

# Centreville Press

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## Shelton State and Bibb Medical Center Partnership Strengthens Rural Healthcare

BY CANDACE JOHNSON  
REPORTER

The Shelton State Community College's Bibb Campus Practical Nursing (PN) Program recently celebrated its third graduating class. A pinning ceremony, held July 31 at Shelton State, honored eight graduates who officially completed the program on August 1. The eight graduates are as follows: LaMonica Sims, Megan Harbison, Erica Epperson, Madison Allen, Lauren Averette, Samyria Simmons, Hannah Blackwell, and Victoria Jones.

With their training complete, these students are now ready to enter the healthcare profession.

The program is the result of a strong partnership between Shelton State Community College and Bibb Medical Center (BMC). This week also marks the start of classes for the next PN cohort: thirteen students selected from a competitive pool of 89 applicants. By hosting the program on BMC's campus, aspiring nurses are able to pursue their career

goals with both convenience and hands-on experience.

"Hospital-based education is crucial because it bridges the gap between the classroom and real-world learning," instructor Kandy Shoults explained. The partnership allows students to apply lessons learned in class directly to a hospital setting, gaining experience in patient care, clinical procedures, and practical nursing skills.

Under the guidance of experienced professionals, students also learn from nurses, physicians, therapists, and other healthcare workers. This environment develops not only clinical

competence but also interpersonal skills essential to patient care. "This expanding network of education shows promise for our students and the future of rural healthcare," said BMC Chief Operating Officer Camille Gibson.

Healthcare education in Bibb County begins even earlier. Through the Bibb County Career Academy's HOSA program, led by instructors Shoults and Barbara Terry, 33 high school students have the chance to explore healthcare careers at BMC facilities, helping to build a foundation for the next generation of medical professionals.



August 31st- Friendship Methodist Church on Friendship Road in Pondville invites everyone to join them for Bible Study at 10am next Sunday August 31st. September 5th: Brierfield Ironworks Movie Night! This is a FREE event. There will be food trucks available. Movie will be outdoors, so bring your blankets or lawn chairs! Movie starts at 7pm.

September 6th- 1st Saturday Night Singing September 6th at 6 pm at Cedar Grove Church. Guest singers will be Beyond Blessed with Yolanda Mitchell. Everyone is invited.

September 20th: Brierfield Ironworks' Car Show and Flea Market from 10am-2pm! The Car Show will be judged at 1pm. We will have food trucks, vendors and live music!

September 25th - Treasure Forest of Bibb meeting at 6:30 pm at Brent/Centreville Library.

## Bibb County Municipal Election Results

BY MIKE HOBSON  
REPORTER

[mike.hobson@centrevillepress.com](mailto:mike.hobson@centrevillepress.com)

Municipal elections were held in Centreville, Brent, and West Blocton on August 26. There were no contested races in Woodstock and no election.

After the ballots were counted the Centreville Mayor's race ended in a tie with 326 votes cast for Incumbent Mike Oakley and challenger Barry Cooner. It now appears that the race will be decided according to State law applicable to a tie between candidates. We are seeking clarification

on the process from the Secretary of State as we go to press for this report.

In the Centreville council races Don Mack defeated Chris Garrett for the District 2 slot, Dianne Epperson defeated Roxy Shuttlesworth in District 4, and in District 3 Linda Lawrence and Reese Lee will be in a runoff.

In the Brent races Mike Smitherman swept the Mayors race with

60% of the vote, defeating Rick Edmonds, Sara Martin & Michel Smith. Smitherman defeated the 3 challengers without a runoff. There were no contested council races.

In West Blocton Incumbent Mayor Daniel Sims defeated Holly Barnett. Kristen Nash defeated George Fleming and Stephanie Brasher defeated Gregory Cord for council.



## Roads, Revenue, and Responsibility: Hot Topics at Centreville Forum

BY CANDACE JOHNSON  
REPORTER

The Centreville Candidate Forum was held on August 21 from 6-7:30 p.m., drawing residents eager to hear from those running for City Council and Mayor. Candidates were given guidelines before taking the stage, with three minutes to answer each question and two minutes for rebuttals. Council candidates spoke first, followed by mayoral candidates.

Incumbents included Don Mack, Linda Lawrence, Diane Epperson, and Mayor Mike Oakley. Lawrence, who also works in financial services with H&R Block, emphasized her dedication to public service and her desire to foster unity in the community. Newcomer Reese Lee, with a military and nursing background, called for stronger accountability and improved funding for emergency services. Business co-owner Forrest Murphy stressed the need for responsible growth and infrastructure improvements.

Key issues discussed throughout the evening included financial transparency, drainage concerns, and building public trust. Candidates highlighted the importance of collabora-

tion between the council and mayor in solving these challenges.

During the mayoral portion, Oakley pointed to his accomplishments in office, including leading through the Covid-19 pandemic, securing a \$2.5 million loan, and supporting ongoing projects such as Main Street revitalization. Challenger Barry Cooner leaned on his business experience, pledging greater transparency and sound financial stewardship. Both agreed that public safety,

school improvements, and fiscal management remain top priorities for the city.

Candidates each gave opening and closing statements, sharing their visions for Centreville's future. Those on the ballot are:

District 2: Don Mack (I), Chris Garrett  
District 3: Linda Lawrence (I), Forrest Murphy, Reese Lee  
District 4: Diane Epperson (I), Roxy Shuttlesworth  
Mayor: Mike Oakley (I), Barry Cooner



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NEWS



On Thursday August 21st Friendship Lodge 83 welcomed Brother Jim Gray as a newly made Mason. It was a great day for Free and Accepted Masons of Alabama Friendship Lodge 83.



On Thursday August 21st Friendship Lodge 83 presented Brother James Parker with his 50 year pin. This was a rare accomplishment and Friendship Lodge 83 was honored to have been part of Brother Parker's special day.



