HOME Sweet HOME Lends Helping Hand to Area Seniors–p.3

SERIES 2, ISSUE 53 MONDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2012

CULLMAN'S MONDAY NEWSPAPER

CULLMANSENSE

$0.50 COMMUNITY MATTERS $0.50

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Flags Flying Proudly

By: Noah Chandler
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CULLMAN – Gentlemen! Attention! Front and Center was the decree of Mayor Max A. Townson Thursday evening as he presented local VFW Post 2214 with 50 American flags during the Cullman City Council meeting.

"America owes great gratitude to your service, not to the country but to the citizens of Cullman County. On behalf of the citizens of Cullman, the mayor, and city council we proudly donate these 50 flags," said Townson.

Jerry Willibey, Commander VFW Post 2214, was pleased with the donation. The retired Air Force Tech Sergeant has served as Commander for the past three years, but served in various other positions at the VFW post. He said the new additions will be put to good use, an effort which will be aided by the newly formed ROTC.

"I would like to thank the mayor and his staff for donating the 50 flags. It's quite a job to get out there and walk the main street trying to put these flags up; we're not getting any younger," said Willibey.

"We established an ROTC unit here in town and we are going to try to utilize them when it's time to put out the flags. Thank you again for the donation of the flags."

Once the ceremony was completed, the veterans in attendance went out into the main lobby. The men were happy to have the new flags and were ready to get them unpacked and strung up.

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Fireworks Not Popping Within City Limits

By: Noah Chandler
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CULLMAN – While December 31st is just around the corner, many are making party preparations to help usher in 2013 by stockpiling cold refreshing beverages, funky party hats, sparklers, and of course, fireworks. However, for those residents living within Cullman City limits, fireworks are not a legal option to usher in the New Year.

"It has been an ordinance for quite a while," said Cullman Police Department Assistant Chief Craig Green. "It's not in place to take away from everyone's fun but it is against a city ordinance."

Despite being prohibited within city limits, each year the police department are called out to a bevy of calls. Green expects the same this December 31.

"We are not actively driving around looking for fireworks. However, we do receive more than a several calls every July 4 and New Year's Eve, which probably won't change this year, and we will respond to the complaints," he said. "We just ask that those making the calls be patient because this is one of our busiest days."



West Point Christmas Classic

By: Josh McBrayer
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WEST POINT – After the presents were opened and the food devoured, most people look at Christmas as being over. Not so for the 10 teams in the annual West Point Christmas Tournament. The first game tipped off at 2 p.m. on December 26th and the last game concluded at 9 p.m. on December 28th. In between there were dunks, dives, points, and plays. CullmanSense was court side for ALL 15 games. Here is first person coverage of every game.

DAY ONE
GAME ONE
Good Hope Raiders vs. Lawrence County Red Devils

Lawrence County spread the ball around in quarter number one with six different Red Devils contributing in their 20 point first quarter. Smothering pressure held the Raiders to just three field goals and a single free throw in the first, putting them in a 13 point hole.

Lawrence County's full court pressure and stingy inside defense continued to frustrate the Raiders as they were held to single digits for the second consecutive quarter. Good Hope hit just two shots from the floor, both threes. The Red Devils continued to shoot well, putting up 13 in the second and building a 20 point lead heading to halftime.

Good Hope equaled their first half output in the third quarter, scoring 13 and doubling their score to 26. Unfortunately for the Raiders, Lawrence County scored 15 and led 48-26 heading to the last quarter.

Good Hope found their shot early in the fourth going on a 11-3 run and outscoring the Red Devils 16 to 9 in the quarter. The Raiders

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CLASSIC Mitch Smith Yule Tide Classic p. 11

PRINTED LOCALLY @ PRINTING Alabama Web Press

In Brief

Governor Bentley Appoints New Children's Affairs Commissioner

By: Jennifer Ardis

Contributor

MONTGOMERY – Governor Robert Bentley announced the appointment of Jeana Ross as the state's new Department of Children's Affairs Commissioner shortly before Christmas holiday.

"Jeana Ross brings a wealth of knowledge and experience, along with a strong commitment to serving children and their families," Governor Bentley said. "She also has a tremendous enthusiasm for early learning. I am excited she is joining us to lead this important state agency. She will play a fundamental role as we work to serve the children of Alabama."

Ross most recently served as a federal programs coordinator and grant administrator for Madison City Schools. She has developed, directed, and evaluated programs that impact Alabama's children from the time they enter pre-K classes until graduation. In addition, she has extensive experience in grant writing, securing more than $7.5 million in grant funds for Alabama schools and programs.

Ross holds a Master of Arts Degree in Educational Leadership from the University of Alabama and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Early Childhood Development from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She has 18 years experience in school systems in Alabama with much of her time devoted to early childhood education.

"High-quality early childhood education and support for children in Alabama are truly the keys to developing citizens who are capable and contributing to their community," Ross said. "I am humbled by the responsibility of this appointment and will be devoted to maximizing the potential of early childhood programs. I am grateful for the confidence Governor Bentley has placed in me. He is a true servant leader, and I am honored to be part of his team that is working every day to make Alabama a better place to live."

The Alabama Department of Children's Affairs is dedicated to the well-being of children of all ages. The department works with various programs such as local children's policy councils, pre-kindergarten programs, Head Start sites, and many others. The department also educates and informs various state leaders about issues affecting children. The goal is to help improve the lives of children by recognizing unmet needs and finding solutions to help meet those needs.

Dr. Susan McKim has served as interim commissioner of the Department of Children's Affair and will remain with the department. Governor Bentley thanked her for her service as interim commissioner and looks forward to her continued service to the department.

"Dr. Susan McKim has done a tremendous job serving this department," Governor Bentley said. "Under her leadership, Alabama's state-funded Pre-K program, First Class, received a perfect '10' from the National Institute for Early Education Research, maintaining its status as one of the best programs in the country. I appreciate Dr. McKim's faithful service to the children of Alabama."

The appointment of Jeana Ross is effective immediately.

For more information on the Department of Children's Affairs, please visit this link: http://children.alabama.gov.

National Honor Society ceremony held at St. Bernard

By: Joyce Nix

St. Bernard Contributor

CULLMAN – Seventeen students were inducted into the National Honor Society recently at St. Bernard Preparatory School in Cullman, AL. Honor Society President Andy Woods welcomed all parents, students, and faculty in attendance and congratulated each student for their achievements.

Following the welcome, Chaplain John Schneider opened the ceremony with a prayer before turning the program over to Mrs. Margaret Hinson, faculty advisor for the National Honor Society program at St. Bernard.

Hinson explained the criteria to being inducted into National Honor Society. "To become a member of Honor Society one must have completed one semester as a junior or senior at St. Bernard Prep; must maintain a grade average of 90 or higher in math, science, and foreign language; exhibit leadership, service, and character; and participate in meeting and chapter projects."

Students recognized the four qualities exemplified in NHS—Scholarship, Leadership, Service, and Character—with the lighting of candles. Caitlin Varquez spoke on scholarship—the commitment to learning; Aymee Chauvin spoke on service—establishing a routine to work for those in need; Sean Macfarlane spoke on leadership—having the initiative to train and aid others; and Bennett Glasscock spoke on character—distinguishing individuality with respect for others.

Each student was awarded a membership certificate and pin by Headmaster John Tekulve and Mrs. Hinson.

After accepting this honor, students pledged to maintain high scholastic standing, to hold as fundamental and worthy an untarnished character, to endeavor intelligently and courageously to be a leader, and to give of themselves freely in service to others.

The National Honor Society is the nation's premier organization established to recognize outstanding high school students. More than just an honor roll, NHS serves to honor those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of Scholarship, Leadership, Service, and Character. These characteristics have been associated with membership in the organization since their beginnings in 1921.

Annual Fund Drive Underway at St. Bernard

By: Joyce Nix

St. Bernard Contributor

CULLMAN – Patrons and benefactors of St. Bernard Abbey and Prep School play a vital role in the day-to-day operations of St. Bernard. "Through contributions made to the Annual Appeal," said Fr. Marcus Voss, the Director of Development, "our supporters help us maintain the financial health and well-being of the St. Bernard community. They directly affect our daily lives. Our operating expenses continue to increase because of utilities, food costs and upkeep, to name a few. Despite these pressures, our benefactors have helped us maintain stability in our financial ship."

The 33rd Annual Appeal has a set goal of $350,000 which is split between the Abbey and the School. To date, almost half of the goal has been met because of the generosity of over 500 alumni and friends. Even in challenging economic times, both the Abbey and School are being sustained because of the contributions given by these benefactors.

"Every day I hear great stories through Facebook, e-mails, and letters especially from our alumni," Fr. Marcus continued. "They tell wonderful stories of how St. Bernard affected their lives. The Annual Appeal gives them the chance to express their gratitude for what they have received and helps us continue our work today."

"Our alumni are also joined by many others who have become benefactors to St. Bernard," said Fr. Marcus. "I know God blesses this special place and our benefactors are one more expression of what He does for us."

"We ask everyone to help us at whatever level they can so we may continue to be strong in our work," concluded Fr. Marcus. Funding received through the Annual Appeal is tax-deductible and allows St. Bernard to offer an outstanding program which has had a special effect on the lives of many. Donations can be made online at www.stbernardprep.com.

WSCC Baseball Team Makes Holiday Visit to Hanceville Nursing and Rehab Center

By: Russell Moore

WSCC Contributor

HANCEVILLE – Wallace State Community College's baseball team continued an annual holiday tradition this month by visiting residents at the Hanceville Nursing and Rehabilitation Center.

The team spent nearly two hours with the residents, playing games like bingo and dominoes, in addition to singing a medley of Christmas carols.



Wallace State freshman Chip White calls out a letter and number during the bingo game.

Zero Tolerance Even on New Year's Eve

By: Noah Chandler

noahchandler@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – While the ushering in of the new year falls on a Monday the Cullman Police Department isn't expecting anything wild to occur but officers will still be on patrol just in case.

CPD Assistant Chief Craig Green said the department always plans for an uptick in calls around the holidays, especially on the July 4 and New Year's Eve. This year's celebration will most likely not be any different.

"We do experience a larger call load around the holiday's but mostly it is involving loud music, fireworks or other sort of public disturbance," said Green. "This year we expect the same types of calls."

Besides the usual noise ordinance calls, Green said officers will be looking for impaired motorists this coming Monday night.

"We will be enforcing a zero tolerance for those drinking and driving," said Green. "If you're going to be out drinking, just make sure to get a designated driver. Just be responsible."

DUI checkpoints will be setup around the city. The locations of these checkpoints have yet to be determined, but Green said officers' presence will be known.

