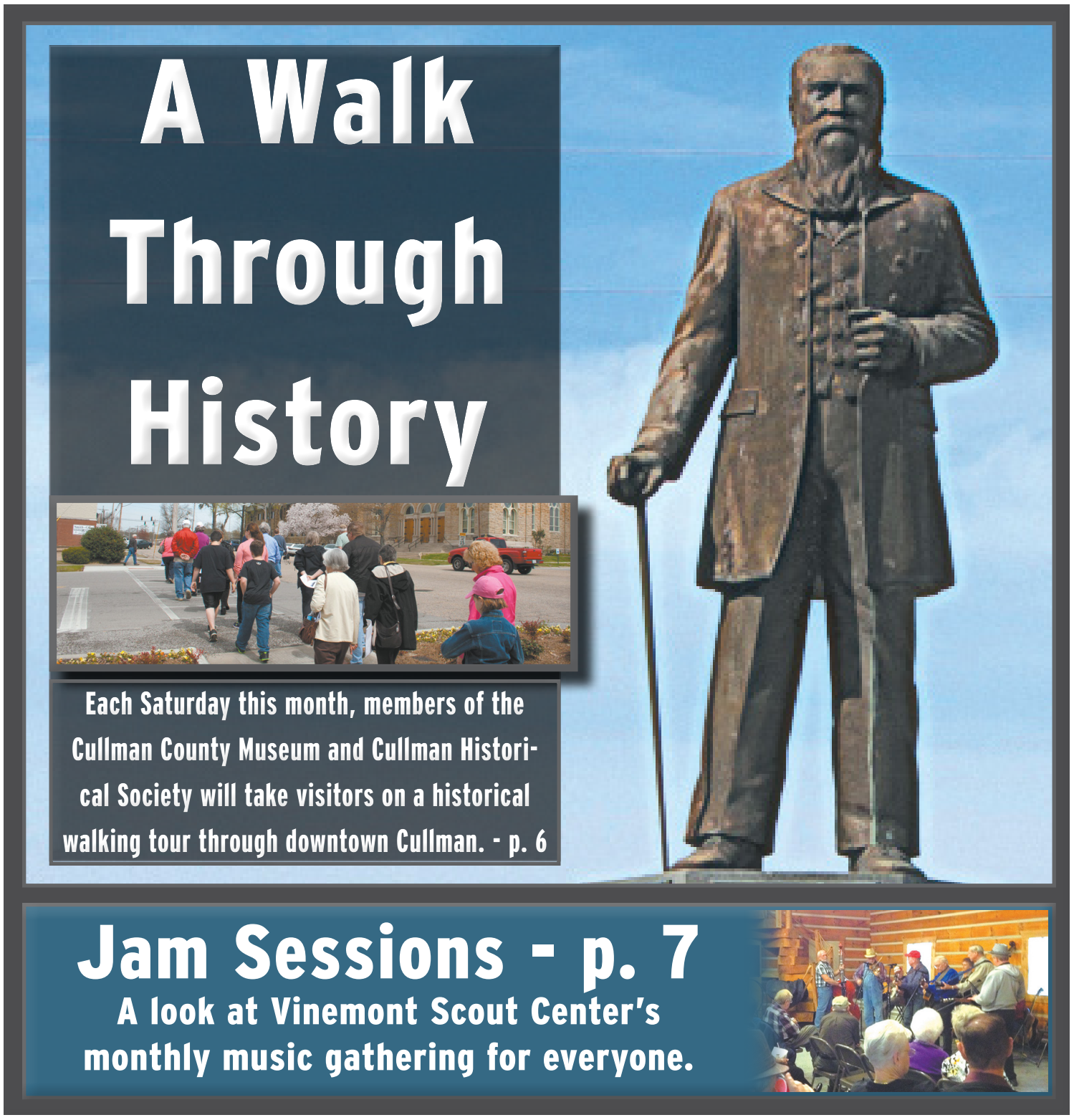
SERIES 3, ISSUE 14 MONDAY, APRIL 8, 2013
CULLMAN'S MONDAY NEWSPAPER
CULLMANSENSE
COMMUNITY MATTERS
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A Walk Through History

Each Saturday this month, members of the Cullman County Museum and Cullman Historical Society will take visitors on a historical walking tour through downtown Cullman. - p. 6

Jam Sessions - p. 7

A look at Vinemont Scout Center's monthly music gathering for everyone.

Governor Bentley Signs Job Creation Legislation

By: Jennifer Ardis

MONTGOMERY – Governor Robert Bentley on Thursday signed legislation aimed at attracting thousands of additional jobs to Alabama.

The Alabama Commercial Aviation Business Improvement Act will help the state recruit more aerospace industry suppliers. Those suppliers are expected to locate in the region as Airbus builds its first U.S.-based production facility in Mobile. Groundbreaking for the Airbus facility is scheduled for next week.

The legislation signed by Governor Bentley levels the playing field between Alabama and nearby states in the recruitment of supplier companies and the additional jobs they will bring.

"Putting Alabamians back to work is my number-one priority," Governor Bentley said. "This bill will make sure Alabama remains competitive with neighboring states in attracting supplier jobs. Already, Airbus will directly provide 1,000 jobs in Mobile, and more than 3,000 people will be employed in the construction phase of the Airbus facility. As suppliers move in, we can attract thousands of additional jobs as well. We want those jobs for the people of Alabama. This legislation will help us accomplish our goal."

The Alabama Commercial Aviation Business Improvement Act (Senate Bill 238) applies to a small category of lawsuits which involve manufacturers of commercial aircraft with 100 seats or more. Neighboring states already have similar laws in place.

The bill will protect the rights of Alabama

See Jobs - Page 12

Cullman City Parks & Recreation Receives AED Unit from the National Center for Sports Safety

By: Leanne West

CULLMAN – The Cullman City Parks and Recreation Department was recently selected by the National Center for Sports Safety (NCSS) as a recipient of an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) for use at parks and recreational facilities.

At an event sponsored by NCSS titled "Preparing Alabama Parks and Recreation Centers to Save Lives" held at the Optimist Recreation Center in Huntsville, Alabama, on April 2, 2013, Gail Busbey, City of Cullman Administrative Training Officer, accepted the AED unit on behalf of the Cullman City Parks and Recreation Department. Included with the AED unit were sports first aid kits including bandages, athletic tape, ice packs, gauze, CPR mask, gloves, mini scissors, hydrogen peroxide, stretch tape, antiseptic towelettes and wash, hand sanitizer, and other first aid supplies.

"Our #1 priority is the safety of our citizens and visitors," said Cullman Mayor Max A. Townson. "That includes those who make use of the many wonderful parks and recreational facilities we have here in Cullman."

According to statistics, about 50 million children participate in organized sports activities every year. Sudden Cardiac Arrest (SCA) (the sudden and unexpected loss of normal heart function, consciousness, and breathing) is the leading cause of death among young athletes. This is different than a heart attack, because there are no prior symptoms. The American Heart Association states that for every minute that passes between cardiac arrest and defibrillation, a person's chance of survival decreases up to 10%. CPR alone cannot save young athletes if they suffer from SCA. Electrical therapy with an AED unit used within five minutes of collapse can be a lifesaver in these situations.

The Powerheart® AED G3 awarded to Cullman City Parks and Recreation uses voice prompts to instruct the user on how to use the device. The device instructs the user to call 911, gives step-by-step instructions on how to apply the pads, and alerts the user when CPR is needed and gives CPR instructions. The unit determines

See AED - Page 5

BACK TO THE MARKET

Festhalle Market Platz open for business - p. 12

SPOTLIGHT ON

Vinemont Eagles, Lady Eagles - p. 4

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In Brief

ADMH Observes National Alcohol Awareness Month

Contributed

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Mental Health is encouraging people to get the facts about alcohol abuse during National Alcohol Awareness Month, observed annually each April. Dr. Maranda Brown, director of prevention services in ADMH's Division of Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services says, "This observance provides an opportunity to raise awareness while aiming to reduce stigma associated with seeking help, and in turn encourage people to make healthy and safe choices."

Throughout the month, a host of events will be held statewide by substance abuse treatment providers, including town hall meetings, health fairs, and fun nights, to mark this observance.

Nationally, more than 18 million individuals, or 8.5 percent of people, have alcohol use disorders, and 25 percent of children have been exposed to alcohol use disorders in their family. Likewise, according to the Youth Risk Behavior Survey, alcohol continues to remain a problem in Alabama with 35.6 percent of youth in grades 9-12 consuming alcohol, close to the national average of 38.7 percent.

Of equal concern is the fact that 9.9 percent of youth in grades 9-12 have reported driving after consuming an alcoholic beverage; higher than the national average of 8.2 percent.

Additionally, from 2009-2010, 249,000 Alabama adults were estimated to be alcohol dependent or alcohol abusers, while 236,000 were estimated to have needed treatment for alcohol use, but did not receive it.

As far as treatment for alcohol abuse or use at state-funded or operated agencies, Dr. Brown states that, "During 2012, approximately 6,645 individual sought treatment, according to ADMH statistics. That number was down slightly compared to 7,000 individuals in 2011; however, alcohol remained the leading reason for treatment attempts both years. Statistics such as this are why education and prevention are critical to reducing alcohol-related problems and alcoholism."

Alcohol Awareness Month was founded and has been sponsored by the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence since 1987 to increase public awareness aimed at reducing the stigmas associated with alcoholism that too often prevents individuals and families from seeking help. This year, NCADD has chosen the theme "Help for Today. Hope for Tomorrow.," which is designed to draw attention to the pervasive impact that alcohol use and alcoholism have on youth, families and communities.

Governor Bentley Appoints Spencer Collier as Secretary of Law Enforcement

By: Jennifer Ardis

MONTGOMERY – Governor Robert Bentley on Friday announced the appointment of Homeland Security Director Spencer Collier as Secretary of Law Enforcement.

