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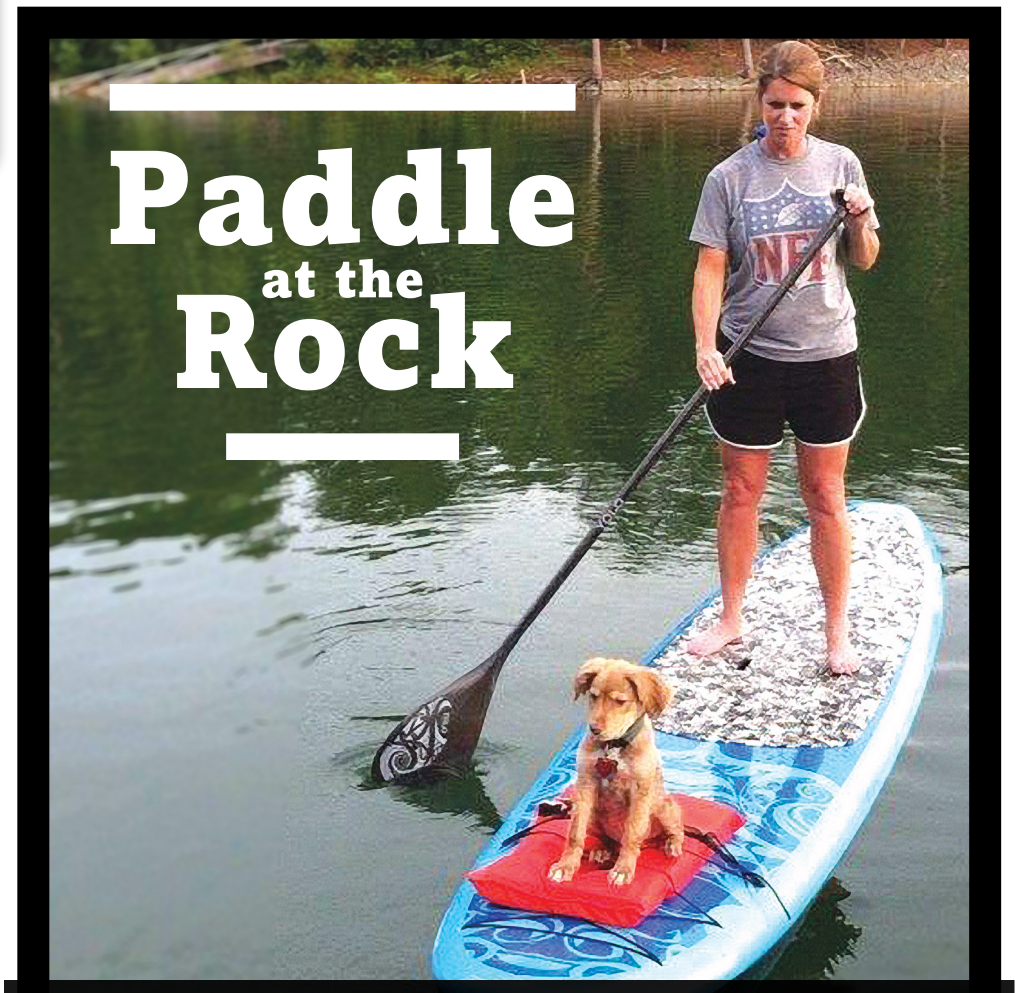
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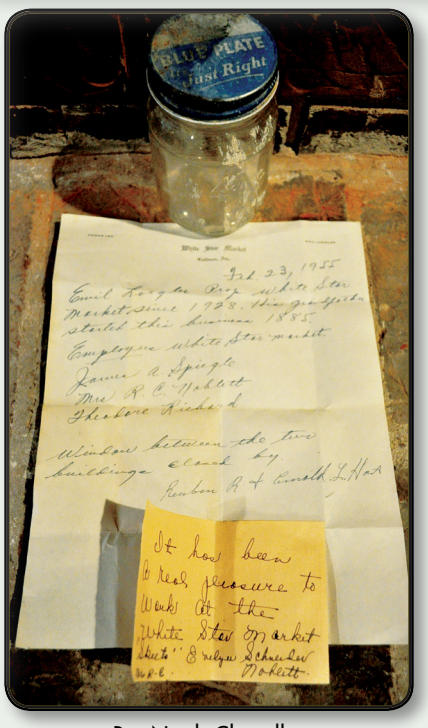
JAN HARRIS TO STEP DOWN SEPT. 1



Area paddle boarders compete for a good a cause p6

CRACKING OPEN HISTORY

TIME CAPSULE FOUND



By: Noah Chandler
noahchandler@cullmansense.com

Local construction company discovers time capsule in wall

CULLMAN – For the men at Nearen Construction taking down walls is just all part of a day's work. However, unearthing a time capsule isn't something that happens too often.

"Nearen Construction p12

GAY MARRIAGE

The
Woman Trying to Change Alabama's Gay Marriage Ban



By: Jake Grovum • Stateline

Like the rest of the country, Alabama Rep. Patricia Todd kept a close eye on the Supreme Court this week as it prepared to announce a pair of landmark decisions in the debate over same-sex marriage. Todd is Alabama's first and only openly gay state elected official. The Democrat and her partner had already decided to get married in Massachusetts this fall, regardless of what the high court decided. Now that the court has struck down the federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), Todd isn't just planning a wedding—she's contemplating a lawsuit.

The court did not invalidate the same-sex marriage bans in place in Alabama and three-dozen other states, but legal experts say it did open the door to lawsuits challenging those bans. Soon after p12

Street Closing

[CSX]

By: Leanne West

CSX Railroad has informed the City of Cullman that they plan to close Mitchell Road, between U.S. Highway 31 (2nd Avenue NW) and Childhaven Road NE, on July 8 & 9, 2013. CSX will be performing repair work around the railroad tracks on Monday before repaving the area on Tuesday. Those who routinely travel in that area should arrange to take a different route on those days.

WEIGH IN

Should the ban be changed?

POLL

Cast Your Vote p9

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PRINTED LOCALLY @ PRINTING Alabama Web Press

Bruce Tenison – WSCC's Advanced Visualization Center Director Designs Software Tools with Broad Appeal

By: Gail Crutchfield • WSCC Contributor


Tenison

HANCEVILLE – You give Bruce Tenison a problem to figure out and he'll work on it until he's discovered how to fix it.

As the director of eLearning and the Advanced Visualization Center (AVC) at Wallace State Community College, that tenacity pays off not only for Wallace State, but for other institutions as well.

When the old Web CT learning management program was no longer available for use after a buyout by Blackboard, instructors lost a convenient way to check messages sent by students in their classes.

"They would have to go into every one of their courses and check their inbox, which was a time-consuming task," Tenison said of the results. "So I wrote the My Messages building block, to provide a window into all the messages for all the courses they're enrolled. They click on it and go right into it."

Word got out, and several colleges and universities asked Tenison for his building block, including Valencia College in Orlando, Fla., the University of Tennessee, and California State University, Chico.

"A lot of people said it was a lifesaver because as they transitioned from Web CT to Blackboard, their faculty were up in arms because they don't have this particular feature," he said.

Tenison sees projects like those as goodwill projects, plus it fulfills that need to fix things.

"I'm such a geek," he said. "I like to code, I like to program. It's a puzzle."

Tenison's ability to solve puzzles came naturally to him, much to the amusement – and sometimes astonishment - of his parents. The Bay Minette, Ala., native said one of the stories his late parents used to love to tell about him involved the family's first computer purchase back in 1984.

"We spent I think $500 on a machine," he said of that first Tandy computer. "And for us that was a lot of money."

About a week after buying it, Tenison said he needed to know how it worked.

"I was playing with it and my mom came into the room and I had every component...pulled out and spread all over the carpet," Tenison recalled. "She went back into the dining room and everybody said her face was completely white and she said, 'You're not going to believe what he's done. He's taken the whole thing apart.'

"By that afternoon I had it back together and running," Tenison said.

That was the beginning of his work with computers. A few years later he was accepted into the Electrical Engineering program at Auburn University, where he earned a bachelor's and master's degree.

After leaving Auburn, he was hired at Reid State Technical College where he advanced from instructor in industrial electronics to department chair for the computer science program. He then joined the staff of WSCC as the director of campus technology after moving to Birmingham, before taking the job as director of eLearning and AVC.

As director of AVC, he helps instructors utilize three-dimensional and stereoscopic imaging into their curriculum. It provides students with a "hands-on" lesson but without using any actual materials and without the risk of damaging expensive equipment.

For example, in a welding class the student can use 3D imagery to complete a virtual welding project.

"If they damaged the equipment virtually, they just hit the reset button and start over," Tenison said.

With the AVC department off to a solid start, Tenison's talent for fixing things and the college's recent migration to the SunGuard Banner administrative software system has meant, most recently, that the IT department has come back under his leadership as well. One thing is certain – he'll never be bored.

"Wallace State, long ago, earned a reputation for hiring the best of the best. Bruce Tenison has been a wonderfully creative and innovative addition to the Wallace State faculty tapestry," said Wallace State President Vicki Hawsey.

The Cullman Amateur Radio Club
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CARC HAMFEST 2013

to be held
Saturday, July 27, 2013
8am to 2pm
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ADMISSION $5.00
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(1 Free Prize Ticket with paid admission)

TABLES $10.00 ea
Setup starts at 7am

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Prize Tickets: Donation $1 each or 11 tickets for $10

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CRMC Update

Events at CRMC

CRMC Foundation Announces 22nd Annual Golf Tournament

By: Maria Stanford

CULLMAN — The CRMC Foundation announces the 22nd Annual Million Dollar Hole-In-One Golf Extravaganza scheduled for Monday, September 9 at TP Country Club with registration beginning at 11 a.m. The Foundation is looking for players and sponsors so don't miss your opportunity to register now for this fun afternoon outing. The day's activities will include a putting contest, helicopter ball drop, the Million Dollar Hole-In-One qualifying and final shoot out contests. Various levels of sponsorships are available, teams can sign-up to play for $500 or individuals can sign up for $125 each. Contributions are tax-deductible. For more, contact 256-737-2565 or crmcfoundation@crmchospital.com.

