orleans-style beignets and specialty coffee to Second Avenue Northwest with drive-through service.

The company lists the location at 1269 Second Ave. NW, Suite J, as "Coming Soon" on its website. An opening date has not been posted on the Cullman location page.

The shop is planned for Redstone Marketplace, the shopping center along U.S. Highway 31 near 12th Way North. The development is anchored by Redstone Federal Credit Union.

Founded in Destin, Florida, Beignets & Brew specializes in beignets, fried pastries often served warm and covered in powdered sugar. The company says its beignets are handcrafted and made fresh to order.

Its menu includes traditional beignets, bite-sized portions and specialty versions with Nutella, cinnamon sugar or cinnamon roll icing. Turtle beignets feature caramel, cream cheese, chocolate and pecans, with dipping sauces such as blueberry, buttercream, caramel and chocolate also available.

The drink menu ranges from drip coffee, café au lait and cold brew to espresso drinks, including a Biscoff cookie butter latte and salted caramel mocha latte. Teas and smoothies are also listed.

For customers looking for more than pastries, the company offers breakfast croissants with egg, cheese and bacon or sausage, a honey butter chicken croissant and chicken tenders paired with beignets.

Those items are listed on the company's general menu. A separate menu for the Cullman shop has not been posted.

Beignets & Brew already has Alabama locations in Auburn, Huntsville, Madison and Muscle Shoals. Its location directory also lists planned shops in Decatur and Homewood.

NOW HIRING CLASS A CDL DRIVERS
SAME DAY APPLICATION AND INTERVIEW + COMPETITIVE PAY AND BENEFITS
SFTWI
PLEASE APPLY AT COLLEGE TIRE
315 MAIN ST. NW HANCEVILLE
256-352-2221

EARL'S BODY SHOP
2251 Decatur Ave., N.W.
734-2406


A-1 Battery Sales
AUTO – TRUCK – TRACTOR
Quality Batteries For Every Need
Since 1979
2152 Co. Rd. 1169 • Cullman, AL 35055
Phone: (Office): 256-734-9438

COMMUNITY CORNER



SUBMIT BY NOON ON WEDNESDAY, SEE YOUR AD ON THURSDAY!
PLACE YOUR AD AT TRIBUNE.STORE OR CALL US AT 256-739-1351

FOR SALE

BREATHE FREELY AT HOME! Central Boiler's Classic Edge Titanium HDX OUTDOOR wood furnace eliminates indoor smoke for healthier living. Boilerworx Plus-serving Cullman and surrounding areas. Call 256-347-6832!

SERVICES

MYRA'S DECORATION FLOWERS is now open Thurs-Sat from 10am-5pm. Myra's is conveniently located on CR 1343 close to Vinemont Super Saver. With over 20 years experience we will create your custom arrangements with quality silk flowers. Prices range between $5.00-$48.00. Call or text 256-595-9748 to order. Come and let me save you money!

STRUGGLING WITH STAIRS? STAY SAFE AT HOME. Acorn Stairlifts® are the perfect solution for arthritis, COPD, and mobility challenges. A+ Rated by the BBB. Special $250 Savings and a FREE In-Home Consultation. Call 1-844-349-3270 Today!

UP TO $15,000.00 OF GUARANTEED LIFE INSURANCE! No medical exam or health questions. Cash to help pay funeral and other final expenses. Call Physicians Life Insurance Company- 866-321-2416 or visit www.Life55plus.info/Alabama

APPLIANCE REPAIR: Prompt local service available for appliance repair. Washer/Dryer, Dishwasher, Refrigerator, Stove/Oven and all major appliances. Certified, Insured techs. Satisfaction guaranteed. Call to schedule your appointment now! 1-877-441-0132

SELLING a RV, Tractor or Golf Cart? ADVERTISE STATEWIDE or by region in over 100 Newspapers, reaching over 1 million readers each week! Run your ad in our Classified Network for just $210 per week! Make one call to this newspaper (participating Ala-SCAN newspaper) or call 1-800-264-7043 to find out how easy it is to advertise statewide!

WE BUY HOUSES FOR CASH AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-877-385-7131

WATER DAMAGE CLEANUP & RESTORATION: A small amount of water can lead to major damage in your home. Our trusted professionals dry out the wet area and do repairs to protect your family and your home's value! If you have water in your home that needs to be dried, Call 24/7: 1-833-879-1371 Have zip code of service location ready when you call!

BEAUTIFUL BATH UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Superior quality bath and shower systems at AFFORDABLE PRICES! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Call Now! 1-877-583-6484

CONSUMER CELLULAR - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just $20/month. For more information, call 1-844-358-5270

HEALTH/BEAUTY

AUDIEN HEARING. The world's first hearing aid with touchscreen controls. No tiny buttons, apps or prescriptions. 45-day risk free trial. Free shipping. Lifetime support. More than 1.5 million happy customers. Call Audien 1-844-298-7678

ATTENTION OXYGEN THERAPY USERS! Discover Oxygen Therapy That Moves with You with Inogen Portable Oxygen Concentrators. FREE information kit. Call 1-833-650-7885

FOR SALE

DENTAL INSURANCE from Physicians Mutual Insurance Company. Coverage for 400 plus procedures. Real dental insurance - NOT just a discount plan. Do not wait! Call now! Get your FREE Dental Information Kit with all the details! 1-877-817-4697 www.dental50plus.com/alabama #6258

AFFORDABLE TV & INTERNET. If you are overpaying for your service, call now for a free quote and see how much you can save! 1-877-541-5677

NEED NEW FLOORING? Call today to schedule a FREE in-home estimate on Carpeting & Flooring. Call Today! 1-877-403-4821

AUTOMOTIVE

GOT AN UNWANTED CAR??? DONATE IT TO PATRIOTIC HEARTS. Fast free pick up. Patriotic Hearts' programs help veterans find work or start their own business. Call 24/7: 1-833-426-0193

DONATE YOUR CAR, TRUCK, BOAT, RV AND MORE to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-877-724-3049 today!

Finn (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Finn's idea of a good place to settle is wherever you happen to be. If your lap is available, even better.

Finn, The Cullman Tribune Pet of the Week, is an approximately 2-year-old Australian Shepherd mix available for adoption at the Cullman County Animal Shelter.

With medium energy, a welcoming smile and an affectionate personality, this amiable fellow is eager to make a connection.

He forms bonds readily and finds comfort in being close to his person. His playful antics and enthusiasm for life add to his charm, giving someone looking for a companion plenty to smile about.

For all his entertaining ways, Finn's desire to be near you is what stands out. He could be a loving match for someone who enjoys an affectionate dog and is happy to make room for a little lap time.

Finn's adoption fee is $130 and includes neutering, vaccinations and microchipping.

To learn more about Finn or meet him, visit the Cullman County Animal Shelter at 935 Convent Road NE. The shelter is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Contact the shelter at 256-734-5448 or cullmananimalshelter@co.cullman.al.us.

If Finn already been adopted, don't worry! Many more pets are waiting for their forever homes, and your perfect companion may be among them.

Borden Family Pharmacy
Established in 1999
Borden
FAMILY
PHARMACY
bordenfamilypharmacy.com
256-734-7535

The Cullman Tribune
Cullman County's Oldest Business, Serving the area since 1874 Publication Number USPS-139-700
Telephone: 256-739-1351 Fax: 1-256-739-4422
HumbleRoots,LLC
Published daily Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at 219 2nd Avenue SE, Cullman, Alabama 35055 Entered as periodical material at the Cullman Post Office Periodical postage paid at Cullman, Alabama 35055

POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGE TO:
The Cullman Tribune
219 Second Avenue SE
Cullman, Alabama 35055
Email Address: office@cullmantribune.com

ANNUALLY BASED RATES

CULLMAN.....$125.00
OUTSIDE CULLMAN.....$250.00

Noah Galilee - Publisher
Dustin Isom - Associate Publisher
Chasady Woods - Reporter
Lauren Estes - Reporter
Emily McMunn - Reporter
Gauge Day - Reporter
Liz Tankersley - Graphic Design/Reporter
Sammy Confer - JV Sports Editor
Rhonda Richie - Newsroom Manager
Janet Chandler - Marketing Specialist
Heather Tubbs - Marketing Specialist

PREP FOOTBALL

Fairview visits Good Hope as region matchups fill October football slate

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. - Fairview's trip to Good Hope highlights a county matchup in a nine-game football slate Oct. 8-9, with every local team facing a region opponent.