The newly-created Alabama State Law Enforcement Agency was established by Senate Bill 108, which Governor Bentley recently signed into law as part of a comprehensive effort to make government more efficient. Secretary Collier will continue to serve as the Governor's Homeland Security Director during the Law Enforcement Agency's planning and implementation phase, which will last through January 2015.

"Spencer Collier has been a dedicated public servant for many years. He has served as my Senior Law Enforcement Advisor and worked tirelessly to help create the model that will better coordinate state-level law enforcement," Governor Bentley said. "He has the experience and qualifications necessary to lead this new agency, and his work will benefit people all across the state."

Collier has extensive experience in law enforcement in Alabama, having served as Director of the Department of Homeland Security, a State Trooper in the Alabama Department of Public Safety, and in the Public Safety Department's Special Operations Unit.

He has been recognized nationally for expertise in Homeland Security by the Naval Postgraduate Center for Homeland Defense and Security. Collier also served two terms in the Alabama House of Representatives.

He received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from Troy University and is a graduate of the Alabama Criminal Justice Training Center.

"I'm extremely honored that Governor Bentley has selected me for this position," Collier said.

"I've spent my professional career working in and around law enforcement, and I'm fully committed to this new challenge. We have already made great strides in increasing efficiency and coordination while eliminating duplications of services. I look forward to ensuring that we provide the best possible public safety for the people of Alabama while being responsible with taxpayer dollars. We have one opportunity to assemble this new agency in the most efficient and productive manner, and I am committed to doing just that."

"The leadership, law enforcement officers, and the employees of the Department of Public Safety look forward to working closely with Secretary Collier during this critical transition period," said Colonel Hugh McCall of the Alabama Department of Public Safety.

"As the planning and implementation process begins, the Enforcement Division of the Alabama Alcoholic Beverage Control Board stands ready and available to help Secretary Collier make this a smooth transition," ABC Administrator Mac Gipson said.

"I know Secretary Collier will work closely with the employees at the Department of Revenue to make sure the transition of our law enforcement functions is done in a way that will not disrupt services to Alabamians," Revenue Commissioner Julie Magee said.

"Governor Bentley's vision of a more coordinated law enforcement operation is one that I share. The Marine Police Division staff and I will continue to work closely with Secretary Collier to make sure this transition is smooth and effective," Conservation and Natural Resources Commissioner Gunter Guy said.

Collier's appointment is effective as of Friday, April 5.

Hubble Breaks Record in Search for Farthest Supernova

By: Ray Villard

WASHINGTON – NASA's Hubble Space Telescope has found the farthest supernova so far of the type used to measure cosmic distances. Supernova UDS10Wil, nicknamed SN Wilson after American President Woodrow Wilson, exploded more than 10 billion years ago.

SN Wilson belongs to a special class called Type Ia supernovae. These bright beacons are prized by astronomers because they provide a consistent level of brightness that can be used to measure the expansion of space.

They also yield clues to the nature of dark energy, the mysterious force accelerating the rate of expansion.

"This new distance record holder opens a window into the early universe, offering important new insights into how these stars explode," said David O. Jones of Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Md., an astronomer and lead author on the paper detailing the discovery.

"We can test theories about how reliable these detonations are for understanding the evolution of the universe and its expansion."

The discovery was part of a three-year Hubble program, begun in 2010, to survey faraway Type Ia supernovae and determine whether they have changed during the 13.8 billion years since the explosive birth of the universe.

Astronomers took advantage of the sharpness and versatility of Hubble's Wide Field Camera 3 to search for supernovae in near-infrared light and verify their distance with spectroscopy. Leading the work is Adam Riess of the Space Telescope Science Institute in Baltimore, Md., and Johns Hopkins University.

Finding remote supernovae provides a powerful method to measure the universe's accelerating expansion.

So far, Riess's team has uncovered more than 100 supernovae of all types and distances, looking back in time from 2.4 billion years to more than 10 billion years.

Of those new discoveries, the team has identified eight Type Ia supernovae, including SN Wilson, that exploded more than 9 billion years ago.

"The Type Ia supernovae give us the most precise yardstick ever built, but we're not quite sure if it always measures exactly a yard," said team member Steve Rodney of Johns Hopkins University.

"The more we understand these supernovae, the more precise our cosmic yardstick will become."

Although SN Wilson is only 4 percent more distant than the previous record holder, it pushes roughly 350 million years farther back in time. A separate team led by David Rubin of the U.S. Energy Department's Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in California announced the previous record just three months ago.

Astronomers still have much to learn about the nature of dark energy and how Type Ia supernovae explode. By finding Type Ia supernovae so early in the universe, astronomers can distinguish between two competing explosion models.

In one model the explosion is caused by a merger between two white dwarfs. In another model, a white dwarf gradually feeds off its partner, a normal star, and explodes when it accretes too much mass.

The team's preliminary evidence shows a sharp decline in the rate of Type Ia supernova blasts between roughly 7.5 billion years ago and more than 10 billion years ago.

The steep drop-off favors the merger of two white dwarfs because it predicts that most stars in the early universe are too young to become Type Ia supernovae.

"If supernovae were popcorn, the question is how long before they start popping?" Riess said. "You may have different theories about what is going on in the kernel. If you see when the first kernels popped and how often they popped, it tells you something important about the process of popping corn."

Knowing the type of trigger for Type Ia supernovae also will show how quickly the universe enriched itself with heavier elements such as iron. These exploding stars produce about half of the iron in the universe, the raw material for building planets, and life.

The team's results have been accepted for publication in an upcoming issue of The Astrophysical Journal.

The Hubble Space Telescope is a project of international cooperation between NASA and the European Space Agency. NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md., manages the telescope. The Space Telescope Science Institute (STScI) in Baltimore, Md., conducts Hubble science operations. The Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy Inc., in Washington operates STScI.

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What's Online

WALLACE STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE PLANS EVENTS FOR ARTS IN APRIL

Wallace State Community College will offer plenty of opportunities for entertainment and introspection next month as it celebrates Arts in April.

qrne.ws/26

GROUPS SEEK TO EDUCATE PUBLIC DURING NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH

The Alabama Interagency Autism Coordinating Council and the Autism Society of Alabama are partnering to promote this observance.

qrne.ws/27

U.S. FOREST SERVICE OPENS RECREATION SITES IN ALABAMA'S NATIONAL FORESTS

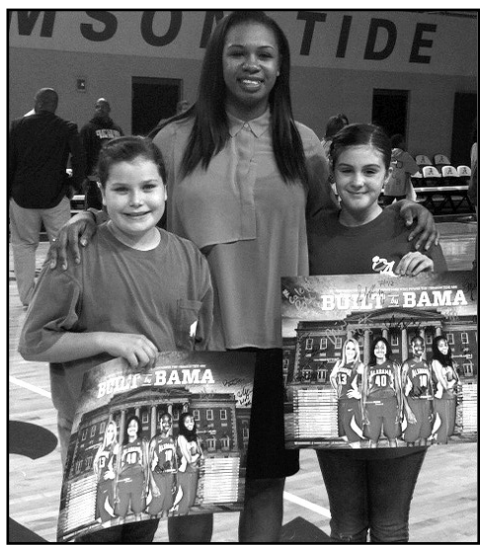
With warmer days fast approaching, outdoor enthusiasts will have many opportunities to escape to nature in Alabama's four national forests.

qrne.ws/28

In Brief

Univ. of Alabama Ball Kid Contest Winners

By: Jill Howell



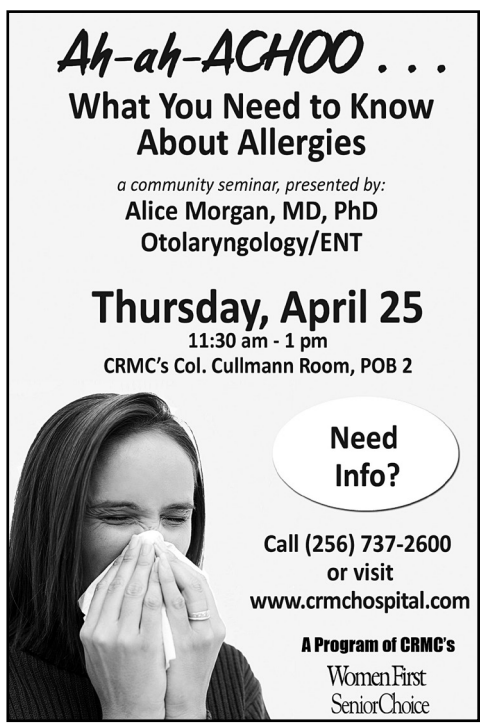
CULLMAN – East Elementary 5th Grader, Alexandria Barker (left) was selected to serve as The University of Alabama's "Ball Girl" recently when the Lady Tide took on The University of Tennessee, Chattanooga at Foster Auditorium in Tuscaloosa.

Barker was selected as a winner of the UA Basketball "Ball Kid" Contest.

Miss Barker is shown with Capriee Tucker (center) Director of Player Development, UA Women's Basketball, and her EES classmate, Caleigh Echols, (right) who joined Barker for the fun day. Barker is the daughter of Brady and Joy Barker of Cullman. Echols is the daughter of Phillip & Michelle Echols of Cullman.

ACHOO ... CRMC To Host Allergies Seminar

By: Amy Linton



April 2, 2013 — Cullman Regional Medical Center's WomenFirst & SeniorChoice Programs are pleased to offer a lunch and learn seminar on "What You Need to Know About Allergies" on Thursday, April 25 in CRMC's Col. Cullman Room in the Community Education Center in Professional Office Building 2, located at 1912 AL Highway 157, POB 2, Cullman, AL 35058.

Join Alice Morgan, M.D., PhD, with ENT Associates of Alabama, as she discusses allergies and how they are abnormal immune system reactions to substances that are typically harmless to most people.

Registration begins at 11 a.m., followed by lunch and the seminar from 11:30 a.m. until 1 p.m. Cost of the lunch and learn program is $5 for WomenFirst & SeniorChoice members and $8 for others.

Reserve your spot online at www.crmchospital.com or call 256-737-2600.

