SERIES 2, ISSUE 18 MONDAY, APRIL 30, 2012
CULLMAN'S MONDAY NEWSPAPER
CULLMANSENSE
COMMUNITY MATTERS
50¢

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Passion for the Kitchen: Simple Quiche & Apple Betty Page 7
PLUS A Special Commemoration of April 27, Community Calendar, & More Look Inside

Well Over 15,000 Tickets Sold

By: Noah Chandler
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qrnews/nchandler



Photos by Noah Chandler

CULLMAN - With pre-event tickets sales in excess of 8,000 and an additional 4-6,000 sold the day of the event, promoters and event coordinators with the inaugural "Rock the South" Music Festival are more than pleased with the final results.

"It exceeded expectations," Leah Bolin, Marketing Director for "Rock the South" said. "Ticket sales were hard to pinpoint and accurately say 100 percent, but we feel very confident saying there were well over 15,000 tickets sold. With volunteers, marketing, sponsor tickets, and other complimentary tickets, it is safe to say an additional 2-3,000 tickets were given away."

Initial reports by local, state, and national media had the event garnering a mere 11,000 attendees, but Bolin claims a much higher number.

Given the sheer number of free or complimentary tickets, vendor passes, and volunteers in attendance, the number of concertgoers could actually reach upwards of 20,000.

"The prospect for a festival next year looks very good," she said. "With this one being such a success and everything going as well as it did, then I am looking towards that, yes."

This biggest challenge was getting everything done in a small window of time. The short two month time frame rushed the planning phase, which Bolin said should not be an issue the second time around as preparations for next year's festival will be discussed over the coming weeks.

"I would say we had 6-8 weeks max, to put this festival together," she said. "We have a meeting this coming week to begin looking at next year. Having a year to plan, if you look at how great it was this year, imagine if we have 52 weeks to plan an event."

One noticeable point was the clear presence of local law enforcement. Bolin said the mixture of police officers and event security kept any incidents to a minimal, with no arrests reported during the event.

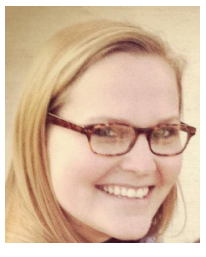
Along with paid staff, hundreds of volunteers, Cullman Parks & Recreation, and other city municipalities help assure a safe, comfortable and pleasant concert experience.

"The one thing that totally blew me out of the water and exceeded my expectations farther than I could ever imagine was our local law enforcement and the outstanding job they did. They went above and beyond the call of duty," she said. "They patrolled, took care of people, and were very nice. We had very few incidents because of their quick response in preventing situations."

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Rock the South
A Fan's Perspective

By: Katie Nelms
entertainment@cullmansense.com



qrnews/knelms

"It was like a bombshell went off…" – Scotty Gregory

The inaugural Rock the South Music Festival went off smoothly, providing quality music, a bevy of food and beverages, and an assortment of inflatable fun for the youngest of attendees. Many in attendance were anxious to see country music star Dierks Bentley take to the stage, including most of the female concertgoers.

Among the concertgoers were April and Scotty Gregory of Good Hope. For their family, the only direct impact that the tornado caused was the loss of a few trees.

However, their neighbors were not as lucky. "At the time we were living out there at New Lake Hope with our neighbors. I've got two aunts out there and it destroyed everything they had. It wiped them completely out along with several other people out there," Scotty said describing the aftermath of the April 27th tornado. "It was like it hopped around from here to there, picking which ones it wanted I guess."

He said they have recovered pretty well now due to insurance and help from FEMA. He was watching the news when the power



Photos by Katie Nelms

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From the Front

For many more photos and videos visit qrne.ws/rts2012

Tickets (Cont.)

As mentioned the hundreds of volunteers who came out over the four days of final preparations and for the event itself made the difference. Bolin said without the hard work of so many residents this first year event would have never been as successful as it was.

"We want to thank all the people who helped out. It took an army of people in our community to pull this event off in such a small window," she said. "I want to thank all the men and women who volunteered in the tents and the church groups who came out and volunteered. None of this could have happened without the hundreds of residents that volunteered their time. This event would not have been possible if it wasn't for the quality of the Cullman City Parks & Recreation. The support from John Hunt and Christy Turner was top notch and this event benefited greatly from our City Parks & Recreation. It is just another example of how great our community is and how proactive we are in making Cullman a great place to live and work."





Rock the South crowd photographed from 88 feet above courtesy of the Cullman City Fire Department's newest fire engine.



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EQUAL HOUSING LENDER

No(ah)-It-All: : The Digital Dating Realm

By: Noah Chandler
noahchandler@cullmansense.com

It seems only right to spread this particular word through the wonderful medium that is print. What can I say? It is refreshing to air out the issues that have made an impact over the years because maybe, just maybe, there are others out there who might be going through some of the same issues. So this week we are diving into that splendid world that is…online dating.

Tis a horrible notion for those who have no problem initiating a conversation with any random individual, but for a certain section of society online dating is the only way they are able to interact with others.

Whether it is a person who works too much or the individual who may not be able to spark up that initial conversation, online dating is an easy way to meet someone. Seeing how I have no issue striking up conversations, many have been led to believe that the time just isn't available for that off-duty public interaction.

Of course now that I've turned that corner into the third decade it has become evident that my nephew, sister and mom are ready for me to settle down, marry, and start a family.

All of that sounds good, but when you literally work every day of the year it makes it quite difficult to meet someone in a non-work setting. So several years back my family, mainly my sister, urged yours truly to "get out there and start dating," and suggested several online sites.

This was a very demoralizing notion. The whole notion of flipping through photo albums of prospective suitors as if you were selecting a shirt or a pair of shoes was a creepy one to say the least.

