Thank you to all the men and women for your sacrifices for this country.

SERIES 2, ISSUE 46 MONDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2012

CULLMAN'S MONDAY NEWSPAPER

CULLMANSENSE

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Hospice Food Drive–2

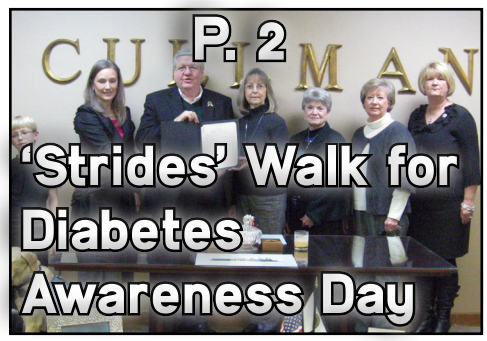
Police Chief for a Day–10

Saintly Visitors–5

Community Calendar–9







Hero's Reception

By: Micheal Bryant
michealbryant@cullmansense.com

Veterans Honored, Remembered & Memorialized

CULLMAN – World War I, World War II, Vietnam, Korea, and Iraq. Thousands of great men and women died for their country serving in these wars, and this past weekend a memorial was open at Sportsman's Lake Park to honor those lost and those who have survived. Veterans and their families, along with keynote speakers such as Senator Bussman and Representative Buttram were in attendance.

"This is an annual event for all of the veterans in the county. We have about seven thousand veterans in Cullman County and we like to honor them," said Colonel Ken Brown who is with the VFW. "We usually don't get more than two or three hundred, but that's good. We like to put on a program the Saturday before Veterans day every year so that way whatever Veterans want to go down to Birmingham or up to Huntsville for those bigger parades can come to this one and that one also. We have the business community pay for the tents, the chairs, the tables, the sound systems, and the food. The Elk's lodge usually does the cooking and they provide a free lunch to the veterans and their spouses and for a small charge to folks who aren't veterans and we encourage the public to come out and support the event every year."

See Heroes, Page 12



Tis the Season

By: Jessica Norrell
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CULLMAN – On a slightly breezy November evening, the City of Cullman ushered in the Christmas season with the lighting of the community Christmas tree at Depot Park.

The lighting ceremony concluded the first day of the annual Christmas in Cullman event, which draws in shoppers from all over the state.

Children played around the many decorations lining the park while the parents enjoyed conversations beside the newly lit tree.

Musical accompaniment helped set the mood for a delightful early Christmas.

The decorations did not stop at the park as City Hall was decked out with bright lights and famous Christmas characters filling the front lawn.

More Christmas in Cullman Coverage P. 6-7.



AHSAA Playoff Round One Wrap Up

By: Josh McBrayer
joshmcbrayer@cullmansense.com

Big plays, big scores, and nail-biters. All of that and more was seen in the first round of the AHSAA State Playoffs and although only one Cullman area team came through unscathed, they are all winners in our book.

Arab at Cullman
By: Josh McBrayer

CULLMAN- Cullman won the toss and elected to receive the ball. It turned out to be a good decision for head coach Mark Britton when Cullman converted three 3rd downs on the drive. On 3rd and 11, Zac Crocker of Cullman hit Houston Turner for 20 yards, setting up 1st and goal from the two. The next play, junior Alex Martin bull-rushed his way into the end zone, capping a 12 play, 80 yard drive.

Arab took their first possession and was determined to match the Bearcat score. Easton Anderson got things going with back-to-back six yard runs and freshman Javon Cortez backed it up with a four and six yard scamper and Arab was quickly at mid-field. A hold backed the Knights up but QB Ryan Rush did not mind as, on 1st and 20, he busted through the line and raced to the Cullman 30 for a big 0 yard pick-up. Arab, however, would self-destruct in Cullman territory with back-to-back negative plays, a big chop block penalty and a delay of game moved the ball all the way back to mid-field and would end in an Arab punt.

Cullman started their next drive from their own 11 after a nice punt from the Knights. On the legs of Crider and Drew Johnson, Cullman drove the ball to the 32 but faced a 3rd and 3 as time expired in the first quarter. Johnson would continue his good work into the second, con-

See Football, Page 4

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In Brief

State Representative Jeremy Oden Receives Awards from RC&D

By: Drayton Cosby
Contributor

GUNTERSVILLE – State Representative Jeremy Oden, R-Eva, has been recognized as the 2012 House of Representatives Leader of the Year by the Alabama Association of Resource, Conservation, and Development (AARCD) Councils and the 2012 Outstanding Elected Official by the Alabama Mountains Rivers Valleys RC&D during the AMRV annual meeting recently held at Guntersville State Park.

The awards are given to a state representative each year for showing leadership in the promotion of resource, conservation, and development issues in Alabama.

Representative Oden serves as a member of the House Ways and Means Education Trust Fund Committee, which is the committee that appropriates funding for education services and programs in the State of Alabama.

Representative Oden thanked AMRV and the AARCD for recognizing him and vowed to continue supporting and promoting issues important to RC&D such as energy, conservation, community and economic development, and agriculture.

"Alabama and AMRV RC&D is an example of what is great about Alabama and I want to thank you for what you do for our region," said Oden, "Legislators have a lot of information coming from different angles and you have done a great job letting us know who you are and what your about."

AMRV Chairman Bill Latimer was grateful for Oden's long time support, constant leadership, and commitment to promoting the RC&D mission.

"Rep. Oden has been in the legislature for over 14 years and has a wealth of knowledge about issues that are important to Alabamians," said Latimer, "He has established himself as someone who has the answers to help make tough decisions."

In 2011, RC&D contributed to more than 400 projects, serving over approximately 600,000 citizens.

In 2010, RC&D assisted in creating/retaining 99 local businesses in rural communities and created or retained approximately 400 jobs, according to the USDA-Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Program Operations Information Tracking System (POINTS).

The RC&D program was established by the Agriculture Act of 1962 to provide a program that empowers rural people to help themselves. RC&D areas include adjacent counties that have substantial natural resources to use for economic improvement and community betterment.

There are nine RC&D councils throughout the state. RC&D Councils in Alabama are non-profit, tax-exempt organizations within the state that are designated 501(c) (3) entities by the Internal Revenue Service.

RC&D Councils are made up of citizens in an RC&D area who want a better life for themselves, their children, and future generations. RC&D Council representatives and alternates are volunteers who assist the RC&D.

At the last AMRV quarterly meeting, AARCD recognized State Senator Arthur Orr, R-Decatur, as the 2012 Senate Leader of the Year. Rep. Jim Barton, R-Mobile, was also recognized the House Leader of the Year at the Gulf Coast RC&D quarterly meeting in Grand Bay.

For more information about our program please visit us at aarcd.net and amrvrcd.com.

Hospice Holiday Food Drive to Stock Lesa's Pantry

By: Lindsey Dossey
CRMC Contributor

CULLMAN —This holiday season help CRMC's Hospice of Cullman County feed the patients and their families by donating non-perishable food items during the Holiday Food Drive: November 5 – December 31.

The Lesa Lang Holland Hawkins Food Bank is named in honor of the beloved Hospice of Cullman County social worker that worked tirelessly to provide for all hospice patients and their families.

Drop boxes for food are in the following locations:

- CRMC Hospital Campus: Professional Office Building 1, 2 & 3 lobbies
- CRMC Hospital Main Entrance
- Piggly Wiggly – Alabama Highway 157
- Warehouse Discount Grocery – Alabama Highway 157

Some of the items needed include:

- Soups
- Instant Oatmeal
- Canned Goods
- Any other easily prepared non-perishable food item

For more information, call the Hospice of Cullman County Office at (256) 739-5185.

Lights of Love Event to Benefit Hospice

By: Lindsey Dossey
CRMC Contributor

Annual CRMC Foundation Event Honors & Remembers Cullman Citizens



Doug Doggett

CULLMAN — This holiday season, the Cullman Regional Medical Center's Foundation's 21st annual Dr. Herman C. Ensor Lights of Love Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony will once again benefit Hospice of Cullman County.

This annual ceremony allows members of Cullman and the surrounding area to honor or remember family and community members. This year's event will be held on Thursday, December 6 at 5:30 p.m. in the Col. Cullmann Room at CRMC.

The event is named in honor of the late Dr. Herman C. Ensor for his many contributions to the community and to Cullman Regional Medical Center. Dr. Ensor was a member of Cullman's medical community and is fondly remembered by those who knew him as a caring and dedicated physician.Ensor was recruited to Cullman Hospital in 1975 and helped found the first Obstetrics & Gynecology practice in the area.

He helped to found the CRMC Foundation in 1977 and served as president of the CRMC Medical Staff and Chairman of the Board of Directors.

