SERIES 2, ISSUE 32 MONDAY, AUGUST 06, 2012

CULLMAN'S MONDAY NEWSPAPER

CULLMANSENSE

COMMUNITY MATTERS

$0.50 $0.50


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Revving Up for Charity

By: Noah Chandler
noahchandler@cullmansense.com



qrnews/nchandler



Photos by Dustin Isom

CULLMAN – Several dozen Mopar enthusiasts brought their supped up cars out to the Cullman Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram Saturday to help raise money for local charities all while having a good time showing off their cars.

Brenda Allison, with Pentastar South Car Club, said the yearly event is one that the entire club looks forward to each year. She said the car club has always enjoyed raising money and awareness for local organizations which may be in need of financial funding.

"We appreciate everyone who came out to support us," Allison said. "We always have a good response and this year is no different."

Pentastar originated in Birmingham during the 1980s and over the years the club has seen a drop off in members. Allison said the club was moved up to Cullman roughly five years ago, which in turn has led them to reach more people.

The car show is Pentastar's way to help raise money for local causes, such as donating to food banks or child services in the area, while also allowing Mopar enthusiasts to have a good time.

"The dealership is a big contributor. Each year the proceeds go towards Christmas Love, along with a few other organizations," Allison said.

"Our club is totally non-profit, which means we do not keep any of the money. It all goes towards the charities and organizations which need it."

Richard Gerthoffer, Cullman Dodge Chrysler Jeep Ram Manager, said the dealership is always happy to host the car show. He said the outpouring of support from the community each year shows them why it is important to give back to the community.

"It gets people to come out, take part in enjoying these classic Mopar cars," Gerthoffer said.

"It also gets people involved, helping raise money for charities in Cullman. Honestly, it is just a great way for us to give back to a community which has supported us."

The results of the car show are as follows:

Managers Choice Award went to Don and Bonnie Merrell for their 1941 Dodge Panel Truck.

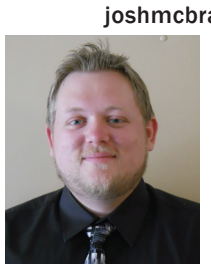
Top Four Awards for Excellence

- Michael Burke - 1970 Plymouth Roadrunner
- Robert Hunt - 1967 Plymouth Sport Fury III Convertible
- Gene Warfield - 1964 Plymouth Sport Fury
- Eric Perrine - 1974 Dodge Challenger

See Page 2

ASA Takes Over Saint Bernard

By: Josh McBrayer
joshmcbrayer@cullmansense.com



qrnews/jmcbrayer

ST.BERNARD – The buildings on the campus of Saint Bernard Preparatory in Cullman looks like they were taken right out of the Middle Ages and if you were to have seen all the arrows flying through the air this weekend, you may very well have thought that you had stepped back in time.

For you see, Cullman City Parks & Recreation and Saint Bernard played host to the Archery Shooters Association (ASA) who brought their biggest tournament of the year to Cullman. Shooters came from all over the world to compete in the qualify-to-shoot tournament, meaning you had to qualify at a different tournament, not just pay an entry fee.

"These are the best shooters around," said Cullman City Parks & Recreation Director John Hunt. "If you are not shooting in the Olympics, you are here. There is even a shooter that came all the way from Australia to participate in this tournament."

The scope of the tournament is massive. With thousands of shooters ranging from the young shooters all the way up to the 70 and over division, this is the biggest event of the ASA season. This is also the event where they crown the top shooter for the year. That shooter will walk away with $5,000 in bonus prize money.



Photos by Jessica Norrell

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Community Matters



Revving Up for Charity (Continued from Front)

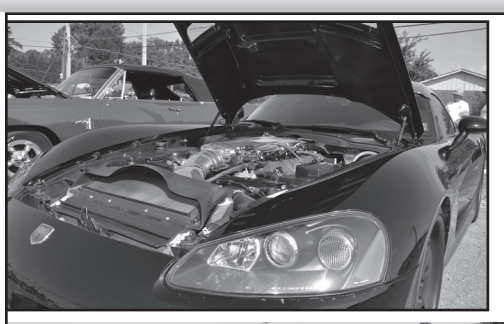
Top Twenty Awards:

- Arthur Cole - 1977 Dodge Power Wagon
- Charlie Patton - 1970 Dodge Challenger
- Joe Arnold - 1972 Plymouth Duster
- Carl Mansell - 2011 Dodge Challenger RT
- Don Whisnant - 2010 Dodge Challenger
- Eric Perrine - 2009 Dodge Challenger
- Mickey Smith - 1968 Dodge Dart GTS
- Lennie Schrimsher - 1974 Dodge Challenger
- John Wardzala - 1972 Dodge Charger
- Don Reid - 1947 D-24
- Terry Calvert - 1973 Dodge Charger
- Scott Wheatley - 1999 Dodge Ram Truck
- Jerry Scott - 1965 Plymouth Satellite
- Will Rupprecht - 1965 Dodge Coronet 500
- Steve Dudley - 1969 Dodge Super Bee
- Jason Burke - 1970 Dodge Coronet
- Mike Howard - 1969 Plymouth GTX
- Walt Sarzynsik - 2010 Dodge Challenger SRT8
- Joe Short - 2008 Dodge Charger SRT8
- Ronnie Bevington - 1932 Plymouth Sedan













Attention Readers:

Do you have a burning question that you don't know who to ask? Do you need advice? Then submit your question for inclusion in our new advice column and get answers to life's toughest questions to advice@cullmansense.com.

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No(ah)-It-All: : The Name Game

By: Noah Chandler

noahchandler@cullmansense.com

What's in a name? Does it dictate who you become? For example, the child who has been named, oh I don't know, Pilot Inspector, will he inevitable be a real life pilot inspector? Trivial, trite, and bizarre as it may be, most people make judgments about a person based solely on their name. I've seen it happen before and it will continue to occur as long as parents find unique names to bestow upon their children.

Here are a couple of quick examples. My sister, Regan LaRiena, received her name shortly after the release of a beautiful tale of possession gone right, "The Exorcist." My mother denies naming her after the possessed character, but the name, which struck fear in so many, became a hit once the movie was released in December of 1973. The second portion of her name was tagged as my mother was reading through a baby naming book. The author just so happened to be named LaRiena.

I was blessed, or cursed depending on which side of the equation you're on, with a name such as Noah Zebulon Chandler. Noah came from my grandfather, a very stern, mean man, while Zebulon came from "How the West Was Won." Both Biblical names, both Jewish, but neither came from spiritual influence. It was a given that a nickname was in my future, because who is really going to call a child Zebulon (no offense to my only living parental unit).

The condensed version left the name at Zeb, with which came a wild child whirlwind. Just ask one of the many teachers who were left questioning their occupational decision at the end of each day if you doubt the intensity that was the child version of yours truly.

Of course, since my classmates grew up with this name it naturally stuck with me all through my formal schooling, and even into my "secondary" education. Once I had elected to enter into the wonderful field that is journalism a decision was made to switch over to Noah because, frankly, it was time for a change and it felt right.

I shed the old, put on the new and ran with the refreshing change. At first it wasn't a big issue. However, over the years it has become a confusing mess as those who knew me as a child speak with those who know me strictly from this wonderful profession. It was entertaining at first but it has thoroughly ran its course, hence this column.

For the longest time, looking back on it now, it seems that all I was trying to do was distance myself from me by disconnecting from my youth. The delightful youthful indiscretions, backroom poker games, and late nights running the roads were behind me, so it felt natural to shift over to the new chapter.

During the first few years using my birth name it became evident that people were always going to ask questions regarding the change. This was a great irritant, but then again so am I therefore it is nothing more than a negative voiding outing another negative. The past was gone, while the present was whizzing by so quick that it barely had time to birth the future, yet somehow I kept being pulled back to explain the transition.

Each time someone called out that nickname the brain felt as if going to implode, because exploding would be way too much sharing, but I had to be nice in order to explain the name change. Nowadays it is nothing more than a confusing mess so for that please accept my humblest apology. With that being said may this trivial, trite, and insignificant subject finally perish, to only be burned and urned afterwards.

