SERIES 2, ISSUE 10 MONDAY, MARCH 5, 2012
CULLMAN'S MONDAY NEWSPAPER
CULLMANSENSE
COMMUNITY MATTERS
50¢

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Just a Good Fun Place to Relax

By: Noah Chandler
noahchandler@cullmansense.com



qrnews/nchandler



Photos by Jessica Norrell
Panama Red performs one of his many original pieces during Saturday night's concert.

CULLMAN - Since the dawn of time man has needed two things:

Great music and smooth coffee.

Okay, well maybe that's not exactly true but if you ask patrons at Berkeley Bob's Coffee House it's pretty certain they too will back up that claim.

Owners Bob and Gerri Keefe have been pumping out hot drinks and mellow tunes since the coffee house first opened the doors.

Bob, aptly known as Berkeley Bob, takes pride in his business and the musical talent that has graced his stage over the years.

Over the weekend, Panama Red took central focus as several dozen concert goers were entertained by song and story. The intimate setting allowed performer and audience alike to be taken in by the performance.

"I had a great time here tonight," Panama Red said following the two-hour performance. "There is just something special about this place. It just feels good."

The brick walls, tin ceiling, and large swinging doors make Bob's a rare spot to enjoy truly relaxing music.

Panama Red noted that the experience he shared with concert goers on Saturday is always special.

"These types of settings, intimate showcases, are some of my favorites to perform at because you can truly interact with everyone," he said.

"Here, I am able to joke around, talk with everyone, and tell stories about the songs. It is always nice to be able to share the stories."

The folk singer/songwriter sang many of his original pieces and covered several others, including one tune by the Grateful Dead.

"Hey! Coffee, good atmosphere, great music, and he covered The Dead…you can't beat it here in Cullman," said concert goer and Berkeley Bob's regular Sophia Machen.

"The atmosphere is always laid back and Bob always finds the best acts to perform. If you've not made it out you really should."

As a regular, Machen has been privy to see acts such as The Blake Scott Band and Noah, along with many more acts.

The constant shift in musical choices is what separates Bob's from other venues and that's what keeps regulars, regulars.

"There is always someone good playing on Friday and Saturday nights," she said.

"If you ever need somewhere that you'll experience open mic night on a Monday and someone as talented as Panama Red on Saturday, then this is the place to be."

Bob has fine-tuned the open mic nights

See Page 2





Left: Bob Keefe and Jennifer Craven ring up customers on a busy night. Right: Panama Red captivates an attentive audience.

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From the Front

on Mondays to be separated; only hosting them on the first and third Monday of the month.

"By spacing out the open mic night we have managed to keep everyone interested in it," Keefe said. "If you do them every week people will get burnt out and they'll just stop coming."

Anyone is welcome to attend the events, most all of which are free. Yes, that is correct. Free. A hard concept to grasp in the current economy, but Bob feels it is important to offer up events that anyone and everyone can attend.

"If you ask someone to pay five or ten bucks to come in the door then they may decide to go somewhere else and miss out on an artist they may come to like," he said.

"The plan has been, and is, to keep the concerts free. We just ask that if you enjoyed the show that you tip the artist because they are doing this out of their love for music."

Bob's has an extensive lineup planned throughout the month of March and for several more after that. He said it is nice being able to have so many different musicians want to play at his venue.

"We had someone call in this week to book a show. I didn't realize until then that we are booked through June," he said.

"There are a lot of great, talented folks that will be coming through over the coming weeks, so don't miss out."

For more information on Berkeley Bob's Coffee House and the many talented artists that pass through visit
berkeleybob.com
or
facebook.com/berkeleybobs.



WESK in Concert

By: Dorothy Falkner

Imagine the hopes and dreams of young boys growing up together.

They play ball together, and sit together in class throughout their school careers while they learn about reading, math, and life.

At some point, the boys recognize their love of music and mutual talent, and WESK is born.

WESK, a band composed of Hanceville High School graduates, will be performing at Garden City Elementary School on March 9, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

All proceeds from the concert will benefit Delta Kappa Gamma's Nu Chapter Scholarship Fund.

Nu Chapter is made up of women educators who advance and promote the teaching profession.

WESK is composed of Nathan Melton (lead vocal), Kevin Stapp (lead guitar), Dalton Lee (bass guitar), and Jake Miller (drums).

All are employed locally, and Nathan and Jake are also students at Wallace State Community College in Hanceville.

WESK was the brainchild of Kevin Stapp and Jake Miller, and was officially organized in the fall of 2010.

They play rock music with a "throwback" influence from years past.

A question often asked of the band is how they came up with its name.

They are not too quick to explain, but said the name came out of a statement that is meaningful to the band.

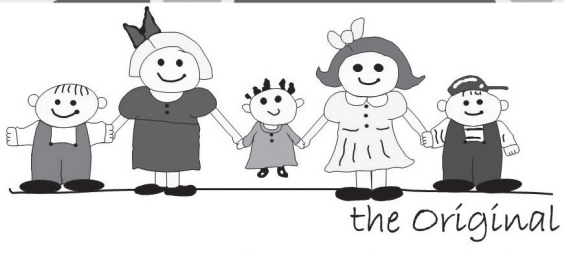
When asked to describe what WESK does best, Dalton Lee replied, "We are what music is missing today….we want to bring back the excitement!"

The band will play original selections and cover music at the March concert.

Another local group, Gambler's Ruin, will open the show. Visit WESK at facebook.com/weskrocks.

Tickets for the event are five dollars ($5) and can be purchased at the door.




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...in that we were yet sinners
Christ died for us.
Romans 5:8

No(ah)-It-All: The Reason

By: Noah Chandler
noahchandler@cullmansense.com

Originally this week's column was going to be on a much more serious nature, but I have elected to save that beauty until next Monday. What can I say, there is just something about a long wait that makes the end product that much more pleasing. Instead you will be treated to a little personal soul bearing by yours truly, so enjoy.

As a young man I was told to tell the truth no matter the circumstance and be prepared to take whatever punishment that could be dealt as a result.

For a long time I did the complete opposite of this.

One memory stands out from my 5th grade class. The teacher called me out into the hallway after lunch, instinctually I blurted out, "It wasn't me," before she could say anything else.

She looked at me with a smirk and replied, "I don't know what you're talking about now, but I will shortly." After putting the fear of God in me she continued on about something completely unrelated to a punishment or anything remotely related to any wrongdoings.