WSCC student delegation attends ACCS Legislative Leadership Day in Montgomery

By: Russell Moore

WSCC Contributor



HANCEVILLE – The student body of Wallace State Community College in Hanceville was well represented at the Alabama Community College System (ACCS) Legislative Leadership Day held recently in Montgomery.

Members of Wallace State's Student Government Association (SGA) and Fast Track Academy participated in the Legislative Day, which began with a breakfast, giving state legislators an opportunity to mingle with students and college employees from their respective areas, and concluded with Governor Robert Bentley serving as the keynote speaker.

Adam Hale of Vinemont, Taylor Quick of Cullman, Levi Ponder of Falkville, Ryan Hale of Vinemont, Seth Fuller of Cullman, Bradley Osborne of Arab, and Kelsie Morgan of Cullman made up Wallace State's student contingent in Montgomery.

"It was a great learning experience for all of us and gave us chance to bond better as a group. We got to spend time with people who some of us aspire to be like one day," said Quick, Wallace State's SGA Vice President. "Wallace State was recognized many times throughout the breakfast, so that made us proud, and I felt we received more attention from out state representatives than some of the other colleges did."

State representatives David Standridge, R-Hayden, a Wallace State graduate, and Mac Buttram, R-Cullman, attended the event and socialized with the Wallace State students throughout the breakfast.

"Our students were very eager to attend the event and represented Wallace State very, very well. We were recognized by both the chancellor and governor, and that was exciting for all of us," said Wallace State's Enrollment Specialist Tad Parker, who joined the students on the trip. "Some of them had never been to Montgomery, so it was a good opportunity for them to learn more about the state government as well as the community college system. It was a good, educational experience for all of us."

ACCS Chancellor Mark Heinrich addressed the assembly before Bentley and highlighted compelling student success stories from many of the colleges represented. Heinrich praised Quick for her leadership efforts at Wallace State, pointing out that she earned a Student Excellence scholarship upon joining the college and has continued to pile up academic achievements, earning recognition on the Dean's List and being inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa and Sigma Kappa Delta Honor Societies. In addition to serving as SGA Vice President, Quick is president of the Wallace State Republicans Club and was named the Wallace State Homecoming Queen in February.

Governor Bentley's address wrapped up the breakfast, commending all of the students for their dedication to education and their respective colleges. Bentley also discussed particular initiatives among the community college system and specifically identified Wallace State President Dr. Vicki Hawsey and the college for its new "green" business incubator program. He ended the speech by signing a proclamation designating April as Community College Month.

After the breakfast, Wallace State's students visited the Capitol and observed Senate and House of Representatives sessions.

"It was a wonderful trip. Our representatives were very interested in our courses of study and what our goals are in life. The experience should definitely help us want to become better students and leaders," Quick said.

For more information about Wallace State, visit wallacestate.edu.

Weekly Benefit Cuts for the Long Term Unemployed to Be Implemented Due to Federal Sequestration

By: Tara Hutchison

MONTGOMERY – Alabama Department of Labor Commissioner Tom Surtees announced today that Alabamians receiving Emergency Unemployment Compensation (EUC) benefits can expect to see a 12.8% reduction in benefits for weeks beginning April 28 through September 30.

The cuts are due to mandated federal budget cuts, known as sequestration.

In most cases, Alabamians receiving regular unemployment compensation benefits, or those who have been unemployed for 26 weeks or less, will not be impacted by the cuts. This is because the State of Alabama is responsible for paying claims for up to the first 26 weeks with unemployment insurance taxes collected from employers. The federal government pays claims for benefits in excess of 26 weeks.

The dollar amount of the reduction could vary for each claimant, as the reduction will be calculated based on the claimant's maximum benefit amount (MBA) and weekly benefit amount (WBA), both of which will have to be adjusted to reflect the cuts.

Taxes and other deductions will be applied to the new WBA. All EUC claimants will receive notification of their new monetary determinations by mail.

ADOL estimates that approximately 16,500 Alabamians are currently receiving federal EUC benefits.

Wallace State Financial Aid Update: Introducing Financial Aid TV

By: Gail Crutchfield

WSCC Contributor

HANCEVILLE – One of the key factors in determining if a person will go to college is how they will pay for it. Paying for college can be a daunting task for many people, and working through the financial aid applications and learning all of the related language can add to the stress level.

Wallace State Community College recently added a new resource for students to its website to help them learn more about applying for financial aid, determining costs associated with education, and offering tips on everything from saving money and banking to identity theft.

Financial Aid TV (FATV) provides videos on topics related to financial aid, loans and grants, budgeting, and more. The videos are divided into playlists of nine different categories and those are further broken down into dozens of clips geared to specific questions such as, "How do I know if I will qualify for financial aid?" "Can I use financial aid to pay for course I repeat?" "What is FAFSA?"

"It answers a lot of questions that students have every day," said Becky Graves, WSCC Financial Aid Director.

More than 80 percent of undergraduates nationwide receive financial aid, and the same is true for Wallace State. With upwards of 10,000 students applying for student aid, Graves said FATV is a great resource. "That information is at their fingertips," she said. "They can get many answers at their convenience."

It provides students with fast service for general questions rather than waiting for Financial Aid staff. It also allows Financial Aid staff to help students with more specific and detailed issues, including working to get the money students applied for in their accounts.

"If the student has unusual circumstances that might affect their financial aid then they would need to speak to someone on campus," Graves said.

Graves admits the financial aid process can be confusing. "We throw a lot of terms out there," she said, terms many students have never heard before and have no idea what they mean.

FATV videos educate students on those terms and take a lot of the stress out of the process.

"I think it helps them navigate through all of the paperwork," Graves said. The word paperwork scares everybody, but FATV explains exactly what you need to do. It puts them at ease."

The FATV link is located underneath the Financial Aid tab on the Wallace State website, www.wallacestate.edu, or follow this link: http://www.wallacestate.edu/Financial-Aid/fatv/.

"7 Easy Steps to the FAFSA" is another new resource on the Wallace State Financial Aid page. "7 Easy Steps" is a detailed step-by-step tutorial on filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, which determines the amount of Pell grant, federal student loans, work study, and other forms of need-based scholarship funding a student may receive. The tutorial is updated each year to reflect changes to the FAFSA.

The Financial Aid office also will sponsor Financial Aid workshops for current students during April.

"We're calling April 'FAFSA Month'," Graves said. Completing the application requires using federal tax returns, which are due in April.

The Wallace State Financial Aid application packet, financial aid announcements, information about federal financial aid, scholarships, and other forms of financial assistance, as well as a Net Price Calculator for estimating the cost to attend college, are all located on the college's Financial Aid page.

Students may stop by Lion Central, Wallace State's new One Stop Center for student enrollment services, located in the lobby of the Bailey Center, for assistance.

The priority deadline for students applying for financial aid for Fall 2013 is June 1.

For more information, visit www.wallacestate.edu or call 256-352-8238.

SPORTS

Area Team Spotlight: Vinemont Eagles, Lady Eagles

By: Shelton Thompson

VINEMONT- Just off of Hwy. 31, nestled in a thicket of trees, sits a baseball field that has been around seemingly forever. It has seen countless T-Ball, Little League and softball games from all age groups including a time when high school softball was still a slow pitch.

However, the field, named after legendary Vinemont baseball coach Mike Cupp, has a primary function of baseball and is the home field of the Vinemont Eagles.









Vinemont Eagles

The Eagles (14-7) have had some ups and downs this year which is to be expected when you lose some key elements to senior graduation, like Scotty Hipp behind the plate and Izaac Yarbrough on the mound, but Vinemont is a team that always fights thanks to the "Never Say Die" attitude instilled in them by head coach Chad Shannon.

"We are extremely inexperienced," coach Shannon said following a thrilling extra inning win over area rival Danville.

"We only had three players returning on Varsity starting the year."

The Eagles had a very good showing in the 2013 Cullman County Baseball Tournament after winning it the previous year.

The Eagles then began a small slide which was punctuated by a county series with Hanceville.

"After a pretty tough Hanceville series, our kids have really worked hard and we are starting to play better," said the coach. "We have a winning baseball tradition here and our kids are used to winning."

Vinemont is led by seniors Ty Jones and Duncan Hopper, both of whom are three-sport athletes. Jones is a formidable hitter at the plate who can muscle the ball to all fields. Hopper is a speedster who is a threat to swipe a bag anytime he is on the base paths.

"You can't replace those two kids," Shannon said of Jones and Hopper." They both have played for me since they were Sophomores. They know the system. They are great leaders and they absolutely hate to lose."

The Vinemont Eagles have come on strong as of late and seem to be getting hot at the right time.

With area play in full swing and the state tournament right around the corner, coach Shannon and his core of seniors have their eyes on the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow in the form of a Class 3A State Championship.

"Coming into the season we felt that we would be playing the best at the end of the year," said Shannon.

Vinemont Lady Eagles

Although their record may not reflect it, the Lady Eagles are a very formidable team. Vinemont has a chance to win each and every time they step on the diamond.

"We have played below our expectations and ability but we have played up to our competition," said head coach Mark Smothers.

The anchor for Vinemont is senior, Raven Christiansen, in the pitching circle. Strike-outs and ground balls are her MO and it has served her well during her career as a Lady Eagle.

"Raven is a very good pitcher because she does not walk people," Smothers said of his ace. "That takes pressure off of the defense. Her control is her best asset."

Leading the Lady Eagles at the plate is two seasoned seniors, Katie Fuller and Rachel Sellers. The duo of sluggers can pound out hits and knock in runs with anyone in the county.

"Katie has really hit the ball well this year and Rachel is starting to come around. Both of them are scrappers and they like to win," said Smothers.

The Vinemont Lady Eagle are gearing up for the Cullman County Softball Tournament that opens up on Monday, April 8th.

The Vinemont Lady Eagles host the tournament and would like nothing more than to win the tournament on their home field.

Collector's Corner: Panini Elite Extra Edition Baseball (Part 2 of 3)

By: Josh McBrayer
joshmcbrayer@cullmansense.com

Welcome collectors to the second installment of the Collector's Corner sponsored by Panini America, Inc.

