

# Centreville Press

Volume 147 | Issue 39 | 75¢ | September 26, 2025 | [www.bibbvoice.com](http://www.bibbvoice.com)



Let us know what is going on in your community!

205.926.9769 | [editor@centrevillepress.com](mailto:editor@centrevillepress.com)



## Bibb County Health Leaders Appointed to Rural Health Transformation Advisory Board

BY MIKE HOBSON

REPORTER

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

MONTGOMERY – Governor Kay Ivey on Wednesday announced her next steps in preparing to administer the Rural Health Transformation Program. The One Big Beautiful Bill Act – which President Trump supported and Congress passed in July – includes the Rural Health Transformation Program, which empowers states to strengthen rural communities across America by improving healthcare access, quality, and outcomes by transforming the healthcare delivery system.

“Thanks to the One Big Beautiful Bill, Alabama and states across the country have an opportunity to make meaningful improvements in our rural healthcare systems. Alabama is a very rural state, and my goal is to ensure rural Alabamians have long-term and sustainable access to quality healthcare services,” said Governor Ivey. “Thank you to President Trump and Congress for the vision to Make Rural America

Healthy Again. I look forward to Alabama submitting a strong plan.”

After President Trump signed the One Big Beautiful Bill into law on Independence Day, the Governor’s Office began seeking and receiving from providers, stakeholders and interest groups on how Alabama could administer the Program to provide long-term improvement of health outcomes and healthcare delivery systems in rural Alabama. The governor also developed a state team and tasked the State Health Planning and Development Agency (SHPDA) with assisting in the development of the application for the Rural Health Transformation Program grant opportunity.

The state team here in Alabama consists of Governor Ivey, SHPDA, the Department of Finance and the Alabama Medicaid Agency. Following the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issuing official guidance Monday, Governor Ivey also appointed individuals to a working group to help advise the state



Bibb Medical CEO Joseph Marchant (left) and Cahaba Medical Care Dr. John Waits (right) were named.

team.

The advisory group currently includes:

•Joseph Marchant, CEO, Bibb Medical Center

•Lothar (Jim) Peace, President & CEO, Russell Medical Center

•Charles (Max) Rogers, IV, Obstetrics, North Baldwin Infirmary

•Susan Alverson, Director of Regulatory Affairs, Alabama Board of Pharmacy

•Scott Harris, State Health Officer

•Greg Nichols, Administrator, EAMC-Lanier Rural Emergency Hospital

•John Waits, CEO, Cahaba Medical Care

•Jeff Samz, CEO, Huntsville Hospital Health System

•Dawn Bulgarella, CEO, UAB Health System

•Natalie Fox, Interim CEO, USA Health

•Tuerk Schlesinger, CEO, AltaPointe Health

•Teresa Grimes, CEO, Washington County Hospital & Nursing Home

•Peggy Benson, Executive Officer, Alabama Board of Nursing Representative

•Clarence Ball, President and CEO, Ball Healthcare

•Senate President Pro Tem Garlan Gudge

•State Senator Greg Albritton

•State Senator Bobby Singleton

•House Speaker Nathaniel Ledbetter

•State Representative Rex Reynolds

•State Representative Anthony Daniels

“We look forward to working with the Governor’s Office, state partners and the Advisory Workgroup to make some transformational changes in the provision of services and care for the citizens in rural areas

of our state,” said SHPDA Executive Director Emily Marsal. “Governor Ivey’s leadership in this process has already been vital and I appreciate her providing a way for our health care partners to come to the table with valuable knowledge and information to work on this CMS funding opportunity.”

The group will meet regularly and provide input for the state’s submission. The deadline for all states to submit applications is November 5, 2025.

## State Superintendent Warns Teachers About Social Media Posts

*Disciplinary actions have been taken in systems across the State.*

BY MIKE HOBSON

REPORTER

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

In a letter sent to school superintendents, the leader of Alabama’s Education Department said that “inappropriate” social media posts will result in investigations and disciplinary action.

Superintendent Eric Mackey said the Saturday letter stemmed from what he described as three “inexcusable” social media posts by three Alabama educators about the shooting of right-wing political commentator and talk radio show host Charlie Kirk.

“Almost immediately upon arrival at home, I became aware of two inappropriate, reprehensible and inexcusable social media posts regarding the assassination of Charlie Kirk,” Mackey wrote in the letter. “These posts were allegedly created and posted by two of our own Alabama teachers. By the time I went to bed, I had received a third post.”

Alabama Political Reporter first reported the letter. The nature

of the posts was not explained. There are 48,670 public school teachers in the state.

Mackey said the posts he was made aware of may violate the Alabama Administrative Code and the Educator Code of Ethics but did not state how, and he said school officials should report any inappropriate posts for investigation.

“I want to make it clear that each instance will be thoroughly reviewed and investigated by our certification team,” the letter said. “If you become aware of any such material allegedly created, posted and/or reposted by your employees, you should immediately report it to the Alabama State Department of Education and work with your legal counsel to determine appropriate disciplinary actions.”

Mackey wrote that he has removed teachers from their positions to ensure student safety.

“In my years as state superintendent, I have removed people from our profession and otherwise reprimanded inappropriate be-

havior in order to protect our students and to safeguard our profession,” he said in the letter. “I will continue to do so, and I will not tolerate a small group of bad actors to diminish our calling or tarnish our profession.”

Amy Marlowe, executive director of the Alabama Education Association, which represents teachers around the state, said in a statement educators need to “exercise discernment” when posting on social media, and while they have free speech, they still serve in a public position.

“While educators, like all citizens, have a constitutional right to free speech, those rights must be balanced with their professional responsibilities and the operational needs of school systems,”

“AEA will continue to provide resources, training and support to ensure educators remain protected and respected as they carry out their vital mission of educating Alabama’s children,” Marlowe wrote.

In other state news

multiple employees at Auburn University were terminated Wednesday for what Auburn President Christopher Roberts described as “insensitive” social media posts.

Roberts wrote in a letter posted to Facebook on Wednesday that the posts were “completely at odds” with the university’s code of conduct.

Bibb County Superintendent of Education Kevin Cotner said there have been no reported issues with inappropriate social media posts in the Bibb County school system. Cotner said that this system encourages school personnel to follow Board policies and adhere to acceptable and ethical conduct when it comes to utilizing social media, even when off duty.

A Hoover City Schools employee was placed on administrative leave after system officials learned of a “divisive and insensitive social media post” on the employee’s personal account.

In Marshall County,

another teacher was removed from the classroom pending an investigation into comments made in class.

Earlier this week, a Montgomery Public Schools teacher reportedly faced disciplinary action for comments made on social media about Charlie Kirk.

The school system did not release the employee’s name, school or the nature of the disciplinary action.

In a statement to WSFA, the system said “while educators, like all citizens, have the right to personal expression, they also carry a professional responsibility to model respect, dignity, and sound judgment at all times.”

In a statement, AEA Executive Director Amy Marlowe said her organization will support educators “while reminding members of the importance of exercising discernment when using social media.”

AEA will provide resources, training and support to “ensure educators remain protected and respected” on the job, she said.

“While educators, like all citizens, have a constitutional right to free speech, those rights must be balanced with their professional responsibilities and the operational needs of school systems,” Marlowe said. “It is important for educators to recognize that while they are private citizens, they also serve in a public role.”

“Community standards and the impact on the learning environment all factor into how an educator’s social media activity is evaluated. Our goal is to help educators safeguard their careers by adhering to their school system’s social media policy while maintaining the highest standards of professionalism.”

We would enjoy hearing from our readers on the subject of teacher and staff conduct in public schools or officials in the public domain.

Sources: Alabama Reflector, Alabama Reporter, AL.com



**1<sup>ST</sup> FINANCIAL BANK**

*We put you first!*

Member FDIC 

[ffbalabama.com](http://ffbalabama.com)

### Checking, Savings, Loans & More

Bessemer 205.428.8472 Hueytown 205.497.4100 Pelham 205.664.1824 West Blocton 205.938.7881

Centreville 205.926.4651 McCalla 205.432.0255 Vance 205.633.0904 Woodstock 205.938.7813

NEWS



Bibb County Commission Joins Association to Oppose Changes in Sales Tax Law

BY MIKE HOBSON  
REPORTER  
mike.hobson@centrevillepress.com

In early September the Bibb County Commission adopted a Resolution encouraging the Alabama Legislature To oppose any legislative changes that would disrupt the Alabama Online Sales Tax Law (SSUT) or call the program’s constitutionality into question.

The county’s opposition follows in the wake of a lawsuit filed against the State of Alabama, led by Tuscaloosa Mayor Walt Maddox, challenging the state’s formula for the distribution of collected online sales taxes.