However, after another year of solitude that inner desperation somehow crept up and before I knew it there was my profile on one of the heinous online dating sites. Let me say this, it is even more demoralizing when you spend an hour filling out forms just to be rejected later because you don't meet certain standards. I guess back then making $12,000 a year was too much, but then again it was my first job as a reporter.

Now that this ridiculous profile was made it was time for some new-era social interaction. The first year I rarely checked the site and never sent anyone a message. The whole concept just felt weird, and still feels weird today, because you are seeing what that person wants you to see. Unlike the conventional face-to-face interaction, online dating allows people to be more deceptive, embellishing attributes while minimizing others.

After a year or so I finally decided to put a bit of effort into the profile, making sure to keep accurate with my personality because this guy is no peach to be around when the irritation level is maxed out. As in the real world, there were no responses from the ones who peak my interest, but plenty of feedback from those whom I would rather not date.

Alas, the difficult measure of realizing that the whole scene was not for me was laid out perfectly, so like any level headed nerd I left the profile up and to this day it rests peacefully in the digital graveyard of online dating.

So what are you to if online dating doesn't work and traditional dating isn't really a feasible option? You can always fall back on the 80s boom of mail-order brides.

Of course, not too sure if there is a mail-order groom service for you ladies, but then again we are in 2012, so yeah, pretty sure there is one out there.

Although, there is always the option of an arranged marriage, but no dowry here, so I guess the trip is a solo one.

If you want to share your online dating story, dating horror story or just favorite dating memory email it to cullmansense@cullmansense.com Attn: Dating.

Weather

Source: NWS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Hi: 87 Lo: 63	Hi: 87 Lo:63	Hi: 87 Lo: 63	Hi: 86 Lo: 62

Monday: Isolated thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Mostly sunny, with a high near **87**. Calm wind becoming south between 5 and 10 mph. Chance of precipitation is 10%.
Monday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around **63**. South wind around 5 mph becoming calm.

Tuesday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 p.m. Mostly sunny, with a high near **87**. Calm wind becoming south between 5 and 10 mph.
Tuesday Night: Partly cloudy, with a low around **63**. South wind around 5 mph.

Wednesday: Sunny, with a high near **87**.
Wednesday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around **63**.

Thursday: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near **86**.
Thursday Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around **62**.

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SPORTS

AREA ATHLETE SPOTLIGHT

Miles O'Berry: Good Hope High School

By: Josh McBrayer
joshmcbrayer@cullmansense.com

GOOD HOPE – Miles O'Berry of Good Hope is the star shining under the Spotlight this week. O'Berry is a gifted one sport athlete as well as a promising student. O'Berry took time out of his studies to answer these questions for the Spotlight.

Josh McBrayer: Tell our readers about yourself.

Miles O'Berry: My name is Miles O'Berry. I recently turned 18 on March 29th of this year. I attend Good Hope High School where I am a senior. I have played baseball at Good Hope High School for 6 years. My parents' names are Mike and Robin O'Berry, and I also have a twin sister named Magen O'Berry. Some of my hobbies include fly fishing, bass fishing, hunting, and kayaking.

JM: What sports do you play?

MO: The only sport I play is baseball. I have grown up only playing this game. I have never wanted to play football, basketball, or any other sports. This is because I was brought up in the game of baseball by my dad.

JM: What is your favorite sport? Why?

MO: My favorite sport is baseball. The game is said to be 70% mental, and only 30% physical. This is why baseball can be such a funny game. You can be down by ten runs and come back in the bottom of the 7th to win the game.

JM: Who is your greatest inspiration in sports? Why?

MO: My greatest inspiration in sports would definitely be my father, who coached me in nearly all my years of little league. He is the coach that instilled in me the love for the game of baseball. It was also just great to be able to spend time with him on those warm summer afternoons.

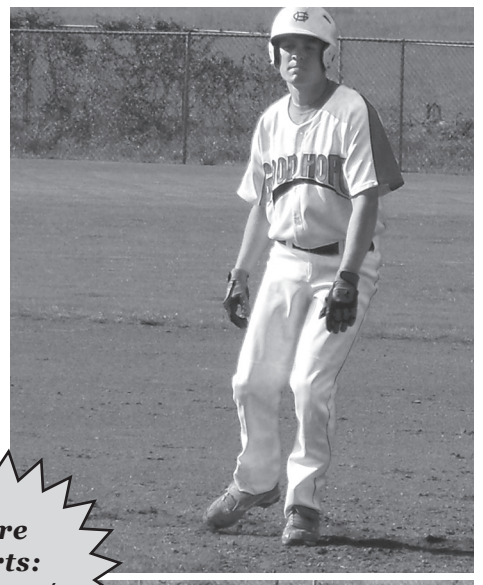
JM: What is your greatest accomplishment in sports?

MO: In response to that question, I really do not have a definitive answer.

With Miles O'Berry being a senior at Good Hope High School, his high school baseball career ended when Good Hope fell to Guntersville High School in the first round of the 2012 State Baseball playoffs.

For those lucky enough to see O'Berry on the diamond, you can appreciate what a talent he was in in he field and at the plate, and the type leader he was for his team in the dugout.





More sports: qrne.ws/sports





No Rivalry, Just Recovery

For photos go to cullmansense.com

By: Josh McBrayer
joshmcbrayer@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Alabama and Auburn fans alike stood shoulder to shoulder in line, waiting to meet players and receive autographs from greats of both schools Friday night at Heritage Park during the Rock the South concert. Whether the fans were screaming "War Eagle" or "Roll Tide," everyone had a great time.

The Cullman County chapter of the Alabama Club played host to Alabama Crimson Tide players including legendary receiver Tyrone Prothro along with Prince Wimbley, Derrick Lassic, David Palmer, and Antonio Langham from the 1992 National Championship team that was led by head coach Gene Stallings.

The Cullman County Chapter of the Auburn Club brought legends of their own in the form of Bill Newton and David Langner, the two players that were instrumental in the great Auburn moment, "Punt Bama Punt." Also signing autographs from Auburn was Neil Caudle, back-up quarterback and place kick holder on the 2010 Auburn Tigers National Championship team.