Upcoming Bosom Buddies Support Group Meeting Announced

By: Lindsey Dossey

The Bosom Buddies Support Group offers support to individuals affected by Breast Cancer.

The group will hold its next meeting on Monday, July 15 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).

For more information contact group coordinator Mary Dyer at (256) 734-8729.

For a complete list of upcoming support groups and events at Cullman Regional Medical Center visit the online Calendar of Events at www.crmchospital.com.

Giving to the Cause Blood donors needed

By: Lindsey Dossey

CULLMAN – Cullman Regional Medical Center is hosting a Community Blood Drive on Monday, July 8 from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m. Donations will be accepted on the LifeSouth Community Blood Center Blood Donor Bus located at the Main Entrance of the hospital – 1912 AL Highway 157, Cullman, AL 35058.

Donors must be at least 17 years old, or 16 year-olds may donate with written parental consent, weigh at least 110 pounds and not have donated blood within the last 56 days. There is no upper age limit to donate blood. Donors will receive a LifeSouth Recognition item, a coupon for Papa Murphys and a free Game of Bowling from the Cullman Bowling Center.

For more information, visit lifesouth.org or call the local LifeSouth Donor Office at 256-736-1594.

What's Online

U Tailgate plan creates 2,000 new parking spaces

The Auburn Athletics Department announced Friday a new parking and tailgating plan that creates a net gain of 2,000 free parking spaces for football Saturdays and opens up new areas of campus for tailgating for the 2013 season.

qrne.ws/65

Oden announces bid for Alabama Public Service Commission Place 1

Saturday evening, amongst family, friends, and neighbors, Public Service Commissioner Jeremy H. Oden announced his intent to seek nomination for Alabama Public Service Commission Place 1 in the June 2014 primary.

qrne.ws/66

Bentley Tasks Senior Services Commissioner with Developing Plan to Help More Voters Receive Photo ID

Gov. Bentley recently tasked Neal Morrison, Commissioner of the Alabama Department of Senior Services, with developing a plan to help all citizens have access to a...

qrne.ws/67

Aderholt Stands in Solidarity with People of Egypt

By: Anne Marie Malecha

Supports efforts to institute a true transitional democracy in Egypt

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Congressman Robert Aderholt (AL-04) recently released the following statement regarding the people of Egypt's call for peaceful resignation of Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi:

"As we have seen in the news, in recent days millions of Egyptians across political and religious lines have been gathering to peacefully demonstrate their desire for a more transparent and real democracy," said Aderholt. "It is my understanding that the people of Egypt have come together and collected more than 25 million signatures asking for a transitional democratic government. That is nearly twice the number of votes that President Morsi received when he was elected last year."

"I am very concerned with the reports that the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt is resisting any attempt to move Egypt to a transitional government, and the possibility of Hamas elements being brought into Egypt from Gaza. That would be a cruel attack on people hungry for democracy," added Aderholt. "As we are on the eve of celebrating Independence Day here in the United States, my thoughts and prayers are with the people of Egypt. I stand in solidarity with their desire to have a government rooted in the basic tenets of democratic representation. President Morsi would be well served to note the will of the people of Egypt and realize that this is about more than just one person or one regime, but rather about the future of the entire nation of Egypt," concluded Aderholt.

Aderholt currently serves as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies for the powerful House Appropriations Committee, is a member of the Committee's Commerce, Justice and Science; and Homeland Security Subcommittees, and also serves on the Helsinki Commission.

Outdoor Alabama Accepting Entries for Photo Contest

Ala. Dept. of Conservation & Natural Resources

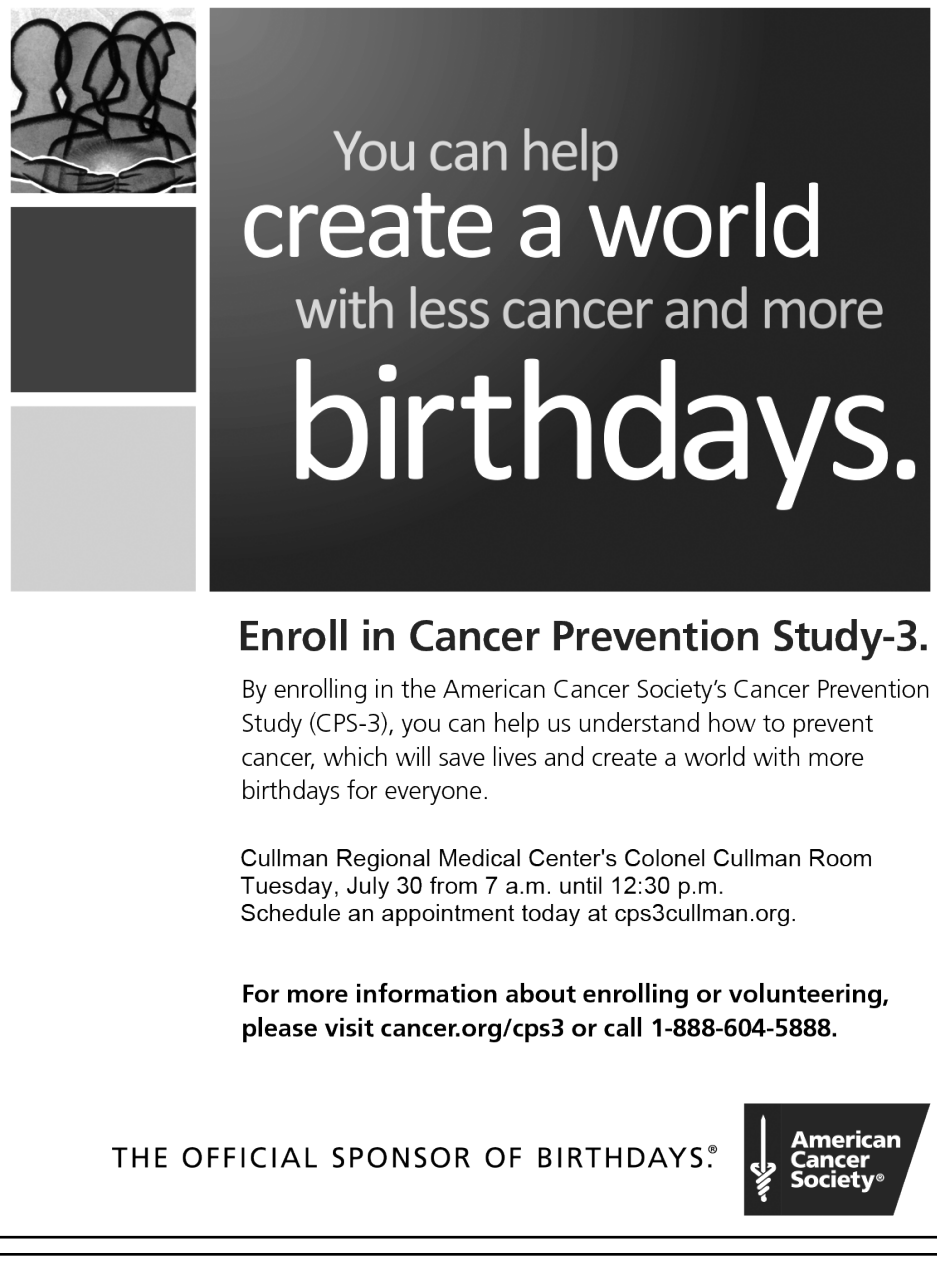
Are you a photographer with an eye for natural beauty? If so, then Outdoor Alabama magazine would love to see your photos.

The magazine's 2014 Photo Contest is underway, with photos being accepted through October.

The contest is open to any amateur photographer except employees of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and members of their immediate families.

Entries must be submitted on a CD-ROM or a DVD and accompanied by an official entry form, which can be downloaded at http://www.outdooralabama.com/outdoor-alabama/photo_con.cfm.

Entries must be postmarked by Oct. 31, 2013. For more information, call 800-262-3151, write to Outdoor Alabama Photo Contest, 64 N. Union St., Ste. 106, Montgomery, AL 36130, or email Kim Nix at kim.nix@dcnr.alabama.gov.



Sequester Cuts Long-Term Unemployed Benefits

By: Jake Grovum • Stateline

The automatic federal budget cuts known as sequestration have cut as much as $139 from a weekly benefits payment the long-term unemployed receive in some states, slashing a safety net program that provides support to hundreds of thousands of Americans.

The across-the-board cuts have reduced the maximum benefit paid under the federally funded Emergency Unemployment Compensation program by an average of $62, according to new data released by the National Employment Law Project, which advocates for workers, the jobless, and the safety net in general.

The average maximum weekly benefit available nationwide to workers on the program is $414, meaning the automatic cuts amount to about a 15 percent reduction for those on the program, which covers workers who have been unemployed for six months or longer. As of June, 4.4 million Americans — or about 37.3 percent of the unemployed — were out of work for 27 weeks or longer, according to federal data.

The reductions vary by state, in part based on each state's unemployment rate, how much the unemployed qualify for, and how quickly the state enacted the cuts. As Stateline previously reported, the longer a state took to enact the cuts, the steeper the reductions to benefits, because they would be packed into a shorter timeframe before the federal fiscal year ends this fall.

For example, Tennessee implemented the reductions on March 31, which led to a $29 — or about 11 percent — cut in the maximum benefit. New Jersey and Maryland enacted them on June 30, forcing a 22 percent cut. For New Jersey, that meant $139 less in the maximum weekly benefit of $624.

In Maryland, a maximum benefit of $430 fell by $95.

Louisiana and Nevada, the two states that have yet to implement the reductions at all, face even steeper reductions when, or if, they eventually do so.

In North Carolina, the state opted out of the emergency unemployment program altogether rather than cutting the benefits, prompting widespread protests for a move that ended a program covering nearly 85,000 people, according to the NELP figures.