**JASE HARTZELL'S BIG CATCH**  
Jase Hartzell and his granddaddy, Robert Smith, spent the day jug fishing on the Alabama River—and Jase had quite the haul! He pulled in 24 catfish on the jugs, making it a trip to remember. Fishing is a favorite pastime for the pair, and Jase already has a big one under his belt. On another trip, he reeled in a whopping 38-pound catfish. There's no doubt that Jase and his granddaddy love their time on the water, making memories one fish at a time.



Student Spotlight: Connor and Mullins Shine in HOSA Program

BY SHEILA DUNCAN  
REPORTER

The Bibb County School System is celebrating a new class of students stepping into the world of healthcare through its Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) program. Based at Bibb Medical Center, the program gives high school students hands-on experiences and insight into future medical careers.

This year, two seniors, Aliyah Connor and Alyssa Mullins, are standing out as they prepare for their next steps beyond high school.

For senior Aliyah Connor, the dream of working in healthcare started at an early age. While she once imagined herself as a veterinarian, her interests shifted toward human medicine. Now, she hopes to pursue a path to becoming a doctor, with plans to

attend either Shelton State Community College or the University of Alabama after graduation.

Connor said one of her favorite HOSA experiences so far was touring Bibb Medical Center, where she and her classmates were able to visit the Emergency Department and Radiology while speaking directly with healthcare professionals. "Seeing how everything works up close really motivated me," she shared.

Senior Alyssa Mullins first joined HOSA after encouragement from friends, but quickly discovered a passion for the field. She is considering a career in Radiology or becoming a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN). This year, she hopes to gain job-shadowing opportunities and earn college credit through Shelton State.

For Mullins, one of the

highlights of the program has been the way it unites students from both Bibb County and West Blocton high schools. "There's always been a rivalry, but now we are all finding common ground through our interest in healthcare careers," she said.

Mullins also enjoyed attending Alabama HOSA's State Leadership Conference last year, an experience she hopes to repeat.

As Connor and Mullins continue their senior year, both say the HOSA program has given them valuable knowledge, confidence, and a clearer vision of their futures. Their journeys highlight the impact of Bibb County's partnership with Bibb Medical Center and the opportunities it creates for the next generation of healthcare workers.



Alyssa Mullins



Aliyah Conner

Falling Back: Daylight Saving Time Ends November 2, 2025

BY SHEILA DUNCAN  
REPORTER

On Sunday, November 2, 2025, at 2:00 a.m., clocks across the U.S. will be set back one hour as Daylight Saving Time (DST) ends. This yearly "fall back" gives brighter mornings, darker evenings, and re-starts the ongoing debate about whether changing the clocks is still needed.

Daylight Saving Time began more than 100 years ago as a way to save energy and make better use of daylight. The Uniform Time Act of 1966 made sure states followed the same schedule, unless they had an exemption. Later, the Energy Policy Act of 2005 set today's system: clocks move forward in March and back in November.

ward in March and back in November.

Most states observe DST, except Hawaii, most of Arizona, and U.S. territories like Puerto Rico and Guam.

When clocks go back this November, mornings will be brighter, but evenings will get dark earlier—often before 5:30 p.m. by mid-November. Some people enjoy the extra morning light and cozy evenings, while others struggle with shorter days and changes to their routines.

The twice-a-year time change remains a hot topic. Supporters of permanent DST say later sunsets help families, businesses, and outdoor activities. Supporters of permanent standard time argue it's healthier and

better for sleep. Congress and many states have discussed changing the system, but so far, no national law has been passed.

**Pros of falling back:**  
One extra hour of sleep on the first night

Safer, brighter mornings for commuters and students

Cons of falling back:

Shorter evenings with less daylight

Sleep schedules temporarily disrupted

Possible health impacts from time changes

For now, Americans will keep "springing forward" in March and "falling back" in November. This year's time change offers a bonus hour of rest—but also marks the start of shorter, darker days as winter approaches.



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- RN - Med Surge (Full-time & Part-time)
- RN - Emergency Dept. (Full-time & Part-time)
- RN - Labor and Deliver (Full-time & Part-time)
- \*Night Shift
- RN - Nursing Home
- LPN - Nursing Home

Nursing Assistants

Positions:

- Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)
- Patient Care Technician
- Medication Aide (Full-time & Part-time)
- Restorative Aide - Nursing Home

Non-Clinical

Positions:

- Hospital Business Office Manager
- Senior Living Director
- Massage Therapist (BMC Wellness Center)
- Maintenance Technician
- Hair Stylist (BMC Nursing Home Salon)

Clinical

Positions:

- Medical Lab Technician (MLT)

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Plain & Simple

"Slow down and enjoy the simple pleasures in life"

By: Sheila Duncan

Caramel Apple  
Crisp Recipe

Ingredients:

For the filling:

- 6 medium apples (Granny Smith or Honeycrisp), peeled, cored, and sliced
- 2 tbsp lemon juice
- ½ cup granulated sugar
- 2 tbsp all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- ¼ tsp ground nutmeg
- ¼ cup caramel sauce (plus extra for drizzling)

For the topping:

- 1 cup old-fashioned oats
- ¾ cup all-purpose flour
- ½ cup brown sugar, packed
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- ½ cup unsalted butter, melted

Instructions:

Preheat oven to 350°F (175°C). Grease a 9x13-inch baking dish.

In a large bowl, toss the apple slices with lemon juice, sugar, flour, cinnamon, nutmeg, and caramel sauce. Spread evenly in the baking dish.

In another bowl, mix oats, flour, brown sugar, and cinnamon. Stir in melted butter until crumbly.

Sprinkle the topping evenly over the apples.

Bake for 40–45 minutes, until the topping is golden brown and the apples are bubbly.

Let cool slightly, then drizzle with extra caramel sauce.

Serving Tip:

Serve warm with a scoop of vanilla ice cream or a dollop of whipped cream.



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NEWS/LIFESTYLE

BC BOARD OF EDUCATION

Meeting Date: August 12, 2025

AGENDA  
Call to order  
Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance  
Roll Call  
Approval of Agenda  
Approval of the Minutes  
Financial Report and Bank Reconciliations  
Receive Financials and Bank Reconciliations for July 2025.  
Request to approve Bills and Payroll for July 2025.  
Consent Agenda Items- Contracted Services, Bids, Trips, etc.  
Receive the following policies for revision: Board Meeting

08/12/2025 - 05:00 PM  
Request to approve revisions to the following 2025-2026 salary schedules, approved July 15, 2025:

Request to approve Memorandum of Understanding between Bibb County Board of Education and the following entities, to provide school resource officers for Bibb County Schools for the 2025-2026 school year.