Cullman opens the schedule Thursday at Gardendale. Eight games follow Friday, including road trips for Addison and Cold Springs, home games for Holly Pond, Vinemont and West Point and Meek's visit to Belgreen.

Records reflect results through Oct. 2. Alabama high school football standings use region records rather than conference records.

THURSDAY, OCT. 8

Cullman at Gardendale

Cullman enters the Class 5A, Region 5 matchup at 2-4 overall and 1-3 in region play. Gardendale is 3-4 overall and 2-2 in the region. Kickoff is scheduled for 7 p.m.

Both teams are looking to stop three-game losing streaks. Cullman fell to Jasper 31-6 last Thursday, while Gardendale lost to Minor 24-16 Friday.

The Bearcats need their second region victory, while the Rockets are trying to move above .500 in region play. Gardendale's other two losses during its current skid came against Mortimer Jordan and Calera.

FRIDAY, OCT. 9

Fairview at Good Hope

Good Hope brings a five-game winning streak and an unbeaten region record into its meeting with Fairview. The Raiders are 5-1 overall and 4-0 in Class 4A, Region 8. The Aggies are 4-2 overall and 3-2 in the region.

Good Hope defeated Sardis 47-6 last week. Ryker Hancock scored three touchdowns before halftime, and Karson Hollis added a first-quarter touchdown as the Raiders built a 34-0 halftime lead.

Fairview has won two straight, following its victory over Sardis with a 37-27 win against Brewer. The Aggies scored 23 points in the second quarter, including a safety, and led 23-7 at halftime. Brewer closed within 23-21 in the third quarter before Fairview added two fourth-quarter rushing touchdowns.

Friday's matchup gives Good Hope a chance to remain unbeaten in region play and Fairview an opportunity to extend its winning streak to three games.

Addison at Cherokee

Addison heads to Cherokee at 7-0 overall and 4-0 in Class 1A, Region 7. Cherokee is 3-3 overall and 1-3 in the region.

The Bulldogs defeated Belgreen 59-0 last week for their fifth shutout of the season. Addison has outscored its opponents 353-13 through seven games.

Cherokee enters with consecutive wins after defeating Vina 45-22 and Phillips 62-15. The Indians' improved production faces an Addison defense that has allowed fewer than two points per game this season.

Cold Springs at Midfield

Cold Springs will try to rebound from its first loss when it travels to Midfield for a Class 2A, Region 5 game. The Eagles are 5-1 overall and 3-1 in region play. Midfield is 2-4 overall and 2-2 in the region.

Gordo defeated Cold Springs 35-13 last week. Ethan Day rushed for 84 yards, and Cooper Johnson added 64 rushing yards and a touchdown. Brandon Chasteen completed three of four passes for 64 yards and a touchdown, with Eli Voce catching all three completions.

Midfield defeated Southeastern 36-6 last week to end a two-game losing streak. Cold Springs is looking for its fourth region victory as it moves into the final month of the regular season.

Hanceville at Etowah

Hanceville travels to Attalla seeking its first win against an Etowah team unbeaten in Class 3A, Region 6 play.

The Bulldogs are 0-6 overall and 0-4 in the region after a 61-18 loss to Susan Moore. Etowah is 4-2 overall and 4-0 in region play following a 35-12 win at Vinemont.

The Blue Devils returned an interception for a touchdown in the second quarter against Vinemont and scored three touchdowns in the third. Through four region games, Etowah has outscored its opponents 148-40.

Glencoe at Holly Pond

Holly Pond returns home to face Glencoe in Class 3A, Region 6. The Broncos are 2-4 overall and 1-3 in the region, while the Yellow Jackets are 3-3 overall and 2-2 in region play.

Holly Pond lost at Hokes Bluff 37-12 last week, its third consecutive defeat. Glencoe fell to Oneonta 31-14.

The Broncos are looking to end their losing streak and earn a second region victory. Glencoe has an opportunity to move above .500 in both its overall and region records.

Meek at Belgreen

Meek takes a 3-3 overall record and a 2-2 Class 1A, Region 7 record into its trip to Belgreen. The Bulldogs are 2-4 overall and 1-3 in the region.

The Tigers defeated Waterloo 46-0 last week for their first shutout of the season. Belgreen lost to Addison 59-0, its third consecutive defeat.

Meek has won all three home games but is still seeking its first road victory. A win Friday would also move the Tigers above .500 overall and in region play.

Hokes Bluff at Vinemont

Vinemont and Hokes Bluff enter Friday with matching 2-2 records in Class 3A, Region 6. The Eagles are 4-3 overall, while Hokes Bluff is 2-4.

Vinemont's two-game winning streak ended with a 35-12 loss to Etowah last week. Josh Rhodes connected with Brandon Johnson for a 22-yard touchdown on the final play of the first half. Travis Speer added a 2-yard touchdown run in the fourth quarter.

Hokes Bluff defeated Holly Pond 37-12 last week. Friday's winner will earn a third region victory as both teams work through the remaining region schedule.

Hamilton at West Point

West Point hosts Hamilton looking for its first victory. The Warriors are 0-7 overall and 0-4 in Class 4A, Region 7. Hamilton enters at 5-1 overall and 3-1 in region play.

West Point fell at Brooks 47-21 last Thursday. Hamilton defeated Priceville 45-7 Friday for its third consecutive win, following victories over Brooks and Winfield.

Hamilton has outscored its opponents 269-90 through six games. The Warriors will try to slow that offense and earn their first region win at home.

Not-So-Scary Stories in the Park returns this weekend

Chasady Woods
chasady@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Volume 2 of the Cullman Community Theatre's Not-So-Scary Stories in the Park will return this weekend on Sunday, Oct. 11.

CCT Tech Director Aaron Johnston told The Tribune that this will be a different demographic than a paid show. It is free for the public to attend and offers a great opportunity for families and friends to enjoy classic literary stories with a spooky twist.

This year's Halloween show will feature the tale of "Frankenstein" and "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde." Organizers teased that a mysterious favorite from last year, the Phantom of the Opera, will be making his return.

Johnston explained that, while there is order to the stories and scripts are made, it has a "sitcom" feel to the professional theater production.

"We take these stories as a basis and take a spin on a Halloween show where everything goes wrong," he added.

These shows offer flexibility for families that can't always sit through a 45-minute to an hour showing. They will be held at Cullman Art Park at 1031 Second St. SW, where there are on-site bathrooms and, of course, playground equipment perfect for burning off energy.

The showings will be held on the remaining Sundays throughout the month, which are Oct. 11, 18 and 25, at 4 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. Admission is free.

Visit www.facebook.com/Cullmancommunitytheatre for more information.

Howl-O-Ween (from Front)

Krystal Corley
krystal@cullmantribune.com

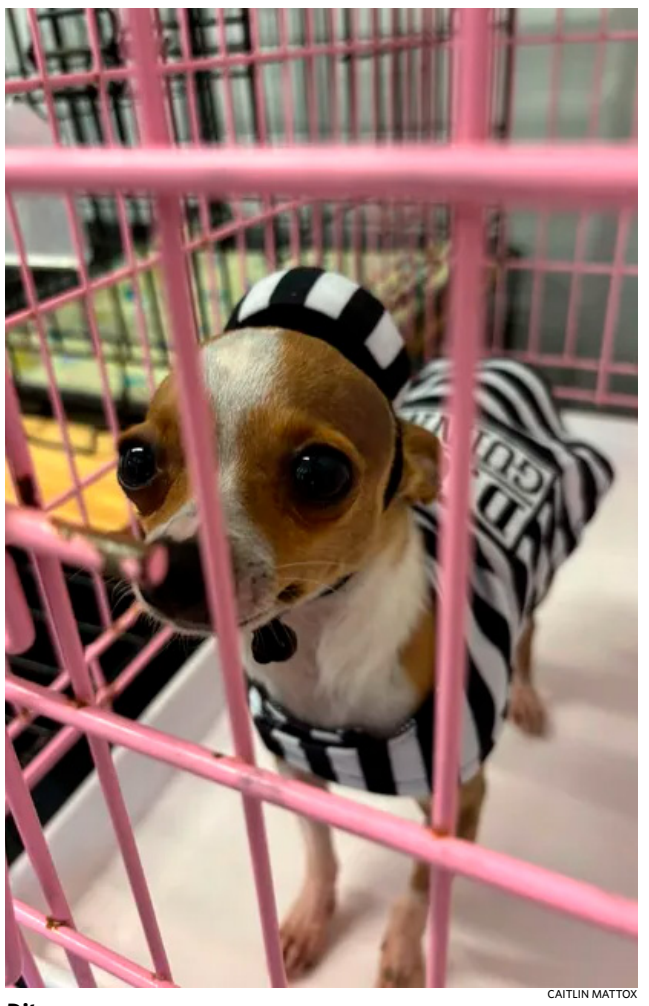
CULLMAN, Ala. – Calling all fur babies! Cullman Today is inviting pet owners across Cullman County to dress up their furry friends for the Howl-O-Ween Pet Costume Contest, presented by First National Bank of Cullman.

