

The Cullman Tribune

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MOSTLY CLOUDY THEN CHANCE RAIN

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JARED SPEARS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

SPORTS

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Cullman County voters to decide federal, state and local races Nov. 3

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman County voters will choose representatives in Washington and Montgomery, fill county offices and decide five constitutional questions in the Nov. 3 general election.

The county's official sample ballot includes races for governor, Congress, state administrative offices and appellate courts, along with legislative, county commission and education positions. Four statewide amendments and one Cullman County amendment appear after the candidate races.

The sample is a composite showing different district ballots. A voter's residence determines which district races appear on the ballot issued at the polls. Each candidate contest also provides a write-in option, including races with only one printed candidate.

At the federal level, Democrat Everett Wess and Republican Barry Moore are competing for U.S. Senate. Democrat Amanda N. Puszczek and Republican Robert B. Aderholt are seeking the 4th Congressional District seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. Senators represent the entire state and serve six-year terms, while House members represent congressional districts and serve two-year terms. Both chambers consider federal legislation and spending.

For governor, the candidates are Democrat Doug Jones and Republican Tommy Tuberville. The governor heads Alabama's executive branch and acts on legislation passed by state lawmakers. Democrat Phillip Ensler and Republican John Wahl are running for lieutenant governor, whose constitutional » PAGE 9

– STATE VOLLEYBALL –

Addison captures 16th state title with 3-1 victory over Meek



BRANDON EVANS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Addison defeated Winston County rival Meek 3-1 Wednesday afternoon, Oct. 28, at Bill Harris Arena to capture its second consecutive Class 1A state volleyball championship and the 16th title in program history.

Noah Galilee, Jared Spears
The Cullman Tribune

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Addison defeated Winston County rival Meek 3-1 Wednesday afternoon at Bill Harris Arena to capture its second consecutive Class 1A state volleyball championship and the 16th title in program history.

The Lady Bulldogs won the opening set before Meek answered in the second to even the best-of-five match. Addison responded by claiming the next two sets to complete its title defense.

The championship concluded Addison's 26th consecutive appearance in the AHSAA state tournament. The Lady Bulldogs entered this year's Elite Eight as the defending champion after sweeping Meek in the 2025 final.

Wednesday's victory was Addison's second over Meek in five days. The Lady Bulldogs also outlasted the Lady Tigers 25-22, 23-25, 25-12, 13-25, 15-12 Friday to win the Class 1A North Super Regional championship. Meek had swept Addison in the Area 13 championship Oct. 13.

The state final matched the top two teams of the final regular-season Class 1A rankings. Meek held the No. 1 position and Addison was No. 2.

Addison completed a 3-0 state-tournament run by sweeping Washington County in Tuesday's quarterfinals, defeating Spring Garden in four sets in the semifinals and beating Meek in four sets for the championship.

Meek swept Millry in the quarterfinals and defeated Kinston in four sets in the semifinals to reach the championship match for the second consecutive season. The Lady Tigers were seeking their first state title since 2015.

Addison 3, Washington County 0

Addison opened the state tournament with a 25-17, 25-17, 25-14 quarterfinal sweep of Washington County at the Birmingham Cross-Plex.

The Lady Bulldogs built a 19-9 lead in the opening set. Washington County narrowed the margin, but Addison closed the set with a 25-17 victory.

Washington County moved ahead 11-8 in the second set before Addison rallied to take a 21-16 advantage. The Lady Bulldogs allowed one more point and finished another 25-17 win.

Addison took a 17-9 lead in the third set and completed the sweep 25-14.

Allie Ruth Powell recorded 11 kills, 11 digs and four aces. AnnaBeth Powell added 22 assists, five digs and four kills, while Ava Bartlett finished with eight » PAGE 5

Eddie Wilson remembered for helping men rebuild their lives at Foundry Farm



NORTH ALABAMA AGRIPLEX
Eddie Wilson » PAGE 7

Where to vote and what to know at Cullman County polling places » PAGE 8

Shelter from the storm, a home for seniors: Good Hope's new Multiplex now open » PAGE 7

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CRIME

Arrests and incidents reported Oct. 30

Staff Reports
Contributor

CULLMAN, Ala. — Below are the arrests and incidents reported Oct. 30, 2026. All persons are innocent until proven guilty.

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

CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

INCIDENTS

Oct. 26

- possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 91
- harassment; CR 18
- harassing communications; Louise St. NE
- receiving stolen property; Hwy. 91
- unlawful breaking and entering motor vehicle; theft of property; CR 222
- theft of property; Haygood Ln.
- possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; Hwy. 278E

Oct. 27

- possession of marijuana; CR 747
- domestic violence; CR 831
- trespassing; CR 443
- theft of property; CR 616
- theft of property; CR 437

Oct. 28

- domestic violence; violation of protection order; CR 544
- possession of drug paraphernalia; CR 616
- theft of property; CR 1716
- harassing communications; CR 1233
- theft of property; harassing communications; CR 62
- theft of property; CR 1319
- theft of property; CR 307
- domestic violence; CR 1196
- trespassing; CR 447
- possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; I65NB MM 304

ARRESTS

Oct. 26-28

Auston, Jacob N.; 33
- FTA – assault-domestic-harassment-family
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Barboza, Jr., Rafael H.; 29
- cruelty to animals

Beiler, Samantha R.; 40
- public intoxication

Browning, Brandon P.; 38
- violation of a domestic violence protection order

Burks, Kenneth A.; 25
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Cooley, Tommy G.; 68
- FTA – public intoxication

Cox, Wendy M.; 40
- possession of dangerous drugs

Crabtree, Kevin E.; 47
- FTA – attempting to elude a police officer
- FTA – reckless endangerment
- FTA – sale of stolen property, $1500 or more
- FTA – driving while suspended, revoked or canceled

Crocker, Jerry A.; 43
- burglary-residence-force

Cruce, Caleb E.; 23
- FTA – criminal trespass
- auto theft

Finch, Jr., Earl D.; 41
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Flanigan, George L.; 49
- FTA – possession of methamphetamine
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of methamphetamine
- promote prison contraband (drugs)

Jones, Patrick E.; 40
- assault-domestic-harassment-family

McDonald, Steven S.; 41
- resisting arrest
- obstruction-governmental operations
- violation of a domestic violence protection order

Melvin, Abony K.; 25
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – possession of dangerous drugs

Morgan, Isaiah D.; 24
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree

Pate, Joey B.; 48
- FTA – family offense-NS non-support-child

Rogers, Dakota J.; 19
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- minor in possession of alcohol
- attempting to elude a police officer
- DUI (controlled substance)

Scola, Lacey D.; 27
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- possession of a stolen vehicle

Still, Bonnie Q.; 58
- passing counterfeit object

Weber, Ray A.; 58
- FTA – driving while license suspended
- FTA – failure to register vehicle
- FTA – operating vehicle without insurance

Wise, Dustin R.; 34
- FTA – possession of drug paraphernalia
- FTA – unlawful possession of a certain chemical compound
- FTA – theft-miscellaneous, less than $500
- FTA – tampering with physical evidence

Yates, Lucindy A.; 37
- FTA – possessing stolen property

Younglove, Anthony W.; 56
- DUI (alcohol)

CULLMAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

INCIDENTS

Oct. 28

- domestic violence-3rd degree; person; 2nd Ave. NE
- criminal mischief-3rd degree; person; damaged property; $215; Heritage Cir. SE

Oct. 29

- theft of property-4th degree; GameStop; miscellaneous; $491; Cherokee Ave. SW
- theft of property-2nd degree; person; medication, cash; 4th St. SW

ARRESTS

Oct. 28-29

Crabtree, Kevin E.; 47
- FTA – driving while revoked (2 counts)
- FTA – switched tag
- FTA – harassment

Nail, Jodie K.; 47
- possession of drug paraphernalia

Thomas, Melissa G.; 35
- domestic violence-3rd degree

Williams, Brian O.; 37
- domestic violence-3rd degree

Harper, Angela K.; 55
- theft of property-4th degree

Ritchie, Robin L.; 46
- FTA – driving while revoked (2 counts)

Haney, Michael T.; 29
- public intoxication

James, Jimmy H.; 53
- FTA – possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- FTA – theft of property-4th degree (2 counts)
- FTA – criminal trespass-2nd degree

Ragsdale, James D.; 40
- FTA – driving without license
- FTA – switched tag

Linch, John D.; 32
- disorderly conduct

Elrod, Joshua B.; 39
- DUI
- possession of drug paraphernalia
- possession of marijuana-2nd degree
- obstructing governmental operations

Campbell, Brett A.; 27
- disorderly conduct

HANCEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

No arrests or incidents reported.

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

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COLLEGE TIRE

315 MAIN ST. NW HANCEVILLE

256-352-2221

Council (from Front)

Chasady Woods
chasady@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman City Council approved a County Road 616 annexation, a contract for artificial intelligence services and applications for two emergency communications grants at its meeting Monday, Oct. 26.

The Council unanimously approved Ordinance No. 2026-53 following its second reading. The ordinance annexes five parcels owned by Wesley and Sherry Moore along County Road 616 into Cullman as R-2 Residential District. The parcels are part of Bella's Ridge subdivision.

The annexation received a favorable recommendation from the City of Cullman Planning Commission at its Oct. 6 meeting. The Council held the first reading Oct. 12. Councilman Jason Willoughby moved to approve the ordinance, and Councilman David Moss seconded the motion.

Turning to new business, the Council held the first reading of Ordinance No. 2026-55, which would replace Section 183 of the city's administrative code governing appointed officers. No action was taken on the ordinance.

The proposal addresses department head titles and procedures for appointing, supervising and removing officers. During the work session, City Attorney Brandy Lee said the changes were intended to align removal procedures with Alabama law.

"We had a few procedures that didn't follow the Alabama Code with when an officer is to be removed or terminated. So we have fixed that so it aligns with the code," Lee said.

The proposal also requires appointed officers to report to their designated Council committee chairs at least monthly and establish employee conduct procedures consistent with Council policies.

The Council adopted Resolution No. 2026-156, authorizing an agreement with Principal Life Insurance Co. for supplemental dental coverage for city employees. According to the human resources request, the previous plan was administered by Canopy and sold to Principal. The agreement allows employees enrolled in that coverage to transfer to the Principal plan.

For the city's information technology department, the Council approved Resolution No. 2026-157, authorizing a contract with Carahsoft for an amount not to exceed $14,504.

The accompanying quote identifies the purchase as Anthropic's Claude Enterprise artificial intelligence services. It includes 20 user licenses totaling $4,704 and a pooled usage allocation costing $9,800.

The Council also adopted Resolution No. 2026-158, authorizing a one-year agreement with Docusign for electronic signature services at a cost not to exceed $6,739.20. Council President Kim Hall said the service improves efficiency and would save the city approximately $600.

For emergency communications, the Council adopted Resolution No. 2026-160, authorizing the mayor to apply for two grants from the Cullman County E-911 Board of Commissioners. The applications seek funding for an additional dispatch desk console and a sixth radio system.

According to the communications department's request, the additional console would provide another workstation for dispatchers and help maintain radio communications during high call volumes, emergencies and equipment maintenance.

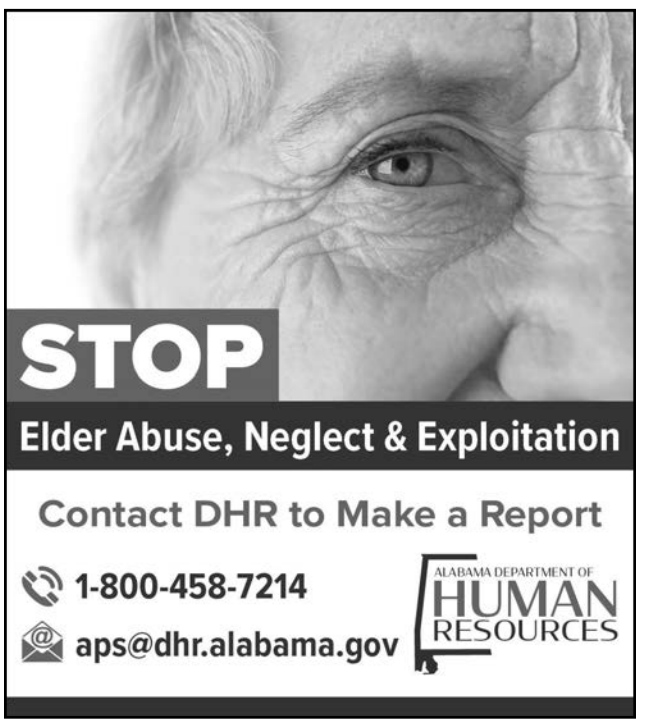
The Council also approved Resolution No. 2026-159, declaring three portable radios and their chargers surplus and authorizing their donation to the local office of the Alabama Bureau of Pardons and Paroles at no charge.

Special event requests on the agenda included a free New Year's Eve celebration planned at Traditions Bank, 109 Second Ave. NW, from 5-11 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31. The application describes a family-friendly event with bounce houses, face painting, balloon animals, music, a drone show and a ball drop.