Request to approve the replacement of HVAC in Bibb County High School gym as a public works project. Payment of \$40,750 will be made to Superior Heating and Cooling from A&T funds.

Request to approve the replacement of two HVAC units in West Blocton Middle School. Payment of \$26,000 will be made to Nelson Heating and Air Conditioning, Inc. from A&T funds.

Request to approve payment to Karen Hubbard for tutoring services for Cahawba Christian Academy, October 2025-September 2026. Payment of \$25 per hour, not to exceed \$5,000, will be made from Title I funds.

Request to approve payment to Karen Hubbard to provide professional development for Cahawba Christian Academy, August 7, 2025. Payment of \$300 will be made from Title II funds.

Request to approve payment to Katelynn Johnson McMillan to provide choreography for majorettes, July 21-August 1, 2025, Bibb County High School. Payment of \$25 per hour, not to exceed \$500, will be made from BCHS local school funds.

Request to approve payment to Rosa Lynn Nelson to provide art instruction, August 15, 2025-May 8, 2026, West Blocton Elementary School. Payment of \$100 per day, not to exceed \$4,500, will be made from Title IV funds.

Request to approve payment to Lisa Buck to provide music instruction, August 15, 2025- May 8, 2026, West Blocton Elementary School. Payment of \$100 per day, not to exceed \$4,500, will be made from WBES local funds.

Request to approve payment to Loretta Suzanne Scott Giles to provide bus support for qualifying students, August 2025. Payment of \$20 per hour, not to exceed \$1,000, will be made from IDEA funds.

Request to approve payment to Susan Otts to provide skills training to majorettes, August 19, 2025, West Blocton High School. Payment of \$75 will be made from WBHS local school funds.

Request to approve payment to Halli Webb to teach skills and technique to majorettes, August-September 2025, West Blocton High School. Payment of \$75 per session, not to exceed \$600, will be made from WBHS local school funds.

Request to approve payment to Zoey Sellers to provide

vide skills training to color guard, August- September 2025, West Blocton High School. Payment of \$65 per session, not to exceed

\$500, will be made from WBHS local school funds.  
Consent Agenda Items- Personnel

Request to approve the resignation of Timothy Stringer as Head Middle School Baseball Coach, effective July 17, 2025.

Request to approve the resignation of Brady Pierson as Assistant Varsity Football Coach, West Blocton High School, effective August 5, 2025.

Request to approve the employment of Tony Stewart as Utility Worker, effective September 2, 2025.

Request to approve the employment of Jessica Matthews as Bus Driver, effective September 2, 2025.

Request to approve the following Part Time Reading/Math Interventionist, Randolph Elementary School:

Request to approve Ryne Sanders as Assistant Middle School Boys Basketball Coach, West Blocton Middle School.

Request to approve Jacob Brown as Head Middle School Baseball Coach, West Blocton Middle School.

Request to approve Noah Wilder as Assistant Middle School Baseball Coach, West Blocton Middle School.

Request to approve Jacob Brown as Assistant Middle School Football Coach, West Blocton Middle School.

Request to approve Brady Pierson as Head Middle School Football Coach, West Blocton Middle School.

Request to approve Michael Allen as Head Middle School Boys Basketball Coach, West Blocton Middle School and Head Varsity Boys Basketball Coach, West Blocton High School.

Request to approve Christopher Wilson as Head Varsity Girls Basketball Coach, West Blocton High School.

Request to approve Ryne Sanders as Assistant Varsity Boys Basketball Coach, West Blocton High School.

Request to approve payment to the following co-op students, to provide light grounds/maintenance support, August 13, 2025-December 19, 2025. Payment of \$10 per hour, up to 16 hours per week, will be made from district general funds:

Regular Agenda Items  
Request to approve the employment of Brianna Tinker as Teacher, Brent Elementary School, effective August 13, 2025.

Request to approve the employment of Kristen Rogers as Part Time Custodian, Woodstock Elementary School, effective August 18, 2025.

Request to approve Steve Young as Assistant Middle School Football Coach, Centreville Middle School.

Request to approve the following for 21st Century CAST, Bibb County High School:

Request to approve the following for 21st Century CAST, Brent Elementary School:

Request to approve Kelsie Hobson as music teacher for the 2025-2026 school year, Brent Elementary School.

Request to approve the following substitutes:

Request to appoint Kevin Cotner, Kim Partridge, Lane Lightsey, Wes Lawley, Kenina Lynch and

Jennifer Downs to serve as Bibb County BOE student due process hearing designees.

Request to approve payment to Helping Hands Therapy to provide physical therapy services for qualifying students, 2025-2026 school year. Payment of \$75 per hour will be made from IDEA funds.

Request to approve Inter-Agency Agreements between Bibb County Board of Education and the following entities. These agreements will allow qualifying students community based work experience as identified in their Individualized Education Plan.

Request to approve the purchase of a pass thru refrigerated cabinet for West Blocton Middle School, in the amount of \$9,591. Payment will be made from CNP funds.

Request to approve the purchase of a reach-in freezer for West Blocton Elementary School, in the amount of \$8,265. Payment will be made from CNP funds.

Request to approve payment to Greenpond Volunteer Fire Department to provide EMS/Ambulance service for all home varsity football games, West Blocton High School. Payment of \$300 per game will be made from WBHS local school funds.

Request to approve payment to Barbara Dodson to provide support to students as identified in their IEP, August-September 2025, Brent Elementary School. Payment of \$15 per hour, up to 20 hours per week, will be made from IDEA funds.

Request to approve payment to Lisa Buck to provide music instruction, 2025-2026 school year, Woodstock Elementary School. Payment of \$100 per day, one day per week, will be made from WES local funds.