Now with saying all of that let's just see what the names mean. Both of my sister's names Regan and LaRiena translate to Queen. Noah translates to Peace, while Zebulon means Exalted or Honored. The last name passed on to me by my dad is Chandler that translates to Candle maker.

For those who know my sister then it is safe to say the name suits her. And for those who know me, well, it might be hard to argue that I am by any means Exalted or Honored and Peace has never been a goal of mine. But at least there is light produced by the candles to keep me company.

About Us - Call us Anytime at 256-297-1847

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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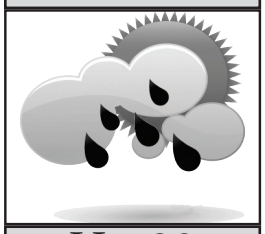
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CullmanSense Weekly Weather Forecast

Source: NWS

Monday



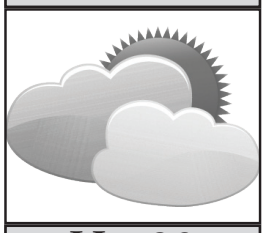
Hi: 89
Lo: 70

Day: Showers and thunderstorms likely. Mostly cloudy, with a high near **89**.

Calm wind becoming southeast around 5 mph in the afternoon. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around **70**. Calm wind.

Tuesday



Hi: 89
Lo: 68

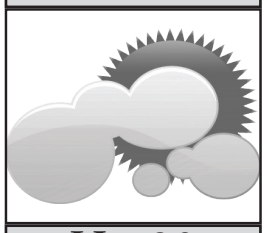
Day: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny, with a high near **89**.

Calm wind becoming east around 5 mph in the afternoon.

Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms.

Partly cloudy, with a low around **68**. Calm wind.

Wednesday



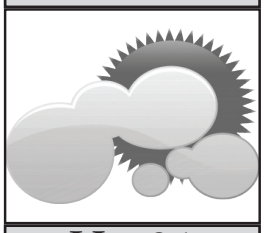
Hi: 90
Lo: 70

Day: A 40 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near **90**.

Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around **70**.

View our sports coverage online: qrne.ws/sports

Thursday



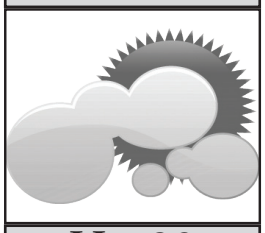
Hi: 91
Lo: 71

Day: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near **91**.

Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around **71**.

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Friday



Hi: 89
Lo: 68

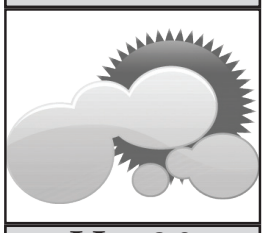
Day: A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near **89**.

Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around **68**.

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Saturday



Hi: 90
Lo: 69

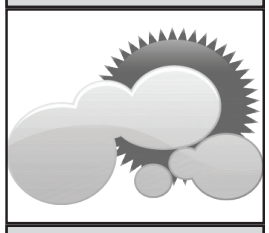
Day: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near **90**.

Night: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly cloudy, with a low around **69**.

Watch our YouTube Channel:

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Sunday



Hi: 89

Day: A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near **89**.

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For weather updates, visit us at **cullmansense.com**.

SPORTS

Area Team Spotlight: The Holly Pond Broncos,Vinemont Eagles, and Cold Springs Eagles

By: Josh McBrayer
joshmcbrayer@cullmansense.com

Holly Pond Broncos

We are just a few short weeks away from the upcoming high school football season and every team is hard at work looking to improve on their records from last season. From the Cold Springs Eagles looking for their first win in over three years to the other end of the spectrum with the Hanceville Bulldogs looking to have back-to-back 10-0 seasons.

Every team has lost some key players and added some players that are sure to step up and emerge as stars. Over the next few weeks, CullmanSense will be bringing you interviews and insight from the coaches from around Cullman County. First in this series is Nate Ayres and his Holly Pond Broncos. Ayers enters his third season as Holly Pond's head football guru. He took time away from preparing for the upcoming season to answer these questions for CullmanSense.

Josh McBrayer: What do you see yourself doing to improve on last season?

Nate Ayers: We are going to spread the ball around to more people and try to get our play makers in space.

JM: Who do you see as your toughest opponent this upcoming year?

NA: Our toughest regional opponent could be one of several teams: Sylvania, Gerldine, Plainview, and Pisgah. Non-region would have to be the Fairview Aggies.

JM: Who are you looking to lead your team this upcoming season on offense?

NA: We have good senior leadership on both sides of the ball.

JM: How many starters do you have coming back?

NA: We have seven starters returning this season. They are playing on both sides of the ball.

JM: How many seniors do you have on this year's team?

NA: We have 11 seniors on the team for the upcoming season.

JM: Aside from winning a State title, what are your goals for this upcoming season?

NA: We want to out-work every team on our schedule and if we do that, everything else will take care of its self.

Ayers and his Holly Pond Broncos started off on the wrong foot last year in the season opener. They dropped their first game of the 2011 season to the Good Hope Raiders 17-14 and went on to lose five of their first six games before catching fire to win their last four game and secure a spot in the state playoffs. They traveled to Lauderdale County for their first round match-up with the Tigers that ended in defeat. The Broncos look for redemption in the season opener on Thursday August 30th against, you guessed it, the Good Hope Raiders. Unlike last year though, the Broncos get the Raiders at home.

Vinemont Eagles

Next stop on the Area Football Report is the campus of Vinemont High School. Here you will find second year head football coach, Alan Scott, hard at work with his Vinemont Eagle football squad. Scott and his Eagles look for a fresh start, moving from Class 3A Region 5 to Class 3A Region 7 and hope to improve on their 2-7 record from just a year ago. Coach Scott took time from his preparations for the 2012 season to answer these questions for CullmanSense.

Josh McBrayer: What do you see yourself doing to improve on last season?

Alan Scott: We plan to put emphasis on our work in the weight room and keep our mental toughness.

JM: Who do you see as your toughest opponent this upcoming year?

AS: I believe that every team in our region is a quality opponent. Hanceville is coming off an undefeated 10 win regular season, Good Hope is moving down from 4A to 3A, and Hamilton, Winfield, and Cordova are strong year-in and year-out.

JM: Who are you looking to lead your team this upcoming season on offense? Why? Defense? Why?

AS: Our leaders on the offensive side of the ball are Duncan Hopper under center at quarterback, Ty Jones and Tyler Boland at running back and offensive linemen, Marcus Clarke, Austin Blair, and Logan Wallace. On the defensive side of the ball are linebackers Sam Wood and Kurtis Brawner, defensive linemen, Taylor Evans, Blake Kimbril, and Dewey Batemon.

JM: How many starters do you have coming back?

AS: We only lost two starters from last year so we have most starters coming back.

JM: How many seniors do you have on this year's team?

AS: We have 5 Seniors: Duncan Hopper, Ty Jones, Teddy Drake, Logan Wallace, and Blane Black.

JM: Aside from winning a state title, what are your goals for this upcoming season?

AS: Our team goals this year are to execute our offense, defense, and special teams in a manner that allows us to put ourselves in a position to win every game that we play.

Coach Scott believes in his players, his team, and his schemes on both sides of the ball. He has also picked up a new assistant who will be helping with the quarterbacks. Anyone who attended Vinemont or has followed Vinemont football will recognize the new assistant's name, Stan Jennings, who was a fine quarterback for the Vinemont Eagles when he played. With the work ethic of the Vinemont staff and players and the addition of Jennings, this should be a team you keep your eye on this season. Vinemont opens their season at home versus the Brindlee Mountain Lions on Friday, August 31st.

Cold Springs Eagles

The third stop on our trip around Cullman County brings us to Cold Springs to talk the Cold Springs Eagles' head football coach, Rodney Elliott. This is not Elliott's first go-round as head coach of the Eagles. It is his fifth season overall but just his first since 2005. Elliott is hard at work getting back in the swing of things and getting to learn his new team. He was kind enough to give CullmanSense a few minutes of his time during this process.