In 1991, Dr. Ensor created the Lights of Love Tree Lighting Ceremony in order to honor and remember those lost during the year.

Your gift of $20, $40, $60, or more will place a light on the tree as a tribute to someone special to you. Your tax-deductible gift will help support CRMC's Hospice of Cullman County in its continuing effort to provide excellent end-of-life care to everyone in our community.

Acknowledgement cards will be sent to those you have honored and to the families of those being remembered. Please only one acknowledgement per contribution.

All contributors are invited to the tree lighting ceremony to view a presentation of the names of those being honored or memorialized.

This year, the event will honor former Hospice Board member and volunteer Doug Doggett and remember our beloved social worker Lesa Hawkins, who touched the lives of hospice patients for many years.

Special holiday music will be provided and light refreshments will be served.

Donations may be contributed throughout the entire holiday season. Contributions can be made in memory or in honor of someone special in your life.

Donate online at www.crmchospital.com/LightsofLove or call the Hospice of Cullman County Office at (256) 739-5185 for more information.

'Strides' Walk for Diabetes Awareness Day

By: Leanne West
Contributor

CULLMAN – Mayor Townson recently signed a proclamation declaring November 17, 2012, "'Strides' Walk for Diabetes Awareness Day" in the City of Cullman.

The "Strides" event, sponsored by the Cullman Community Lions Club, will begin at 10:00 a.m. on November 17, 2012, at Heritage Park. Members of the Cullman Community Lions Club, along with their friends and families, will walk to raise awareness of the health complications of diabetes. The Grand Marshal for the walk will be Cody Bales and his diabetes service dog Nash.

The Cullman Community Lions Club is a new co-ed Lions Club that has chosen Diabetes Awareness as its primary focus. Their mission is to conduct and support local and large scale efforts leading to the control and treatment of diabetes and its complications through education, prevention, and research.

"This is a wonderful and worthwhile cause, and I encourage our citizens to take part in this event," said Mayor Townson. "We thank the Cullman Community Lions Club for sponsoring an event that promises to not only be fun, but will also help educate our community on this disease."

Present to accept the proclamation were Grand Marshal Cody Bales and his assistant, Nash, Cody's mother Stephanie Bales, Mayor Townson, Karen Seybold, Patty Miller, Janice Osborne, and Gloria Williams.

Those wishing to participate can register on the day of the walk before 10 a.m. at the Heritage Park fountain.

For information about the event, or about the Cullman Community Lions Club, contact Club President Gloria Williams at 256-737-0011 or Karen Seybold (Cullman Civic Center) at 256-734-9157.

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the Conversation



Left to Right: Cody Bales & Nash, Stephanie Bales, Mayor Townson, Karen Seybold, Patty Miller, Janice Osborne, and Gloria Williams.)

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No(ah)-It-All: : Money is Good, Respect is Better

By: Noah Chandler
noahchandler@cullmansense.com

Since the beginning I've been honest with you regarding our path, mission, and direction we aim to go in the coming years. This will never change. For far too long I had sat back watching others destroy the surroundings for personal financial gain but luckily my heart isn't like theirs. While money is delightful when it is time to pay bills it has a tendency to trick some into believing they must have it all, a simplistic notion I refuse to become a slave to.

So much in fact that our first four months operating online – way back in 2011 – we did not permit advertising. Yes, we actually launched a news outlet without advertising or any financial backing from friends, family, or private investors. This is something that is a point of inspiration for me simply because we thrived from word of mouth, not because who we knew or who bankrolled us. Once we knew CS was a stable product we slowly began allowing select advertisers the opportunity to spread the word about their product in a unique, hyper-local format not seen in the area before.

The response was amazing. I won't go into specifics when dealing with monetary amounts but I will say we did well that first day. Once the initial rush was over we elected to hold back again on selling simply because we did not have a sales group. It was just Dustin Isom and I out selling ads, which only happened on a few occasions, but we did well enough to maintain and slowly we began to expand the reach of CS.

Along the way we lost some folks but a small core stayed intact from the original crew making way for the next horizon. Jessica Norrell, our lead photographer, has been riding with the crew when we were just digital. She came on to cover football and before long her shots captured our hearts, earning Norrell a permanent spot with the crew. Her willingness to cover any event – large or small – is the same. The passion this young woman displays for her art form is unparalleled and for that I am extremely grateful.

Of course many of you know CS Sports Editor Josh McBrayer, who has been down with the crew since the summer of 2011. He is the only one of us whose daily attire consists of a tie, slacks, and fancy shirts. I tease him simply because he's making me step my clothing game up. Josh has followed down a similar path I was once on years ago with the only difference being he's accepted, valued, and respected. What can I say, it helps when those around you actually care about your work because they want to make theirs better, so I'm grateful we are able to offer that at CS.

Next up is the man behind all the magic, a mister Dustin Isom. At just 25, seriously only 25, he has been running, maintaining, and designing all of the functions of CS online and print. Dustin, who is self-taught, has been making sure this vessel stays on course, which requires quite a bit of work. When we first launched CS, Dustin had to first spend three months building our website, logos, infrastructure, and just about everything else that wasn't content related.

Honestly, without Dustin there would be no CS. It really is that simple. While the idea of a true community news outlet has been a dream of mine for some time it would have remained locked deep inside the mental vault if it wasn't for him. For those of you who know me you can testify to how difficult it is to understand my ideas when they are just flowing. Well somehow Dustin not only understands the ideas but he has been able to take, mold, and then inject his own creative thoughts, making for one great truly local product.

So now what? Well we've added a few new components to CS. Reporter Micheal Bryant will be splitting duties with entertainment, sports, and lifestyle to help spread the wealth to all communities in Cullman County. He is also letting his editorial senses tingle with his newest contribution, "Micheal at the Movies"; a local's thoughts on the films hitting TV and the big screen.

Now to the part which I've been savoring all week, the part which will truly help us generate more interest. The part that will allow CS to expand the size of the paper – page count and content. CS now has an Advertising Director, Kalina Griffin. Kalina and I go way back to our early school years. We've known one another for a while and she understands the important role CS has in the communities in Cullman County.

This knowledge of the region, mixed with her love for the county will help us grow the paper in size – content wise, not just page after page of advertising – giving us the space needed to provide you all with more local content. To help her along the path an Advertising Representative, Kassey Laney, was also brought on. So on behalf of Dustin and the rest of the CS Crew let me just take this time to say welcome aboard!



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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SPORTS

AHSAA Playoff Round One Wrap Up (Continued from Front)

verting the 3rd down. A few plays later and faced with another 3rd down, Crocker dropped back to pass and was hit. It looked as if his arm was coming forward but it was ruled a fumble and the Knights recovered on the Cullman 37. With a stroke of good luck or by favor of the "football gods," Arab fumbled the ball on the very next play and Cullman scooped it up. Crider picked up 32 yards on the drive and Johnson capped it with a hard 20 yard run for the score.

Six plays later Arab turned the ball over on downs and Cullman punched it in again. Crider got his turn in the end zone from two yards out. Setting up the score was Crider's arm. He hit a streaking Wesley Hendrix for 26 yards setting up the Crider score. Cullman, never to be satisfied, forced a three and out and took the ball down the field one more time. Johnson, who had already rushed for a score, got in the end zone again when he was on the receiving end of a 3 yard pass from Crider. Cullman put up 21 points in 12 minutes and took a 28-0 lead into halftime.

Arab got the ball to start the second and quickly moved it past mid field on a 28 yard run by Rush. Another 10 yard run by Rush and a pass interference call on Cullman had the Arab Knights on Cullman's 15 in just four plays. The Bearcats defense tightened up in the red zone and Arab found themselves facing a 4th and 9 from the Bearcat 14. Rush went to the air but was picked in the end zone by Trey Moon who returned the ball to the 30. The next Cullman play, Cocker turned and stuck the ball in the gut of Johnson and he did the rest, blasting his way through the defense and 70 yards down the sideline for the fifth Cullman touchdown. Cullman was up 35-0.

Arab again went three and out and was forced to punt. Cullman brought pressure all night on the Arab punter and this time it paid off. Richard Poston came through virtually untouched and tipped the punt, causing it to roll dead at the Arab 38. Cullman wasted no time scoring again when Crocker found Tery Forrest for the 15 yard TD, putting the Bearcats on top 42-0 and all but ending the game.

Arab would get their first of two scores in the opening minutes of the fourth. Taking advantage of a rare Cullman miscue, Ryan Parker scooped up a Cullman fumble and returned it to the Bearcat four. Rush would sneak it in two plays later making the score 42-7. Cullman answered with a 21 yard touchdown run from Will Crenshaw. The last score belonged to Arab when Rush found the end zone again, this time on a 46 yard run. Cullman was the victor 49-14 and will travel to Walker next week for a round two match up. The teams met in the first week of the season with Cullman coming out on top 42-14.