States have blamed delaying the cuts on bureaucratic difficulties, recent cuts in administrative spending and uncertainly from the federal government. Advocates for the unemployed, on the other hand, have accused states of dragging their feet in the hope that the automatic federal cuts would eventually be reversed. There's been little talk of such a solution on Capitol Hill as the sequester has taken effect.

Stateline is a nonpartisan, nonprofit news service of the Pew Charitable Trusts that provides daily reporting and analysis on trends in state policy.

Restaurant Owners Report Smoke-free Restaurant and Bar Policies Don't Harm Business

By: Julie Hare

MONTGOMERY – Smoke-free policies in restaurants and bars don't harm business and are good for health, according to a new video released by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Foundation. The video features restaurant and bar owners in Alabama talking about their experiences operating under local smoke-free laws. They report that far from suffering a decline in customers, their business is as good as ever since their communities went smoke-free.

Featured in the video are the owners of the Original Oyster House in Spanish Fort, Whispering Oaks in Opelika, and Cosmos Restaurant and Bar in Orange Beach. Despite initial reservations among some, all three have come to appreciate the economic and health benefits of being smoke-free.

"Everybody's on the same level playing field," said Carlton Clifton, of Whispering Oaks. "Going smoke-free helped our business," said Mary Lou Roszkowski at the Original Oyster House. "It's easier to seat parties, less turnover time, and less cleaning."

Alabama is one of nine states featured in the video campaign. Other states include Indiana, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas and West Virginia. These states were chosen because almost all have high rates of smoking and smoking-related disease; they lack substantial statewide smoking restrictions; and they have a number of communities with strong local smoke-free laws.

The campaign includes state-specific videos featuring local restaurant and bar owners talking about their experiences operating under smoke-free laws. The second part of the campaign includes an economic impact study of Alabama restaurants and bars with smoke-free policies. The study is targeted for release later this year.

"I'm not surprised to hear that these owners had positive experiences with smoke-free laws," said Ginny Campbell, chair of the Coalition for a Tobacco Free Alabama. "It only makes sense considering that the vast majority of people in Alabama—75 percent—are nonsmokers. Even many smokers prefer to dine in smoke-free restaurants." Less than 25 percent of adult Alabamians are tobacco users. In 2011, 93 percent of those surveyed in Alabama's Adult Tobacco Survey said breathing secondhand smoke was harmful to one's health.

Secondhand smoke—the combination of smoke from the burning end of a cigarette and the smoke breathed out by smokers—contains more than 7,000 chemicals, including at least 69 chemicals that cause cancer. As little as 30 minutes of exposure can cause a heart attack.

Smoke-free policies in bars and restaurants protect the health of employees and patrons. Besides driving away potential customers, allowing smoking has hidden financial costs, including higher cleaning and maintenance costs and increased sick days among employees.

Forty-five communities in Alabama have passed laws making workplaces smoke-free.

All the videos may be viewed at www.youtube.com/smokefreebusiness. More information about secondhand smoke is available at www.tobaccofreealabama.net.

Leaving a Legacy

Joseph "Joe" Shults

Remembered

By: Josh McBrayer
joshmcbrayer@cullmansense.com

"I remember getting to go by and shake his hand after the game," recalled former Fairview Aggie football player turned head coach George Redding. "He didn't have to come to the games to see us play but he did."

The person Redding speaks so highly of is Fairview Aggie legend Joseph "Joe" Shults who passed away Wednesday in the comfort of his home.

In his 88 years on Earth, "Coach Joe", as he was affectionately called, had one thing on his mind and that was to help others. As a young man, Shults put his many talents to work as he defended our country as a member of the United States Naval Corp where he proudly served in World War II.

When his service to the military had ended, Shults returned home with a determination to help the community that he loved. He achieved this through education and spent many years shaping and molding the lives of the young men and women he taught.

As great as he was at educating in the classroom, Shults had a real talent for teaching the game of basketball. He racked up win, after win, after win, no matter where he applied his craft. He held the record for all-time wins in both Lawrence County as well as right here in Cullman.

With all of his hard work, Shults may have had the biggest impact at Fairview High School. One cannot talk to five people in Fairview without four of them recalling fond personal stories of the Aggie legend.

There are two awards named for Coach Joe but both share the same name. The Joe Shults Award is given annually to the best player in all of Cullman County with a second Joe Shults Award given to the best player at Fairview High School.

Shults is a member of the Cullman County Sports Hall of Fame as well as the Lawrence County Sports Hall of Fame. In addition, the gymnasium at Fairview High School bears the name of Shults.

Even though he has moved on to a better place, the impact that coach Joseph Shults left on the lives of everyone he came in contact with will never be forgotten.

Business as Usual for West Point Warriors

By: Josh McBrayer
joshmcbrayer@cullmansense.com

WEST POINT – Summer is here. For high school students that means trips to the beach, sleeping in and hanging out with your friends, right?

Not for West Point football players, for them it is business as usual.

"They are working hard to get better every day," said West Point High School principal Hieth Yearwood. "Summer workouts are going well."

The West Point Warriors are looking rebound from a season that was not quite what they expected

A young team just a year ago, the key players for the Warriors now have had a year's worth of experience under their belt and they look to put that to good use.

Bryant Farley

With a solid season under his belt, Farley will be returning to the gridiron for West Point and the 5'8" Junior looks to be the everyday quarterback for the Warriors. He is an accurate passer and agile runner who can move his team up and down the field with his arm as well as his legs.

Jordan McKenzie

What else can be said about Jordan McKenzie? He is a three sport star, playing baseball and basketball as well as football.

He has "sticky" hands when it comes to the football. Put it in the pigskin in the area of McKenzie and he is going to catch it.

McKenzie's exceptional hands and Senior leadership should help West Point in the upcoming season.

Tristian Dubberly

Tristian Dubberly will be the key to the West Point Warriors success this year. He is an outstanding runner that can make you miss or run you over.

He is a threat every time he touches the football and will help keep defenses honest and making them respect the run even on pass plays.

Come on out to West Point and check out the Warriors for yourself. The squad s gearing up for seven on seven match-ups as the high school football season will be here before you know it!

Autograph Collecting 101: Dealing with the dealers

By: Josh McBrayer
joshmcbrayer@cullmansense.com

This week's collection topic is a little different. In most of the columns that I write I show you, my fellow collector, the ins and outs of collecting autographs and tracking down a signature of your favorite player. This week I am going to show you the other aspect of autograph hunting: Dealing with the dealers.

As I have said in previous columns EVERYTHING I collect is either for myself or for one of my numerous autographing friends from across the United States. Although I do trade autographs on occasion, 99% of my autographs are displayed in my home or neatly organized so I know where every piece is.

The same cannot be said for the dealers whose only purpose is to show up at the ballpark, grab as many autographs as they can from a superstar player then turn around and sell said autograph for a profit.

Don't get me wrong, I think dealers serve a valuable purpose in the autograph world and I am not against dealers that own "brick and mortar" storefront and resale autographs that they have purchased, traded for, or pulled from packs.

In fact, I regularly visit Champs Sports Cards in Huntsville and The Baseball Card Shop in Homewood because of the fair way collectors are treated.

The dealers I speak of are known in the hobby as "eBayers", guys who do not collect but instead hound players day in and day out for autographs that they immediately sell on eBay. Some will come to the ballpark with 25 of the same card and keep shoving them in front of the player.

In my experience I have seen it more than once. Players take notice as well and some even go as far as refusing to sign doubles and some will not sign at all.

Dealers will also go to the extreme to get game-used equipment as well. They will buy the cheapest tickets available at the park then at the end of the game they will run down to the dugout and start asking for broken bats. In some extreme cases they have even been known to grab things that were meant for little kids in the crowd without a second thought.

Luckily most players are getting to the point to where they can spot a dealer and will refuse to sign for them. This is the reason I make sure that if I need multiples for my collection, I spread it out over the three to five game series.

Furthermore, if a player has signed a lot for me during a series I make sure they know I am a collector and not a dealer. Being nice goes a long way in this hobby and players appreciate being treated like human beings, not a dealer's personal ATM.

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Victoria Trapani Named WGCA All-American Scholar

By: Matt Crouch

AUBURN – Auburn junior Victoria Trapani has been named a Women's Golf Coaches Association All-American Scholar, the organization announced Monday.

Trapani earns the honor for the second year in a row.

The WGCA recognized 644 golfers across NCAA Divisions I, II, and III with All-American Scholar status.

A cumulative grade-point average of 3.5 is required to make the list.

Trapani, a rising junior from Hollywood, Fla., carries a 3.51 GPA while majoring in accountancy. She earned the honor last year after her freshman season and now becomes one of just six Tigers ever to earn the honor multiple years.

Trapani finished the 2012-13 season second on the team with a 75.04 stroke average.

She led the Tigers at two tournaments, including a tie for sixth at the Southeastern Conference Championship.

She also finished in the top 30 at the NCAA Championship, helping the Tigers take sixth – the team's best finish at the tournament in eight years.

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MiLB Recap

By: Josh McBrayer
joshmcbrayer@cullmansense.com

Tough, hard fought series' were the focal point of this week's action with the Birmingham Barons facing the Jackson Generals on the road and the Huntsville Stars hosting the Chattanooga Lookouts.

Birmingham Barons

After dominating the first half of the AA Southern League season and assuring themselves a playoff spot, the Birmingham Barons have hit the skids so to speak. While playing good baseball and solid defense, the Barons have found runs hard to come by resulting in a 8-7 record including dropping their last series 3-2 to the Jackson Generals.

6-29 Although he leads the league in wins with eight, Scott Snodgress was knocked around in his last meeting with the Jackson Generals in Jackson. The Generals scored 10 of their 11 runs in just three innings, giving them the 11-3 victory over Birmingham.

6-30 Nick McCully has been brilliant for the Barons this year but even he could not stifle the Generals offense as the hung a two spot on the board in the first. RBI hits from James Jones and Ji-Man Choi gave Jackson an early 2-0 lead that they would never lose, going on to win 5-3 and handing McCully his first loss since April 6th.