Josh McBrayer: What do you see yourself doing to improve on last season?

Rodney Elliott: Because this is my first year we have to start from day one developing a strong work ethic. We have to gain some confidence and have a culture of winning football. We can develop a culture by how hard we work. "Work Will Win When Wishing Won't" is a saying that we are using to help the culture. We have to learn how to compete on every play and to our work our opponent.

JM: Who do you see as your toughest opponent this upcoming year?

RE: We haven't won a game in three and half years so I would anticipate all of our opponents will be tough. I think we are moving in to a much tougher region than what we have been playing in. There are a lot of traditional football schools in this region that have a tradition of winning football games. Also we have a couple of teams that are dropping down to Class 2A football from Class 3A, which is a concern.

JM: Who are you looking to lead your team this upcoming season on offense? Defense?

RE: Football is a team sport, so each player will have an important role for us to be successful. Offensively, Logan Campbell will be our QB and that is always an important leadership role. We will have several guys that will run the ball for us: Nicholas Speer and Caleb Ellison will both be fullbacks. Vince Stewart, Jayden Watson, and Austin Moore will be our running backs. We will play several different players on the line; Riley Garmon, Jeremy McSpadden, Collin Day, Jon Hix, Austin Sisco, Zac Ellison, Austin Richard, Corey Moore, Terry Campbell, Matthew Doss, and Quiton Bell. If these guys play well, we will have a successful year. On defense we are going to have most of the same guys on the defensive side of the ball that are on the offensive side. Linebackers are Logan, Caleb, Collin,Quiton, Riley, Matthew, and Jeremy. At defensive back we will have Jayden, Austin Moore, Vince, Devin Pace, Zac, Jake Haynes, and Justin Jones. Defensive linemen are going to be Jon, Corey, Terry, Michael Gilliland, and Austin Sisco.

JM: How many starters do you have coming back?

RE: I wasn't the coach last year, so I don't have any returning starters.

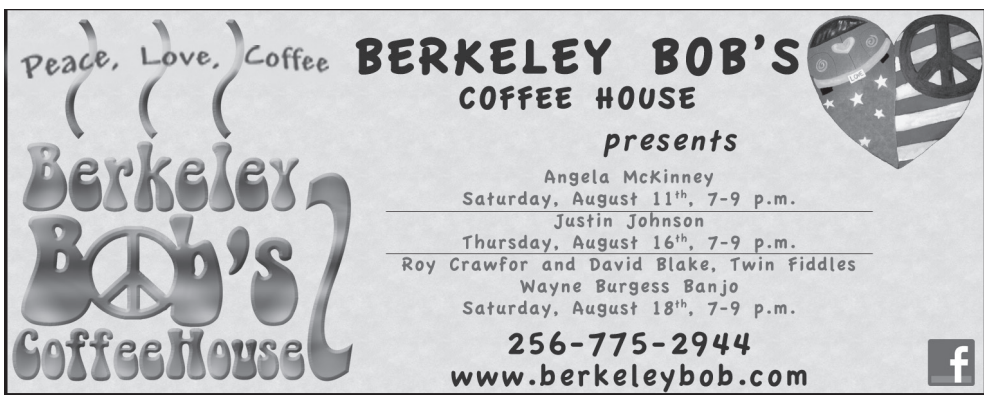
JM: How many seniors do you have on this year's team?

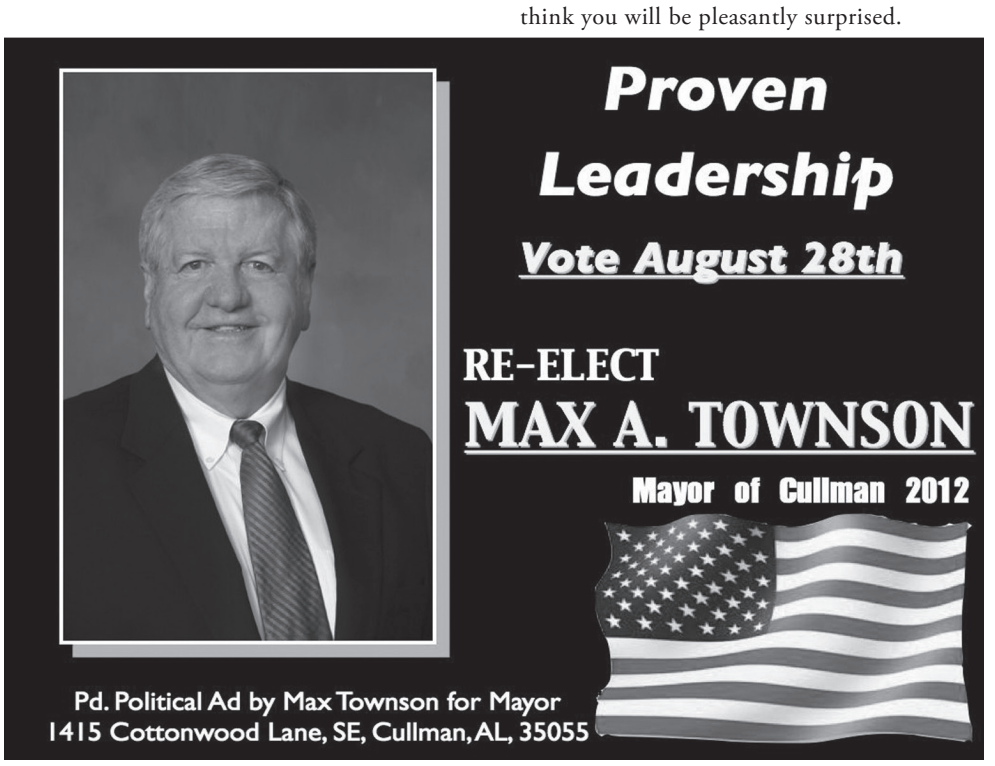
RE: We have seven seniors on this year's team.

JM: Aside from winning a State title, what are your goals for this upcoming season?

RE: We want to develop a culture of winning football. We want our players to learn how to complete every play and learn to be successful by doing the necessary work. I know we can be successful if we put the work in and do the right things.

Hearing coach Elliott talk about his team as football players and as young men, you can tell he has passion for what he does. As he alluded to, the Cold Springs Eagles are looking for their first win in three and a half years and they get that chance, opening the season at home against the Decatur Heritage Christian Eagles on Friday August 31st. As you follow high school football this year, keep an eye and ear turned to the top of the hill in Cold Springs. I think you will be pleasantly surprised.





Community Matters

Cullman Fighters Split Card in Boutwell Appearance

By: Josh McBrayer
joshmcbrayer@cullmansense.com

BIRMINGHAM – Adam Gibbs, president of Sportfight X MMA, brought his brand of mixed martial arts to the Boutwell Auditorium in Birmingham Saturday night and none of the fighters disappointed. There were 13 fights on the card ranging from novice amateur to professional fights. Weight classes were also varied and went from the Bantamweight fighters - 135 lbs. - to the big boys in the Heavyweight division - 265 lbs.

Four of the fighters hail from Cullman: Joseph Blackman, Matt Ward, Stephen Wilhite, and Daniel O'Brien train and represent Triad Martial Arts.

Winner William Strong (1-0) over Joseph Blackman (0-1) by knock-out due to strikes

The first Cullman fighter to step up was Welterweight Blackman (0-0) against another newcomer William Strong (0-0) of Spartan Fitness in Birmingham.

Strong, like his namesake, came out strong landing three hard shots that rocked Blackman before the referee called for a time-out and deducted a point from Strong for an illegal blow to the head when he knocked Blackman on the side of the skull when Blackman was on one knee. After the point deduction the fight continued and Strong continued to land strikes as the bell sounded.

The second round unfolded much like the first as Strong's punches found their mark and hurt Blackman again, bringing him to the ground. Instead of taking advantage of the knockdown, Strong motioned for his opponent to get back to his feet. The risky and unnecessary tactic paid off for Strong as he was able to get the knock-out victory 44 seconds into the second round.