All pets are welcome to enter. To participate, snap a photo of your pet in costume and send it in a message to Cullman Today on Facebook by Wednesday, Oct. 28.

The winner will be announced Friday, Oct. 30, and will take home a surprise, pet-inspired swag bag courtesy of First National Bank of Cullman.

Whether your pup is a pumpkin, your cat is a vampire or your bunny is a witch, we want to see your best Halloween looks!

To enter, find Cullman Today on Facebook and send your photo through Messenger



CAITLIN MATTOX

Ditzy

Cullman County Human Trafficking Task Force works to rebuild and raise awareness

Krystal Corley
krystal@cullmantribune.com



KRYSTAL CORLEY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Shirley Arnett, secretary of the Cullman County Human Trafficking Task Force, is pictured before the group's meeting Wednesday, Oct. 7, 2026.

CULLMAN, Ala. – The Cullman County Human Trafficking Task Force is working to rebuild its membership and bring renewed attention to human trafficking in the area, and members gathered Wednesday, Oct. 7, to hear from local advocates and Cullman County Sheriff-elect Chad Whaley.

"I'm Shirley Arnett, the secretary for this group, Cullman County Human Trafficking Task Force. We're trying to build it back up to create awareness," Arnett told The Tribune before the meeting.

Arnett said the group started in 2015 but lost momentum in recent years.

"Since 2021 or 22, it sort of slowly went away, and we're trying to get it back up because we need awareness," she said. "You see all the stories every day. Multiple stories come up on your feed, and it's very important that we have awareness of what's going on around here."

She added, "We're going to have several speakers today who's going to share with us ways to help."

Speakers and updates

Scheduled speakers included Trudi Rollins, an advocate with the nonprofit Camille's Place; Melissa Hera; and Whaley. Terri LaPointe joined by phone. Sherrie Saunders opened the meeting with a welcome and prayer.

Members reviewed the group's activities since its July meeting. The task force launched a web page, www.AlabamaAgainstTrafficking.com, and set up an awareness display at the HOPE 5K "Running for Survivors" on Sept. 12, benefiting Camille's Place. Members also took part in the Cullman County Fair Parade on Sept. 26 to raise awareness.

The group is still looking for churches willing to host a movie night showing "Still Hope," a Birdie Box film. Members are also visiting town council meetings across the county, including Holly Pond, Vinemont and Baileyton, and are seeking more volunteers to attend those meetings.

Looking ahead, the task force is asking members to sign up for shifts at its Cullman County Fair booth, with entry passes provided, and is planning a proclamation against human trafficking in January, which is National Human Trafficking Prevention Month.

Apps parents should know about

Among the materials shared at the meeting was a brochure from the office of Cullman County District Attorney Champ Crocker titled "17 Apps Parents Should Know About." The brochure warns that many popular apps can expose children to strangers, explicit content, bullying or grooming, and that teens often get around age limits by faking their age.

The apps listed include Telegram, Snapchat, Kik, Whisper, Bumble, Live.Me, Calculator#, TikTok, MeetMe, WhatsApp, Grindr, Skout, Badoo, Tinder, Yubo, Hoop, Discord and Roblox.

The brochure notes that some apps, such as Snapchat, Whisper and Live.Me, can share a user's location, while "secret" apps like Calculator# are used to hide photos, contacts and videos. On gaming platforms such as Roblox and Discord, chat and voice features can expose kids to strangers and to people trying to obtain personal information.

"Parents should monitor games, chats, and who their child is interacting with," said Arnett.

Get involved

The task force welcomes new members and volunteers. For more information, visit www.AlabamaAgainstTrafficking.com.

The Cullman County District Attorney's Office is located at 500 Second Ave. SW, Room 204, in Cullman and can be reached at 256-736-2800 or www.cullmanda.org.

If you suspect human trafficking, call the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888 or text 233733. In an emergency, call 911.



Part 2 (from Front)

Judgment" dismissed McCormick's complaint with prejudice and directed the clerk to close the case.

The court concluded that Pelfrey replaced McCormick for purposes of its age-discrimination analysis, but found that Pelfrey was substantially older than McCormick.

McCormick therefore did not establish replacement by a substantially younger person, one element of the initial legal test the court applied.

The court then considered her other circumstantial evidence and found it insufficient to support an inference of intentional age discrimination.

"For all the reasons explained above, McCormick has failed to present sufficient circumstantial evidence that would allow a jury to infer intentional discrimination by the decisionmakers," Mooty wrote in "Memorandum Opinion and Order."

Schinley Land, CRMC's executive director of physician services, said in her declaration that she initially considered assigning McCormick's pacemaker clinic duties to certified registered nurse practitioner Ace Beam.

"Mr. Beam never performed any of Ms. McCormick's former duties with the Pacemaker Clinic," Land said. "Instead, I assigned Ms. McCormick's Pacemaker Clinic duties to the Clinic's practice manager, Glenda Pelfrey."

Land said Pelfrey was not a nurse, specifying that she was not a clinical medical assistant, licensed practical nurse or registered nurse.

Pelfrey listed monitoring remote device reports, retrieving reports from manufacturers' portals, printing reports and providing them to a cardiologist, scanning reports and physicians' notes into charts, billing and communicating with patients among her duties.

She said she also coordinated the pacemaker clinic, which occurred approximately three days a month.

"I performed all of the duties associated with the Pacemaker Clinic until approximately May 19, 2025," Pelfrey said. "At that time, Cullman Regional hired CV Remote Solutions to perform many of the monitoring, reporting and billing duties associated with the Pacemaker Clinic. I am still responsible for coordinating the Pacemaker Clinic when it occurs."

In her deposition, McCormick described reviewing pacemaker reports for device function, battery life and alerts.

"I'm looking to see if it's functioning properly. I'm looking to see the battery life. I'm looking to see if there's been any alerts or activities that would suggest that they needed to be brought into the clinic sooner rather than later," McCormick said.

Asked whether she viewed that work as a clinical or clerical duty, McCormick answered, "Clinical." She also testified that she relayed the information and her interpretation to the cardiologist.

Land gave a different assessment in her declaration, saying she determined McCormick's cardiology clinic duties were "primarily clerical" and that McCormick worked directly with a limited volume of patients during pacemaker clinic days.

"In my judgment, Ms. McCormick's duties could be assigned to other employees," Land said. "As a result, Ms. McCormick could be terminated from employment and CRMC would receive commensurate cost savings with that termination."

Before McCormick's termination, Katie Walker, patient access, communications and resource scheduling manager, addressed a proposed assignment of cardiology precertification work in a Jan. 25, 2023 email titled "Authorizations."

"Unless she is going to work full time M-F this would not be possible for her to do," Walker wrote. She said working two or three days a week would cause scheduling backlogs and prevent patients from getting in on time for return visits. She requested a meeting to discuss the assignment.

"The goal for Amanda has always been for her to be productive and helpful, supporting as much cardiology schedule as possible. However, we do not intend for this to ever impede or delay patient care. Please work with Glenda to discuss the current delays and what can and cannot be handled by Amanda," Land replied.