Glenn Hurley requested a street preaching event from 2:45-5:15 p.m. Friday, Nov. 6, at the northeast corner of Third Street Southwest and Second Avenue Southwest.

A proposed jail agreement with Cullman County was removed from the meeting agenda.

The Council's next meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. Monday, Nov. 9, at City Hall, following a 5:30 p.m. work session. People wishing to speak during public comments can submit a request through the city's website.



Service (from Front)

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CULLMAN, Ala. — The City of Cullman Sanitation Department will begin its annual leaf vacuum service Monday, Nov. 2, with crews aiming to complete three passes through the city by Jan. 31, 2027.

Residents should place loose leaves at the curb, outside the street or roadway, and keep piles clear of parked vehicles, mailboxes and other obstacles.

Only leaves should be included. Limbs, branches, sticks, trash and other debris can damage the vacuum equipment and delay collection, according to the city.

Two trucks will work south from opposite sides of the city.

One will begin in northwest Cullman and travel toward the southwest corner, while the other will start in northeast Cullman and work toward the southeast corner.

After completing a pass, crews will begin the routes again. The city described three passes as its goal for the season.

Leaf vacuum collection has been part of Cullman's sanitation operations for several years.

In November 2022, The Tribune reported that then-Councilman Johnny Cook announced two new vacuum trucks would enter service that week.

Officials expected the equipment to cause less damage to roads and curbs.

For more information, contact the Cullman Sanitation Department at 256-737-7560. Its operations office is open Monday through Friday from 7 a.m.-3 p.m. Additional information is available at www.cullmanal.gov.

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Garden City awarded $297K for River Park RV campsites

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

GARDEN CITY, Ala. — Garden City has been awarded a $297,751 grant to build eight recreational vehicle campsites and a connecting trail at Garden City River Park.

The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs announced the award Oct. 21 through the federal Recreational Trails Program.

The town will provide $74,438 in matching funds, bringing the announced grant and local match to $372,189.

Each campsite is planned to include water, sanitary sewer and electrical service. The project also calls for a trail connecting the campsites to existing park amenities and the kayak launch.

Garden City's grant application places the project at 1310 Old Highway 31 South in the Cullman County portion of the town. The application describes approximately 215 feet of new walkway connecting the campsites with shelters, recreation facilities and existing trails.

The application also identifies the work as redevelopment of approximately 2 acres within the existing park. A Sept. 8, 2025, letter from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said the work as described would not require a Department of the Army permit under the Clean Water Act or Rivers and Harbors Act.

The award follows earlier improvements at the riverfront park. The Tribune reported in July 2024 that the town had added restrooms, a hiking trail, a kayak launch, parking and pavement while completing streambank stabilization.

Those improvements were supported through restitution funds connected to a 2019 wastewater discharge and fish kill on the Mulberry Fork.

The application submitted in September 2025 contained an earlier estimated project cost and a preliminary schedule that anticipated construction during 2026.

ADECA's Oct. 21 award announcement did not provide a revised bid date, construction start or opening date.

No contractor has been publicly identified for the campsite project.

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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.

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
• Sunday, Nov. 1 – 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 guest speaker Steven East 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, 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.

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.

Church Food Bazaar
Friday Nov. 6, from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. at Mt. Zion United Methodist Church (Hwy. 31 North, next to the Cullman Area Technology Academy in Vinemont). Baked goods for sale. Lunch from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Carry-outs available. 205-908-8271 or 256-338-1959. Proceeds benefit the Mt. Zion UMW (women's group).

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.

Cullman Veterans Day Celebration
Saturday, Nov. 7, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at Cullman Regional Airport. Hosted by the Cullman Elks Veterans Committee, the celebration will feature historic military aircraft, live demonstrations, military displays and opportunities to honor local veterans. Admission and parking are free, and the event will be held rain or shine. One of this year's new featured attractions will be a Messerschmitt ME-262. Additional historic aircraft scheduled to appear include a D-Day C-47 and a Royal Air Force Spitfire. This year's celebration will also feature retired Chief Warrant Officer Mike Durant, a former U.S. Army Black Hawk helicopter pilot who was shot down during the 1993 Battle of Mogadishu in Somalia, an operation depicted in the film "Black Hawk Down."

16th Annual Mud Creek Arts & Crafts Festival
Saturday, Nov. 7, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. along Commercial Street, centered at 106 Commercial St. NE, in downtown Hanceville. Street vendors, arts, crafts, food and fun for the whole family.

Cullman NARFE Chapter Meeting with Federal BCBS Representative
Monday, Nov. 9. This meeting will be held at the Cullman Golden Corral. Starting with a senior special Dutch lunch (11 a.m.) followed by the informative meeting. All interested parties are welcome and urged to attend!! 256-708-5326.



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Lauren Estes - Reporter
Emily McMunn - Reporter
Gauge Day - Reporter
Liz Tankersley - Graphic Design/Reporter
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Janet Chandler - Marketing Specialist
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THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE
OCTOBER 31, 2026



JARED SPEARS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE



JARED SPEARS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cold Springs swept the Class 1A-2A Section 3 championships Thursday, Oct. 29, 2026.

PREP CROSS COUNTRY

Cold Springs sweeps sectionals; 5 local teams advance to state

Noah Galilee
noah@cullmantribune.com

CULLMAN, Ala. — Cold Springs swept the Class 1A-2A Section 3 championships Thursday while Cullman advanced both squads and the Holly Pond girls earned a state berth to lead local teams in AHSAA sectional competition.

The Cold Springs girls won with 17 points and the Eagles captured the boys title with 47. Cullman's boys placed second in Class 5A Section 5 with 39 points and the Lady Bearcats finished third with 77. Holly Pond's girls claimed the fourth and final team berth from Class 3A Section 3 with 104 points.

Those five team qualifiers will be joined by 15 individual qualifiers from Vinemont, Holly Pond, Good Hope, West Point, Fairview, Cullman Christian and St. Bernard at the AHSAA State Cross Country Championships on Nov. 7 at Oakville Indian Mounds Park in Moulton.

Class 1A-2A Section 3

Reese Swidecki won the girls race in 18 minutes, 55.7 seconds and Gemma Swidecki followed in second at 19 minutes, 6.7 seconds to lead Cold Springs to the sectional title at Kudzu Hills in Bremen.

Kynzlie Myrex placed third in 19 minutes, 39.1 seconds. Claire Hancock finished fifth in 21 minutes, 42.8 seconds and Ally Mavers was eighth in 22 minutes, 6.2 seconds.

Allison Rice took ninth in 22 minutes, 34.4 seconds, Leslie Jones finished 13th in 23 minutes, 39.7 seconds, Lila Cates was 19th in 24 minutes, 9.5 seconds and Blair Belcher placed 32nd in 25 minutes, 17.2 seconds.

Logan Perdue led the Cold Springs boys in fourth with a time of 17 minutes, 38.8 seconds. Carson Rice placed fifth in 17 minutes, 49.9 seconds and Samuel Hunt finished sixth in 17 minutes, 55.3 seconds.

Caleb Dill was 15th in 18 minutes, 50.8 seconds, James Baggett finished 17th in 19 minutes, 6.3 seconds, Lucas Freeman took 38th in 20 minutes, 16.1 seconds and Easton Freeman was 56th in 21 minutes, 48.8 seconds.

Jacob Winfrey placed 67th in 23 minutes, 7.8 seconds, Riley Adams finished 84th in 26 minutes, 34.4 seconds and James Laurentius took 93rd in 28 minutes, 54 seconds.

Class 3A Section 3

Holly Pond's girls placed fourth with 104 points at Munford to earn a team berth. Kynleigh Wood led the Lady Broncos in 12th with a time of 23 minutes, 39.4 seconds.

Bella Gambrill finished 16th in 24 minutes, 53.7 seconds, Addison Gambrill was 17th in 25 minutes, 20 seconds, Kyleigh Floyd took 29th in 26 minutes, 50.5 seconds, Joplin Grimes placed 52nd in 30 minutes, 50.7 seconds and Peyton Reed finished 56th in 33 minutes, 42.1 seconds.

Vinemont's girls placed fifth with 115 points. Aurellia Powell finished third in 20 minutes, 27.3 seconds and Brooklyn Yarbrough placed 11th in 23 minutes, 30.6 seconds to qualify individually.

Kadance Davis was 41st in 29 minutes, 22.6 seconds, Elizabeth Ruiz finished 42nd in 29 minutes, 23.1 seconds and Paisley Tankersley placed 55th in 33 minutes, 21.1 seconds.

Hanceville did not record a girls team score. Ameya Harper placed 33rd in 27 minutes, 48.3 seconds and Georgia Garcia-Morales finished 61st in 36 minutes, 52.4 seconds.

Vinemont's boys placed sixth with 143 points. Anakin Powell took fourth in 17 minutes, 57.3 seconds and Abram Powell finished 19th in 20 minutes, 6.1 seconds to advance individually.

Yojan Patino-Rendon was 40th in 22 minutes, 32.2 seconds, Logan Holt placed 48th in 23 minutes, 10.8 seconds and Logan Warren finished 55th in 24 minutes, 6 seconds.

Hanceville placed ninth with 268 points. Ely Stinson led the Bulldogs in 51st with a time of 23 minutes, 28.2 seconds.

Elijah Minor finished 53rd in 23 minutes, 50.9 seconds, Lincoln Jones was 75th in 29 minutes, 27 seconds, Zeke Barnett placed 81st in 30 minutes, 39.7 seconds and Cash Cone finished 87th in 38 minutes, 12.3 seconds.

Holly Pond did not post a boys team score. Eli Morrow qualified individually after placing 18th in 20 minutes, 2.9 seconds. Ethan Morrow finished 64th in 25 minutes, 10.4 seconds and Xander Lambert was 69th in 27 minutes, 13.1 seconds.

Class 4A Section 4

Good Hope's boys placed eighth with 217 points at the John R. Esslinger Trail of Champions in Scottsboro. Drake Nichols finished 14th in 17 minutes, 21.88 seconds to earn an individual state berth.

Johnathan Murphy placed 41st in 19 minutes, 14.99 seconds, Oliver Horvath was 53rd in 19 minutes, 57.21 seconds, Eric Covarrubias took 71st in 21 minutes, 42.51 seconds and Kinkade White placed 75th in 22 minutes, 10.07 seconds.

Benjamin Regas finished 79th in 22 minutes, 30.05 seconds, Ryland Quinn was 84th in 23 minutes, 8.18 seconds and John Self placed 102nd in 27 minutes, 10.06 seconds.

West Point placed seventh in the boys standings with 211 points. Lincoln Parker qualified individually by finishing 25th in 17 minutes, 59.34 seconds.

Griffin Jones placed 35th in 18 minutes, 54.10 seconds, Collin Clark was 42nd in 19 minutes, 25.81 seconds, Ayden McGhee finished 70th in 21 minutes, 39.57 seconds and Carson Duke took 76th in 22 minutes, 15.05 seconds.

Jake Terkildsen placed 81st in 22 minutes, 45.62 seconds, Brandon Salter was 82nd in 23 minutes, 1.41 seconds, John Lombardi finished 111th in 38 minutes, 3.73 seconds and James Lombardi placed 115th in 42 minutes, 50.60 seconds.

Fairview's boys finished 11th with 290 points. Danny Martin placed 57th in 20 minutes, 20.13 seconds, Crockett Dunn was 58th in 20 minutes, 23.60 seconds, David Payes took 72nd in 21 minutes, 52.56 seconds and Contreras Santiago finished 74th in 21 minutes, 58.83 seconds.

Tucker Kimbrough placed 88th in 23 minutes, 55.90 seconds, Iker Gallardo was 90th in 24 minutes, 33.21 seconds, Omar Gomez finished 99th in 26 minutes, 15.41 seconds and Larry Soto placed 100th in 26 minutes, 17.94 seconds.

Jonathan Ayala took 108th in 31 minutes, 38.48 seconds and Wyatt Smith was 109th in 34 minutes, 50.99 seconds.

Good Hope's girls placed sixth with 140 points. Jada Alsup earned an individual state berth with a 15th-place time of 21 minutes, 50.31 seconds.

Kaysen Wood finished 21st in 22 minutes, 46.37 seconds, Sara Self was 38th in 24 minutes, 17.15 seconds, Veronica Horvath placed 44th in 24 minutes, 35.78 seconds, NoraBelle Miller finished 55th in 25 minutes, 59.65 seconds and Ashton Gray took 57th in 26 minutes, 15.09 seconds.

Fairview's girls finished seventh with 187 points. Elliana Hunt qualified individually by placing 20th in 22 minutes, 45.12 seconds.

Kayla Santos took 48th in 24 minutes, 53.44 seconds, Nicole Herrera was 52nd in 25 minutes, 16.30 seconds, Joselin Parra placed 59th in 26 minutes, 34.46 seconds and Jazmin Mateo finished 60th in 26 minutes, 37.02 seconds.