Request to approve payment to Rosa Lynn Nelson to provide art instruction, 2025-2026 school year, Woodstock Elementary School. Payment of \$100 per day, one day per week, will be made from Title IV funds.

Request to approve the following as concession workers for all home Varsity, JV, Middle School and Youth football games, as needed, West Blocton High School. Payment of \$200 per game day, and \$50 per concession purchase trips to the supervisor and \$75 per game day to concession workers will be made from WBHS local school funds.

Request to approve payment to Denice Allen to clean and restock restrooms for every home Varsity, JV, Middle School and Youth football game, West Blocton High School. Payment of \$100 per game day will be made from WBHS local school funds.

Executive Session: Student Discipline

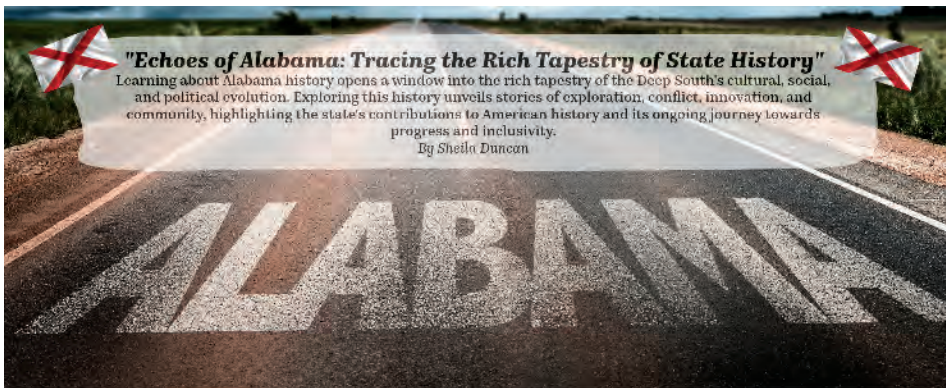
Information Items  
The Superintendent has approved Family Medical Leave (FMLA) for up to 12 weeks for Rachel Cromer, Teacher, West Blocton Elementary School.

Annual Budget Hearing #1/Board Work Session: Thursday, September 4, 2025, Budget Hearing at 1:00 PM/Board Work Session at 2:00 PM

Annual Budget Hearing #2/Board Meeting: Tuesday, September 9, 2025, Budget Hearing at 4:30 PM/Board Meeting at 5:00 PM

Superintendent Remarks

Request to adjourn



The Ghost Town of Cahaba: Alabama's First Capital Lives On in History

Just outside Selma sits a quiet place with a big story—Cahaba, Alabama's first permanent state capital. Once a bustling town along the Alabama and Cahaba rivers, today it is known as one of the state's most famous ghost towns.

Cahaba became the capital in 1820. Lawmakers hoped the riverside location would help trade and growth, but the low-lying land proved difficult. Flooding and disease made life tough, and by 1826, the capital was moved to Tuscaloosa. Still, Cahaba remained an important town for many years, known for its cotton trade, churches, and busy river docks.

During the Civil War, Cahaba housed one of the largest Confederate prisons, holding thousands of Union soldiers. After the war, the town slowly declined, and by the early 1900s, most residents had

left.

Today, Cahaba is a historic park where visitors can walk among the ruins of old buildings, cemeteries, and moss-covered streets. It is also known for ghost stories and legends that make it a favorite

spot for tours, especially around Halloween.

Though silent now, Cahaba's story is still told. Its rise and fall remind us of Alabama's earliest days—and how history leaves traces long after a town is gone.



Finding God in the Valley of Depression

Depression is heavy. It can feel like walking through a fog with no clear path ahead, or like carrying a weight that no one else can see. For many, it's not simply a passing sadness but a persistent shadow that makes daily life feel overwhelming. And for Christians, the struggle is often compounded with guilt—wondering why we can't simply "pray it away."

But the truth is, the Bible does not hide the reality of depression. God's people have faced it, too.

Think of Elijah. After his great victory over the prophets of Baal, he collapsed under a broom tree and prayed that he might die (1 Kings 19:4). David poured out his soul in the Psalms, saying, "Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me?" (Psalm 42:5). Even Jesus, in the garden of Gethsemane, confessed that His soul was "overwhelmed with sorrow to the point of death" (Matthew 26:38).

If you are struggling with depression, you are not faithless. You are human—and you are not alone.

One of the most comforting truths in Scripture is that God does not abandon us in our low places. "The Lord is close to the broken-hearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit" (Psalm 34:18). He does not demand that we put on a happy face before coming to Him. Instead, He draws near to us in our pain.

Sometimes healing comes through prayer, sometimes through Scripture, sometimes through counseling or medicine. All are gifts from God's hand, and none diminish His power.

Depression can make tomorrow feel impossible, but our hope is not rooted in our feelings. Our hope is rooted in Christ. He is the One who walks with us through the valley of the shadow of death (Psalm 23:4), and He is the One

who promises that joy will come in the morning (Psalm 30:5).

It may not come overnight. It may not come easily. But God's light is stronger than the deepest darkness.

If you are depressed, know this: you are seen, you are loved, and you are not forgotten. Cry out to God honestly, even if all you

can say is, "Help me." Reach out to others who can walk with you. Remember that your worth is not tied to your emotions, but to the One who created you.

And if you are walking alongside someone who is depressed, be gentle. Listen more than you speak. Pray faithfully. Remind them that they are not alone.

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OUR POLICIES: Signed letters to the editor welcomed. Please limit to 300 words and include address and phone number. Liability for an error will not exceed the cost of space occupied by the error. Political endorsements will only be accepted through paid advertisements. We cannot be responsible for return of pictures or material unless stamped, return addressed envelope is included.