It didn't seem to matter if you were a fan of Alabama or Auburn, as Crimson Tide fans were seen obtaining autographs in the Auburn line and Auburn fans were doing the same in the Alabama line, There was even a little girl having the Alabama players sign her 2010 Auburn National Championship shirt as she was still wearing it.

Though the Alabama and Auburn players were at Rock the South to meet fans and sign autographs, there was another reason to their visit. Like most in attendance they were there to support the continued recovery of the April 27th devastation caused by the deadly tornadoes that swept through our great state. I had a chance to speak to several of the players and here is what they had to say about the recovery effort.

Bill Newton (Auburn)
"We both live in West Alabama. David (Langner) lives in Tuscaloosa and I live in Fayette. I have been supportive in other means, but just to come out and participate in something you are asked to (for this cause), the Auburn people have been great and I am here for that reason."

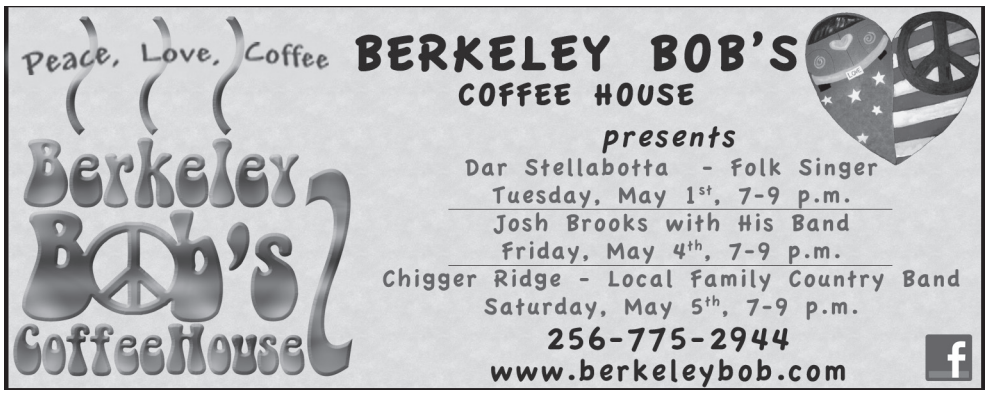
David Langner (Auburn)
"Being from Tuscaloosa, you know, our town has been doing this (remembering) all day in Tuscaloosa. During the day a friend of mine went to Mass and the football player at Alabama (Carson Tinker) that was holding his girlfriend, his mom spoke at Mass. That is the environment in Tuscaloosa and everywhere in the state right now."

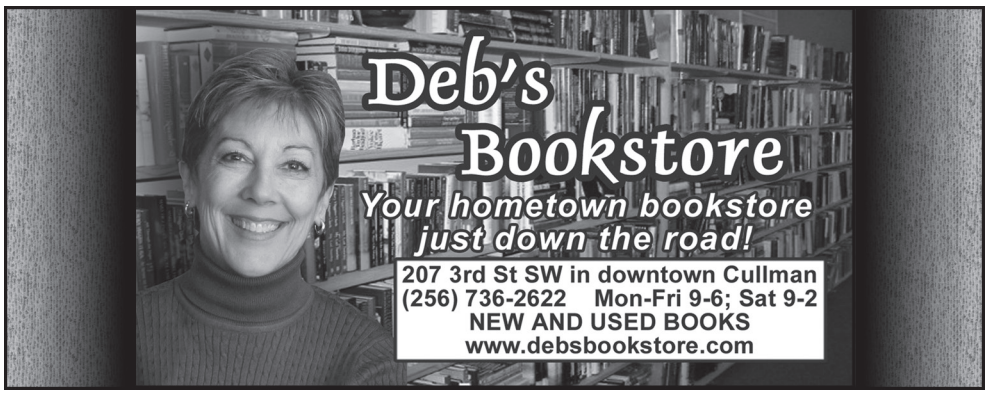
Neil Caudle (Auburn)
"I was real excited (to participate) especially since my dad is from around here, and he has a lot of family around here. I knew it was going to be a real big event, and special event for what happened last year. I was real excited because anytime you get to meet a bunch of good Auburn people you have a good time. I can't really remember, but I think we came up to see family (after the tornadoes) and we drove through town and saw the Busy Bee was gone and saw everything that had been destroyed. So we definitely saw (the devastation) first-hand. I haven't seen any of the rebuilding, but I am looking forward to getting up here soon and seeing the whole town."

David Palmer (Alabama)
"When anything like this happens my friend and her husband get in touch with me so I can come out and entertain the fans. I was coming to Huntsville when (the tornadoes) happened and I saw some of the devastation and it was very bad. (Rock the South) is such a positive for the community. I know a lot of places around the state are having some type of event for the anniversary and I think it is a really good thing or the people."

Rock the South was a tremendous success for the community and fans young and old, and the city of Cullman. Thank you to everyone who helped support the cause and always *Remember. Rebuild. Rise.*







Community Matters

New Country Music Artist and Wallace State Graduate Kip Moore Fondly Recalls Years Spent with Lions; Enjoying Success with Newly Released Album "Up All Night" and Debut Single "Something' 'Bout a Truck"

By: Russell Moore
WSCC Contributor

HANCEVILLE – Kip Moore didn't make many Wallace State golf road trips as a student-athlete without trying to sneak his Yamaha guitar in the van.

It also provided free entertainment, around 12 years ago, for his roommates and friends at the former College Park off-campus apartments.



Wherever Moore went, the guitar was likely to follow, especially after his daily basketball, golf or academic duties were complete.

All those hours with the guitar nearby have paid off.

Moore, a 2000 Wallace State graduate, is one of country music's rising stars and makes his home in Nashville.