Alianna Wunderlich took 66th in 27 minutes, 50.94 seconds, AnnaBelle Smith was 76th in 29 minutes, 26.21 seconds, Desi Pruett finished 85th in 33 minutes, 25.41 seconds, Paisley Hopper placed 87th in 34 minutes, 58.96 seconds and Emilia Aleman was 89th in 35 minutes, 55.24 seconds.

West Point did not record a girls team score. Raelynn Lindley placed 25th in 23 minutes, 7.34 seconds, Judy Salter finished 27th in 23 minutes, 19.49 seconds and Raelynn Mergen took 29th in 23 minutes, 19.95 seconds.

Class 5A Section 5

Cullman's boys placed second with 39 points at Point Mallard in Decatur. Henry Crocker led the Bearcats in second with a personal-best time of 15 minutes, 33.6 seconds.

Avin Dempsey finished fifth in a personal-best 15 minutes, 48.3 seconds and Benjamin Stidham placed ninth in a personal-best 16 minutes, 16.4 seconds.

Thatcher Lucas took 11th in a personal-best 16 minutes, 37.2 seconds, Mason Gobble was 12th in a personal-best 16 minutes, 39.1 seconds and Dawson Helton finished 22nd in 17 minutes, 22.6 seconds.

Ripkin Oliver placed 31st in a personal-best 17 minutes, 54 seconds, Trajan Norrell was 32nd in a personal-best 17 minutes, 54.4 seconds, Sean Gilfoyle finished 39th in a personal-best 18 minutes, 14.3 seconds and Jacob Dunn took 40th in a personal-best 18 minutes, 21.2 seconds.

The Lady Bearcats placed third with 77 points. Madeline Stidham led Cullman in fourth with a personal-best time of 19 minutes, 6.7 seconds.

Addison Vogelaar finished 11th in 20 minutes, 22.7 seconds, Tinley Alldredge was 16th in 21 minutes, 11.3 seconds, Khloe Nalley placed 22nd in 21 minutes, 53.4 seconds and Aubree Lawrence finished 24th in 22 minutes, 4.7 seconds.

Sophie Robinson took 27th in a personal-best 22 minutes, 17.4 seconds, Mabry Free was 31st in 22 minutes, 47.5 seconds, Victoria Waldrop placed 32nd in a personal-best 22 minutes, 47.6 seconds, Katie Richter finished 39th in 23 minutes, 37.1 seconds and Avery Laney was 40th in a personal-best 23 minutes, 39.7 seconds.

Private School Single A Section 3

Cullman Christian's boys placed fifth with 140 points at John Hunt Cross Country Park in Huntsville. Calub Pruitt finished 20th in 19 minutes, 39.89 seconds and Chasen Hampton placed 22nd in 19 minutes, 43.24 seconds to qualify individually.

Cutter Gibbs finished 37th in 22 minutes, 26.88 seconds, Gavin Stidham was 39th in 22 minutes, 52.33 seconds, Caleb Randolph placed 45th in 24 minutes, 10.21 seconds and Elijah Rutherford took 46th in 24 minutes, 13.43 seconds.

Landon Jones finished 49th in 25 minutes, 23.30 seconds and Colton Olinger placed 59th in 29 minutes, 43.81 seconds.

St. Bernard did not post a boys team score. Jesus Sanchez placed 26th in 20 minutes, 7.13 seconds and Sean Daly finished 31st in 20 minutes, 34 seconds to earn individual state berths.

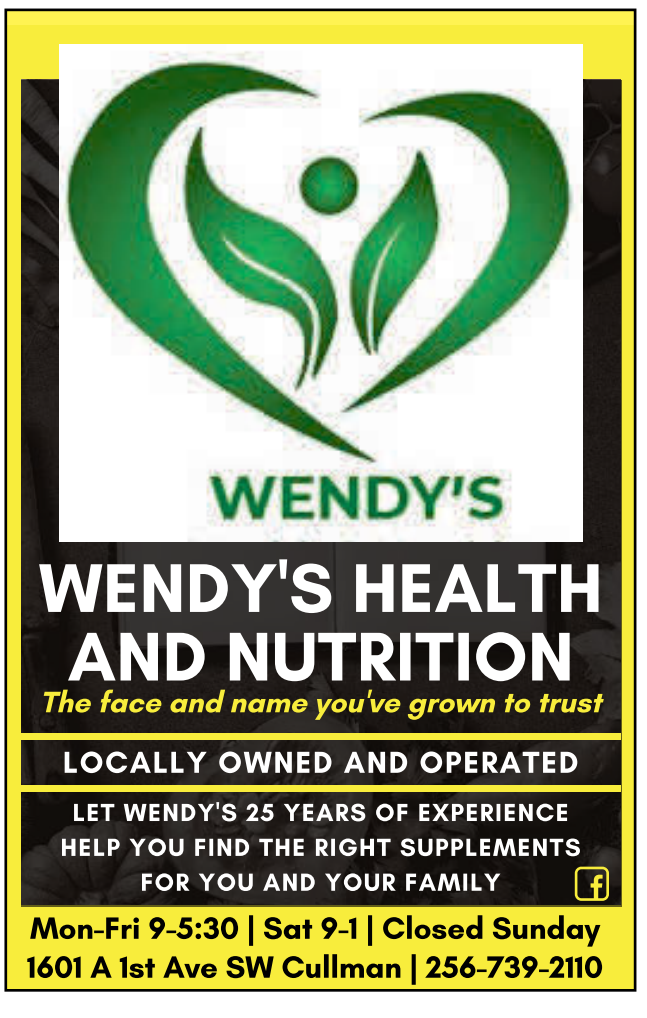
Stephen Bissot took 48th in 24 minutes, 58.34 seconds and Jacob Thurston was 55th in 26 minutes, 25.04 seconds.

Neither local girls squad recorded a team score. Cullman Christian's Meribelle Brock qualified individually by placing 25th in 25 minutes, 10.08 seconds and Elisabeth DeCicco earned a state berth after finishing 33rd in 26 minutes, 17.19 seconds.

Aubrie Claire Rigsby took 44th in 29 minutes, 50.53 seconds and Arden Brock placed 46th in 31 minutes, 5.15 seconds.

St. Bernard's Anamari Alonzo finished 43rd in 29 minutes, 20.79 seconds, Lily Kerber placed 48th in 32 minutes, 18.61 seconds and Yulissa Wang took 50th in 34 minutes, 28.16 seconds.

Hampton's 19 minutes, 26.31 seconds at the Oakville XC Invitational remains the Cullman Christian boys 5K record.





Addison (from Front)

kills, seven blocks and two aces. Maddie Speegle contributed 10 digs and three aces.

Addison 3, Spring Garden 1
The Lady Bulldogs defeated Spring Garden 25-17, 16-25, 25-9, 25-14 in Tuesday's semifinals.

Addison took an 11-6 lead in the opening set and maintained its advantage for a 25-17 win. Spring Garden responded by moving ahead 14-7 in the second set before winning 25-16 to even the match.

The Lady Bulldogs answered with a 21-6 lead in the third set and finished it 25-9. Addison then won the fourth set 25-14 to advance.

Bartlett finished with 24 kills and four blocks. Allie Ruth Powell supplied 16 kills, 11 digs and four aces, while AnnaBeth Powell totaled 36 assists, nine kills, nine digs and three aces.

Meek 3, Millry 0
Meek advanced to the semifinals with a 25-13, 25-19, 25-17 sweep of Millry.

Seventh-grader Zayla Harden led the Lady Tigers with 11 kills and four digs. Hadley Murrah added eight kills, while Addie Cate Henderson contributed five kills, five aces and seven digs.

Zarah Harden finished with six kills, six digs, three aces and 14 assists. Maci Lollar recorded 16 assists and two aces.

Meek 3, Kinston 1
Meek won a pivotal third set in extra points before closing out a four-set semifinal victory over Kinston.

The Lady Tigers built a 16-11 lead in the first set and won 25-18. Kinston held a 22-21 advantage late in the second and outlasted Meek 26-24 to tie the match.

Meek responded with a 27-25 victory in the third set and completed the match in the fourth.

Zayla Harden recorded 20 kills and Zarah Harden added 17. Maci Lollar totaled 27 assists, while Molli Sandlin contributed 22 assists.

West Point falls to Satsuma
Satsuma ended West Point's season with a 25-18, 25-20, 25-8 sweep in Wednesday morning's Class 4A quarterfinals at the CrossPlex.

Ella Petry led the Lady Warriors with nine kills. Brooke Coleman added six kills and Adleigh Montalvo recorded 20 assists.

West Point reached the state tournament as the North's No. 3 seed after defeating Moody in five sets in the Super Regional third-place match.

Ariton eliminates Cold Springs
Ariton swept Cold Springs 3-0 in Wednesday afternoon's Class 2A quarterfinals at the CrossPlex, ending the Lady Eagles' first state-tournament appearance since 1989.

Cold Springs qualified for the Elite Eight by sweeping J.B. Pennington in the opening round of the North Super Regional. The Lady Eagles then fell to Fyffe in the semifinals before defeating Pisgah in five sets to secure the North's No. 3 seed.

Addison was the only Tribune-area team to win Wednesday. Meek finished as the Class 1A runner-up, while West Point and Cold Springs ended their seasons in the quarterfinals.



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PREP FOOTBALL

Johnson scores 3 touchdowns as No. 10 Cold Springs defeats Tanner 57-20

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BREMEN, Ala. — Cooper Johnson rushed for three touchdowns and Ethan Day added two as No. 10 Cold Springs defeated Tanner 57-20 on senior night Thursday, Oct. 29, closing the regular season with a 9-1 record.

The Eagles overcame an early seven-point deficit with 27 unanswered points before halftime, then scored 30 points in the third quarter to secure their fourth consecutive victory.

Cold Springs reached nine wins in a season for the first time since 1993 and earned its first victory over Tanner in nine meetings. The Rattlers finished their season 4-6.

Eli Voce intercepted a pass on the game's opening play, but Cold Springs punted on its ensuing possession. Tanner responded with a pair of long completions before a touchdown pass helped give the Rattlers a 7-0 lead.

Cold Springs answered on the ground. Cason Alexander's 17-yard run moved the Eagles to Tanner's 33-yard line, and an unsportsmanlike conduct penalty later advanced the ball to the 15. Johnson ran 14 yards before scoring from the 1 on the next play. He added the 2-point conversion to give Cold Springs an 8-7 lead.

After forcing a punt, the Eagles put together another scoring possession behind runs by Brandon Chasteen, Johnson, Alexander and Blake Phillips. Cold Springs overcame a holding penalty, and Alexander capped the drive with a 3-yard touchdown run. Day's 2-point conversion extended the lead to 16-7.

Johnson intercepted a pass two plays later to give the Eagles another possession. Day's 8-yard run converted a third down, and Johnson later scored on an 11-yard run. Chasteen connected with Voce for the 2-point conversion, pushing the lead to 24-7.

Cold Springs regained possession after stopping Tanner on downs. Chasteen completed passes of 27 yards to Day and 11 yards to Jordan Garmon, while Alexander and Johnson added runs to move the Eagles into field goal range.

Sam Hunt kicked a 30-yard field goal to close the first half with Cold Springs ahead 27-7.

Tanner opened the second half with an 87-yard touchdown pass, cutting the deficit to 27-14. Cold Springs answered immediately on its next possession.

Day gained 28 yards on the first play, and Johnson followed with a 33-yard run to Tanner's 1-yard line. Johnson scored his third touchdown on the next play, and Day added the 2-point conversion for a 35-14 lead.

Lathan Shuford recovered a Tanner fumble at the Rattlers' 14-yard line. Two plays later, Day scored on a 3-yard run, and Cold Springs extended its advantage to 42-14.

Johnson recovered the ensuing kickoff to give the Eagles another possession. Day added a 34-yard touchdown run, and Cold Springs led 49-14.

Tanner answered with a 15-yard touchdown pass to make it 49-20. Chasteen then connected with Voce for a 20-yard touchdown, and Jay Andrews added the 2-point conversion to complete the scoring.



MIKE WITCHER/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Cold Springs defeated Tanner 57-20 Thursday night, Oct. 29, 2026.

Neither team scored in the fourth quarter.

Johnson finished with 124 yards and three touchdowns on 17 carries. Day added 88 rushing yards and two touchdowns, while Alexander rushed for 59 yards and a score.

Chasteen completed five of nine passes for 71 yards and a touchdown. Voce caught three passes for 33 yards and a score.

Defensively, Voce and Johnson each intercepted a pass. Shuford recovered a fumble, and Johnson also recovered a kickoff.

Cold Springs finished Class 2A, Region 5 play at 6-1 and had already secured the region's No. 2 playoff seed before Thursday's nonregion finale.

The Eagles will host Pisgah in the first round of the Class 2A playoffs Friday, Nov. 6.

Library Board approves budget, welcomes new member as 'Every Chapter Matters' campaign launches

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CULLMAN, Ala. — The Cullman County Public Library Board of approved the library system's proposed budget for fiscal year 2026-27 at its Oct. 22 meeting, just days before the library officially launched the capital campaign that will help build its next chapter.

The Board also welcomed new member Melanie Maddox, who will serve as a member at-large, and held an executive session to elect new officers, according to Cullman County Public Library System Assistant Director Shelby Creekmore.