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West Blocton 553-7603

Johntown Baptist  
West Blocton 938-7621

Liberty Baptist  
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Liberty Baptist  
Duncanville 759-9647 / 759-4074

Liberty Freewill Baptist  
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Little Hope Primitive Baptist  
Centreville 926-4236

Lowerytown Baptist  
West Blocton 938-2436

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Rising Star Baptist  
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Rehobeth Baptist  
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Six Mile Baptist  
Brierfield

Smith Hill Baptist  
West Blocton 938-2379

Thomas Mill Baptist  
Centreville 926-6882

Union Baptist Church  
722 Magnolia St  
West Blocton

West Blocton First Baptist  
938-7392

**BIBLE**  
Grace Bible  
Woodstock 938-7763

**CATHOLIC**  
Church Of The Holy Spirit  
Tuscaloosa 553-9733

St. Thomas  
The Apostle Church  
Montevallo 663-3936

**CHRISTIAN**  
Marvel Christian Union  
Montevallo 345-7018

**CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
Centreville Church Of Christ  
926-LOVE

North Bibb Church of Christ  
Woodstock 477-6121

West Blocton  
Church of Christ  
West Blocton 938-7108

Evangelist Temple  
Brent 926-6430

**CHURCH OF GOD**  
Church of God of Prophecy  
at Eoline  
256-393-9625  
Pastor Shane Pate

Church Of God Of Prophecy  
West Blocton 938-2788

Caffee Junction Church Of  
God  
205-477-5468

River of Life Church of God  
9225 Hwy 82, Brent  
205-926-7600

West Blocton Church of God  
City Rd. 21 Smith Hill  
205-966-4988

**CHURCH OF THE  
LORD JESUS CHRIST**  
2300 South Scottsville Rd  
Centreville 926-5393

**EPISCOPAL**  
The Church Of The Holy  
Comforter  
Montevallo 665-2769

St. Andrews Episcopal  
Church  
925 Plowman Street  
Montevallo 665-1667

**HOLINESS**  
Deliverance Temple Holiness

Four Points 926-5565

Word of Faith Worship Cen-  
ter  
Centreville 926-4555

Free Will Apostolic Holiness  
Antioch 926-9252

Real Truth Holiness Church  
646 S. Scottsville Road  
Brent 926-5009

Trinity Spirit Holiness Church  
Centreville 926-4321

**METHODIST**  
Brent Bible Methodist  
812-675-1543  
210 4th St. Brent, AL

Brent Methodist  
190 Tabernacle Rd.  
Brent, AL

Pondville Methodist  
9:15 - 10 AM Sundays  
Freindship Rd. • Brent

Friendship Bible Methodist  
Church  
205-225-4000  
Co. Rd. 16 Brent, AL

Ada Chapel Bible  
Methodist Church  
12540 N. Scottsville Rd.  
West Blocton, AL  
513-254-8241

West Blocton Bible  
Methodist Church  
355 Camellia Lane, West  
Blocton  
205.826.5763

Mt. Sinai Church  
Centreville 256-577-8137

James Chapel  
A.M.E. Zion Church  
926-5607

Bible Methodist  
West Blocton 938-0091

Hopewell A.M.E. Zion  
Harrisburg 926-5777

New Hope AME  
West Blocton 540-8016

Tabernacle United Methodist  
Lawley

Waymon Chapel AME  
Brierfield 205-665-4730

West Scottsville  
United Methodist Church  
North Scottsville Road  
451-3624

**NAZARENE**  
Ridgeville Church Of The  
Nazarene  
Brent

Spencer Church Of The  
Nazarene  
Brent

**PENTECOSTAL**  
New Life West Blocton  
Pastor Greg Brock  
205.441.2809

First United Pentecostal  
Church of Centreville

**PRESBYTERIAN**  
Brent Presbyterian P.C.A.  
926-4722

Centreville First  
Presbyterian P.C.A.  
926-4261

Green Pond Presbyterian  
Presbyterian Church Rd  
205-938-2344

Pleasant Hill Upper Cumber-  
land Presbyterian Church  
Centreville 926-4409

**SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST**  
First Brent Seventh Day Ad-  
ventist  
926-6328

**NON-DENOMINATIONAL**  
Fellowship Community  
926-6800

Scottsville Union Church  
Co. Rd. 9  
Scottsville 205-503-6096

Victory Tabernacle Church  
1008 Walnut Street •  
Centreville  
926-9455 or 361-2763  
Pastor Butch Tucker

Yahweh's Harvest  
926-9044

The Refreshing Place Church  
24865 Hwy. 5  
Woodstock, AL 35188  
Pastor Wayne Keeton

God's House of Prayer  
489 Co. Rd. 162 (Heiberger)  
Marion, AL 36756  
334-683-4933  
Every Sunday 11:00 a.m.

Sandy Chapel Community  
Church  
926-4934



# The History of “I Saw the Light”

Few gospel songs have crossed cultural boundaries as powerfully as “I Saw the Light.” Written by Hank Williams in 1947, the song has become a timeless anthem of redemption, sung in churches, concerts, and recordings for decades. Its history is both deeply personal to Williams and universally relatable to anyone who has ever longed for hope in the midst of darkness.

Hank Williams, often remembered as one of country music’s greatest songwriters, was raised in Alabama by a mother who was deeply rooted in the church. Like many Southern families, gospel music was woven into his upbringing. The inspiration for “I Saw the Light” reportedly came one night while Williams was traveling home from a show. His mother, driving the car, pointed to the lights of their hometown of Montgomery and said, “I just saw the light.” Those simple words sparked something within Williams, and he began working on what would become one of his signature gospel songs.

Williams recorded “I Saw the Light” on April 21, 1947, at his very first session with MGM Records. Interestingly, the song was not an immediate commercial hit. Released as the B-side to “Six More Miles to the Graveyard,” it sold modestly at the time. Yet the song’s message of deliverance and salvation resonated with audiences, and it became one of the most requested numbers at Williams’ concerts.

Part of the song’s enduring power lies

in the fact that Williams himself struggled deeply with alcoholism, health issues, and personal turmoil. Though he wrote about spiritual victory, he often wrestled with living it out. That tension—the yearning for light while battling inner darkness—gave the song authenticity. It wasn’t written by someone who had life neatly figured out, but by someone reaching for grace.