Founding Members of the Clairvaux Society Honored at Inaugural Dinner

By: Joyce Nix

St. Bernard Contributor

CULLMAN – The Clairvaux Society of Saint Bernard officially recognized and honored its founding members in an Inaugural Dinner on Saturday, December 1, 2012. Twenty-seven of the fifty-three founding members attended with spouses, family, and friends, and joined the monks of Saint Bernard Abbey in the celebration; some of the members traveled from as far away as Alaska. Members of the Clairvaux Society have made a planned-gift commitment to ensure the future success of Saint Bernard for many generations. Funds generated through the Clairvaux Society, $6.5M to date, will be maintained in an endowment which will maintain principle and utilize earnings only.

The evening began with the celebration of Mass held in the Abbey Church. Before the final dismissal Abbot Cletus Meagher blessed the lapel pins that were given to the newly inducted members. In his homily, Abbot Cletus spoke of the Advent season and the power of waiting, especially the waiting for the coming of the Lord. "It all serves a purpose," he explained, "to fulfill the plan of God."

The members and guests convened to the Brahma Room after Mass, being greeted and feted by the monks of Saint Bernard Abbey. The program was opened with a welcome by Director of Development, Rev. Marcus J. Voss, O.S.B. Dr. Joe Norman, a 1950s graduate of St. Bernard High School and Junior College, was the keynote speaker. He described to the audience "Why I chose to include Saint Bernard in my estate plans." According to Dr. Norman, when he made the decision to do so, it was pointed out that he "wasn't even Catholic." Dr. Joe drew a laugh from the participants when he commented, "what's that got to do with anything?!"

After Dr. Norman's address, Abbot Cletus Meagher addressed the topic of "What the Planned Gift Means to Saint Bernard." In his remarks he said, "Because of this Society, the monks of St. Bernard will be able to serve future generations of Bernardians. You enable us to continue the mission of both our Abbey and our School."

The Invocation and Blessing of the meal was provided by Rev. Joel Martin, O.S.B. After a delicious dinner provided by Chef Allie Foster-Williams and served by the students of St. Bernard Prep School, Chris Rooney, Saint Bernard Prep School Board Member, called the members of the society forward. Assisted by Fr. Marcus, Abbot Cletus led the Pinning Ceremony and the Induction of the Founding Members of the Clairvaux Society. Each member was presented with a framed certificate, a personalized (by Abbot Cletus) copy of the book, St. Bernard of Clairvaux, and the newly-blessed, gold enameled pin in the likeness of the St. Bernard Coat of Arms. Each member also received a prayer card which explains the meaning of the Coat of Arms.

The Saint Bernard Abbey and Preparatory School Clairvaux Society is named in honor of St. Bernard of Clairvaux, the patron saint of St. Bernard Abbey. The Clairvaux Society of Saint Bernard was instituted in 2010 as part of the Abbey's 10-year Strategic Plan, as a means to procure future funds in the form of estate planning, in order to ensure the continuation of St. Bernard Abbey and School.

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No(ah)-It All: Competition is only good for some

By: Noah Chandler

noahchandler@cullmansense.com

Since this is the last column of 2012 what better subject to delve into but that of competition. With football season over and basketball in full swing there have been great examples of competition in action recently.

With rivalries such as Fairview and Holly Pond only a short drive down a small country road, competition in all sports and academics are on regular display. Both schools and communities support their athletes but can do this while not attacking the opposing players. This is what I deem as good competitive nature.

However, there are those who feel the need to sit up in the stands, screaming with all their might, expressing their blind hatred towards individuals they don't even know while in the same breath encourage their team or player. Yeah, you know the types. This is what is considered to be undesirable competitive nature.

Well in life competition does not stop at the field, the hardwood, track, or swimming pool. It instead catches you at every turn at work, the gym, or at a high school reunion, constantly testing your patience, morals, and ethics. Your competitive nature can be best displayed each day while driving. Are you aggressive, constantly honking and throwing up the single digit to express your hate for another driver or are you the one who gets yelled at?

In my own experiences over the past three decades the competitive nature had been on full display during the days of non-stop soccer or in the classroom when it came to the rules and regulations I was supposed to follow, but rarely has it ever been intentionally vindictive. I'd be a liar if I said otherwise.

Any way it has been too many years to count since the last time this old man slipped on cleats. Instead it's a pair of New Balance which keeps me ready to pounce whenever competition decides to turn up. Nowadays it comes in the form of my young, brilliant nephew throwing out a digital challenge or my business partner Dustin raking me over the coals to improve my writing chops.

Other than those two examples, this man is left without any competition. It's not to say that I've not been looking for it but to this day it has yet to appear. This lack of spirited viger has left me feeling somewhat hollow but I know deep down that eventually, one day in the far off future it will finally emerge, awakening me from the creative slump which has overtaken me lately.

Back to the driving analogy…that driver who threw up the middle finger salute is in such a hurry to get to their next destination that they don't think about their safety, safety of others, or the lives in which they may impact while in a rush to reach their destination. The competitive drive assures them that any risk is worth taking as long as they win, which I guess works if you don't mind slamming into a wall at the end of the brief joyride.

The driver though whom is passed that receives slight verbal abuse and accepts the rude gesture with a smile will typically be the one who offers aid to the impatient, competition driven moron who just moments earlier raced by in pursuit of a foolish, prideful victory.

See, for the mindful competitive driver who held their course, it was easy for them not to shake like a withering stalk in a stiff breeze when hit with a barrage of incoherent profanities because they were driving in their own race, competing with no one else but themselves. The moron who hit the wall was in a hurry to prove they were supreme but instead exploded, leaving the competitors to pick up the pieces.

Oh well, at the end of the day competition with others just isn't a good idea for some, simply because it requires patience, foresight, and a clear-cut path. Happy New Year everyone!

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Tens of Millions in Additional Savings Identified: Update on Road to a Billion Dollars in Savings, Pending Legislation

By: Jennifer Ardis

Contributor

MONTGOMERY – Governor Robert Bentley on Thursday provided an end-of-the-year update on the Road to a Billion Dollars in Savings, the state's long-term effort to identify greater efficiencies and cost savings in government.

More than $750 million in current and projected annual savings have now been identified, up from $674 million in savings that had been identified when the plan was first announced in July.

The additional savings come through measures such as bond refinancings, contract renegotiations, and workforce right-sizing.

"I am committed to an efficient state government, and we're making great progress in saving taxpayers a billion dollars a year," Governor Bentley said. "The people of Alabama deserve a government that makes wise use of taxpayer dollars, and that's what we're giving them. I am confident we will reach our goal of identifying a billion dollars in average annual savings by the end of this term."

The additional savings, along with additional state employee retirements in recent months, are reducing the immediate need for a proposed voluntary retirement incentive program. Governor Bentley is asking legislative sponsors of the voluntary retirement incentive program to withhold introduction of the legislation until further notice.

"One of our goals is to right-size the state government's workforce while saving taxpayer dollars. We are already accomplishing that goal as more people have chosen to go ahead and retire before the incentive could be discussed in the Legislature," Governor Bentley said.

"That means we are getting the right-sizing accomplished without having to pay the cash bonuses called for in the retirement incentive legislation. If attrition continues at recent levels, we can achieve significant savings without the need for the legislation."

"While I am asking legislative leaders to delay introducing the voluntary retirement incentive plan for now, we could consider such a plan as an additional option if needed for future savings," Governor Bentley added. "However, at this point, it appears we will be able to reach our savings goals through regular attrition and other cost-saving measures."

The current and projected savings from the Road to a Billion Dollars in Savings will benefit both the Education Trust Fund and the General Fund budgets.

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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HOME Sweet HOME

Mission

HOME Sweet HOME's mission is to provide needed services to aging Cullman County residents that allow them to remain in their homes for as long as they wish.

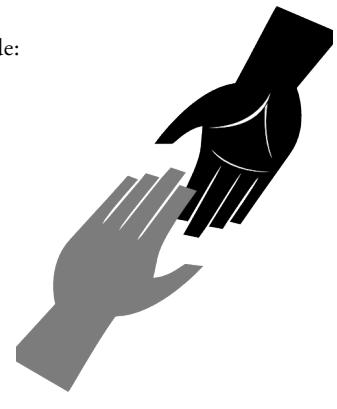
Company Overview

The unmet needs of Cullman county senior citizens are many. Several agencies serve our senior population and they provide outstanding services.

Yet, there are needs that they still have and have difficulty getting them addressed. That's where HOME Sweet HOME comes in.

Services offered at **no charge** by HOME Sweet HOME include:

- Wheelchair ramps
- Grab bars
- Handrails
- Home winterization
- Volunteers to help with around-the-home chores
- Volunteer-provided transportation, when available
- Friendly visitor, in person or by phone, when available
- Volunteer opportunities for clients
- Emergency preparedness planning
- Telephone checks, as needed



HOME Sweet HOME serves low-income Cullman County residents age 55 and older at no charge. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. and can be reached at: **256-338-6556**.

SPORTS

West Point Christmas Classic (Continued from Front)

fought hard and played well in the fourth but could not climb the 22 point mountain, falling to Lawrence County.

Leading the Red Devils in points was Donivan Wheeler with 10 and Jessie Morano with eight.

Good Hope was led by Andrew Cofer with 12.

GAME TWO

Clements Colts vs. Priceville Bulldogs

Neither team could getting going from three point range in the first, going a combined 1-9, but they made up for it in transition. Both teams ran the floor well with 16 of the 23 first quarter points coming in the paint. Priceville benefited the most from the fast paced action, closing the first on a 9-2 run to take a 15-8 advantage to the second.

The second quarter was just about as even as you can play with Priceville and Clements trading basket for basket. The only difference was a single point, in favor of Priceville, leading to a nine point lead heading to the locker room.

The Bulldogs carried their hot shooting over to the second half. Luke Mason caught fire, drilling three trifectas and helping Priceville go on a 19-5 run. This gave the Bulldogs a 21 point lead and some much needed breathing room.

Priceville continued pouring in the points in the final frame pulling even further away and winning the contest 61-33.

The Bulldogs were led by Caleb Barker, scorching the nets for 17. Marc McLendon followed closely with 12. Chandler Livingston was also in double figures with 11.

The lone Colt in double figures was Seth Hamilton with 10.

GAME THREE

Cold Springs Eagles vs. Danville Hawks

It was snowing outside but raining three's inside Jim Boyd Gymnasium on Wednesday. Danville and Cold Springs combined for eight three pointers in four minutes and 10 trifectas in the quarter. Although they were even from long range, five buckets each, Cold Springs took advantage of their shots inside and took a 25-18 lead.

The scoring slowed down in the second but the game remained close. The Eagles scored 11 with Danville putting up 12, but they still were down 36-30 heading to the break.

Danville continued to shoot well from behind the arc but Cold Springs opted for the run and gun approach and it worked to perfection. The Eagles were able to double their halftime lead, taking a 12 point advantage to the final stanza.