Winner Matt Ward (1-0) over Allen Little (0-3) by submission due to rear naked choke

Ward was the second Cullman fighter to square off. Ward, from Triad Martial Arts, is well versed in the art of Jiu-Jitsu. This bout was his first professional fight against Allen Little (0-2) from the Hardcore Gym in Athens, Georgia and was an impressive debut for Ward.

Each fighter landed strikes in the opening seconds of the round. The fighters each fought for position with Ward gaining the advantage over Little. Ward postured up and started landing hard shots to the side of Little's head which forced Little to lift his head and arms in an attempt to keep from being knocked out. This was exactly what Ward was hoping for as he locked in a rear naked choke on the exposed neck of Little, forcing Little to tap 3:44 into the first round.

Winner Chad Livingston (1-0) over Stephen Wilhite (1-1) by TKO due to strikes

The next bout was the first half of the co-main event and featured Stephen Wilhite (1-0) of Triad Martial Arts in Cullman against Chad Livingston of American Top Team in Port St. Lucie, Florida in his first professional fight.

Action was fast and furious in the first round, with each fighter landing some great strikes. The action was halted halfway through round one when Wilhite was struck by an accidental knee to the groin. He came out of the stoppage with a hard front kick that connected and followed it with a hard kick to the leg of his opponent.

Livingston answered with a hard right that hurt Wilhite and the action went to the side of the cage. Livingston went for a standing guillotine but Wilhite fought hard and escaped. Livingston did not relent and locked the guillotine in once more. Wilhite broke free again, but Livingston landed two hard shots on Wilhite as round one ended.

Wilhite landed two hard punches to the head of Livingston to open the second round which forced Livingston to try for a take down. He got it and this proved to be the difference maker as he was able to land repeated elbows to the head of Wilhite while opening a cut on his lip and above his eye.

Although he was in a disadvantageous position, Wilhite showed tremendous heart and tenacity, taking everything Livingston threw. Unfortunately for Wilhite, he was deemed unable to continue for a third round and a TKO victory was given to Livingston.

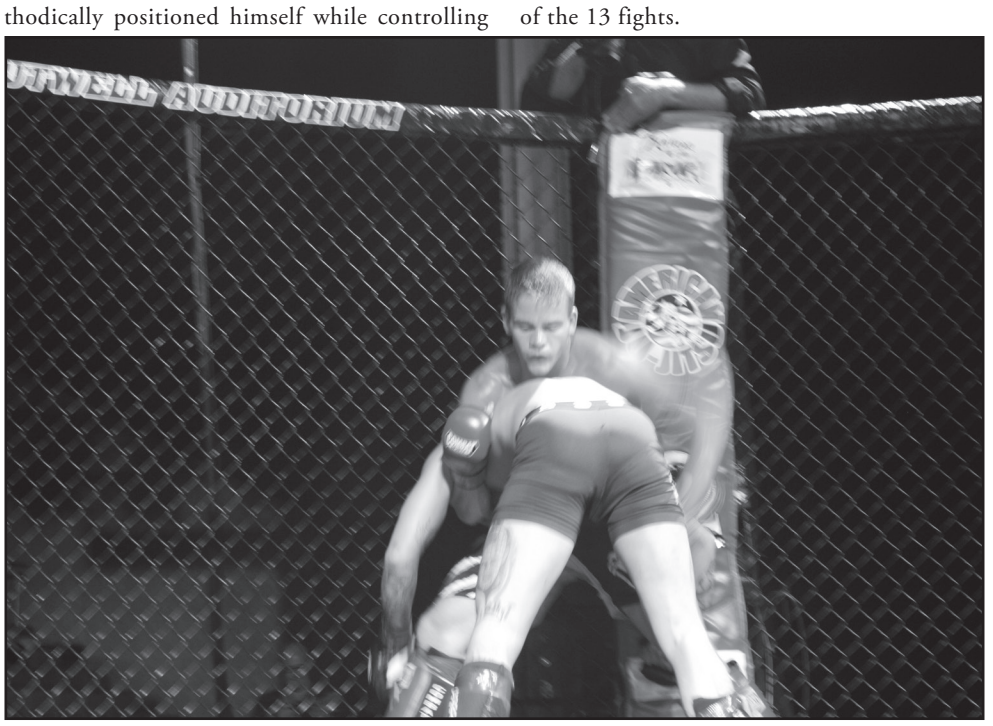
Winner Daniel O'Brien (2-0) over Moyses Gabin (5-5) by submission due to a triangle choke

The last fight of the night pitted the heavily decorated Brazilian Ju-Jitsu artist Daniel O'Brien (1-0) from Triad Martial Arts in Cullman against MMA veteran and member of the Blackzilians, Moyses Gabin (5-4) from Jaco Training Center/ Blackzilians from Del-ray Beach, Florida.

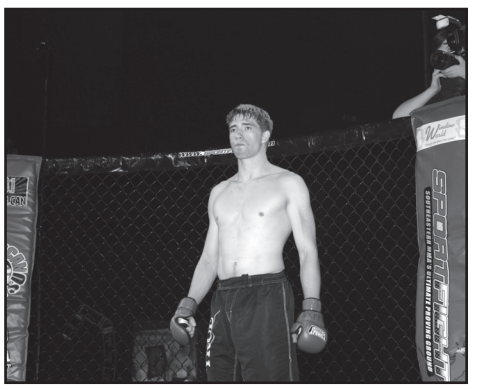
O'Brien took the fight to the ground almost immediately, clinching Gabin as he used his on leg to push off the cage and go to his back. Gabin wanted to stand the fight back up and strike. O'Brien, who won his last fight in the first round by strikes, wanted to keep the fight on the ground and took Gabin back to the mat.

O'Brien looked to end the fight twice by triangle choke, but Gabin was narrowly able to escape both times, but as the old saying goes 'third time is the charm.' This proved true as O'Brien methodically positioned himself while controlling his opponent. With a bend of Gabin's arm, he was presented with the opening he needed and locked in the triangle choke forcing Gabin to tap 3:48 into round one.

For more on these fights, visit CullmanSense.com to view an in-depth breakdown on each of the 13 fights.









Playing for a Reason

By: Lindsey Dossey
CRMC Contributor

The 12th Annual Brook's Place/Shonn W. Walker Charity Golf Tournament Announced

CULLMAN — Brooks' Place, Child Advocacy Center of Cullman will be hosting the 12th Annual Brooks' Place/Shonn W. Walker Charity Golf Tournament on Friday, August 24 at the Cullman Municipal Golf Course with lunch and registration at noon. The tournament features a three-man scramble format with a shotgun start at 1 pm. Cost to play is $80 per player or $240 per team or participants and/or business can sponsor a hole and have a team for $300.

Each team gets two mulligans and two power drives to use during the tournament with their registration. Prizes will be awarded for Closest to the Pin, Longest Drives, and more with chances for multiple door prizes as well.

All proceeds benefit Brooks' Place, the Child Advocacy Center of Cullman, an organization that nurtures hope, encourages health, and promotes healing for troubled families dealing with child abuse. For more information or to register, call (256) 739-2243 or send an e-mail to kbevis@cullmancac.com.

About Brooks' Place, Child Advocacy Center of Cullman

Established in 1997 to address the problem of child abuse in the community and to protect children from further emotional and physical trauma through investigations, the organization brings together representatives of county protective services, law enforcement, prosecutors, mental health, and medical practitioners to address reported cases of child abuse.

Following interviews, we provide counseling (individual, family and group) to help victims cope with the stress of abuse.

The organization also provides abuse prevention by providing community education. All of these services are provided at no cost to victims or the community. Brooks' Place is a nonprofit organization that works through grants and donations only.

The organization is named after former Cullman County District Attorney Len Brooks for his vision to help child abuse victims and their families cope and heal. For more information visit our website at www.caccullman.org.