In the first part of this three part series, we busted open a box of 2012-13 Panini Basketball with some great pulls.

Overview

This week we take a look at 2012 Elite Extra Edition Baseball. This product is LOADED with autographs from the top prospects in the game today. There are 20 packs per box and a guarantee of six autographs per box.

Being a collector myself, I have always heard of the somewhat mythical "hot box" where you get more hits in the box than the product states.

Well Panini puts this myth to bed by telling you to look for hot boxes, where instead of the normal six autos per box, they contain 10 autographs!

Also in the set are numbered die cut cards that make for an exciting chase in themselves because, come on, who doesn't love die cuts?

Product Breakdown

- 20 packs per box
- 5 cards per pack
- 6 autographs per box (hot boxes contain 10)

What We Pulled

Inserts - (11)

- Aspirations (2) Matt Price, Joey Gallo numbed to 200
- Status (1) Preston Tucker numbered to 100
- Building Blocks Duo (3) Tyler Naquin/Michael Wacha, Max Fried/Lucas Giolito, Steve Bean/Spencer Edwards
- Building Block Trio (1) Alex Yarbrough/Preston Beck/Max Muncy
- Yearbook (2) Addison Russell, Joey Gallo
- Elite Series (1) Courtney Hawkins
- Diamond Kings (1) Lance McCullers

Autographs - (7)

- Prospects (1) Jeremy Balts numbered to 799
- Prospects Green Ink (1) Lucas Giolito numbered to 10
- Back to the Future (1) Eddie Rosario numbered to 699
- 18U National Team (1) Bryson Brigman numbered to 299
- 15U National Team (1) Solomon Bates numbered to 125
- Status Die Cut (2) Seth Willoughby, Patrick Cantwell numbered to 50

Product Summary

Autographs: 5 out of 5

Memorabilia: 1 out of 5 (the only memorabilia in the set is of Carlos Correa)

Value: 5 out of 5

If you love baseball (like me), you will also love this product (like me). Panini Elite Extra Edition offers autographs from 50+ first round draft picks including the #1 overall pick, Carlos Correa.

Also included in the set are guys like Byron Buxton and Mike Zunino whose cards are already demanding a high premium on the secondary market.

The 15U and 18U USA Baseball Team autographs are a nice addition and also a fun auto sub set to chase.

I highly recommend this product to any baseball card collector. It is by far the best value on the market.





SPORTS

Good Hope Softball rises, Cullman baseball falls

By: Josh McBrayer
joshmcbrayer@cullmansense.com

The baseball/softball season is past the midway point and it has been a crazy ride thus far. The defending Cullman Count Baseball Champions, The Vinemont Eagles, started the season on a hot streak and found themselves ranked early but hit a skid for several games to drop out of the rankings. They have heated up again as of late and will surely find themselves ranked once more. The defending Cullman County Softball Champions, The Holly Pond Lady Broncos, have had a down year by their expectations and after being ranked in the second week of the season, they have since fallen from the polls.

The two mainstays in the ASWA poll have been the Good Hope Lady Raiders. They have been steadily climbing the ranks thanks to the incredible pitching of Cara Goodwin who has thrown an unfathomable NINE no-hitters this season. Speaking of pitching, Jordan Guthrie and Keegan Thompson, who is the number one baseball prospect in the state of Alabama, have kept the Cullman Bearcat in the top 10 all year long.

Good Hope Lady Raiders

The Good Hope Lady Raiders moved up one spot from #5 to #4 in the fourth ASWA poll of the year. The Lady Raiders are winning on hot bats and up and down their line up and the golden arm of Cara Goodwin who tossed a no-hitter last week against Cold Springs with the only blemish on her perfect game was lone walk. Good Hope is truly in mid-season form and looks to take down the Cullman County Softball crown on their way to a 3A State Title.

CLASS 3A
1. Pisgah (15-6)
2. American Christian (15-5)
3. Glencoe (18-5)
4. **Good Hope (20-5)**
5. Winfield (13-7)
6. White Plains (15-5)
7. Leeds (15-7)
8. Cordova (17-8-1)
9. Opp (13-3)
10. Saks (16-8-1)

Cullman Bearcats

Despite key area wins this past week, the Cullman Bearcats fell another spot, to #6, for the third consecutive week. The Cats swept the season series with 5A rival West Point and now will head North to play in Memphis, TN over the weekend.

CLASS 5A
1. Spanish Fort (21-4)
2. Faith Academy (24-2)
3. Russell County (27-6)
4. Southside-Gadsden (17-7)
5. Hartselle (26-8)
6. **Cullman (20-11)**
7. Homewood (21-1)
8. Etowah (15-8)
9. Chilton County (17-9)
10. Pinson Valley (20-9)

CullmanSense Sports Rundown

By: Josh McBrayer
joshmcbrayer@cullmansense.com

April 1st

BASEBALL
- Cold Springs 0 vs. Lamar County 11
- Game 1 – Muscle Shoals 4 vs. Cullman 6
- Game 2 – Muscle Shoals 3 vs. Cullman 11

SOFTBALL
- West Point 9 vs. Vinemont 5
- Hayden 3 vs. Holly Pond 2 (11 innings)

April 2nd

BASEBALL
- Vinemont 5 vs. Danville 2
  Vinemont 4 vs. Danville 14 (will appeal to AHSAA for possible pitching rule violation)
- Good Hope 1 vs. Hanceville 6
  Good Hope 10 vs. Hanceville 8
- Cullman 9 vs. West Point 0

SOFTBALL
- Good Hope 8 vs. Cold Springs 0 (Cara Goodwin threw a no-hitter, striking out 12 and giving up one walk)
- Hanceville 1 vs. Danville 17
- Vinemont 12 vs. Holly Pond 4
- Cullman 1 vs. Gardendale 10

SOCCER
- Cullman 2 vs. Walker 1 (Boys)

April 3rd

BASEBALL
- Cullman 8 vs. West Point 1

April 4th

BASEBALL
- CANCELLED DUE TO WEATHER

SOFTBALL
- CANCELLED DUE TO WEATHER

SOCCER
- Cullman 0 vs. Athens 3 (Girls)
- Cullman 0 vs. Athens 1 (Boys)

April 5th

BASEBALL
- Vinemont 8 vs. Danville 7 (8 innings)

April 6th

BASEBALL
- Cullman 8 vs. Bartlette (TN) 9
- Good Hope 8 vs. Hanceville 4

Give Us a Tweet
twitter.com/cullmansense

CP&R Receives AED Unit (from Front)

if electric shock is required and, if a shock is required, the device will automatically deliver the shock.

"We are very grateful to the National Center for Sports Safety for awarding us this AED unit and sports first aid equipment," stated Mayor Townson. "We hope that a situation never arises where we will need to use the AED unit, but if such a situation arises it is comforting to know that we have such an easy-to-use device to help save a life."

Founded in 2001 by renowned orthopedic surgeon Lawrence J. Lemak, M.D., the vision of the National Center for Sports Safety (NCSS) is to standardize the level of care available to athletes on and off the playing field. Their objective is to decrease the number and/or severity of sports injuries in youth.

They strive to do this by educating youth coaches in sports safety techniques and skills so that they will be confident and knowledgeable enough to respond to injuries and emergency situations appropriately until professional help arrives. In 2004, NCSS began their PREPARE course that is designed for educating coaches on sports safety.

These courses can be taken online or in a hands-on classroom setting. To learn more about the PREPARE course and how coaches can complete their sports education at no cost to them, visit www.sportssafety.org or call NCSS toll free at 866-508-6277 (NCSS).



AED Unit

Cullman County Sheriff's Office
Relay for Life 2013
Yard Sale

We are now accepting donation's for our 2nd Annual Relay for Life Yard Sale!
Yard sale will be in April
With the help of our community our Relay for Life 2012 yard sale was
Absolutely AMAZING!
GOAL for 2013 BIGGER!

Make a Difference! DONATE
Tax receipts will be available upon request.



If you have items you would like to donate:
PLEASE HELP
Drop them off at the Cullman County Sheriff's Office Monday thru Friday 8a.m. to 4p.m.
Drop-off deadline April 15th

Contact Jamie or Michelle at 256-734-0342 if you need further information.

THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR DONATION'S
BIG OR SMALL
EVERY DONATION HELPS!

JEB WILLIAMSON, CPA, LLC
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Ask us about NetClient Tax Portals
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Community Matters

A Walk through History

By: Jessica Norrell
jessicanorrell@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – King Pharr Canning Company, which processed locally grown vegetables before selling them nationally, was just one of the many stops during the first week of the April Historical Walking Tour.

Each Saturday during the month of April, members of the Cullman County Museum and Cullman Historical Society will take visitors on a historical walking tour through downtown Cullman. The tour, which lasts roughly an hour depending on group interaction and questions, begins promptly at 10 a.m. on the steps of the museum.

For the first April tour, former Burgermeister and Cullman Historical Society member Michael Sullins, headed up the group of more than 50 interested guests. Sullins, who is an avid lover of all things Cullman history, said he was pleased with the large draw.

"For the first tour, I think we had an amazing turnout," he said. "I think if the weather stays like it did today (Saturday), then we should have a great attendance each week."

The tour starts on the steps of the museum with an introduction to the city of Cullman and the tour guide. Guests sign in and are offered a history handout with pictures and a brief history of featured buildings and a bottle of water to take on the tour.

Once sufficiently prepped for the walk the group heads down to Downtown Cullman, which is only a few hundred feet away. This is where the crowd is educated on the history of the locations as well as many interesting stories to go along with the building or family history. Out-of-town guests as well as Cullmanites of several generations come along on the tours, a few of which even contribute their own personal stories from businesses and families that helped to build Cullman.

James Tidwell, whose family owned the Banana Supply in the warehouse district, was present for the tour and told stories of working for his family when the Banana Supply was in business, including stories about picking up the bananas and how some workers found tarantulas on them that remained from their origin.