'Every Chapter Matters'

The library officially kicked off its capital campaign, Every Chapter Matters, at the Spooktacular Storybook 5K on Saturday, Oct. 24.

The library has secured a little over $5.2 million toward its original $6 million building goal, CCPLS Director Amber Thornton said. The year-long campaign aims to close that gap and reach the full $6 million. Any money raised above the goal will go toward finishing touches for the new building, such as furnishings, landscaping and furniture.

The official total raised at the 5K had not yet been tallied; however, Creekmore previously told The Tribune it was more than $15,000. She said an update is expected soon from the Friends of the Public Libraries of Cullman County.

To help lead the effort, the library hired Laney Hulsey as its capital campaign marketing manager. The Board's agenda included approval to pay Hulsey a contract rate of $25 an hour from the Capital Campaign Fund for one year, from Oct. 24, 2026, through Oct. 24, 2027.

In her October report to the board, Thornton said she has seen a rough draft floor plan of the new building from Williams Blackstock Architects. She also visited three branches of the Nashville Public Library System, bringing home ideas for a makerspace lab, teen hangout spaces and content creation spaces.

"I am really excited about the future of CCPLS!" Thornton wrote.

Your library, your voice

The library has also launched a community survey asking residents what they would like to see in the future library. Responses will also help shape future library programming.

"Whether you're a regular visitor or haven't been in years, we'd love your input," the survey card reads.

The survey is available online at https://tinyurl.com/3spjzfwu.

Grants and projects

The Board's agenda also included approval of several grant-funded purchases:

- A laptop cart and laptops through a grant from RC&D for the library's digital literacy efforts. Thornton said the library has since purchased 20 new laptops and a charging cart.

- $15,000 to BSC Solutions to digitize microfilm, paid with federal Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant funds.

- $17,425 to Perfect Playground for playground equipment, paid with the library's Lowe's Community Impact Grant.

Thornton's October report noted that work on the Lowe's outdoor play and reading space had been paused over auto insurance requirements. Thornton said that is no longer the case, and the project is moving forward.

A busy September

According to the director's report, the library system in September issued 281 new library cards, offered 65 programs with 2,332 attendees, checked out 6,474 books and 3,621 e-books and audiobooks and logged 368 public computer uses.

At an average cost of $25 per book, Thornton said patrons saved more than $161,000 on books in September alone, not counting e-books and audiobooks.

Thornton also reported that the City of Cullman did not increase the library's appropriation enough to add a full-time staff member, but did include the $350,000 it approved in January 2025 as matching funds for the library's federal appropriation. She said she is working on ways to create a needed Programs and Youth Services Librarian position.

Thornton also spoke to Cullman County school principals this month about free resources the library offers students and teachers, and several schools have since asked for visits.

Coming up

The library will hold a Gratitude Dinner Nov. 16 and will have a Giving Haus at Christkindlmarkt Nov. 19-22.

The next Library Board meeting is set for Friday, Nov. 13, at 1 p.m. in the Special Collections Room at the Cullman County Public Library, 200 Clark St. NE.

For more information about the library or the Every Chapter Matters campaign, visit www.cullmanlib.org or call 256-734-2720.

Final days to sign up for Parkside Outreach Program's Christmas Coalition

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BAILEYTON, Ala. — For some families, this Christmas may be a little harder than usual. The Parkside Outreach Program wants to help, but time is running short.

The Baileyton nonprofit's Christmas Coalition, which helps make the holiday brighter for local children and families in need, is accepting applications through Sunday, Nov. 1.

"Together, we can make the season brighter," the program said in sharing the sign-up.

How to apply

Applications are available online at parksideoutreach.com, through the program's Facebook page or in person at the Parkside Outreach store, 12756 Alabama Highway 69 in Baileyton. Families can also scan the QR code on the program's flyer to open the application.

To qualify:

- Complete one application per household.
- Children must live in the household, and applicants must live within a 10-mile radius of Parkside Outreach Program.
- Bring proof of residence for every child listed.
- Bring proof of all household income. A SNAP allotment letter may be used.

All completed applications and required documents must be received by the deadline. Approved families will be notified by Nov. 13, and pickups will be the week of Dec. 14.

Know a family who could use a little extra Christmas cheer this year? Parkside is asking the community to share the information with them.

Ways to give

There's a place in this effort for those who want to give, too. Parkside is looking for sponsors from the community and local churches to help provide Christmas for a child. To sponsor a child, call 256-506-5545 or message the program on Facebook.

Neighbors helping neighbors

Jennifer Harlow founded Parkside Outreach Program in 2018 after seeing a need for nonprofit work in the area. Today, the 501(c)(3) nonprofit serves the Parkside community and beyond, with much of its growth coming from surrounding communities and church families. Every dollar spent at its thrift store goes back to the community, funding a local food pantry and helping neighbors in need.

For more information, call 256-683-0715 or visit www.parksideoutreach.com.

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Shelter from the storm, a home for seniors: Good Hope's new Multiplex now open

Krystal Corley
krystal@cullmantribune.com



CULLMAN AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

City leaders, community partners and residents cut the ribbon on the new Good Hope Multiplex on Oct. 1.

GOOD HOPE, Ala. — Good Hope's newest building is doing double duty, keeping residents safe when severe weather rolls in and giving the city's seniors a place to gather every day in between.

The Good Hope Multiplex held its ribbon cutting Oct. 1, and on Monday, Oct. 5, it officially became the city's full-time senior center under the direction of Renee Lee.

The Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce, which joined the city for the celebration, called the facility "a project that has been years in the making." Plans for a multipurpose storm shelter and senior center have been part of Mayor Jerry Bartlett's and the city's vision for the community for several years, according to the Chamber.

The building can hold up to 300 people as a community storm shelter, and Bartlett said that role always comes first.

"First and foremost, it is a 300-person storm shelter that takes precedence over any other meetings during times when storms are in the area," Bartlett said.

When the skies are clear, the building serves as the Good Hope Senior Center. Bartlett said the space will not be rented out.

"It will be used only as a full-time Good Hope Senior Center and community storm shelter," he said.

Cullman County Economic Development praised the project in a post following the ribbon cutting, saying it "gives local seniors a place to gather while providing another resource for residents during severe weather."

The construction bid for the project was $2,152,885. The city received a USDA grant for $1,313,885, leaving $839,000 paid by the City of Good Hope, according to Bartlett.

The ribbon cutting brought together community leaders and partners who helped make the project possible, including representatives from the North Central Alabama Regional Council of Governments (NARCOG), USDA, U.S. Rep. Robert Aderholt's office and Sen. Garlan Gudger's office, along with former Alabama Secretary of State John Merrill. The Cullman Diabetes Center sponsored the ribbon cutting.

For more information about the Good Hope Senior Center, contact Good Hope City Hall at 256-739-3757.

The Good Hope Multiplex is located at 2941 County Road 437.

Costumes for a song: Hanceville's That Thrift Store is a treasure trove for last-minute Halloween shoppers, and every season after

Costumes from 59 cents to $5, $5 fill-a-bag deals and affordable finds for every holiday

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BRANDON EVANS/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

Matilda and Michael Schaefer, That Thrift Store at 914 Main St. NE in Hanceville



KRYSTAL CORLEY/THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

HANCEVILLE, Ala. — Still don't know what you're going to be for Halloween? Don't worry. Your costume might already be hanging on a rack at That Thrift Store.

Tucked at 914 Main St. NE in Hanceville, the family-owned shop has a whole rack of costume possibilities waiting for last-minute trick-or-treaters and partygoers: witches, superheroes, a few mysterious creatures and, yes, even a bright pink suit labeled "Gov. Ivey" for anyone ready to try out their best Southern drawl.

Costumes are priced from just 59 cents to $5, and qualifying costumes can be included in the store's $5 fill-a-bag clothing deal.

"We have all kinds of great deals and treasures for people to explore," said owners Matilda Schaefer, and husband, Michael Schaefer.

Need a little help putting a look together? Just ask. The owners say helping shoppers dream up costume ideas is one of the most fun parts of the job.

A bag full of bargains

The store's signature deal is simple: grab a Walmart-size bag and fill it with any clothing you choose for just $5.

If you'd rather pick out a piece or two, adult clothing is $1 each, and children's clothing, sizes 2T to 20, is 50 cents each. Baby clothing, newborn to 24 months, is also 50 cents each and can be included in a $5 bag when combined with adult or children's clothing.

Shoppers can also watch for colored stickers around the store. Red-sticker items are just 25 cents, and blue-sticker items are 50% off. Daily specials and surprise flash sales add even more ways to save.

Halloween isn't the last holiday

While costumes are in the spotlight this week, the shelves at That Thrift Store are stocked all year long with freshly washed clothes, shoes, purses, vintage décor, glassware, kitchenware, books and collectibles, many priced from $2.99 to $24.99.

"We are here to provide affordable items for the holidays," Schaefer said. "We sell all of our seasonal stuff very, very cheap, so you don't have to spend a whole bunch of money to decorate your home for the holidays."

With Thanksgiving and Christmas right around the corner, Schaefer shared a tradition her own family has adopted: a "thrift mix."

"Our family decided to do a thrift mix, where one or two items would be purchased brand new, and the rest of the items would be from the thrift store," she said. "So that's a great idea for right now for anybody to participate in Christmas."

Come see what you find

Whether you're building a costume from the ground up, setting a holiday table or simply stretching the family budget, That Thrift Store is a place where a few dollars can still go a long way.

That Thrift Store is open Wednesday through Saturday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and is closed Sunday through Tuesday. For updates on specials and flash sales, follow That Thrift Store on Facebook or call 256-887-8037.

Wilson (from Front)

Noah Galilee
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CULLMAN, Ala. — Eddie Wilson had planned to pick up a bag of seeds for The Foundry Farm.

In its remembrance of the farm's director, the North Alabama Agriplex said it would make sure those seeds reached their destination.

"We will make sure those seeds make it to The Foundry so they can keep growing on the foundations that Eddie started," the organization said.

Eddie Dale Wilson, 62, of Hartselle, died unexpectedly Wednesday, Oct. 28, according to his obituary. He began serving with The Foundry Ministries in 2006 and became program director of its Cullman County farm in 2014.

Through gardens, a hen house, expanded housing and a chapel, Wilson worked with residents, volunteers and community partners to develop the farm's recovery program. In interviews over the years, he described those projects in terms of what they could offer the men who came there seeking help.

The Agriplex remembered someone willing to learn so he could teach others.

"Eddie wanted to learn more about farming to share with the residents at the Foundry," its statement said.

He began with chickens and a small garden, then enrolled in a small-farm class at Wallace State Community College, according to the Agriplex. He laid plastic, built high tunnels and expanded production.

The farm now produces enough vegetables and eggs to share with residents at other Foundry locations, the organization said.

"Eddie was an amazing man always with a smile and a good attitude," the Agriplex said.

Wilson's connection to recovery was personal. In a 2021 Alabama Poultry magazine feature, he spoke about receiving help through The Foundry for alcohol and cocaine addiction and credited his faith and the ministry with changing his life.

He explained that farm work taught residents habits they could carry into other occupations: arriving on time, caring for their work areas and adapting when circumstances changed.

"We want to give them hope that they can take back to their families," Wilson told the magazine.

That purpose appeared throughout the Tribune and CullmanSense archives.

In April 2015, Wilson discussed the Rebuild Campaign, an effort to expand housing and dining facilities at the farm. At the time, fire-code concerns had reduced the number of residents the program could accommodate, and Wilson said more men needed help.

"It is so much more than just the building," he said in that interview.

He described contributions to the project as support for families and people working to rebuild their lives.

In April 2018, The Tribune covered the dedication of Black-Sanders Hall, an 80-bed dormitory named in memory of Thomas Anderson Black and Donald Wayne Sanders. The project addressed housing and fire-code needs at the campus between Holly Pond and Berlin.

By June 2020, another community-supported project was ready: a hen house stocked with 300 laying hens donated by Lee Haynes of Haynes Farms and Nature's Best Eggs.

Wilson explained that residents would learn poultry-care and egg-production skills under farm manager David Hall. Eggs would help feed residents in Cullman and at the ministry's other campuses.

"Its sole purpose is employment-readiness to teach program participants about the poultry industry as it pertains to laying hens and egg production," Wilson said.

He credited local donors and volunteers for the building, equipment and labor, and supporter David Ozment for helping develop the idea.

The farm's chapel grew from another conversation about space.

In a January 2023 interview with The Tribune, Wilson recalled that community volunteers were leading Monday evening Bible studies in a room that had become too small. The same room served as a gathering place for Wednesday and Sunday worship.

Wilson credited Stanley Dye, a longtime pastor and member of Cullman First Baptist Church, with helping turn the need into a building project through community contributions of money, materials and labor.

The chapel would give residents room to worship with their children, spouses, parents and other loved ones. It would also provide space for classes and connections with other Foundry campuses.

"We may never really know the lives that will be saved and the families restored," Wilson said in that interview.

The Foundry describes its farm program as providing counseling, education, employment preparation, spiritual guidance and aftercare for men seeking recovery.