Over time, “I Saw the Light” became a gospel and country standard. Artists from diverse backgrounds—ranging from Roy Acuff, Bill Monroe, and Johnny Cash to Emmylou Harris and Willie Nelson—have recorded it. The song has also been embraced by congregations across denominations, finding a home in hymnals and worship services.

Today, “I Saw the Light” is considered not only a cornerstone of Hank Williams’ legacy but also one of the great American gospel songs. Its simple yet powerful refrain echoes the message of countless testimonies: that no matter how far we wander, there is always hope when God’s light breaks through the darkness.

More than seventy years after its writing, “I Saw the Light” continues to shine as a reminder of redemption and grace. Though Hank Williams’ own life was marked by struggle and tragedy, the words he penned have brought encouragement and joy to generations. The song endures because it speaks to a universal truth: everyone longs to see the light.

# COMMUNITY NEWS

**West Eoline News**

From The Pen Of Jane Hannah

It’s been a busy week filled with Kay-di joys, feeling yucky, doctors visits, and lack of quality sleep; through it all, the grass got cut (thanks Jera), and no one starved.

Jo Kitchen was in pain for a few days after her knee surgery on Wednesday, but on Sunday she said it hurt less. She is now having “withdrawals” thinking about the upcoming move of her granddaughter Carly and family to Texas. The move is for improving employment, but that’s a long way for frequent visiting.

LaShelle got a cast Thursday, but goes back in 10 days for removal of the stitches. Otherwise, she seems to be doing well.

We have new neighbors in the Bracknell “homeplace” and next-door in cousin Dorothy Dutton’s previous home. I need names please, and I want to make and de-

liver welcome cookies.

Sunday started with breakfast of biscuits, gravy, bacon & eggs and then a Chicken Pot Pie from Publix for lunch and Ronnie cooked burgers for their dinner. This left me with a welcome respite time in the afternoon, playing Rummikub with Chad, Stacey & Jim. Thankful for the welcome and always great food.

Tomorrow is GAMEDAY for Alabama/Florida State and Roll Tiders will be cheering for our team!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY next week Kay Lightsey & Leanna Stephens 8-29, Donna Glidewell & Bill Hornsby 8-31, Kent Deason 9-1, Mike Vessels & Lucy Morrison 9-2, Janice Deason 9-4, and Parke Freeman 9-5.

Call or text your Labor Day happenings to 478-396-2513. Have a BLESSED time.

**Centreville News**

From The Pen Of Brenda Hubbard

Among those having birthdays in August are Kassie Stewart, Linda Burkes, Lori Deason, Tanner Hobson, Pennie Mitchell, Ruth Deason, Hazel McCormick, Tommy Cooksey and Mikayla Hannah.

Anniversary wishes go out to Stewart and Angie Grogan who celebrated their 26<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on August 16, 2025. Angie also celebrated her birthday on August 16<sup>th</sup>.

Joyful Heart of Brent Baptist Church met on Monday August 18, 2025.

Odie and Doris Newman recently spent a week in Branson, Missouri while there on August 19, they celebrated Odie’s birthday. We want to wish him many many more Happy Birthday’s to come.

A speedy recovery and prayers go out to Laura Speights Blumefeld who recently underwent surgery. Cheri Deason of Hous-

ton, Texas has returned home after a visit with her parents, Charles and Ann Deason and sister, Lori Deason on Saturday, Au-

gust 23, Lori celebrated her birthday.

If you have news call it in at 205-316-1181.

Take care and God Bless!

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aps@dhr.alabama.gov

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Food Outlet

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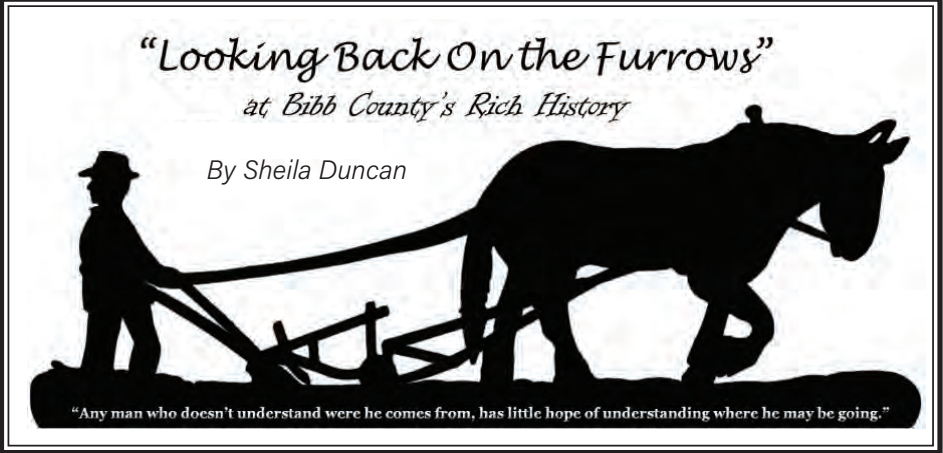
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www.rockcofuneralhomes.com



NEWS



Welcome to our historical journey, where we delve into the rich tapestry of our past through the pages of The Centreville Press. Below, you will find articles from what we call the “morgue” – a collection of past articles that once graced our newspaper. These narratives provide a fascinating glimpse into the events, stories, and voices that shaped our community. So, let’s embark on a journey through the narratives that once filled our pages, preserving the legacy and memories of yesteryears capturing the essence of bygone eras with vivid detail.

100 YEARS AGO

COMMENTS ABOUT PEOPLE AND THINGS  
Mr. Dave Evans resigned as Mayor of West Blocton effective February 21. He has moved to Ashville, Alabama where he will make his home in the future. Tuesday night the Town Council of West Blocton elected Mr. Wilcox Randle Mayor to serve out the unexpired term of Mr. Evans. Mr. Ran-

dle was a member of the Council and Mr. R. M. Bearden was elected to take Mr. Randle’s place on the Council. Some time ago, Mr. B. O. Stanley was appointed City Clerk to take the place of Mr. R. C. Parker. Tuesday night the Council swore in Mr. Raymond McCulley to take the place of Mr. Stanley. Dave Evans was born and raised in Bibb County. He told The Press Tuesday that he enjoyed serving the people of West Bloc-ton as their Mayor and would always consider West Blocton his home. He also stated that he appreciated the splendid cooperation

and assistance that he had received from his many friends, and wished the town and its officials continued success.