Although she never figured out what I did wrong – truthfully I can't remember – her words stuck with me. Despite having the opportunity to fess up to my misdoings I elected to keep my mouth shut and hope the truth would not be found out.

Taking responsibility and being accountable is what that teacher taught me that day in the vestibule at East Elementary. Over the years many errors, mistakes, and just idiotic decisions have led me to fessing up to my wrongdoings and I have that interaction to thank.

Now that the table has been set we can now proceed to the appetizer part of this meal.

The idea of taking accountability is a difficult concept on a good day, but when pressure is forcing its way down on you from all directions it seems that the whole accountability thing may have been a good idea.

There's just something about pressure that makes a person realize the missteps, but the next part is the most important move of them all. Should I deflect and blame or should I stand up and take what is coming my way?

I like to think that many would choose the latter option, but then again over the past 14 years it has been evident that most elect to deflect and blame.

Don't get it wrong, I too have done this many times before. Many of them I still remember very vividly, but there is nothing to do to correct the past so I embrace the present in order to avoid past mistakes.

Living an accountable life is very difficult at first and throughout, so don't think that it is easy. There is never a break because we all make mistakes, so you have to get used to being confronted. Something about someone being accountable is now a rarity, similar to something P.T. Barnum would parade around, so be prepared.

Don't worry; the only side effect is seeing that anything other than the truth is simply a waste of time, which in return frees you up to do all the things you always wanted to do. You know like hiking and stuff…

Next week I will get into the core of the meal where we will explore the many ways of deflecting the truth without lying. It is a killer of a course and it is something you want to hang around for.

Weather

Source: NWS

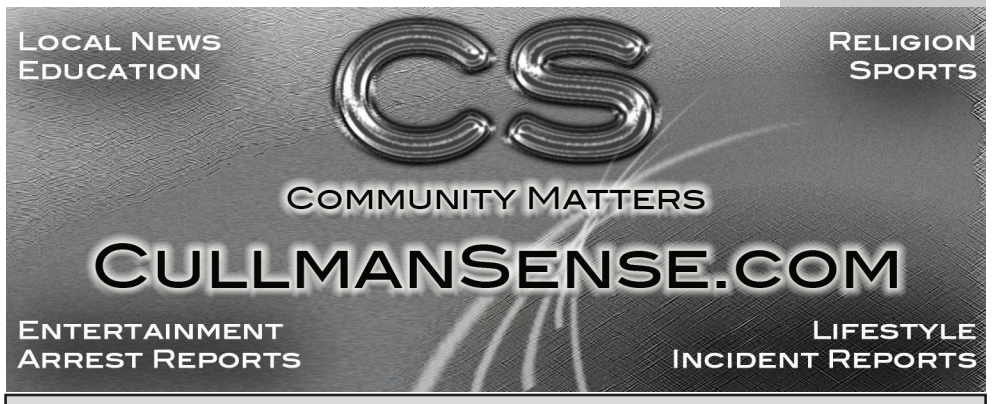
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Hi: 52	Hi: 64	Hi: 65	Hi: 70
Lo: 30	Lo:41	Lo: 49	Lo: 52

Monday: Sunny, with a high near **52**. North wind 15 to 20 mph decreasing to between 5 and 10 mph.
Monday Night: Clear, with a low around **30**. North wind around 5 mph becoming calm.

Tuesday: Sunny, with a high near **64**. Southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.
Tuesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around **41**. Southeast wind between 5 and 10 mph.

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near **65**.
Wednesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around **49**.

Thursday: Mostly sunny, with a high near **70**.
Thursday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around **52**.



About Us

CullmanSense is a weekly print publication based out of Cullman, Alabama. The online site, CullmanSense.com, is a six-day a week publication, which includes arrest and incident reports from Cullman City Police and the Cullman County Sheriff's Office, Obituaries, and other timely information. The site is completely free and does include stories not found in our print edition.

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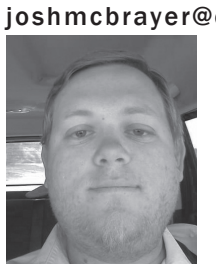
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SPORTS

The Raider Nation

By: Josh McBrayer
joshmcbrayer@cullmansense.com



qrnews/jmcbrayer

The Lady Raiders of Good Hope made a tremendous run, all the way to the BJCC and the Class 3A Girls State semi-finals for a chance to take it all.

Throughout this amazing run, there have been many staples: Nina Mills piling up the assists, Kayla Tillman draining three-point buckets, and Kayla Elrod creating havoc with her smothering defense.

Another staple of the Good Hope Raiders is "The Raider Nation," as they have come to be called.

This group of students who attended every game dressed in Good Hope red and white, some with painted faces or hair, was well armed with chants and cheers to encourage their team while trying their best to rattle the other team.

"I have missed only one game, the Cold Springs game," said "Nation" member Tyler Stringer. "We have been doing (The Raider Nation) since the Finals run last year."

"The Raider Nation" starts most every game with at least a few members pretending to read newspapers as the other team's starting lineup is announced.

Every member had the latest copy of *CullmanSense* at the BJCC, reading the article on the Class 3A Girls Championship by the Raiders, before using them as props during the lineup announcements.

The tip-off is where the fun really begins as "The Raider Nation" starts heckling, in a non-abusive manner, the officials, the opposing team, and the opposing fans with chants of "Boo this ref! Boo him again! One more time!" and "We can't here you!" to the opposing team's fans among other clever cheers.

The students also, along with the aforementioned newspapers and traditional shakers, bring all manners of homemade props including, but not limited to, large cardboard signs, t-shirts with the Lady Raiders names and numbers on the back, large cut-out heads of the coaching staff on sticks, and a paper sign large enough to cover "the entire student section reading, "Raider Nation is the 6th Man".

"The Raider Nation" grew by roughly 5-10 members as Good Hope brought, from their band, the drum section and tuba player.

As they played "The Raider Nation" was jumping and bouncing, waiting to apply their unique craft and put their stamp on the Class 3A Girls Final Four.

Who knows who you will find in "The Raider Nation" next season!