Survivors include his wife, Ellen Wilson; stepson, Zac Flannagin Sr.; nephew, Zach Wilson; five stepgrandchildren; two stepgreat-grandchildren; and other relatives. His sister, Lisa Wilson, preceded him in death.

Visitation will be Saturday, Oct. 31, from noon-2 p.m. at The Foundry Farm Chapel, 575 County Road 1676, Cullman. A celebration of life will follow at 2 p.m.

His obituary says the service will also be livestreamed on The Foundry Ministries' Facebook page.

The family requests donations in place of flowers to the Eddie Wilson Memorial Scholarship Fund through The Foundry Ministries. The fund will help men seeking recovery.

At the Agriplex, the plan is to deliver the seeds.

"We will miss you, friend!" its statement said.

The history of candy corn

Chasady Woods
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Every year as we approach Halloween there seems to be a continuous debate: to eat, or not to eat, candy corn? The iconic, sugary treat is made mostly of sugar, corn syrup, carnauba wax and artificial coloring.

Regardless of your preference, did you know candy corn is one of the oldest Halloween candies? Its history goes back to its initial production in the 1880s.

It was created by a company in Philadelphia called Wunderle Candy Company. George Renninger, an employee, had the idea to have the candy resemble chicken feed to appeal to the rural Philadelphia community.

In the late 19th century the candies were modeled after turnips, clovers, chestnuts and other nature-inspired shapes.

Though "candy corn" was advertised as a treat to share year-round, due to its association with fall its most popular season became Halloween.

Today, the largest manufacturer of candy corn is Brach's Confections.

They make 7 billion pieces of candy corn per year!

Fun fact! International Candy Corn Day is recognized on Oct. 30, the day before Halloween.

Which Halloween candy is your favorite?



PIXABAY

Know (from Front)

Noah Galilee
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CULLMAN, Ala. — Cullman County voters preparing for the Nov. 3 general election should confirm their assigned polling place, bring an accepted photo ID and know how to seek assistance or report a problem.

Polls will be open from 7 a.m.-7 p.m. Central time. Voters in line at 7 p.m. must be allowed to vote; people arriving after the line closes cannot join it.

A voter's assigned precinct may differ from the location used for a municipal election. Residents should check their registration and polling assignment through Alabama's official voter lookup or call the Cullman County Board of Registrars at 256-775-4697 or 256-775-4698. The board is at 500 Second Ave. SW, Suite 112, Cullman.

The county's November election notice lists Hanceville City Hall and Hanceville Civic Center. It also lists Friendship Baptist Church for Precinct 30. Residents should use their current assignment rather than relying on a location listed for an earlier special or municipal election.

Alabama requires an accepted photo ID for regular in-person voting, subject to the state's identification exceptions. Examples include an Alabama driver's license or non-driver ID that is current or expired less than 60 days, an Alabama Photo Voter ID, a valid U.S. passport, military or tribal ID and qualifying government or college identification. The complete list is available through the secretary of state's Photo Voter ID page.

A voter without an accepted ID may cast a regular ballot if two election officials positively identify the person as an eligible voter on the poll list and sign the required affidavit. Otherwise, the voter may use a provisional ballot. When a provisional ballot is cast because of missing photo identification, the voter must present the required ID to the Board of Registrars by 5 p.m. Friday, Nov. 6, for the ballot to count.

A missing name on a precinct list should be referred to the provisional ballot officer, who can contact the Board of Registrars to check eligibility. If eligibility cannot be verified, the voter has a right to cast a provisional ballot and receive instructions. Provisional ballots undergo eligibility review before they are counted. An inactive listing does not automatically disqualify a voter; poll workers should provide an address-update form and determine the correct precinct.

Voters should completely fill the oval for each selection and choose no more than the allowed number of candidates. A voter who makes a mistake should request a replacement before placing the ballot in the tabulator. Election workers will set aside the spoiled ballot.

This is a general election, so voters may choose candidates from different parties regardless of which primary they participated in. A straight-party selection does not answer the constitutional amendment questions. Voters may leave individual races or amendments blank. A write-in vote requires both writing the person's name and marking the designated oval for that office.

Voters may not vote or attempt to vote more than once in the same election. Official ballots must remain inside the polling place except for authorized election transportation.

Accessible voting equipment is available at polling places. Voters can ask a poll worker about using it. Assistance is available without requiring the voter to explain why help is needed. A voter may choose an assistant, except an employer, an employer's agent or an officer or agent of the voter's union. The voter and assistant must follow the poll-list signing procedure. Voters with mobility disabilities or those older than 70 may request to move to the front of the line.

Voting time is not an automatic four-minute cutoff. After four minutes, an official may ask whether assistance is needed. The voter must receive at least one additional minute if declining assistance or at least five additional minutes if accepting it. The time-limit procedure applies when others are waiting; without a line, voters have as much time as necessary to finish.

Campaigning must remain at least 30 feet from the polling-place entrance. If voting takes place in a room inside a larger building, the distance is measured from the building's entrance. Voters may wear campaign clothing or buttons, but they should not linger or leave campaign materials behind. A prepared sample ballot may be brought into the booth and should be taken away afterward.

Phones must not disrupt voting. State guidance allows voters to photograph their own ballots, but they may not photograph or reveal another voter's ballot. General photographs of the voting room are not permitted under the state poll-worker guide.

Poll workers have a different role from voters and campaign representatives. They must administer the election impartially, protect ballot secrecy and follow identification, ballot-handling and provisional-voting procedures. They may explain how to vote, but they may not try to influence a voter's choices.

The state's 2026 Poll Worker Guide says, "Election officials must run the polling place in a strictly impartial manner."

Workers must take the required oath and attend required instruction. The precinct inspector must check ballot supplies and voting-equipment seals. Suspected equipment tampering should be reported immediately to the inspector. If someone creates a disturbance or refuses instructions to stop prohibited activity, the state guide directs officials to contact the sheriff.

Poll watchers are appointed observers, not poll workers. Properly appointed watchers may monitor election procedures and records, but they cannot disturb or influence voters, campaign or wear or display campaign materials inside the polling place.

For voters returning ordinary absentee ballots, hand delivery must be completed by the absentee election manager's close of business, no later than 5 p.m., Monday, Nov. 2. Mailed ballots must arrive by noon Tuesday, Nov. 3; a timely postmark alone is insufficient. Military and overseas voting and qualifying emergencies have separate provisions. Cullman County's absentee election manager can be reached at 256-775-4654, option 1.

Reporting concerns

A voter experiencing an immediate problem should ask for the precinct inspector. Registration and precinct-assignment questions can be directed to the Board of Registrars, while county election-administration concerns can be directed to the Probate Office at 256-775-4652.

Suspected voter fraud can be reported through the Alabama secretary of state's official reporting page. The state Elections Division and voter fraud hotline can be reached at 1-800-274-8683 or 334-242-7210.

The secretary of state's office reviews allegations and refers matters to appropriate authorities. It does not conduct criminal investigations itself. Criminal misconduct may also be reported to local law enforcement; the Cullman County Sheriff's Office number is 256-734-0342. Call 911 for an immediate threat or emergency.

A useful report identifies the precinct, time, conduct observed and people involved, with a clear distinction between firsthand observations and information heard from someone else. Reporting a concern should not interfere with voting or expose another person's ballot.

Cullman County polling locations

The county's notice for the Nov. 3 election lists the following 49 named polling locations serving 51 voting boxes. The Donald E. Green Senior Center serves three boxes. The list covers municipal and unincorporated areas, but voters must use their assigned location. Precinct and box numbers below follow the November notice.

- Arkadelphia Fire Department – Precinct 7
- Baileyton Senior Center – Precinct 20, Box 1
- Baldwin Family Life Center – Precinct 33
- Battleground Fire Department – Precinct 16
- Beat 8 Community Center – Precinct 8
- Berlin Community Center – Precinct 23
- Bethel Community Center – Precinct 14, Box 2
- Bethsadia Fire Department – Precinct 13
- Bolte White Grove Church – Precinct 36
- Bremen Fire Department – Precinct 10
- Brooklyn Community Center – Precinct 20, Box 2
- Brushy Pond Community Center – Precinct 26
- Center Hill Community Center – Precinct 31
- Cold Springs Community Center – Precinct 9
- Colony Education Complex – Precinct 6, Box 2
- Courthouse Conference Room – Precinct 1, Box 6
- Crane Hill Fire Department community building – Precinct 12
- Cullman City Hall – Precinct 1, Box 5
- Cullman County Health Department – Precinct 34
- Cullman Office Building basement – Precinct 1, Box 4
- Dodge City Community Center – Precinct 2, Box 2
- Donald E. Green Senior Center – Precinct 1, Boxes 1, 2 and 3
- East Point Community Center – Precinct 35
- Fairview Fire Department, A–K – Precinct 28, Box 1
- Fairview Town Hall, L–Z – Precinct 28, Box 2
- Friendship Baptist Church – Precinct 30
- Friendship Methodist Church – Precinct 17, Box 2
- Garden City Town Hall – Precinct 4
- Gold Ridge Community Center – Precinct 19
- Good Hope City Hall – Precinct 2, Box 1
- Grandview Community Center – Precinct 29
- Hanceville City Hall – Precinct 3, Box 1
- Hanceville Civic Center – Precinct 3, Box 2
- Holly Pond Fire Department – Precinct 22
- Jones Chapel Fire Department – Precinct 15
- Joppa Fire Department – Precinct 21, Box 1
- Logan Fire Department – Precinct 14, Box 1
- Moody Town Union Hill Church – Precinct 6, Box 1
- New Canaan Senior Center – Precinct 21, Box 2
- Providence Fire Department – Precinct 18, Box 2
- Simcoe Community Center – Precinct 32
- Stouts Mountain Baptist Church – Precinct 5
- Trimble Fire Department – Precinct 11, Box 1
- Valley Grove Community Center – Precinct 11, Box 2
- Vinemont Community Center – Precinct 18, Box 1
- Walter Community Center – Precinct 24
- Welti Mt. Zion Church – Precinct 25
- West Point Community Center – Precinct 17, Box 1
- White City Community Center – Precinct 27

Voters who are uncertain about a location or box assignment should contact the Board of Registrars before traveling to the polls.

You can also visit https://myinfo.alabamavotes.gov/voterview.

Obituary Announcements: Oct. 29-30

Mary Ann Brown, 76
Funeral service for Mary Ann Brown, 76, will be at 2 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 1, 2026, at Cullman Funeral Home Chapel with interment in Mt. Zion Cemetery, Pastor Jamie McMinn officiating. The family will receive friends Sunday at the funeral home from noon-2 p.m. Cullman Funeral Home is honored to serve the family. Mrs. Brown passed away Wednesday, Oct. 28, 2026, at her residence. She was born July 4, 1950, to Ellie J. and Velma Katherine Smith Todd. Mary was an avid reader, loved doing puzzles, had a special love for her grandkids and great-grandkids and she absolutely loved her little dog, Cletus. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Roy Brown, Sr., and a sister, Sue. Those left to cherish her memory are her children, Mary Lynn (Thomas) Allen, Linda Gail (Stanley S.) Howse, Roy J. (Charlotte) Brown, Jr., Christy (Joseph) Simpson; ten grandkids, Brady Johnson, Benton C. Howse, SeAnna Simpson, Trinda Smith, Ethan Simpson, Jacob Simpson, Kaleb Brown, Joshua Malin, Macijo Simpson, Boone Howse; five great-grandchildren; family and friends. Friends may sign the online guestbook at www.cullmanfuneralhome.com.

Eric Eugene Jones, 59
In Loving Memory of Eric Eugene Jones | Feb. 13, 1967 – Oct. 25, 2026 | Eric Eugene Jones, 59, of Cullman, Alabama, passed away on Oct. 25, 2026. Originally from Newnan, Georgia, Eric was an amazing man who impacted countless lives throughout his lifetime. Eric was the kind of person who would help anyone and was always there when someone needed him. He had a heart for others and never hesitated to lend a helping hand. He was a devoted husband, loving father, and proud grandfather who will be remembered for his kindness, generosity, and the difference he made in so many lives. He leaves behind his beloved wife, Sandra Campbell Jones, with whom he shared 40 years of love and life; his two children, Patrick Jones and Erica Burton; and his four grandchildren, Jada Jones, Jaden Jones, Emilie Burton, and Harlie Burton. Eric worked for Cullman Overhead Door and Glass for 18 years and served as a volunteer firefighter with the Goldridge Fire Department. He was preceded in death by his parents, Marvin and Alice Jones, and his brother, Tim Jones. Eric leaves behind a legacy of love, kindness, and helping others. He will be deeply missed by his family, friends, and everyone whose life he touched. He was always there for others, and he will forever hold a special place in the hearts of those who loved him. A Celebration of Life will be held for Mr. Jones, from 6-8 p.m., on Nov. 20, 2026, at the Gold Ridge Community Center. Obituary lovingly written by the Jones family. Holly Pond Funeral Home is honored to serve the Jones family.