Community Matters

Cullman Celebrates

By: Josh McBrayer
joshmcbrayer@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN- There was a lot different look to 1st Avenue Southeast on August 3rd 2012 than on the same date in 2011. Last year our community was pulling together, still cleaning up the devastation that was brought on by the April tornadoes that tore a path of destruction through Cullman.

This year the community was still together, but this time in a different capacity as 1st Avenue Southeast was covered with patrons of Cullman, enjoying the Celebrate Cullman festivities.

The streets were blocked off from Lombardo's Pasta to Busy Bee in order to accommodate all of the patrons, vendors, and games.

Live music was performed by a variety of artists alongside the street and parking lot as well as well as inside local businesses likes Berkeley Bob's.

Fans and patrons packed Berkeley Bob's to hear the gravely blues music played by Kyle Sexton, vocals and guitar; Chad Woodis, supporting vocals; and newcomer Sam Clayton who plays a version of a single bongo called a djembe.

"It was great," said Krystal Corley, a friend and co-worker of Sexton. "Kyle and Chad were amazing."

Music was in abundance outside as well, with two stages that constantly rotated musical acts. From Alabama Annie, a keyboard player/singer who had a soulful sound, to a three-piece band that made the electric guitar sing and drums rattle your head, there was music for everyone.

People gathered from all around, including some of the archers from the ASA Tournament being held at Saint Bernard Preparatory, and there was no shortage of things for them to do. Yogurt Mountain had a booth where people could throw little pink rubber balls at upside down stacked pails to try and win ticket that could later be exchanged for prizes.

The Cullman Chapter of the Alabama Alumni Association was on hand to give out bumper stickers and to tell people about Mitch Gaspard, Alabama's head baseball coach, who is making a visit to Cullman in a couple of weeks to speak.

The chapter also had an inflatable football game where children (and adults) could test their arm and accuracy by throwing a football through several different targets.

Ring toss and baseball were also available for folks to try as well as a spinning ride that was a combination of a mechanical swing and several larger-than-life teacup seats. The spinning ride was popular with celebration-goers, that is if they were brave enough and had the stomach for it.

Further down 1st Avenue Southeast towards Busy Bee, children could partake in the petting zoo that consisted of a donkey, Billy goat, sheep, and a lamb.

Also with the petting zoo, you could hop on the back of a pony and take a ride around the small corral.

A "cow train" was there for the little ones and had barrel-like "cars" painted in black and while cow patterns that was pulled by an off-road vehicle.

On the other end of 1st Avenue Southeast towards the rotunda there was more live music along with food of all types and a beer and wine garden.

Many shops around the area participated as well, extending their business hours and propping open their doors to invite in the public.



Photos by Josh McBrayer























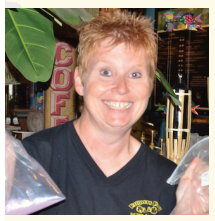


Lifestyle

Passion for the Kitchen

Send your recipes to recipes@cullmansense.com

By: Annette Harris
annetteharris@cullmansense.com



qrne.ws/aharris



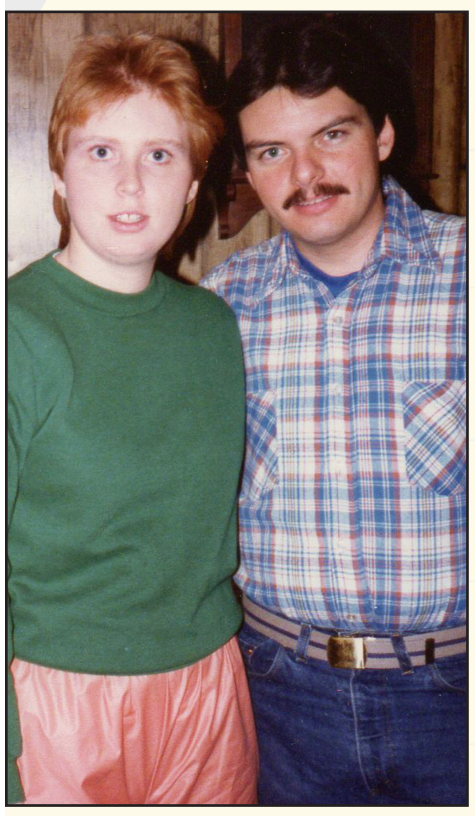
Photos by Annette Harris

Dumpster Diving

You can say what you want about Ralph and I but you will never say we are boring.

Years ago, before kids, for some crazy reason we decided to go dumpster diving. I can't remember the exact reason we started this little hobby, but it was early in our marriage and it makes sense to me now why Ralph was so excited about it. I think what happened is that we drove by this particular place and happened to see something "really good" sticking out of the dumpster.

One night we had planned to "dumpster dive" in the alleyway of a business that refurbished returns from major department stores. It's no longer in business, not that it matters, but we thought we might find something cool.



Maybe we carried it a bit too far by dressing in camo one time, the other times in just whatever we didn't want to get too dirty. Sure we landed in things that weren't so desirable like discarded fast food and the like, but we didn't care. It was fun!

We went at night with flashlights, laughing all the way. I don't know why we thought we had to be so secretive because it was garbage in dumpsters, not breaking into a store.

We figured out right away that we weren't tall enough to see completely in the dumpster so one of us had to get in there. The person to get in the dumpster was me.

Ralph gave me a hoist and in the dumpster I went. I would toss things out to him and he would get a little too excited in my opinion, now that I think about it…just saying that everything I got out of there was fantastic.

I fell in headfirst one time…guess that's where the "diving" part came in. But we had the best time just getting the junk. I had no problem letting it go, but Ralph….well, that's another story. Now I know why Ralph was so excited. I call him a hoarder. He calls it treasures.

We totally furnished our bedroom with wooden blinds that people couldn't believe that we got from a dumpster. Sure, a little work had to be done on some things, but it was a blast just seeing what all we could salvage.

We don't dumpster dive anymore. Those days are long gone and we would probably get arrested for doing it nowadays, but it was fun while it lasted.

I think I found the perfect person to spend my life with when I found Ralph. Sure we have our ups and downs like everyone else, but there is never a dull moment.

Crock Pot Ribs

If you want to impress people or if you just love fantastic ribs that fall off the bone, you will want to try this. You don't even have to be able to boil water to be successful at this one.

Ingredients:

- 2 - racks St. Louis style spare ribs
- 1 - bottle of BBQ sauce, any brand that's your favorite

Instructions:

1. Cut the ribs in sections of 3 or 4 ribs. Wash the ribs and place in a large crock pot, put the lid on. Put the crock pot on high.
2. Pour a bottle of BBQ sauce over the ribs.
3. Walk away. That's right. I said walk away. Go to town, go take a nap, read a book, check your email, your Facebook…go to work.
4. Come back about 5 hours later and you have some wonderful ribs that are ready to fall off the bone.
5. But that's not all…
6. Carefully take the ribs out and lay them, meat side up on a baking tray. Brush them with more BBQ sauce and place them in a 350 degree oven for about 15 minutes just to bake the sauce on the ribs.

You are done! Awesome ribs and everyone will brag for a long time to come about how wonderful they are. No kiddin'!

Jesse's Brownies

Jesse Harris is Ralph's brother. These are the best brownies I've ever eaten.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees

Ingredients:

- 3/4 cup Hershey's cocoa
- 1/2 teaspoon baking soda
- 2/3 cup vegetable oil
- 1/2 cup boiling water (measure accurately)
- 2 cups sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 1/3 cups all purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

Instructions:

1. Stir cocoa and baking soda in a bowl.
2. Blend in 1/3 cup vegetable oil.
3. Add boiling water, stir until it thickens.
4. Stir in sugar, eggs and remaining 1/3 cup vegetable oil.
5. Add flour, vanilla and salt. Blend completely.
6. Pour into a lightly greased 13x9 pan.
7. Bake for 30-35 minutes.



Reflections of History

Do you recognize this photo?

Share your story on **Twitter** with hashtag **#cullmanhistory** or call us at **256-297-1847**.