His debut album hit stores and iTunes on Tuesday, becoming one of the top 10 albums downloaded.

His debut single "Somethin' 'Bout a Truck" currently sits at No. 9 on Billboard charts, has already reached gold status and the video has received more than 6 million hits on YouTube.

"All of this so far has been a blessing and so humbling. My manager called the morning of the album release and said it was the top downloaded album of the day. I'm a brand new artist, and things like that are hard to wrap your head around," said Moore, 31, in a phone interview this week while on the road in Charlotte, North Carolina "The whole thing is a whirlwind, but also humbling. It's a special feeling to get to do this for a living. This is stuff you can only dream about."

From basketball to golf at Wallace State

Moore's journey to Wallace State Community College from Tifton, Georgia came on the merits of a basketball scholarship. He signed to play with then-coach Paul Brown's squad, arriving in Hanceville in 1997, and played point guard for one season before catching the eye of Wallace State's NJCAA Hall of Fame golf coach Dan York.

"Growing up, I was all about basketball, but also a fanatic for music. Everything else was just a hobby. I played basketball for one year at Wallace State. One afternoon in the offseason I was hitting balls with the golf team, and coach York saw me and asked to come and play a round with the guys. I had a strong round and he offered me a scholarship. I played golf for two years before transferring to play golf for Valdosta State," said Moore, a member of the dean's list while at WSCC. "Coach York is like a second dad to me. I love that man, and he was by far the most special coach I've had in my life. I respect him so much."

Golf ran deep in Kip Moore's bloodlines. His father Stan spent time as a golf pro and his brother, David, preceded Kip on the Wallace State golf team.

"David was a great golfer and here a couple of years before Kip came to campus. Kip was all-around a good athlete and proved he had the golf skills to make the team. He's a hard-nosed guy and from the old school. At the end of the day, whether Kip shot a 66 or a 76, you knew it was his best effort. That was the type of competitor he was," said York, who is in his 25th year with the program.

"Kip was also a great student, but nothing I can say compares to how outstanding of a person he is. He's a true class act."

York vividly recalls one road trip he heckled Moore about his musical abilities. One of those times Moore broke out the guitar.

"I asked Kip if he could whistle and he said 'Yeah.' I told him it was a good thing because he sure couldn't sing," York joked. "Now, he's living the true American dream. Let's just say Kip reminds me of that when we talk."

Moore has a special place for Wallace State in his heart

After his golf career concluded at Wallace State, Moore spent two seasons at Valdosta State. While playing for the Blazers, Moore officially jump-started his musical career by playing spots in local clubs and restaurants with friends.

Upon graduation, Moore decided to travel to a unique spot for someone interested in a prospective music career, moving to Hawaii and living there for about six months.

"I moved out to a hut there and surfed and backpacked during the day and wrote songs at night," Moore said.

Moore then lived on the East Coast before packing up for Nashville on Jan. 1, 2004.

Now, as any new artist, Moore is constantly on the road, performing in various clubs on Monday through Wednesday nights and touring on the weekends with Billy Currington and David Nail, both of whom share the same record label (MCA Records Universal).

Among all his travels, Moore pinpoints the stint he spent in Hanceville as a special time in his life.

"I told my former Wallace State roommate the other day that I can honestly say the fondest memories of my life were the years I was there (in Hanceville). The neat thing about the school is that everyone was so tight and close knit, from students to employees. You see the same faces every day. You took the time to hang out with each other because there weren't a lot of places to go. It was a blast," Moore said. "It was such a tight, core group of people, and that's what I value about it. Everyone there is your friend.

"I think you build more special bonds at a place like Wallace State than you can at a bigger school."

Another country music singer, Jimi Westbrook of the group Little Big Town, attended Wallace State a few years before Moore. The college is also home to three current major league pitchers and two professional golfers.

"It's an exciting time for Kip Moore and Wallace State. We are thrilled that Kip has fulfilled his musical aspirations, and it's encouraging to see any Wallace State graduate achieve their career goals, whether as an entertainer, welder, doctor or teacher," said Wallace State President Dr. Vicki Hawsey. "Wallace State has a new favorite country music artist."

Moore's competitiveness has shaped musical career

"Up All Night" features 11 songs, all which were written or co-written by Moore, who was influenced as a youngster by artists like Willie Nelson, Bob Seger and Bruce Springsteen, who were his father's favorites.

Based off inspiration from those legendary performers, Moore's album has been positively described as "country Springsteen." Moore believes his experiences in athletics helped his rise in Music City.

"I got kicked in the teeth after I moved to Nashville. You get told 'no' so many times that you don't know what 'yes' sounds like. You have to have super tough skin when you move to a town like that because there are so many talented people," Moore said.

"That's where sports helped me. I'm an extreme competitor and almost treated this journey like a sport. I didn't get a record deal until I was living here eight years, but I was always determined to outwork everybody to get my chance. It's happening now."

Moore said he's proud to be part of the strong athletic tradition at Wallace State and also a fan of the Georgia Bulldogs, Atlanta Braves and Atlanta Falcons.

Moore sings there's "something 'bout a girl in a red sundress" in the single "Something' 'Bout a Truck," and unsurprisingly there have been multiple red sundresses in attendance during his performances.

"When you see those dresses, it means they're supporting what you do," Moore said. "I'm very grateful for that, and admit it's sometimes a little insane." Those who knew Kip at Wallace State join in that excitement.

"I'm as proud of Kip as I can be," York said. "He's living a true American dream. He deserves all the success he obtains."



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Community Matters

A Very Special Cause for Some Very Special Olympians

By: Josh McBrayer
joshmcbrayer@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – A very special event has taken place this week and I am not talking of Bo Bikes Bama or Rock the South, though each were fantastic causes in their own right.

The event I am speaking of is the Cops on Tops that took place at several Wal-Mart locations across the great state of Alabama.