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EDITORIAL

Quit chasing viral fame and give people a reason to watch

Noah Galilee
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A video reaches 1,000 views, and suddenly 1,000 is no longer enough.

Now the goal is 10,000. Then 100,000. Before long, a million views becomes the target, and every post that falls short feels like a missed opportunity.

Somewhere in that climb, a person can spend more time checking whether strangers are watching than considering what those strangers are being given to watch.

That is the sad reality of chasing online fame. The attention becomes the accomplishment.

The next video will be the one. The next livestream will take off. Another dozen posts might finally turn a phone and an internet connection into a career.

Meanwhile, the hours keep adding up.

For anyone putting that much time into an account that produces little or no income, an honest question is overdue. What is this pursuit actually giving you in return?

People can post for fun. They can share a hobby, make their friends laugh or enjoy a small community online. Every video does not need to pay a bill or teach a lesson.

But when becoming a social media star starts driving daily decisions, it deserves the same scrutiny as any other career ambition. What are you developing? What can you consistently offer? How will the work support you?

Hoping the next video goes viral does not answer those questions.

The internet offers talented people an extraordinary opportunity to be discovered. A musician can find listeners. A cook can teach a recipe. A mechanic can explain a repair. Someone with a gift for storytelling or comedy can build an audience through work that gives people a reason to return.

Those skills take effort. Learning to film, edit, explain and entertain takes practice, too.

Posting more often does not automatically make the work better.

Consider the routine workplace livestream. A camera aimed at a cash register may attract curiosity, but what sustains it? Is there humor, a useful explanation or a story being told? Or are viewers simply watching someone do the job that person is already being paid to do?

There is dignity in running a register, stocking a shelf or preparing an order. That work deserves respect whether anybody watches it or not.

It also comes with obligations. Customers deserve service. Coworkers deserve consideration. Neither should have to wonder whether an ordinary interaction is becoming material for somebody else's account.

In healthcare, the stakes are more serious.

A nurse filming while preparing or dispensing medication needs to consider patient privacy, workplace rules and the care being delivered. The National Council of State Boards of Nursing warns that improper social media use can lead to professional discipline and termination.

If a post exposes confidential information or violates an employer's policies, consequences should not come as a surprise.

The patient deserves care without having to worry about becoming part of a personal livestream. The responsibility attached to that job matters far more than the attention attached to a video.

This temptation deserves attention across generations. Adults should examine their own habits before treating the hunger for online approval as something only teenagers need to outgrow.

It is easy to lecture a child about screen time. It is harder to admit how often we interrupt our own lives to refresh a post, check a comment or see whether the numbers have moved.

The appeal is understandable. Being noticed can feel good. An encouraging response can make somebody want to create again.

But a view counter is a poor measure of a person's worth, and building a day around making it rise can leave very little room for anything else.

Think about what those hours could produce. A skill learned. A project finished. A business improved. Time spent with someone who knows you beyond a username.

If the ambition is to create, put the effort into creating something better. Practice the music. Learn the editing. Research the subject. Develop the ability to tell a story worth somebody's time.

If the ambition is to earn a living, look honestly at the income, the hours and the plan. One successful video offers no guarantee about the next one.

It is time for our fascination with fame for its own sake to fade. The fantasy that a single viral moment is a dependable career plan needs to end.

Quit giving the view counter so much authority over your life.

Develop something you can be proud of when the phone is put away.

Races (from Front)

responsibilities include presiding over the state Senate and succeeding the governor when a vacancy requires it.

Democrat Jeff McLaughlin and Republican Katherine Robertson are seeking the attorney general's office. The attorney general represents Alabama in legal proceedings, provides legal opinions to authorized public officials and has responsibilities involving civil enforcement and criminal prosecutions.

Several other statewide races involve the administration of public records, money and regulatory programs. Democrat Wayne Rogers and Republican Caroleene Dobson are running for secretary of state, Alabama's chief election official. The office also maintains business filings and government records.

For state treasurer, the candidates are Democrat Rosilyn Houston and Republican Young Boozer. The treasurer receives and accounts for state money and handles authorized payments. Democrat Violet Edwards and Republican Andrew Sorrell are competing for state auditor, an office responsible for tracking and auditing state-owned personal property and equipment.

Democrat Ron Sparks and Republican Corey Hill are seeking the office of commissioner of agriculture and industries. The department's responsibilities include agricultural programs, food safety inspections and oversight of commercial weights and measures.

Two seats on the Alabama Public Service Commission are on the ballot. Democrat James O. Gordon and Republican Matt Gentry are running for Place 1, while Democrat Sheila D. McNeil and Republican Jim Zig Zeigler are running for Place 2. The commission regulates utility services within its jurisdiction; its authority varies by utility and service.

The legislative races determine who represents residents in the Alabama Legislature, which considers state laws and appropriations. Republican Garlan Gudger is the only printed candidate for Senate District 4. The county's House districts list Republican Heath Allbright in District 11, Republican Cindy Myrex in District 12 and Republican Tim R. Wadsworth in District 14. Each is the only printed candidate in that district's contest.

Voters will also select judges for Alabama's appellate courts, which review decisions from lower courts. Republican Brad Mendheim is the only printed candidate for Supreme Court associate justice, Place 7. For Place 8, the candidates are Democrat Ashleigh Meyer Dunham and Republican Greg Shaw.

The Court of Civil Appeals handles matters including domestic relations and workers' compensation appeals. Republican Benjamin M. Bowden is the only printed candidate for Place 4, and Republican Matt Fridy is the only printed candidate for Place 5. On the Court of Criminal Appeals, which reviews criminal cases, Republican Mary Windom is the only printed candidate for Place 4, and Republican Riggs Walker is the only printed candidate for Place 5.

Education appears at both the state and county levels. Democrat Angela Morgan and Republican Cathi Bradford are competing for State Board of Education District 6. The state board sets policy and exercises general supervision over Alabama's public K-12 schools.

The Cullman County Board of Education races list Republican Jeff Lawson for Fairview/District 2, Republican Kenny Brockman for Hanceville/District 4, Republican Michael E. Graves for Vinemont/District 6 and Republican Kerry Neighbors for Good Hope/District 7. Each is the only printed candidate for that seat. The county board governs the county school system, with responsibilities including school policies and its budget.

Other county contests have one printed Republican candidate each: Jeremy L. Kilpatrick for coroner, Kenneth Walker for associate county commissioner District 1, Richard Barnett for associate county commissioner District 2, Mike Pitts for revenue commissioner and Chad Whaley for sheriff.

Those offices handle different parts of county government. The coroner investigates deaths within the office's jurisdiction. County commissioners oversee county budgets, services and road responsibilities. The revenue commissioner administers property assessment and collection of property taxes, while the sheriff oversees law enforcement and jail operations.

Amendment recap

The ballot's final questions concern changes to Alabama's Constitution. Each amendment is a separate yes-or-no decision. A yes vote approves the proposed change, while a no vote rejects it.

Statewide Amendment 1, proposed by Act 2026-341, would change how a lieutenant governor vacancy is filled. The full proposal calls for an election to fill the remainder of the term when a vacancy occurs more than 60 days before the next general election at which state officers are elected. It would also let the Legislature set the pay of the lieutenant governor and legislative officers by joint resolution and require a legislative officer's approval for legislative travel spending. It sets no specific salary increase.

Statewide Amendment 2, proposed by Act 2026-378, would establish a process for neighboring county school systems to merge. It requires a published impact study and provides a protest process. The Alabama Fair Ballot Commission explains that written protests from at least 25% of qualified voters in an affected system would trigger a referendum, with approval required in each affected county and across the combined territory. Approval of the amendment would not itself merge any schools.

Statewide Amendment 3, proposed by Act 2026-379, would require local school boards to adopt policies for a daily Pledge of Allegiance and student-initiated, student-led prayer. Participation would be voluntary, and students could opt out of either based on their beliefs. The amendment concerns constitutional policy requirements; Alabama already has a law requiring schools to conduct the daily Pledge while protecting students who decline to recite it.

Statewide Amendment 4, proposed by Act 2026-424, would require public K-12 schools to broadcast or provide an approved performance of the first stanza of "The Star-Spangled Banner" at least once a week during school hours. It does not require every student to sing.

Cullman County's local amendment, proposed by Act 2026-141, would freeze the assessed value of a qualifying homeowner's primary residence. Applicants must be at least 65, own qualifying single-family residential property and have used it as their principal residence for at least five years immediately before the first tax year claimed. The proposal includes no income limit. Tax-rate changes and later additions could still raise a tax bill. Claims could begin Oct. 1, 2027, using the property's Oct. 1, 2026, value, with written applications submitted to the revenue commissioner between Oct. 1 and Dec. 31.

Voters can review the full sample ballot at www.sos.alabama.gov/sites/default/files/sample-ballots/2026/gen/Cullman-Sample.pdf. Reviewing both sides before Election Day can help voters identify their district races and consider each amendment separately.

SAMPLE BALLOT

This is a common ballot, however, some offices will appear only in certain precincts which will apply to your districts.

OFFICIAL BALLOT

**GENERAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT ELECTION
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA
NOVEMBER 3, 2026**

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE VOTER

TO VOTE YOU MUST BLACKEN THE OVAL ⬭ COMPLETELY! ⬬
IF YOU SPOIL YOUR BALLOT, DO NOT ERASE, BUT ASK FOR A NEW BALLOT.

STRAIGHT PARTY VOTING

⬭ ALABAMA DEMOCRATIC PARTY
⬭ ALABAMA REPUBLICAN PARTY

FOR GOVERNOR (Vote for One)
⬭ DOUG JONES — Democrat
⬭ TOMMY TUBERVILLE — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR (Vote for One)
⬭ PHILLIP ENSLER — Democrat
⬭ JOHN WAHL — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR UNITED STATES SENATOR (Vote for One)
⬭ EVERETT WESS — Democrat
⬭ BARRY MOORE — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE, 4TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT (Vote for One)
⬭ AMANDA N. PUSCZEK — Democrat
⬭ ROBERT B. ADERHOLT — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR ATTORNEY GENERAL (Vote for One)
⬭ JEFF McLAUGHLIN — Democrat
⬭ KATHERINE ROBERTSON — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR STATE SENATOR, DISTRICT NO. 4 (Vote for One)
⬭ GARLAN GUDGER — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT NO. (Vote for One)

FOR ASSOCIATE JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT, PLACE 7 (Vote for One)
⬭ BRAD MENDHEIM — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR ASSOCIATE JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT, PLACE 8 (Vote for One)
⬭ ASHLEIGH MEYER DUNHAM — Democrat
⬭ GREG SHAW — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR COURT OF CIVIL APPEALS JUDGE, PLACE 4 (Vote for One)
⬭ BENJAMIN M. BOWDEN — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR COURT OF CIVIL APPEALS JUDGE, PLACE 5 (Vote for One)
⬭ MATT FRIDY — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS JUDGE, PLACE 4 (Vote for One)
⬭ MARY WINDOM — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR COURT OF CRIMINAL APPEALS JUDGE, PLACE 5 (Vote for One)
⬭ RIGGS WALKER — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR SECRETARY OF STATE (Vote for One)
⬭ WAYNE ROGERS — Democrat
⬭ CAROLEENE DOBSON — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR STATE TREASURER (Vote for One)
⬭ ROSILYN HOUSTON — Democrat
⬭ YOUNG BOOZER — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR STATE AUDITOR (Vote for One)
⬭ VIOLET EDWARDS — Democrat
⬭ ANDREW SORRELL — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRIES (Vote for One)
⬭ RON SPARKS — Democrat
⬭ COREY HILL — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION, PLACE NO. 1 (Vote for One)
⬭ JAMES O. GORDON — Democrat
⬭ MATT GENTRY — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION, PLACE NO. 2 (Vote for One)
⬭ SHEILA D. McNEIL — Democrat
⬭ JIM ZIG ZEIGLER — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR MEMBER, STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION, DISTRICT NO. 6 (Vote for One)
⬭ ANGELA MORGAN — Democrat
⬭ CATHI BRADFORD — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR CULLMAN COUNTY CORONER (Vote for One)
⬭ JEREMY L. KILPATRICK — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR MEMBER, CULLMAN COUNTY COMMISSION, ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 1 (Vote for One)
⬭ KENNETH WALKER — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR MEMBER, CULLMAN COUNTY COMMISSION, ASSOCIATE COMMISSIONER DISTRICT 2 (Vote for One)
⬭ RICHARD BARNETT — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR CULLMAN COUNTY REVENUE COMMISSIONER (Vote for One)
⬭ MIKE PITTS — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR CULLMAN COUNTY SHERIFF (Vote for One)
⬭ CHAD WHALEY — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR MEMBER, CULLMAN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION, / DISTRICT NO. (Vote for One)

CONTINUE VOTING ON BACK

THESE OFFICES RUN BY DISTRICT

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT NO. 11 (Vote for One)
⬭ HEATH ALLBRIGHT — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT NO. 12 (Vote for One)
⬭ CINDY MYREX — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR STATE REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT NO. 14 (Vote for One)
⬭ TIM R. WADSWORTH — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR MEMBER, CULLMAN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION, FAIRVIEW / DISTRICT NO. 2 (Vote for One)
⬭ JEFF LAWSON — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR MEMBER, CULLMAN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION, HANCEVILLE / DISTRICT NO. 4 (Vote for One)
⬭ KENNY BROCKMAN — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR MEMBER, CULLMAN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION, VINEMONT / DISTRICT NO. 6 (Vote for One)
⬭ MICHAEL E. GRAVES — Republican
⬭ Write-in

FOR MEMBER, CULLMAN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION, GOOD HOPE / DISTRICT NO. 7 (Vote for One)
⬭ KERRY NEIGHBORS — Republican
⬭ Write-in

"Shall the following Amendments to the Constitution of Alabama be adopted?"