In a separate April 17, 2023, exit interview, cardiology nurse Lauren Dixon marked management, work environment and work schedule as factors that affected her decision to leave CRMC "A great deal." Her written explanation included "constantly adding more work and more providers but cutting hours and staff."

Dixon selected "Never enough time" when asked whether she had enough time to complete her job. She also wrote that she was unable to take a lunch break at least two or three days a week to finish her work with the staffing and hours available.

Dixon selected "Fair and accurate" to describe her supervisor's performance assessments. Asked what she liked best about her position, she wrote, "The people and physicians I work with, being able to care for and have a relationship with my patients."

In her April 10 resignation letter, Dixon said she was leaving to accept another job and identified April 24 as her last working day.

Patient follow-up also appears in records filed in Dr. Hansel Noffsinger's separate lawsuit. Emails dated June 16, 2022, addressed who would receive his patients' test results, how orders would be handled and how patients would be notified that he was no longer seeing patients for CRMC.

"His order is valid. The problem comes into play on who will be receiving the results," Susan Borden wrote. "I would say front end. This way we ensure results are routed to the appropriate provider."

Later that day, Land sent Lisa Courtney a proposal that included "Void all open/orders not complete," followed by a physician's review of the information and placement of a new order if needed. Land said the proposal would cover lab and imaging orders.

The proposal also called for a 30-day refill of noncontrolled medications, with patients scheduled to establish care with a new provider, and an office evaluation for controlled medications.

Courtney replied at 4:22 p.m., "I'm good with it," but instructed staff to call the patient before canceling a diagnostic or lab order the patient believed was scheduled. Her reply concluded, "we better call the patient."

In an earlier email that afternoon, Courtney wrote, "We are calling all of our patients and letting them know. All patients are also being sent a letter."

Source citations by paragraph

Paragraph numbering begins with "CULLMAN, Ala." and includes each standalone quotation. The headline, sub-headline and byline are not counted.

McCormick documents refer to McCormick v. Cullman Regional Medical Center, case 5:24-cv-00820-HDM. Noffsinger documents refer to Noffsinger v. Cullman Regional Medical Center, case 5:24-cv-00900-HDM. Page numbers are the filed document pages unless a deposition transcript page is also specified.

- Paragraph 1: "Summary Talking Points for James," Noffsinger Document 25-26, p. 2; "Declaration of Lisa Courtney," Noffsinger Document 28, pp. 21-22; "Declaration of Glenda Pelfrey," McCormick Document 25-22, pp. 1-2.
- Paragraph 2: "Declaration of Glenda Pelfrey," McCormick Document 25-22, p. 2.
- Paragraph 3: "Complaint," McCormick Document 1, pp. 1, 3-4; "Answer," McCormick Document 5, pp. 3, 5.
- Paragraph 4: "Memorandum Opinion and Order," McCormick Document 47, p. 18; "Final Judgment," McCormick Document 48, p. 1.
- Paragraph 5: "Memorandum Opinion and Order," McCormick Document 47, pp. 10-17.
- Paragraph 6: "Memorandum Opinion and Order," McCormick Document 47, p. 17.
- Paragraph 7: "Declaration of Schinley Land," McCormick Document 25-1, pp. 1, 11-12.
- Paragraph 8: "Declaration of Schinley Land," McCormick Document 25-1, p. 12.
- Paragraph 9: "Declaration of Schinley Land," McCormick Document 25-1, p. 12.
- Paragraph 10: "Declaration of Glenda Pelfrey," McCormick Document 25-22, p. 2.
- Paragraph 11: "Declaration of Glenda Pelfrey," McCormick Document 25-22, p. 2.
- Paragraph 12: "Deposition of Amanda L. McCormick," McCormick Document 25-13, transcript p. 217, filed p. 56.
- Paragraph 13: "Deposition of Amanda L. McCormick," McCormick Document 25-13, transcript p. 217, filed p. 56.
- Paragraph 14: "Deposition of Amanda L. McCormick," McCormick Document 25-13, transcript p. 218, filed p. 56.
- Paragraph 15: "Declaration of Schinley Land," McCormick Document 25-1, p. 10.
- Paragraph 16: "Declaration of Schinley Land," McCormick Document 25-1, p. 10.
- Paragraph 17: Katie Walker's "Authorizations" email, McCormick Document 25-6, pp. 1-2.
- Paragraph 18: Katie Walker's "Authorizations" email, McCormick Document 25-6, p. 1.
- Paragraph 19: Schinley Land's "RE: Authorizations" email, McCormick Document 25-6, p. 1.
- Paragraph 20: Lauren Dixon's "Exit Interview," McCormick Document 32-1, p. 27; Dixon's resignation letter, Document 32-1, p. 26, identifies her cardiology nursing position.
- Paragraph 21: Lauren Dixon's "Exit Interview," McCormick Document 32-1, p. 27.
- Paragraph 22: Lauren Dixon's "Exit Interview," McCormick Document 32-1, p. 27.
- Paragraph 23: Lauren Dixon's April 10, 2023, resignation letter, McCormick Document 32-1, p. 26.
- Paragraph 24: June 16, 2022 "RE: Dr. Noffsinger" email exchanges, Noffsinger Document 25-54, pp. 47-48.
- Paragraph 25: Susan Borden's June 16, 2022 "RE: Dr. Noffsinger" email, Noffsinger Document 25-54, p. 48.
- Paragraph 26: Schinley Land's June 16, 2022 "RE: Dr. Noffsinger Lab question" email, Noffsinger Document 25-54, p. 50.
- Paragraph 27: Lisa Courtney's June 16, 2022 "Re: Dr. Noffsinger Lab question" email, Noffsinger Document 25-54, p. 50.
- Paragraph 28: Lisa Courtney's June 16, 2022 "RE: Dr. Noffsinger" email, Noffsinger Document 25-54, p. 47.

Read part 1 at www.cullmantribune.com/2026/10/06/part-1-of-3-aging-out-federal-lawsuit-filed-against-crmc-by-former-physician-could-be-coming-to-a-close.



WALLACE STATE
HANCEVILLE • ONEONTA

PREVIEW DAYS

2 DAYS TO CHOOSE FROM
OCTOBER 15
OCTOBER 24

9 AM - 12 PM EACH DAY

- Campus Tours
- Information Sessions
  - *Advising*
  - *Financial Aid*
  - *Admissions*
- Program Demonstrations
- Student Organizations
- Food & Family Fun Activities
  - *Face and Pumpkin Painting*
  - *Tractor Tours*
  - *Bounce House (October 24)*

RSVP

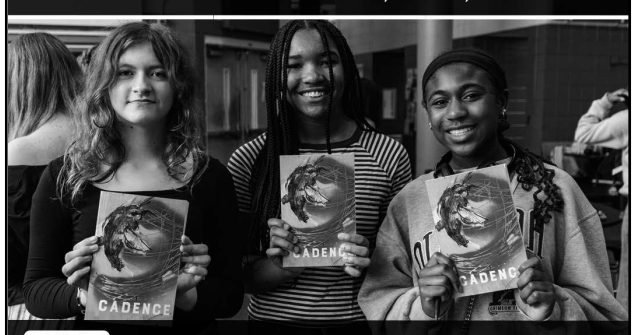
wallacestate.edu/previewday

Prior to entering any Alabama school or child care center, an up-to-date Certificate of Immunization must be submitted for each child.

www.alabamapublichealth.gov/imm

Vaccines for Children Program · Alabama Public Health · Immunization Division

ALABAMA SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS
OPEN HOUSE
SATURDAY, OCT. 17, 2026
SESSIONS BEGIN AT 9 AM, 10 AM, & 11 AM



SCAN TO REGISTER

Come take a tour, meet our award-winning faculty, and learn how you can apply! ASFA is a 7-12th grade public, tuition-free school for talented and passionate students. Located in Birmingham, AL with boarding available for grades 9-12.