7-1 Catchers are supposed to be slow, but don't tell Barons backstop Mike Blanke that. In the first game of July, Blanke broke the game wide open in the ninth with a booming shot to right field that got past the Generals' James Jones and rolled all the way to the fence. The result was a rare triple that scored Tyler Saladino, Michael Early, and Brandon Short to give the Barons a 4-1 victory.

7-2 The Generals got a manner of revenge on Tuesday when they outlasted the Barons in a 15 inning battle of attrition. Birmingham did not tally their first hit until the seventh inning when center fielder Jared Mitchell singled to right but the Barons left him stranded. However in the eighth Cody Puckett tied the game on a two run bomb, scoring Brandon Short, for his ninth homer of the season. For the next seven innings the bullpens were terrific, sending the game to 15th still tied. Julio Morban led off the inning with a single and moved to second on a passed ball. After a swinging strikeout by Ramon Morla, James Jones quickly singles to center, scoring Morban and giving the Generals the 3-2 walk off win.

7-3 Showing no ill effects of the 15 inning marathon just a night before, the Barons came roaring back with a 7-2 drumming of Jackson. The game was under control from the third inning on as Birmingham hung a four spot on the board thanks to a Dan Black RBI single and a Jared Mitchell three run bomb. Dan Wagner added a two RBI single and Marcus Semien went yard in the victory.

NOTE: At press time, the Birmingham Barons have lost the first two games of a five game series with the visiting Mississippi Braves.

Huntsville Stars

6-29 Dodgers' prospect and Lookouts' star pitcher Zach Lee was as good as advertised, hurling a gem in the opening game of the series, allowing Chattanooga's bats o back him up on route to a 4-0 series opening win. Lee went seven strong innings, allowing just two hits. Osvaldo "Ozzie" Martinez homered in the win.

6-30 Jumping out to an early 3-0 lead, the Lookouts were in position to win their second straight game over the Stars but Adam Weisenburger and Mike Walker had a different idea. Huntsville fought hard the entire game but still found themselves trailing 4-3 with one out in the bottom of the ninth and with Weisenburger in the box. With one swing of the bat, he deposited the ball over the left field wall to tie the game at four all but the Stars were not done. Mike Walker followed the lead of Weisenburger and sent the Stars fans home happy when he blasted a walk off homer over the center field fence for the 5-4 Stars win.

7-1 Huntsville carried the momentum of the last day of June into July, felling the Lookouts 9-5. Shea Vucinich was the "star" (pun intended) of the game going 2-4 with four RBI's including a three run double in the sixth where the Stars hung a six spot on the board.

7-2 The Lookouts evened the series at two wins each by dropping the Stars 5-1 on Tuesday. It was death by 1,000 cuts so to speak as the Lookouts picked up single runs in the second, third, and fifth and added two more in the ninth. The highlight of the game was a solo blast off the bat of the Dodgers #1 prospect, Joc Pederson.

7-3 The Stars closed out the series with a 2-0 victory in a game that had all the makings of an instant classic. Brock Kjeldgaard hit his 14th home run of the season but the story of the game was Andy Moye. He pitched the best game this reporter has ever seen in person. He had every pitch working, from his fastball to his breaking pitches. Everybody was holding their breath as Moye toed the rubber in the ninth, working on a no hitter. Alas, it was not to be as leadoff man Rafael Ynoa singled up the middle to break up the no hit bid. Moye was then lifted, to a standing ovation, for closer Kevin Shackleford who picked up the save.

NOTE: At press time, the Huntsville Stars have lost the first two games of a five game road series versus the Tennessee Smokies.

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.
- **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.
- **Summer Concerts Series:** Held at Heritage Park Tuesday nights at 6:30pm in the recognition gardens beginning June 4 through July 23. No concert will be held tonight in due to the Fourth of July. Concerts will resume next Tuesday.
- **Junior Tennis Lessons:** Tennis lessons will be held this summer at the Municipal Tennis courts in three different sessions beginning on June 3. Classes offered for all skill levels. Call the Civic Center for details or to register.
- **Junior Golf Clinics:** Learn to swing like a pro this summer with golf pro Ches Harris in this course held on Tuesdays in June. Ages 8-18 may participate. Call 256-739-2386 for full 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.
- **EvaBank Midnight Run 5K:** The 2013 EvaBank Midnight Run will be held on Friday, August 9, 2013 at the Cullman Civic Center. Brochures will be available soon at the Cullman Civic Center, Wellness & Aquatic Center, and EvaBank locations. Register online now at www.active.com
- **CWAC Closing:** Due to the State Swimming & Diving Competition that will be held at the Cullman Wellness & Aquatic Center, the Outdoor Pools will be closed on Thursday, July 25. The entire facility will close on Friday & Saturday, July 26-27. We apologize for the inconvenience!
- **Wilderness Survival Classes:** Wilderness survival classes will be held at Hurricane Creek Park on Sunday afternoons with skills including shelter building, finding safe water, building a fire, and other related topics. Call ahead for reservation at 256-734-2125.



Jayne Clem, left, and Tracy Grindrod

Third Time's a Charm

WSCC Softballs' Jayne Clem, Tracy Grindrod Named NJCAA Division I Coaching Staff of the Year for the Third Time in their Careers

By: Russell Moore • WSCC Contributor

HANCEVILLE – Wallace State softball head coach Jayne Clem and assistant Tracy Grindrod have been selected as the National Fastpitch Coaches Association (NFCA) NJCAA Division I Coaching Staff of the Year for the third time in their careers.

Clem and Grindrod led Wallace State to its second national championship in 2013, finishing with a 55-12 record.

Clem and Grindrod first earned the coaching staff of the year recognition in 2008 after leading the Lady Lions to their first national title. They captured the honor again in 2010 when Wallace State finished national runner-up.

Under Clem and Grindrod, Wallace State put together many impressive achievements among its march to the national title.

The team set a new single-season mark with 75 homers, including a record 23 homers by freshman third baseman Kori Benson.

Wallace State sophomore pitchers Lindsey DeFee and BreeAnna Blevins each won 26 games, marking the second time in school history a starting duo each surpassed the 20-win plateau.

Clem also reached another coaching milestone in 2013, earning her 700th career win on April 18 against Calhoun.

She maintains a 717-177 career record (.802 winning percentage) after 14 seasons with the Lady Lions and has been named the ACCC Coach of the Year 11 times.

Wallace State advanced to the NJCAA national tournament in St. George Utah, after winning its second consecutive state title, sixth and seven seasons and eighth overall --- all under Clem.

At the national tournament, the eighth-seeded Lady Lions dethroned the No. 1, 2, and 5 seeds en route to the title, scoring 33 runs in six games.

Wallace State defeated Salt Lake City (Utah) CC 7-3 in the championship game.

Grindrod joined the Wallace State program eight seasons ago and has been a part of six state championships, both national titles and both national runner-up finishes.

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



Paddle at the Rock

By: Noah Chandler
noahchandler@cullmansense.com

Area paddle boarders get together to compete for a good a cause



Everyone Aboard – A group of eager Paddle Boarders hit the lake for a bit of pre-race action.

CULLMAN – Tommy and Susan Cost, along with daughter Kate, are owners of Smith Lake Paddle Boards. The trio of water loving adventurers began the business shortly after discovering the sport.

Although the family has lived near the lake for 12 years, the Cost family never thought of owning a paddle board business. However, love and a great partnership led the family to open the doors to the shop.

"We bought Susan a paddle board in April of 2012 and fell in love with the sport," Tommy Cost said.

"We knew Smith Lake would be the perfect inland lake to start a paddle board business, so we partnered with YOLO Boards and are the authorized dealer for North and Central Alabama."

Now that the business is up and running the Cost family wants to give back. So what better fundraiser to offer than paddle board races? It raises awareness for a sport the family loves, while also giving back to an organization that centers its focus on children.

For the Cost family the decision to host the inaugural Paddle at the Rock was an easy one to make.

"The inspiration for the event is twofold. First, we want to help raise money for a great organization, The Bell Center. They do amazing work with young children at risk for developmental delay. Second, we want to grow awareness in the sport of paddle boarding in North and Central Alabama. The sport has taken off along the coast and we wanted to help it grow in this area."

The Bell Center for Early Intervention Programs has provided early intervention services through a center-based program in Birmingham since 1984. Infants and toddlers at risk for developmental delay receive services from transdisciplinary teams.

Children come from throughout Central Alabama with a wide variety of special needs and diagnoses ranging from cerebral palsy and Down syndrome to autism and rare genetic disorders.

Three different race formats will be implemented. Racers can choose from the 6-mile, 3-mile, or 1-mile fun race.

"We have some pretty elite racers coming in from around the southeast for the 6 mile race," said Cost.

"The 3 mile and 1 mile are both open races and will be a great experience for anyone interested in paddle boarding."

Even if you're not ready to take a step out on the water, Cost encourages residents to come watch the event from the shoreline.

"The course layout will be a 1.5 mile loop, so each of the races should be visible from all along the shore. Silver Rock cove is a beautiful community that is perfect for this kind of event," he said."The shoreline is well designed and there are plenty of shady spots to sit and watch."

The first annual Paddle at the Rock hosted by Smith Lake Paddle Boards will be held at Silver Rock Cove on Smith Lake.

The race format for the event is:

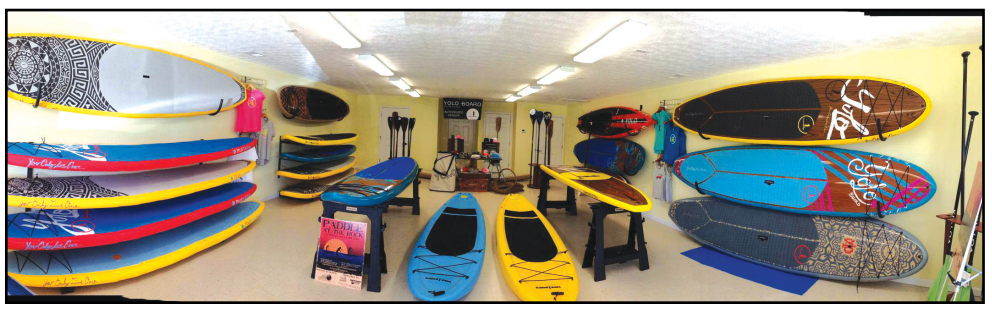
- 6-mile race will begin at 9 a.m. with two divisions – 14' and 12'6" race boards.
- 3-mile will begin approximately 10 minutes after the 6-mile (This race is open to 14', 12'6" and recreational boards)
- 1-mile race will begin at the conclusion of the 6 and 3-mile races

"It is a great way to meet new people. The paddle board community is a very friendly group, he said. "Everyone wants to grow the sport so we are all eager to introduce people to paddle boarding and a race is a great way to do that."