Commissioners from other parts of the state have joined in the opposition to the legal challenge filed by the “Big Ten” Mayors from the major population centers of the State, who claim that rural counties and cities are unfairly cutting into the revenue they receive from online sales tax distributions.

More recently, the Association of County

Commissions of Alabama, ACCA, released a resolution encouraging the Alabama Legislature to oppose any legislative changes that would disrupt operation of the state’s Simplified Sellers Use Tax, SSUT, program or call the program’s constitutionality into question. The resolution was voted on and unanimously approved by county commission members from every corner of the state who participated in ACCA’s August 21 annual business session.

“Changing Alabama’s constitutionally-sound SSUT program would be foolish and unjustified,” said ACCA Executive Director Sonny Brasfield. “Allocating the county portion of SSUT revenue on a population basis is the most efficient option available to our state.

“Alabama’s complicated sales tax system of interlocking and conflicting local jurisdictions, exemptions, definitions, and enforcement rules will not survive constitutional review. Subjecting out-of-state compa-

nies to the local complexity is a non-starter, and anyone making an objective evaluation of our system will reach the same conclusion,” Brasfield stated.

The Association of County Commissions of Alabama is a statewide organization speaking for all 67 counties with ONE voice. It promotes improved county government services in Alabama, offers educational programs for county officials and their staff members, administers insurance programs for county governments and employees, offers legal advice, and represents the interests of county government before state and federal organizations and agencies.

For a more detailed explanation of the SSUT controversy you may find details in a Bibb Voice article published in early August 2025. Click here to find that article.

A copy of the entire resolution passed by the Bibb County Commission is available on our digital platform www.bibbvoice.com

FREE “Moving Forward” Parkinson’s Conference in Tuscaloosa

The Parkinson Association of Alabama (PAA) is proud to host Moving Forward: Tuscaloosa Parkinson’s Conference 2025, a free community event designed to bring together individuals living with Parkinson’s, their caregivers, and healthcare professionals.

The conference will take place on Tuesday, October 21, 2025, from 9:30 AM to 2:00 PM at the Randall Welcome Center, 200 Bryce Lawn Drive, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401.

Currently, approximately 16,000 Alabamians are navigating life with Parkinson’s Disease (PD). Centered around individuals with Parkinson’s, their caregivers, family members, and supporters, the MOVING FORWARD conference is a comprehensive, full-day event featuring keynote speakers nationwide. Attendees will not only gain insights from pioneers at the forefront of Parkinson’s research and treatment but also have the opportunity to connect with fellow patients, caregivers, friends, family, and the foremost experts in Alabama specializing in Parkinson’s disease.

This unique gathering offers participants the opportunity to:

- Learn from inspiring speakers who will share valuable insights and updates.
- Engage in interactive panel discussions with experts and community voices.
- Connect with others navigating Parkinson’s, building meaningful friendships and support networks.

“Conferences like Moving Forward remind us that no one faces Parkinson’s alone,” said Bibby Bailey, Chief Executive Director. “We are excited to bring this event to Tuscaloosa and provide education, resources, and encouragement to our Parkinson’s community.”

The Moving Forward series is part of PAA’s mission to expand resources, education, and support for people with Parkinson’s disease across Alabama’s 67 counties.

The event is free and open to the public, but space is limited. Attendees are encouraged to register early at parkinsonalabama.com.

Event Details:

- What: Moving Forward: Tuscaloosa Parkinson’s Conference 2025
  - When: Tuesday, October 21, 2025 | 9:30 AM – 2:00 PM
  - Where: Randall Welcome Center, 200 Bryce Lawn Drive, Tuscaloosa, AL 35401
  - Cost: Free to attend
- For more information, visit parkinsonalabama.com or contact the Parkinson Association of Alabama at (833) 473-5465 ext 4.

## About Parkinson Association of Alabama Since its establishment in 1978, the Parkinson Association of Alabama (PAA) has been dedicated to a singular mission: enhancing the quality of life for patients, caregivers, and families impacted by Parkinson’s disease

throughout the state of Alabama. PAA stands as a representative for EVERYONE affected by Parkinson’s across Alabama, regardless of their location. We firmly believe in the transformative power of education, staying current on the latest legislative and research information, and sharing knowledge to ensure a clear understanding of PD for all. No matter the challenges someone faces or where they are on their journey with Parkinson’s, PAA is here to provide support.

CARE - We believe in access to quality care for all Alabamians, providing awareness to make the best-informed decisions with the latest advancements. We believe comprehensive wellness is the key to living well with Parkinson’s disease.

COMMUNITY - We believe community connectedness through support and camaraderie equips those impacted by Parkinson’s and their care partners with a network of resources and encouragement to ensure no one travels this journey alone.

CURE - We believe in supporting Alabama’s quality research to find a cure for Parkinson’s disease. The PAA is partnering with resources in Alabama through grants and research for a cure.

Learn more at www.parkinsonalabama.com.

Chairman Cam Ward Releases 2025 Prisoner Re-Entry Report

BY MIKE HOBSON  
REPORTER  
mike.hobson@centrevillepress.com

Cam Ward is well known in Bibb County. He formerly served as a State Representative and an Alabama Senator representing Bibb County, before accepting an appointment from Governor Ivey to lead the Pardon & Parole division.

In his 2025 annual report Director Ward had this to say: “On behalf of Governor Ivey and our state legislative leadership, it has been an honor to serve as chairman of the Reentry Commission. Spanning public and private sectors, this team is comprised of excellent leaders from across the state who came together over the past year to study the state’s reentry systems – or the pathways and prospects open to formerly incarcerated Alabamians after their release. Through our work, the Commission devised a strategic plan with recommendations to build an even stronger, safer state by lowering recidivism.

Lowering recidivism benefits Alabama’s economy just as much as it impacts public safety. People with good paying jobs are incentivized to keep those jobs, take care of their families and stay out of trouble. They do not want to go back to prison. Instead, our data finds

that they are using the tools, knowledge and training provided by Alabama’s reentry programs’ bottom-line. Whether it’s welding at state docks, construction with home builders, repairing high tech machines for advanced manufacturers or prepping for new powerlines with utility providers, the people who have participated in Alabama reentry systems’ programming are succeeding in life after prison.

However, we know we can do more.

Over the past year, the Reentry Commission met with leaders, advocates and other stakeholders to get a better understanding of challenges faced by those reintegrating into society after prison – especially our neighbors who have fallen through the cracks. Each commission member siphoned through the data and determined the best solutions to address these challenges. This report highlights our committee’s findings and offers recommendations for the future of reentry in Alabama.

The report also highlights the myriad achievements of our state agencies: the education and training offered by the Alabama Community College System and Ingram State Technical College, substance use treatment programs

developed by the Alabama Department of Mental Health, job placement offered by the Alabama Department of Workforce and rehabilitation efforts like the Perry County PREP Center and

our network of Day Reporting Centers – where programming centers on education, training, addiction recovery and counseling. Since its opening in 2022, well over 300 graduates have completed the PREP program, and not one has returned to prison. This success demonstrates that when we invest in second chances, we are not just changing individual lives but strengthening our entire state.

Alabama’s reentry systems are strong thanks to the partnership and dedication of our state agencies, private sector job creators and various stakeholders. This collaborative approach and the support of our state’s elected leaders will help break the cycle of crime, promote lasting change and lessen the burden of incarceration on Alabama’s taxpayers. By continuing to enhance reentry in our state, we can help build a brighter future for all Alabamians.

If you are interested in data and details you can download the entire 2025 Re-Entry Report and read it at this link.

### Superior Heating & Cooling

Bessemer 205.424.4166 Woodstock 205.938.0070

Centreville 205.926.5037 McCalla 205.477.4560

Master Gas Fitter | AI Cert #94162

## G&H BUILDING SUPPLY

### HOME IMPROVEMENT STORE

## TWO LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU

205.926.5615  
650 WALNUT STREET  
CENTREVILLE

334.366.2191  
8483 HWY. 22  
MAPLESVILLE

### HIGH SPEED INTERNET THAT WORKS

PROUDLY SERVING BRENT & CENTREVILLE

info@alabamalightwave.com

205.809.9051

ALABAMA LIGHTWAVE inc. alabamalightwave.com

LOCAL

Congratulations to Bibb County's Georgia Payne



Congratulations to Bibb County's very own Georgia Payne for placing 2nd in the Alabama State 4-H Watermelon Challenge wither her 30lb Charleston Grey.

- This challenge allowed for 4-H'ers to receive different watermelon seeds and grow them over the course of several months.

- The watermelon challenge really allows the participants to dive deep into the science and horticulture behind growing successful and fruitful plants.