ASFA | ALABAMA SCHOOL OF FINE ARTS



STOP
Elder Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation

Contact DHR to Make a Report

1-800-458-7214
aps@dhr.alabama.gov

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

LEGALS

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

MYRA GARCIA,
Plaintiff

vs. Case Number: **25-DR-2026-000287.00**

ADOLFO GARCIA LEDEZMA,
Defendant

NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION

Adolfo Garcia Ledezma, defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer Myra Garcia's Divorce Complaint by November 16, 2026, or, thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against him in Case Number 25-DR-2026-000287.00 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 9th day of September, 2026.

Lisa McSwain
Circuit Clerk

SAMPLE FORM OF ADVERTISEMENT FOR COMPLETION

LEGAL NOTICE

In accordance with Chapter 1, Title 39, Code of Alabama, 1975, as amended, notice is hereby given

that Mid-America Roofing, Inc. (*Contractor Company Name*)

Contractor, has completed the Contract for ☒(Construction) ☐(Renovation) ☐(Alteration) ☐(Equipment) ☐(Improvement) of (*Name of Project*):
Roof replacements at Fairview Elementary School in Cullman County AL

Cullman County Board of Education (Fairview Elementary School)

at _____
(*Insert location data in County or City*)

for the State of Alabama and the (County) (City) of Cullman, Owner(s), and have made request for final settlement of said Contract. All persons having any claim for labor, materials, or otherwise in connection with this project should immediately notify

McKee & Associates, Inc.
631 S Hull Street, Montgomery, AL 36104
(*Architect / Engineer*)

Mid-America Roofing, Inc.
(Contractor)
110 Bolton Street, Sheffield, AL 35660

(Business Address)

NOTE: This notice must be run for a minimum of three weeks for projects of $100,000.00 or more. For acceptable methods of advertisement, see General Conditions of the Contract, Article 34. Proof of publication of the notice shall be made by the contractor to the authority by whom the contract was made by affidavit of the publisher or website owner and a printed copy of the notice published. A final settlement shall not be made upon the contract until the expiration of 30 days after the completion of the notice.

M IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF)
LARRY E. STRICKLAND,) CASE NO.: PC2026-161
Deceased.)

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL
(SELF- PROVED WILL)

Petition for Probate of Will (Self-Proved Will) received the 13th day of April, 2026, and made court record the 16th day of April, 2026, filed by David L. Strickland, Petitioner, through Attorney, G. Edward Coey.

A hearing on this matter has been set for the **21st day of January, 2027, at 10:30 a.m.** before Tammy Brown Judge of Probate, Cullman County Courthouse, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Room 101, Cullman, Alabama.

DONE this 5th day of October, 2026.

TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing has been served by either hand-delivery, by U.S. Mail, or by placing a copy of the same in the box provided for counsel in the Probate Court's office.

G. Edward Coey

Court Clerk

Case# PC2026-395
PB WIL Book:141 Page:427
Recorded in Above Book and Page
10/06/2026 10:31AM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)

STATE OF ALABAMA *
CULLMAN COUNTY * IN THE PROBATE COURT OF
* CASE NO.: PC2026-395

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF HULEN BRISCOE, DECEASED

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED
BY PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

Letters Testamentary of said Deceased having been granted to the undersigned, Elizabeth Ann Chumley Pitmon, on the 5th day of October, 2026, by the Hon. Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, 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.

Dated this the 5th day of October, 2026.

ELIZABETH ANN CHUMLEY PITMON
Personal Representative of the
Estate of Hulen Briscoe,
Deceased

PERRY D. KNIGHT
Attorney for the Petitioner
412 First Avenue SE
Suite 101
Cullman, AL 35055
256-734-4090

To the Publisher of The Cullman Tribune:

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

TAMMY BROWN
Judge of Probate

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: The following self-storage units containing household and other goods will be sold for cash by Legacy Self Storage 106 13th Street SW, Cullman, AL 35055 to satisfy a lien on October 21, 2026, at Time 10:00 A.M. at Storagetreasures.com: Unit 414 James Ray, Unit 705 David Ware, Unit 909 Marissa Smithson.

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF)
LELDON WAYNE MCCUTCHEON,) CASE NO.: PC2026-290
Deceased.)

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL

TO:JOSHUA DEAN MCCUTCHEON, CONNOR SHANE MCCUTCHEON AND ANY KNOWN AND UNKNOWN NEXT-OF-KIN OF LELDON WAYNE MCCUTCHEON

Petition to Probate Will, filed by Stacy McCutcheon, Petitioner, through Attorney, Pamela E. Nail has been set for hearing on **21st day of January, 2027, at 11:00a.m.** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate.

All persons are hereby given notice to appear, and contest said Petition if they see proper.

Cullman County Courthouse
Probate Office
500 2nd Avenue SW
Room 101
Cullman, Alabama 35055

DONE this 5th day of October, 2026.

TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
ROBERT MATTHEW LEWIS, * CASE NO.: PC 2025-272
An Adult in Need of Protective Services. *

NOTICE OF HEARING
EMERGENCY PETITION FOR PROTECTIVE SERVICES AND/OR PLACEMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF A SUCESSOR GUARDIAN (AND A CONSERVATOR IF NECESSARY),
AMENDED PETITION FOR PROTECTIVE SERVICES AND/OR PLACEMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF A SUCCESSOR GUARDIAN (AND A CONSERVATOR IF NECESSARY) and MOTION TO APPOINT A SUCESSOR GUARDIAN

TO: Gwenna Jo Dilbeck, Donovan Lewis and any known or unknown Next-of-kin or interested parties

Please take notice that a hearing in regard to the *Emergency Petition for Protective Services and/or Placement and Appointment of a Successor Guardian (and a Conservator if Necessary)* and *Amended Petition for Protective Services and/or Placement and Appointment of a Successor Guardian (and a Conservator if Necessary)* filed by Susan Cupps, APS Social Worker, Cullman County Department of Human Resources, through Attorney Diane L. Dunning, and *Motion to Appoint a Successor Guardian* filed by Cullman County Department of Human Resources through Attorney M. Leigh Tyson.

A hearing has been **scheduled for the 12th day of November, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.** in the office of TAMMY BROWN, Judge of Probate, Cullman County Courthouse, Room 101, 500 2nd Avenue SW, Cullman, Alabama.

DONE this 29th day of September, 2026.

TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY ALABAMA

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF)
JAMES R. STORY AKA)
JAMES RICKIE STORY,) CASE NO.: PC2026-226
Deceased.)

NOTICE OF HEARING
PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL
(SELF-PROVED WILL)

TO: BILLY RANDALL STORY, GARY EMMETT STORY, SAMUEL LYNN STORY, ROBERT STORY, SANDRA FAYE STORY WRIGHT, BOBBY MILFORD STORY AND ANY KNOWN AND UNKNOWN NEXT-OF-KINS OR INTERESTED PARTIES OF JAMES R. STORY AKA JAMES RICKIE STORY.

Petition for Probate of Will (Self-Proved Will) filed by Courtney Breanna Barrett and Tyler Jacob Barrett, Petitioners, by and through Attorney, Jeffrey N. Cotney has been set for hearing on **7th day of January, 2027, at 10:30a.m.** before Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate.

All persons are hereby given notice to appear, and contest said Petition if they see proper.

Cullman County Courthouse
Probate Office
500 2nd Avenue SW
Room 101
Cullman, Alabama 35055

DONE this 28th day of September, 2026.

TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: The Estate of *
DOYLE SADLER, * CASE NO.: PC2025-369
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to Barry Camper, Jr., as Personal Representative of the Estate of DOYLE SADLER, deceased, on the 29th day of September, 2026, by Honorable Tammy Brown, Judge of Probate Court.

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.

Barry Camper, Jr.
Personal Representative

Daniel F. Aldridge
Attorney for the Petitioner
P.O. Box 2125
Huntsville, AL 350804

TO: Publisher of THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

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

DONE this 29th day of September, 2026.

TAMMY BROWN
JUDGE OF PROBATE

Cullman Towing & Recovery Inc.

821 Al Highway 157

Cullman, Al 35058

Notice of Sale

Abandoned vehicle sale Cullman Towing & Recovery Inc., 821 AL Highway 157. Cullman, Al 35058 In accordance with Motor Vehicle Code 32-13-1, the following vehicles may be sold at 821 Al Highway 157, Cullman, AL, 35058, on Thursday November 26, 2026 to the highest bidder for purpose of collecting fees against said vehicle. Any Questions Call 256-734-0433.