Deshler at Hanceville
By: Micheal Bryant

HANCEVILLE – Hanceville would get the ball to start the game and put their offense onto the field against the Deshler defense. They would start the game with a little success as a run by running back Torrey Green and a five yard facemask penalty would get a first down, but the defensive line of the Tigers would force the Bulldogs to punt. The play would take too long to develop and Deshler would block the punt, returning it for three yards to get the first score of the game and take an early lead.

Hanceville would get the ball back and put it back in the hands of Green who would get off a 22 yard run to get across midfield. The drive would stall shortly thereafter and the Bulldogs would turn the ball over on downs.

It was finally time to see the Hanceville defense on the field and they would not disappoint. Running back Terrance Bird for Deshler would have some early luck running the ball, but Hanceville's defense would clamp down and hold them to a punt.

Hanceville would give the Tigers a taste of their own medicine by blocking a punt and setting up on the 14 yard line on Deshler's side of the field. However, Hanceville could not get anything going and would turn it over on downs.

On Deshler's next possession the Hanceville defense would go to work once again and force a fumble, but they were unable to move the ball as Deshler's stout line would not allow them to get anything going.

That's when Deshler would go to work again. The Tigers would only need five plays with the fifth one ending on a fifty yard bomb from Deshler quarterback Justin Cantrell to tight end BJ Bailey for another score.

Deshler would hold on defense and the Tiger offense would tack on another touchdown to take a 21-0 lead at halftime.

Deshler would get the ball to start the second half and running behind Terrence Byrd, the Tigers would have a ten play drive that would eat more than five minutes off of the clock and end with a 3 yard run from Byrd to go up 28-0.

After one first down, Hanceville would punt again, and this time Deshler would run behind running back Chandler Brown and Wingback Juakeem Fuqua to get into the end zone a fifth time and go up 35-0 at the end of three.

Having the ball to start the fourth quarter, Hanceville's offense would finally show some signs of life as they would go to running back Sheldon Lewis who would rush six times for thirty three yards and get a two yard touchdown run to give the purple and gold their first points.

The Tigers would answer, however, this time with backup running back Taj Bates who would end the drive with five carries and 52 yards, finishing with Deshler's sixth touchdown.

Hanceville would get the ball back and run behind Green who would get huge gains of eleven, twelve, ten, and twenty-five yards. Lewis would punch it in from four yards out to cut Deshler's lead to 42-14.

The Bulldog defense would hold Deshler to a three and out, and then on fourth down rush through the offensive line to block a punt where it was recovered by Green in the end zone to trail 42-21, but that would be all they could muster as Deshler would drain the final two minutes off the clock to get out with the victory.

Munford at Fairview
By: Johnny Thornton

FAIRVIEW – Playing as hard as they could against a team that was very athletic, the Fairview Aggies went toe to toe with the Munford Lions in the first round of the Class 4A state playoffs Friday night at Dafford Smith Stadium.

This game was decided in the final minute. Fairview lost the football by a fumble at the Munford 10-yard line. The Lions took over and two plays later, quarterback Montero Garrett raced 88 yards to seal a 41-27 victory over the Aggies.

It was a tough one for the Aggies to swallow in which they gained 443 yards of offense vs. a ball club that was extremely quick and aggressive. Quarterback Luke Bailey left a lasting impression in his final game in an Aggie uniform with 179 yards rushing and 200 yards passing.

Bailey ran for two touchdowns and threw for one score. Munford couldn't never keep from moving the Aggies downfield throughout the night. The Fairview scoring drives covered 66, 73, 66 and 70 yards.

Fairview was down 6-0 after Munford went 84 yards on a TD pass by Garrett with 9:50 to play in the first quarter. The Aggies were finally able to move the ball downfield against the Lions' defense after they stopped Munford on downs at the Fairview 34.

The nine play drive ended when Bailey found Trent Shoemaker open across the field as he raced 27 yards to the end zone. A two-point conversion failed with the game tied at 6-6. That's how the score stood following the first stanza.

Fairview's defense once again rose when it was needed to. The Aggies held Garrett short of a first down and took over at their 27 early in the second quarter.

They would take 11 plays and almost 6:00 off the clock to take the lead. Bailey was responsible for 60 yards rushing on five carries in the series. Shoemaker had a nine-yard run that carried the ball to the two as Bailey scored on the next play. The conversion from Jake Chandler sent Fairview ahead for the first time at 13-6 with 4:59 to go until halftime.

Munford responded with a 78-yard drive in 13 plays and drew within a point at 13-12 with 13 seconds to go in the half. Garrett threw a 15-yard pass into the end zone.

But the chance to tie the game ended when C.J. Waters raced around right end and blocked the extra point.

George Redding's Aggies left the field with the lead of 13-12 at halftime, knowing they would have to play their hearts out in the second half to advance to the second round.

Munford took the second half kickoff and with a 60-yard run from the fullback, had a first down at the Fairview 20. Three plays later, the Lions regained the lead on a short touchdown and added a two-point conversion to move ahead 20-13.

From the Fairview 34, the Aggies matched the Lions with a scoring series. Bryant Powers caught two passes from Bailey covering 23 and 20 yards. The touchdown came on a one-yard plunge by Marco Rodriguez. Chandler followed with the conversion and the game was 20-20 with 5:15 to play in the third.

Next up was Munford. The Lions regained the advantage when they scored on a fourth down run from inside the Fairview one.

With one quarter to play, the visitors from Talladega County led the Cullman County school 27-20.

From the Fairview 46 at the start of the final period, the Aggies used a 30-yard pass by Bailey to Powers that set up a 13-yard jaunt to the end zone by Bailey. Chandler was able to kick the extra point and this first round 4A game was tied at 27-27.

Facing a second down and 25 from the Munford 35, Garrett threw a 55-yard pass with the receiver getting behind the Fairview secondary and a first down at the Aggies' 10. Garrett scored on the next play and the Lions were back in front at 34-27 with 8:35 to play in the game.

Munford took a gamble and recovered an onside kick. The Lions drove from their 48 only to have the Aggies stop them for the third time on the night on a fourth down play.

Fairview took over from its 19 with 5:18 remaining. Bailey showed poise in gaining 34 yards on five carries and completing four of six passes for 53 yards. Dillion Widner caught a 30-yard pass that gave the Aggies a first down at the Munford 12 as the clock was ticking down to the final minute of regulation.

Bailey then ran to the left side, got hit as the ball came free. The Lions pounced on it and had possession at the 10 with 55 seconds showing.

After a Fairview timeout, Garrett found his way through the defense for the game clinching score on an 88-yard run and the Lions went back home with their eighth win of the season and a chance to welcome Brooks to the Munford campus next week for a second round assignment.

Supporting Bailey's night of 379 yards of total offense, Powers caught five passes for 87 yards, Shoemaker had two receptions for 37 yards and a TD, Widner two receptions for 46 yards, and Rodriguez three catches for 18 yards.

Rodriguez ran for 50 yards on four carries to assist the running game that netted 287 yards. Fairview had 18 first downs and was penalized six times for 35 yards. Bailey punted one time on the night, the first series that resulted in a punt covering 35 yards.

The Aggies were in the playoffs for the fifth straight year under coach Redding, a school record. This was the 13th year in school history the Aggies have gone to the playoffs.

Vinemont at Lauderdale County
By: Zeke McBrayer

LAUDERDALE COUNTY – Vinemont won the toss and opted to receive the ball to start the game. After getting a first down, the Tigers defense held and forced the Eagles to punt. The Tigers would get the ball on their own 30 yard line. It wouldn't be long until the Tiger's Ethan Belue found the end-zone. A successful kick made the lead 7-0 in the first quarter.

The rest of the game was much of the same. While the Eagles had good offensive moments, the Lauderdale County defensive line proved too much for Vinemont. The Eagles ended the night with only 7 first downs, two coming off of Lauderdale County penalties.

The Tigers ran the game offensively all night. After the first touchdown the Tigers would score twice more in the first half. The second came on a 2 yard touchdown run by CJ Jackson. Jackson also caught a 34 yard pass with 1.7 seconds left in the half to make the score 21-0 at halftime.

The Tigers came out just as fired up. They would score four more times before the game was over. Vinemont would finally find the endzone with 26 seconds left in the game on a 5 yard run by Ty Jones. The Eagles ended their season on a 49-6 loss. But there was a bright spot in the game.