Cops on Tops is a program designed as a fund-raiser for the athletes of the Special Olympics. The men and women of the local branches of law enforcement banded together to show support and raise money for this extremely worthy cause.

Raffle tickets were sold, with the prize being a light blue event shirt signed by former Heisman Trophy winner Bo Jackson, NBA legend and Hall of Fame inductee Scottie Pippen, Gold Medal Olympic downhill skier Picabo Street, and future MLB Hall of Famer Ken Griffey Jr.

Donations were also taken at both entrances to Wal-Mart. Everyone on the premises working with Cops on Tops was strictly a volunteer and none of the law enforcement personnel were paid for their time as 100% of all money raised goes directly to the Special Olympics to help pay for medals and travel to various meets.

The police chopper was on-hand for people to inspect and take photos of, as well as a city, county, and state trooper vehicle.

The Meth Education Vehicle, a vehicle resembling a hearse with images of how meth ravages a body printed on all surfaces, was also on display.

Along with the various volunteers and law enforcement personnel on hand, there was a "guest of honor" of sorts. Special Olympic two-time gold medalist Jackie Fuller to be exact.

"I bowl in Decatur and last year I came back from Greece," Mr. Fuller said. "I was there in March and came back in June. I played three games; one was single and I got gold, one in doubles I got gold, and one in teams I got silver."

Mr. Fuller told me of what a great time he had in Greece and that it is fundraisers like this that make it possible to send him on once in a lifetime trips to places like Greece to compete on a global level in the Special Olympics. This cause is one that is dear to many people including Chief Deputy Sheriff Max Bartlett.

"Cops on Tops is basically one of the fundraisers that law enforcement does for the Special Olympics," Bartlett said. "The original idea was for law enforcement to come together and get on top of Wal-Mart until you raise whatever amount of donations you decided to raise then after that you would come down, usually a 48 period. Corporate Wal-Mart decided that they would rather not do that because of liability so that is why I keep trying to explain (to the crowd) why we are not up there. This is just one of the fundraisers we do. We do 5K's, we do Polar Plunges, we do Tip a Cop. We do all kinds of fundraisers and they are all to promote Special Olympics and raise funds for Special Olympics."

Editor's note: Please consider giving to this amazing cause so that these special athletes can continue to apply their craft and thrive at their favorite sports not only here at the local level, but also on the state and international levels as well.

A Fan's Perspective (Cont.)

flickered. After three flickers of the light, Scotty said that he grabbed his girls up and headed to safety. He said he looked up and saw it was right on top of them. Living in a trailer made this very dangerous and Scotty said he completely underestimated the situation.

"I just had to see for myself. I'll never do it again though," he said. "Next time I'll listen to my wife and do what she says."

"Kids will too," April added.

James Usry and Carolyn Duke, from Arakadelphia, didn't have much damage, other than the loss of a few trees. When asked if they liked having an event such as "Rock the South" here in Cullman they replied with, "It's great!"

Leah Hudson and Debbie Hudson, both from Warrior, were hit by the morning tornado with mostly tree damage for them. However, some of their neighbors had more damage, but to them "nothing compared to here or in Tuscaloosa."

Glen Bowling and Sherry Spitzer, both from Good Hope, fortunately had no damage whatsoever. However, their family which lives out towards Whitlock's, had lots of trees down, but "no loss of life, thank God," Glen said. With an event such as "Rock the South" Glenn said, "It's good to see the community coming together for something like this."

Ruby Tallaksen, from New Hope, and Shannon Allen, from Harvest, came out to the first year event after hearing a snippet on the radio regarding the one-day festival. Shannon heard about "Rock the South" and won tickets through the radio station WDRM.

Ruby was a mile from where the tornado hit, other than debris and hail they had no damage.

"I found a baseball card and a picture of a family at Christmas time along with plywood, shingles, and insulation," Ruby said.

"We actually went to WAFF 48 and posted the pictures and baseball card to see if anyone would claim them and no one ever did." The family toughed it out seven days with no power and Ruby described it as "a time where everybody came together because everybody was scared and thankful because it didn't get us."

Shannon's children were at school that day and the aftermath has now left them with a stronger fear of storms. She and her family were able to pack up, leaving home for Gulf Shores. Many realtors had heard what happened and let tornado victims come stay at almost three-quarter of the regular rates.

Marian and Terry Milewski, originally from Michigan, moved to Cullman to live on Smith Lake. They did not have any damage, but Marian spent three months working with St. Vincent serving power crews that were here. Marian was happy to have, "an opportunity to have a concert and event like this in Cullman."

A lot of people that spoke up did not have much structural damage; most felt the effects of the power outage lasting at the least 7 days.

One unusual note found at the inaugural "Rock the South" Music Festival is that this was also a lot of people's first time to ever attend a large scale concert. So for many maybe a dream had come true, or they could at least check 'attend a concert' off that bucket list of theirs.

Either way, an event like this for the first time in Cullman was well attended and much appreciated by all in attendance.

It was an ideal way for friends and family to spend time together on a day that a year ago they might have spent without a home and most everyone spent without power.











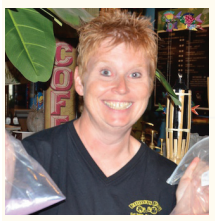


Lifestyle

Passion for the Kitchen

Send your recipes to recipes@cullmansense.com

By: Annette Harris
annetteharris@cullmansense.com



qrne.ws/aharris

Its About More Than Quiche

This story kind of jumps around. It will make sense after you get all this read, but it has to do with the quiche. This is a good recipe.

Around tax season, I try to make treats of some sort for our accountant's office. They are some of the best and hardest working people I know. I know that time of year is stressful, so this year I made several different quiches for them. They are always grateful for anything I make for them. I think I could make a mud pie and they would tell me how delicious it was.