2010 BUICK LACROSSE CXL BLACK VIN# 1G4GC5EG7AF285430

2006 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX SILVER VIN# 2G2WP552161273544

2012 DODGE AVENGER SE BLACK VIN# 1C3CDZABXCN220568

2010 NISSAN MAXIMA WHITE VIN# 1N4AA5AP2AC8143134

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CUILLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
HENRY CHARLES GUTHERY, JR., * **CASE NO.: PC2026-279**
Deceased. *

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Letters of Administration having been granted to JESSICA PHILLIPS as Personal Representative of the Estate of HENRY CHARLES GUTHERY, JR. deceased, on the 29th day of September, 2026, 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 will be barred.

Jessica Phillips
Personal Representative

Clinton W. Kelly
Attorney for Petitioner
100 Wagon Yard Plaza
Carrollton, Georgia 30117

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

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

TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRCIT OF ALABAMA
NORTHEASTERN DIVISION

CIVIL ACTION NO.: 5:26-CV-00171-HDM

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA upon the relation and for the use of the TENNESSEE VALLEY AUTHORITY, Plaintiff

v.

AN EASEMENT AND RIGHT-OF-WAY OVER 3.19 ACRES, MORE OR LESS, OVER LAND IN CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA, TRACEY ALVEY, a/k/a TRACEY MARGARET ALVEY, TRACEY M., MCDERMOTT, TRACEY ALVEY MCDERMOTT, TRACY MCDERMOTT, TRACY ALVEY, and TRACEY M. ALVEY, Defendant.

NOTICE OF FILING AN ACTION OF CONDEMNATION AS TO DEFENDANT TRACEY ALVEY, a/k/a TRACEY MARGARET ALVEY, TRACEY M., MCDERMOTT, TRACEY ALVEY, MCDERMOTT, TRACY, MCDERMOTT, TRACY ALVEY, and TRACEY M. ALVEY

TO: TRACEY ALVEY (BY PUBLICATION)

Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 71.l(d)(2), you are hereby notified that the Plaintiff has commenced the above-titled action in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama, Northeastern Division to take an easement and right-of-way over 3.19 acres, more or less, over land in which you have or claim an interest. Said land and the interest taken therein is described in Attachment 1 which is attached hereto and made a part hereof. The authority for the taking is the Tennessee Valley Authority Act of 1933, as amended, 16 U.S.C. §§ 831 et seq.

You are further notified that if you desire to present any objection or defense to the taking of the property described in Attachment 1, you are required to file your answer with the Clerk of the Court and to serve it on the Plaintiff's attorney within 21 days after service of this notice upon you. Your answer shall identify the property in which you claim to have an interest, state the nature and extent of the interest you claim, and state all of your objections and defenses to the taking. Your failure to file and serve an answer constitutes consent to the taking and to the jurisdiction of the Court to proceed to hear the action and to fix the compensation. If you have no objection or defense to the taking of the property you may instead file with the Clerk of the Court and serve on the Plaintiff's attorney a notice of appearance designating the property in which you claim to be interested. Thereafter you will receive notice of all proceedings in this action affecting the property. In the event of a trial of the issue of just compensation, whether or not you have previously appeared or answered, you may present evidence as to the amount of compensation to be paid for your property, and you may share in the distribution of the award. Federal Rule of Civil Procedure71.l(d)(2)(B) requires that an address be provided within the district in which this action is brought where the Plaintiff's attorneys may be served. Such an address is John E. Pevy, Attorney, c/o Thomas M. Adams, Plant Manager, Guntersville Hydro Dam, Post Office Box 1176, Guntersville, Alabama 35976. However, Plaintiff prefers that service be made by mail addressed to John E. Pevy, Tennessee Valley Authority, 400 West Summit Hill Drive, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902-1401.

ATTACHMENT 1

A permanent easement and right-of-way, consisting of the perpetual right to enter and to erect, maintain, repair, rebuild, operate, and patrol lines of transmission line structures with sufficient wires and cables for electric power circuits and communication circuits, and all necessary appurtenances, including guy wires, in, on, over, and across said right-of-way, together with the perpetual right to clear said right-of-way and keep the same clear of structures (including but not limited to flagpoles, solar panels, buildings, signboards, billboards), trees, brush, stored personal property, and fire hazards; to destroy or otherwise dispose of such trees and brush; to prevent the drilling or sinking of wells within the right-of-way; and to remove, destroy, or otherwise dispose of any trees located beyond the limits of said right-of-way which in falling could come within five feet of any line, structure, appurtenance, facility, or conductor located thereon (including structures and conductors being on and over adjacent land), the Tennessee Valley Authority to remain liable for any direct physical damage to the land and annual growing crops resulting directly from the operations of the construction and maintenance forces of its agents and employees in the erection and maintenance of or in exercising a right of ingress and egress to said transmission line structures, all upon, under, over, and across the following-described land:

TRACT NO. BTH-94

A strip of land located in the Southwest 1/4 of Section 30, Township 11 South, Range 5 West of Cullman County, Alabama, as shown on Sheet P12 of US-TVA Drawing LW-8277, Revision 1 and Sheet P13 of US-TVA Drawing LW-8277, Revision 1, the said strip being 100 feet wide, lying 50 feet on each side of the centerline of the transmission line location, the centerline of the location and the end boundaries of the strip being more particularly described as follows:

Beginning at a point where the centerline of the location crosses the common line of Tracey Alvey and Michael L. Downs, et ux. at survey station 64+30.2, said point being 185.3 feet, more or less north of a 1/2-inch Rebar Found at the common corner of Michael L. Downs, et ux., Tracey Alvey, and Flat Rock Methodist Church, as measured along the said common line; thence S. 72° 56' 18" W, 1345.38 feet to a point of intersection at survey station 77+75.58 and having state plane coordinates of North:1475139.16 East:2086155.18; thence N. 80° 31' 25" W., 45.42 feet to a point of ending on the centerline of the location at survey station 78+21.0 and being in the western section line of the said Section 30, the aforementioned section line also being a common county line of Cullman and Winston Counties, Alabama, the herein described strip being bounded on the east by Michael L. Downs, et ux. and on the west by the western section line of the said Section 30, the ends of said strip are shortened or extended to said Section and property lines.

The strip of land described above includes the centerline of the transmission line location for a net distance of 1390.8 feet and containing 3.19 acres, more or less.

Furthermore, the permanent easement rights include the perpetual right to install, maintain, and replace guy wires and necessary appurtenances outside the right-of-way for the transmission line structure located at survey station 77+75.58.

The coordinates, distances, and directions of lines are referred to the Alabama West State Plane Coordinate System, NAD83(2011) Horizontal Datum, NAVD88 Vertical Datum (US Survey Foot).

Record landowner as of the date of filing of the Declaration of Taking – Tracey Alvey (Deed Book 714, page 395, in the office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama)

Tax Map and Parcel No. 20-09-30-0-000-016.000

Isaias (from Front)

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. - Gov. Kay Ivey declared a state of emergency for 40 Alabama counties Wednesday, Oct. 7, ahead of Tropical Storm Isaias, while forecasters warned that Cullman County could experience gusty winds and rain as the system moves inland this weekend.

Cullman County is not among the counties named in the announcement. Tuscaloosa County is included to the southwest, beyond Walker County, but none of Cullman County's adjoining counties appears on the list.

The declaration took effect at 4 p.m. Wednesday and is scheduled to expire at 11:59 p.m. Oct. 14 unless changed by proclamation, according to the announcement.

"While we continue to monitor forecasts, we have to prepare now," Ivey said.

"As we approach the weekend and any travel plans, make sure you have reliable information as conditions develop. While I hope for minimal impacts, we must take preparations seriously," she said.

Alabama Emergency Management Agency meteorologist Jim Stefkovich's 3 p.m. Wednesday update reported hurricane and storm surge watches for Mobile and Baldwin counties.

Isaias was expected to strengthen into a hurricane Thursday, with landfall anticipated Friday night or early Saturday along the northern Gulf Coast.

At 1 p.m. Wednesday, the National Hurricane Center reported maximum sustained winds of 50 mph. Its forecast called for the storm to approach the northern Gulf Coast Friday.