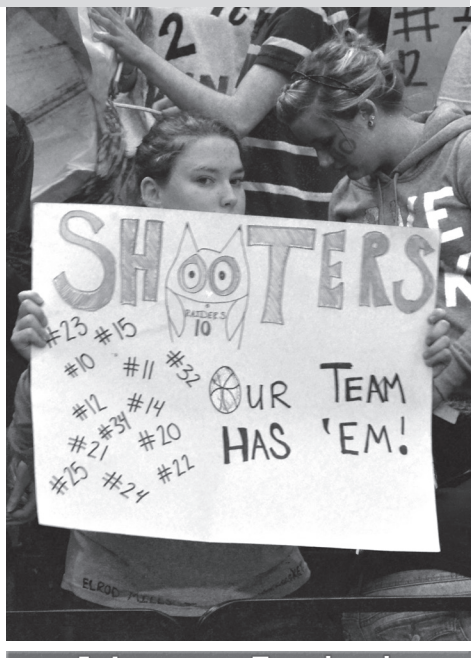
For more sports coverage visit:
cullmansense.com/sports



Photos by Noah Chandler

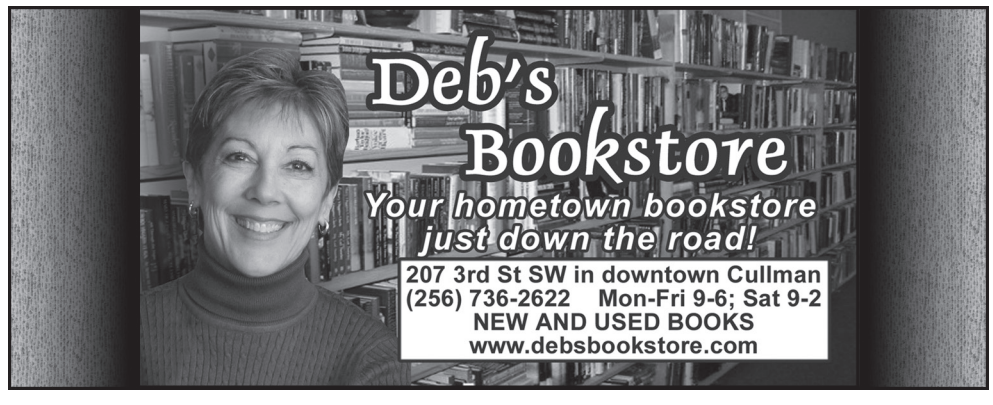
The Raider Nation was in full force at the BJCC for the Class 3A Girls State semi-finals.





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SPORTS

Cullman County Baseball Tournament is Here



The Raider Nation held up a sign stretching six rows back and twelve people wide declaring that they are the 6th man.

By: Josh McBrayer
joshmcbrayer@cullmansense.com

The calendar reads March and that can only mean one thing, time for the Cullman County Baseball Tournament.

The tournament starts Monday, with first pitch slated for 2 p.m.

There will be three games each day.

They will begin at 2 p.m., 4 p.m., and 6 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Saturday will be used for rain-outs or the championship game if needed.

Teams are seeded from last year's records and are as follows:

1. Vinemont
2. West Point
3. Good Hope
4. Fairview
5. Holly Pond
6. Hanceville
7. Cold Springs

The Cullman County Tournament takes place at Vinemont High School. The first round match-ups will look like this:

Game One: Fairview vs. Holly Pond 2 p.m. on Monday

Game Two: Good Hope vs. Hanceville 4 p.m. Monday

Game Three: West Point vs. Cold Springs 6 p.m. Monday

Vinemont, being the number one seed, received a bye and will not play their first game until Tuesday.

This is a double elimination tournament so the rest of the bracket will fill out as the games progress throughout the week.

Come out and enjoy some great baseball while supporting your local schools.

If you cannot make it out, CullmanSense will have all of your coverage at cullmansense.com/sports

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Arts in April
Juried Community Visual Arts Exhibition

Wallace State Community College is seeking artists to participate in it's annual Arts in April Juried Visual Arts Exhibition
April 2nd-14th, 2012

Entries may be submitted at the Burrow Center for the Fine and Performing Arts during normal Wallace State office hours weekdays
February 20th -March 16th

Eligible artists are current WSCC students, employees, school-aged children (public school and home-schooled children), and adults in the WSCC service area.

Each artist may individually submit a total of two artworks.

Arts Exhibition Official Entry Forms and Guidelines may be found at www.wallacestate.edu/artentryform.

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In Brief

Dr. Herman C. Ensor Obstetrical Nursing Excellence Award Recipient Recognized

By: Lindsey Dossey

CULLMAN — Lisa Franklin, MD of Cullman Obstetrics & Gynecology, P.C. recently recognized Cullman Regional Medical Center Maternity & Nursery Services Nurse Becky Burns, RN as the Dr. Herman C. Ensor Obstetrical Nursing Excellence Award Recipient for 2012.

This annual award recognizes Obstetrical & Nursery Nurses who go above and beyond the call of duty each and every day. This year's nominees were Judy Watts, RN, CRMC Nursery and Becky Burns, RN, CRMC Maternity.

For more information on obstetrical services available at Cullman Regional Medical Center visit www.crmchospital.com/obstetrics.



CRMC Employee Becky Burns, RN accepts the Dr. Herman C. Ensor Obstetrical Nursing Excellence Award from Lisa Franklin, MD of Cullman Obstetrics & Gynecology.

Wallace State's Culinary Arts Program Earns Accreditation from American Culinary Federation

By: Kristen Holmes

HANCEVILLE – Wallace State Community College's Culinary Arts program was recently awarded accreditation from the American Culinary Federal Education Foundation Accrediting Commission.

The Culinary Arts program, among the most popular technical programs on campus, offers a two-year associate in applied science degree and a program certificate preparing graduates to become chefs, caterers, cooks, restaurant owners or culinary instructors.

"We appreciate the support from the administration to help us get accredited by the ACF. It's so important to our program as we continue to make the hospitality and tourism industry the No. 1 career cluster in the world, based upon tax dollars generated," said Wallace State Head Chef Chris Villa, now in his eighth year at the college. "Our enrollment program numbers continue to grow and we don't see a peak anytime soon. We've had students move down from Tennessee and up from Florida to join our program and had those who've already earned a Wallace State degree come back for a second one."

Under direction of Villa and lab assistant Darrell Echols, students this semester are preparing buffet-style lunches each week for the college community and the general public. The meals, most inspired by a weekly theme, are served Tuesdays-Thursday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Banquet Hall. Themes so far have included a Mardi Gras lunch and a Mexican-style buffet. Next week students are styling the menu after a 1950's soda shop, with hamburgers, hot dogs, Elvis's favorite fried peanut butter and banana sandwiches, onion rings, French fries, chili cheese fries, banana splits and classic shakes, malts and floats made to order.