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO APPEAR ON THE BALLOT STATEWIDE

STATEWIDE AMENDMENT 1

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, to provide for the election of a Lieutenant Governor if the Office of Lieutenant Governor becomes vacant during the first two years of a term, to authorize the Legislature to set the salary of the Lieutenant Governor and officers of the Legislature, and to require any expenditure of legislative funds for travel to be approved by a legislative officer. (Proposed by Act 2026-341)

⬭ YES
⬭ NO

STATEWIDE AMENDMENT 2

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, to provide a process for the creation of a consolidated county school system by merging two or more contiguous county boards of education; to require the State Board of Education to conduct an impact study on the potential effects of the consolidation; to require publication of the impact study; to provide a procedure for protesting a proposed consolidation of two or more county school systems; and to require the State Board of Education to adopt rules. (Proposed by Act 2026- 378)

⬭ YES
⬭ NO

STATEWIDE AMENDMENT 3

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, to require local boards of education to adopt policies requiring each public K-12 school to recite The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag at the beginning of each school day; and to require local boards of education to adopt a policy authorizing student-initiated and student-led prayer. (Proposed by Act 2026-379)

⬭ YES
⬭ NO

STATEWIDE AMENDMENT 4

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, to require local boards of education to adopt policies requiring each public K-12 school to broadcast or sanction the performance of the first stanza of The Star-Spangled Banner at least once per week during school hours. (Proposed by Act 2026-424)

⬭ YES
⬭ NO

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS OF LOCAL APPLICATION TO APPEAR ON THE BALLOT IN ONLY THE COUNTY OF APPLICATION

LOCAL AMENDMENT

Relating to Cullman County, proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, to authorize a qualified taxpayer 65 years of age or older to claim a senior property tax exemption for real property under certain conditions. (Proposed by Act 2026-141)

⬭ YES
⬭ NO

END OF BALLOT

LEGALS

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF *
JOSHUA LEE GOODIN *
Deceased. *

CASE NO.: PC 2026-325

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters of Administration having been granted to Leigh Ann Goodin, as Personal Representatives of the Estate of Joshua Lee Goodin, deceased, on the 21st day of October, 2026, 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.

Leigh Ann Goodin
Personal Representatives

Kristin Waters
Waters Sullivan, LLC
Attorney for Petitioner
2 Twentieth Street North
Suite 1350
Birmingham, Alabama 35203

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 CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

JUSTIN ALLEN YOUNG,
Plaintiff

vs. Case Number: **25-DR-2026-900276.00**

ALYSSA CHERIE CENTANNI,
Defendant

NOTICE OF DIVORCE ACTION

Alyssa Cherie Centanni, defendant, whose whereabouts is unknown, must answer Justin Allen Young's Divorce Complaint by December 14, 2026, or, thereafter, a Judgment by Default may be rendered against her in Case number 25-DR-2026-900276.00 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County.

Done this the 15th day of October, 2026.

Lisa McSwain
Lisa McSwain,
Circuit Clerk

PETITIONER'S ATTORNEY:
ANNETTE IRONS-PARKER
215 MAIN AV SW
CULLMAN, AL 35055

IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CUILLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF

ROBERT CHARLES MONTGOMERY, JR., **CASE NO.: PC2026-426**

Deceased.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to Stephanie Montgomery Meadows, as Personal Representative of the Estate of Robert Charles Montgomery, Jr., deceased, on the 28th day of October, 2026, 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 time allowed by the law or the same will be barred.

Stephanie Montgomery Meadows
Personal Representative

Kallie C. Lunsford
RILEY & JACKSON, P.C.
3530 Independence Drive
Birmingham, Alabama 35209

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
TAMMY BROWN, JUDGE OF PROBATE
CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

Case# PC2026-427
PB WIL Book:141 Page:783
Recorded in Above Book and Page
10/28/2026 3:28PM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)
MW

STATE OF ALABAMA * IN THE PROBATE COURT
*
CULLMAN COUNTY * CASE NO. PC 2026-427

IN RE: THE ESTATE OF REBECCA AUDREY BAILEY, DECEASED.

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT TO BE PUBLISHED BY JOINT PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of said deceased have been granted to LISA M. BENNETT and WILLIAM W. BAILEY as Joint Personal Representatives on the 28th day of October, 2026, 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.

LISA M. BENNETT and WILLIAM W. BAILEY
Joint Personal Representatives

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

Sherry H. Barrett
Smith & Smith Attorneys, LLC
Attorneys for Joint Personal Representatives
P. O. Box 398
Cullman, AL 35056-0398
(256) 734-4721

NOTICE OF
MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

STATE OF ALABAMA
COUNTY OF CULLMAN

Default having been made of the terms of the loan documents secured by that certain mortgage executed by Kimberly Carolyn Williams, a single person, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for DAS Acquisition Company, LLC, its successors and assigns dated September 29, 2022; said mortgage being recorded on October 6, 2022 in Deed Book 2030, Page 298 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama. Said Mortgage was last sold, assigned and transferred to Servis One, Inc. DBA BSI Financial Services by assignment recorded in Deed Book 2145, Page 209 in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama.

The undersigned, Servis One, Inc. DBA BSI Financial Services, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash before the main entrance of the Court House in Cullman County, Alabama during the legal hours of sale (between 11am and 4pm), on December 21, 2026 the following property, situated in Cullman County, Alabama, to-wit:

COMMENCE AT THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 8, TOWNSHIP 9 SOUTH, RANGE 1 WEST; THENCE S 88 DEGREES 30 MINUTES 00 SECONDS E 600.00 FEET TO AN EXISTING T-POST; THENCE S 8 DEGREES 28 MINUTES 09 SECONDS E 30.20 FEET TO AN EXISTING IRON AND THE POINT OF BEGINNING; THENCE S 88 DEGREES 30 MINUTES 00 SECOND E 275.20 FEET TO AN EXISTING IRON ON THE WEST R.O.W. OF A PAVED COUNTY ROAD; THENCE S 8 DEGREES 26 MINUTES 31 SECONDS E 149.60 FEET TO AN EXISTING IRON ON SAID R.O.W.; THENCE N 88 DEGREES 34 MINUTES 20 SECONDS W 275.13 FEET TO AN EXISTING IRON; THENCE N 8 DEGREES 26 MINUTES 35 SECONDS W 149.95 FEET BACK TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING, CONTAINING 0.93 ACRES MORE OR LESS, SAID LAND LYING IN THE SW 1/4 OF THE NW 1/4 OF SEC. 8, T-9-S, R-1-W, CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

Said property is commonly known as **1625 County Road 1564, Baileyton, AL 35019**.

Should a conflict arise between the property address and the legal description, the legal description will control.

Said property will be sold subject to any outstanding ad valorem taxes (including taxes which are a lien, but not yet due and payable), the right of redemption of any taxing authority, all outstanding liens for public utilities which constitute liens upon the property, any matters which might be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the property, any assessments, liens, encumbrances, easements, rights-of-way, zoning ordinances, restrictions, special assessments, covenants, the statutory right of redemption pursuant to Alabama law, and any matters of record including, but not limited to, those superior to said Mortgage first set out above. Said property will be sold on an "as-is" basis without any representation, warranty or recourse against the above-named or the undersigned. Bidders must perform their own due diligence. The successful bidder must present certified funds in the amount of the winning bid at the time and place of sale.

Alabama law gives some persons who have an interest in property the right to redeem the property under certain circumstances. Programs may also exist that help persons avoid or delay the foreclosure process. An attorney should be consulted to help you understand these rights and programs as a part of the foreclosure process.

ATTENTION ALL PROSPECTIVE BIDDERS: On March 1, 2026, the data collection and reporting requirements under the U.S. Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) new Anti-Money Laundering Rule (the "Rule"), found at 89 FR 70258, went into effect. The Rule applies to certain residential real estate sale transactions (including nonjudicial foreclosures) where the transfer is to a legal entity or trust, and which includes cash purchases, private financing or financing provided by an institution not subject to a federal Anti-Money Laundering or Suspicion Activity Report requirement. As part of this Rule, purchasers and sellers are required to provide additional information and documentation about themselves, their legal entities, and the source of funds used in the reportable transaction, if applicable.* The collection of this information and documentation is required to comply with the Rule's federal reporting requirements, if applicable. This notice is provided for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice. You are encouraged to consult with your own independent legal counsel if you have questions about how the FinCEN Anti-Money Laundering Rule affects your transaction and whether your transaction is reportable.

* The Rule is the subject of ongoing litigation in several jurisdictions. We suggest that you seek your own legal counsel if you have questions about the status of the Rule and its applicability to your sale, if any.

The sale will be conducted subject (1) to confirmation that the sale is not prohibited under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, (2) to final confirmation and audit of the status of the loan with the holder of the Mortgage, and (3) to confirmation that the successful bidder has timely provided all information required for reporting under the Rule, 89 FR 70258, if applicable.

SERVIS ONE, INC. DBA BSI FINANCIAL SERVICES
as holder of said mortgage
McCalla Raymer Leibert Pierce, LLP
505 20th Street N, Suite 1775
Birmingham, AL 35203
Telephone: (205) 216-4238
FT21@mccalla.com
File No. 26-08090AL
www.foreclosurehotline.net

Cullman Tribune
10/17/2026,10/24/2026,10/31/2026

26-08090AL

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.

Case# PC2026-420
PB WIL Book:141 Page:792
Recorded in Above Book and Page
10/28/2026 3:35PM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)
MW

STATE OF ALABAMA,)
) **IN THE PROBATE COURT**
CULLMAN COUNTY.)

PC 2026-420

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF JANET RUTH DEHEER, who is one and the same person as JANET LEE DEHEER, DECEASED

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TAKE NOTICE that Letters Testamentary having been granted to NELSON LENWOOD LEE, as Personal Representative of the ESTATE OF JANET RUTH DEHEER a/k/a JANET LEE DEHEER, deceased, on the 28th day of October, 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.

Nelson Lenwood Lee
Personal Representative

Michael E. Sparkman
Attorney for Petitioner
P.O. Box 1166
Hartselle, Alabama 35640

TO: Publisher of THE CULLMAN TRIBUNE

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

DONE this 28th day of October, 2026.

Tammy Brown
TAMMY BROWN
JUDGE OF PROBATE

PB MIN Book:248 Page:26
Recorded in Above Book and Page
10/29/2026 12:47PM
Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate
Cullman County, AL
1 Page(s)
MW

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF CHARLENE ALICE BRADFORD DECEASED.) **IN THE PROBATE COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA**) **CASE NO. PC 2026-351**

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Take Notice that Letters of Administration of the Estate of CHARLENE ALICE BRADFORD are hereby granted to MARK ALAN BRADFORD on the 27th day of October, 2026, by the Honorable Tammy Brown, Probate Judge for 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.

Salem Resha, Jr.
Attorney for the Estate
Wilson Resha LLC
P O Box 130067
Birmingham, Alabama 35213
(205) 939-0449
Snresha47@gmail.com

TO: The Cullman Tribune
Publisher of Newspaper

Please publish the foregoing notice once a week for three consecutive weeks in said newspaper and send an affidavit of Publication to the Judge of Probate.

Tammy Brown
Hon Tammy Brown
Judge of Probate for Cullman County, Alabama

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF CULLMAN COUNTY, ALABAMA

ERIC BURTON,)
Plaintiff,)
)
v.) Civil Action No.: 25-CV-2026-900286.00
)
A Parcel of Land in Cullman County,)
Alabama, et al.,)
Defendants.)

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

To: JACKIE ALBERT HALE, JR., BARRY WILLINGHAM, REVENUE COMMISSIONER, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL, U.S., DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, STATE OF ALABAMA DEPT OF REVENUE, , WENDY HALE, J & W CUSTOM CABINET PAINTING, Estates of, any heirs or devisees, and ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES, whose whereabouts are unknown, and which cannot be ascertained after the exercise of reasonable diligence, who may have some right, title, interest in or claim to the real property which is the subject of this litigation as described in EXHIBIT A, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein as if set out in full.