These are the kind of people that you want in your life. They are like family to us. When we started our business almost 12 years ago, one of my friends suggested Gloria to us and we sure are glad she did. Tammy is a super brain that keeps us on track and Melannie is her sidekick.

Without them, we honestly could not run our business. Gloria is the ringleader who has a brain like a steel trap that retains so much up to date information that there's no way we could go astray. I don't know how she does it. I hardly ever see her, so I figure she is brainstorming away in her office with her fingers flying 90 miles an hour on her computer. I can just see her now. Sometimes I wonder if Melannie and Tammy keep her prisoner.

Anyway, 9/11, a day we will all remember. We were in the deli getting ready for lunch and I was talking to our bread man. We were the only restaurant in town that had TVs hanging all around. A special report came on and we stood there watching a plane fly into one of the World Trade Center buildings. We were shocked; thinking some plane just lost control and flew right into it. A few minutes later we realized it was much more.

Slowly and silently, people flooded the deli from the offices and businesses all around and above us. Everyone was staring silently at the TVs, watching the horrible event happen.

The next thing that happened was getting a call from one of the tenants saying they were having a special prayer outside. I remember standing there with them all, holding hands and praying aloud and silently for us shy ones. That's power. That's special and that's family.

Its not unusual to get an e-mail from one of them asking for a prayer for someone and I have asked them for the same favor. We have been blessed more than we could have ever asked for by being in that building and knowing these people. It doesn't get any better than this.

It's about more than quiche.



Photos by Annette Harris

Simple Quiche

Used to, when I heard the word "quiche" I thought that it was some big fancy deal that I would never eat, let alone make.

Well, I was wrong. I decided to try it and you can make any kind your heart desires. This is a very easy recipe. It makes two quiches, so you can freeze one for later.

This makes two quiches.

Ingredients:

- 2- 9" deep-dish pie crusts
- 12 eggs. (6 for each quiche)
- 8 oz. shredded cheese of your choice
- 4 oz. chopped ham per quiche
- 4 oz. bacon, cooked and broken up per quiche
- 3 cups heavy whipping cream
- Salt and pepper to taste

Directions:

1. Preheat the oven to 400 degrees.
2. In a medium bowl, beat 6 of the eggs, add 1 ½ cups heavy whipping cream, salt and pepper.
3. In one of the pie crusts, put the chopped ham and bacon. Add in 4 oz. of cheese. Sometimes I add more because I love cheese.
4. Pour the eggs and heavy whipping cream over the meat and cheese.

* If you know you are going to freeze one, don't cook it. Cover it with foil and put it in the freezer. You don't have to thaw it out to cook it, but turn the oven down to 350 and bake it a little longer.

5. Bake 30-40 minutes, but don't over cook it. Eggs harden up some when they start cooling down.

See how easy that was?

Other things to add:

- Chives
- Mix in some pepper jack cheese
- Bell peppers
- Diced tomatoes
- Sausage
- Heaven forbid…spinach
- Broccoli (Yuccoli in my book)
- Mushrooms

Apple Betty

I have always liked this dessert, but I forget about it for some reason, maybe because it's so easy. I used to work in a restaurant in high school and the lady that made it didn't have a recipe.

She just dumped things together and it turned out fantastic. I had to have something to go by, so I looked it up.

Turns out, I find myself dumping things together as well and it always turns out. Some people eat this with ice cream on top, but I eat it just like it is.

Ingredients:

- 2 c. apples - I use Granny Smith apples
- 1/2 c. sugar
- 1 tsp. cinnamon
- 3/4 c. quick cooking oatmeal
- 3/4 c. self-rising flour
- 3/4 c. brown sugar
- 1/2 c. melted butter or margarine

Directions:

1. Mix apples, sugar, and cinnamon and place in a greased 9x9 inch casserole dish.
2. Combine the oats, flour, brown sugar, and butter. Crumble over apples.
3. Bake at 350 degrees for 30-45 minutes.



Mirroring History

Exploring Historic Downtown Cullman: L. & N. Depot

Past



Contributed from *Cullman: A History in Postcards*

Present



Photo by Jessica Norrell

Local Events Calendar

Send your Events to: calendar@cullmansense.com

Monday, April 30th

Bosom Buddies Support Group
Join in as the Bosom Buddies Support Group offers encouragement and support to individuals affected by Breast Cancer. This meeting, open to everyone, is held in the Ave Maria Room of CRMC's POB II building and will begin at 6 p.m.

Kay Parker Phillips, CRNP with Cullman Gastroenterology Associates, will discuss the topic of Colon Cancer and the importance of screening tests. Mary Dyer is group coordinator and she can be reached at 256-734-8729.

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.

Yoga Classes at Sacred Heart Monastery
Yoga classes are held each Monday evening through May 21, beginning at 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Yoga classes are open to all interested and will take place at the Sacred Heart Monastery. Sr. Mary McGehee has additional information at 256-736-5820. The cost is $50.00 for each 6-week session.

Cornerstone Revival Ladies Prayer Meeting
A Ladies Prayer meeting is conducted each Monday night at 7 p.m. at Cornerstone Revival Center. For additional information 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 that 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!

Tuesday, May 1st

'Locks of Love Donation Day' at West Point High School
A 'Locks of Love' Donation Day will be held at West Point High School starting at 3:30 p.m. for all those who wish to donate their hair to a nonprofit organization that provides hairpieces to disadvantaged children under 18 who are suffering from long-term medical hair loss from any diagnosis.

Hair needs to be at least 10 inches in length and styled in a braid or ponytail. Colored hair, but not bleached, is accepted. There will be hairstylists on hand for those who wish to have their hair cut/styled for $15.00, and any other monetary donations are graciously accepted for this program.

Farmers Market at Festhalle
The Cullman Farmers Market at the Festhalle Market Platz is open for spring. The Market opens every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. Come see what our local farmers and growers have in store for you from week to week.

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.