To register for the race, visit smithlakepaddleboards.com and click on the link to register. The link will redirect to active.com. Registration is $35 for both 6 and 3-mile races, and $25 for the 1-mile. There is no age limit on the races.

All the proceeds from registration will be donated to The Bell Center. For more information on the race please e-mail info@smithlakepaddleboards.com or call Tommy at 256-736-3002.

The Bell Center information, thebellcenter.org







Youth Rally Resounding Success



By: Barbara Ragsdale

CULLMAN – Nearly 200 youths from across the North Alabama Diocese of Birmingham gathered to dance, sing, pray, listen, and learn during the first major 'Youth Rally' held at Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church in Cullman recently.

Guest singer and speaker Jackie Francois revved the crowd of youth up during the opening session with her rousing music and energy. Attendees danced and sang praise to Jesus while sharing their moves and spirit with each other during the first hour of the session. Games revolving around musical tunes pitted the gals against the guys and the camaraderie among visitors from various parishes grew during the competition.

Keynote speaker Christopher Stefanick followed Ms. Francois, addressing the youth on the topic of 'Relativism'. Both Stefanick and Francois have traveled the world taking part in various Youth Rallies through the Life Teen Organization attempting to share the word of God through their own special talents.

During the day's events attendees took part in an hour of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, confessions, lunch, group discussions, and concluded the gathering with participation at the Saturday night Mass. Their group of musicians led the youth and congregation in religious songs popular with the worldwide organization.

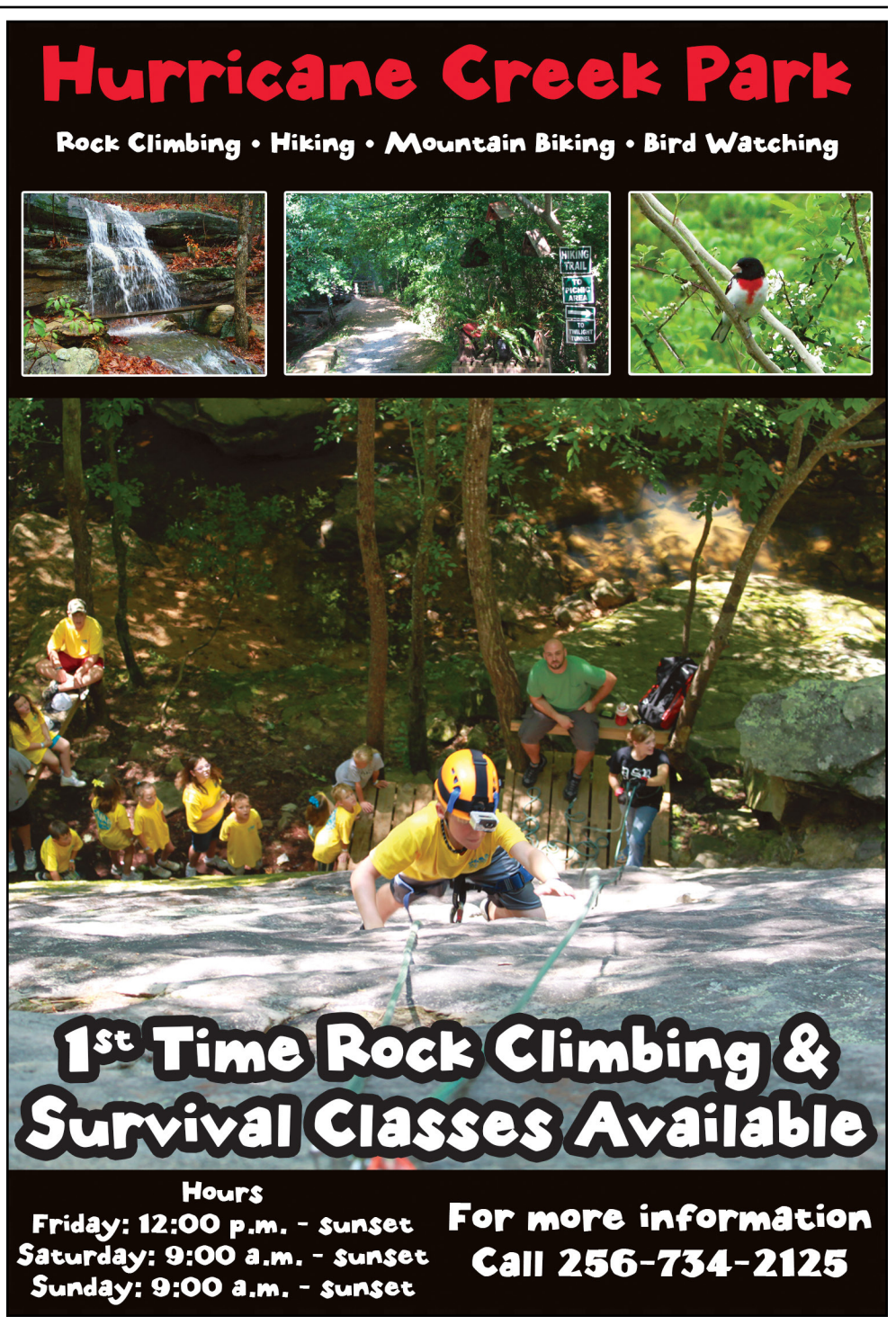
'Come Follow Me....Accept No Imitations', was the theme of the Youth Rally, a momentous event for Sacred Heart of Jesus's Youth group, the ROCK, to sponsor under the direction of Fharis Richter, and Jacqueline Hill, their leaders.

This gathering was the final monthly event in the year-long celebration of the laying of the cornerstone of the present Sacred Heart of Jesus Church building in downtown Cullman.

The year's events will close on July 21 when Birmingham Diocesan Bishop Robert J. Baker will con-celebrate the Sunday 11:00 a.m. Mass. Everyone is invited to attend the services which will be followed with a reception and lunch in the Family Life Center.







July 8, 2013

8

– 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.

Oil Painting & Acrylic Art Classes
All interested are invited to take part in the 'Oil Painting & Acrylic' art classes offered at Cullman Civic Center each Monday night from 6:30 p.m. until 9 p.m. Call the Civic Center for more info 256-734-9157.

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

Festhalle Farmers' Market
The Festhalle Farmers' Market is once again open for business on Tuesdays through the spring and summer, from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. Come visit your local farmers as they offer their homegrown produce for your dinner table.

Sewing Day Camp
North Alabama Agriplex is offering a 'Sewing Day Camp' this week through Friday, July 12. Classes are from 9 a.m. until 12 noon each of the 4 days and are for students ages 5 through 10 years. This is a 'hand sewing' class. The $20.00 fee per child covers a take home book entitled "Sewing School', a sewing kit and handmade projects. Please contact the Agriplex for additional info and to register 256-297-1044 or cullmanag@gmail.com. Limited space available for this special event so register early!

Adult Luncheon at the Atrium
All adults are invited to attend a luncheon meeting in the Atrium at Northbrook Baptist Church starting at 10:30 a.m. Guest storyteller will be Nina Reeves. All are welcome to attend.

Free 'Sign Language' Classes Offered Weekly
Free 'sign language' classes will be offered each Tuesday and Thursday for 5 weeks (Tuesdays June 18, 25, July 2, 9, and 16) and Thursdays (June 20, 27, July 4, 11, and 18) with classes scheduled for 3 periods 8 a.m. until 10 a.m.; 10 a.m. until 12 noon; and 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. Classes will be held at the Child Development Center and to enroll please call the Center at 256-739-0486. Avail yourself of these free learning services if you are friends with or associated with anyone with hearing disabilities.

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.

Tomato Workshop & Field Day
Everyone interested is invited to a 'Tomato Workshop and Field Day' event today from 2 p.m. until 7 p.m. The event begins with a meeting at the Cullman Electric Cooperative and then attendees will move to the Auburn Experiment Station for a hamburger cookout and homemade ice cream supper for $10.00 per person. Please call to make reservations 256-737-9386. This event is sponsored by the Cullman County Extension Office and the Auburn Experiment Station. All are welcome but do make reservations.

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.

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.

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

Festhalle Farmers' Market
The Festhalle Farmers' Market is once again open for business on Tuesdays through the spring and summer, from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. Come visit your local farmers as they offer their homegrown produce for your dinner table.

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Elks Lodge Buffet Lunch
Cullman Elks Lodge opens their doors to the general public on Thursdays for their buffet lunches served from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. each Thursday. Meal is $8.00 for two meats, vegetables, drink! So come visit your neighbors and enjoy a great meal to boot.

First Community Bank Women's Investing Class
All women are invited to attend a FREE 'Women's Investing' Class at 12 noon at First Community Bank. This free educational lunchtime meeting is being held to help women learn more about investing for themselves. Bring your own lunch. This is NOT a sales meeting. For additional information please contact Heather Branch at 256-734-4863.

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.

ROOT Classes at Grace Episcopal Church
All are welcome to attend special ROOT (Radically Overcoming Obstacles Together) classes each Thursday night beginning at 6 p.m. at Grace Episcopal Church. Food and fellowship begin at 6 p.m. followed at 7 p.m. by the meeting. For additional information please check out Facebook (www.facebook.com/pages/TheRoot) or www.agccullman.com. Come to one class just to see if you are interested in this topic and its purpose. You might be surprised how these meetings can affect your life.

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.