Measles Discovered in North Alabama Child

BY MIKE HOBSON  
REPORTER  
mike.hobson@centrevillepress.com

September 21, 2025  
A north Alabama child who contracted measles is on the mend, and state officials said there was no transmission of the virus. The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) was notified last week that a child under 5 years of age living in North Alabama has been confirmed to have measles. The unvaccinated child contracted measles while traveling out of the United States. The comments from Dr. Scott Harris, Alabama's State Health Officer, came after a meeting of the Alabama Department of Public Health Thursday, in which officials stressed the importance of vaccination amid threats from diseases and federal policy changes. Dr. David Thrasher, a pulmonary physician based in Montgomery, said that vaccinating children is very important. If he had to choose one, he said, it would be the measles, mumps and rubella vaccine. "Last year, seven anti-vaccine bills were proposed in the Leg-

islature. I feel really good about going into this year, but I'd rather us not be, and Scott (Harris) particularly, being a lightning rod," Thrasher said. Alabama has had one recorded case of measles this year amid a breakout in the United States. State health officials said the five-year-old child, who was not vaccinated, contracted the disease while on a trip. The child's siblings were vaccinated against the disease, and state health officials have not disclosed the reason for the disparity. The child was not enrolled in day care, according to state officials. It was the first recorded case of the disease since 2002. Alabama Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris said in an interview after the meeting the child is now fine and there have been no other cases reported. "We've not found any evidence of transmission. This was a travel-associated case. It was somebody that came from an area where measles is endemic, and then came back to Alabama," Harris said after the meeting. "We have a pretty good sense of how they were able to

get it, which is different than a child in a day care who's never left the state and got measles, which is a big alarm." Dr. Carrie Atcheson, a physician on the board, warned of the dangers of measles and her experience with an outbreak years ago in Washington state. "We couldn't go anywhere," Atcheson said. "We got a list in the paper of all the places where somebody who had measles had been, and it was basically everywhere public. It changes you." A federal vaccine panel, organized by U.S. Health and Human Services Secretary Robert F. Kennedy, Jr., met Thursday and is expected to delay a Hepatitis B vaccine for children. The panel will also make recommendations for the COVID-19 vaccine for this fall. For now, Harris said, people should consult with their physicians. "I think health care providers should definitely get the vaccine unless there's some contraindication," Harris said. "You're working with vulnerable populations." Thrasher said of all the people at high risk



We wish to extend sympathy to the family of Tony Hobson, who passed away on September 8, 2025. Graveside services were held on September 16, 2025 at the Alabama National Cemetery Montevallo, Alabama. Tony will be greatly missed by his family and friends. Belated birthday wishes go out to Selah Klenner, who celebrated her second birthday on September 13, 2025. A speedy recovery goes out to Martha Barton, who recently underwent surgery at UAB. Our deepest sympathy goes out to the family of Mr. Leroy Ingram, who passed away recently in Florida. Mr. Ingram was a former resident of Bibb County. Birthday Wishes go out to several that have birthdays in September; Victoria Hallman Traver, Vernita Johnston, Randi Carlee Blakely, Joel Daniel, Scott Garner, Tom McHale, Amy Langford Tyus Nancy Evans, Hubbard, Jan Jamison, Tyler Griffin, Caitlyn Rinehart and Daryl Weaver. Sympathy goes out to the family of Brittany Lovett Smith, age 39 who passed away on September 13, 2025. Brittany will be greatly missed by her family and friends. Anniversary wishes to go out to Ken and Margie Kinard, who recently celebrated their wedding anniversary. Vicki Price Speights was honored with a birthday celebration on September 15, 2025 given by family and friends. Among those present were her husband, Larry Speights, daughters Laura Blumenfeld and Lily Stacie Brewer and Jonah. Sympathy goes out to the family of Freda Davis, who passed away recently. Services were held on Tuesday, September 16, 2025. Anniversary wishes go out to Tony and Jennifer Murphy, who recently celebrated their 24th wedding anniversary. If you have news, call it in at 205-316-1181, take care and God bless you.

Kamryn Reaves of Centreville Awarded Degree from UA



TUSCALOOSA, AL (09/18/2025)-- Kamryn Reaves of Centreville (35042) has received the following degree(s) from The University of Alabama: Bachelor of Science in Commerce & Business Administration. UA awarded over 1,300 degrees during its summer commencement ceremonies.

of COVID, especially pregnant women, should get the vaccine. "Of the women who are admitted between March and April this year, 30% of those were pregnant and those were unvaccinated. It's the only way to protect that newborn," Thrasher said. Chief Medical Officer Dr. Karen Landers reminds parents to make sure their children are up to date with their measles vaccinations. If exposed, unvaccinated people have a 90 percent chance of becoming infected, and infected people can spread the disease several days before becoming symptomatic. Measles is a serious viral respiratory illness that lives in the nose and throat mucus of infected people. It spreads when people breathe in or have contact with virus-infected fluid and can pass through droplets sprayed into the air when someone with measles sneezes or coughs. Symptoms usually appear 7-14

days later. Dr. Landers said, "Measles follows a pattern in which the child first develops fever, cough, runny nose, and watery/red eyes, then a rash develops. Persons can start spreading the virus up to four days before symptoms appear, and those with weak immune systems can spread the measles virus longer." No specific antiviral drug is available to treat measles. To help manage the symptoms, parents can ensure the child gets plenty of fluid and rest and give a non-aspirin fever medicine such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen. In some cases, measles can lead to other problems, such as ear infections, pneumonia, or encephalitis. For most children, measles protection is part of the measles-mumps-rubella vaccine (MMR), or measles-mumps-rubella-varicella vaccine, given when children are 12 to 15 months old and again when they are 4 to 6 years old. The first MMR vaccine can be

given to babies as young as 6 months of age if they will be traveling internationally or during an outbreak. Estimates of the effectiveness of the MMR vaccine are 99 percent in measles prevention after the second vaccination. Vaccines are available at pediatricians' offices or county health departments. Getting the MMR vaccine is much safer than getting the measles disease. Parents should call a doctor immediately if they believe their child has measles or if their child has been around someone who has measles, especially if their child is an infant, is taking medication that suppresses the immune system, has tuberculosis, cancer or a disease that affects the immune system or has not received two doses of the measles vaccine. To learn more about the measles vaccines, go to ADPH's measles website. Source: Alabama Department of Public Health, alabamareflector.com

EVERGREEN, AL

ENDS OCTOBER 7TH

INDUSTRIAL AUCTION

COMMERCIAL WAREHOUSE & EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

35,794 ± SF

800.742.9165

SevenHills AUCTIONS

7HAUCTIONS.COM

AL-C0001475030, AL#5495 | 10% Buyer's Premium Real Property, 15% Buyer's Premium Personal Property. Visit Our Website For Full Details.

MOBILE

UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA SYSTEM

Native American Festival

OCTOBER 9-11, 2025

Taking flight with renewed purpose, Moundville's festival honors the past while embracing the present.

• STORYTELLING • DANCE AND MUSIC • ART VENDORS

• CHILDREN'S AREA • LIVING HISTORY • FOOD VENDORS

FESTIVAL.MUSEUMS.UA.EDU

STOP

Elder Abuse, Neglect & Exploitation

Submit a report to the Alabama Department of Human Resources Adult Protective Services Division

1-800-458-7214

aps@dhr.alabama.gov

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

YOU CAN HELP PROTECT AGAINST CANCER.

♀♂

alabamapublichealth.gov/imm

IMM

ALABAMA PUBLIC HEALTH

ALABAMA VACCINE & CLINICAL PROGRAM

LOCAL & GOVERNMENT



Cahaba Lily: Bibb County’s Blooming Treasure

BY WHITNEY BUZBEE REPORTER

Bibb County holds a rare jewel that draws visitors from across the state and beyond each spring—the Cahaba Lily. Known for its striking white blossoms that rise above the rushing shoals of the Cahaba River, the flower has become both a symbol of natural beauty and a reminder of the importance of protecting Alabama’s rivers. A Flower with a History The Cahaba Lily (Hymenocallis coronaria) was first recorded in 1783 by botanist William Bartram, who marveled at its star-shaped blooms during his travels through the Southeast. Native Americans and early settlers along the Cahaba River would have been familiar with the flower long before Bartram put it into print, but his writings brought the lily to wider attention. The plant thrives only in very specific conditions: shallow, rocky shoals in clean, fast-moving water. Those conditions are becoming increasingly rare in the modern South, which makes Bibb County’s population of Cahaba Lilies all the more special. The Cahaba River is now home to the largest known stand of these flowers in the world. West Blocton’s Celebration In Bibb County, the town of West Blocton has embraced the lily as a community emblem. Each May, the Cahaba Lily Festival welcomes crowds who come to learn about the flower’s history, ecology, and conservation. The event includes educational talks, music, local food, and guided

trips down to the river where visitors can see the lilies in full bloom. “It’s more than just a flower—it’s part of our identity,” said one local volunteer. “People come here for the lilies, but they also leave with a greater appreciation of the Cahaba River and the people who live along it.” Beauty and Preservation The Cahaba Lily’s survival has not been without challenges. Dams, pollution, and changes to river ecosystems over the past century have destroyed many of the lily’s natural habitats in other states. But in Bibb County, careful stewardship and community involvement have helped preserve its home along the Cahaba River. Conservation groups, local schools, and volunteers regularly work to monitor the lilies and promote environmental awareness. The flower has become a rallying point for protecting Alabama’s natural resources. A Local Treasure with Global Appeal Though the Cahaba Lily can also be found in parts of Georgia and South Carolina, nowhere is it more celebrated than here in Bibb County. The sight of hundreds of white blossoms swaying in the current has been described as breathtaking, spiritual, and unforgettable. For many residents, the Cahaba Lily is more than a plant—it’s a symbol of resilience and pride. Each spring, it reminds Bibb County of its deep roots, its connection to the land, and its responsibility to protect what makes the community unique