For Cullman County, the concern extends beyond the coastal landfall.

The National Weather Service in Huntsville's Wednesday afternoon forecast discussion described a medium chance of impactful gusty winds and a low risk of flooding in the Tennessee Valley as Isaias moves rapidly northward Saturday and Saturday night.

Forecasters said outer rainbands could arrive Friday night, followed by a potentially windy and rainy Saturday into Saturday night. Wind gusts of at least 30-40 mph were possible in the region, especially across higher terrain.

Alabama EMA's afternoon update forecast up to 3 inches of rain north of Interstate 20 through Sunday evening, with locally higher amounts possible. Cullman County is north of that corridor. Those figures describe a broader region and are not a guaranteed total for every community.

NWS Huntsville urged residents to begin considering preparations for power outages and flooding. For local households, that means planning for possible interruptions to electricity and staying alert for flooding in vulnerable areas.

The tornado outlook also depends on the storm's eventual track. NWS Huntsville said a track farther east could keep the stronger storms and tropical tornado threat south and east of the Tennessee Valley. A track farther west could bring more rain and at least a low tornado threat to the region.

At the time of its 2:36 p.m. Wednesday discussion, NWS Huntsville listed no watches, warnings or advisories for its Alabama forecast area. Residents should continue checking for updates as the storm approaches.

Residents traveling to the coast face a more serious set of potential hazards. Alabama EMA forecast possible storm surge of 5-7 feet along the coast and Mobile Bay.

The National Hurricane Center also warned of dangerous surf and rip currents along the Gulf Coast.

Alabama EMA stressed that the forecast cone shows the expected path of the storm's center, while impacts can extend well outside it.

Residents should have multiple ways to receive weather warnings, review their plans for a power outage and follow instructions from emergency officials. Drivers should never travel through flooded roads.

Conditions are expected to improve Sunday, with Alabama EMA forecasting an end to rain and wind impacts by Sunday evening. The timing and severity of local impacts remain dependent on the storm's track and strength.

Oktoberfest (from Front)

Lauren Estes
lauren@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. – Cullman Oktoberfest, which spanned four days this year, saw a record 75,000 attendees, according to organizers.

Cullman Parks, Recreation & Sports Tourism Executive Director Nathan Anderson said they couldn't be more pleased with this year's event.

"We saw record hotel occupancy for the weekend and welcomed a record crowd of approximately 75,000 people," Anderson said. "The weather certainly wasn't ideal, but thankfully it held off enough for us to have a great event, and we're grateful that the forecast didn't keep people from coming to Cullman and enjoying another great year of Oktoberfest."

He said expanding the festival through Sunday proved to be a great decision.

"After experiencing crowding on Saturday in previous years, we wanted to give people another opportunity to enjoy the festival at a more relaxed pace," Anderson explained. "Even with a 70% chance of rain in the forecast, nearly 10,000 people joined us Sunday. I think that shows both the strength of this event and how much people have come to look forward to Oktoberfest in Cullman."

CPRST Events Director Daniel Wyatt said this year they added several new high-energy acts to the festival lineup.

"The Brats and Manuela Horn, both nationally known for their larger-than-life shows that get the crowd involved entertaining participants this year," Wyatt said. "Nothing was better than seeing a 200-foot conga line snaking through the festival with participants ranging from 3 to 93 years old. I saw more people out of their seats and part of the fun than in years past. We want people not just to come enjoy the festival, but to be part of it, and we've already lined up both bands to join us again next year."

He continued, "We also expanded our craft vendor area, giving visitors more space to shop and take their time. With added several new craft vendors this year, whether you wanted handmade artisan mugs or authentic German lederhosen and dirndls, we had you covered. As the festival grows, we're always on the lookout for great entertainment and great vendors to give visitors a truly unique experience."

Cullman Mayor Woody Jacobs said an event of this size simply doesn't happen without an extraordinary amount of teamwork.

"We are incredibly thankful for the Oktoberfest committee, our Parks and Recreation staff, our other city departments, sponsors, vendors and the many volunteers who give their time to make this weekend possible," Jacobs said. "I especially want to thank our Bürgermeister, Edgar Veigl, and our Kinderbürgermeister, Veronica Harding, for representing the spirit and traditions of Oktoberfest so well."

Organizers said events like Oktoberfest are also a great reminder of how important it is to support local businesses and vendors.

"At the same time, we're inviting tens of thousands of visitors to experience Cullman, shop in our stores, eat in our restaurants and stay in our hotels," Anderson said. "That combination is great for our local economy and for our community. This is truly a community event, and Cullman once again gave our visitors something to remember."

Up next: Cullman Christkindlmarkt

Cullman Christkindlmarkt returns to Depot Park Nov. 19-Dec. 23, with free admission.

"We are happy that our great vendors from years past are joining us again, along with new food options and shopping you won't find anywhere else – that will be a great addition to an already wonderful event," Wyatt shared. "Visitors will also notice new details throughout the event that will immerse them in a true old-world Christmas experience. We have one very big feature coming that visitors will definitely notice. It will be one of only a few like it in the Southeast, if not the country. I don't want to ruin the surprise just yet, but I can guarantee it will be worth the wait."

Get more details at www.cullmanchristkindlmarkt.com.



FREE MAMMOGRAMS AND PAP TESTS
with FREE CANCER TREATMENT AVAILABLE TO ELIGIBLE WOMEN
• Breast Cancer Screenings 40-64 yrs old
• Cervical Cancer Screenings 21-64 yrs old
DON'T DELAY
DO IT FOR YOURSELF
DO IT FOR YOUR FAMILY
For a referral or more information go to:
www.alabama.gov/bandc
scan the QR Code below,
or contact the hotline: 1-877-252-3324
Breast & Cervical CANCER EARLY DETECTION Program of Alabama

AARP Alabama
AARP is fighting for every voter who's counting on Social Security.
As prices soar, protecting the Social Security you earned is more important than ever. Join AARP to stand up for Social Security in the upcoming election.
Be a Social Security voter.
aarp.org/SocialSecurityVoter
facebook.com/AARP | @AARP | aarp.org
paid for by AARP

Obituary Announcements: Oct. 6-7

Tonya Monk Beasinger, 52
Tonya Monk Beasinger, age 52 of Blountsville, left us too soon on Sunday, Oct.4, 2026. There are no services planned at this time. Cullman Heritage Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Tonya was born on Sept. 17, 1974, to Rick and Joyce Monk. She is preceded in death by her grandparents, Roscoe and Dorothy Monk, and Buddy and Pat Riddle. She is survived by her parents, Rick and Joyce Monk; daughter, Abby Beasinger; grandchildren, Caysen Taylor and Kazleigh Taylor; sister, Wendy Farwell (Alan); brother, Jonathon Monk (Tasha).

Jeanette Davis, 96
Graveside service for Jeanette Davis, age 96 of Crane Hill, is Sunday, Oct. 11, 2026, at 2 p.m. at East Point Cumberland Presbyterian Church Cemetery. Mrs. Davis passed away on Thursday, July 23, 2026, at her residence. She was born, July 21, 1930, to Harold L. Weeks and Luna M. Collier Weeks. Jeanette graduated from Sacred Heart Academy and was the owner of Weeks Motor and Grocery in Cullman for many years. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, William A. "Bill" Davis; brother, Bert "Wayne" Weeks and her sister, Dorothy Marie Weeks. Survivors include her sons, Steven (Michelle) Davis and Alan E. (Sheila) Davis; daughters, Tina (Rickey) M. Davis Reid and Donna L. Davis; brother, Harold "Layne" (Judy) Weeks; grandson, Trey Davis; great grandchildren, Daemon Davis, Lakin McBee and Carley Davis and her beloved cats, Katie Mae & Mr. Mister. In Lieu of flowers she asked that donations be made to the cemetery fund at East Point Cumberland Presbyterian Church, Cullman, AL or Hospice of North Alabama.