More than 60 students are currently enrolled in the program. Some will continue their culinary arts careers at four-year schools upon graduation from Wallace State, seeking bachelor degrees in the field. Many Culinary Arts students obtain summer co-op opportunities during their stint at Wallace State, working for Boy Scout camps, hotels or at Disney World in Orlando, Florida.

"Alabama and the two-year college system as a whole are really starting to embrace culinary arts. Mr. Echols and I work side-by-side to create a realistic environment for our students to learn. We create the pressure, the sense of urgency and everything they will feel in the industry. We want them to leave here completing tasks with their eyes closed," Villa said. "Students power the ship here; we just help them steer it."

Villa hopes to eventually add an emphasis in the curriculum on baking and pastry and a degree in hospitality and management.

Upon completion of the program, students receive multiple ServSafe certifications and recognition from the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation (NRAEF).

Scholarships for the program are available through the Wallace State Future Foundation.

CRMC Announces New CFO in Nesha Donaldson

By: Lindsey Dossey

Cullman Regional Medical Center President/CEO Jim Weidner announced Nesha Donaldson as the new Chief Financial Officer for CRMC, a role she has filled in an interim capacity since October.

"Nesha's experience and background make her an ideal candidate for this position," Weidner said. "We are pleased that she has accepted the position permanently."

Donaldson has been CRMC's Controller since 2004. Prior to that, she worked as an accounting executive for Cullman Electric Cooperative (1995 to 2004) and Drummond Company (1984 to 1995). Nesha earned her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration (BSBA) from Auburn University and her Master's in Business Administration (MBA) from the University of North Alabama.

In her new role, she will be responsible for all financial departments at the hospital including the oversight of the Huntsville Hospital billing and collection initiative, along with the Materials Management Department and Plant Operations.



Wallace State Continuing Education Introduces QuickBooks 2012

By: Kristen Holmes

Wallace State Community College is pleased to announce the launch of "Introduction to QuickBooks 2012," an online class offered through the Department of Continuing Education.

Participants will master the fundamentals of this popular accounting software program.

They will learn how to perform a variety of tasks important for small to midsized business owners, including how to set up a chart of accounts; reconcile a checking account; create and print invoices, receipts, and statements; track payables, inventory, and receivables; create estimates; and generate reports.

This course is part of Wallace State's growing catalog of more than 300 instructor-facilitated online courses. Through well-crafted lessons, expert online instruction, and interaction with fellow students, course participants gain valuable knowledge at their convenience.

Participants have the flexibility to study at their own pace combined with enough structure and support to complete the course. And they can access the classroom 24/7 from anywhere with an Internet connection.

New sessions of each course run every month. Courses last six weeks, with two new lessons being released weekly (for a total of 12). The courses are entirely Web-based with comprehensive lessons, quizzes, and assignments.

A dedicated professional instructor facilitates every course; pacing learners, answering questions, giving feedback, and facilitating discussions.

To learn more visit www.ed2go.com/wscc-wfd.

Mini Term II Begins March 8 at Wallace State Register March 7 and 8

Registration for Wallace State Community College's second spring Mini Term will take place on March 7 and 8. Classes begin March 8 and end May 7.

Mini-term classes are available day, evening, and weekend.

The following classes are being offered:

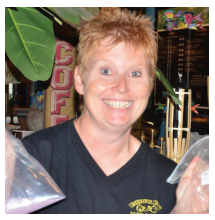
Biology:	Human Anatomy and Physiology II, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4 to 9:30 p.m.
Psychology:	Human Growth and Development, Saturday, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.
	Human Growth and Development, online
Math:	Calculus III, Monday through Thursday, 9:30 to 11:10 a.m.
	Intermediate College Algebra, online
English:	English Composition II, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 12:30 to 3 p.m.
	American Literature II, Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.
History:	United States History II, Saturdays, 8 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Humanities:	Introduction to Humanities, online
Criminal Justice:	Criminal and Deviant Behavior, Mondays, 5 to 9:30 p.m.
Computer Science:	Microcomputer Applications, Thursdays, 5:30 to 10:30 p.m.
	Visual Basic , Mondays, 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
	Hardware Support, Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.
Orientation:	Orientation 103, Mondays and Wednesdays, 8 a.m. to 8:40 a.m.
	Orientation to College, online

Registration information is available online at www.wallacestate.edu. For more information, call 256-352-8000 (1-866-350-9722).

Passion for the Kitchen

Send your recipes to recipes@cullmansense.com

By: Annette Harris
annetteharris@cullmansense.com



qrne.ws/aharris



Photos by Annette Harris

The Learning Experience Continues

Last week you learned how I couldn't cook, but was attempting to save money by cooking a few things for myself. Ralph and I ended up getting married and throughout our dating months, a long courtship of 9 months to the day we got married, he would cook steak, English peas from a can, creamed corn from a can…sometimes a pork steak in the oven with carrots and potatoes, repeat, over and over.

I noticed he had 64 cans of kraut in his cupboard, a couple of cases of English peas and more cans of creamed corn.

Why? It was on sale. Ralph is the bargain hunter. I guess he figured if he liked it, why not buy a lot of it. But Ralph could cook and was willing, so I ate.

I remember one time when Ralph bought a microwave. Not everyone had those, much less knew what to do with them. Ralph had perfectly cooked some fish filets in butter in the microwave. They were beautiful. They were a little cold when it came time to eat, so I thought, "I've got this".

I proceeded to heat them up a couple of minutes in the microwave. I mean after all, wasn't that what a microwave was for?

Needless to say, I turned the fish to rubber and Ralph was pretty mad at me for ruining his masterpiece from the microwave. I left cooking up to him after that…. well, with the exception of trying to make spaghetti. I came from a family of 5 where we needed the whole pack of spaghetti noodles.

I cooked the whole pack and mixed it all together with the sauce he had made. Hmmm…not enough sauce for some reason. There were just two of us and there was a huge amount of spaghetti, not much sauce. It was ruined. Ralph got mad at me a lot that first year.

I got a cookbook for a wedding gift and together we started cooking. We made fun things like pizza and Chinese food. It took us forever to make it, but by the time it was done, we were so hungry we didn't care what it tasted like, although it was actually pretty good.

I started going solo with the cooking and got better and better. I loved that cookbook. It was the yellow "Calling All Cooks" version. I still have it, minus the front cover.