The Eagles closed out the game in the fourth quarter, distancing themselves by outscoring the Hawks 18-7 and coming out on top 72-48.

Tristian Chambers led Cold Springs and all scorers with 25. Lane Rice was next with 16 and Josh Freeman added 10.

Justin Morgan put in 16 for Danville and Kyle Alexander it five threes for 15 points.

GAME FOUR

West Point Warriors vs. Brewer Patriots

At the start of game number four, it was apparent that the guys in the striped shirts were going to let West Point and Brewer play and the two teams took full advantage. The first quarter was cleanly played but very physical. It was a hotly contested first eight minutes with West Point squeezing out a three point lead thanks to a 6-2 run to finish the frame.

The Warriors kept momentum on their side, extending their lead to ten via a 9-2 run in the first three and a half minutes of the second. Brewer cut the lead to five thanks to the shooting of Brandon Elder but West Point answered right back with five from Jordan McKenzie. The Patriots again came back, closing the quarter on a high note and headed to the locker room trailing by just seven, 32-25.

West Point came out of the locker room aggressive. Forcing turnovers, baskets in transition and stingy defense led to a 21-3 run that spanned the entire quarter. West Point carried a 25 point advantage to the last frame.

West Point played the fourth like they played the first three, aggressive. They scored 13 more and continued to play vice like defense that led to a 66-45 victory.

Jordan McKenzie led all scorers with 19 and Tristian Dubberly followed him with 12.

Leading the Patriots were Austin Morris and Coty Benitez, each with 10.

GAME FIVE

Fairview Aggies vs. West Morgan Rebels

Fairview opened the final game of day number one of the West Point Christmas Tournament on a 5-0 run. However, the West Morgan Rebels came roaring back to catch up and played the Aggies even through the rest of the quarter but trailed 16-10 at the end of one.

West Morgan came out aggressive in the second, showing they were not going away. Brandon Roberts made that point evident. He single handily cut the Aggie lead to two with a three-point basket, jump shot and a rim shaking one handed dunk on a break-away from a turnover. West Morgan took the lead for the first time at the 3:15 mark of the second quarter on a Grant Workman bucket. After swapping baskets, Workman hit a big three to give the Rebels a four point lead with less than a minute left in the half. West Morgan continued to hit shots and were able to flip the scoreboard, turning the six point first quarter deficit into a eight point halftime lead.

The third quarter was full of back and forth action. Both teams were draining shots and playing good defense throughout the quarter. The Aggies were able to cut the Rebel lead to five before West Morgan took the game over in the paint and pushed their lead to 13 heading to the last stanza.

Never a team to give up, Fairview cut the West Morgan lead to six via the three-point shot. The action continued to see-saw with Fairview down by five with just under four minutes left. Out of a timeout, Luke Bailey scored six straight points giving Fairview their first lead since midway through the second quarter. The Rebels came back and pushed the lead back to six. Fairview then went on the offensive, outscoring West Morgan 17-9 to close out the game and secure the come from behind win, 79-77 when Roberts could not convert a last second shot.

Fairview was led in the comeback and scoring by Peter Kessler with 22 and Andy Hendrix with 20. Blake Parker scored a big 18 points and Luke Bailey had 13 but none bigger than the four point play he converted in the fourth to give Fairview the lead.

Brandon Roberts led all scorers with 30. Grant Workman contributed 13 and Caleb Hazen had 10.

DAY TWO

GAME SIX

Brewer Patriots vs. Clements Colts

The first game of the day in any tournament usually starts out slow but Brewer came out determined to not let that happen. They blew the doors off, scoring the first 12 points of the quarter. Lance Kephart finally put the Colts on the board five minutes into the game. Clements found their shot late in the quarter but still trailed 19-8 after one.

Brewer continued to hit three-point baskets, outscoring Clements 17-9 in the quarter. Brewer headed to the half up by 18.

The Patriots followed their first half performance with an impressive second half as well. They hit five threes in the third quarter, outscoring the Colts 29-13. This pushed the lead above 30, activating the "hot clock" in the fourth quarter. The Patriots went on to win 76-33.

Coty Benitez led the Patriots with 16 points. Brandon Elder was next with 15, all three-pointers. Cole Oldacre and Brandon Deberry each had 11.

Clements' Seth Hamilton was the lone Colt in double digits. He had 11.

GAME SEVEN

Lawrence County Red Devils vs. Cold Springs Eagles

It took three minutes for Lawrence County to take the first shot of the game as they moved the ball around the perimeter looking for shots. This proved to be a well thought out strategy as they frustrated the Cold Springs Eagles by holding the ball and looking for shots.

This seemed to throw Cold Springs off their game as they found themselves down by 10 at intermission.

The Eagles played the Red Devils to a stalemate in the third with each team scoring eight but the Eagles could not overcome the icing techniques of Lawrence County. They fell to 1-1 with the 61-44 loss to the Red Devils. Lawrence County improves to 1-1.

The Red Devils had one shooter in double digits, Jesse Childress with 23.

Cold Springs Freshman Tristian Chambers put in 20 for the Eagles and Lane Rice was next with 13.

GAME EIGHT

West Morgan Rebels vs. Good Hope Raiders

Good Hope and West Morgan played even through the first four minutes of their matchup Thursday but the pressure of the Rebels soon took over. A full court press forced multiple Good Hope turnovers that led to several transition baskets and a 25-11 first quarter lead.

West Morgan ran the floor very effectively in the second, putting up 22 points to 16 scored by the Raiders, allowing the Rebels to enjoy a 20 point halftime lead.

The halftime break did not cool down the red hot shooting of West Morgan as they were able to push their lead to 32 heading to the final frame and "activating" the hot clock.

The fourth flew by thanks to the running clock and the Rebels went on to win 82-46 .

For the second straight game, Brandon Roberts from West Morgan dropped in 30 points.

Zack Sloan led Good Hope with 10.

GAME NINE

Danville Hawks vs. West Point Warriors

The first frame of the contest was a see-saw affair with neither team gaining much of an advantage. Jordan McKenzie for West Point hit a three-point bucket with under a minute left but Justin Tomlinson for Danville answered with a two, giving West Point a slim one-point lead.

West Point opened up a double digit lead thanks to a 9-0 run including a three-point play scored by Kris Keller that started with a shot he hit from his knees. The crowd was relatively quiet until Nick Nuss threw home a two-step dunk that ignited the Warrior faithful. The Hawks fought back to within seven but a last



West Point Christmas Classic(Continued)

second bucket by Ryder Jones pushed the West Point lead back to nine.

The Hawks worked the ball inside to their big men and took advantage of the opportunities from the charity stripe cutting the West Point lead to six by outscoring the Warriors 15-12 in the third.

Danville stayed tenacious in the fourth going on a 6-2 run via the three ball, cutting the West Point lead to two and forcing a Warrior timeout. The Hawks tied the ballgame at 47 on a Slater Robinson layup with 3:26 left in the game. Wesley Smith, playing with four fouls, quickly regained the lead for the Warriors on the next trip down the floor.

Back and forth the action went with the teams trading baskets before Danville grabbed the lead for good when Justin Morgan converted a three-point play.

The Hawks then sealed the win with a three point basket by Patrick Doherty, his sixth trifecta of the game. Danville came from behind to take the game, 58-51.

Patrick Doherty led Danville and all scorers with 24. Justin Morgan followed him with 12.

The front runners for West Point were Wesley Smith and Nick Nuss, each with 10.

GAME TEN

Priceville Bulldogs vs. Fairview Aggies

Going down 5-0 early, Fairview head coach Greg Boatwright took an early timeout to get his team in the game. It worked as his Aggies rattled off a 17-7 run to finish out the quarter with a five point lead.

Fairview kept the hot hand, doubling up on the Priceville Bulldogs 12-6 and going up by 10 heading to the halftime break.

The Aggies came out of the locker room on fire, going on an 8-2 run to open the second half. Fairview kept the pressure on, adding on to the lead and finding themselves ahead by 17 unlike last night when they went to the final frame down 13.

Fairview didn't need to come from behind on this night, increasing their lead in every quarter to cruise to a 66-40 victory.

Fairview was led by Elijah Garrison with 16 and Andy Hendrix with 13.

Priceville was led by Caleb Barker with 11.

DAY THREE

GAME ELEVEN

Good Hope Raiders vs. Brewer Patriots

Brewer had seven players score in the first quarter and took an early 10 point lead in game number one of the West Point Christmas Tournament.

The second quarter was much of the same, scoring 18. The defense held Good Hope to five points in the second quarter and just 11 in the half. Brewer enjoyed a comfortable 34-11 halftime lead.

The second half was on even keel, with Good Hope finding their shot. Unfortunately for the Raiders, it was not enough to overcome the tough shooting of the first half and they fell to Brewer 62-44. The Raiders dropped to 0-3 in the round robin tournament. Brewer improved their record to 2-1.

The Patriots were led by Alex Vest. He scored 12 points while Brandon Deberry and Josh Sanford each had 10.

Good Hope had two in double digits. Andrew Cofer had a game high 16 with Mason Johnson following with 11.

GAME TWELVE

Clements Colts vs. Danville Hawks

Offense was in plentiful supply when the Clements Colts took the floor against the Danville Hawks. They combined for 32 first quarter points, Clements 18 Danville 14.

Easy come, easy go is the saying and it rang true in the second quarter. Both teams struggled to hit shots with just 17 total points being tallied but it was the Clements Colts again getting the better end of the score. They went up 27-21 in the second and into the break.

Clements opened up a double digit lead 65 seconds into the third quarter, going on a 5-0 run to open things up.

Danville fought back thanks to the stellar play of Justin Morgan who scored the first eight Hawks points and 14 of their 18 points in the quarter. This led to the first Danville lead, 38-37, since the score was 2-0 in the first.

Outscoring the Hawks 7-2, Clements swung the momentum and went up by four halfway through the final frame.

Two good defensive stops and selective shooting knotted the game at 44.

From here it was a game of back and forth scoring until Colten Gafford sealed the win for Clements when he buried a three from the top of the key giving the Colts the lead for good. They went on to win 54-47. Clements finishes the tournament 1-2 as do the Danville Hawks.

Front-running for the Colts was Colten Gafford with 23, Harrison Russell followed with 10.

Justin Morgan was the only Danville Hawk in double figures but he led all scorers with 28.

GAME THIRTEEN

Fairview Aggies vs. Lawrence County Red Devils

Lawrence County got on the scoreboard first with a three point basket by Jessie Childress but it was all Aggies from there. After the initial three, Fairview went on a 16-2 run and forced a Red Devil time-out. The break helped Lawrence County regain their composer and they were able to cut the Aggie lead from 11 to eight.

Fairview kept lighting up the nets with three pointers and was able to increase their lead from eight to 12, heading to the locker room at half.