Patriotic Pride Quilt Show
A Patriotic Pride Quilt Show will take place from noon until 5 p.m., today, at East Elementary School. Free demonstrations, along with a vender's mall will be onsite. Entrance fee is $5. For more information contact Hazel Ruehl at 256-339-2224 or Porcia Anderson at 256-737-7557.

The Flashbacks Show Band in Concert
Eva School will be Rocking - In Concert - The Flashbacks Show Band, a multi-dimensional band playing only the hits from the 60s through modern day from 7 p.m. until 9 p.m. The concert will take place at the Eva School Gymnasium. Limited Reserved Seating tickets are $20, and General Admission tickets are $15. For ticket information call 256-784-9489, text 256-590-3567, or send an e-mail to vtcplace5@icloud.com. Sponsored by the Eva High School Alumni Association, with proceeds from the Concert to benefit the School Courtyard Project.

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

Festhalle Farmers' Market
The Festhalle Farmers' Market is once again open for business on Saturdays through the spring and summer, from 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. Come visit your local farmers as they offer their homegrown produce for your dinner table.

Flying Faster 5k Run
Everyone is invited to take part in a 5k run and a 1 mile fun run at Cullman Regional Airport. This 'Flying Faster 5k Run' will have on-site registration beginning at 6 a.m. with the 5k race starting at 7 a.m. and the fun run to begin at 8:30 a.m. Sponsored by Vinemont Track & Field and Cullman SportsFit, this event is open to all. For further information please contact Robin Netherton at rnetherton@ccboe.org or Becky Pollard at beckypollard59@gmail.com. Come take part in an exciting beginning to a summertime day.

Patriotic Pride Quilt Show
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Good Hope Farmers Market
Local Good Hope farmers and growers will be on hand to sell their produce each Saturday from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m. at Hathcock Park in Good Hope.

Paddle at the Rock
Come join in the fun and take part in the 'Paddle at the Rock' at Silverrock Cove at Smith Lake today starting at 9 a.m. There will be a 6 mile and a 3 mile race along with a shorter 1 mile open race, all of which have an entrance fee of $35.00. Prizes will be awarded and funds raised will benefit the Bell Center in Birmingham. This group works with children birth to 3 years of age who are developmentally impaired. Register at www.active.com/watersports/crane-hill-al/paddle-at-the-rock-2013 or go to Active.com and enter Paddle at the Rock. Further information is available by calling Susan Cost at 256-338-1084 or Tommy Cost at 256-736-3002. Come out and enjoy taking part in or watching this paddle board (YOLO) board racing, one of the water's hottest new sports.

Rock Climbing at Hurricane Creek Park
If you are interested in rock climbing then check-in with Hurricane Creek Park for their Saturday morning rock climbing session, starting at 10 a.m. Reservations are required. For more information, call 256-734-2125. Hurricane Creek Park is located on Highway 31 North.

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
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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Looking Ahead

Cullman Oktoberfest
This year's Cullman Oktoberfest will be held October 5-12, 2013 at Festhalle Market Platz and Cullman County Museum. For more information e-mail jburks@cullmancity.org and visit www.cullmanoktoberfest.com.

PorktoberQue
Oktoberfest meets Barbecue Competition in Dothan, Alabama September 27-28, 2013. This KCBS sanctioned BBQ competition draws teams from across Alabama and features $5,000 in prize money and an entry to the American Royal for the cookoff/BBQ winner. It is also a stop on the Alabama BBQ Trail and has a points award for national barbecue team rankings.
Spectators enjoy polka music, country and rock bands, an indoor Biergarten, outdoor "man cave" and loads of shopping opportunities. Barbecue and Bratwurst dominate the food menus from regional vendors, and beer is available in several areas. Sponsored by MIke Schmitz Auto group- come take a test drive for free tickets, or take a drive at PorktoberQue for great deals! FREE ADMISSION IF YOU DRESS UP IN LEDERHOSEN OR A GERMAN OUTFIT! Kids welcome, many kid's activities available. See www.porktoberque.com for details and info.

Register for Summer Youth Programs
Now registering for North Alabama Agriplex Summer Youth Programs. Summer Garden Camps for ages 3-10, starting May 29th, 9:30-11:00 a.m. Touring Farms for Kids, June 19-20, ages 7-13, and Sewing Camp July 9-12 ages 5-10. For more info call 256-297-1044 or e-mail cullmanag@gmail.com.

Last Week's Poll

Do you feel that Rock the South was a family friendly event?

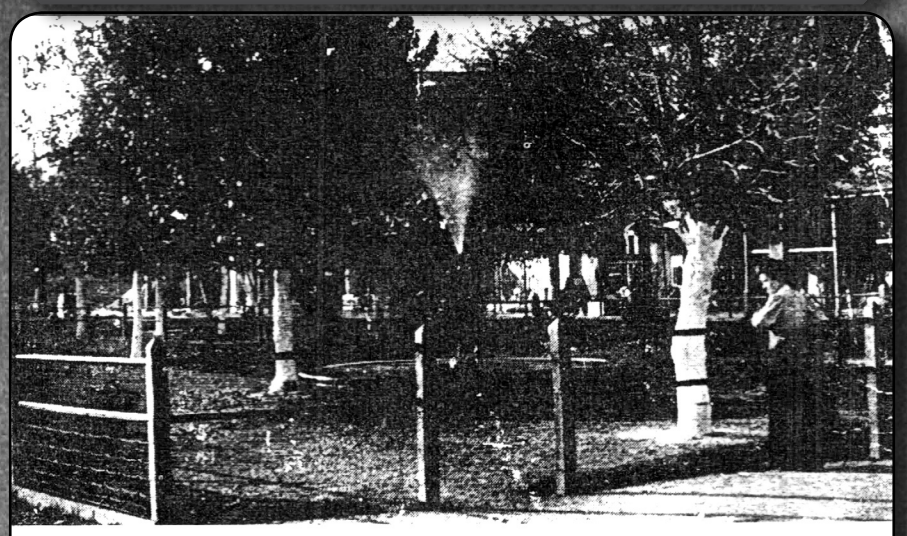


This Week's Poll

Should gay marriage be legalized in Alabama?

Vote Today at CullmanSense.com/Poll

Reflections of History



L. and N. Park on First Avenue was complete with white-washed trees and fountain.

L. and N. Park — Contrib. by Cullman County Museum

Send us your historic photos!
E-mail us at history@cullmansense.com

This Week in History
July 8 - July 14

July 8th
- 1654 - First Jewish colonist arrive in U.S.; Jacob Barsimson in Manhattan
- 1870 – Congress authorizes registration of trademarks
- 1975 – Quake damages over 2,000 temples in Pagan Burma, 20-foot-high seated Buddha of Thandawgya decapitated

July 9th
- 1595 – Johannes Kepler inscribes geometric solid construction of universe
- 1869 – Concord pipe, made from small corn kernels, invented
- 1956 – Dick Clark's first appearance as host of American Bandstand

July 10th
- 1890 – Wyoming becomes 44th state of U.S., first with female suffrage
- 1942 – Himmler orders sterilization of all Jewish women in Ravensbruck Camp
- 1985 – Playboy publishes full frontal nude pictures of Madonna

July 11th
- 1812 – U.S. invades Canada (Detroit frontier)
- 1905 – Niagara Movement founded by W. E. B. Dubois
- 1974 – House Judiciary Committee releases evidence on Watergate inquiry

July 12th
- 1859 – Paper bag manufacturing machine patents by William Goodale, Mass.
- 1960 – U.S.S.R.'s Sputnik 5 launched with 2 dogs
- 2012 – The Rolling Stones celebrate the 50th anniversary of their first performance

July 13th
- 1568 – Dean of St. Paul's Cathedral perfects a way to bottle beer
- 1865 – Horace Greeley advises his readers to "Go west young man"
- 1978 – Lee Iacocca fired as Ford Motor President by Chairman Henry Ford II

July 14th
- 1832 – Opium exempted from federal tariff duty
- 1934 – New York Times erroneously declares Ruth 700 home run record to stand for all time
- 2011 – Neptune completes its first orbit of the sun since the planet was discovered in 1846

Speed & Agility
with Steve Johnson

All Sports Available
June 11 - July 12th
Tuesdays & Thursdays
9:45 - Noon at Heritage Park
$125 per six weeks
Deadline to register is May 31st

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JASON ISBELL- The Troubadour of the New South

By: Dillon Lee
Filmmaker, CHS Theatre Director, Pop Culture Critic-At-Large

My adoration for Jason Isbell is no secret. It is rooted in his brilliantly folkloric southern sensibilities. His previous work, particularly his 400 Unit albums, listen like parables of the modern south, utilizing the iconic imagery for anyone below the Mason-Dixon but still reflective of something poignantly personal. While these elements are all present in SOUTHEASTERN, he has never produced a more intimate album. Isbell is confessional and reflective about his struggles with alcohol and cocaine, his reckless youth, and his transformative sobriety. And in typical fashion, he is both direct and allegorical depending on the song or the verse. Melancholy regret and remembrances do not dominate all tracks; there is also a celebration, as Isbell is clearly happy with who he has become- a sober man in love.

For instance, *COVER ME UP* and *TRAVELING ALONE* tell the story of someone who has crossed a personal Rubicon inviting hope and happiness into a darkened life. The shadow of that darkened life swirl around the set list as the song *LIVE OAK* metaphorically discusses the elements of our past that haunt us using the canvas of American outlaw mythology. This track, more than any other, draws obvious parallels with the darker side of American music legend Johnny Cash.

With the metaphor stripped away, *YVETTE* and *SONGS THAT SHE SANG IN THE SHOWER* seem to be deeply cutting experiences that expose moments of Isbell's reckless youth. In *SONGS*, Isbell's lyrical genius weaves a vivid story though the words are Spartan- "On a lark, on a whim, I said there's two kinds of men in this world and you're neither of them. And his fist cut the smoke. I have an eighth of a second to wonder if he got the joke."