I remember Ralph's mom Betty coming by one Sunday morning and I was making fried eggs for us for breakfast.

The eggs were frying in butter, actually floating in butter, as I added more so they wouldn't stick. "Ralph is going to die before he is 50 with cooking like that".

Those words haunted me until Ralph actually turned 50. I figure if he has made it this far, we are good.

Cheesy Chicken Spaghetti

Ingredients:

- 4 chicken breasts, boiled and deboned
- 1 can cream of chicken soup
- 1 can cream of celery soup
- 8 oz. Velveeta
- 1 medium onion chopped
- ½ stick butter or margarine
- 1 lb. spaghetti (sometimes I use egg noodles)
- 8 oz. shredded cheddar cheese –Divided (put 4 oz. in with the soup mixes and Velveeta)

Directions:

1. Boil spaghetti until tender, but not too done. It will cook a little more in the oven. Drain and pour into a large bowl
2. Sauté chopped onion and ½ stick butter or margarine in a skillet until tender and clear.
3. Chop the chicken into bite sized pieces
4. Cut the Velveeta into cubes about 1" in size
5. Add 4 oz. of the cheddar cheese
6. Stir all the ingredients into the spaghetti. Mix well.
7. Pour into a 9x13 buttered dish.
8. Sprinkle 4 oz. shredded cheddar across the top.
9. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 minutes.

*You won't be able to eat just one serving.

This makes a lot. For just the two of us, I divide it into 3-4 smaller dishes and freeze before cooking.

Blackberry Cobbler

This is best when blackberries are ready to pick and you can get fresh ones, but I want it when they aren't fresh. You can use frozen blackberries just as easily as the fresh and you would never know the difference.

Ingredients:

- 4 cups fresh or frozen blackberries
- ¾-1 cup sugar-depending on how sweet you like your cobbler
- ½ cup water
- 1 Tablespoon margarine or butter
- 1 tube Pillsbury refrigerated piecrust (there are two)

Directions:

1. Boil sugar and blackberries until you notice the juice starting to thicken. Thin down with more water if desired.
2. Set aside.
3. Roll out one piecrust into a 9x13 dish. Let the dough come up on the sides if necessary. Pour berry mixture over the dough.
4. Roll out the other pie crust and cut into ½" strips. Crisscross the strips across the top of the pie.
5. Dot strips with butter or margarine. *I sprinkle sugar on top as well.
6. Bake for 30 minutes or until brown at 350 degrees.

That's it! How much simpler can it be?



Mirroring History

Looking Back: Exploring Historic Cullman at Cullman Post Office Building



Contributed from *Cullman: A History in Postcards*



Photo by Jessica Norrell

Local Events Calendar

Send your Events to: calendar@cullmansense.com

Monday, March 5th

'The Equalizer' Women's Self Defense Classes
Cullman Police Officer Cindy Rohrscheib is conducting a Women's Self Defense Program, 'The Equalizer', from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Cullman Wellness & Aquatic Center.

This program seeks to educate women on how to recognize and reduce their risk of becoming victims and how to effectively resist a physical attack if necessary. The cost is $25.00 for the manual (per household) and is open to all women in our community.

To register for this learning seminar please contact Cindy Rohrscheib at Cullman Police Department, 256-736-4703 or email her at cindyr@cullmanpd.com. All women, all ages, are encouraged to take part in this class and to bring a daughter or friend along as well.

Overeaters Anonymous Gather at Grace Episcopal
Members of Overeaters Anonymous meet every Monday, at 9:30 a.m. at Grace Episcopal Church in the Carriage House located on Church premises. Further information is available at 256-747-6218 or 256-352-1143. Everyone is invited to attend these gatherings.

GED Classes at Desperation Church
GED learning classes are held each Monday night from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at Desperation Church. For additional information please contact Ed Oaks at 256-737-9564 or 256-735-6811. These classes are open to the public and everyone who wants to obtain their GED is welcome to participate.

Cornerstone Revival Ladies Prayer Meeting
A Ladies Prayer meeting is conducted each Monday night at 7 p.m. at Cornerstone Revival Center. For additional info, call 256-796-2899. All interested women are invited to attend.

Aqua Zumba Classes at CWAC
Everyone is invited to take part in the Aqua Zumba classes which are offered each Monday at Cullman Wellness & Aquatic Center beginning at 7 p.m. in the center's indoor pool. Please call 256-775-7946 for additional information! Come start the New Year off with water exercises!

Circuit Judge, Place 2, Candidates Forum
There will be an open forum beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Cullman Civic Center featuring all candidates running for the office of Circuit Judge, Place 2, in the upcoming March primaries. Everyone is invited and urged to come to the forum to see what each candidate has to say about their views on issues affecting the Cullman community. Forums are free and will start at 5:30 p.m.

Proposed 1/2 Cent Sales Tax Informational Meeting
There will be an informational meeting open to the public at Hanceville First United Methodist Church regarding the vote on a proposed upcoming 1/2 cent sales tax. The meeting is sponsored by the Cullman County Board of Education and will begin at 6:30 p.m.

This discussion is to help educate voters on the proposed tax increase which will be voted on during the upcoming March 13 ballot. Schools will benefit from the much needed financial increase and everyone is invited to attend this session to become better informed regarding this issue.

Tuesday, March 6th

CRMC's Breastfeeding Support Group
CRMC's Breastfeeding Support Group is designed for mothers and their babies, who are currently breastfeeding. The group offers a forum for asking questions and sharing success stories and will hold its next meeting today from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the Ave Maria Room, POB 2, on the CRMC campus. For more information please contact the CRMC Nursery at 256-737-2221. Also visit their online Calendar of Events at www.crmchospital.com.

Emotions Anonymous Support Group Meeting
An Emotions Anonymous Support Group meets each Tuesday at noon at Grace Episcopal Church Carriage House. Those interested are invited to attend these group sessions. Further information is available through the Group Director's office at 256-734-3605 or 256-796-8440.

Knifty Knitters Meeting
The Knifty Knitters group meets each Tuesday at 3 p.m. at Cullman County Library. Yarn, needles and instructions are provided free of charge and every one of all ages who are interested are invited to attend these sessions. Further info can be obtained by calling Lesia at 256-734-2720, extension 23.