While it looked like the Tigers' defense held Ty Jones to a small amount of yards, he quietly racked up yards throughout the game. Yards that would help him break the Cullman rushing yards in a season, previously held by West Point head coach AJ Lamar. Jones ended the game with 146 yards, 17 more than needed to break the record. The season ended with 2,216 yards for Jones with 34 TDs. When asked about how it felt to break the record, one that had been around for almost 20 years, Jones replied that it "felt great."

There you have it, round one. Cullman, the only team to make it to the second round, will travel to Walker to take on the Vikings. The two teams met in the first week of the season and Cullman came out on top 42-14.

Do You Know a Student That Should be Spotlighted?

Tell Us!

Call Us – 256-297-1847
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Tweet Us
or E-mail Us
spotlight@cullmansense.com

Community Matters

Saintly Visitors

By: Jang Kim
St. Bernard International Student

CULLMAN – All St. Bernard Prep students are expected to be volunteers; that is, to be generous with their time and talent. "A minimum of 10 hours of community service is required of students each semester," says St. Bernard Prep President Fr. Joel Martin, "and that's a gift to our students, a way to teach them to get outside themselves and include the needs of others in their lives; and by the way, generosity makes people happy."

Fr. Joel said that one of the ways the school encourages the volunteer spirit is through the organization called "Saintly Visitors," which is simply any group of students who, usually once a week, go to a local nursing home to visit residents. It's not a club or a specific group, but simply those who pile into the school van or bus for the weekly trip.

The Saintly Visitors know that their work is helpful to those whom they visit. Some nursing home residents feel isolated and excluded, and a simple visit has a huge effect; the SBP visitors make a difference in their lives. But the students soon come to realize that they, the visitors, are often the ones who benefit most. That is made clear in the words of a frequent Saintly Visitor, Jang Kim, a sophomore from Korea. Read Jang's account here.

Fr. Joel explains that some students are at first a little fearful of a nursing home trip, but after a time or two they get more comfortable and look forward to it. They learn how to interact with people different from themselves and they learn responsibility – because people begin to know them and in some small way depend on them.

Fr. Joel says that the Saintly Visitors typically stick to a particular home over a period of time, explaining that certainly a one-time visit to a nursing home is a valuable experience for students and residents, but committing to ongoing visits is even better: "You get to know and understand and trust, and that's essential for all of us."

Thank you, Saintly Visitors. What a difference you make.

Jang Kim's experience:

"There is no room for the elderly in our country." When I heard this simple but sad statement spoken by a teenager my age, I felt that something needed to be changed. It is a fundamental moral teaching that we should respect our elders, but times have changed, and many young people have lost that moral basic. Even I who had been taught to respect elders around me sometimes have felt very pessimistic about them.

'Why do our governments spend large amounts of money to support a 'comfortable life' for old people?" But when I chose to visit a nursing home to be a friend of elders and to listen to what they think of our society and themselves, my attitude toward them started to change dramatically.

Honestly, I chose to go visit a nursing home because I wanted to change my attitudes toward the elderly and to spend my time more valuably than by just being on campus during the week, even if the visits are just one day out of seven. With Gabriel Pautler and other students and with the help of Fr. Joel, I walked into a nursing home.

The atmosphere of the nursing home we visited was bright but also gloomy. My first impression was something of a contradiction. Six or more elders sitting in wheelchairs were watching and enjoying TV shows, but their eyes sometimes seemed to show me an emptiness that came from solitude.

I don't know how many people usually visit the nursing home per week, but to me one thing is sure: the elderly are lonely. When we were walking down the corridor, many of them were staring at us with bright but lonely eyes. When I saw the sorrow behind their bright eyes, I was moved. I realized that they needed a friend to talk with. So I made up my mind to visit the nursing home as often as I could.

I usually go to room 303 where Mrs. Mitchell lives. When I first grabbed the cold doorknob and opened it, she was sitting in her wheelchair and looking at me with sudden surprise.

Although that was the first time for us to meet each other, I saw my grandmother's affection hid behind her pure and wise eyes. I felt a strong desire to talk with her, and I enjoyed talking – for 1 hour.

As an international student, it was a difficult thing for me to understand all the things that she said, but what I did understand is that she was a warm mother to her children, a wise and lovely wife for her husband, and a brave woman who has struggled to take care of the 93 years of life that she has lived so far.

After having a long conversation, I realized that there is no plan B to take care of our elders. They have huge amounts of wisdom and love for others that cannot be measured.

Mrs. Mitchell gave me a precious lesson when I first met her; and whenever I go and visit her, she always gives me courage and shows me a deep wisdom about life. And she makes me so glad that choosing SBP gave me the opportunity to have time with her.

How can we listen to those who regard their elders as nothing? Since we are people who live in God's love, we should realize that it is a natural moral command to respect the elderly and take care of them. I even imagine that if we don't serve our elders in respectful ways, we might be disrespected by our children in the same way.



Jang Kim

If we want to be respected by our children, we need to take care of our elders. Not far from now, our parents will be the elderly. When that happens, don't let them be alone. Take care of them as you would your children, and respect them because they have given you everything.

Remember, you will not always be a teenager and an SBP Student. As time passes, you will get older. So what is going to be your choice? Respect them or ignore them? The decision is yours.

Job Search Assistance Available to Veterans

By: Tara Hutchison
Contributor

MONTGOMERY – With Veterans Day this week, joblessness is a plight many of our nation's heroes face when returning home from serving overseas. As of September, the national unemployment rate among veterans was 6.7%, with 735,000 vets across the country unable to find work.

"'Unemployed' and 'veteran' are two words that should never go together," said Alabama Department of Labor Commissioner Tom Surtees.

"These valiant men and women voluntarily put themselves in harm's way to protect the rights we enjoy every day. We should do everything in our power to make sure that when service members return from a tour of duty, they come home with every opportunity to enjoy the freedoms they fought to protect," Surtees continued.

To help combat this issue, the Alabama Career Center System has a bevy of resources, including personnel and online tools, to assist service members in not only finding work but also training for new careers.

One such opportunity is the Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP), which offers 12 months of training assistance to veterans between the ages of 35 and 60 who are unemployed at the date of application and were not dishonorably discharged from service.

Participants must be enrolled in a VA approved program of education offered by a community college or technical school.

The program must lead to an Associate Degree, Non-College Degree, or a Certificate, and train the veteran for a high demand occupation.

For those veterans seeking more immediate job opportunities, there are specially-trained staff members at Career Centers throughout the state who are well-versed in finding jobs for vets and helping them adjust to civilian life.

According to Surtees, veterans are ideal candidates for employers looking to fill positions because of their extensive training and numerous intangibles.

"Those who served in the military know the importance of being on time and paying attention to detail," he said.

"You know they're going to do everything to the best of their ability regardless of what kind of uniform they might be wearing."

For more information about the numerous employment resources available to veterans, visit your local Career Center or www.joblink.alabama.gov.

Upcoming Fundraiser?
Community Event?

Let Us Know!

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calendar@
cullmansense.com

American Indian Heritage Month

By: Leanne West
Contributor

CULLMAN – Cullman Mayor Max A. Townson recently signed a proclamation declaring the month of November 2012 "American Indian Heritage Month" in the City of Cullman. On hand from the Dripping Springs National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (NSDAR) to accept the proclamation were Barbara Buettner, American Indian Committee member, and Brenda Scott, Regent.

The history and culture of our great nation have been significantly influenced by American Indians and indigenous peoples, and their customs and traditions are respected and celebrated as part of a rich legacy throughout the United States. Their contributions have enhanced the freedom, prosperity, and greatness of America today.

"I am very honored to sign this proclamation recognizing and celebrating the contributions of Native Americans in our community, our state, and our nation," said Mayor Townson. "I urge out citizens to take part in any activities planned to learn more about our history."

Native American Awareness Week began in 1976. In 1990, President George Bush officially designated the month of November as "National American Indian Heritage Month." Each November, community celebrations and activities are planned to commemorate and celebrate the American Indian history, heritage, and culture.

"I would like to thank the Dripping Springs DAR members for all they do for our community," stated Mayor Townson. "Their work in preserving and educating citizens on the history of our community and of our nation is commendable!"



Left to Right: Barbara Buettner, Mayor Townson, Brenda Scott

Community Matters

Parade of Trees

By: Micheal Bryant
michealbryant@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Saturday as part of Christmas in Cullman, the annual Parade of Christmas Trees which is put on by the Child Advocacy Center of Cullman was held at the Rotunda.

"What we are doing is a silent auction of all the trees and items here today," said Kim Bevis who is in charge of the event.

"The highest bid will win the tree and it all benefits the Child Advocacy Center which deals with children that have been sexually abused."

"When I took over almost five years ago they already had this event established and this is the eighth year we've done it, and when I got here I just decided that I was going to do it, and we've kind of increased the event every year and got the rotunda involved which has made it a nice event."