Please take notice that a Verified Complaint to Foreclose Right of Redemption, Quiet Title in Rem, and for Ejectment has been filed by ERIC BURTON was filed on August 6, 2026 in the Circuit Court of Cullman County, Alabama, and the following are the names of all parties to the lawsuit: JACKIE ALBERT HALE, JR., BARRY WILLINGHAM, REVENUE COMMISSIONER, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, U.S. ATTORNEY GENERAL, U.S., DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, STATE OF ALABAMA DEPT OF REVENUE, , WENDY HALE, J & W CUSTOM CABINET PAINTING, Estates of, any heirs or devisees, and ANY AND ALL UNKNOWN PARTIES, whose whereabouts are unknown, and which cannot be ascertained after the exercise of reasonable diligence, who may have some right, title, interest in or claim to the real property which is the subject of this litigation as described in EXHIBIT A, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein as if set out in full

You are hereby notified that you must file an answer or otherwise respond to the Complaint within thirty (30) days after the last date of publication of this notice, or thereafter a default judgment may be entered against you.

NOTICE PURSUANT TO AL CODE § 40-10-197(c)(3): A person with a right to redeem the property may do so at any time prior to the entry of final judgment in this action by filing a timely answer or motion in the court. A judgment quieting title may cause a person with an interest in or claim on the property to lose their interest or claim. Any person claiming an interest in the property may appear in this action. Any person who is entitled to redeem may request that the property be sold at public auction. IN SUMMARY, IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO LOSE ANY INTEREST OR EQUITY, OR BOTH, YOU MAY HAVE IN THE PROPERTY, YOU MUST TAKE ALL REQUIRED MEASURES TO APPEAR IN AND RESPOND TO THIS TAX LIEN FORECLOSURE ACTION.

Done on this 1st day of September, 2026.

Lisa McSwain
Clerk of the Circuit Court
Cullman County, Alabama

Jimmy Ray Earley Jr., Esq.
201 20th Street South
Irondale, AL 35210

EXHIBIT A

Legal Description:
Three (3) acres, more or less, out of the NW part of the SW Quarter of the NW Quarter of Section 22, Township 9 South, Range 3 West, described as beginning 70 yards South of the NW Corner of said forty (40), thence East 210 yards, thence South 70 yards, thence West 210 yards, thence North along the section line 70 yards to the point of beginning.

Tax Assessor Legal Description:
2.2 AC, BEG 210 S & 172 E NW COR SW1/4 NW1/4, TH E 455(S), S 210, W 455(S), TH N 210 TO POB

Cullman County PIN: 8241;
Cullman County Parcel ID: 09-05-22-0-001-011.000;
Commonly known as 0 County Road 1339, Vinemont, AL 35179.

BILLY BOB'S STORIES AND STUFF

Roasted or boiled?

Bill King
Tribune
Contributor



It was 2:30 in the afternoon on a clear crisp fall day. It took me about 10 minutes to walk home from school or 15 if I rode big yellow. By the time everyone loaded up, I could be halfway home on foot. In my mind, I could smell those freshly roasted peanuts long before I reached home.

Mama had never worked outside the home until I was 15 years old. She didn't have a home-cooked treat waiting on me every afternoon, but quite often. If she could keep me from eating them all up on the first day, she wouldn't have to cook anything new for a few days. Sometimes she baked a pan of homemade teacakes. Sometimes it was something as simple as a baked sweet potato.

Even if those were cold ones left from lunch, they were almost as delicious to me as a bowl of ice cream... almost. On special occasions, she might bake a cake or a make a pie.

When she had roasted a big pan full of peanuts that tongue-tempting aroma entered my nostrils before I reached the top step of our front porch. We raised our own. You may have read about Mama's 100-acre garden. One corner, with several rows, was reserved for peanuts.

I was always excited when we pulled up those plants, and I saw all those pods of peanuts dangling below. I also knew we would have to put them in the shed and let them dry out for a few weeks before I could make myself sick on a belly full of peanuts. That first batch smelled so good roasting in Mama's oven.

I grew up in the northern end of Alabama. I learned early on that we are a state divided, but not just between north and south. Some holler Roll Tide and others War Eagle, but I also learned that we were divided over the matter of peanuts, too. Some prefer roasted and some prefer boiled. We roasted ours. Mama referred to them as parched peanuts. Just spread them out, still in the shell, on a flat pan and roast them for about 30-45 minutes.

Mama didn't, but I have eaten some since that had been soaked in salty water and then roasted. Either way, roasted or boiled, I can put a dent in the peanut population.

I had never had peanuts any way other than roasted until I was old enough to vote. Actually, I was a seminary student. That's when I discovered that part of our great state boils instead of roasting. I believe this started in the southern end of the state and was much more popular in L.A. (Lower Alabama) than in my end of the state. I guess like the armadillos came from the south and migrated north, so did boiled peanuts...but not without help.

My first boiled peanut didn't happen in Alabama, south or north, but in Louisiana. I sat down at a table with one of my professors and he offered me some peanuts. He was a native of Alabama...the southern end. His peanuts were wet. I liked them, but I remember thinking they tasted more like peas than they did nuts. My world was really shaken when I learned that peanuts are not actually nuts. They are legumes. I think that is a double-first cousin to peas and beans.

So, what kind of nut are you...I meant to say which one do you prefer...boiled or roasted? Let's make a deal. If you prefer them boiled, you call them peas, but if you prefer them roasted, you call them nuts. Either way, I'm nuts about peanuts and glad God created them.

Bill King can be reached at bkpreach@yahoo.com.

HISTORY

Files from Yesteryear: Oct. 31, 1929

Pine Hill News
Cullman R. 5, Oct. 29.—Rev. J. C. Moody filled his regular appointment at this place Saturday and Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. F. O. Loyd, Mr. and Mrs. Gilford Cornelius and Mr. and Mrs. Willie Loyd of Gardendale, visited Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Woods Sunday.

Mrs. D. D. Johnson visited relatives in Tarrant City last week, returning home Sunday.

Olen Whitaker will leave this week for Oklahoma, where he intends to make his future home.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Denson and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Price of Jasper, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. O. J. Price Sunday.

Miss Eva Bridges, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Orvil Wrank of Birmingham, visited relatives in Lawrenceburg, Tenn., Saturday night and Sunday.

Mrs. Lillie Woods and children were the dinner guests of Mrs. Anna Bridges Sunday.

The singing given by Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Johnson Sunday night was enjoyed by all present.

Our teacher, Mrs. McCormick, has arrived and ready to open school next Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Addison Bradford and Phil Ridgeway of Akron, Ohio, are visiting their parents, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Ridgeway this week.

Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Stanley visited Mr. and Mrs. Albert Ridgeway Sunday afternoon.

Earl Anderson, Wesley Thompson and Misses Elsie and Oma Blair attended the box supper at Vinemont Saturday night.

Arnold Bridges called on Miss Mamie Brown Saturday night.

Baldwin News
Cullman R. 4, Oct. 28.—Mrs. I. A. Moore and daughters visited Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Bates and family Saturday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Shedd and son, Willard, spent Saturday night and Sunday as the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Thompson and family.

Mr. and Mrs. Spencer Kilpatrick and Mr. and Mrs. Albert Kilpatrick, Herbert Kilpatrick and their mother, Mrs. A. J. Kilpatrick, spent Sunday at Trade with Mr. and Mrs. Davis and family.

Walter Weeks spent Sunday with Feltus Bates.

Mrs. I. A. Moore and daughters, Beatrice, Zella and Gertha, visited at Fairview Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Reese and Mr. and Mrs. John Nix of East Point, visited Mr. and Mrs. N. J. Duke and family Sunday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Brady Creel are the proud parents of a baby girl.

Henry Graveman spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Hacker and family.

Lou Emma Moore, Tempest Bates and Garrett Grafton attended the singing at Ebenezer Sunday afternoon.

Joe Bilgere, Local Boy, Stars in Spring Hill-Mississippi Game
Joe Bilgere, Cullman boy, who is in college at Spring Hill, in Mobile this year and quarterback of the football team, was the star player in the game between Spring Hill and Mississippi college Saturday at Mobile.

Bilgere made a spectacular 64-yard run from his 36-yard line for a touch down, which was the second marker of the game for Spring Hill. The final score was Mississippi 6, Spring Hill 25.

Fairview Fair Was a Great Success This Fall
The District Fair at Fairview Surpassed All Previous Records in Attendance and Interests.

The Fairview District Fair, which was brought to a close on Saturday night, October 19th, was one of the most successful and profitable community or county fairs ever held in Cullman county.

The farm product exhibits were the equal of any displayed at any county fair in the state.

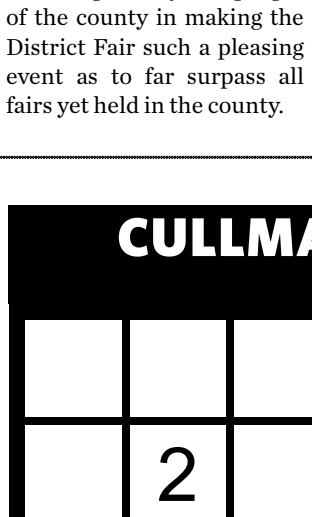
A big feature of the District Fair were community exhibits which were of special interest and highly pleasing to every one having the privilege to see the fine displays.

West Point community captured the first prize, $50.00. Holly Pond was a close second in capturing the second prize, $30.00. Mount View community captured the third prize, $20.00.

The Cullman county Jersey Calf Club Boys captured $40.00 in prizes on their fine Jersey calves.

In the contest between the Wilsonian Literary Society of Fairview won over the Irving Literary society of Fairview in the fair exhibit.

Feltus Mullins, the popular principal of Fairview school, is greatly pleased over the great success of the fair this season and especially with the hearty cooperation given by the people of the county in making the District Fair such a pleasing event as to far surpass all fairs yet held in the county.



POET'S CORNER

Halloween Night
Randy C. Hale



Many memories come to my mind,
when I think of this night.
Candy bags and costumes,
jack-o-lantern lights.

Stops from house to house,
chocolate bars and squeals.
Lots of fun for everyone,
imagine how it feels.

Joe said, he'd be a monster
and that would be so cool.
Dawn said, she's a witch
and Rachael is a ghoul.

Sam will be a werewolf,
howling at the sky.
When they all come to your door,
popcorn balls will fly!

I want to be very scary mom,
but she said no, not you.
I have the thing just right,
you can be "Boo Boo."

We gather more than we thought,
upon those special nights.
And share them in our dreams
of precious, sweet delights.

CULLMAN TRIBUNE WORD SEARCH
OCT. 31

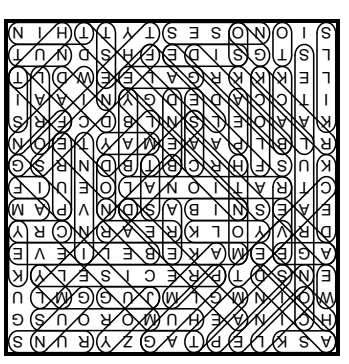
A	S	K	L	E	P	T	A	G	Z	Y	R	U	N	S
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W	O	I	N	M	G	L	M	J	U	G	G	M	L	U
E	N	S	D	T	P	R	E	C	I	S	E	L	Y	K
A	G	E	E	M	A	K	E	B	E	L	I	E	V	E
D	R	V	Y	O	L	K	R	E	A	R	N	C	R	Y
E	A	E	S	N	I	B	A	S	D	N	V	P	A	M
C	T	R	A	T	I	O	N	A	L	O	E	U	I	F
K	U	S	F	H	R	C	B	T	B	D	N	R	S	G
R	L	B	L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

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CULLMAN TRIBUNE SUDOKU
OCT. 31

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

ANSWERS:



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

VETERANS DAY PROGRAM
HAPPENING
NOV 4TH
OMNIPLEX

CHRISTKINDLMARKT GRAND OPENING
HAPPENING
NOV 19TH
DEPOT PARK

CHRISTKINDLMARKT WORK & VOLUNTEER
APPLY NOW
ONLINE
DEPOT PARK

CULLMAN RECREATION .ORG/CALENDAR

THANK YOU TO OUR ADVERTISERS!



Guilty of cuteness: Ditzy wins Cullman Today's Howl-O-Ween Pet Costume Contest

Krystal Corley
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CULLMAN, Ala. — The verdict is in, and this little Chihuahua was found guilty...of being too cute.

Ditzy, owned by Caitlin Mattox of Hanceville, has been named the winner of Cullman Today's Howl-O-Ween Pet Costume Contest, presented by First National Bank of Cullman.

Dressed in a black-and-white striped jailbird costume, complete with a matching cap and a "GUILTY" label, Ditzy posed behind the bars of a pink crate for the winning photo. The look won over the Cullman Today team from a field of creative entries.

As the winner, Ditzy will take home a mystery pet-friendly swag bag from First National Bank of Cullman.

Pet owners across the area sent in photos of their costumed companions throughout the month. The contest was open to all fur babies.

Cullman Today thanks First National Bank of Cullman, the contest's title sponsor, and everyone who shared their pets' costumes.

A full gallery of every entry will be posted on Cullman Today's Facebook page Saturday, Oct. 31, so readers can see all of the costumes.



CAITLIN MATTOX

Ditzy, owned by Caitlin Mattox of Hanceville, won Cullman Today's Howl-O-Ween Pet Costume Contest, presented by First National Bank of Cullman, dressed as a striped jailbird behind bars.