The tour covers many of the businesses and homes lost to historical events such as the great fire of 1894 that took out 5 blocks and also highlights interesting facts about the City of Cullman.

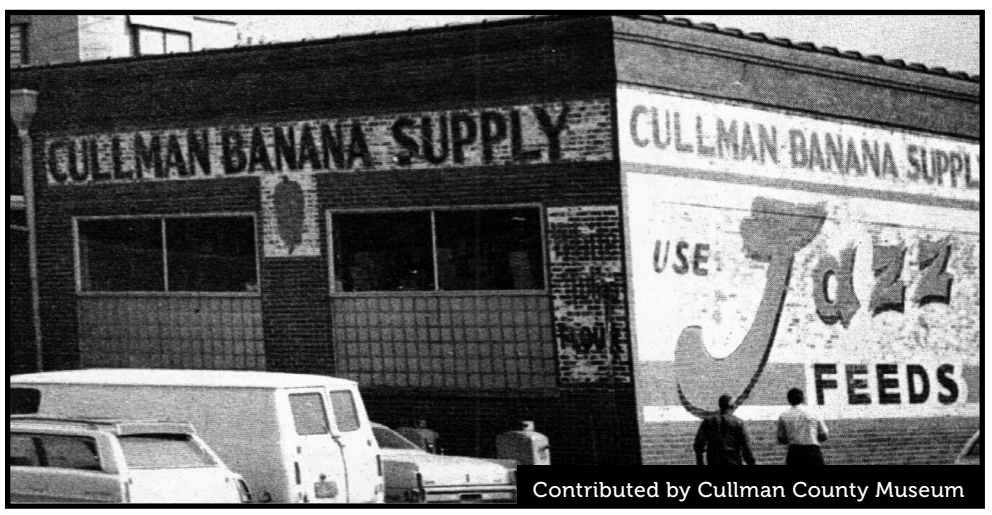
"We visited several great locations in the downtown area, but if you want to know about them all you'll have to make it to one of the tours," said Sullins.

"The best part about the tour is that it's informative, historical, and free. If you want to learn more about historic Cullman this is a wonderful place to start."

Before the tour was over the attendees were treated to a sweet Cullman staple – one only revealed to those on the tour – as well as a look inside Sacred Heart Church, with an interesting history itself.

The tour offers a fascinating look into the history of Cullman and how it developed into what it is today.

If you are interested in taking the tour, just show up at the Cullman County Museum by 10 a.m. one or all of the remaining Saturday's in April to enjoy your walk through Historic Downtown Cullman.



Contributed by Cullman County Museum









Dodge Ball Tournament!

ALABAMA credit union

RELAY FOR LIFE
American Cancer Society

You're invited to take part in a Dodge Ball tournament hosted by Alabama Credit Union benefiting Relay For Life. This event is a great way to promote healthy, active lifestyles for the members of our community- while supporting a great cause.

The Relay For Life Dodge Ball Tournament will take place on **Saturday, April 20, 2013** at Alabama Credit Union's Cullman branch. Each team must have at least 5 players, but can have up to 10 players (5 playing at a time, others are substitutes) for each 3-minute game. This is a double elimination tournament. Prizes will be awarded to winners of each division. Food and drinks will be available for purchase. Teams and fans will need to bring their own chairs and blankets for the tournament. If rained out, the tournament will be rescheduled for Saturday, April 27, 2013.

Entry Fees
Day of sign up $30 for 5 Players
$5 for every additional player

Early sign up $25.00 for 5 players
$5.00 for each additional player

Start Times By Age Group

6-9	10:00 a.m.
10-14	11:30 a.m.
15 & Over	1:00 p.m.

Teams may sign up by email, llegg@alabamacu.com, by mail or in person at Alabama Credit Union's Cullman Branch

Alabama Credit Union is not affiliated with nor endorsed by Relay for Life. All proceeds will go directly to Relay for Life to support the American Cancer Society in its fight for a cure.

2013- Relay For Life Dodge Ball Tournament Team Entry Form
Please complete and mail to Attn: Laurie Legg, 1901 Main Ave SW Cullman, AL 35055

We apologize for any inconvenience, but entry fees cannot be refunded for any reason.
All proceeds benefit Relay For Life

First Name _____ Street _____
Last Name _____ _____
Email Address _____ City _____
Phone Number _____ State _____
Team Name _____ Zip Code _____
Number of Players _____ Coach's Name _____

Division (Circle One)
6-9 10-14 15 & Over

Team Fee + Additional Players Fee = Total Enclosed _____

Please make checks payable to Relay For Life

Jam Sessions

By: Jessica Norrell
jessicanorrell@cullmansense.com

The first Friday of every month Vinemont Scout Center holds a Jam Session for local as well as a few out of town musicians to come together and showcase their talents and fellowship with other music lovers as well as enjoy snacks, food, and drinks brought by guests.

Multiple musicians with an array of instruments entertain a room full of friends and spectators as they enjoy refreshments (several that are homemade). A variety of music from folk, old time, bluegrass, as well as other genres are played as the musicians rotate to pick a song and lead while the other musicians back the lead performer up.

Mayor Melba Patton was in attendance and commented on how blessed they were to have the talent and crowd there. The jam sessions have been going on for the past eight years. One of the guitarists, John Morgan, started playing music in the third or fourth grade.

Morgan says "My father played so I tried to pick it up from him but I put it down for 20 or so years when I joined the Navy then I picked it back up in '94 when I got this guitar which is my father's old guitar…. I've been playing it ever since."

Morgan has been coming to the jam sessions in Vinemont for about three years and states that "if you ask these people in here most of them learned from their parents or grandparents and just picked it up and kept on going…we have as much fun up there playing, as everybody else does listening…sometimes I think we have more fun."

After giving me some background on his own music history John Morgan also beamed about his three daughters who also inherited the gift for music, on multiple instruments, all three are college graduates as well.

The jam sessions in Vinemont are open to all and are a great opportunity for good family fun and companionship with other music lovers.





Raised Bed Gardening

By: Jessica Norrell
jessicanorrell@cullmansense.com

The North Alabama Agriplex Heritage Center, near Peinhardt Farm, held a raised bed gardening workshop on Tuesday, April 2nd. The workshop illustrated the advantages to raised bed gardening as well as educated attendees on the maintenance including construction, location, soil & growing medium, bed size, plants & spacing, companion planting, planting times, fertilizer use, garden pests, and other useful information gardeners need to know.

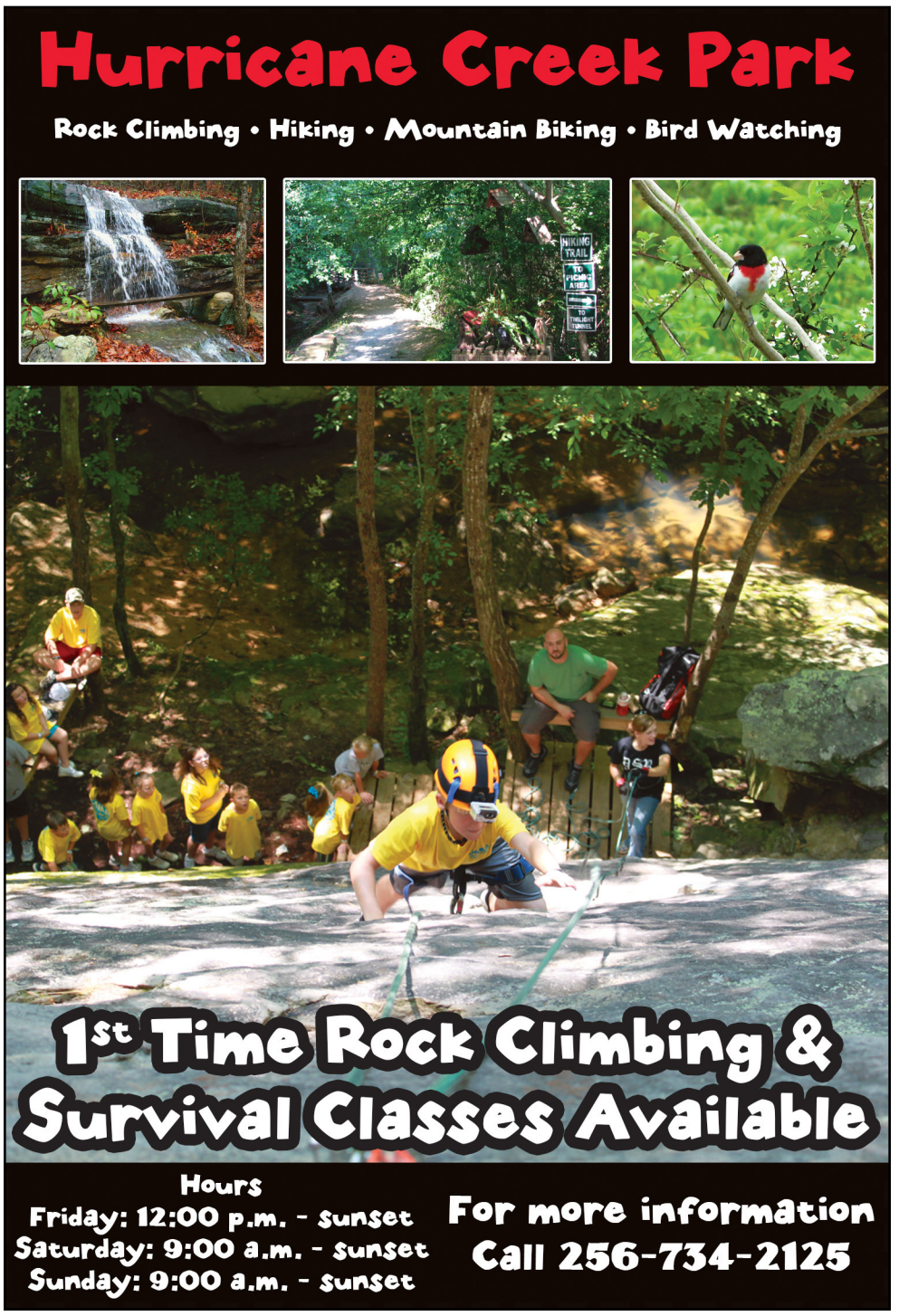
The workshop was hosted by Cullman County Extension, which offers research-based information, not product promotion.