Ladies' Auxiliary VFW Dance at Post 2214
The Ladies' Auxiliary of VFW Post 2214 invites the community to their weekly Tuesday night dances at the VFW Post building. The country line dance starts at 7 p.m. each Tuesday night, with admission only $5.00 per person. Concessions are available and all proceeds benefit the Auxiliary's local projects.

North Central Alabama Genealogical Society Meeting
Members of the North Central Alabama Genealogical Society meet every Tuesday in the basement of the Wallace State Community College Library for informal study and to help new researchers. The meeting is from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. and those interested are invited to this free gathering. Come learn about your 'roots'! Call Von at 256-739-2843 for more information.

Meeting on Proposed 1/2 Cent Sales Tax Vote
There will be an informational meeting open to the public this evening at Cullman County Board of Education Office regarding the proposed upcoming vote on a 1/2 cent sales tax. This meeting is sponsored by the Cullman County Board of Education and will begin at 6:30 p.m.

This discussion is to help educate voters on the proposed tax increase which will be voted on during the upcoming March 13 ballot. Schools will benefit from the much needed financial increase and everyone is invited to attend this session to become better informed regarding this issue.

Wednesday, March 7th

Lenten Desert Day
Come out to Sacred Heart Retreat Center for a day of silence and solitude to share in the experience of Lent and the resurgence of life as springtime brings gentle stirrings of life. Sr. Mary McGehee, O.S.B., will act as retreat leader. Cost is $30.00 per person, which includes lunch. For more information please call 256-734-8302 or email retreats@shmon.org or check website www.shmon.org.

Free Community Meal at Living Waters Ministries
A free community meal is offered each Wednesday night at Living Water Ministries beginning at 5 p.m. Living Water is located in the East Park Plaza on the left side of Highway 278 just past the entrance to St. Bernard Monastery.

Everyone is welcome to attend these Wednesday night gatherings. Further information can be obtained by calling James Moore, 256-338-9145. Donations also are gratefully accepted.

Aqua Zumba Classes at CWAC
Everyone is invited to take part in the Aqua Zumba classes which are offered each Wednesday at Cullman Wellness & Aquatic Center beginning at 7 p.m. in the center's indoor pool. Please call 256-775-7946 for additional information! Come start the New Year off with water exercises!

Thursday, March 8th

Cullman County Commission on Education Science Fair
Public viewing for the displays entered in the Cullman County Commission on Education Science Fair will take place at the Wallace State Community College Coliseum from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. Awards will be announced and presented at 6 p.m. This event is open to the public and everyone is encouraged to come see what awesome science projects our students have put together. There also is a poster contest display for grades K-3, with the theme 'Did You Know?' Let's go to Wallace and see how our students can help educate us.

Elks Lodge Buffet Lunch
Come join the Cullman Elks Lodge members as they fire up the ovens and open their doors to the public for their weekly lunch buffet at the Lodge Home. The cost is $8.00 per person, which includes two meats and veggies, plus tea. Everyone is invited to enjoy the fellowship and delicious meals each Thursday from 11 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

Overeaters Anonymous Meeting
Overeaters Anonymous meets each Thursday evening at 4:45 p.m. in the Carriage House at Grace Episcopal Church. Everyone is invited to attend these sessions. Further information can be obtained by calling 256-747-6218 or 256-352-1143. There also is a group which meets on Monday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the same place. Meetings are open to everyone interested.

District Judge, Place 2, Candidates Forum
There will be an open forum beginning at 5:30 p.m. at the Chamber of Commerce featuring all candidates running for the office of District Judge, Place 2, in the upcoming March primaries. Everyone is invited and urged to come to the forum to see what each candidate has to say about their views on issues affecting the Cullman community. The forum is free and will begin at 5:30 pm.

Friday, March 9th

29th Annual IPRA Rodeo
The 29th Annual IPRA Rodeo sponsored by West Point Band will take place this weekend at the Cullman Agricultural Building on Highway 31 North. The rodeo will be continued on Saturday. For more information, please contact Tammy at 256-747-3738.

WSCC Music Dept. Scholarship Auditions
Scholarship auditions for the 2012-2013 academic year will be held by the Music Department of Wallace State Community College in Hanceville. For further information about this program please call 256-352-8277 or email joann.castles@wallacestate.edu.

WESK in Concert
WESK will be in concert at Garden City Elementary at 7:00 p.m. All proceeds from the concert will benefit the Delta Kappa Gamma Nu Chapter scholarship fund. Tickets are five (5) dollars and can be purchased at the door.

Saturday, March 10th

56th Annual Kiwanis Pancake Day
Cullman Kiwanis Club will offer pancakes galore as they kick off their 56th Annual Pancake Day starting at 6 a.m. until 12 noon. This event is held in Cullman High School cafeteria and everyone is invited to come out and eat as much as you can hold. Pancakes, sausage, coffee or milk, all for $6.00 per plate. Children 6 and under eat free if served in the cafeteria. Drive through carryouts available with all profits from this annual event go towards local projects for area children.

Tickets are available from any Kiwanis member (they meet at the All Steak every Monday at 12 noon, if you are interested in learning more about this organization) or they may be purchased the morning of the breakfast.

There also will be a Key Club Bake Sale to raise funds for Children's Hospital that same morning. Further information can be obtained by calling Bob or Melba Palys at 256-352-2793. Come out and enjoy breakfast and seeing all your friends and neighbors!

3.14 Pi Fun Run
West Point Math Team is sponsoring a 3.14 Pi Fun Run with the course distance to be 3.14 miles in honor of 'Pi Day'. This event will be held at Sportsmans Lake Park and walkers are invited to participate as well! Registration is from 7 a.m. until 7:45 a.m., with a fee of $20.00 per person.

The age divisions are as follows:
- Men's Division ages 30 and up; and ages 29 and under;
- Women's Divisions are 29 and under and 30 and up;
- and Kid's Division age 12 and under.

Prizes will be awarded in each division. All proceeds will benefit the West Point Math Team. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the school at 256-734-5375 and asking to speak with a Math Team sponsor.