Wednesday, May 2nd

Boy Scouts of America's 'American Values Luncheon
The Greater Alabama Council of the Boy Scouts of America will honor three local community members during its 'American Values Luncheon' at Terri Pines Country Club. This event starts at 11:30 a.m. and will conclude by 1 p.m. This year's honorees include Dr. Jan Harris, Mr. Tommy Howard, and Mr. Don Morgan and his family for their supporting interest and dedication to both our local scouting programs and the national ones as well. Hatton C. V. Smith, CEO of Royal Cup Coffee will be the speaker during this luncheon.

Everyone with an interest in Cullman's very active scouting program is welcome to attend. For further information and to register to attend, please contact either of the following co-chairs of the event Joe Hagan at 256-734-1627 or Robin Lambert at 256-775-6642. You may also check through email at scoutcullman@gmail.com.

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!

Thursday, May 3rd

'Raising Backyard Poultry'
'Raising Backyard Poultry' is the theme of this month's gardening workshop which is offered by the Alabama Cooperative Extension Agency, North Alabama Agriplex, and Peinhardt Living Farm. These monthly workshops are conducted on the first Thursday of each month at the North Alabama Agriplex Center on Highway 278 West, behind the Bowling Alley.

There is a $5.00 fee per person. For further information and to pre-register, please contact Rachel at 256-297-1044 or thru email at cullmanag@gmail.com. Bring your family and learn about the benefits of having your own backyard poultry.

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.

Friday, May 4th

Relay for Life Senior Segment
The Senior segment of Cullman's Relay for Life activities will feature opening ceremonies at noon at the VFW Fairgrounds. Ms. Senior Cullman County 2011 Brenda Foxx will entertain attendees with music during the event. Kelly Townsend at the Senior Center has additional information at 256-734-1241. Make plans to join your Senior friends and enjoy being part of the Relay for Life event.

Relay for Life
With a theme of 'Power of Purple', the 2012 Cullman Relay for Life's weekend of events will take place, Friday, May 4, and, Saturday, May 5, at Cullman County Fairgrounds. For additional information you may contact Helen Hallen at 256-709-4019.

Senior Fishing Day
Mark your calendars for Senior Fishing Day sponsored by the Commission on Aging. Bring your lawn chairs, fishing gear, and bait and be prepared to catch a few for a fish supper! There will be trophies awarded for first, second, and third place to those who catch the biggest fish. In addition, there will be trophies awarded to the oldest man and the oldest woman fishing during this fun day.

Cullman County Commission on Aging and the City of Hanceville team up each year to put on this free Senior Fishing Day. Lunch also is provided for attendees. This event is held at Hanceville's Veterans Park and everyone is invited to attend. Come enjoy a spring day and get prepared to catch some hungry fish today! Website is www.cullmancocoa.webs.com.

Friday Night Dance at the VFW
Cullman's VFW Post 2214 invites everyone to come to their weekly Friday night dances at the VFW Hall from 7 p.m. until 10 p.m. The cost is $5.00 per person and music by the Golden Oldies and Country with the Midnight Highway Band will be filling the air. Funds raised go toward the building rental. Get your dancing shoes on and come out for a great evening of fun and entertainment tonight!

Saturday, May 5th

'The Chicken & the Egg'
Farm Kids Club activity will feature 'The Chicken & the Egg.' This program is open to all children ages kindergarten and up, and they should be accompanied by an adult. The cost of this seminar is $5.00 per person and the session starts at 9 a.m.

Sponsored by the North Alabama Agriplex Board and Peinhardt Living History Farm, everyone is welcome to come and take part in these special monthly events! To pre-register and for additional information, please call 256-297-1044 or email cullmanag@gmail.com.

Alabama Express Youth Football and Cheerleading
Alabama Express Youth Football and Cheerleading will be having signups from 1-4 p.m. at Heritage Park (near the baseball fields) in Cullman. Cost is $125 for new players/cheerleaders and that includes 2 jerseys, game pants, leg pads, helmet and a shoulder pad rental. You own all of the equipment except for the shoulder pads. For returning players that do not need any new uniforms or equipment the cost is $45.

We are a Christian based, drama free program. We have a limit of 25 kids per team to ensure maximum playing time for everyone. Ages 5-12, weight based. Come out and see Snort, our state of the art, inflatable run-out out tunnel! You may contact Scott Wakefield at 205-540-3535 or check Facebook at www.facebook.com/alabamaexpressfootball.

Community Fiesta
A Community Fiesta will take place at Sportsman's Lake Park from 1 p.m. until 6 p.m. This event is open to all families and friends so come on out and enjoy a beautiful spring day and take part in the free rides, food and music. For additional information or suggestions to make this celebration even better, please contact Adrian Ramirez at 256-255-0199.

CHS Class of 2002 10-year Reunion
Cullman High School Class of 2002 will have its 10-year class reunion Saturday, May 5. Go to http://www.cullmanhs2002.com to register and for more information. Also visit the Facebook page-Cullman High School Class of 2002 Reunion.

Cullman AYSO Soccer Registration
Registration for Cullman AYSO soccer will be held on May 5th from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. for $70.

A birth certificate is required for ALL players. For more information visit www.cullmanayso.org or call 256-297-1731.

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.

The Boogie Night Band provides music on Saturday nights. 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!

Sunday, May 6th

Financial Freedom
Financial freedom classes, based on Dave Ramsey's 'Financial Peace and Total Money Makeover' will be taught at Hanceville First United Methodist Church in Hanceville beginning at 2:30 p.m.