CENTREVILLE CITY COUNCIL

Meeting Date: September 16, 2025

by Lynn LHamric

Mayor Mike Oakley called the meeting to order at five o’clock,. The meeting was opened with prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll Call: Mike Nichols – present Brad Colburn – absent Linda Lawrence – present Duianne /Epperson – absent Don Maxk – absent At 5:15 there failing to be a quorum the meeting was adjourned.

BRENT CITY COUNCIL

Meeting Date: August 18, 2025

by Lynn LHamric

Mayor Bobbie White called the meeting to order at five o’clock followed by prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll Call: Barbara Morrison Tracy Sanders Chad Jones Tom Owings Jerry Conway Minutes of the previous meeting were approved. A/P were reviewed and approved. Police Report:- None Court Report = None Request to Address Council – None Personnel Action – None Other Business: A discussiob regarding culvert inspection, repair and cost estimates continued. Appointed Utility Board Member. Meeting adjourned.

WEST BLOCTON TOWN COUNCIL

Meeting Date: September 1, 2025

The Town Council of the Town of West Blocton, Alabama met in a Regular Council Meeting at the Municipal Building on Monday, September 1, 2025, at 7:00pm. A quorum being present, Mayor Daniel Sims called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Prayer was led by Glenn Johnson. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Kristen Nash. Roll was called by Town Clerk Brandy Fancher. Present: Glenn Johnson, Blane Sherron, Kristen Nash Absent: Fred Lynch and Holly Barnett Mayor Notes: • Mayor Sims wanted to thank the poll workers that ran the Municipal Election. He felt they did a fantastic job in making sure everything ran smoothly and securely. I. Council Approval: Previous Council Meeting Minutes 8-18-2025 Council member Kristen Nash made the motion to approve the previous Council Meeting Minutes for 8-18-2025. Motion was seconded by Council member Glenn Johnson. All in favor and motion so carried. Resolution 2025-9-1 Canvass of Election Council member Glenn Johnson made the motion to approve Resolution 2025-9-1 to Canvass the Election. Mayor: Daniel Sims - 185 Holly Barnett - 59 Council Member Place 3: Stephanie Brasher-25 Gregory Kord- 15 Council Member Place 5: Kristen Nash - 30 George Fleming II - 17 Motion was seconded by Council member Blane Sherron. All in favor and motion so carried. Certificate of Election for Mayor Council member Blane Sherron made the motion to approve the Certificate of Election for Daniel Sims as Mayor. Motion was seconded by Council member Glenn Johnson. All in favor and motion so carried. Certificate of Election for Council Member Place 3 Council member Blane Sherron made the motion to approve the Certificate of Election for Stephanie Brasher as Council Member Place 3. Motion was seconded by Council member Kristen Nash. All in favor and motion so carried. Certificate of Election for Council Member Place 5 Council member Blane Sherron made the motion to approve the Certificate of Election for Kristen Nash as Council Member Place 5. Motion was seconded by Council member Glenn Johnson. All in favor and motion so carried. Citizens to Speak - None There being no further business to come before the Town Council at this time, Council Member Blane Sherron made the motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Council Member Glenn Johnson. All in favor and motion so carried



# Alabama 4-H

Alabama Cooperative Extension System

## Bibb Extension Announces Upcoming Events and Programs

The Bibb County Extension Office has released its fall lineup of programs and events, offering opportunities for learning, hands-on activities, and community involvement both in person and online. Organizers encourage early registration, as many classes require at least 10 participants to be held. Extension programs are open to the public and can also be brought to schools, businesses, churches, civic groups, and non-profit organizations. Most programs are free of charge. In-Person Events • BioBlitz – Sept. 27, 7 a.m.–5 p.m., Tannehill Ironworks Historical State Park, McCalla. Participants will join scientists and community members in documenting local biodiversity. The event is free. Registration is encouraged but not required. • Beef System Short Course – Sept. 23, 25, 30, and Oct. 2, from 5–7 p.m., Marion Junction. This four-night course covers topics such as reproduction, herd health, nutrition, forages, economics, and record-keeping. Cost is \$40 and includes meals. • Beef & Forage Field Day – Oct. 17, 10 a.m.–3 p.m., Blackbelt Research and Extension Center, Marion Junction. This free, statewide program offers demonstrations and updates from Auburn University specialists. Online Programs • Cottage Food Law Course – Sept. 22, 10 a.m.–12:30 p.m. A \$25 training course covering Alabama food laws, food safety, and labeling. Certification valid for three years. • Saving the Family Property: Heirs Property Series – Beginning Sept. 23, this five-part series addresses heirs’ property issues, including estate planning, conflict resolution, and success stories. • At Home Beekeeping Series – Sept. 30, 6:30–7:30 p.m. Monthly virtual workshops for new and experienced beekeepers. September’s topic: Using Nucs in Your Beekeeping Operation. • Eco-Friendly Friday Series – Oct. 10, 11–11:45 a.m. Monthly environmental sessions on stewardship and conservation. October’s program: How and Why Pruning Shapes Trees Over Time. 4-H Opportunities The Bibb County 4-H Youth Council is seeking middle and high school students interested in leadership, teamwork, and community involvement. Meetings will be held monthly, with dates to be announced. All Bibb County youth ages 9–18 are welcome to join 4-H clubs, with programs also available for Cloverbuds (ages 5–8 with an adult present). Snacks and water are provided, and participation is free, though transportation is not included. First-time participants should pre-register by calling the Bibb County Extension Office. How to Register For more information or to register for programs, call the Bibb County Extension Office at 205-926-4310 or visit aces.edu. To stay updated, residents can also subscribe to the Bibb County Extension eNewsletter. The Alabama Cooperative Extension System, a partnership of Alabama A&M University and Auburn University, provides these educational opportunities for all community members.



Become an **ADULT FOSTER CARE** Provider

“Love Never Ages”



ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF **HUMAN RESOURCES**

1-800-458-7214  
dhr.alabama.gov/AFC

**Vehicle Title Problem? We have a Solution!**

Unclaimed/Abandoned Vehicles, Mobile Homes & Surety Bonds

**JSE:Alabama's Vehicle Title Recovery Service!**

We can help with most Titled Vehicles in Alabama, including Cars, Trucks, Motorcycles, RV's & Trailers. Stop in, by phone or online!

**Free Phone Consultation**  
Call 1-205-267-5735  
www.JSEAL.com

OBITUARIES

Mary Elizabeth “Too Too” Medders, December 28, 1938 - September 23, 2025



Mary Elizabeth “Too Too” Booth Medders, 86, of Centreville, Alabama, passed away peacefully on September 23, 2025, at Hospice of West Alabama. Born on December 28, 1938, in Athens, Alabama, to the late William Baxter and Mary Archer (Lawson) Booth Sr.,

“Too Too” was a 1957 graduate of Athens High School and went on to attend the University of Alabama, where she was a member of Phi Mu sorority.

She was preceded in death by her beloved husband of 62 years, Cleo Ellison Medders, infant sons Robert Bradley Medders and

William Ellison Medders, and her brothers Baxter Booth and Richard Booth. She is survived by her children, Molly Medders Wagner (Bill) and Bryant Medders (Pam); six cherished grandchildren, Joshua Meadows (Emily), Nelson Wagner, John Martin Wagner (Elizabeth), Jenna Partridge (Daniel), Annie Tweedy (Sean), and Ramey Hart (Jackson); her sister, Jane Booth McFadden; her brother, Archie Booth; and many nieces and nephews.