Bibb County has received a check for \$8,470.70 from the State Treasurer representing its share of the income from timber sales on the Talladega National Forest for the fiscal year 1949.

Each year the U. S. Forest Service sends to each State Treasurer 25 per cent of the receipts from the National Forests in that State. The money is then apportioned to the counties on a basis of the number of acres of National Forest land in each coun-

ty.  
For 1949 the Talladega National Forest paid off at the rate of 14c per acre. This is twice the present rate being paid in taxes by private land owners in this area.  
The amount of money received each year varies with the amount of timber sold and stumpage prices received.  
Besides this money paid directly to the County, the Oakmulgee District of the Talladega National Forest provides over 7500 man days employment each year for local forest residents on fire control, planting, road maintenance, timber sales and timber stand

ALABAMA LEGAL JOURNAL

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

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2005 to schedule a FREE inspection and no obligation estimate. Plus get 20% off! Seniors and military save an additional 10%. Restrictions apply, see representative for warranty and offer details

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Donate your car, truck, boat, RV and more to support our veterans! Schedule a FAST, FREE vehicle pickup and receive a top tax deduction! Call Veteran Car Donations at 1-877-724-3049 today!

Jacuzzi Bath Remodel can install a new, custom bath or shower in as little as one day. For a limited time, waiving ALL installation costs! (Additional terms apply. Subject to change and vary by dealer. (Offer ends 6/30/25.) Call 1-877-205-0836

Replace your roof with the best looking and longest lasting material steel from Erie Metal Roofs! Three styles and multiple colors avail-

able. Guaranteed to last a lifetime! Limited Time Offer up to 50% off installation + Additional 10% off install (for military, health workers & 1st responders.) Call Erie Metal Roofs: 1-833-955-3163

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

NOTICE

**Brent Garden Apartments – One Bedroom Available Now Elderly Community – Ask about the qualifications. Maintenance free living, with nice amenities. Come in and apply today. Office Hours Monday - Friday 8:00 AM – 2:30 PM 57 Steele Street; Centreville AL 35042 (205) 926-7547. 8/29**

NOTICE OF SALE

Notice of Public Sale

Hometown Towing and Recovery, LLC gives notice of foreclosure of lien and intent to sell these vehicles on October 7, 2025 at 10:00am at 54 Norman Dr. Woodstock, AL 35188-3941, pursuant to subsection 32.13.3 of the

Alabama Statutes. Hometown Towing and Recovery LLC reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.  
2015 Chevrolet 2GNFL-HEK0F6252249  
Centreville Press  
August 29 & September 5, 2025

Notice of Public Sale

Hometown Towing and Recovery, LLC gives notice of foreclosure of lien and intent to sell these vehicles on October 7, 2025 at 10:00am at 54 Norman Dr. Woodstock, AL 35188-3941, pursuant to subsection 32.13.3 of the

Alabama Statutes. Hometown Towing and Recovery LLC reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.  
2008 Chevrolet 1GCE-C14X38Z250043  
Centreville Press  
August 29 & September 5, 2025

PROBATE NOTICE

**In the Probate Court of Bibb County, Alabama In the matter of the estate of Mary Frances Green, Deceased Case No. 2025PC060 Publication Notice**  
Letters Testamentary of said deceased, Mary Frances Green having

been granted to Emily G. Burdick and Robert Lynn Green on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of August 2025, by Stephanie Kemmer, Judge of the Probate Court of Bibb County, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims against the estate are hereby required to present the same within time al-

lowed by law or the same will be barred.  
Emily G. Burdick and Robert Lynn Green  
Michael Murphy Attorney at Law  
44 Court Square West Centreville, AL 35042  
Centreville Press  
August 15, 22 & 29, 2025

**State of Alabama Probate Court of Bibb County Case No. 2025PC031 Estate of Lindy Ann J. Helton Deceased**  
Letters Testamentary upon the last will and testament of the decedent, having been granted to the undersigned, on the

31<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2025, by the Honorable Probate Court of Bibb County, Alabama, notice is hereby given that all persons having claims in the office of the Judge of Probate within six months from above date or the claim will be barred and payment prohibited.  
Tressa Denay Helton

Jackson Personal Representative of the Lindy Ann J. Helton Attorney for Personal Representative  
Jefferson K. Nail  
PO Box 916  
Marion, AL 36756  
Centreville Press  
August 15, 22 & 29, 2025

**In the Probate Court of Bibb County, Alabama In Re: The estate of James Malcolm Barrymore, Deceased Case No. 2025PC053 Notice to Creditors**  
Take notice that Letters of Administration with will annexed having been granted to Heather Des-

mond, as Administrator of the Estate with will annexed of James Malcolm Barrymore, deceased, on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2025. 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.  
Richard M. Kemmer, Jr. P.C.  
Attorney for the Administrator  
PO Box 282  
1124 Walnut St. Centreville, AL 35042  
Centreville Press  
August 15, 22 & 29, 2025

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE

MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE SALE

Default having been made in the payment of the indebtedness secured by that certain mortgage executed by Philip James aka Phillip James, a married person and Sarah Stinson, originally in favor of New South Federal Savings Bank, on December 28, 2001, said mortgage recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Bibb County, Alabama, in RPB BK 92 PG 593; the undersigned PennyMac Loan Services, LLC, as Mortgagee/Transferee, under and by virtue of the power of sale contained in said mortgage, will sell at public outcry to the highest bidder for cash, in front of the main entrance of the Courthouse at Centreville, Bibb County, Alabama, on October 15, 2025, during the legal hours of sale, all of its rights, title, and interest in and to the following described real estate, situated in Bibb County, Alabama, to-wit: All that tract or parcel of land described as Lot Number 42 of Sandy Lane property of William E. Henderson, part of South 1/2 of Southwest 1/4 of Section 28, Township 23 North, Range 10 East, in City of Centreville, Alabama, according to a plat prepared by E.M. Smith, Registered Land Surveyor,