Bland - Manning Reunion, 1908



Photo Contributed by Cullman County Museum

THE LOCAL STANDARD

116 4TH ST SW, 256-737-7475

EVENTS

Thursday August 9th- Karaoke @ 7 P.M.
Friday August 10th - Lane Maury & Bama Country @ 8 P.M.
Saturday August 11th - Join us for Live Music

Thursday August 16th - Karaoke @ 7 P.M.
Friday August 17th - Hillbilly Lovers @ 7 P.M.
Saturday August 18th - Hillbilly Lovers @ 7 P.M.

Thursday August 23th- Karaoke @ 7 P.M.
Friday August 24th- The Sundowners @ 8 P.M.
Saturday August 25th- Join us for Live Music

Thursday August 30th- Karaoke @ 7 P.M.
Friday August 31st- Hillbilly Lovers @ 8 P.M.
Saturday September 1st- Join us for Live Music

/ THELOCALSTANDARD

CureSearch Walk for Children's Cancer

Join the team
Battle the Beast with Maddy & David
in our fight against Children's Cancer
at the 2nd Annual Birmingham
CureSearch Walk!



Saturday, October 6, 2012
Registration: 9 a.m.
Walk Ceremony/Walk Begins: 10 a.m.

Our team is about TWO kids that attend Hanceville Elementary BOTH cancer survivors & BOTH fighters

There are 36 children diagnosed EACH day with cancer. In honor of 36, we are looking for 36 to join our team & now…if our team raises $20,000 David's Mom, Karen will shave her head. Hanceville's Mayor, Kenneth Nail has stepped up & said if we raise an additional $5,000 to total $25,000 raised he will shave his head, too. So now, we are looking for 36 to shave at The **Brave Shave Event** to be held in Hanceville the night before the walk.
www.curesearchwalk.org/birmingham/maddyanddavid

For more information, please contact Karen Cook at 256-962-3482
or www.curesearchwalk.org/birmingham/karencook
For more information on CureSearch
for Children's Cancer, please visit www.curesearch.org.



To honor. To remember. To cure.

Local Events Calendar

Send your Events to: calendar@cullmansense.com

Monday, August 6th

Bosom Buddies Support Group
Members of the Bosom Buddies Support Group meet at 6 p.m. and invite those seeking help to come to the meetings. You are not alone and can find needed information and ideas from the members of this organization. The meeting is held in the Ave Maria room in POB II on the campus of CRMC hospital. There is no cost for this meeting. Please call Mary Dyer for additional info at 256-734-8729.

Making Choices - BODYWORKS
A series of FREE sessions on healthy living will be offered. Sessions to include mindful eating to 'reading' a food. Teens to adults are welcome. There are morning classes from 10 until 11:30 a.m. and evening classes from 4 until 5:30 p.m. for your convenience. For further information please call Donna Shanklin at the County Extension Office at 256-737-9386. Classes are scheduled for each Monday at this time. Please attend first meeting or call to pre-register if you are interested in this program.

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 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, August 7th

Take Off Pounds Sensibly
Anyone interested in ideas for weight loss are invited to attend the TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) group as they meet each Tuesday night at 6 p.m. at Benedictine Manor. Jeanne Latham (256-734-7146) or Ginger McMinn (256-739-3925) will share information concerning their meetings. Everyone is welcome to attend TOPS and receive encouragement from others who are interested in weight loss.

Alzheimer's Caregivers Support Group Meeting
Calling all Alzheimer's caretakers. Come join our support group as we meet at 5:30 p.m. Come see how others fare in their efforts and maybe learn something helpful for your own situation. Meetings are free and open to the public. They are held on the campus of CRMC in the Depot Room of POB II. Please call Jane Farley for additional info at 256-737-2038.

Country Dance at VFW Post 2214
Come join the Ladies' Auxiliary of VFW Post 2214 for their weekly Tuesday night country-dance and enjoy the music and fellowship!! Admission is $5.00 per person and concessions are available each dance night. Everyone is invited to this event.

Good Hope Farmers' Market
Good Hope Farmers' Market is open for the summer and filling up tables with all sorts of great tasting produce, all grown locally. Hathcock Park in Good Hope is the site and hours each Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday are from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. Come get some great veggies and other homegrown items to treat your family to some awesome tasting meals during these summer months. You can't beat the taste of 'fresh' from the garden!

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, August 8th

'Kalightoscope Christmas' trip Planned for Seniors in December
The final Senior Spirit Tour event of 2012 will be their travels to Louisville, Kentucky, December 3 through 6. Final payment for those with reservations is October 19, so make your plans and get signed up for another great time traveling with this fun group of 'Seniors' who are very much 'young at heart!!' $530.00 is the cost per person in a double room.

This fee covers motor coach transportation, lodging for three nights, holiday dinner show, Christmas Village, Mega Caverns, Snow Fairy Castle attraction, Royal Breakfast, Mistletoe Marketplace, Princess Diane exhibit, Derby Playhouse, Louisville Slugger Museum, Joe Huber Farms, Corvette Car Museum, and lots more. Sounds like quite a delightful trip! Be sure to get your name in the pot so you can enjoy a magical holiday start early in December that will carry you with happy memories throughout the Christmas season!!! Please contact Angie Jochum for further info at 256-734-4803.

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, August 9th

'Paddle Auction Party'
Cullman Elks Lodge is hosting a 'Paddle Auction Party' from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. at the lodge premises. Funds raised will benefit the medical needs of Brandon Denny who is paralyzed from the chest down. Everyone is invited to attend this 'paddle' auction, where items will often begin at 50 cents. Everyone is encouraged to bring lots of quarters and lots of dollar bills. Come have an enjoyable evening while helping Brandon with his immediate needs.

When Helping Hurts Community-wide Book Study
Would you like to make a lasting impact with the poor and vulnerable? The Link of Cullman County is hosting a community-wide 8-week book study of *When Helping Hurts How to Alleviate Poverty Without Hurting the Poor and Yourself* at Berkley Bob's Coffee Shop starting at 6:00 p.m. Register at info@linkingcullman.org or call Dawn Owens at 256-347-9626. Please purchase books in advance.

Coca Cola Concerts in the Park
Once again the Coca Cola Concerts in the Park will provide local citizens with entertaining musical nights each Thursday during the summer. Sponsored by the Cullman City Parks and Recreation, folks gather around the fountain at Heritage Park. Concerts are free and will feature different musical groups each week. For further information please call City Parks & Recreation at 256-734-9157. Bring your lawn chairs and tapping feet and enjoy an evening under the stars!

Good Hope Farmers' Market
Good Hope Farmers' Market is open for the summer and filling up tables with all sorts of great tasting produce, all grown locally. Hathcock Park in Good Hope is the site and hours each Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday are from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. Come get some great veggies and other homegrown items to treat your family to some awesome tasting meals during these summer months. You can't beat the taste of 'fresh' from the garden!

DivorceCare Support Group
Daystar Church sponsors a DivorceCare Support Group each Thursday night at 6 p.m. at the Church. Additional information is available by calling Daystar Church at 256-737-0800.

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, August 10th

Rocky Point Lighthouse Vacation Bible School
Destiny Church will be holding Rocky Point Lighthouse Vacation Bible School Friday, August 10th thru Sunday, August 12th. Children ages 5-12 are invited on Friday 6:30 p.m. until 8:30 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. until 11:30 a.m., and Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Directions from Highway 157, turn north on Childhaven Road (next to Cattle Barn) (toward Vinemont), church is from intersection on right (look for signs). For more information, please call 256-737-9254.

Sacred Heart School Opens Enrollment for Community
Sacred Heart School announces enrollment is open for the general community for registration for the 2012-2013 school year. School classes resume August 16. There are no residency requirements and classes are small, with competitive rates. Classes range from 3K to 6th grade. For further information please contact the school at 256-734-4563.

20th Annual EvaBank 'Midnight Run'
Come join your friends for the 20th Annual EvaBank 'Midnight Run' starting at 11:59 p.m. (1 minute before midnight!!). As in the past, the course starts and finishes at the Cullman Civic Center. Well-lit course and streets blocked and protected by Cullman Police and Reserve Officers. Entry fee is $20.00 per person if registered by August 8, going up to $25.00 for registration on August 9 and 10. The first 700 folks registered will receive t-shirts. Race day registration on the 10th will be from 10 p.m. until 11:45 p.m. at the Cullman Civic Center.