Kim said the event wouldn't be possible without the community of Cullman.

"We worked closely with the chamber and when they first started this event they did it with Christmas in Cullman and we have just kept that up every year and the chamber is all about us doing this event," she said.

"It kind of helps to increase the festivities for Christmas and gets everybody in the mood for the holiday. We have music and everything because they want to make sure it's Christmas-y. I think it's a great event during this time."

Kim said holding the event during this time of year is a great help to its success. "It absolutely helps. We wouldn't have nearly the turn out if it wasn't during Christmas in Cullman because we have everyone turn out to see the trees."



Photos by Jessica Norrell

Ice Skating in Cullman?

By: Micheal Bryant
michealbryant@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Each year the community of Cullman tries to improve on the annual Christmas in Cullman event, and this year was no different as an outdoor ice skating rink was set up on 1st Ave in Downtown Cullman.

"Parks and Recreation is doing the ice skating here at Christmas in Cullman and we have kind of partnered with the Downtown Merchants Association to do that," said Waid Harbison, Marketing Director for Cullman City Parks and Recreation.

"It's a fun event and I think a lot of people came up for it. We were expecting a big crowd and a lot of people turned out, lots of children, lots of families. It's just something we've been able to offer for free for the community that is something fun to do with a lot of people shopping around town today. It's, I think, a great addition to Christmas in Cullman. For sure."

The event saw close to a hundred people gathered to take part in it including Michael Reisner who brought his two children that are seven years and nineteen months old.

"It's fun. It's enjoyment for the family," he said.

"It's an unusual thing, not only to have ice skating in downtown Cullman, but to have it in seventy degree weather," said Leah Bolin, Interim President for the Chamber of Commerce.

"It's a fun thing you can do with your family and it gives people in (the downtown) part of Cullman something to come out and (to also) encourage people to check out the unique shops and just have a big fun day of it."



Photos by Jessica Norrell

Community Matters

"It's a great family city"

By: Micheal Bryant
michealbryant@cullmansense.com

Annual Christmas in Cullman event a Success

CULLMAN - Driving down First Avenue in the historic district of Cullman Saturday morning a person can see a lot of great buildings, landmarks… and snow? Yes, ladies and gentlemen that is because it was the start of the annual Christmas in Cullman. A time when the citizens of the Cullman community can enjoy live music, festive activities, and of course shopping.

"Christmas in Cullman is in its 27th year and it normally is a shop local program and it has continued on in that capacity and it's very far reaching in the city and even reaching farther out. We kicked off the morning with our parade in downtown Cullman and there are a lot of activities today," said Leah Bolin, who is the Interim President for the Cullman Chamber of Commerce.

"We had ice skating, a snow maze, a Santa Claus, and we are also on the north end of town with our chunkin' chicken, which we hope is an annual event. People are taking frozen birds and chunking them for the charity of their choice and the chamber is going to donate five hundred dollars to the men and women winners' charity of choice."

Of course the event would not be possible without partnerships, sponsorships, and many volunteers making sure the day runs smoothly. Bolin said offerings of the day would be enjoyed equally by children of all ages.

"Whether you're three or ninety-three there is something for people to do. Cullman Downtown Merchants has done a fantastic job of getting all of that together. It takes a lot of people to pull something like this off, and it's just a great day, she said. "It's a local boost to the economy for one, but it's also a great representation for how we pull together and do things and do them well to people outside of the Cullman area. We want to showcase what we have and we want folks to come in and shop with us to find out what different stores we have and things we have to offer."

While there are a lot of events to take part in, shopping is the number one activity among the people who come out.

"We have been super busy today as lots of people have been taking advantage of our sales. We do these sales during Christmas in Cullman just to get our name out there," said Felicia Watson, manager of What a Girl Wants.

"This is our third year here,"said Casey Hardimen, owner of Poor Little Rich Girl and The Jade Apple.

"It's always a huge event for my stores. Last year we had the debut of the Jade Apple and every year we are packed from the crack of dawn to the end of the night. More people show up to these things in Cullman than any other town I've been in. I think that's really cool. The people in Cullman really, really support shopping locally and small businesses. I had my store in Decatur and we put a lot more into advertising and a lot more incentives and we probably had a third of the turnout. Cullman is really special in that way. (During Christmas in Cullman) I would say we probably pull in sales three times more than what we do on a normal Saturday. It's huge for us."

"It's a good day, nice weather. I'm glad to be a part of it. Over the years it's given people a reason to come back to Cullman," said Steve Cummings, owner of Cummings Sports.

"You know a lot of these stores and businesses are at a time where they are really getting people to come in and do the shopping, and of course parents are shopping (to help Santa) and get some stuff for their kids. Santa will definitely get his done, but mom and dad have got to go shopping for grandma and grandpa, and everyone has to go find something for somebody because Christmas is a giving season. So Santa will still have plenty of work. Right now is the time where a lot of people are really just starting the Christmas shopping season and a big event like this is really going to draw the people out more with all of the specials and the deals and the store hours," said Waid Harbison, Marketing Director for Cullman City Parks and Recreation.

"It really just brings a lot to the community. It's really great for the economy here as far as kick starting that. It's almost like Black Friday for Cullman in that way and I'm glad we're able to do it for the community. It's a really special community because I don't think many people could pull something off like that. With things like this and the addition of other fun things, we've really seen businesses prosper and they get great things out of it."

The final event for Christmas in Cullman was the annual tree lighting.

"Tonight at Depot Park we will have the official tree lighting for the city of Cullman, and we also do that, parks and recreation. We're going to carry out our theme of Charlie Brown's Christmas there and you'll see some things there as well that will be incorporated with our parade float", said Harbison.

Once again, the annual Christmas in Cullman was a success.

"I come up every year," said Nita Willis who is from Hayden. "It's just great to bring the family. Cullman is a great family city."



Photos by Jessica Norrell

Reflections of History

Do you have an old photo?

Share it with us on **Twitter** with hashtag **#cullmanhistory** or e-mail us at **history@cullmansense.com.**