Some of the advantages of having raised beds are that they great even for smaller yards. They make a very efficient use of garden space. It is also easier to control the type of soil in the raised bed. High quality soil mixes in raised beds drain better and produce higher yields of produce. Weed production is also reduced due to the fact that the sunlight doesn't penetrate to the bottom of the beds where the weed seeds lie as well as less garden disease due to the air around the roots of the plants. The workshop also covered soil mix ratios for ideal conditions in ornamental or vegetable gardens.

A few of the disadvantages discussed were that the raised beds dry out quicker than regular gardens. They need a supplemental water source, the ideal source being a rain barrel, which is on the agenda for a future workshop by the Cullman County Extension. Also, fire ants love raised beds, however instruction were given on how to take care of these pests. One of the recommend ant remedies was Extinguish, which is ant bait that completely gets rid of the ants and the queen within a couple months. Another special care for raised beds is crop rotation among beds. Otherwise completely cleaning out the soil in the beds every year will be necessary.

Raised beds are great for smaller yards and make controlling soil quality and planting easier. The Extension is a great resource that offers extensive information to anyone intending to start their own garden and grow their own vegetables or ornamental plants.





Community Calendar

Submit your event to calendar@cullmansense.com

Monday

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.

Cullman Community Band Spring Concert
Everyone is invited to Cullman Civic Center at 7 p.m. to hear the Cullman Community Band as they present their 'Spring Concert'. Please call Gary Taylor at 256-636-2754 for additional info. This is a free event open to everyone. Come support your local band and enjoy a great evening of music.

'Senior Spirit'
'Senior Spirit' is a program sponsored by Cullman Parks & Recreation and its many activities take place at the Donald E. Green Senior Center. All activities are FREE. There is a 'Fitness for Life' class year-round centered around stretching and walking to help boost your energy. These classes are offered each Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at various times 8 a.m.; 9:15 a.m.; 1:00 p.m.; and 2 p.m. (walking only). Tuesday has two classes, one at 8 a.m. with the stretching and walking; and a 4 p.m. walking only class. Everyone 50 and older is invited to join in the fun, fellowship, and fitness

Weekly Jam Session at Senior Center
There is a new 'fun' event added to the ongoing programs at the Donald E. Green Senior Center. From 1 p.m. until 5 p.m., there will be 'Jam Sessions' offered under the guidance of Don and Barbara Whitehead. Everyone is invited to bring your instruments and join in the playing or just sit and relax and enjoy the music. These musical gatherings are FREE so come on down and bring your friends.

Making Choices - BODYWORKS
A series of FREE sessions on healthy living will be offered. Sessions are 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

Cullman Caring for Kids in Need of Donations
If you are able to contribute to Cullman County's Community Food Band, the 'Caring for Kids' organization, they would be grateful. Non-perishable food items are needed, and of course cash enables them to purchase needed products to fill their empty shelves. Please call 256-739-1111 to see how to help or mail checks or money orders to Cullman Caring for Kids, P. O. Box 698, Cullman, Alabama 35056-0698. Thanks in advance for anything you can do.

Dinner with the Drum Line
The 4th Annual "Dinner with the Drum Line" sponsored by CHS Band Drum Line will begin at 6:30p.m. at a cost $15.00 per person. Come watch the CHS Drum Line perform in the gym and then join us for a BBQ meal afterwards in the lunchroom, catered by Johnny's BBQ. Carryout's are available upon request when purchasing the tickets. Please contact Elizabeth Manning Collicott for tickets and information at 256-595-3566. All proceeds benefit Band Drum Line of CHS. Come enjoy a great musical show and of course, great BBQ.

Dog Obedience Class
Cullman Parks & Recreation will sponsor a 7 week Dog Obedience class with Barbara Guettner as instructor from March 26 through May 7. Classes for puppies start at 6 p.m. with adult dogs classes at 7 p.m. Please contact the Civic Center for further info at 256-734-9157.

Genealogy meeting
There is a free Genealogy meeting each Tuesday in the library basement at Wallace State College. This workshop runs from 5 p.m. until 8 p.m. and is to help new researchers and for informal study. Please call Von for additional information at 256-739-2843.

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.

Wednesday

'Wii Bowling' at the Donald E. Green Senior Center
The entertainment for senior citizens is 'Wii Bowling' at the Donald E. Green Senior Center starting at 1 p.m. Everyone is invited. Come enjoy some exercise (but not too physical!) and fellowship with friends. They bowl every Wednesday and Friday afternoons at 1 p.m.

Girls & Boys Club at Spirit Life
Spirit Life Church will host a Girls & Boys Club meeting for those 12 and under every Wednesday beginning at 7 p.m. at the church. All are welcome. Please call the church for further info 256-739-3326.

'Divorce Care for Kids'
A 'Divorce Care for Kids' program to help youths from 6 to 12 years of age is available to help youths whose family is going through, or has gone through, divorce. This FREE program takes place each Wednesday night at 7 p.m. at the Church. All workbooks and materials are included and presented to each attendee in class. Additional info is available by calling the Church at 256-737-0800 or check out Daystar Children's Ministry website at www.kidspowercompany.org.

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

Thursday

Overeaters Anonymous Meeting
Members of Cullman's Overeaters Anonymous will gather at 4:45 p.m. and they invite others interested to come check out their group. They meet weekly, both on Thursday evenings at 4:45 p.m. and/or on Monday mornings at 9:30 a.m. These meetings are conducted at the Carriage House of Grace Episcopal Church. Folks are invited to attend either one of the group meetings, depending on your free time.

New Vision Support Group
There is a New Vision Support Group which will meet at 10 a.m. and everyone interested in this subject is welcome to attend. The program is at Hilltop Community Center. Additional information is available by calling Linda Estes, 256-739-4653.

Friday

'Wii Bowling' at the Donald E. Green Senior Center
The entertainment for senior citizens is 'Wii Bowling' at the Donald E. Green Senior Center starting at 1 p.m. Everyone is invited. Come enjoy some exercise (but not too physical!) and fellowship with friends. They bowl every Wednesday and Friday afternoons at 1 p.m.

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

Spring Folly Visual Arts Exhibition Reception
Everyone is invited to attend a Reception and Presentation of Awards following the two week 'Spring Folly' Visual Arts Exhibition and competition at 10 a.m. at the Burrow Center for the Fine & Performing Arts lobby. This event is free and is a wonderful way to honor our local artistic talents and view their artwork.

Safe Kids Expo
There will be a 'Safe Kids Expo' sponsored by Brooks Place at Sportsmans Lake Park from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. This is a free event and everyone welcome.

Cullman County Poultry & Egg Association Annual Meeting
Members of the Cullman County Poultry & Egg Association will gather at Cullman Civic Center for the annual dinner and meeting. All poultry growers and families are invited to registration beginning at 5 p.m. with dinner served at 6 p.m. Special guest speaker for the evening will be Jason Simpson, who serves as chief meteorologist for WHNT News 19 in Huntsville. There also will be a drawdown between 200 ticket holders for a new John Deere Gator. Tickets are $50.00 each and only 200 will be sold. Funds raised will be put toward community projects of the association. For additional information and to reserve your tickets please contact the Cullman County Extension Office at 256-737-9386.

April Walking Tours of Cullman
Come take advantage of the Cullman County Museum's guided walking tours of Cullman each Saturday morning during April. Tours start at 10 a.m. at the museum and last about one hour. For additional information please contact Drew or Julie at 256-739-1258. Mark your calendars for this annual springtime event.

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!

Next Monday

Cullman Kiwanis Club
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Looking Ahead

May 9-11th 2013
Cullman StrawberryFest 2013
Join us at 211 2nd Ave NE, Cullman for live music, Arts and Crafts Show, Car Show, Antique Tractor Display, Great Food, and Local Produce, located at the Festhalle Market Platz, Depot Park, and the Cullman County Museum. Music Guest: Three on a String, MP4theband, The Hit Men Roy Crawford and the Cullman County Bluegrass, Mean Mary, Street Level, Round 2, and more to be announced. Free Admission. Call 256-739-1258 for more information.

Community Matters

Vote Now!

Do you support ending Saturday mail delivery?

Last Week's Poll:

Do you still have a landline phone?

Yes - 36%
No - 64%

Cast your ballot at cullmansense.com/poll

Reflections of History



Stiefelmeyer Building — Contributed by Cullman County Museum

Do you have an old photo or recognize this one?
E-mail us at history@cullmansense.com

Visit us online at CullmanSense.com

This Week in History Apr. 8 - Apr. 14

April 8th

- 1862 – John D. Lynde patents aerosol dispenser
- 1913 – 17th amendment, requiring direct election of senators, ratified
- 1991 – Michael Landon announces he has inoperable cancer of pancreas
- 2011 – One hour before the deadline, the U.S. Congress reaches a deal on the 2011 U.S. federal budget, avoiding a government shutdown

April 9th

- 1833 – First tax-supported public library opens in Peterborough, New Hampshire
- 1912 – Titanic leaves Queenstown, Ireland for New York
- 1963 – Winston Churchill becomes first honorary U.S. citizen
- 2012 – Facebook purchases Instagram, a photo sharing application, for $1 billion

April 10th

- 1790 – U.S. Patent system forms
- 1877 – First human cannonball act performed in London
- 1961 – Adolf Eichmann tried as a war criminal in Israel
- 2012 – The American company Apple, Inc. announces it is worth over $600 billion dollars, making the technology company the largest in the world by market capitalization

April 11th

- 1881 – Spelman College founded
- 1921 – Iowa imposed first state cigarette tax
- 1951 – President Truman fires General Douglas McArthur
- 2011 – In France, a law banning wearing the burqa and hijab goes into effect

April 12th

- 1861 – Fort Sumter, South Carolina is shelled by Confederacy, starting Civil War
- 1934 – Highest velocity wind ever recorded on Mount Washington, New Hampshire, 231 mph
- 1981 – Maiden voyage of space shuttle Columbia
- 2012 – U.S. company Google, Inc., announces its 2012 first quarter earnings rose by more than 24%, and net profits increased to $8.14 billion

April 13th

- 1796 – First elephant arrives in U.S. from India
- 1883 – Alfred Packer convicted of cannibalism
- 1960 – France becomes fourth nuclear nation exploding an A-Bomb in Sahara
- 2011 – Former President of Egypt Hosni Mubarak and sons, Alaa and Gamal, are detained for 15 days of questioning regarding charges of corruption and abuse of power

April 14th

- 1614 – Pocahontas, daughter of chief Powhatan, marries planter John Rolfe
- 1865 – President Abraham Lincoln shot in Ford's Theater by John Wilkes Booth
- 1964 – Sandy Koufax throws his 9th complete game without allowing a walk
- 1989 – 1,100,000,000thChinese born

This Mother's Day Get Her Something That Lasts

(StatePoint) This Mother's Day, skip the bouquet and get mom something she will really use.