Entertainment will be from 11:00 to 11:45 and 12:15 until the awards presentation at the conclusion of the race. Overall Male and Female winners will receive $100.00 in prize money. Masters Male and Female winners will receive $75.00. Medals will be presented to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in all age divisions. No duplication of awards! Goody Bags will be given to runners at check-in the night of the event.

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, August 11th

2nd Annual 'Prayer Caravan' for Cullman County Schools
Cullman County Board of Education Superintendent Billy Coleman will once again travel around to all the County schools under his jurisdiction as the 2nd Annual Prayer Caravan kicks off the coming school year. Everyone affiliated with the individual school systems is urged to attend these prayer gatherings at the following times

- 8:00 a.m. Garden City School (in front of the school)
- 8:40 a.m. Hanceville Schools (in front of the high school)
- 9:20 a.m. Welti School
- 10:00 a.m. Holly Pond Schools (in front of the high school)
- 10:45 a.m. Parkside School (in front of the school)
- 11:20 a.m. Fairview Schools (in front of the high school)
- 12:30 p.m. Career Center (in front of the school)
- 1:00 p.m. Vinemont Schools (in front of middle school)
- 1:40 p.m. West Point School (in front of high school)
- 2:05 p.m. West Point Middle School (in front of middle school)
- 2:40 p.m. Harmony School (in front of school)
- 3:20 p.m. Good Hope Primary (in front of school)
- 3:50 p.m. Good Hope Schools (in front of high school)
- 4:45 p.m. Cold Springs Schools (in front of high school)

Bring the family and help start the school year off with special blessings!

'Caring for Kids' Benefit Bass Tournament at Smith Lake
Cullman fishermen will gather at Smith Lake Park tonight to take part in a 'Bass Tournament' with proceeds benefitting Cullman Caring for Kids. Fishermen may register beginning at 5 p.m. at the boat ramp on the day of the event. Tournament director, Jeff Shelton, noted that there will be a $1,000.00 guaranteed first place prize. Entrance fee for the event is $100.00 and open to all fishermen and those who wish to help local children! Contact Shelton at 256-339-6849.

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!

Looking Ahead

Sacred Heart Centennial Celebration Street Dance sponsored by Knights of Columbus
Various groups of the Church congregation will be responsible for a variety of activities each month beginning with a 'Street Dance' sponsored by the Knights of Columbus on August 11, 2012.

PUZZLES, COMICS, AND JOKES

THIS WEEK'S WORD SEARCH TOPIC IS: IN THIS ISSUE

BY: DUSTIN ISOM

A	N	Z	G	A	T	X	R	Z	Z	U	Q	T	N	D	N	I	V	S	S	Y	O	L	L	M	Q	B	R	Y	C	J
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Archery Shooters Association
Brook's Place
Celebrate Cullman
Christmas Love
Cold Springs Eagles
Concerts in the Park
Cullman Teenage Republicans
Holly Pond Broncos
Jesse's Brownies
Knifty Knitters
Midnight Run
Pentastar South Car Club
Sacred Heart School
Saint Bernard Preparatory
Sportfight X MMA
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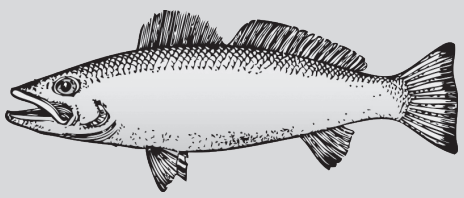
GETTING CORNY

Send your jokes to:
jokes@cullmansense.com

1. How did the pig get promoted so easily?



2. Why did the fish go to rehab?

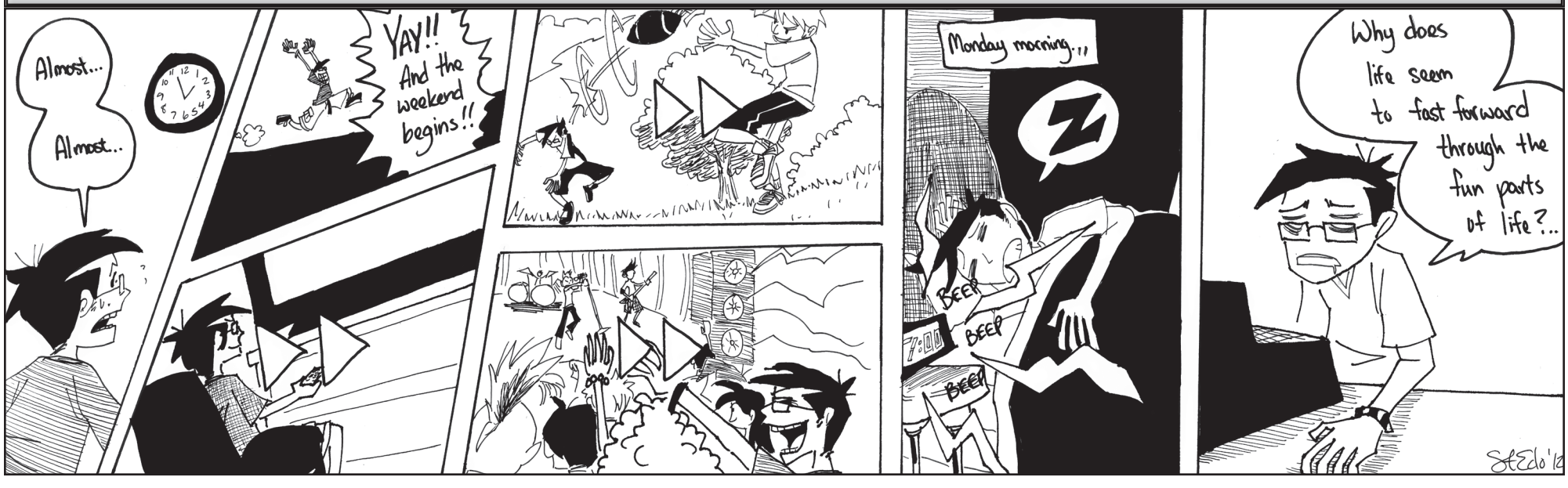


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1. He pulled a few ham strings. 2. He was hooked.

Comics by St. Edo — Anthony Saint — st.edo@cullmansense.com



Community Matters

Cullman Teenage Republicans Receive Several National Awards

By: Rebecca Branch
Contributor

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Cullman Teenage Republicans received 3 top awards presented at the National Teenage Republican Leadership Conference held in Washington DC July 16-21. The Cullman Teenage Republican group was founded in 2009 beginning with three members and growing to 192 members in 2012. Membership includes young people from all Cullman County, Cullman City, home school, and private schools.

The Teen group's purpose is to provide a venue where young people can become involved in the governmental process designed by our forefathers through the Constitution of The United State and the Declaration of Independence. The Cullman Teen group has participated in community service projects, political activities, and fundraising at the local and state levels.

Members participated in governmental process by serving as a Page in the Alabama Senate and House during regular legislative sessions; three members were chosen by their high schools to attend Governor's School at Sanford University this summer. Two members were selected by their schools to participate in the Chamber of Commerce's Youth Leadership Class.

The three awards received were Most Outstanding Teenage Republican Club in the Nation, Most Outstanding Teenage Republican (TAR), and Most Outstanding Teenage Republican (TAR) Advisor.

The "Most Outstanding Teenage Republican Club in the Nation" recipient is selected based on quality of club meetings, political work accomplishments, participating in special projects, fundraising, chartering new clubs, quality of their newsletter, social medial communications, and individual member and club activities. The Cullman Teen group documented 2,303 hours in these categories to win the national title.

The "Most Outstanding Teenage Republican (TAR)" recipient is selected based on offices held, campaign participation, program planning and participation, chartering new clubs, publicity received in the media, fundraising, and involvement in state, regional, and national TAR activities.