The third was as even as you can get with both teams scoring 12 each, allowing Fairview to keep an eight point lead heading to the last quarter.

The Red Devils played hard for the first three quarters and were not going away in the fourth. They opened the last frame with a flurry, scoring on the offensive end and drawing charges in the defensive end.

Lawrence County scored five unanswered to cut the Aggie lead to three with less than four left in the game.

After swapping several buckets, Lawrence County found themselves down by four until Jesse Childress drilled a three-point basket to bring the Red Devils to within one.

On the ensuing in-bounds, Lawrence County stole the ball and was fouled. Montel McDaniel had three points in the fourth but none bigger than the two free throws he drilled to give the Red Devils the one point lead with 19.4 seconds left on the clock.

Luke Bailey drove the lane but was hit with a charge as time expired and Fairview fell from the ranks of the unbeaten, 57-56.

The win gave Lawrence County the Non-County Championship title.

The Red Devils were led by Jesse Childress with 19 and Donnivan Wheeler with 13.

Andy Hendrix led Fairview by scoring 17. Luke Bailey followed with 12.

GAME FOURTEEN

West Point Warriors vs. Priceville Bulldogs

West Point struggled to score inside and Priceville could not hit from the outside resulting in a 7-6 Priceville lead at the end of one.

Each squad started to find their groove at the same time in the second. With the game being so hotly contested, West Point was glad to extend their lead even if it was just by one at 22-20.

A 12-5 run to open quarter three allowed West Point to push the lead to nine, the largest lead of the game for either team. Priceville managed to put a stop to the run and traded baskets with West Point the rest of the quarter, shaving a point off the Warrior lead.

The Warriors opened the fourth with a plethora of offense, extending the lead to 13. Down but not out, Priceville came storming back hitting two big three-point baskets along with a lay-up and quickly cut the deficit to five. West Point, undeterred, continued to play their game and weathered the storm, winning by five.

Ryder Jones led all scorers with a big 22 points. Kris Keller also had 14 in the win.

Priceville had two players in double figures. Caleb Barker and Luke Mason each had 11.

GAME FIFTEEN

Cold Springs Eagles vs. West Morgan Rebels

West Morgan's Brandon Roberts put on a show in the first quarter of the last game in the West Point Christmas Tournament. He already had back-to-back 30 point games and with his 15 point first quarter, he was well on his way to another.

Not to be outdone, Cold Springs had a great quarter as well by spreading the ball around. As well as the Rebels shot, Cold Springs found themselves down by only eight.

After the great first quarter performance by West Morgan, Cold Springs clamped down on defense and held the Rebels to just eight second quarter points while scoring 14. This cut the Rebel lead to a single point at the half.

Roberts took over for the Rebels in the fourth. He electrified the crowed with a backboard shaking dunk on his way 11 points midway through the quarter. Cold Springs went down five but never gave up.

They came back but could not get up by more than one. With 26.3 seconds left Cold Springs drilled a three to make it a one possession game but was forced to foul. Roberts hit his free throws and put the game away, 75-71.

With the Cold Springs loss, Fairview took the In-County Championship.

Brandon Roberts had a tournament high 42 points and 102 for the three day event.

Cold Springs had three players in double figures. Josh Freeman had 36, Tristian Chambers 15, and Lane Rice with 10.

As always, a great tournament was put on by West Point. It was a great three days of hardwood action and a great transition into the second half of the regular season. We at CullmanSense hope you enjoyed reading our coverage of this great tournament as much as we did bringing it to you.

Saint Bernard Swim Team has a great year

By: Joyce Nix

St. Bernard Contributor

CULLMAN – The Saint Bernard Swim Team has had a fantastic beginning, grabbing two first place wins, numerous other places, as well as personal best times in the Cullman High School Invitational Swim Meet recently held at the Cullman Wellness and Aquatic Center in Cullman.

One of the first place finishes was earned by Sean Moriarty, who competed with nineteen others for the Men's 100-Yard Freestyle with a final time of 54.17.

With thirty-five competitors, Saint Bernard team members did well in the Men's 50-Yard Freestyle—Sean Moriarty took second place with a time of 24.16, and John Paul Stolz placed ninth with a time of 25.59. Stolz also grabbed a fourth place in the Men's 100-Yard Breaststroke with a time of 1:17.95.

Saint Bernard's other first place win was produced by Bennett Glasscock who had a final time of 55.87 in a pool of ten competitors in the Men's 100-Yard Butterfly.

Although swimming exhibition, the Saints 200 Yard Freestyle Relay finished 1st out of 8 High Schools represented in the meet with a time of 1:39.40. They also finished fourth in the 200 Yard Medley Relay with a time of 1:54.27. Relay swimmers were: JP Stolz, Nate Giffin, Sean Moriarty, and Bennett Glasscock.

The ladies of the Saint Bernard team also had a great showing. Sarah Peel took a fourth place out of ten competitors in the Women's 200-Yard IM with a final time of 2:29.10.

She also claimed the fifth place position of nineteen participants in the Women's 100-Yard Breaststroke with a final time of 1:17.11.

Torey Badar finished with a respectable sixteenth of forty-three, with a final time of 31.50 in the Women's 50-Yard Freestyle; she took fifteenth place of twenty-four swimmers in the Women's 100-Yard Freestyle with a personal best time of 1:14.19.

December 1, Bennett Glasscock and Sarah Peel also participated in the State Swim meet at Auburn University. Bennett made the finals in both of his events, finishing 11th in 100 Butterfly and 13th in 100 Backstroke.

Sara competed in her first AHSAA State Meet as a 7th Grader! She swam her best times in both of her events, 100 breaststroke and 200 Individual Medley.

The Saint Bernard Swim Team is growing in popularity and talent under the direction of Coach Carson Glasscock.



St. Bernard Swim Team – Front Row: Torey Badar and Sarah Peel. Back row: Bennett Glasscock, JP Stolz, Nate Giffin, and Sean Moriarty

Community Matters

The Tools of the Trade

By: Josh McBrayer
joshmcbrayer@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Christmas came a little late for 50+ kids at All Sport Performance Training on Thursday and Friday. Their gift came in the form of some invaluable baseball training from the best group of instructors in the game today.

These instructors included former Cullman Bearcats stand-outs and current college stars Drew Bryson (West Florida), Jakob Kirkwood (Snead State), Ben Moore (Alabama), Chase Mallard (UAB), Matthew Britton (Missisippi State), and current Cullman star Keegan Thompson who recently signed with Auburn. Some of the other instructors were former Hartselle Tiger Steve Woodard who played for seven seasons in the major leagues with the Milwaukee Brewers and Cleveland Indians and Chuck Davis, a 22 year veteran of baseball both as a professional player and as a coach.

Oh yeah, Josh Rutledge and Craig Kimbrel were there too.

"It is awesome," said Rutledge when asked what it was like being back helping Steve Johnson (owner of ASPT) with the young kids. "He trained me in high school and my brother when he was in high school. I have know Steve (Johnson) a long time and he knows what he is doing."

The young Colorado Rockie phenom Rutledge could not have said it better. Steve Johnson has been training all types of athletes in his 22 year career and has had over 200 players go to the next level, so there is no one better to run a skills camp than Johnson.

The camp was a two-day event that featured all sports of helpful drills to make the campers better all-around players. On day one, after a Q&A and autograph session with Rutledge, it was time to get down to business.

There were campers from the age of 5 to 14 soaking up information like a sponge from the wealth of knowledge offered from the instructors.

With several different stations and the campers rotating every 25 minutes, on average, the intructors were able to give in-depth help to each and every camper.

Stations on day one included learning how to properly track a fly ball as you are running backward. At the station the campers also learned how to field a ground ball to the outfield both head on and to the side.

Other stations taught the proper way to field an infield ground ball, with the alligator drill, and how to deliver an accurate throw to your intended base.

Relay from the outfield to the cut-off man was taught at another station and yet another station taught the proper way to turn a double play.

Day two featured hitting, base-running, and agility drills. Campers learned balance at the plate, proper bunting techniques, hand-eye coordination, base-running form, and swing mechanics as they moved from station to station, eventually moving to live BP both over-hand and under-hand toss.

2011 NL League Rookie of the Year and Atlanta Brave closer Craig Kimbrel arrived at ASPT around 11:30 for a Q&A and autograph session with the campers.

"It brings back good memories," answered Kimbrel when asked about coming back and helping with the camp.

The campers scrambled for their place in line to get their item autographed by Kimbrel but the best moment of the camp didn't occur at the autograph table with the MLB superstars or even on the floor of the ASPT facility.

It was when the door to the facility opened and all activity and noise ceased. Through that door walked a true inspiration to ANYONE in sports. Andrew Winfrey. Still recovering from the serious injuries he suffered from a car accident, he was on hand for the camp.

"He wants to get back to working (out)," owner Steve Johnson told CullmanSense in an interview earlier in the week. "I told him I wanted him here and he would be the #2 boss."

With the exceptional instruction from some of the best young players in the game, appearances by two top MLB stars, and the inspiring presence of Andrew Winfrey, this camp was a huge success.

This was a great experience for the campers who attended and they learned skills that they can take with them at EVERY level as they continue to play the great game of baseball.

Windsor Powder Coating & Sandblasting
10231 Hwy 31 South
Hanceville, AL 35077
E-mail: windsori@hiwaay.net
Chris Windsor
Kyle Windsor
Patrick Allred
Office: 256-737-9272
Cell: 256-338-2242

















Photos by Jessica Norrell

Community Matters

Wallace State Community College's New One Stop Center for Student Services Opens Jan. 2; front-line offices, other departments return to James C. Bailey Center after renovations

By: Kristen Holmes
WSCC Contributor

HANCEVILLE – Students enrolling this spring at Wallace State Community College in Hanceville will be welcomed by the college's new One Stop Center for Student Services, located on the ground floor of the fully renovated James C. Bailey Center.

Through the One Stop Center, called Lion Central, students will receive assistance with admissions, registration, financial aid, and advising. The cashier's office is located on the mezzanine.

The goal of Lion Central is to streamline the student experience to provide superior customer service across the continuum from admission to enrollment to graduation.

"We are excited about the transformation of our frontline services to a one stop delivery system," said Wallace State President Vicki P. Hawsey. "The service to our students will ultimately be more efficient and effective as we work to improve our portals of entry."

The One Stop improvements conform with Wallace State's vision "to facilitate learning without boundaries, to be committed to every student's success, to exemplify the spirit of perpetual improvement, and to promote an overarching sense of community."

The $16.5 million renovations to the Bailey Center, a 14-story, 144,000-square foot building, were extensive and faced unexpected challenges and delays after the April 27, 2011 storms caused vast campus damage.