Esther Opera House

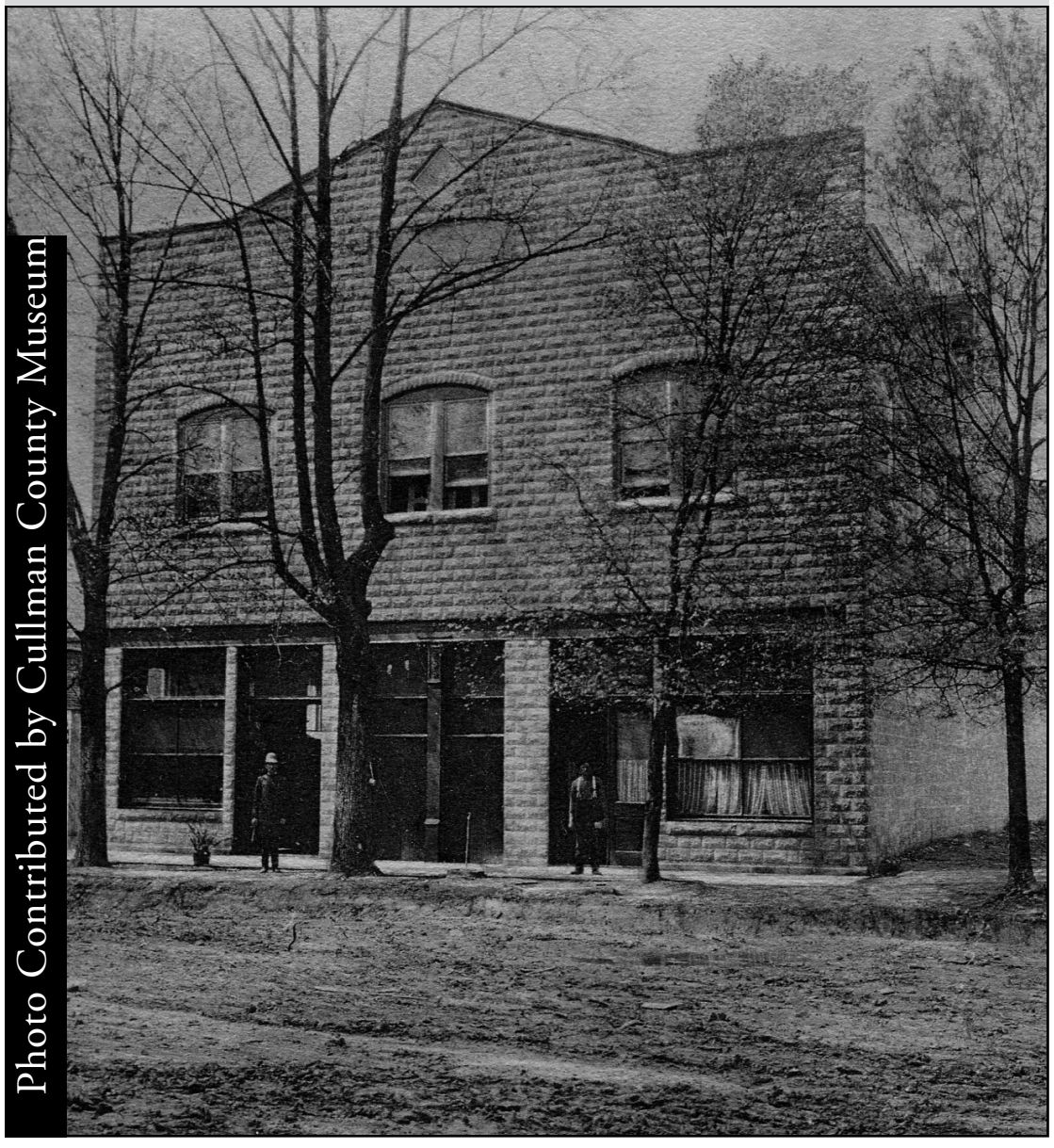


Photo Contributed by Cullman County Museum

This Week in History Nov. 12 - Nov. 18

November 12th
- 1900 – World's Fair in Paris opens 50 million visitors
- 1938 – Hermann Goering announces he wants Madagascar as a Jewish homeland
- 1997 – Dick Vitale signs with ESPN through year 2004
- 2011 – U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton calls on Iran to respond to the IAEA report stating Iran is working on nuclear bomb technology

November 13th
- 1789 – Benjamin Franklin writes "Nothing . . . certain but death and taxes"
- 1913 – First modern elastic brassiere patented by Mary Phelps Jacob
- 1956 – Supreme Court strikes down segregation of races on public buses

November 14th
- 1896 – Power plant at Niagara Falls begins operation
- 1920 – American Pro Football League's Chicago Tiger Joe Guyon punts 95 yards
- 1968 – "National Turn in Your Draft Card Day" features draft card burning
- 1993 – Puerto Rico votes against becoming the 51st U.S. state

November 15th
- 1492 – Christopher Columbus notes first recorded reference to tobacco
- 1920 – League of Nations holds first meeting in Geneva
- 1956 – Elvis Presley's first film "Love Me Tender," premieres in New York City
- 1989 – Walter Davis (Denver) begins NBA free throw streak of 53 games

November 16th
- 1798 – Kentucky becomes first state to nullify an act of Congress
- 1914 – Federal Reserve System formally opens
- 1948 – Operation Magic Carpet - first plane from Yemen carrying Jews to Israel
- 1995 – Attorney General Janet Reno announces she has Parkinson disease

November 17th
- 1800 – John Adams is first President to move into the White House
- 1940 – Green Bay Packers become first NFL team to travel by plane
- 1973 – President Nixon tells AP "...people have got to know whether or not their President is a crook. Well, I'm not a crook"

November 18th
- 1307 – William Tell shoots apple off his son's head
- 1874 – National Woman's Christian Temperance Union organizes in Cleveland
- 1960 – Copyright office issues its 10 millionth registration
- 1992 – "Malcolm X" with Denzel Washington premieres in U.S.

Dear Valued Members:

In an effort to improve your facility, Cullman Wellness & Aquatic Center will be **closing Thanksgiving Day, November 22, 2012 and will re-open on Monday, November 26, 2012.**

We are aware of the inconvenience; however, we know the cleanliness, improvements, and updates will make you even more proud to be a CWAC member.

We appreciate your understanding throughout this process.

Cullman Wellness & Aquatics



Jump into

EvaBank

this summer and get the loan you need to make your home a Vacation!

Come see us for a Refinance or Purchase

157 Cherokee Ave. Eva

256-737-1655 256-255-2000 256-796-2201

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Member FDIC

Local Events Calendar

Send your Events to: calendar@cullmansense.com

Monday, November 12th

Cullman Kiwanis Club
The Cullman Kiwanis Club invites all local men and women who are interested in taking part in community service along with great fellowship, fun, networking and learning to attend their weekly luncheon meeting at 12 noon each Monday in the All Steak's third floor banquet room. Come see what Kiwanis is all about and enjoy a great luncheon meal as well.

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, November 13th

Alzheimer's and Dementia Support Group for Caregivers Meeting
A new support group to help Alzheimer's and Dementia Caregivers is being organized by Westminster Assisted Living and Memory Care and Omega Hospice. This first meeting will begin at 10 a.m. at Westminster. Monthly meetings will take place each month on the second Tuesday. Additional information available by calling Suzy Prymmer of Westminster Assisted Living and Memory Care at 256-255-0361.

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.

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.

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.

Knit 1, Read 2
The Knit 1, Read 2 group meets every Tuesday at the Cullman County Public Library, Main Branch, at 3 p.m. This group welcomes all newcomers.

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, November 14th

Thanksgiving Dinner at Duck River Baptist Church
Free Thanksgiving Dinner at Duck River Baptist Church beginning at 4:30 p.m. For more information, please contact Kathy Howard at 256-338-6376 or Teresa Reid at 256-507-1191.

Cold and Flu Season
Please join Stephen Skinner, the natural pharmacist, at Living Well Natural Store (formerly Specialty Wellness) as he shares ways to support yours and your family's immune system during the upcoming Cold and Flu Season from 1 p.m. until 2 p.m. Seating is limited, so please call or email us to reserve a spot.

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, November 15th

Colon Cancer Awareness Seminar
Dr. Brad Moody with Surgical Arts, PC, will be guest speaker today for the WomenFirst/SeniorChoice learning/lunch seminar starting at 11:30 a.m. in POB ll on the campus of Cullman Regional Medical Center. He will discuss colon cancer awareness and will provide information on how, with proper screening, colon cancer can be detected before symptoms develop, when it is in early stages and most curable. Colorectal cancer is one of the leading causes of cancer-related deaths in the United States, according to the American Cancer Society, so this seminar is a very timely program. Cost for this lunch/seminar is $5.00 for members of WomenFirst/SeniorChoice and $8.00 for all others. Please call 256-737-2600 or visit www.crmchospital.com to pre-register.

2012 Cullman Farm-City Banquet
Everyone is invited to attend the annual 2012 Cullman Farm-City Banquet at Cullman Civic Center when doors open at 5:30 p.m. The meeting and dinner will start at 6 p.m. with guest speaker, Mike Royer, motivational speaker who also is a television personality in Birmingham. This year's event will feature the presentations of the 'Farm Family' for 2013 in addition to naming the Farm-City poster winners and youth leadership award winners. Tickets are $15.00 each and available at local area banks, the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce or the Cullman County Economic Development Office. Additional information is available by calling 256-775-4696. You may also check out more info on Mike Royer by visiting www.mikeroyer.net. Come visit with your farm and city friends and enjoy a great meal and speaker tonight.

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, November 16th

Arts & Crafts Show by Vinemont Band Boosters
The annual Arts and Crafts Show sponsored by Vinemont Band Boosters will take place from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Everyone is invited to the Cullman Center to peruse the many holiday and gift items available for purchase. During the day there will be concessions available as well as a great lunch including a loaded baked potato and taco soup to take the chill out. Plans also include door prizes, entertainment and lots of fun. Admission to the show is free. Come support the Vinemont Eagle Band program and get started on your Christmas shopping list at the same time.

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, November 17th

Arts & Crafts Show by Vinemont Band Boosters
The annual Arts and Crafts Show sponsored by Vinemont Band Boosters will take place from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Everyone is invited to the Cullman Center to peruse the many holiday and gift items available for purchase. During the day there will be concessions available as well as a great lunch including a loaded baked potato and taco soup to take the chill out. Plans also include door prizes, entertainment and lots of fun. Admission to the show is free. Come support the Vinemont Eagle Band program and get started on your Christmas shopping list at the same time.

Cathedral of Praise Church of God Thanksgiving Meal
Everyone is invited to attend the annual Thanksgiving Meal sponsored by Cathedral of Praise Church of God today. This event will be held at West Point Middle School from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. As in the past this is a free event open to everyone. Plates also may be picked up at Stevens Hardware in Jones Chapel but reservations must be made in advance by calling 256-737-7291. Come enjoy a meal and visit with your friends by eating in or make use of the take-out line.

Therapeutic Recreation Fall Festival
Come take part in the Therapeutic Recreation Fall Festival from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. at the Cullman Area Field of Miracles. All ages, with delays and disABILITIES are invited to take part in this event, which will include band music, resource booths, food, fun and fellowship. This event is hosted by Therapeutic Group & Autism Networking Group. For additional information about this event, please contact the Park and Rec Department at 256-734-9157.