The recipient, Daniel Robinson, a Cullman High School 2012 graduate became a member of the Teen Group in the 9th grade. He served as Treasurer, and President during the past 18 months.



CATR Officers and members bestowed an honorary membership in CATR to Mary Elliott, who has just turned 13 years old.

Through his leadership, the membership increased from 80 to 192. Daniel served as a Page in the Alabama Legislature, worked in the Republican Primary Campaign, and helped begin TAR Organizations in Baldwin, Shelby, Madison, and Morgan Counties. He will attend Auburn University on a full scholarship in the fall of 2012.

The "Most Outstanding Teenage Republican (TAR) Advisor" is based on quality of programs, accomplishments, and growth of their TAR Club; participation in state, regional, and national TAR programs; publicity; fund-raising, awards, and honors received; political activities, and political offices held.

The recipient of this award, Rebecca Branch, Advisor to the Cullman Teens began in 2009 working with 3 young men to organize a Teenage Republican Organization. The three teens were concerned about the amount of money they owed due to the national debt, although they had never borrowed any money.

In 2010 Rebecca ran successfully for the Cullman County Republican Party Executive Committee. Rebecca presented a plan to the Cullman County Executive Committee to assist with the growth of Teen involvement by offering three $1000 scholarships based on a points system to be earned by a student's participation. The Executive Committee adopted the plan. Next, the Teen's developed by-laws and a constitution, organized the county and city with a leader in each school district, and began recruiting members.

The Teen members are in charge of their operation, with the Advisor guiding them in the decision making process. Mrs. Branch stated the goal is to help young people understand "They can make a difference in their country now."

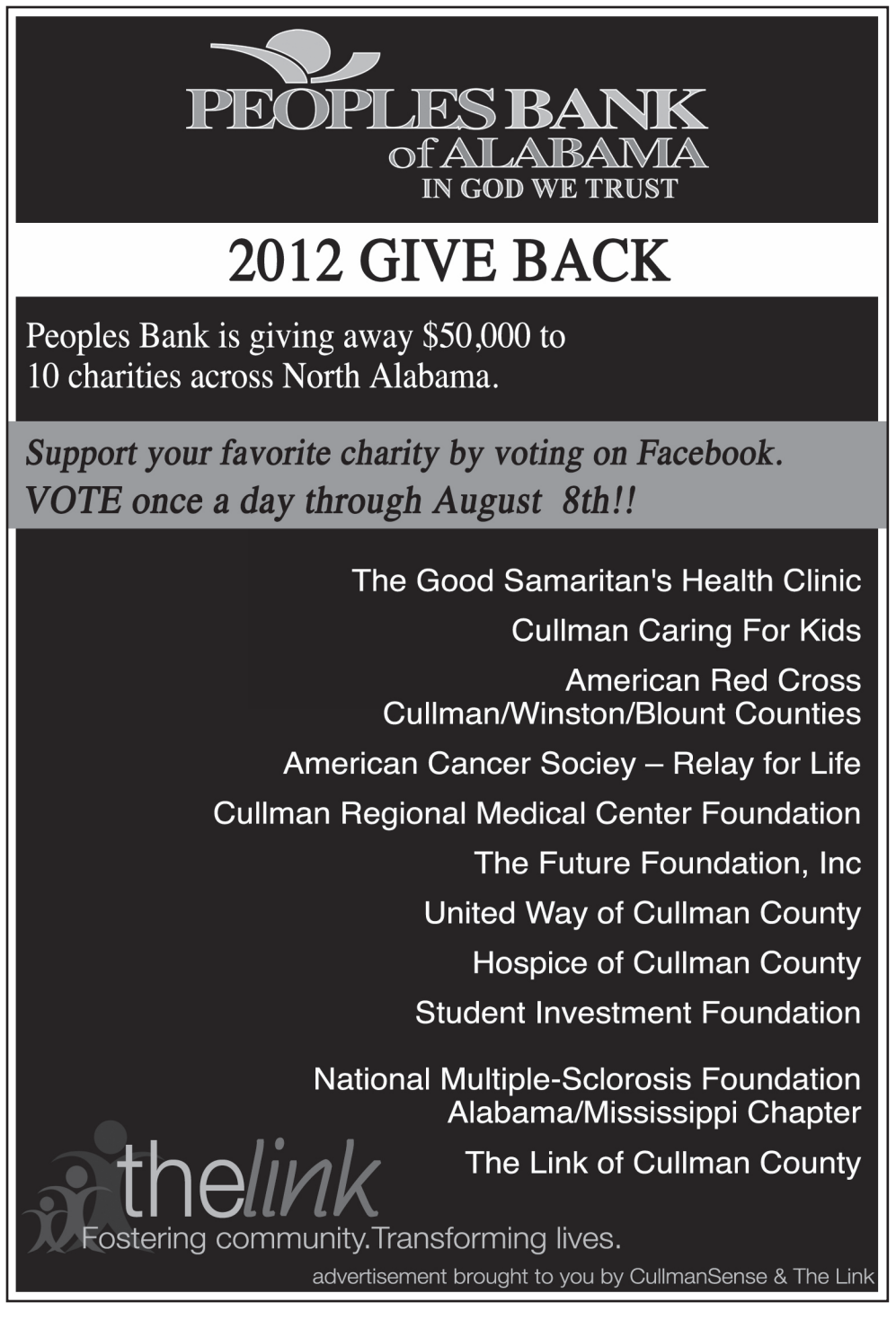
Rebecca was elected by the Cullman County Republican Executive Committee to represent Cullman County at state meetings. She is a member of the Alabama Federation of Republican Women, where she serves on their board representing the Alabama Teenage Organization.

She also received the "Most Valuable Member" award from the Alabama Federation of Republican Women in 2011.



CATR officers receiving the "Most Outstanding Tar Club in the Nation" for the second time. The first was in 2011.





Community Matters

ASA Takes Over Saint Bernard (Continued from Front)

"It is like the Super Bowl for professional shooters," said ASA President Mike Tyrell, "We will be handing out over $125,000 in prize money this weekend.

When I asked Tyrell what was the deciding factor in bringing this huge tournament to Cullman, he said it was a combination of three things.

"You have to have a community that has a facility that works for us," he said. "Obviously we are going to be out there using hundreds of acres of wooded area, they have a building like this (Saint Bernard Gym) for sponsors and other infrastructures that we need."

The second thing Tyrell hit on was having a community that is big enough to handle such an influx of people over the weekend by having things such as restaurants, hotels, and other accommodations to satisfy such a large number of people. "We have over 2,000 shooters coming in over the weekend," said Tyrell.

The third deciding factor was location; he alluded to Cullman being right off of Interstate 65 and between two major airports, as there were folks from all over that were coming to the tournament. Cullman seemed to fit the bill when it came to what the ASA needed to host a successful tournament, but the most important thing, according to Tyrell, was the community support.

"John Hunt and the Cullman Parks and Recreation Department have been fabulous," said Tyrell. "You never know until everybody 'hits the ground' but their commitment and their openness and desire to make it happen, all the pieces just fit perfectly."

Registration of the archers started early Friday morning at 7 a.m. Archers from the junior division, amateur division, professionals, and seniors all signed up together. Of the more than 2,000 participants, over 20% of the field was female.

The only Alabamian in the Shoot Down, Joseph Goza from Henagar took his 418 points into the final round of shooting and made the most of it. Shooting a Mathews bow, he posted scores of 10-14-10-8-10 and a final arrow 5. The perfect 14 vaulted him from fifth place to third place and a shoot-out. He was unable to improve on his third place position, but he had a great showing none the less.

Every shooter that CullmanSense spoke to seemed to really enjoy the course as a whole. It is a brand new course and the individuals working at the Cullman City Parks & Recreation and at Saint Bernard did a wonderful job. The entire weekend was not only a success in the eyes of the archers but it was also a huge success for the city of Cullman. ASA President Mike Tyrell summed up the entire weekend in one sentence when he said, "I am ready to do it again next year!"

For more on this story, including an extensive photo gallery, detailed list of winners and more check out CullmanSense.com.