The project began with the recladding of the building due to non-existent expansion joints in the massive brick façade at its initial construction more than a decade ago. This caused bricks to pull away from the structure and, over time spalling bricks began to fall to the ground, presenting a significant safety hazard. Interior renovation was made necessary due to additional damage and water intrusion resulting from the April 2011 storms.

During renovations, all offices located in the Bailey Center were relocated to other areas of campus. In addition to the offices that now make up Lion Central, other departments began to reoccupy the Bailey Center before the break and more will be moving back during the month of January. The Bailey Center will once again be home to the offices of the President, Vice President, Dean of Academic Affairs, Dean of Technical Education, the Business Office, and Wallace State Development and Future Foundation, and classrooms, among others.

Wallace State will reopen Wednesday, Jan. 2 after the holidays and registration for Spring Semester will continue through Jan. 9. Registration during the break may be done online at www.wallacestate.edu.

Selected orientation classes will begin on Thursday, Jan. 3 and regular term spring semester classes begin Monday, Jan. 7. For more information about Wallace State, visit wallacestate.edu.

WSCC Human Services Department sponsors depression and anxiety awareness event

By: Kristen Holmes
WSCC Contributor

HANCEVILLE – Wallace State's Human Services Department sponsored a "Mental Health Matters" and "De-stressing Fun" themed Health Link Tent at the Student Center and Burrow Center for the Fine and Performing Arts on campus recently to raise awareness about depression and anxiety.

The Human Services event was the final fall semester event for the college's yearlong Healthy Campus Initiative, which continues in spring.

Students and employees who visited the tent had the opportunity to participate in a depression/anxiety screening. The Human Services Department also distributed printed materials, gave away goodies, and set up displays specifying the symptoms of anxiety and depression. Referrals to resources for professional help were provided. A quilt donated from the Blount County Quilters Guild was given to a Wallace State student in a drawing, topping off a two-day campus awareness outreach for the Human Services Department.

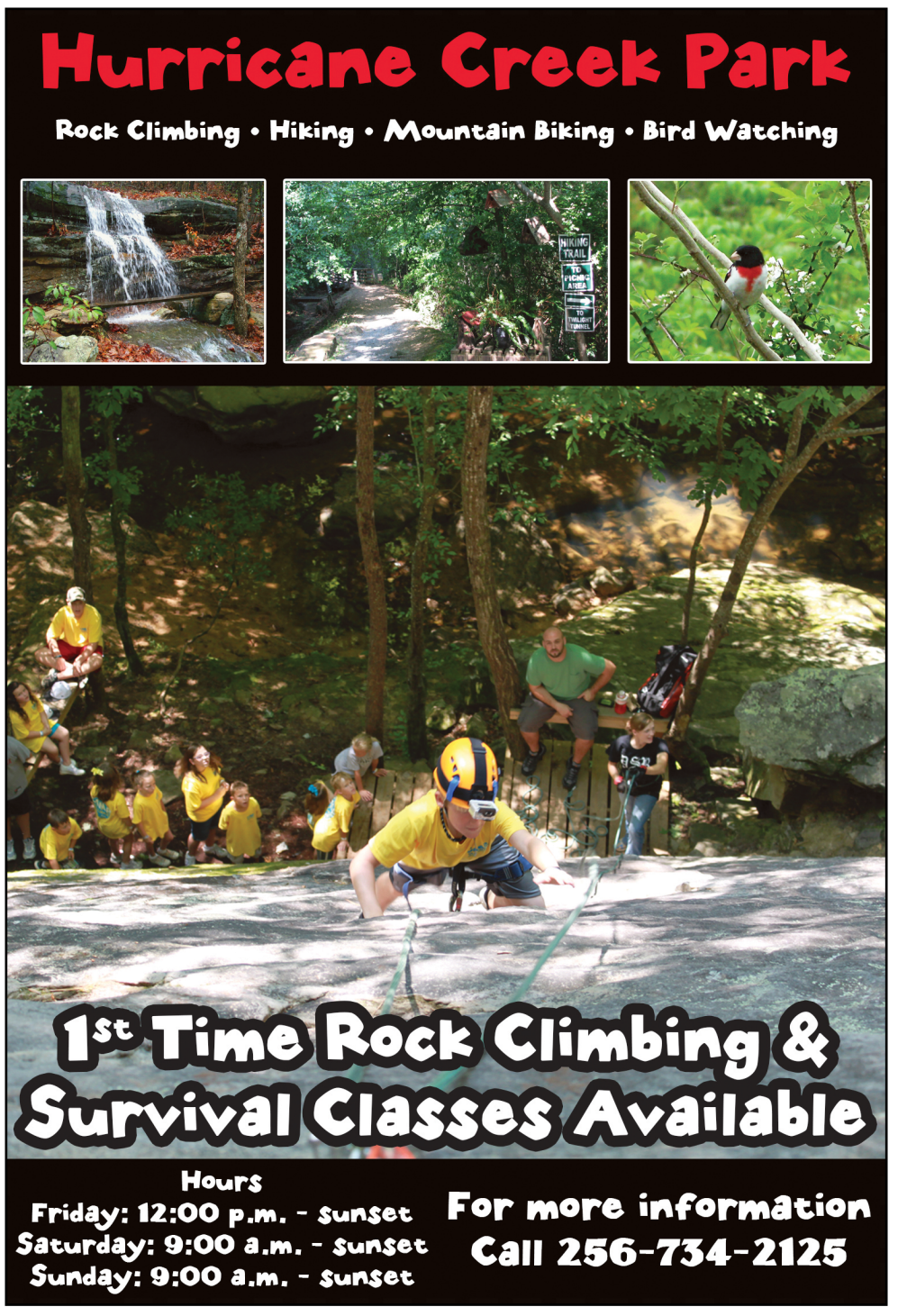
"It took a lot of hard work, but we were glad to see the good turnout and the participation we received. We were surprised at the people who completed the screening and wanted someone to talk to about what was bothering them," said Wallace State student Rhonda Walker of Locust Fork. "The mind is a muscle you've got to keep healthy as well, and this time of the year it can be something to become concerned about, considering the holidays and the end of the year is approaching." Added student Michelle Hogland of Pinson: "I hope our department made a difference or touched at least one person. We had an awesome turnout and thoroughly enjoyed the 'Mental Health Matters' event."

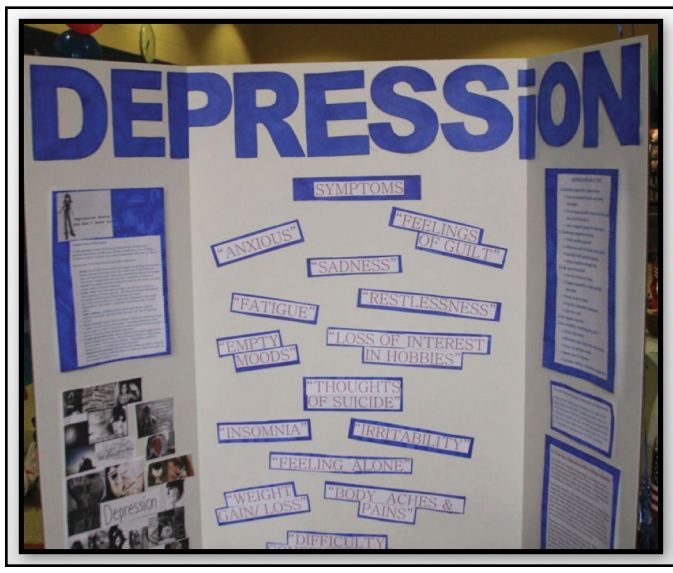
"Depression hurts and anxiety attacks college students during a time when they experience major developmental and life milestones. Not only did we screen students and employees for anxiety, but we planned activities, which were fun as well as therapeutic. To decrease their anxiety and depression, students and employees had the opportunity to participate in contests such as line dancing, an egg toss, balloon release, and feelings identification. Research has proven that people suffering from anxiety and depression experience relief when they laugh and move around," said Wallace State Human Services Program Director Susan Beck. "My students deserve 100 percent credit for the Health Link Tent success. All events and activities were student driven and student directed."

Wallace State student Stetson Murphree, a J.B. Pennington grad, inquired about the Blount County Quilters Guild donating a quilt to the Human Services Department, and the group gladly obliged. Karen Thrasher represented the guild on campus.

Previous Wallace State departments sponsoring the Health Link Tent were Diagnostic Imaging and Respiratory Therapy. "I'm grateful to the Health Link Tent committee for inviting my students to participate and engage in learning outside of the traditional classroom," Beck said. "We also owe a very special gratitude to the Blount County Quilters Guild for its generous donation of a hand-sewn quilt."

Wallace State offers an Associate in Applied Science Degree in Human Services with Mental Health, Drug and Alcohol and Social Work options. For more information call 256.352.8031, or contact Beck at 256.352.8339 or susan.beck@wallacestate.edu. Spring semester classes begin Jan. 7.









Community Matters

LEGALS

ORDINANCE NO. 2013-05

AN ORDINANCE TO SET RATES FOR SEWER SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA BEGINNING ON THE 1ST DAY OF JANUARY, 2013

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1 Charges for sewer services provided by the City of Cullman shall be calculated on a billing period of approximately thirty (30) days or once each month and shall be based upon the quantity of water used.

SECTION 2 There are hereby established the following charges for sewage disposal service measured by quantity of water used, effective January 1, 2013:

(a) Residential, Commercial, Institutional and Industrial Rates Within the City Limits of Cullman. The sewer disposal service to each residence, business, institution or industry which is served by a water meter connected with the water system or which discharges into the sanitary sewer system water received from a source other than the City's water system shall be $33.50 for the first 3,000 gallons of water used or any portion thereof; and $10.75 per 1,000 gallons of water used for all over 3,000 gallons.

(b) Residential, Commercial, Institutional and Industrial Rates outside the City Limits of Cullman. The sewer disposal service to each resident, business, institution or industry which is served by a water meter connected with the water system or which discharges into the sanitary sewer system water received from a source other than the City's water system shall be $37.25 for the first 3,000 gallons of water used or any portion thereof, and $12.25 per 1,000 gallons of water used for all over 3,000 gallons.

SECTION 3 Minimum and Maximum Charges. The minimum charge for sewer service shall be the charges set out in Section, Paragraph (a) and (b). The maximum charge for sewage disposal services shall be determined by the amount of water used.

SECTION 4 All ordinances or parts thereof which are in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby expressly repealed.

SECTION 5 The City Council hereby declares that this Ordinance is adopted solely for the purpose of changing rates to be charged for sewer service, and it is not the intention of this Council to repeal Ordinance No. 1102 nor to repeal any sections of Ordinance No. 1335 not expressly changed by this Ordinance.