Over the years, “Too Too” touched many lives through her service at Centreville Baptist Church and her time at The Cen-

treville Press. She enjoyed playing bridge, supporting the Bibb County Booster Club, and cheering for the University of Alabama. Above all, her greatest joy was being “Too Too” to her grandchildren, who were the light of her life. She also cherished spending time with her sister-in-law, Lynn Ellinghausen, and her dear friend, Betty Edwards.

Visitation will be held on Monday, September 29, from 1:00–2:00 p.m. at Centreville Baptist Church, with the service beginning at 2:00 p.m. Dr. Donnie Payne will preside. Burial will follow at Pineland Memorial Cemetery.

Pallbearers will be Joshua Meadows, Nelson Wagner, John Martin Wagner, Sean Tweedy, Jackson Hart, and Daniel Partridge.

Honorary pallbearers include Dale Ellinghausen, Michael Burroughs, Linda Burkes, Hermoine Hardenbergh, Sandra and Wayne Horton, Lacey Mitchell, Marietta and Fulton Prevost, Centreville Baptist Church Love Class and Young at Heart, the BMC Wellness Center exercise class, and the residents and staff of The Congregate.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Brierfield Hosts Car Show, Flea Market Ahead of Fall Festivities

BY CANDACE JOHNSON  
REPORTER

The Brierfield Ironworks Historical State Park recently hosted two exciting events over the past weekend. On Sept. 20, the park hosted a Car Show and Flea Market. Attendees showed up and showed out, with 56 show cars lined up. There was a variety of both classic and modern cars. “There were door prizes given out

every hour and 16 different awards presented,” Park Manager Erin Hall said.”

The flea market welcomed vendors with precious antiques, custom made crafts, jewelry, and more. There was even a live gospel group for participants to enjoy as well. Attendees could listen to the soothing sound of southern gospel music from 10am-2pm. If you are

interested in events like this, the park will be hosting their “Fun at the Furnace” Halloween event on Oct. 18 from 11am-4pm. There will be carnival rides, face painting, a petting zoo, bouncy slides, food trucks, etc. For parents and pet parents, there will be a costume contest at 3pm. Trick-or-treating will begin promptly at 5pm near the campground.

September  
Community Calendar

BioBlitz September 27th, 2025, from 7 AM – 5 PM Tannehill Ironworks Historical State Park, 12632 Confederate Parkway, McCalla, AL 35111

Ridgeville Nazarene Church Fall Festival October 19th, 4:00 PM

Saturday, September 27th from 9 AM – 4 PM, Cahaba Critters hosting our National Alpaca Farm Day celebration—a family-friendly event with farm animals, food, vendors, and activities for kids. <https://www.cahabacritters.org/>

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

Bibb Medical Center Fall Festival Oct 31

Colors on the Cahaba Nov 8 - 10 am - 2 pm

BRIERFIELD IRONWORKS  
HISTORICAL STATE PARK

FUN AT  
THE  
FURNACE

HALLOWEEN EVENT

OCTOBER  
18<sup>TH</sup>  
11AM-4PM

TRICK-OR-TREAT  
BEGINS AT  
5PM!

TICKETS:  
\$4 ADULTS  
\$3 CHILD (6-11)  
AGES 5 AND  
UNDER FREE

WEAR YOUR BEST  
COSTUME FOR OUR  
COSTUME CONTEST  
AT 3PM!

LIVE MUSIC  
FOOD TRUCKS

CARNIVAL RIDES  
FACE PAINTING

205-665-1856

EDITORIALS & OPINIONS



Friday Nights and County Pride: A History of Football in Bibb County

BY WHITNEY BUZBEE  
REPORTER

For more than a century, football has been more than just a game in Bibb County—it has been a way of life, a source of pride, and a tradition that binds generations together. From dusty fields to modern stadium lights, the sport has left an indelible mark on the community's history. The first organized football in Bibb County can be traced back to the early 1900s, when high schools across Alabama began forming teams. Bibb County High School in Centreville was among the earliest schools to field a team, suiting up players in leather helmets and simple uniforms. These early squads played on rough, makeshift fields, often lined with cars instead of bleachers, as families and townsfolk crowded in to cheer. By the 1930s and 40s, football had firmly established itself as a centerpiece of county life. Friday night games became a community gathering, with neighbors filling the stands to support their teams. Rivalries quickly developed, not only within Bibb County but also with neighboring schools in Tuscaloosa, Chilton, and Shelby counties. Wins and losses were carried proudly—or painfully—into local cafés, barber shops, and churches, where the previous night's plays were debated all weekend long. The post-war years brought growth

and organization. Bibb County High's Choctaws became known for their grit and determination, producing strong teams year after year. Smaller schools across the county also embraced the sport, giving local athletes opportunities to compete and shine. For many young men, football was not just a pastime but also a path to college and, in some cases, professional opportunities. By the late 20th century, Bibb County had fully embraced the pageantry of high school football. Marching bands, cheerleaders, pep rallies, and homecoming parades became woven into the fabric of community life. Friday nights in Centreville or West Blocton weren't just about football—they were about family, tradition, and pride in one's hometown. Today, the legacy continues. Bibb County teams still take the field under the lights each fall, representing not only their schools but also the enduring spirit of their communities. Generations of families have seen fathers, sons, and even grandsons wear the same school colors, carrying on a legacy that stretches back more than 100 years. In Bibb County, football is more than a sport. It is history in motion, a story of resilience and pride told every Friday night under the lights.

RIGHTSIDE WAY:  
FIRST WORLD PROBLEMS.  
THIRD WORLD BLESSINGS



country with every available option and opportunity.

The darkest alley in America is often better than the so-called roads in some parts of the world. When the average American turns the tap on clean drinking water comes out. When we flip a switch we expect that the lights will come on. If you missed the turn to the gas station there will be another within minutes. Not having work is technically a choice. If you need something you can order it online and have it delivered without leaving your couch. We can pause live TV, remote start our cars, adjust our thermostats, and have trash picked up at the curb. If you don't like something you more often than not have options that allow you to make changes.

Lee Greenwood said it well in the opening lines to his classic song, "Proud to Be An American": "If tomorrow all the things were gone I'd worked for all my life, and I had to start again with just my children and my wife, I'd thank my lucky stars to be living here today, where the flag still stands for freedom and they can't take that away"

Every single day in America is like a Pinterest page to someone in the third world. First world problems are really just third world blessings. We've got it good and I wouldn't live anywhere else.

Phil Williams is a former State Senator, retired Army Colel and combat veteran, and a practicing Attorney. He previously served with the leadership of the Alabama Policy Institute in Birmingham. Phil currently hosts the conservative news/talkshow Rightside Radio M-F 2-5 pm on multiple channels throughout the southeast. His column appears weekly throughout Alabama. The views and opinions expressed here are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the policy or position of this news source. To contact Phil or request him for a speaking engagement go to [www.rightsideradio.org](http://www.rightsideradio.org).

I have a confession to make. Don't judge me. I... have a Pinterest account. It's true. Phil Williams, Army Ranger, lawyer and talk show guy has a Pinterest page. I scoffed for quite some time about Pinterest, believing that it was where women went online for the modern equivalent of window shopping. My wife's Pinterest was filled with the latest fashions, flowers, and craft projects for grandkids. I poked fun at it until the day I learned that my son had a Pinterest page. "What is this heresy?! My boy, my son, on pinterest?! Let it not be!"

Then he showed me his page and it was filled with guns, cars, backpacks and field gear and the light went on. There's Pinterest for dudes? Suddenly I was window shopping for guns, gear and go-fast cars. Everything from holsters, hardware, to men's haberdashery. All the stuff I can't afford but would love to buy. All the food I shouldn't eat, but would love to try. Every Pinterest moment was like strolling through a classic car show in the parking lot of Bass Pro Shop's while eating deep fried Wagyu steakburgers and swilling craft beer. It was every first world dream in living color. First world toys, for first world boys.

Pinterest is filled with

things you don't really need, but would love to have, which is in essence what being in the first world is all about. In the first world we have "wants" galore, because most of "needs" have been met already. Think about it.

In the midst of all of the political division, polarization and pomposity we actually have it pretty darn good. I submit to you that by living in the United States of America we essentially live a real-life Pinterest existence.

Whole swaths of the world face daily concerns revolving around where to find the next meal, or whether the warring factions will burn the village. Here in the first world folks get upset because the foam wasn't right on their grande pumpkin spice latte.

In the third world the question is not whether to walk, but rather how far to walk. Here in the first world people get range anxiety wondering if their \$90,000 Rivian SUV is going to make it the full distance to the beach house on a single charge.

In the first world we set up silly rules like not wearing white after Labor Day. Meanwhile in the third world every day is labor day because every day requires labor and you

wear what you have because that's all that you have.