3rd Annual Because We Love Kids Day
Silent Auction, Live Auction, and Bingo, with ALL proceeds goint to Children's Hospital. Many collectible celebrity items including:

- Autographed Tournament-Used John McEnroe tennis racket
- Autographed 16 x 20 Tiger Woods Photo
- Daniel Moore Framed Print "Champion Season"
- David Minor Framed Print
- Art Prints by Christo and Jean Claude
- Autographed Jimmy Buffett CD "Encores"
- Autographs from NASCAR, Hollywood, Hall Of Fame Athletes
- Six Flags Family Pack
- Casino Packages from Tunica, Philadelphia, and Atmore
- Golf Packages from Robert Trent Jones, Ballantrae, Guntersville State Park
- Autographed First Edition Books by John Grisham and Dean Koontz
- $1.00 Bingo Games minimum prize worth $25.00 $5.00 Bingo Games minimum prize $100.00 Grand Prize 32" TV

Have fun, win prizes and help Children's Hospital all at the same time. The event will be held in the Holly Pond High School Gym. For more information contact Bob Palys at 256-352-2793.

29th Annual IPRA Rodeo
The 29th Annual IPRA Rodeo sponsored by West Point Band will take place this weekend at the Cullman Agricultural Building on Highway 31 North. For more information, please contact Tammy at 256-747-3738.

Natural Childbirth Classes
This class is for those who are considering having natural childbirth. Your education, desires and personal support network greatly influence a positive outcome.

In this class you will learn: details about stages and phases of labor, relaxation techniques & comfort measures, how your birth partner can help you during labor, physiological positions and movements for labor, about medical interventions, the role of hormones during labor & birth, and much more.

There are two class locations in the city; please call (256) 962-0975 for directions and registration. Visit http://www.birthingbeautiful.com for more.

VFW Saturday Night Dance
The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 2214 invites everyone to their weekly Saturday night dances which begin at 7 p.m. and last until 10 p.m.

Music on Saturday nights is provided by the Boogie Night Band. Entrance fee is $5.00 for each individual. Come on out and bring your dancing shoes and enjoy an evening of great music, fun and fellowship!

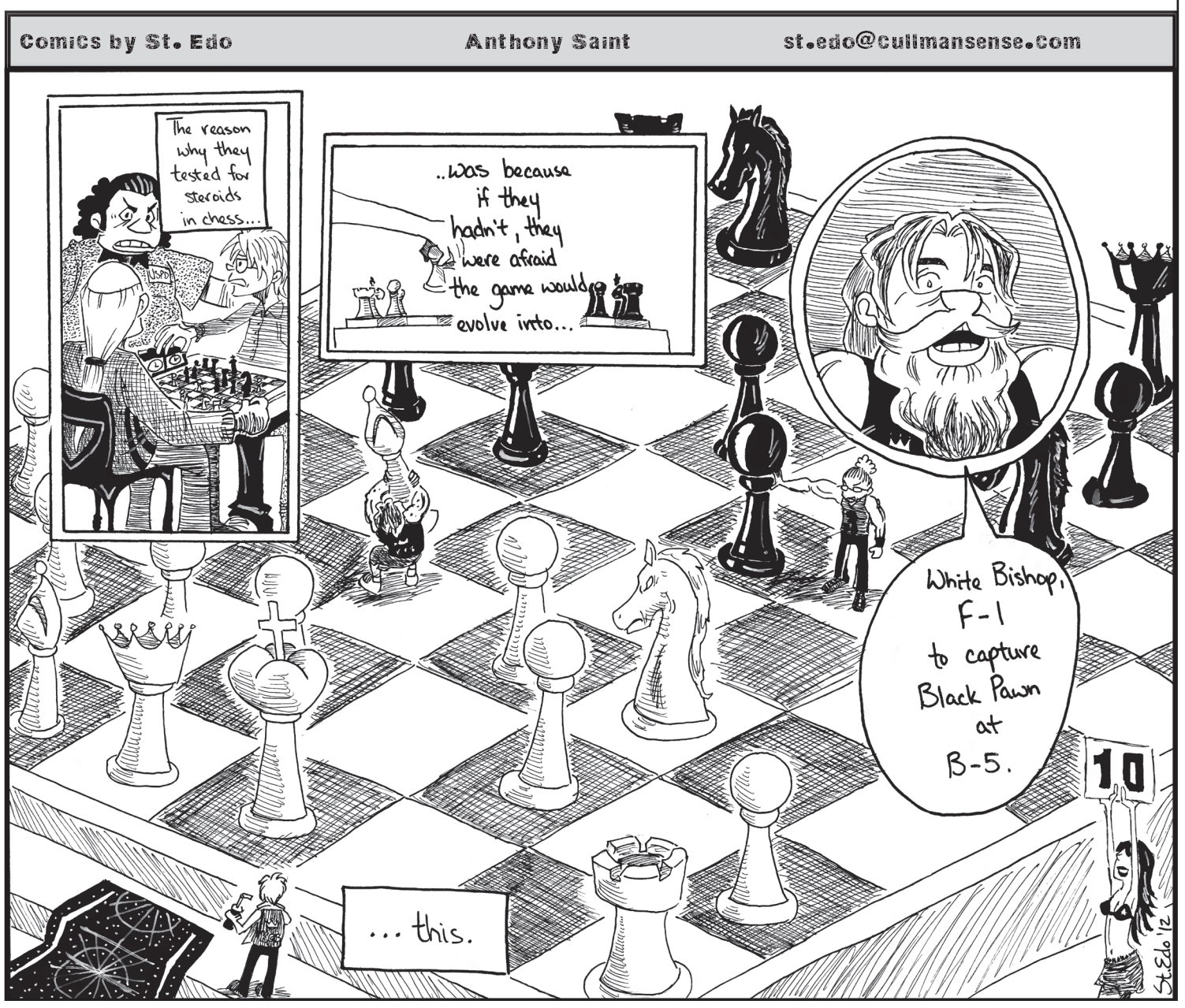
PUZZLES, COMICS, AND JOKES

THIS WEEK'S WORD SEARCH TOPIC IS: THE POST OFFICE

BY: DUSTIN ISOM

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address, air mail, bulk mail, deliver, distribution, express mail, first class, label, letter, mail, mail truck, mailbag, mailbox, mailman, package, post office box, postal code, postal scale, postcard, postmark, postmaster, sorting machine, stamps, zipcode



GETTING CORNY

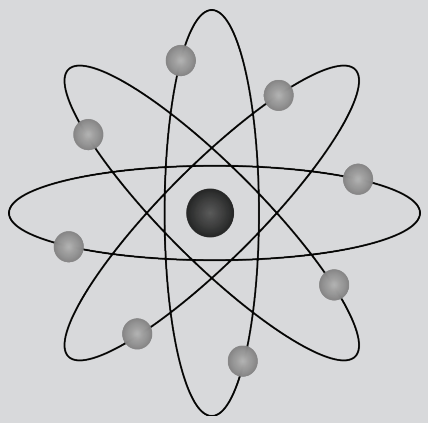
1. Where do sick ethanol producers go?