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!

Monday, November 19th

Cullman Kiwanis Club
The Cullman Kiwanis Club invites all local men and women who are interested in taking part in community service along with great fellowship, fun, networking and learning to attend their weekly luncheon meeting at 12 noon each Monday in the All Steak's third floor banquet room. Come see what Kiwanis is all about and enjoy a great luncheon meal as well.

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!

Looking Ahead

Pilot Club Pecan Sale for Charity
Pilot members through November and December are selling Alabama Priester Pecans. This year's crop and fresh selections available include, pecan halves, pecan pieces, chocolate covered pecan halves, honey glazed pecan halves, and cinnamon-sugar pecan halves. $12 for 1 pound bag. For more information call Peggy Day, 256-734-6049. Proceeds will benefit local pilot club projects and activities focused on brain related disorders.

North Alabama Agriplex Upcoming Events
- November 13 - Controlling Invasive Plants - 6:00-8:00 p.m.
- November 17 - Cornhusk Wreath Making Workshop - 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
- December 1 - Farm Kid's Club - 9:00 a.m.
- December 1 - Natural Wreath Making - 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- December 11 - Pruning, Care, and Maintenance - 6:00 - 8:00
- January 5 - Farm Kid's Club: Terrariums - 9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
- January 8 & 10 - Hand Quilting with Raydonna - 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

For more information call 256-297-1044 or e-mail cullmanag@gmail.com.

Community Matters

Passion for the Kitchen

Send your recipes to recipes@cullmansense.com

By: Annette Harris
annetteharris@cullmansense.com



qrnews/aharris

Breakfast For Supper

If you have never had breakfast for supper I feel sorry for you. I would bet that most everyone has had it though.

This is the one meal I can make where everything I cook is gone. There are no leftovers. The kids beg for it, even the picky ones.

It's so easy to make breakfast for supper because everything cooks quickly and as soon as it hits the table, its gone.

I remember making pancakes for the kids on Saturday mornings. Ralph got fancy and for supper started making their initials out of the pancakes and spelling words, etc. The kids loved it.

We would have pancakes, scrambled cheese eggs, fried eggs and bacon. Then, we would fry some sausage, hash browns or fried potatoes, and biscuits.

What a spread we would have! It seems like there is no better meal than breakfast, no matter when you have it to bring a family together.

I remember on New Year's Eve my granny would start cooking breakfast around 11:00 p.m. so as soon as the New Year was rang in, we all would start eating. I thought it was so neat that we were eating so late.

The other great thing about it was the family was all together. I don't know if most of the younger adults in the family were too young to go out and party or if they just enjoyed being together on New Year's Eve, but there were a lot of us there.

We all sat in front of the TV watching the ball drop and hearing Dick Clark yell "Happy New Year" to everyone. There was always a ball game on TV, then the big event with Dick Clark. It was a big night.

My grandmother was in her element in the kitchen. She loved making all that food for us and she loved watching us enjoy it. I think that's where I am in my life with cooking. She didn't teach me how to cook, but she taught me, unknowingly, how cooking, food, and family all come together.

How do things get so fast paced now and so busy? Why can't we all slow down and enjoy each other's company? Things have changed so much.

I guess just because I was a kid I didn't realize how things were. I didn't appreciate them back then, but I do now. I hope to carry on traditions I remember as a kid. They may not be the same traditions, but we can make new ones.

Pancakes from Scratch

These are easy and quick and taste just as good if not better than the mix you can buy in a box.

Ingredients:

- 2 cups baking mix (generic or Bisquick)
- 1 1/3 cups milk
- 1 egg
- 2 Tablespoons sugar

Oven Version

Bake at 350 degrees for 30-40 minutes or until bubbly. Let set about 10 minutes if you can stand it, and it will cut easier.



Crock Pot Version

Do everything as noted above, but instead of layering it in a baking dish, layer it in the crockpot. Put it on low for about 4 hours. This is great!

Griddle Version

1. Preheat griddle to 375 degrees.
2. Stir all ingredients together in a mixing bowl until blended.
3. Bake on a hot, lightly greased griddle using slightly less than ¼ cup batter for each pancake. Cook until the bubbles break on the surface. Turn and cook until golden brown.

To make initials with the pancakes, put some of the batter into a squirt bottle like your ketchup or mustard is in. You have more control of the letters, designs, etc.

Micheal's View of the Blu (and DVD): Brave

By: Micheal Bryant
michealbryant@cullmansense.com

Brave

Rated PG for some scary action and rude humor

Starring: Kelly MacDonald, Billy Connolly, Emma Thompson, and Julie Walters

Premise Rating: **3**
Execution Rating: **6**
Directing Rating: **9**
Voice Acting Rating: **5**
Entertainment Rating: **4**
Overall: **28/50**

This week will see one of the highest anticipated movies of the summer finally hit Blu-Ray/DVD, and please keep in mind that this review is coming from an adult male perspective which will probably defer from the films targeted demographic.

"Brave" tells the story of a princess played by Kelly MacDonald (Nanny McPhee, Finding Neverland) who doesn't exactly want to be a lady, as she enjoys tomboyish activities such as horseback riding and archery. Her father played by Billy Connolly (Open Season, Pocahontas) does not think this to be a bad thing at all, but her mother played by Emma Thompson (Treasure Planet, Love Actually) thinks she needs to become a lady, especially now that she has become of age to be betrothed. Unhappy with this, the princess runs away where she meets a witch, asks for help, and like all Disney witch spells, the results, while doing what she wants, does not do how she wants them done.

That is the premise for "Brave" and it sounds like a good one, but it's the execution of that premise that bogs the movie down. First of all the movie runs about ninety minutes, once you subtract the time for credits you have about an 83 minute movie. Well that whole set up I just described takes about thirty minutes, meaning Act II and III are crammed into fifty minutes of film time. This makes the film feel rushed and when a film is rushed you become disengaged by the events happening.

Another big problem is the plot. For those who were unable to see this movie in theaters, you would know that the previews made it seem like this film is about an independent girl on a journey to find herself, but instead you get a buddy comedy between the princess and her mother after the spell. Maybe I have just come to expect too much from Pixar, but after such great movies like the "Toy Story" trilogy and "Wall-E," "Brave does just not live up to what we have become accustomed to.

Now this is the part of my review where I mention the cast, but with the exception of Connolly, who is a great character actor, it just seems like the rest are phoning it in or trying too hard. Julie Walter (Mamma Mia, Gnomeo and Juliet) is great as the witch, but her scenes are so short we don't fully get to see the character development. In fact the three best characters, the brothers, don't even have voice actors behind them.

This being a Blu-ray/DVD release, there are special features and Disney packs a lot into the disc as they do with most Disney films, but these do not help the quality of the DVD. In my opinion, and I hate to say this because it's a Pixar film, but you can skip "Brave."

CullmanSense readers, be sure to check out CullmanSense.com during the week for my reviews of "James Bond: Skyfall" and "Savages" which also released on DVD. Also, I need a little help. November 23rd, there are two blockbuster type films being released in "Rise of the Guardians" and "Life of Pi." Let me know which you would like to see reviewed by e-mailing me.

"Police Chief for the Day": Samaria Coley

By: Leanne West
Contributor

CULLMAN – Cullman City Primary School student Samaria Coley was "Police Chief for the Day" on Friday, November 9, 2012! Samaria became "Police Chief for the Day" by winning a silent auction at her school's Fall Festival.

"We are glad to offer this service to help the Primary School raise money during their Fall Festival," said Chief Culpepper. "It gives us an opportunity to interact with the winning student and their parent one-on-one and foster a good relationship between the Police Department and the community."

Samaria spent much of the day with Cullman Police Chief Kenny Culpepper learning about law enforcement and meeting city and county officials.

Samaria saw the police helicopter land on the south end of the Police Department. She met the pilot, Danny Hite, and sat in the helicopter, as well.

Later she and Chief Culpepper met with Chief Deputy Max Bartlett at the Cullman County Sheriff's Office.

Chief Culpepper brought Samaria to City Hall. There she visited the office of Cullman Mayor Max A. Townson and spoke with him about his recent participation in the Cullman City Primary School Veterans Day Program.

"I was very pleased to meet 'Police Chief for the Day' Samaria Coley," said Mayor Townson. "I think it's great that she has an interest in law enforcement and I am sure she learned a lot from Chief Culpepper and the other law enforcement officials she met."

"We would like to acknowledge and thank Mayor Townson and the Cullman County Sheriff's Department for their participation," said Chief Culpepper.