dated July 14, 1960, and recorded in the Office of the Judge of Probate in Bibb County, Alabama, in Map Book 1, Page 118. Less and Except: A strip of land 12 feet wide North and South and 200 feet East and West off the North side of Lot Number 42 of Sandy Lane property of William E. Henderson and part of South 1/2 of Southwest 1/4 of Section 28, Township 23 North, Range 10 East, Bibb County, Alabama.. Property street address for informational purposes: 93 Pam Ave., Centreville, AL 35042. THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON AN “AS IS, WHERE IS” BASIS, WITHOUT WARRANTY OR RECOURSE, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED AS TO TITLE, USE AND/OR ENJOYMENT AND WILL BE SOLD SUBJECT TO THE RIGHT OF REDEMPTION OF ALL PARTIES ENTITLED THERETO. 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. This sale is made for the purpose of paying the

indebtedness secured by said mortgage, as well as the expenses of foreclosure. The successful bidder must tender a non-refundable deposit of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) in certified funds made payable to Tiffany & Bosco, P.A. at the time and place of the sale. The balance of the purchase price plus any deed recording costs and transfer taxes must be paid in certified funds by noon the next business day at the Law Office of Tiffany & Bosco, P.A. at the address indicated below. Tiffany & Bosco, P.A. reserves the right to award the bid to the next highest bidder should the highest bidder fail to timely tender the total amount due. The Mortgagee/Transferee reserves the right to bid for and purchase the real estate and to credit its purchase price against the expenses of sale and the indebtedness secured by the real estate. This sale is subject to postponement or cancellation. PennyMac Loan Services, LLC, (“Transferee”) Tiffany & Bosco, P.A., 2501 20th Place South, Suite 300, Homewood, AL 35223 www.tblaw.com TB File Number: 24-01442-PM-AL 08/15/2025, 0 8 / 2 2 / 2 0 2 5 , 08/29/2025  
Centreville Press  
August 15, 22 & 29, 2025

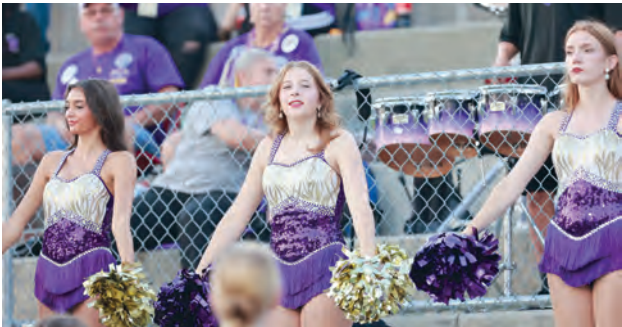






# BCHS VS. CHILTON COUNTY FOOTBALL

PHOTOS BY BRIDGET STOKES



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**BUDGET HEARING**

Bibb County Board of Education  
Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Annual  
Budget Hearings

Bibb County Board of Education  
will hold its Annual Budget Hear-  
ing # 1 on Thursday, September 4,  
2025 at 1:00 pm followed by the  
scheduled board work session.

Bibb County Board of Education  
will hold its Annual Budget  
Hearing # 2 on  
Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at  
4:30 pm followed by the scheduled  
board meeting.



# WBHS vs. NORTHSIDE FOOTBALL

PHOTOS BY KANDI SMITH



## BMC HEALTH AND WELLNESS CORNER

### UNDERSTANDING MEDICARE

Join us for a free group session to learn the basics of Medicare before open enrollment begins October 15th. Molly Averette will cover the difference between Medicare and Medicaid, how to avoid calls that may change your insurance without your knowledge, and what to know as open enrollment approaches.

**Thursday, September 11th at BMC Wellness Center**  
Morning Session: 10:30 am  
Evening Session: 5:30 pm

Everyone is welcome! Come for yourself or to better support a friend or family member.



### BMC WELLNESS CENTER CLOSED SEPTEMBER 1ST FOR LABOR DAY!

BMC Wellness Center will be closed Monday, September 1st for Labor Day. Normal facility hours will resume Tuesday, September 2nd

**Normal Facility Hours:**  
**Monday-Thursday** 5am-10pm **Friday** 5:00am-8:00pm  
**Saturday** 7am-2pm **Sunday** Closed

### BMC AUGUST EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

#### Terance Purifoy

Terance has been part of Bibb Medical Center since January 2015, serving as a CNA in our Nursing Home. His favorite part of the job is caring for the residents, and he begins each day with a prayer to stay grounded and bring positivity into every interaction.

His career path began when he cared for a family member and realized how much he enjoyed helping others. That experience inspired him to pursue a career in healthcare where he could continue serving people every day.



### SEPTEMBER: SUICIDE PREVENTION MONTH

#### MENTAL HEALTH AND SUPPORT SERVICES

Bibb Medical Center's Department of Social Services is here to support the whole person, physical, mental, emotional, and spiritual.

Our licensed social workers provide supportive counseling and crisis intervention, assistance with coping during illness, loss, or life changes, guidance with advanced care planning and living wills, referrals for financial, housing, and community resources, and coordination for home health, hospice, and post-acute care.

For more information or to connect with our team:  
(205) 926-3308 | [maverette@bibbmedicalcenter.com](mailto:maverette@bibbmedicalcenter.com)

### MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS

Mental health is an important part of overall well-being and affects how we think, feel, and handle daily stress. Taking steps to support mental health can improve mood, strengthen relationships, and even benefit physical health. Small habits practiced consistently can make a big difference over time.

- Stay connected with friends and family to reduce feelings of isolation.
- Aim for 7-9 hours of quality sleep each night to support emotional balance.
- Practice stress relief techniques such as deep breathing, meditation, or walking.
- Take short breaks during the day to reset and refocus your mind.

### WELLNESS CENTER

(205) 926-3360  
285 Hospital Drive, Centreville, AL 35042

### BIBB MEDICAL CENTER

(205) 926-4881  
208 Pierson Avenue, Centreville, AL 35042