In the first world armies can't train, farmers can't farm, and hunters can't hunt if, God forbid, evidence of a red cockaded woodpecker is found anywhere within a five-mile radius. it is quite possible in the first world to walk into a closet full of clothes and announce that you have nothing to wear. We get mad if door dash took too long, or the toilet paper is too rough. Life's tough in the first world man!

Most of us live in what I call a first world Pinterest mentality. All the shiny things right before us. It's about perspective. There's no shame in living in the first world unless we lose a sense of gratitude. Take a long at our blessings. tell God "I do not take this for granted".

"The Book Of Eli" was a post-apocalyptic movie starring Denzel Washington set in a future version of a destroyed first world America. Washington's character Eli is carrying the last Bible across the wasteland for decades. The setting is a dark time filled with depravity, despair and deterioration. In one poignant scene Eli is asked what it was like back "before". "People had more than they needed. We had no idea what was precious and what wasn't. We threw away things people kill each other for now."

In a later scene from "The Book of Eli" the same young lady told Eli "I want to come with you." "No you don't". "I hate it here" she said. "Then change it" he told her. In the first world you always have options. It's really about your perspective. A perspective built on gratefulness. Realizing that what we have may get ugly at times with fights, feuds and foibles along the way, but we still live in the greatest country on earth. A first world

Centreville Press

P.O. Box 127 • 32 Court Square West • Centreville, AL 35042  
Phone (205) 926-9769

Congress shall make no laws respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press, or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress or grievances.

Your Right To Read This Newspaper Is Protected By The First Amendment of the United States Constitution.

The Centreville Press (USPS #098-880) is published each Friday by Bibb Community Media Inc., Centreville, AL 35042.  
Yearly Subscription Rates: \$37.00 in-county, \$45.00 out-of-county, and \$50.00 out-of-state.  
Periodicals postage paid at Centreville, AL 35042.  
POST MASTER: Send address changes to Centreville Press, P.O. Box 127, Centreville, AL 35042

OUR GOAL: The Centreville Press is published proudly for the citizens of Bibb County and adjoining counties by Bibb Community Media, Inc., Centreville, AL. Our Goal is to produce quality, profitable, community-oriented newspapers that you, our readers, are proud of. We will reach that goal through hard work, teamwork, loyalty and a strong dedication towards printing the truth.

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.

THE STAFF

David Daniel..... President  
Thomas Hobson .....Editor  
Lynn Hamric.....Reporter  
Whitney Buzbee.....Advertising Manager  
Candace Johnson.....Reporter



**ASSEMBLIES OF GOD**  
New Life Assembly of God  
Woodstock 938-2938

Assembly of God  
Worship Center  
Centreville (205) 928-0369

**BAPTIST**  
Antioch Baptist  
Centreville (205) 316-1221

Ashby Baptist  
Brierfield 665-1111

Bethel Baptist Brent  
205-225-4780

Bethlehem Baptist  
Centreville

Bibb Baptist Association  
Centreville 926-7866

Bibbville Baptist  
Woodstock 938-2015

Brent Baptist  
Brent 926-7687

Cahaba Valley Baptist  
Centreville 926-5927

Calvary Baptist  
Centreville 926-4079

Camp Branch Baptist Church  
2590 Camp Branch Rd  
West Blocton

Cedar Grove Baptist  
West Blocton 938-0828

Centreville Baptist  
Centreville 926-7069

Community Baptist  
Centreville

Deer Creek Missionary  
Baptist Church  
Centreville 225-0460

Ebenzer Baptist Church  
Brierfield 665-4865

Enon Baptist  
Centreville 926-4517

Eoline Baptist  
Eoline 926-7448

Faith Baptist  
West Blocton 938-7220

First Baptist Church of  
Woodstock  
205-938-7479

Four Points Baptist  
Centreville 926-7775

Green Pond Baptist  
Green Pond 938-7769

Haysop Baptist  
Centreville 205-310-1316

Hopewell Primitive Baptist  
West Blocton 553-7603

Johntown Baptist  
West Blocton 938-7621

Liberty Baptist  
West Blocton 938-2090

Liberty Baptist  
Duncanville 759-9647 / 759-4074

Liberty Freewill Baptist  
926-6496

Little Hope Primitive Baptist  
Centreville 926-4236

Lowerytown Baptist  
West Blocton 938-2436

Lucille Baptist  
West Blocton 966-3556

Mission Baptist  
Woodstock 938-7096

Mt. Carmel Baptist  
West Blocton 938-2379

Mt. Ebell Baptist  
Brent 926-9223

Mt. Grove Baptist  
938-3410

Mt. Moriah Baptist  
West Blocton 926-5425

Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church  
Brent 926-9009

Mt. Tabor Baptist  
Brent 926-7156

Mt. Zion Baptist  
Centreville 334-366-5903

New Hebron Baptist  
West Blocton 938-2101

New Hope Missionary Baptist  
Randolph 334-366-1199

New Life Baptist Church  
Centreville 205-541-7072

New Pleasant Valley  
Brent 926-9045

Pinegrove Missionary Baptist  
Brent 225-0139

Pineview Baptist  
Brent 926-9280

Pleasant Sabine Baptist  
Centreville 926-3867

Pondville Baptist  
Brent 926-9211

Randolph Baptist 366-4296

Reno Baptist Church  
Caffee Junction 477-5058

Rising Star Baptist  
Centreville 926-4115

Rehobeth Baptist  
Lawley 663-2907

Schultz Creek Baptist  
West Blocton 938-9766

Shady Grove Baptist  
Randolph 366-1163

Shady Grove II Baptist  
West Blocton 938-0120  
Pastor 834-2557

Shiloh Baptist  
Centreville 926-7041

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 Center  
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 Naz-  
arene  
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



**Cahawba Christian Academy & Daycare**

Affordable Tuition  
Daycare, K3, K4, K5  
Elementary, Junior &  
Senior High  
College Prep

Publicly Based Education  
www.cahawbachristianacademy.org

**TNT**

**TIRE & AUTO REPAIR**

24 Hour Road Service  
Tires & Passenger Tires  
Brakes, Suspension Oil  
Changes, Tune Ups, Auto Filter  
Changes, etc.

Day (205) 926-4883  
Night (205) 926-7106

Highway 25 at 62  
Brent, AL

**Associated Foods**

**Savmor Food Outlet**

205-926-7446  
Highway 25 at 62  
Brent, AL

**FOOD LAND**

"Your HomeTown Grocery Store"

20000 Hwy. 11  
Woodstock, Alabama  
205-938-2991

**NELSON**

**HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING INC.**

**CALL FOR YOUR QUOTE TODAY!**

**MELVIN NELSON & TERRILL NELSON, OWNERS**

26601 Hwy 5 • Woodstock • 205.938.9555



## “Peace Like a River”

**BY WHITNEY BUZBEE  
REPORTER**

Few songs in Christian hymnals are as simple yet enduring as “Peace Like a River.” With its repetitive verses and gentle imagery, the hymn has been sung by generations of children in Sunday school classrooms, at summer camps, and in congregations around the world. But its roots run deeper than many realize. The song is believed to have originated in the late 19th century, a period marked by the rise of gospel hymns and spirituals in America. While its exact author remains unknown, “Peace Like a River” reflects the style and structure of African American spirituals—

songs that were passed down orally, often using nature imagery to express the soul’s relationship with God. Rivers, in particular, symbolized both the hardships of earthly life and the hope of eternal rest. The lyrics’ opening line, “I’ve got peace like a river in my soul,” echoes the biblical imagery found in Isaiah 48:18: “If only you had paid attention to my commands, your peace would have been like a river, your well-being like the waves of the sea.” By comparing peace, joy, and love to flowing water, the hymn connects spiritual blessings with the natural world in a way that is easy for anyone to understand and remember.

Over time, the song spread through oral tradition and hymn collections, eventually becoming a staple in children’s ministry because of its repetitive, singable verses. Its adaptability also allowed worship leaders to add verses about “joy like a fountain” or “love like an ocean,” making it both playful and profound. Today, “Peace Like a River” continues to be sung worldwide, reminding believers that true peace does not come from circumstances but from God Himself. Its history is a testament to the power of simple songs to carry deep truths across generations.