The scene is painted, the brushstrokes few. Then, in the aftermath, a confessional- "In a room by myself. It looks like I'm here with the guy that I judge worse than anyone else. So I pace and I pray and I repeat the mantras that might keep me clean for the day."

In *SUPER 8*, Isbell delivers the carefree, irresponsible country tinged rock and roll songs that harken back to his *DRIVE-BY TRUCKERS* days. The riches of Isbell's transformation do not only manifest in his lyrics; his wife, Amanda Shires, his obvious anchor in a storm of temptation, is a marked presence on the album.

The sweeping violin, played by Shires, transforms the song *NEW SOUTH WALES* from a story about strangers in a strange land to an authentic English (via Australia) folk ballad. Nowhere is Isbell's gift of intelligence in language, metaphor, and imagery more polished that in STOCKHOLM and ELEPHANT, where he wrestles with falling in love and death respectively.

Both songs layer innuendo, meaning, and cliché within Isbell's typical narrative clarity. The album is a journey of reflection and change, so the fitting capstone is RELATIVELY EASY. This is the grown-up, sober Isbell seeing the big picture of life. Despite problems, personal demons, loss, and trivial irritations, things for Jason Isbell have become "relatively easy."

I had the opportunity to catch the last show in the first leg of his SOUTHEASTERN album tour in Chattanooga, TN on Saturday night. For those that know the Chattanooga Choo-Choo Hotel and campus, you may know the venue.

Nestled in the far back of the tourist hotspot is a former roller rink turned rock venue called Track 29. The large standing room, was lined with dedicated fans. Isbell is always a stellar live performer with his backing band the 400 Unit (named for The Shoals infamous mental ward). He is one of the rare performers who sound better and richer live than in the confined and controlled environment of the studio. The most striking aspect of the show was the crowd's eagerness to sing along and celebrate his new album.

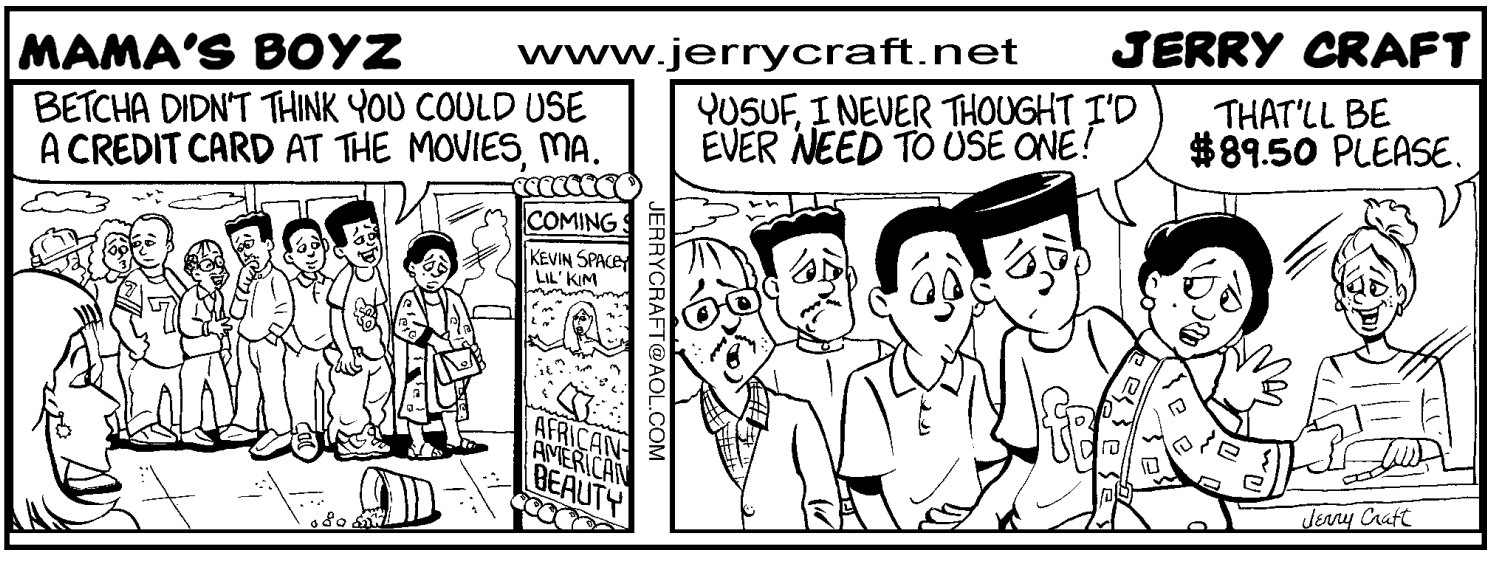
Usually, at a show, the attendees all eagerly await the "hits" or a personal favorite. Here, songs that are scarcely a month old were sung in chorus from an adoring crowd as if they were perennial hits. When Isbell's lyrics took a personal turn and his sobriety was mentioned the entire crowd rejoiced, unprovoked, in support and celebration of his life style change. During his encore, he took the stage alone and did an acoustic rendition of a favorite from his days in the Drive- By Truckers.

The song, *TVA*, could not have found a more receptive audience, as the Florence born Alabama native praised the Tennessee Valley Authority as a continuing economic and cultural boon created in the depths of the Depression. He was after all playing to a Chattanooga crowd in the very heart of the TVA. The feeling that pulsed through the crowd was almost religious. He and the band closed with a rare cover, the Rolling Stones' *CAN'T YOU HEAR ME KNOCKING*. The Stones like Isbell are one of rock and rolls greatest gifts, irrevocably tied to the sounds of the Alabama Shoals. I'll leave this hopefully insightful commentary with perhaps my favorite turn of phrase in an album filled with them. It is indicative of the trials and redemptions related in this masterpiece called SOUTHEASTERN- "A heart on the run keeps a hand on a gun. You can't trust anyone. I was so sure what I needed was more I'd shoot out the sun. Days when we raged, we flew off the page. Such damage was done. But I made through `cause somebody knew I was meant for someone."- *COVER ME UP* by JASON ISBELL

RECOMMENDED LISTENING- *Alabama Pines*, *TVA*, *Stockholm*, *Heart on a String*, *Decoration Day*, *Outfit*, and the album *Live in Alabama* by Jason Isbell and the 400 Unit (2012).







Give a Man a Fish

By: David Ozment

It has been said that if you give a man a fish, he will eat for a day, but that if you teach him how to fish, he will eat for a lifetime.

Wouldn't it be amazing if we could apply that principal to giving? If we could teach our children the joy of giving to others by showing them how to give, would they give for a lifetime?

If we teach them the Biblical tenet that it is more blessed to give than to receive, would they want less frivolous things for themselves?

If this theory worked the way it should, there would be a person giving for everyone in need. Therefore, it seems relatively simple to assume that if everyone in need was blessed by gifts that could teach them the fulfillment of giving, there wouldn't be so many people in need. And isn't that what we have been trying to accomplish all along?

If we show our children the joy a box of crayons can bring to someone who has never had a crayon, or if we can make them understand, even at a tender age, how a simple pair of socks can warm more than just cold feet, then perhaps we have given them the gift of compassion for their fellowman. By teaching them this wonderful way of reaching a child for Christ, haven't we instilled in them the knowledge that giving is a blessing to both the one who bestows the gift as well as the person we receives it?

After all, who will receive the greatest blessing – the child who helped to pack the box, or the one who opened it? Or maybe it was the kindness of the adult who taught a child the parable of giving a man a fish or a fishing lesson.

Now is the perfect opportunity to teach your child the importance of giving to those who have nothing. Have your child close his or her eyes for a moment. They should imagine their room, then the inside of each drawer and the closet, under the bed, and in any other rooms in the house where they have belongings. Now, have them pretend that everything they cherished is gone...taken away by soldiers or people who take things from others. How much would they appreciate even the smallest kindness, a pad and pencil with which to write of their battle with hunger or loneliness, a battery for a new Walkman, or an inexpensive pair of sunglasses to dim the blistering sun in some countries?

Operation Christmas Child is not only for the recipient, but for each person involved in each phase of the process. From the planning committee (which, by the way, meets in Cullman County in August!) to the people who ask for donations, the folks who go out and buy the items that will have a profound effect on someone's life, and of course, the people who pack the boxes.

Each hand that touches these gifts receives a blessing in some way. It is perhaps the first time your child sees through the eyes of a child in a faraway land, one who has never owned anything personal, even a comb or a toothbrush.

Maybe the hands that pack some of the boxes are riddled with arthritis, or smooth and wrinkle free, yet each one has a part to play in bringing joy and happiness to some child they will never see.

Give your child the opportunity to share in the community of Christian people who are generous with their time, money, and love for strangers, the way Christ was willing to give Himself so that His love, kindness, and joy would fill the world with hope.

If you don't have time to physically help with the gathering of items, or the packing of boxes, your gift of a donation is just as important. Each one of us has an opportunity to help. Don't deprive yourself or your child of this blessing.

For many of the children who receive a shoebox, this gift will show them Christianity in action for the first time. This year Operation Christmas Child is expected to reach a milestone. In some city or small town, in a church basement, or in someone's garage, one of the boxes will be the 100 millionth gift box since the organization began in 1993. Will it be the one you pack?