Whether she's a serious chef wanting to expand her culinary repertoire, or an everyday cook hoping to save time on food prep, use the gift-giving opportunity to beef-up Mom's kitchen.

For example, a high-quality zester or grater will help make following trickier recipes a snap.

Or a knife sharpener, which no kitchen should be without, will extend the life of her knives, and make for a safer more efficient kitchen. Look for an all-purpose sharpener designed to restore knives to their original angles. For great gift ideas, visit EdgewareProducts.com.

After other mothers' flowers have wilted and chocolates consumed, your gift will keep on giving.



Community Matters

Community Action Partnership of North Alabama provides grant to WSCC students

By: Gail Crutchfield

WSCC Contributor

HANCEVILLE, Ala. – A number of students at Wallace State Community College are one step closer to reaching their employment goals thanks to a grant from the Community Action Partnership of North Alabama.

The agency, which supports 15 North Alabama counties, recently partnered with WSCC to provide grants to students that will help them as they work to become employed in their chosen field.

The first three checks were distributed to students in the Nursing, Industrial Electrical, and Automotive Technician programs.

Michael Tubbs, CEO of Community Action Partnership of North Alabama, said their goal was to be able to provide assistance that will result in employment outcomes for students and help them reach a level of economic independence. This program, he said, will help bridge gaps that traditional funding programs may not cover.

Tubbs said students may sometimes encounter barriers or hurdles that seem too hard to overcome. "But they're not so big when you have support."

The grants are open to students from Cullman, Lawrence, and Morgan Counties. Eligible students can receive up to $1,500 a year, and it can be used for things such as tuition for non-credit courses, testing, software programs, or even tools.



Michael Tubbs, CEO of Community Action Partnership of North Alabama, left, presents a check that will provide grants to Wallace State Community College students Owen Green, Tiffany Webster and Eric Raney.

Owen Green will use his grant to pay for tools to use in the automotive technician program. Tiffany Webster will use her grant to help pay tuition for her Certified Nursing Assistant courses.

Eric Raney will use his grant to pay for software programs he uses in the Industrial Electronics program.

"It's very helpful and much appreciated," said Green.

"Some programs run $400 and $500…and that's a pretty substantial amount," Raney said.

Suzanne Harbin, director of advancement, said she is grateful for the partnership with Community Action. "We appreciate the opportunity to assist students with this additional source of funding."

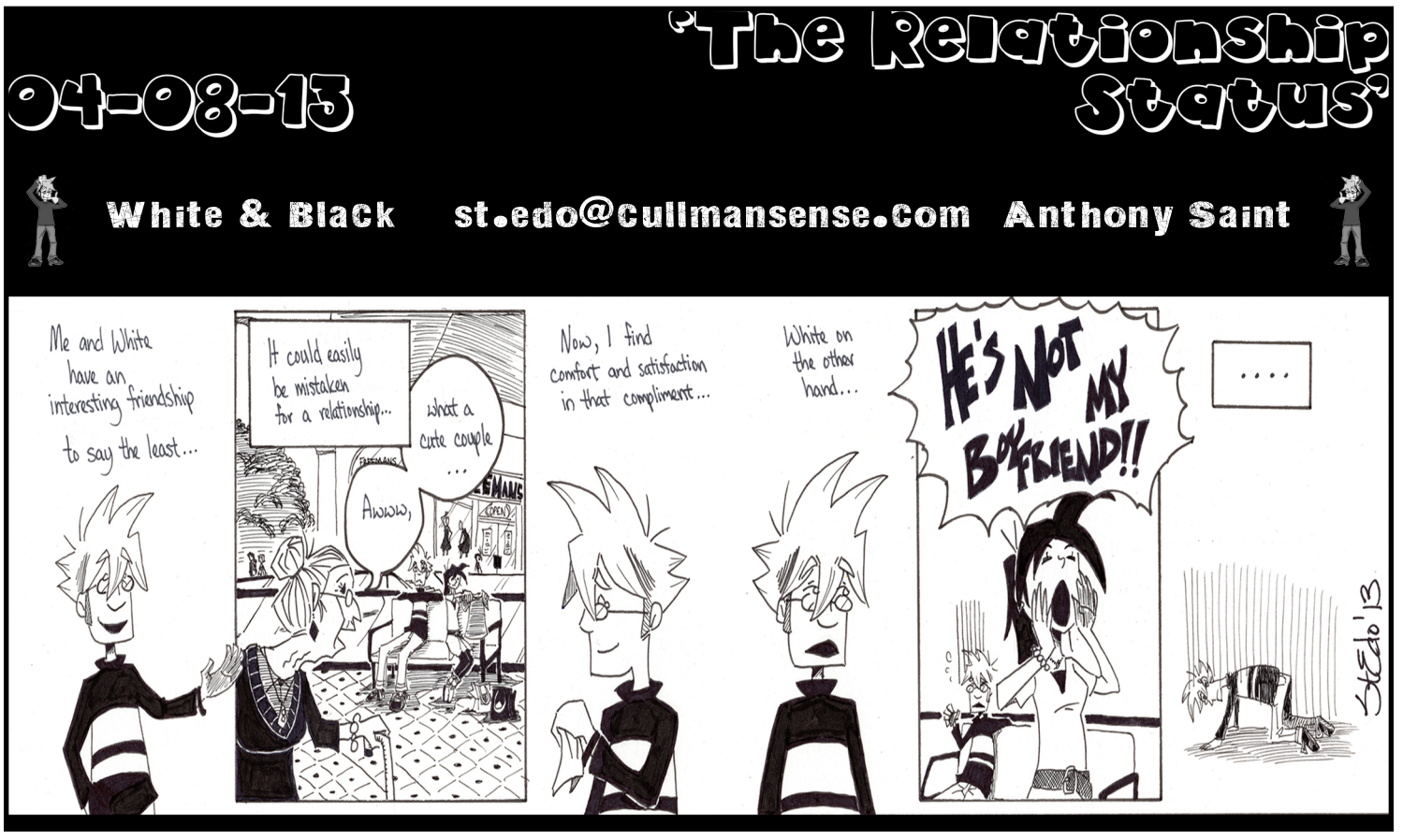
Top apply for the grants, students can contact Christine Wiggins at 256.352.8462. The process includes filling out an application and providing additional documentation, such as proof of income and a driver's license.

cpr& cullman city parks & recreation

WHAT'S ON DECK AT PARKS AND REC....

www.cullmanrecreation.org
256-734-9157

- **Yoga Classes**: Stay fit and relax with yoga held at the Civic Center every Tuesday night at 6:00pm with Fabian Holland. Six classes for $40 or $30 for seniors. Call 256-734-9157 for details..
- **Dog Obedience Class:** Classes held on Tuesdays, beginning March 26. $65 for 6 week session; puppy class held at 6pm and adult at 7pm. Call 256-734-9157.
- **Nia Dance Fitness Classes:** Includes yoga stretching, anti-aging tips, and more with instructor Ann Caretti. Class is held Tuesdays at 10:00am at the Cullman Civic Center. Call 256-531-4429 for more details.
- **Oil Painting and Acrylic Classes:** Classes are held Mondays from 6:30-9:30pm at the Cullman Art Guild with instructor Delancey Gardner. Class is $20 per month, call 256-734-9157 for details.
- **Camp Cullman Summer Camp Registration:** Registration will open on April 1 for Camp Cullman. Ages 12 & under can register at the Cullman Wellness & Aquatic Center.
- **Lifeguard Certification Classes:** Held at the Cullman Wellness & Aquatic Center April 22-May 9. Cost of the class is $200 which includes CPR and all certification. Must be 15 to take the class. Call 256-775-SWIM (7946) for details.
- **Ballroom, Latin, and Swing Dance Lessons:** Classes will be held April 4-25 on Tuesday nights at the Cullman Civic Center with Instructor Mack Wilson. Call the Civic Center for details.
- **Autism Walk:** The Therapeutic Recreation program and the Autism Society hold this event Saturday, April 27 at the Wallace State track at 8:30am. Games and other activities will also be held. Call Hollie at 256-734-9157 for details.
- **Cullman Golf Course Spring Invitational:** The Cullman Golf Course will hold its spring invitational tournament on Saturday, April 27 and Sunday, April 28. Call 256-739-6762 for details.
- **Senior Spirit Travel:** Last day to register for Loretta Lynn Ranch trip on June 6 and New York City Trip on July11-17 will be May 3. Call for full details on both trips at 256-734-4803.





Community Matters

Talk Early, Often and Prevent Sexual Violence

By: Noah Chandler
noahchandler@cullmansense.com

VSOC hoping Sexual Assault Awareness month will raise awareness, prevent sexual violence

CULLMAN – As April arrives, so do the bees, a multitude of budding flowers and plants, warmer weather, and a desire to explore the outside world. However, for many young children and women April is just another month to endure.