Left to Right: "Chief" Samaria Coley, Chief Kenny Culpepper, Mayor Townson

Samaria also visited the Municipal Courtroom and sat in Cullman Municipal Judge Jason Knight's seat. And before leaving City Hall she visited the Cullman Fire Department and the Dispatch Center.

Samaria was accompanied by her mother, Erica Bates. Her step-dad is Cullman Police Officer Roy Bates.

JUST FOR FUN

THIS WEEK'S WORD SEARCH TOPIC IS: FRUITS

BY: DUSTIN ISOM

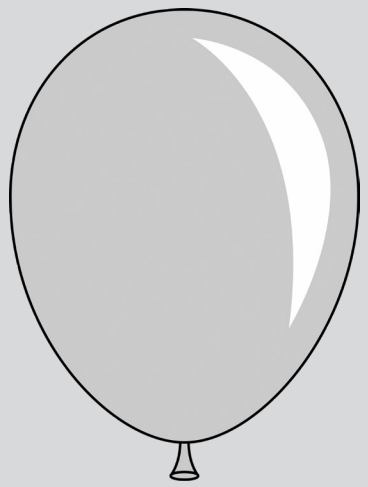
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Apples	Apricots	Bananas	Blueberries	Cherries	Fig	Grapefruit
Grapes	Kiwi	Lemons	Limes	Mango	Oranges	Peaches
Pears	Pineapples	Plums	Prunes	Rasberries	Strawberries	Watermelons

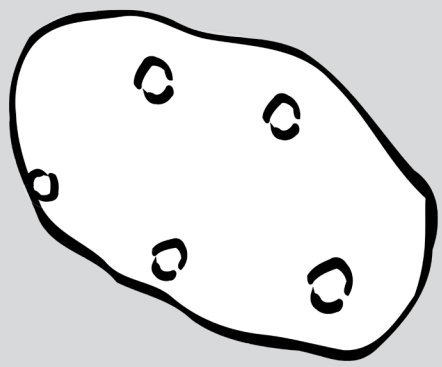
GETTING CORNY

Send your jokes to:
jokes@cullmansense.com

1. What is a balloon's least favorite type of music?



2. What do you call a potato that speaks about public events?



1. Pop. 2. A commentator.

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Video Game Review: Uncharted 3 Drake's Deception

Presented by Blockbuster

By: Josh McBrayer
joshmcbrayer@cullmansense.com

Ok, before I get into this video game review, I have to admit that outside of the Castlevania games, the Uncharted series is my favorite franchise of all-time.

Although the franchise is exclusive to Sony and Playstation 3, the series is a must play or any self-respecting video gamer. With all of that being said, here we go.

Uncharted 3 picks up where the first two games left off. The gamer plays as globe-trotting treasure hunter, Nathan Drake and his long-time friend and business associate Victor "Sully" Sullivan. Back for the third installment of Uncharted is Elena Fisher from Uncharted and Uncharted 2 and Chloe Frazer from Uncharted 2.

This installment of the franchise forms its story around T.E. Lawrence, the legendary author of Lawrence of Arabia and a fictional journal that revealed the location of a hidden city that English monarch Queen Elizabeth I secretly commissioned world renowned explorer Sir Francis Drake to locate. Nathan convinces Sully to help him search for the lost city, called Ubar.

The game opens with a flashback of Nate as a child on the streets of Columbia. He is searching for something in a local museum, which happens to have an exhibit on Sir Francis Drake, Nate's ancestor. He is searching for a ring (a centerpiece in the franchise) that belonged to Sir Drake.

He eventually gets the ring but is pursued by a woman named Marlow, the main villainess in the game, and is saved by a man from out of nowhere, Sully. Sullivan takes Nate under his wing and here is shows the forming of a life-long friendship.

The game is full of intrigue and stunning landscapes that will almost make you forget you are playing a video game. At one point you are on a Somali pirate ship full of cargo containers in stormy seas. The graphics are so crisp and clean, it can very well make you sea sick.

The Uncharted franchise is known for its seamless blend of historical fact and poetic license and Uncharted 3 is no different.

The story is arguably the best in the series and it lays a lot of groundwork for a fourth game while explaining the complex relationships of the main characters in the franchise.

The game spans several countries with their own unique landscapes and set of challenges for Nate to overcome.

If you have a PlayStation 3, I strongly urge you pick up Uncharted 3. If you do not have PS3, the game is well worth the investment of buying one!

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



Community Matters

Heroes (Continued from Front)

"About five years ago a group of veterans got together and petitioned the city and the county to move the veterans memorial for World I, II, Korea, Vietnam, and others to another site besides the courthouse where we were having Memorial Day Ceremonies and Veterans Day Ceremonies, because there was so much traffic on Highway 31 and we couldn't hear ourselves think. We decided we wanted to try and create a veterans' park over here at Sportsman's Lake. The county made the land available, and then we all went to work to raise the money in the community among the veterans' groups and among the public in general and asked them to contribute, and we have been able to put what I think is a very class act park together for a very small community."

Colonel Brown likes the effort the community of Cullman is putting into the veterans program, despite the lack of turnout it has seen in the past.

"Well I think it's a wonderful thing to be able to come and honor the war veterans on Memorial Day at a special place, that is kind of sacred ground here in Cullman County and to honor all the people who have given their lives to their country who are from Cullman, but it is also a great place to come and honor the living veterans who have survived and who we need to thank because we don't do a very good job of thanking our veterans. We try to hold parades here, but nobody comes," he said.

"We've had Veterans Day ceremonies all over the county for years and very few members of the public support it so we just decided that we would have a veterans park and we would put it together so we could have a place where veterans could gather once or twice a year, and if people wanted to come and honor them that's fine. Otherwise it would just be the band of brothers getting together and having a place to meet and hang out and that's what we are doing."

Also in attendance for the event were the first members of the ROTC program that was incorporated into the schools this year which is led by veteran Colonel Harvey Jones.

"We provided the color guard with the Junior ROTC and the kids did a great job coming in and we're really happy to be able to bring the kids in, and have them support the veterans," said Jones. "The veterans supported us and the uniforms you saw the kids in today were mostly provided for by the veterans because we are not a fully accredited program yet through the army, so the veterans helped cover some of the cost, and we're trying to pay them back. It's good for us to be here with these former veterans. It's really a lot of fun for us."

The program is one that has been a long process to get together, but the hard work put into it is finally coming to fruition.

"The Superintendents from both school systems came together with my boss, Jeff Curtis, who is the principle at the career center," said Jones. "They have been trying to make this happen for about five years and they were able to get the funding and everything together last year in order to get us hired on. They brought us in to do the program which is about leadership, citizenship, and just do the right thing. We are not recruiters. We are not even interested in recruiting. A lot of the kids are versed in the military but it's not what we are about. Most kids that come out of ROTC are going to go into the military, but we used the program as a backdrop for training and give us an opportunity to put the kids through training so they can see what it's like when they come to our classes."

Colonel Jones got involved in the program after seeing an advertisement on the Junior ROTC website. After his interview and being selected he selected Sargent Ellory as his counterpart. He says the two have seen a good vibe from kids at the school.

"I think (support has been) very positive," said Colonel Jones.

"They are really enjoying it a whole lot, especially the ones that are here. We are also starting to see a lot of other kids that are expressing interests and they are coming up asking what it is and how they get involved, because when we started the program it wasn't available to students at the end of last year so they couldn't sign up at the time. It all came together during the summer, so we didn't have the word out before they had their schedules out. We're hoping now that they can adjust it to their schedules and sign up for the program."

Jones said he thinks the program will continue to grow in the years to come.

"I know we are going over a hundred, and hopefully we can keep it below two hundred. If we get that it will be hard for us to manage and we'd have to take a look at it and see what happens. If we get to a hundred and fifty we can authorize a third instructor which we will obviously have to try to pick up, but that will have to be approved through the schools.

"As a veteran and I think I speak for other veterans, it's good to know that the youth are coming up and are interested in doing what we do, providing the same service. If we have to go to war, the youth are interested in that. It's going to continue to happen. If we go to war we have people who want to do that and serve. They are looking to make a difference in their communities and in the nation."

To end the event, headed by director Tiffany Richter, the Wallace State Singers performed.

"It's a good community thing to be able to lift the spirits of people," said Justin Johnson a member of the Singers. "Miss Richter is a very well-known person and she is proactive in what she does, and they try to have us where they can get us. My pawpaw fought in Vietnam and he's a great role model and a great person because of it. Veterans Day means a lot. I'm thankful that it is a holiday, because those people need to be remembered in a respectful way. They surrendered their lives and fought for us. Politicians didn't give us a right to vote, our veterans did."

"It means a lot being able to come out here and support the veterans and put on a show," said Cassidy Stanford who is also a member of the Wallace State Singers. "It's great to be able to hear the stories and be a part of this."