## The Power of Forgiveness

*By: Whitney Buzbee*

One of the most difficult commands Jesus gave us is also one of the most freeing: “Forgive, and you will be forgiven”(Luke 6:37). Forgiveness does not come naturally. When we are hurt, the instinct is to protect ourselves, to hold on to anger, or to demand repayment. Yet Jesus calls us to a different path—one that mirrors His own love toward us. When we forgive, we are not saying the

wrong done to us was small or unimportant. Instead, we are choosing to release the burden of bitterness and place the matter into God’s hands. Forgiveness is more about our hearts than the offender’s actions. It loosens the chains that anger and resentment wrap around us. Think about the cross. Jesus, in His final breaths, prayed, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing” (Luke 23:34). If the Son of God could ex-

tend grace in the face of cruelty, how can we withhold it in our own lives? His example teaches us that forgiveness is not a feeling, but a decision—an act of obedience rooted in love. Forgiving may not erase the pain, but it opens the door for God’s healing. It allows peace to replace turmoil and grace to flow where bitterness once grew. In forgiving, we look less like the world and more like Christ.

## Plain & Simple Parmesan Garlic Chicken and Potatoes

### Ingredients:

- 4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts (or thighs)
- 1 ½ lbs baby potatoes (halved or quartered if large)
- 3 tbsp olive oil (divided)
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tsp Italian seasoning
- 1 tsp paprika
- ½ tsp salt
- ½ tsp black pepper
- ½ cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 2 tbsp fresh parsley (chopped, for garnish)

### Optional for extra flavor:

- 2 tbsp melted butter (mixed with olive oil)
- ½ tsp red pepper flakes for a little heat

### Instructions:

1. Prep the oven: Preheat to 400°F (200°C). Lightly grease a large baking dish or sheet pan.
2. Season potatoes: In a large bowl, toss potatoes with 2 tbsp olive oil, half the garlic, ½ tsp Italian seasoning, salt, pepper, and 2 tbsp Parmesan. Spread on one side of the pan.
3. Season chicken: Rub chicken with remaining olive oil, garlic, Italian seasoning, paprika, salt, and pepper. Sprinkle with 2–3 tbsp Parmesan. Place on the other side of the pan.
4. Bake: Roast for 30–35 minutes, flipping potatoes halfway through, until chicken reaches 165°F internally and potatoes are fork tender.
5. Finish & serve: Sprinkle the rest of the Parmesan over everything, broil for 2–3 minutes until golden, then garnish with parsley. Serve warm.

**Rockco Funeral Homes**

Thank you for choosing us as Best Funeral Home in Bibb County!

**805 Birmingham Rd.  
Centreville, AL  
205.926.4876**

**www.rockcofuneralhomes.com**

# ALABAMA SCAN CLASSIFIEDS

## STATEWIDE CLASSIFIED NETWORK

### SERVICES

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

BEAUTIFUL BATH UPDATES in as little as ONE DAY! Superior quality bath and shower systems at AFFORDABLE PRICES! Lifetime warranty & professional installs. Call Now! 1-833-770-0326

**Brent Garden Apartments - Elderly Community**

We are taking applications for our One and Two Bedrooms. Maintenance free living. Ask about the Qualifications. Come in and apply today. No application fees. Office Hours 8:00 – 2:30 M – F

57 Steele Street, Centreville, AL 35042 (205) 926-7547



We Buy Houses for Cash AS IS! No repairs. No fuss. Any condition. Easy three step process: Call, get cash offer and get paid. Get your fair cash offer today by calling Liz Buys Houses: 1-877-385-7131

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

### HEALTH/BEAUTY

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

Attention: VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS! A cheaper alternative to high drugstore prices! 50 Pill Special - Only \$99! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW: 1-833-641-6606

### FOR SALE

AFFORDABLE TV & INTERNET. If you

are overpaying for your service, call now for a free quote and see how much you can save! 1-833-641-6672

**NEED NEW FLOORING?** Call today to schedule a FREE in-home estimate on Carpeting & Flooring. Call Today! 1-833-641-6567

No more cleaning out gutters. Guaranteed! LeafFilter is the most advanced gutter protection for your home, backed by a no-clog guarantee and lifetime transferrable warranty. Call today 1-833-683-2005 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

Prepare for power outages today with a Generac Home Standby Generator. Act now to receive a FREE 7-Year warranty with qualifying purchase\* Call 1-877-323-5516 today to schedule a free quote. It's not just a generator. It's a power move.

Safe Step. North Americas #1 Walk-In Tub. Comprehensive lifetime warranty. Top-of-the-line installation and service. Now

featuring our FREE shower package and \$1600 Off for a limited time! Call today! Financing available. Call Safe Step 1-844-871-6175

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

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 12/31/25.) 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 available. 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

Consumer Cellular - the same reliable, nationwide coverage as the largest carriers. No long-term contract, no hidden fees and

activation is free. All plans feature unlimited talk and text, starting at just \$20/month. For more information, call 1-844-358-5270

### AUTOMOTIVE

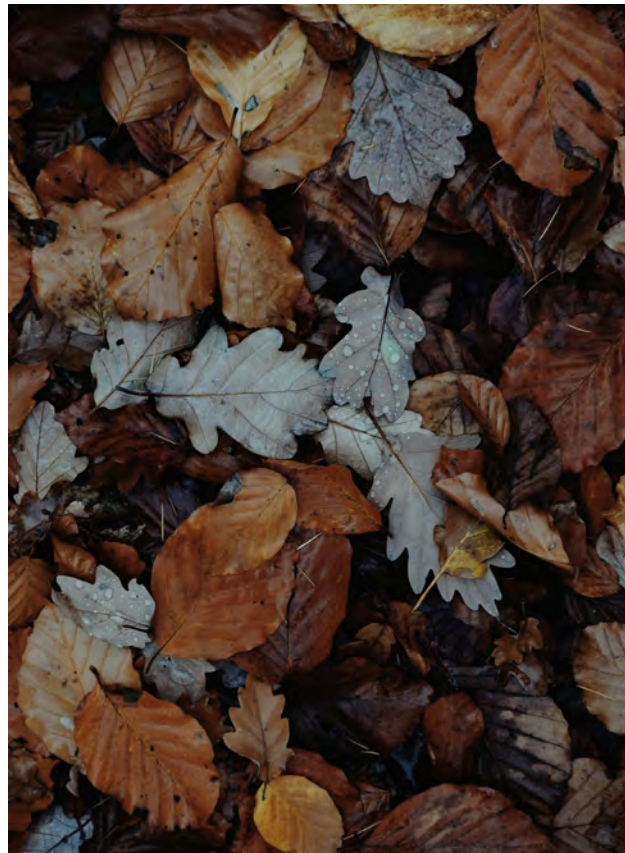
**GOT AN UNWANTED CAR???** DONATE IT TO PATRIOTIC HEARTS. Fast free pick up. Patriotic Hearts' programs help veterans find work or start their own business. Call 24/7: 1-833-426-0193

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

**FREE BIBLE**

We are offering free of charge an easy-to-read Bible. It's the GOOD NEWS BIBLE in today's English. The volumes we distribute contain the Old & New Testaments, maps and helpful features to assist the reader. If you would like to receive a copy, simply write to us at the address below. This is a free offer. There will be no follow-up correspondence. We do not ask for money.

**Gift Of The Word**  
P.O. Box 307  
Avon, NY 14414



**Vehicle Title Problem? We have a Solution!**

Unclaimed/Abandoned Vehicles, Mobile Homes & Surety Bonds

**JSE:Alabama's Vehicle Title Recovery Service!!**

We can help with most Titled Vehicles in Alabama, including Cars, Trucks, Motorcycles, RV's & Trailers. Stop in, by phone or online!

**Free Phone Consultation**  
Call 1-205-267-5735  
[www.JSEAL.com](http://www.JSEAL.com)

**FAST & RELIABLE INTERNET FOR REMOTE MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS**

PROUDLY SERVING BRENT & CENTREVILLE

**205.809.9051**  
[info@alabamalightwave.com](mailto:info@alabamalightwave.com)

 [alabamalightwave.com](http://alabamalightwave.com)



**BMC** BIBB MEDICAL CENTER

**WE ARE HIRING**

FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Med-Surg RN ✓  
Emergency Department RN ✓  
\*Labor and Delivery RN ✓  
\*Night Shift

**APPLY NOW**

Apply today or explore other career opportunities at [bibbmed.com/careers](http://bibbmed.com/careers)