SECTION 6 This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon its adoption, approval and publication as provided by law.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this the 27th day of December, 2012.
/s/ Garlan E. Gudger, Jr. - President of the City Council

ATTEST: /s/ Wesley M. Moore - Interim City Clerk

APPROVED BY THE MAYOR this the 27th day of December, 2012. /s/ Max A. Townson - Mayor

ORDINANCE NO. 2013-06

AN ORDINANCE TO SET RATES FOR WATER SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA BEGINNING ON THE 1ST DAY OF JANUARY, 2013

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1 Charges for water services provided by the City of Cullman shall be calculated on a billing period of approximately thirty (30) days or once each month and shall be based upon the quantity of water used.

SECTION 2 There are hereby established the following charges for water service measured by quantity of water used, effective January 1, 2013:

RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, & INDUSTRIAL RATES INSIDE CITY LIMITS

Minimum Bill $24.25 for first 3,000 gallons
Over 3,000 gallons $5.75 per 1,000 gallons

RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL,& INDUSTRIAL RATES OUTSIDE CITY LIMITS

Minimum Bill $30.25 for first 3,000 gallons
Over 3,000 gallons $7.00 per 1,000 gallons

SECTION 3 Minimum and Maximum Charges. The minimum charge for water service shall be the charges set out in Section, Paragraph (a) and (b). The maximum charge for water service shall be determined by the amount of water used.

SECTION 4 The provisions of this Ordinance shall not in any way affect the Wholesale Water Rate charged by the City, which rate is calculated annually as provided in the contracts between the City of Cullman and its wholesale customers.

SECTION 5 This Ordinance is adopted solely for the purpose of changing rates to be charged to retail water customers of the City of Cullman, and does not affect other provisions of Ordinance No. 1332 or provisions of other ordinances which have not been previously repealed.

SECTION 6 All ordinances or parts thereof which are in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 7 This Ordinance, after its adoption, shall be published as required by law, and shall become effective January 1, 2013.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this the 27th day of December, 2012. /s/ Garlan E. Gudger, Jr. - President of the City Council

ATTEST: /s/ Wesley M. Moore - Interim City Clerk

APPROVED BY THE MAYOR this the 27th day of December, 2012. /s/ Max A. Townson - Mayor

ORDINANCE NO. 2013 - 07

AN ORDINANCE TO SET RATES FOR THE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE WITHIN THE CITY OF CULLMAN BEGINNING ON THE 1ST DAY OF JANUARY, 2013

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1 Beginning with the services rendered for the 1st day of January, 2013, the following fees shall be charged by the City of Cullman, Alabama for the collection, transportation, and disposing of municipal solid waste and inert waste:

A. RESIDENTIAL. There will be a $16.00 per month charge, for once a week solid waste pickup, for each single family residence, town house, condominium or other living quarters within the city limits of the City of Cullman. Provided, further, that in apartment houses or other buildings or residences where more than one family occupy and maintain separate apartments, a garbage container shall be provided by each family living in such building or residence, and each family shall pay the garbage fee required by this ordinance. Garbage and trash containers must be watertight containers with two handles and hold not less than 15 gallons or more than 48 gallons, with tightfitting lids or tops, not to be fastened in such a manner that the containers may not be easily emptied. Garbage shall be placed in plastic bags and are required in all containers. No garbage can in excess of forty-eight gallons capacity or weighing over 40 pounds will be serviced. Garbage cans and dumpster used for the deposit of garbage for collection by the City Sanitation Department shall be in good condition so that collection shall not injure the person collecting the contents thereof. No drums or barrels shall be used as garbage containers. Cans or dumpsters having ragged, sharp edges, rusted bottoms or other defects or not meeting the standard size requirements must be promptly replaced or repaired upon receipt of notice from the Sanitation Department and if not so replaced or repaired upon receipt of notice from the Sanitation Department and if not so replaced or repaired with ten (10) days or receipt of such notice, such nonconforming or defective cans may be collected by the Sanitation Department and disposed of as waste.

B. COMMERCIAL. There will be a minimum charge of $36.00 per month for solid waste pickup for each office or business in the City of Cullman. If more frequent service is required, fees may be adjusted accordingly.

C. CONTAINER SERVICE: Monthly container rates will be as follows:

CONTAINER SIZE MONTHLY RATE
Two Yard Containers - once a week collection
$ 87.00

Four Yard Containers - once a week collection
$121.00

Six Yard Containers - once a week collection
$156.00

Eight Yard Containers - once a week collection
$180.00

If more frequent service is required, fees may be adjusted accordingly.

SECTION 2 This ordinance is adopted solely for the purpose of changing the fees for the collection, transportation and disposal of municipal solid waste and inert waste in the City of Cullman.

SECTION 3 All ordinances or parts thereof which are in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

SECTION 4 This Ordinance, after its adoption, shall be published as required by law, and shall become effective January 1, 2013.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this the 27th day of December, 2012. /s/ Garlan E. Gudger, Jr. - President of the City Council

ATTEST: /s/ Wesley M. Moore - Interim City Clerk

APPROVED BY THE MAYOR this the 27th day of December, 2012. /s/ Max A. Townson - Mayor

ORDINANCE NO. 2013 - 08

TO ANNEX CERTAIN PROPERTY INTO THE CITY LIMITS OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CULLMAN, ALABAMA, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. The City Council of the City of Cullman finds that the John and Stacia Henderson has petitioned the City under the provisions of Section 11-42-21 of the Code of Alabama, 1975, as amended, that the following described property, which property is owned by the petitioner, be annexed into the City of Cullman, to-wit:

PARCEL: 09-08-34-0-001-009.015
PHYSICAL ADDRESS: 50 County Road 1320

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Beg 155(S) W INT W/ROW Eva Rd, & N/LN SE 1/4 NE 1/4 TH W 247.44, S 175.72, NE ALG N/ROW Friendship Lane 271.2' 250(S) TH N 160 to POB.

SECTION 2. That the Council has before it a map showing the relationship of the property proposed to be annexed to the corporate limits of the City of Cullman, and that said map is on file in the office of the City Clerk along with an acknowledgment by the property owners that they want it to be annexed into the City of Cullman.

SECTION 3. That the City of Cullman does hereby annex as a part of its corporate limits the following described tracts or parcels of land subject to the limitations set forth in Section 4 below with the consent of the property owners, to-wit:

PARCEL: 09-08-34-0-001-009.015
PHYSICAL ADDRESS: 50 County Road 1320

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: Beg 155(S) W INT W/ROW Eva Rd, & N/LN SE 1/4 NE 1/4 TH W 247.44, S 175.72, NE ALG N/ROW Friendship Lane 271.2' 250(S) TH N 160 to POB.

TO BE ZONED: R-1.

SECTION 4. That a copy of this ordinance after its adoption, which ordinance includes a description of the property annexed to the City of Cullman, be filed in the office of the Judge of Probate of Cullman County, Alabama, the county in which the municipality is located.

SECTION 5. That this ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and publication as required by law.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL this the 27th day of December, 2012.
/s/ Garlan E. Gudger, Jr. - President of the City Council

ATTEST: /s/ Wesley M. Moore - Interim City Clerk

APPROVED BY THE MAYOR this the 27th day of December, 2012. /s/ Max A. Townson - Mayor

Nothing but Resolutions

By: Noah Chandler
noahchandler@cullmansense.com

Yes, indeed this little brief is nothing but resolutions.

I put out a simple question revolving around the tradition of making a resolution, or promise to oneself, and these are the responses from friends, family and community leaders.

Hope you enjoy!

Dan Vinson Jr. – "I resolve to be awesome. It worked for me last year."

Waid Harbison – "Mine is to practice kayaking and kayak the Ocoee by the end of the year."

Eric J. Perry – "Mine is to start reading CullmanSense."

Jill Howell – "To be even more involved in the community and to contribute positively where needed. Also, to help with the many projects and plans for the future that will make for a better living in an already wonderful community!"

Amanda Chatham – "Get out of debt, sell our house in Massey, and move back to Cullman, preferably around Smith lake."

Cory Harbison – "To be a better person and do more to help others."

Hannah Marsh Hill – "Mine is to strive to be the best person I can and best mother I can be. Everything else will fall into place."

Leah Bolin – "A healthier lifestyle. Hoping our newly proposed community health initiative wills me off!"

Cameron Everett – "To quit making resolutions."

Garlan Gudger, Jr. – "Mine is to focus more on family."

Elisha Melcher Lazenby – "Thank God more and worry less."

Local Events Calendar

Send your Events to: calendar@cullmansense.com

Monday, December 31st

Life Church's New Year's Eve 'Ball Drop'
Everyone is invited to come to Dodge City from 10:30 p.m. until 12:30 a.m. New Year's Day - early morning – for Life Church's New Year's Eve 'Ball Drop'! The end of the 'old year' and the beginning of the 'new year' event will feature music bands, inflatables for the kids as well as a Kids' Zone activities space, free foods, fireworks, fun for all. The giant ball which will be dropped at midnight is 8 feet wide and made of bright LED lights and will bring in the New Year in style. So come on out to Dodge City tonight and be among those who start the New Year off right!

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, January 1st

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.

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, January 2nd

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!

Friday, January 4th

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, January 5th

'Terrariums' at Farm Kid's Club
Farm Kid's Club program is 'Terrariums'. Children and their parents are invited to attend this event held at the North Alabama Agriplex from 9 a.m. until 10:30 a.m.

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, January 7th

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.

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Bosom Buddies Support Group Meeting
Bosom Buddies Support Group offers support to individuals affected by Breast Cancer. The group will hold its next meeting on Monday, December 17 at 6 p.m. in Cullman Regional Medical Center's Ave Maria Room in the Community Education Center located in Professional Office Building 2 (1912 AL Highway 157, POB 2, Cullman, AL 35058).

Looking Ahead

North Alabama Agriplex Upcoming Events
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.

Got Creative Talent?
A Passion for News?
Self-Motivation?

We're Hiring!

jobs@cullmansense.com



Community Matters

Fireworks Safety Tips

By: ADPH
Contributor

During New Year and the Fourth of July holiday people often celebrate with fireworks, but if used improperly fireworks can cause serious injury or burns. To ensure a safe holiday the Alabama Department of Public Health recommends that parents protect children from injury by preventing them from using fireworks and leaving it to the professionals.

According to the National SAFE KIDS Campaign almost 5,000 children ages 14 and under are treated in the emergency room for fireworks-related injuries each year. Sixty-five percent of these injuries occur during the month surrounding the Fourth of July.

The safest way to enjoy a fireworks display is at a community-sanctioned, licensed event. Alabama law allows only consumer fireworks, formerly known as class C fireworks. Some municipalities (including Montgomery) outlaw fireworks altogether. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission prevents large numbers of hazardous fireworks from reaching consumers. Illegal mail order kits contain chemical mixtures that can explode unexpectedly and violently.