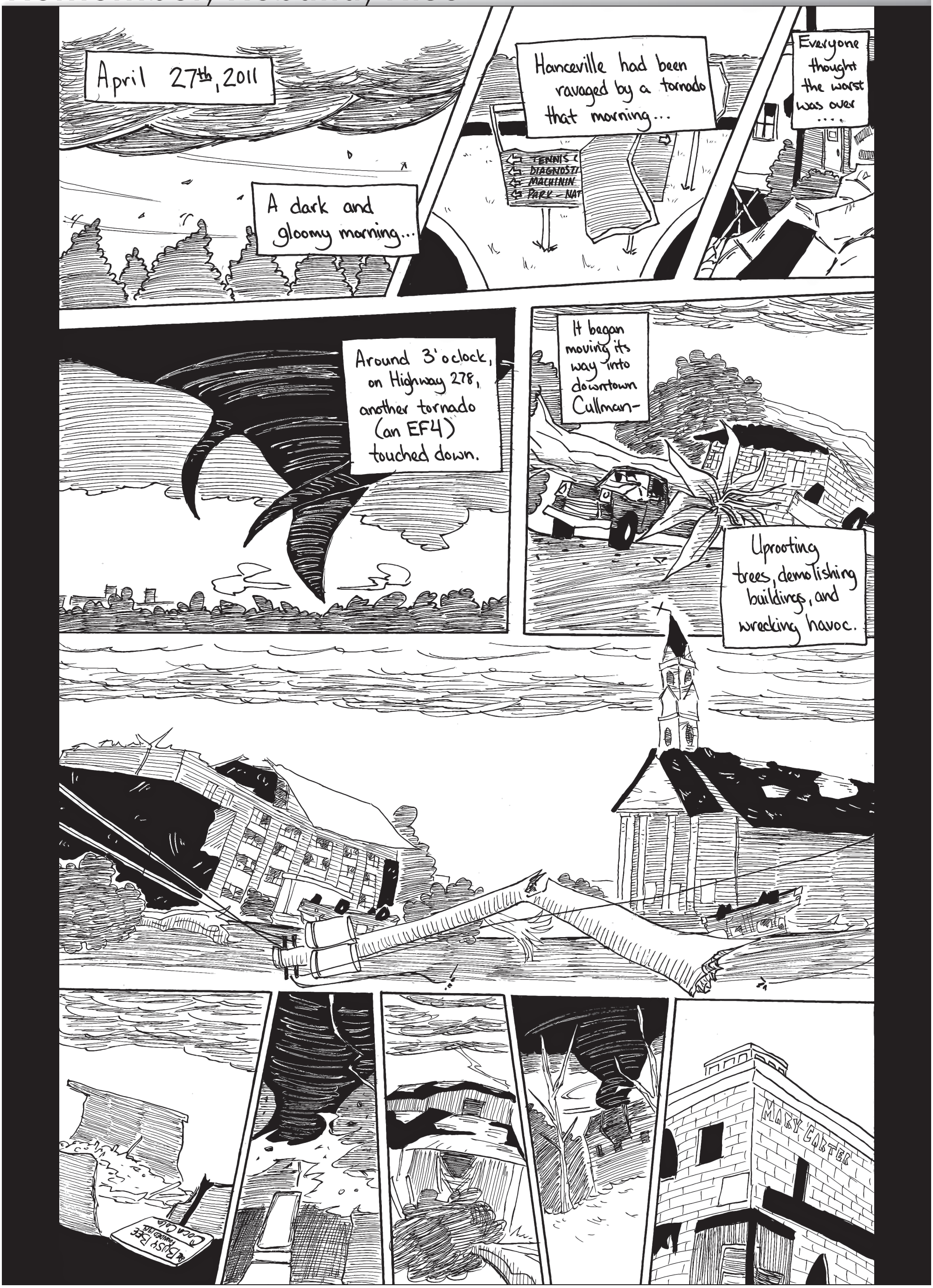
Classes are free to the public, but reservations to be part of the class MUST be made prior to April 15th.Further information and reservations may be made by contacting Tonia Beverly at 256-531-3083 or through her email at tonia.c.beverly@gmail.com. These classes have proven to be beneficial and everyone is welcome to take part during these educational sessions.

Looking Ahead

Spring Bluegrass Festival
Come out to the Spring Bluegrass Fest at Horse Pens 40 on May 18, 19, and 20. Featuring Cottonmouth Creek, Newgrass Troubadours, Camp Meeting, Blackrock Station, Angela McKinney, PamThrower and Shine, Azalea Ridge. There will be an arts and crafts show on Saturday as well. For more information visit hp40.com.

10th Annual Hanceville Varsity Cheerleader Yardsale
On Saturday May 26, beginning at 7:00 a.m. in front of Hanceville High School the Hanceville Varsity Cheerleaders will hold their 10th annual yard sale. Proceeds will benefit the Varsity Cheerleaders. There will also be a car show at the school on that day to benefit the school's cross country team.

Remember, Rebuild, Rise



Remember, Rebuild, Rise





Schedule: All Entertainment will take place under the Entertainment Tent located in the public parking lot behind the Cullman County Museum.

Friday, May 11

7:00	Farmers Market Open
8:00	Arts & Crafts Fair and Antique Tractor show
9:00	Cullman County Museum
9:00	Congregational Singing
10:00	Opening Ceremonies with special Guest
10:30	Senior Rap & Tap Band
11:00	Lunch
11:30	Bingo
1:00	Nashville Recording Artist "Mean Mary" James
3:00	Bill Reid and Friends
5:00	Cullman Idol Contest (Youth Disivion)

Saturday, May 12

7:00	Farmers Market Open
8:00	Arts & Crafts Fair and Car Show Open Kid's Fun Area Open 5K Run Starts
9:00	James Taylor- Singer Cullman Museum Opens Civil War Exhibit
10:00	Cullman High School Show Choir Wiener Dog Race & Fun Dog Activities
11:00	Wallace State Jazz Band
Noon	Roy Crawford and Cullman County Bluegrass
1:00	Three On a String- music
3:00	Cullman High School Jazz Band
4:00	Exit 310 - Music
6:00	Cullman Community Band
7:00	Cullman Idol Contest (Adult Division)

Info: 256-739-1258 /1-800-533-1258