(205) 926-4881 

208 Pierson Avenue, Centreville, AL 35042 

BIBB COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

CHOCTAWS HOMECOMING

PHOTOS BY BRIDGET STOKES



**BIBB COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL**

**HOMECOMING HALF-TIME**

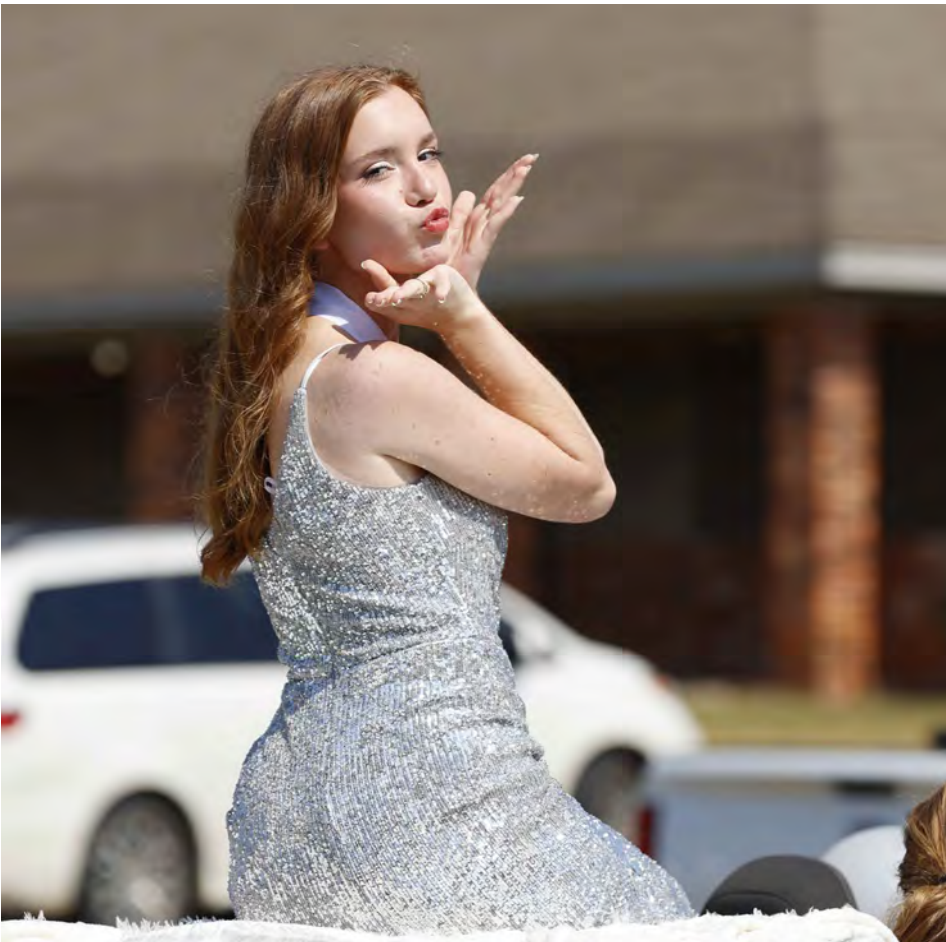
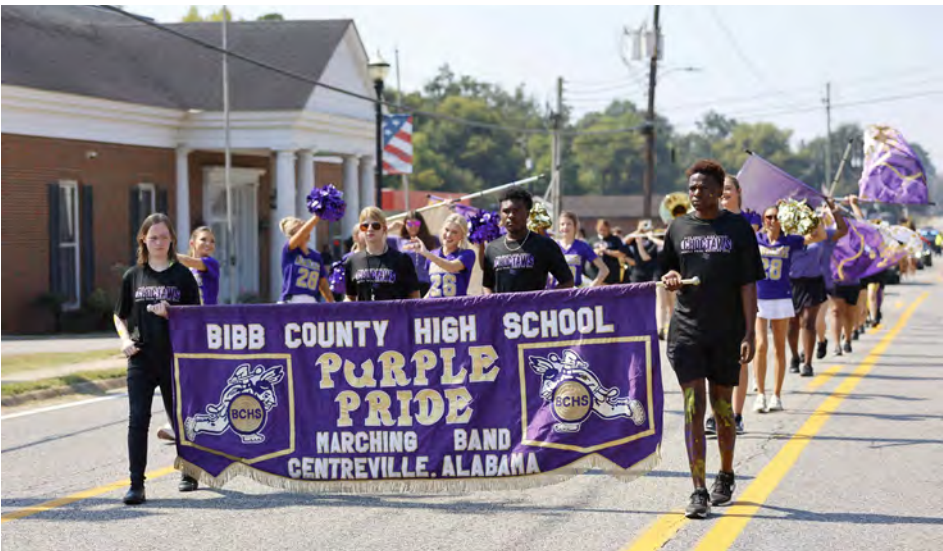
PHOTOS BY BRIDGET STOKES



**BIBB COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL**

**CHOCTAWS HOMECOMING PARADE**

PHOTOS BY BRIDGET STOKES



WEST BLOCTON HIGH SCHOOL

TIGERS HOMECOMING

PHOTOS BY KANDI SMITH



WEST BLOCTON HIGH SCHOOL

TIGERS HOMECOMING - HALF TIME

PHOTOS BY KANDI SMITH



The BACK PAGE

The Hummingbird Migration Season Brings Winged Visitors to Bibb County

BY MIKE HOBSON  
REPORTER  
mike.hobson@centrevillepress.com

We have invited the hummingbirds to visit our backyard for many years now. As Fall arrives the migration season is upon us and our air space is cluttered with the wings of beautiful hummingbirds, visiting the feeders we keep fresh each year for them.

Many hummingbird species travel thousands of miles each year between their northern breeding grounds and their winter homes in Central America and Mexico. Despite their delicate appearance, they're surprisingly tough travelers, often flying hundreds of miles at a stretch—even across the Gulf of Mexico in a single nonstop flight!

Still, it's a tough journey, so they need plenty of food and energy to make the trip safely.

Hummingbirds follow precise seasonal patterns, and timing mat-

ters. Knowing when they arrive and leave in your state helps you put feeders out early enough to welcome the first arrivals and keep them up long enough to support late migrants.

In Alabama the Ruby throated bird arrives in March, moves on, and then returns on their way in September – October time frame.

- Hummingbirds can beat their wings up to 80 times per second, and their hearts may race at more than 1,200 beats per minute. Despite their size, they have incredible memory and can recall every feeder they've ever visited.
- The Rufous hummingbird makes one of the longest migrations of any bird its size, traveling nearly 4,000 miles round-trip. It's a reminder of how much energy these tiny birds burn just to survive.
- Sadly, hummingbird populations are

facing declines due to habitat loss and climate change. By offering clean feeders and planting nectar-rich flowers, you give them a real chance to thrive during their long journeys.

Despite their speed and agility, hummingbirds face many threats. Predatory birds like hawks and kestrels are natural dangers, but the most common threats come from closer to home: cats are a significant hazard, often preying on hummingbirds as they visit feeders or flowers. Insects such as praying mantises and larger spiders have also been known to catch them, and habitat loss is another major challenge. Even harsh weather can pose a deadly risk, since strong storms or sudden cold snaps can drain their limited energy reserves. This is why providing safe feeding stations, shelter, and native plants can make a real difference in their survival.

Hummingbirds are



tough little travelers, but they depend on us more than we realize. By knowing when they come and go, keeping feeders clean and ready, and planting flowers they love, we can enjoy their visits while helping them survive for generations to come.

Hummingbirds are creatures of habit and have excellent memories when it comes to food sources. Many bird enthusiasts notice

the same individuals returning to their feeders year after year, often arriving around the same week each season. If you consistently keep feeders stocked with fresh nectar, your yard can become a reliable stop on their migratory route—or even a seasonal “home base.” Just remember to clean feeders every few days to prevent mold or bacteria, which can be harmful to these tiny birds.

By maintaining a safe and welcoming space, you'll increase the chances of seeing those familiar fluttering friends return each year. You can purchase feeders and prepared feeding solutions. My spouse makes her own with 1 part sugar to 4 parts of water. Coloring is not required. Keep the feeder full and clean and hummingbirds will love your home.

BMC HEALTH AND WELLNESS CORNER



HEALTHY AGING & FALL PREVENTION

September is Healthy Aging and Fall Prevention Month. Staying active, safe, and independent is one of the most important parts of aging well, and Bibb Medical Center is here with programs and services to help every step of the way!

BIBB MEDICAL CENTER

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

BMC at Home

Our medical team provides primary care visits, medication management, preventative health services, and chronic condition support in the comfort of your home. With a personalized care plan, our team works with each patient to reduce risks, prevent falls, and improve quality of life.

By bringing healthcare directly to your doorstep, BMC at Home helps decrease hospital and Emergency Department visits, while offering compassionate and coordinated care that supports long-term wellness.

To learn more about BMC at Home, call (205) 926-3288.



Wellness

Healthy aging begins with movement! Staying active builds strength, balance, and confidence, which helps lower the risk of falls as we age. Fitness classes and wellness programs support safe activity for every stage of life. Regular movement can reduce the risk of injury, support independence, and improve overall health.

This September, take small steps toward strength and stability. Fall prevention begins before a fall ever happens.

Visit [bmcwellness.com](https://bmcwellness.com) or call (205) 926-3360 to view membership options, training areas, and the fitness class schedule.