M-80s, cherry bombs, and quarter sticks are so highly explosive that they have been banned by federal law since 1966. Working with the U.S. Customs Service since 1988, CPSC has seized or detained more than 400 million hazardous fireworks at docks across the country.

If fireworks are legal where you live and you decide to set them off on your own, be sure to follow these important safety tips:

- Never allow children to play with or ignite fireworks.
- Read and follow all warnings and instructions.
- Discuss safety procedures with children, including teaching them to "stop, drop, and roll."
- Be sure other people are out of range before lighting fireworks.
- Never aim or throw fireworks at another person.
- Only light fireworks on a smooth, flat surface away from the house, dry leaves and flammable materials.
- Never try to relight fireworks that have not fully functioned.
- Keep a bucket of water nearby in case of a malfunction or fire.

Information provided by the Alabama Department of Public Health

The Fitness Chronicles of Norrell

By: Jessica Norrell
jessicanorrell@cullmansense.com

The Christmas holiday may not be the best time to start working toward a fitness goal but I am sure I would find an excuse any time of year so now is as good of a time as any. This week, except for Christmas and Christmas Eve, I have taken a huge step toward attaining my goal.

I have begun nixing the sweets…and unhealthy snacks that I munch on throughout the day. I don't drink soft drinks but if you have any desire to follow along I suggest at least cutting back on those or whatever unhealthy food is your biggest hurdle.

I will be grumpy for a couple weeks not getting my special coffees and/or pastries but it is a critical step and will yield results quickly. It is okay to treat your self every now and then with food…but maybe just once or twice a week rather than every day like I typically do…did do.

I am simply replacing something unhealthy for fruit or just something nutritional. It sounds obvious and is definitely easier said than done, but I know it is something that will be worth the results. Now that I am keeping up with the food I eat I can make better decisions.

I really thought the idea of a food journal was a bit ridiculous but now that I have to write down everything I eat and have to look at my decisions, it is easier to make better choices as well as make sure I work in a few servings of fruits and vegetables.

I will record my results with just the sweets being dropped and having healthy snacks in next week's paper. I am not doing anything elaborate nor do I have an entire meal plan. It is just simply a substitution.

Maintenance and prevention is much better than having to treat issues caused by a bad diet. That's not to say problems will never arise, but you can definitely lower the chances.

Also, eating healthy doesn't mean starving yourself. It just means feeding yourself the right foods. Just a few simple changes I am making are adding a vegetable and fruit to every meal. It is an easy way to get my daily, recommended serving as well as fill me up; instead of eating heaping serving of macaroni and cheese.

Another major deterrent from making bad decisions that I have found that works for me is making myself burn off the bad calories I decided to consume.

When I keep up with what I am eating and realize the major amount of extra work I have to do to get rid of that just makes the bad food less appealing. Whatever works for you personally, but that works for my mind set!

I will be more informed once I get to speak with a nutritionist in the near future and be able to give a more helpful column instead of just rambling!

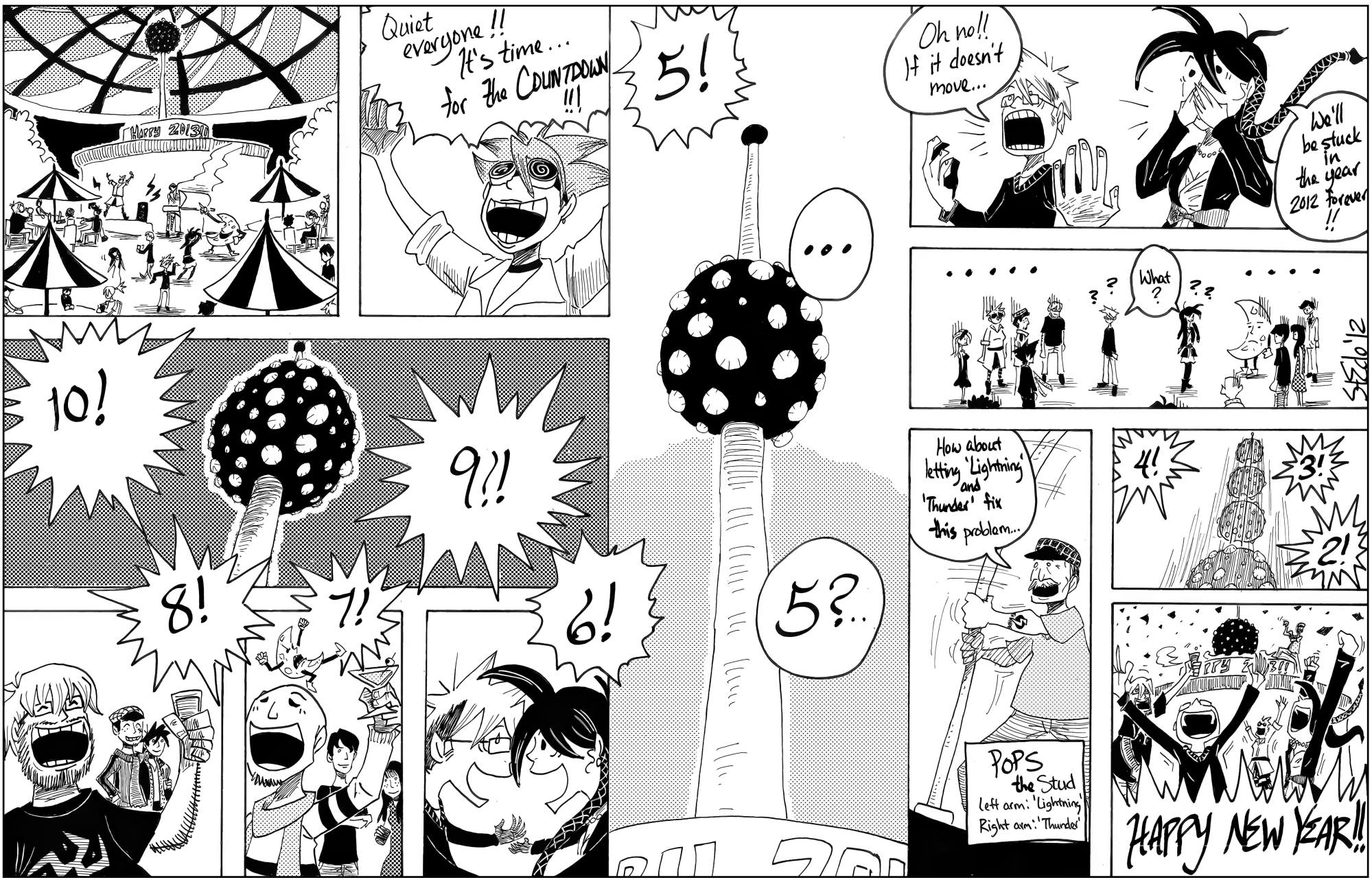
Once again I would like to thank the Cullman Wellness & Aquatic Center for providing a membership to the facility where I've been working so hard.

The New Year is a Great Time to Start Your Own Fitness Chronicle! Share your story: health@cullmansense.com

Get Chatty

Tell Us What You Think
facebook.com/CullmanSense
twitter.com/CullmanSense

White & Black by St. Edo - st.edo@cullmansense.com



Mitch Smith Yule Tide Classic

By: Josh McBrayer
joshmcbrayer@cullmansense.com

HANCEVILLE- Tom Drake Colosseum was full of players and fans alike over the Christmas holiday. Not from the Wallace State Lions but from some great tournament action in the form of the Mitch Smith Yule Tide Classic hosted by the Cullman Bearcats.

Tournament action started at 9:30 a.m. on December 27th and will conclude with the boys championship game on December 29th at 8 p.m. Here is the action from day one and day two brought to you first hand by "The Flash Man" Johnny Thornton.

DAY ONE

HOLLY POND vs. WALKER (GIRLS)

Holly Pond claimed a 52-22 victory over Walker to open the Cullman Yule Tide Classic Thursday morning at Wallace State's Tom Drake Coliseum.

Although the fifth straight victory for the Lady Broncos came with unfortunate tragedy. Starting forward Lexy Malone suffered a leg injury midway in the first quarter with the Lady Broncos off to a fast start against the opponent from Walker County.

Malone was attempting a shot in the paint with Holly Pond in transition when she went down with the injury. Malone was back in action for head coach Scott Adams after missing half of the previous season with a torn ligament in her other knee.

Malone was on her to Dr. Dave Duland's office by the time game reached halftime with Holly Pond ahead by the score of 25-11.

The Lady Broncos jumped out to a 15-4 first quarter lead thanks to the scoring of Taylor Terry who tossed in seven in the opening period.

A 15-2 run in the third period sent the Lady Broncos to a commanding 40-13 lead in which Adams was able to clear his bench for the fourth period.

Holly Pond improved to 14-2 on the season, now waiting for a semifinal assignment against the winner of the Athens-Gardendale game at 3:30 p.m. Friday.

Terry racked up 14 points hitting five field goals, one trey and two of two from the line. Natasha Holcombe produced 11, Lexi Lynn, Madison Hicks and Rachel Finley scored five each, Meg Gambrill and Kristen Sparks three, and Malone with a field goal before she suffered her leg injury.

Walker was led by Sidney Cooper with eight points.

Holly Pond had no trouble adjusting to the setup of Tom Drake Coliseum in comparison of playing at Felton Easterwood Gym. The Lady Broncos knocked down five 3-pointers in the contest. Holly Pond converted 21 field goals and were five of seven from the line for 71 percent.

NORTHRIDGE vs. CULLMAN (GIRLS)

Last year, Northridge came to the Cullman Girls' Christmas Tournament ranked in the Top 10 in Class 6A.

Cullman got out of a slump at that time in winning the game to finish undefeated in its own event.

Thursday night, the Lady Jaguars came back to the area, participating in the Yule Tide Classic, defeating the Lady Bearcats 54-43 in the quarterfinal round.

Cullman, who was 1-2 last week in a tournament in Tennessee, battled the school from Tuscaloosa even for the first 16 minutes.

Northridge was ahead 14-13 at the end of the first then had a run during the second stanza to stay on top of Jonathan Hayes' Lady Bearcats.

Cullman did get a lift when Baylee Johnson took a steal the length of the floor and beat he buzzer with a shot to close the halftime margin to 28-24.

But the Lady 'Cats could not maintain a good shooting game in the third period, getting outscored by Northridge 17-10. Cullman was down 45-34 with one quarter to play.

Northridge shot out to a 54-38 advantage with less than 3:00 remaining.

Cullman managed to get a trey by Johnson with under a minute remaining and were behind 54-41.

Time ran out on the Lady Cats for a comeback as they fell to 6-6 on the season, suffering their third loss in their last four games.

Johnson delivered 21 points with three baskets from long range. Morgan Smith, another key figure for the Cullman offense, managed just three points. Hanna Shelton tossed in five, Hayden Short, Oakleigh White, and Blair Nall added four.