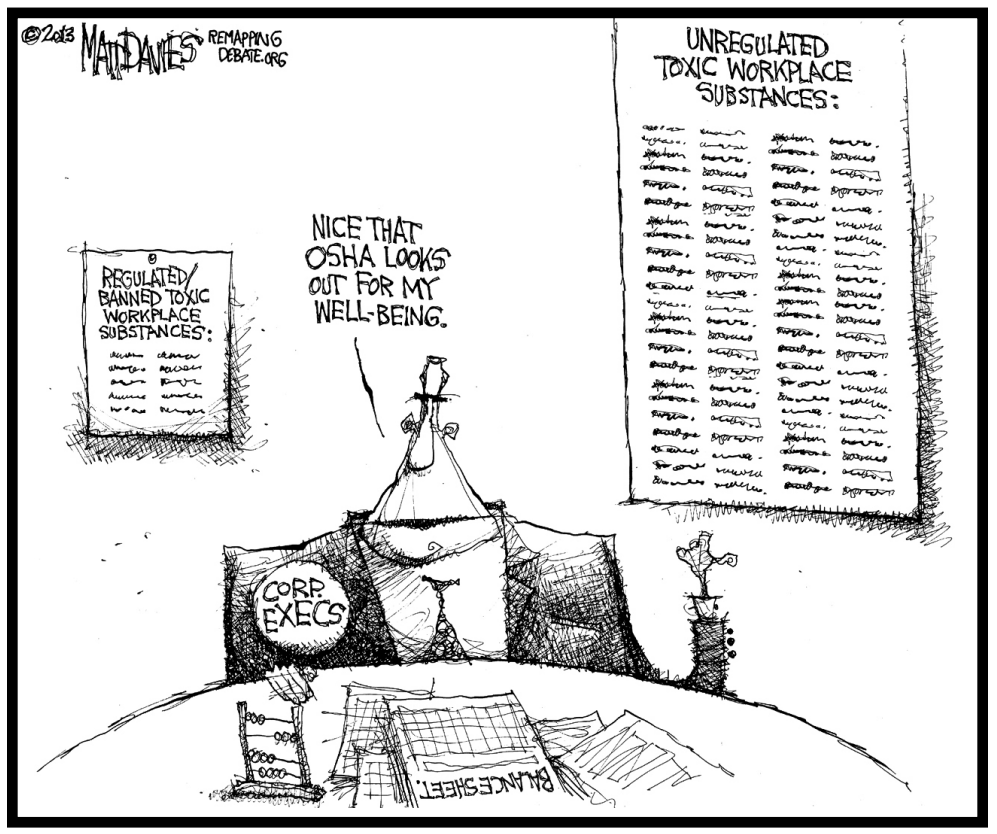
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Dr. Doreen Griffeth unanimously named new CCS Superintendent

By: Noah Chandler
noahchandler@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Following a rigorous interviewing process, Dr. Doreen Griffeth was unanimously named the new superintendent of Cullman City Schools. "The Alabama Association of School Boards selected five outstanding finalists from which our Board selected Dr. Doreen Griffeth. Our goal in this process was to select the individual who would build on the legacy of Dr. Jan Harris and the outstanding leadership team she has assembled during her tenure here," Suzanne Harbin, CCS School Board President, said on behalf of the entire board.

"Dr. Griffeth's experience in a high-performing school system, with proven leadership and experience at a superintendent level was key in our decision. Dr. Harris and her husband, Wholey, will always be a part of our community and school system – and we wish them the best," she concluded.

New superintendent Dr. Griffeth, who most recently served as area assistant superintendent in Cobb County Georgia will be taking of the helm of CCS following Dr. Jan Harris' last departure, which is slated for September 1. Contract negotiations are continuing, therefore an official start date will be announced within the coming weeks.

Dr. Harris, reflecting on her time spent with CCS, quoted scripture to best describe her tenure as superintendent. "King Solomon said, 'As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.' As I conclude my tenure as superintendent of Cullman City Schools, I leave having experienced this wise statement of truth! The phenomenal synergy that exists within CCS and between CCS and the Cullman community is the secret ingredient that fuels our success," Dr. Harris said.

The community which Dr. Harris speaks so highly of is going to be the greatest challenge for the Dr. Griffeth.

She said building long lasting relationships within the community are vital for the continuation of the pursuit of excellence within the school system.

"Already there has been a reaching out to get these relationships forged. I have always had a focus on making decisions based on what is best for students. I sense that same commitment here in Cullman," she said. "Dr. Harris has left this district in great shape so that I can focus on building these critical relationships that are necessary to continue to move this district forward."

Raised in Albuquerque, New Mexico, Dr. Griffeth left home to attend college in Utah where she met husband, Robert.

The couple has been married for almost 37 years, have four married children, and 12 grandchildren.

"I am a family person who loves what I get to do in education! I value building family relationships and keep that in mind as decisions are made about schools," she said.

Dr. Griffeth's background spans all aspects of education ranging from teaching music, special education, and 4th and 5th grades to serving as an Assistant Principal for four years, a principal for 10 years, and currently serving as an Assistant Superintendent in the Cobb County School District, where she works with 25 schools.

"I want this community to know I love learning and I want that excitement and engagement in our schools every day! I will work hard to support our Board, principals, and teachers in providing the best education possible for all the students in the Cullman City School District," she said.

As for the first official year serving as the leader of the CCS system, Dr. Griffeth plans to expand on the growth which Dr. Harris and the school board have already accomplished. She is confident in her abilities to serve the youth of Cullman as she looks to continue raising the bar of academic excellence amongst all teachers, faculty, and students within the school system

"I hope to build the same kind of support for our schools that Dr. Harris has been able to achieve. I felt that strong support just in my one day visit to Cullman. I hope to bring some new ideas on expanding communication across the district between the Board, principals, families, and the community," she said. "

"It is also my hope to share some additional successful ways to challenge our students and help to prepare them for the rigors of a changing economic world," she continued. "I have worked with some of the highest achieving schools in Georgia and see Cullman City Schools right there with them. I want to be about success for all students!"

As with most that have held a post for some time, Dr. Jan Harris had a bit of knowledge to pass along to Dr. Griffeth as she readies herself for the next phase in CCS history.

"Ask for God's continued favor and 'guard that which is (soon to be) entrusted to you.' Love and protect our deserving children. Treat all people equally with love, fairness, and dignity, never forgetting to communicate high expectations for outcomes," Dr. Harris said.

Photo contributed.

Time Capsule (from Front)

purchased the old Photography by Teresa building to establish as our future office. In remodeling the building, we received notification from a reliable source that there was a time capsule in an enclosed window on the east side of the building," Austin Hall, President of Nearen Construction, said. "During demolition we uncovered the window and found a small Blue Plate jar with two pieces of paper inside."

Hall, along with brother-in-law Jeremy Peed slowly pulled away the mortar adhered to covered window. After revealing the window the duo poked their heads inside to find a small jar buried under some rubble. Hall's wife Mallory was nearby snapping shots as the men recovered the small time capsule.

"At first we didn't see it under some of the rubble," he said. "Once we moved some of the mortar out of the way there it was. Just where the person said it would be."

The group gathered before opening the jar. Carefully, Hall retrieved the two pieces of paper.

On the first page was a White Star Market letterhead with a message which was written in 1955. The letter read:

"Emil Loegler Prop. White Star Market since 1928. His grandfather started this business 1885. Employees White Star Market: James A Spiegle, Mrs. R.C Noblett, Theodore Richard. Window between the two buildings closed by Reuben R. and Arnold L. Hart"

Once the mystery to why the window was closed was solved, the next mystery arose. A ticket from the market was also inside the jar. It simply stated;

"It has been a real pleasure to work at the White Star Market." "Skeets" Evelyn Schneider Noblett Mrs. R.C



Photos by Mallory Hall

"We don't know who the people are but we are interested in finding out all we can about the White Star Market and everyone who signed the notes," he said.

"The man who came into the building did not leave his name, so please, if you are reading this, please get in contact with us."

Anyone with further information on this building or anyone listed; please contact Nearen Construction at (256) 734-3345.

Gay Marriage Ban (from Front)

the court issued its ruling, Todd said she would sue Alabama to ensure her future marriage is recognized.

Todd said the Supreme Court's ruling is a chance for her and her partner, Jennifer Clarke, to "provide leadership" in the fight for gay rights.

"I have spent all my life fighting for equality," Todd, 57, said Thursday. "I have an opportunity to change Alabama, and I'm going to take it."

Todd was first elected in 2006 – the same year 81 percent of Alabama voters approved the state's same-sex marriage ban. She barely won her first go-round in electoral politics, defeating her opponent by just 59 votes in a run-off election. But she quickly won over her district, if her re-election campaign four years later was any indication: She ran unopposed in Alabama's 54th District, which includes Birmingham.

She doesn't expect to be so fortunate when she is up for re-election in 2014, especially because her lawsuit against Alabama's same-sex marriage ban is likely to bring her plenty of attention.

Already, she said, she's received calls from citizens who argue a lawmaker has no business leading the charge against a duly-enacted state law supported by an overwhelming majority of voters.

Todd hopes other Alabama citizens will join in her lawsuit, and she plans to seek support from national gay rights groups. Like many others, she expects this week's Supreme Court ruling will spur challenges to gay marriage bans in many states.

"If we can it get moving in Alabama, we can get it anywhere," she said. Todd's path to the statehouse reflects the trajectory of the gay rights movement around the country: She went from being an outsider and activist to a lawmaker advocate.

Living a "sheltered" life and married to a man in the 1970s, Todd recalled, she came across a copy of Ms. Magazine and read it "cover to cover."

"I was appalled," she said, recalling the moment she became aware of inequality and civil rights issues all around her. She soon joined the women's and civil rights movements in Alabama. Eventually, after coming out as a lesbian, she became involved in gay rights issues.

But it wasn't until the state legislature considered putting same-sex marriage on the 2006 ballot that her attention focused squarely on the statehouse. She and others would visit the Capitol to lobby against the measure, but were shocked by the reception they received.

"We were treated so poorly by people in the legislature," she recalled. "I was so angry." After one lobbying trip, Todd and the other activists figured there was only one way to change the reality in their state. "We decided we would never change the conversation until one of us was sitting at the table," she said.

Todd is aware that her legal fight could end up costing her the seat she fought to win not long ago. By most accounts, same-sex marriage remains deeply unpopular in states like Alabama, among voters from both parties.

In a poll conducted by the Pew Research Center, 56 percent of people living in Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee, and Texas were opposed to gay marriage. Alabama's top Republican officials have promised to defend the state's same-sex marriage ban to protect the will of the voters.

But none of that is deterring Todd, even as she faces another improbable campaign for the legislature.

"Should I lose the election because of this lawsuit," she said, "then so be it."

Stateline is a nonpartisan, nonprofit news service of the Pew Charitable Trusts that provides daily reporting and analysis on trends in state policy.