2. Why couldn't the white light escape?



3. Why did the professor have to discipline the unruly atoms?





1. Corn-a-Tine 2. It was stuck in prism. 3. He was the principle of the matter.

Take Shelter

By: Noah Chandler
noahchandler@cullmansense.com



4/5 Stars

So many in the mid-west have known the terrors that come with a tornado since the first settlers reached the flatlands of America.

Of course, we in the south are not immune to the twisting winds that can easily wreak havoc on our small hometowns.

Now if you take that bit of information and have an insatiable appetite for any of the countless doomsday-type shows that currently bog down the idiot-box then *Take Shelter* is the perfect film for you.

This week's theatrical feature touches on these subjects and so many more.

Take Shelter was released in 2011 to critical acclaim, including 27 wins and 14 nominations, and has been slowly picking up speed since.

The film centers on the somewhat disturbed mind of 35-year-old Curtis, played by Michael Shannon, who dreams of chaotic winds, poisonous rain, and falling birds.

The dreams haunt the man who is trying to do nothing more than provide for his wife Samantha, played by Jessica Chastain, and his deaf daughter Hannah, played by Tova Stewart.

Curtis works hard each day to provide, but ever since the dreams have begun he has no peace.

Since he has a history of mental illness in his family Curtis elects to see the local physician who oversaw his mother's case many years back.

This is something, along with the dreams, that Curtis hides from his family.

Personally, sharing detailed horrific dreams with others is probably not the best way to win over loved ones, so yeah; I probably would have kept my mouth shut too.

The film begins to pick up once Curtis realizes that he has to prepare his family for an impending storm. What he later deems, "the storm of the century."

Like many levelheaded Americans convinced the end is impending, Curtis buys himself a cargo shipping container to connect to the already existing storm shelter.

This move is a bold one because not only does he try to do it without his wife knowing about it, he also uses company property without permission.

This would prove costly in the end on the home front.

Once the shelter is in place it is time to gear up, which Curtis does every time he goes out to shop.

I mean why not buy two pallets of soup when it's on sale at half price?

As with any good end-of-day flick there are the obligatory purchases such as guns, gas masks, and MRE, meal ready to eat, but Curtis thought even farther ahead.

If you want to know what it is then you'll just have to watch the film.

From the start the visuals captivate the viewer, as do most of the dream sequences, but as in most independent films, there are many dull moments and slow moving diatribes.

As far as the aesthetics go, *Take Shelter* is on par with most of the big budget action thrillers.

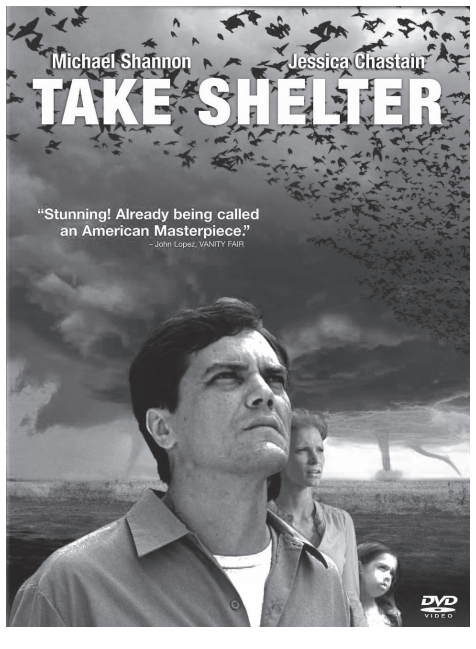
However, this film actually has a plot and a subplot therefore it definitely will stand out.

I highly encourage that you grab this rental from Blockbuster or any other neighborhood movie rental store and take in the sights, sounds, and freak out dream sequences in *Take Shelter*.

Trust me…you'll be blown away!

For more entertainment coverage visit us at:

cullmansense.com/entertainment



Special *Thanks* to our distributors:

- 278 Quick Stop
- 278 Chevron
- Bethel Exxon & Deli
- Berkeley Bob's Coffee House
- Berlin Plaza and Quick Stop
- Blockbuster Video
- Catoma Mart
- Catoma Package
- Chevron-Hanceville
- College Tire
- Deb's Bookstore
- Dodge City Fuel Center
- Dodge City Shell
- Joe's Freeway Exxon
- Five Points Grocery
- Fallalary
- Graves' BP
- Grumpy's Italian Grill
- Holly Pond Supermarket Chevron
- Iron Skillet
- Jet Pep-Vinemont
- Johnny's Bar-B-Q
- Rumors Deli
- Shell Mart South
- Shop Around the Corner
- The Shops at 3rd St Promenade
- Specialty Wellness Store
- Vinemont Super Saver
- V&W Food Mart
- West Point Superette

2nd Annual

'Crowns for a CURE Pageant'



Saturday, March 17th, 2012
Hosted by the Merchants Bank Relay for Life Team
Located at Cullman 1st Baptist Church
In the ROC (gymnasium)
Entry fee: $35.00
Miss Photogenic fee: $5.00
You can pick up an application at any Merchants Bank location

Admission is $3.00
Kids 6 & under get in free!
0 – 9 years begins at 10:00am
Survivors' Honorary Walk begins at 12:00pm
10 - 23 begins at 1:00pm
For more information contact us at rfl@merchantsbankal.com

All proceeds to benefit the American Cancer Society!

Just Sayin'

You are fearfully and wonderfully made ...
Psalm 139:14



{You}nique 2012

For middle and high school girls in the Fairview Community

March 10, 2012

9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Fairview High School Auditorium

The world wants to tell us lies about our lives, but God promises us so much more.

He created YOU ... His beautiful child. Let's celebrate that together at YOUnique 2012.

We promise honest and encouraging discussions on topics like:

- **Friendships that last**
- **Today's technology**
- **Real beauty**
- **Making choices**
- **Dealing with relationship issues, and more.**

We'll have a time of worship followed by small group sessions for middle and high schoolers.

Lunch and snacks will be provided. And best of all ... it's free.

REGISTER TODAY!

Register by Feb. 27 to receive a free event T-shirt. (Note: Supply may be limited.) Pick up a registration form at your church or contact Julie Grimes at juliefgrimes@yahoo.com or 256-796-1859.

{You}nique 2012