Northridge got a 16-point performance from Kiara Johnson, 14 by KeKe Williams and 12 by Shameka Tubbs 12.

CULLMAN vs. RAVENWOOD (BOYS)

No one can question Cullman basketball coach Bobby Meyer in regards of strength of schedule. The Bearcats went into the state of Tennessee before Christmas and came out with two wins in three decisions.

They have matched up with some good non-area opponents knowing the purpose to be battled tested when the postseason arrives in early February.

They sent an invitation to Ravenwood, a ball club not far from the Nashville to face them in the opener of the Cullman Yule Tide Classic Thursday night.

Cullman fought hard from a halftime deficit, coming out of top against the Raptors 53-49.

Now they have a semifinal assignment vs. Dallas County, a talented 4A school 15 minutes away from Selma at 8:00 Thursday. They have a 9-6 record with three wins in their last four games.

Ravenwood had the upper hand with a 21-17 lead at halftime. Coach Bobby Meyer kept the Bearcats under poise as they went on a 16-9 run in the third quarter to move in front at 33-30.

Balanced scoring was the key for the 'Cats with Houston Turner, Lawson Schaffer and Auston Neal combining for 19 points going into a hotly contested fourth period.

It came down to free throws. Schaffer was perfect in six tries during the fourth, Turner tossed in two out of two.

Turner's two free throws iced the victory with less than 5 seconds remaining.

Schaffer was tops for the 'Cats with 16, Turner scored nine, Lane Donadlson eight, Keaton Dean seven, Neal six, and Troy Forrest four.

Keying the attack for the Raptors was Ryan Nelson and Jon Coles with 11 apiece and Joey Barnes nine.

DAY TWO

CULLMAN vs. HAZLE GREEN (GIRLS)

Cullman turned back Hazel Green 62-42 Friday afternoon in the Yule Tide Classic at Wallace State's Tom Drake Coliseum.

Cullman's offense is anchored by shooting guard Baylee Johnson and forward Morgan Smith. Johnson displays skills from the perimeter while Smith is one who loves to attack defenses in the paint.

The Lady Bearcats were able to get the lead despite not being able to slow down Hazel Green forward Taylor Edwards.

Edwards had a 10-point second quarter in which the Lady Trojans closed the gap to 29-24 by intermission after getting behind by a 16-9 first period score.

Johnson and Smith had accounted for 22 points in the first half on 10 field goals. Coach Jonathan Hayes was pleased with the effort of his top two players, but looked for others to get involved in the offensive game plan.

That was Blair Nall. Nall tossed in a trey for her lone field goal in the first half. She collected a pair of field goals in the third period that helped Cullman built the margin to 47-38.

In the final stanza, Nall gave Hazel Green problems as she went to the line 12 times, hitting seven, including six of her last eight attempts.

Nall was aggressive on defense and also a key weapon in the transition game that forced Hazel Green to try and slow her down in which she was fouled very often in the final quarter.

Johnson had only two free throws during the fourth with Smith not getting any points in the last 8:00.

Johnson led Cullman to its seventh victory with 21 points, nine field goals made and three of four from the line.

Nall got 12 in the final period and finished with 19, Smith tossed in 14, Oakleigh White had six, and Amanda Bell two.

Edwards was solid for the Lady Trojans with 24, scoring 14 in the second half and hitting four long range field goals.

HOLLY POND vs. ATHENS (GIRLS)

Holly Pond never stopped playing after getting behind 14 points going into the final quarter.

They were able to knock down half a dozen of three-point field goals to get back into the game and set the stage for an opportunity to pull off a comeback triumph.

However, Athens' 6'2" center Alliyah Smith blocked Taylor Terry's shot as time ran out, ending the comeback opportunity.

The Lady Broncos received good play in the final period from starter Rachel Finley who was inserted into the lineup for the injured Lexy Malone. She scored three times from downtown during the fourth.

Holly Pond finished the game with 10 made long range field goals. Six of eight shots converted in the fourth were 3-pointers.

Natasha Holcombe had 18, tossing in four treys and was six of seven at the line. Terry ended the semifinal with 11, Finley scored 11, Meg Gambrill six, and Taylor Rowell two.

What Holly Pond was unable to do was to contain Smith in the post. The center scored seven first half field goals to give Athens an advantage with a 30-22 halftime lead.

She led her team into the title game with 25 points, hitting 12 field goals. Athens only scored three times from long range, two by Jasmin Lucas.

Holly Pond outscored Athens 22-9 in the fourth to give the crowd something to enjoy in having to play from behind the entire afternoon, never giving up the hope to win.

CULLMAN vs. DALLAS COUNTY (BOYS)

Championship Saturday is set in the inaugural Yule Tide Classic. Cullman High School is hosting and the Bearcats will be there.

Cullman dealt with the No. 4 team from Class 4A, Dallas County, upsetting the Hornets 56-55. They were able to pull it off by going 14 of 18 at the foul line in the fourth quarter.

Bobby Meyer's Bearcats showed poise throughout the contest against a physical Dallas County team that had won 11 of 13 games entering the semifinal assignment.

Getting a late surge in the first, Cullman moved in front 13-8 against the Hornets and were on top at the break 27-22.

By the time the game entered the final period, Cullman was still in front, fighting off every challenge by the Hornets, leading 40-36.

Lawson Schaffer knocked down a pair of free throws with 54 seconds to play to up the Cullman lead to 52-43. He was eight of eight in the final period and 11 of 11 shooting free throws for the night.

However, Dallas County never stopped playing. The Hornets took advantage of four misses by other shooters than Schaffer and closed the deficit quickly.

A free throw from Seth Swalve with 0:08 to play gave Cullman a 56-52 lead. Markell Harris came down and connected on a trey as time ran out for the Hornets.

Cullman is now 10-6 with two quality wins in this tournament as they get ready to battle a very talented and undefeated Tanner team for the title Saturday night.

Schaffer scored 18 for the winning Bearcats with Houston Turner hitting 14, Lukas McNeal had five, Troy Forrest, Keaton Dean and Auston Neal four, Lee Mattox three and Swalve with one.

Harris sparked the Hornets with 22, center William Lee tossed in 16.

The Mitch Smith Yule Tide Classic concluded Saturday night. If you didn't make it, check out cullmansense.com for the scores from all of the tournament games.

Do You Know a Student That Should be Spotlighted?
News Tip?
Story Idea?
or Just Want to Voice your Opinion?
We Want To Know!
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Facebook Us
Tweet Us
or E-mail Us
voice@cullmansense.com

We Want to Help Your Organization Promote Its Events
Contact us at events@cullmansense.com
Today and Let's See How We Can Work Together

Community Matters

Flags Flying Proudly (Continued from Front)

"It helps us quite a bit to establish and maintain the flag disbursement each holiday. We put out nearly 300 flags each July 4th, Memorial Day, Labor Day, and Veteran's Day," said Willibey.

"The flags endure a lot of weather conditions during the year. Summer is not so bad but when it becomes winter the ice and cold winds rip the flags apart."

In order to keep the flags flying along the "Whiteway" as Mayor Townson would say, donations are needed throughout the year. The cost of a flag is $35, while a flag complete with a pole costs $65.

"They can send us a check to VFW Post 2214, and put on the check Flag Donation and it will be put into the flag fund or they can come by the post themselves," said Willibey.

To make a donation send a check to VFW Post 2214, 112 Veterans Dr. SW, Cullman, AL 35055. If you would like to make a donation in person or if you would like to volunteer with displaying of the flags, you may call 256-739-6611.

The plaque bestowed upon VFW Post 2214, as proclaimed by Cullman Mayor Max A. Townson on December 27, 2012:

The mayor, the city council, and the citizens of Cullman, Alabama honor and recognize all VFW Post 2214 members for their service to our community through the placement of U.S. flags along roadways, on patriotic holidays, and other special occasions.

We also extend our heartfelt gratitude to these veterans for risking their lives in foreign land in defense of the freedoms we enjoy today as American citizens.

In expression of our appreciation we hereby present 50 U.S. flags to VFW Post 2214 with the confidence that they will continue their benevolent tradition by proudly displaying these U.S. flags in honor of our past and current veterans and to inspire our citizens to reaffirm their love and loyalty to the flag, to our country and to the ideas which have made America a great nation.







This Week in History Dec. 31 - Jan. 6

December 31st
- 1776 – Rhode Island establishes wage and price controls to curb inflation: Limit is 70 cents a day for carpenters, 42 cents for tailors
- 1907 – For the 1st time a ball drops at Times Square to signal the New Year
- 1966 – Monkee's "I'm a Believer" hits #1 and stays there for 7 weeks

January 1st
- 1610 – German astronomer Simon Marius first discovers the Jupiter moons, but does not officially report it, Galileo does on July 1, 1610
- 1907 – President Theodore Roosevelt shakes a record 8,513 hands in one day
- 2012 – NASA's second Gravity Recovery and Interior Laboratory spacecraft is in orbit around the moon

January 2nd
- 1788 – Georgia is 4th state to ratify U.S. constitution
- 1929 – U.S. and Canada agree to preserve Niagara Falls
- 1974 – 55 MPH speed limit imposed by Richard Nixon

January 3rd
- 1521 – Martin Luther excommunicated by Roman Catholic Church
- 1938 – March of Dimes established to fight polio
- 1987 – Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inducts first female artist, Aretha Franklin

January 4th
- 1863 – 4 wheeled roller skates patented by James Plimpton of New York
- 1915 – First elected Jewish governor, Moses Alexander, takes office in Idaho
- 1983 –U.S. Football League holds its first player draft

January 5th
- 1836 – Davy Crockett arrives in Texas, just in time for the Alamo
- 1919 – National Socialist Party (Nazi) forms as German Farmers Party
- 2012 – U.S. President Barack Obama announces plans to dramatically cut defense spending

January 6th
- 1681 – First recorded boxing match between the Duke of Albemarle's butler and his butcher
- 1994 – Ice skater Nancy Kerrigan is attacked by Tonya Harding's bodyguard
- 2011 – China places new controls on text messages sent on mobile phones containing references to democracy, human rights, and corruption

2013 CULLMAN SAVINGS BANK
FROSTY 5k
cpr cullman city parks & recreation
& POLAR BEAR PLUNGE
Saturday January 12, 2013 at 9:00am
at the Cullman Wellness and Aquatic Center
Pre-register today at the Civic Center or register online at www.active.com.
The first 250 runners receive a free technical shirt!
Everyone who takes the plunge will be entered into a drawing to win a free 1 Year Membership to the Wellness and Aquatic Center. ($780 value!)
For more info contact the Cullman Civic Center at 256-734-9157
Working for Cullman County Families Since 1887
Cullman Savings Bank