A statutory offense that provides it is a crime to knowingly cause another person to engage in an unwanted sexual act by force or threat. Or for lack of better words, sexual assault.

"Sexual Assault Awareness Month is observed yearly in April," said Leah Costello, Victim Services of Cullman Sexual Assault Program Coordinator.

According to the National Sexual Violence Resource Center, the official 2013 SAAM campaign national slogan is: "It's time … to talk about it. Talk early, talk often. Prevent sexual violence." The campaign focuses on healthy sexuality and child sexual abuse prevention.

"April is used to raise public awareness about sexual violence and to educate communities and individuals on how to prevent sexual violence," she said.

"By dedicating the entire month of April to Sexual Assault Awareness it allows organizations like VSOC along with state and national organizations to work together and highlight sexual violence as a major public health, human rights, and social justice issue, and to reinforce the need for prevention efforts."

Costello listed some statistics from Cullman County, the State of Alabama, and the nation regarding sexual assaults.

"In 2011 there were 41 rapes reported to law enforcement in Cullman County and 1404 reported in the state," said Costello. "In 2010 in the U.S. there were 188,830 victims of sexual violence who reported to law enforcement. "

Among the statistics were:

- Rape is the most under-reported crime;63% of sexual assaults are not reported to police.
- In 8 out of 10 cases of rape, the victim knows her perpetrator.
- 1 in 5 women and 1 in 71 men will be raped at some point in their lives.
- One in four girls and one in six boys will be sexually abused before they turn 18 years old.

"Survivors of sexual violence experience trauma, and each person reacts differently to trauma. In no way was this violent act your fault," she said. "Know you are not alone, there are trained professionals available to answer questions or just talk."

Costellow said the staff at VSOC are always available regardless of the time or day. The group offers hospital accompaniment, group or individual counseling, victim advocacy, court advocacy, and a shelter, which are all free services, and the information stays confidential.

If you need to speak to someone please call VSOC crisis line at 256-734-6100. To make an appointment with a counselor please call 256-775-2600.

NASA Selects Explorer Investigations for Formulation

By: J.D. Harrington

WASHINGTON – NASA's Astrophysics Explorer Program has selected two missions for launch in 2017: a planet-hunting satellite and an International Space Station instrument to observe X-rays from stars.

The Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) and Neutron Star Interior Composition Explorer (NICER) were among four concept studies submitted in September 2012.

NASA determined these two offer the best scientific value and most feasible development plans.

TESS will use an array of telescopes to perform an all-sky survey to discover transiting exoplanets ranging from Earth-sized to gas giants, in orbit around the nearest and brightest stars in the sky.

Its goal is to identify terrestrial planets in the habitable zones of nearby stars.

Its principal investigator is George Ricker of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge.

NICER will be mounted on the space station and measure the variability of cosmic X-ray sources, a process called X-ray timing, to explore the exotic states of matter within neutron stars and reveal their interior and surface compositions.

The principal investigator is Keith Gendreau of NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md.

"The Explorer Program has a long and stellar history of deploying truly innovative missions to study some of the most exciting questions in space science," said John Grunsfeld, NASA's associate administrator for science in Washington.

"With these missions we will learn about the most extreme states of matter by studying neutron stars and we will identify many nearby star systems with rocky planets in the habitable zone for further study by telescopes such as the James Webb Space Telescope."

NASA's Explorer program is the agency's oldest continuous program and is designed to provide frequent, low-cost access to space using principal investigator-led space science investigations relevant to the Science Mission Directorate's astrophysics and heliophysics programs.

Satellite mission costs are capped at $200 million and space station mission costs are capped at $55 million.

The program has launched more than 90 missions.

It began in 1958 with the Explorer 1, which discovered the Earth's radiation belts. Another Explorer mission, the Cosmic Background Explorer, led to a Nobel prize.

NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center manages the program for the agency's Science Mission Directorate in Washington.

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Phlebotomy and Certified Nursing Assistant Training Begins in April

By: Kristen Holmes
WSCC Contributor

Hanceville, Ala.—At Wallace State, registration continues for upcoming non-credit health care training. Courses are 10 weeks in length. Phlebotomy classes begin April 16 and Certified Nursing Assistants classes begin April 23.

Both programs lead to certification. New tuition assistance is available. Call 256-352-8283 for tuition assistance and 256-352-8172 for program information.

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Cullman County / City Clean-up
April 20, 2013
Rain Date April 27, 2013
8:00 a.m. – 12 noon
Dumpster Locations:

West Elementary
East Elementary
Cullman Middle School
Cullman High School
Cold Springs School
Baileyton Town Hall
Colony Community Center
Crane Hill Sulphur Springs
Dodge City Fire Station
Fairview Community Park (across from Fairview Superette)
Garden City maintenance area
Good Hope Town Hall
Hanceville behind City Hall
Holly Pond - Lions Club Park
Jones Chapel School
West Point Town Hall

All dumpsters will be manned for your convenience

Items we Can Not take are tires, paint, and chemicals

55 gallon drums must have multiple punched holes or they are not allowed

Please contact your local Town Hall or City Hall for bags (bags furnished by State PALS).
We are asking all citizens to pick up the roads around their homes as far as possible in each direction.
Place this garbage with your weekly garbage and please be safe.

For more information contact:
Carl English, cenglish@topreamerica.com
Mike Krassick, 256-385-2454
Cherrie Haney, chaney@co.cullman.al.us, 256-775-2906

Community Matters

Gov. Bentley Signs Job Creation Legislation (from Front)

citizens to bring suit against manufacturers, but will also protect manufacturers from out-of-state and foreign plaintiffs who may seek to file suit in Alabama simply because the manufacturer located its plant here.

"Without this bill, suppliers could very easily choose to build in Florida or Mississippi, which already have similar laws," Governor Bentley said.

"With this legislation, Alabama is now on a level playing field, and we can recruit more supplier jobs for people in our state."

The legislation was sponsored by Senator Cam Ward, Senator Vivian Figures, and Representative Bill Poole.

"Governor Bentley and Commerce Secretary Canfield have made job creation their top priority, and I am glad to do my part to help in their vision," Senator Ward said.

"This will do so much to even the playing field with neighboring states to help attract Tier 1 and Tier 2 suppliers to Alabama. It is common sense business legislation like this that I have focused on during my time in the Senate."

"We are now set and ready to go towards realizing the thousands of jobs that Airbus suppliers will bring to Alabama," Senator Figures said.

"I enjoyed working on this legislation with the bi-partisan team to make this a reality. Coming together to work out all of the details with the leadership of Governor Bentley and others has been a joy, knowing that Alabama will benefit greatly economically."

"I am excited at the prospect of bringing Airbus and the aerospace industry to Alabama and am proud to have played a role in passing this important legislation," Representative Poole said.

"The recruitment of the aerospace industry to our state has the potential to be transformative in the same way that the automotive industry has changed our state. The aerospace industry will bring thousands of quality jobs with good wages and benefits that will benefit our citizens for many years to come."

The Alabama Commercial Aviation Business Improvement Act provides that the manufacturer would be liable for causes of action occurring no more than 12 years after delivery of the aircraft to the first purchaser or 12 years from the replacement or addition of a component part that was the cause of an accident.

If the cause of action occurs within the 12-year deadline, the plaintiff still has two years to bring the action.

The aerospace industry is among 11 business sectors targeted for growth in Accelerate Alabama, the state's long-term plan for economic development.

"We want Alabama to be the center of the new aerospace corridor that will be created by the announcement that Airbus will build its U.S. plant in the state," said Greg Canfield, Secretary of the Alabama Department of Commerce. "This legislation keeps us competitive and on track to locate the suppliers and new jobs that Airbus will bring to the area."

The Alabama Department of Commerce estimates that the Airbus plant will have a $409 million annual impact on the state's economy.

In addition to the 1,000 jobs provided by Airbus and the 3,000 construction-related jobs, the Department of Commerce also estimates another 3,700 Alabamians could be employed by Airbus suppliers locating in the state.

Back to the Market

By: Noah Chandler
noahchandler@cullmansense.com

Festhalle Market Platz opens for the spring season

CULLMAN – Tomatoes, homemade jams, sourdough bread, sweet potatoes, fresh air, and a bright sky greeted both patrons and gardeners alike at the Festhalle Market Platz Saturday, as the first official Saturday sales at the Cullman Farmers Market commenced.

Since Cullman has always been an agricultural stronghold in the state, Market Manager Jimmy Simms said it was a natural progression which led to the creation of the Festhalle Market Platz.

"Farming in general is so important to Cullman and Cullman County. For many years we have been the number one Agriculture County in the state of Alabama," said Simms. "And it's funny that during that time there was never a solid farmers market for the city of Cullman."

The lack of a permanent location for farmers to sell their goods, combined with a new leadership at the city level led to the creation of the market in 2007.

"The city council thought on this for a long, long time and eventually, back in 2006, decided that it was time for the City of Cullman to have a farmers market at a certain place that would be theirs (farmers)," said Simms. "The farmers got behind it, the community got behind it, and people have been coming ever since. We started in 2007 and like with everything we had our aches and pains but it has grown steadily each year."

Lee and Marie Hart of the A-OK Farm have been selling their goods at the market since its inception seven seasons back. The couple has made a lot of good friends under the timber structure, a place Marie favors any day over the field.

"I enjoy this part much more than the field work," laughed Marie. "We have tomatoes, okra, sweet potatoes, lettuce, homemade jams, and vinegars. Basically we are a one stop show here."

Phillip Massey of White City came out to the market's first spring Saturday to pick up a few items for an all-time favorite lunch creation. "Well, Ms. Betty makes a great sour dough bread, so I came by to pick up a loaf," said Massey. "I've got my tomatoes too, so now it's time to head to the house to fry up that bacon that's been sitting in the refrigerator so we can have a good lunch."



The Cullman Farmers Market is open from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. For vendor information please visit, www.cullmancity.org/FesthalleMarketPlatz.htm. To contact Jimmy Simms, call either 256-590-2003 or 256-734-9157, or you may also send an e-mail to jsimms@cullmancity.org.