Ruth Eloise McCormick, 87
Ruth Eloise McCormick, 87, of Cullman, Alabama, was born Oct. 14, 1938, in Cullman, Alabama, and passed away Oct. 4, 2026. She was preceded in death by her parents, Rev. Cleo and Ottie Bentley; her husband, Bobby McCormick; her daughter, Rhonda Tsang Vaughn; her son, Robert McCormick; her grandson, Bentley Callahan; and her brother, Joel Bentley. She is survived by her daughter, Sharon Tucker (Joe); her grandchildren, Weston Callahan and Joshua Zion Tsang; her great-grandchildren, Beaux Scott and Brock Henry Callahan; her sisters, Dura Meherg and Dorothy Alred (Cal); and her brothers, Leon Bentley(Sandra) and Neal Bentley(Melanie). A Graveside Committal Service was held at 10:30 a.m. on Oct. 7, 2026, at Center Grove Baptist Church Cemetery, 4607 County Road 1545, Cullman, AL 35058. Bro. Sam Hollis and Bro. Baxter Bentley Officiating. The family request those attending the service wear Mrs. McCormick's favorite colors RED and PINK, Alabama wear is acceptable as she loved her Crimson Tide. Pallbearers: Weston Callahan, Joe Tucker, Cal Alred, Baxter Bentley, Adam Alred and Kevin Meherg. In-lieu of flowers the family ask that donations be made to the Good Samaritan clinic, 401 Arnold Street NE Cullman, AL 35055. Moss Service Funeral Home directing.

Vicky Darlene Lindsey Suggs, 66
Vicky Darlene Lindsey Suggs, 66, of Hartselle passed away Oct. 3, 2026, at Huntsville Hospital. She was born June 1, 1960, to Charles Loyd Lindsey and Ruby Austine Vincent Lindsey. She was preceded in death by her parents and a sister, Regina Hall. Darlene was a nurse, she loved to sing and loved her family. She is survived by her husband, Tommy Suggs; her two children, Markas Hardin (Erica) and Miranda Hardin and her bonus daughter, Kristie Suggs; four grandkids, Kristin, Joe, Keagan and Cade; one great-grandchild; brothers, James (Linda) Lindsey, Richard Lindsey, Lynn (Cecilia) Lindsey; sister, Carol Free. A Celebration of Life will be Oct. 25, 2026, at 1 p.m. at the Eva Community Center. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Cullman Funeral Home and Crematory
– "Sincere Compassionate Care" –
CULLMAN'S ON-SITE STATE OF THE ART CREMATORY NOW OPEN
DIRECT CREMATION $1,695 | NO HIDDEN COSTS
100% Locally Owned & Operated by Steve and Hilda Rodgers
(256) 734-3144
461 U.S. Highway 278 East
Cullman, Alabama 35055
www.cullmanfuneralhome.com

Moss Service Funeral Home
1901 Second Avenue Northwest
734-1821 Service You Can Count On

Cullman Marble & Granite Co.
"Memorials of Quality Since 1910" 734-2353

Extension to host free Landscape Tree Care and Maintenance workshop Oct. 27

Gauge Day
gauge@cullmantribune.com

VINEMONT, Ala. – The Alabama Cooperative Extension System will host a free Landscape Tree Care and Maintenance Workshop on Tuesday, Oct. 27, from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. at the South Vinemont Community Center.

"This full-day workshop is part of a statewide Extension program called Green Up Alabama, with the goal to educate homeowners and tree care professionals on growing healthy landscape trees to reduce risks and issues in the future," Cullman County Extension Director Dr. Kira Sims said.

Topics will include proper tree pruning, tree selection, planting and establishment, landscape tree health and maintenance, assessing potentially hazardous trees and considerations involving trees and construction. The workshop will also include an outdoor demonstration.

Speakers will include Auburn University Extension specialists with experience in landscape and urban tree care, along with a certified arborist.

"This is a great opportunity for tree care professionals to increase their knowledge in their profession, as the material covered will be practical, so it'll be applicable to their daily work," she said. "Homeowners will also benefit from this workshop by understanding more about the trees in their landscape, how to care for them and whether they are appropriate for the setting and what to look for when planning future tree selection and planting."

She added, "Almost everyone has trees in their landscape, so this workshop would be helpful to anyone with a tree in their yard."

The Landscape Tree Care and Maintenance Workshop is free and open to the public. Lunch will be provided for participants who register in advance. Additionally, ISA education credits will be available for those who are certified.

The South Vinemont Community Center is located at 88 Ridgeway St. in Vinemont. Advance registration is available through the Alabama Cooperative Extension System's event page, www.aces.edu/event/tree-care-and-maintenance-workshop-cullman-morgan-counties.

For more information, contact Jessica Baldwin at 334-752-1194 or jmb0276@auburn.edu.



Fall colors to transform Alabama landscapes in coming weeks

Emma Greene
Contributor

AUBURN UNIVERSITY, Ala. - As the weather gets cooler, the new season brings a palette of vibrant fall colors to trees that Alabamians may notice throughout the next month or two. Shane Harris, Tallapoosa County director and horticulturist with Alabama Extension at Auburn University, explained why trees have fall colors, what people in Alabama can expect and types of trees to plant for the best fall colors.

What causes fall colors

Harris said chemical processes within tree leaves are the key to fall color as the days get shorter and nights get longer. In the fall, plants are not producing as much chlorophyll — the more prominent, green pigment in leaves — which exposes hidden pigments. Sugar that is made in leaves cannot go to the roots or feed the tree during cold nights, trapping the sugar and creating brighter leaf colors.

"Shorter day length and cooler temperatures are the primary causes of chlorophyll not being produced as much. What is then revealed are the hidden pigments of carotenoids, yellow and orange, and anthocyanin, red and purple, in the leaves," Harris said. "Seeing those yellow and red pigments on full display is what creates the annual show of fall colors."

Alabamians may already see color changes and leaves falling, but typically peak season in the state for fall color is late October and early November. When color appears and how long it lasts depends on various factors, according to Harris.

"People will ask when peak season is for fall colors. Well, it requires a natural recipe of daylight length, nighttime temperatures, daytime temperatures and moisture. It's a complex combination; the correct helping of each is needed for fall colors," Harris said.

Drought and rainfall can cause trees to not get the nutrients and moisture they need. This can affect the fall colors, as a tree might get under stress and drop leaves quickly rather than go through the color changing process.

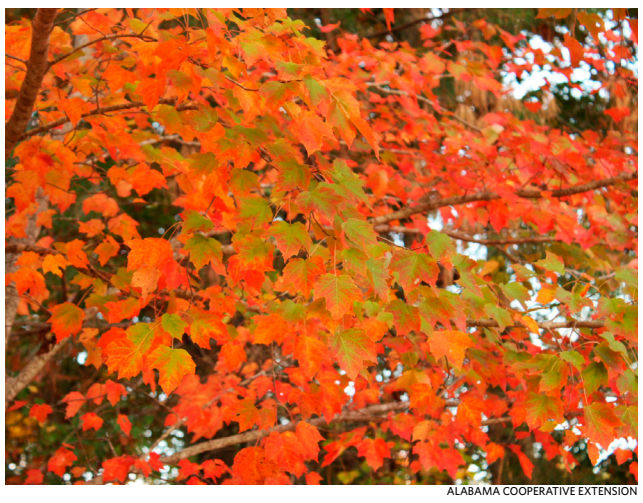
Trees to plant for fall

There are many types of trees that can give those vibrant fall colors, according to Harris.

Maples, like the red maple, Japanese maple and sourwood, help to give off bright reds, while yellow-poplar, hickory and gingko can give off a more yellow tone. Trees such as the sugar maple, sassafras, American beech, sweet gum and baldcypress give off other colors such as orange, chestnut browns, purples and burgundy reds — the various fall colors that make up a lot of what might be seen in Alabama.

Greens can also be part of the kaleidoscope of colors with evergreens like the pine, cedar or hemlock. All these trees together create that patchwork of color during fall.

"Take the time to enjoy those trees and the beautiful colors, especially if you're curious about what they are," Harris said. "Pick out your favorite color and go learn what type of tree it is; enjoy this wonderful season in our natural world."


ALABAMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

More information

For more information about fall colors, listen to the recent episode of the "Southern Ground" podcast called "Best Trees for Fall Color" at www.aces.edu/blog/podcast/season-1-episode-22-best-trees-for-fall-color or visit aces.edu.

