SERIES 3, ISSUE 29 MONDAY, JULY 22, 2013

CULLMAN'S MONDAY NEWSPAPER

CULLMANSENSE

COMMUNITY MATTERS

$0.50 $0.50

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EDUCATION

WSCC Adult Education Receives $10,000 Grant

Dollar General Literacy Organization grant to support Cullman County literacy programs

By: Kelley Jones • WSCC

HANCEVILLE – Wallace State Community College Adult Education recently received a $10,000 grant from the Dollar General Literacy Organization to support its literacy programs.

Specifically, the grant will allow the Adult Education Department to partner with The Link of Cullman County to provide literacy training in the form of one-on-one tutoring for adults developing basic reading skills and for those who wish to increase their English language proficiency.

"We have truly enjoyed partnering with Julie Grimes, Dawn Owens, and The Link of Cullman County," said Kelley Jones, Wallace State Director of Adult Education. "The volunteers are outstanding and the program is designed to reach a large group of people. This outreach expands the number of individuals we may serve. It is a win-win for everyone involved. We truly appreciate Dollar General Literacy for this opportunity."

Through this partnership, literacy classes that have been available on the Wallace State campus since 2006 will move to the offices at The Link, where additional volunteers are available to provide one-on-one coaching to complement the current classroom p12

CP&R to Host State Swimming and Diving Championship

By: Waid Harbison

CULLMAN – An estimated 5,000 people are expected to visit the Cullman area from July 25-27 for the Alabama Recreation and Parks Association (ARPA) State Swimming and Diving Championship at the Cullman Wellness and Aquatic Center.

The Cullman Wellness and Aquatic Center's outdoor pools will be closed on Thursday, July 25, and the entire facility will be closed on Friday-Saturday, July 26-27. The department will host several hundred swimmers and divers to the championship from across the state for the ARPA event.

The Diving Competition will be held on Thursday, July 25 beginning at 10:25a.m. with the opening ceremonies. The swimming portion of the championship will be held beginning on Friday at 10 a.m., and will continue on Saturday at 10 a.m.

Competitors ages 10 and under to age 18 will compete in the state championship. Awards will take place throughout the championship event at the center.

FCA brings camp to Cullman

By: Josh McBrayer
joshmcbrayer@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – The Fellowship of Christian Athletes strives to put God first in student athletes' lives. One of the ways they do this is through regular meetings during the school year. When school is out for summer something new comes into play: multi-sport camps.

"This is our first camp in Cullman," camp director Jamie Strange said during an interview with CullmanSense.

"Our desire is to bring quality sports instruction along with spiritual emphasis through guest speakers and small group huddles (bible studies) led by high school and college leaders."

The camp is available for ages 7-13 and will be ran by about 40 staff members for the FCA as well as local coaches and student athletes who are volunteering their time and energy for the worthy cause.

There will also be a couple of special guest instructors at the camp as well. Legendary JUCO baseball coach and p12

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PRINTED LOCALLY @ PRINTING Alabama Web Press

St. Bernard Abbey Announces Monks to Profess Vows in August

On Saturday, August 17, three monks will profess their vows at the St. Bernard Abbey in Cullman. Among these men are, Br. Novice Marion Sanchez, Br. Johnathan Denson, O.S.B., and Br. Martin Weidner, O.S.B.

By: Joyce Nix • St. Bernard

First monastic vows



Sanchez

Br. Novice Marion Sanchez of LaSalle, Illinois, graduated high school from St. Bede Academy, Peru, Illinios, a school run by the Benedictine Monks of St. Bede Abbey.

Before coming to St. Bernard Br. Marion was in seminary studies at The Immaculate Heart of Mary Seminary of St. Mary's University in Winona, Minnesota for his home Diocese of Peoria, Illiinois.

Among Br. Marion's many novice duties in the monastery he has been involved in the organization of the Abbey library. Vows will take place at Mass in the Abbey Church at 11 a.m. on the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, August 15, 2013.

Final monastic vows



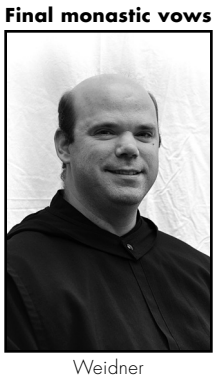
Denson

Br. Johnathan Denson, O.S.B., 21, was born in Gadsden, Alabama. He graduated from St. Bernard Prep in 2009 and entered the monastery a few weeks later.

Since entering the monastery he has served as an assistant vocation director. This has involved giving retreats and visiting Catholic schools.

He is currently in his final year of studies at Benedictine College, Atchison, Kansas majoring in Philosophy and English. After earning his college degree Br. Bernard plans to pursue studies in theology in preparation for ordination to the priesthood.

Final monastic vows



Weidner

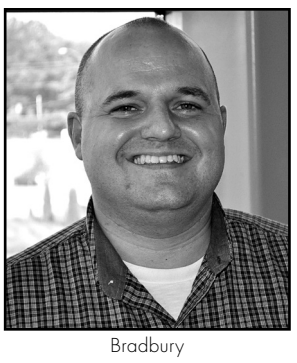
Br. Martin Weidner, O.S.B., 45, was born in St. Louis, MO. He graduated from John F. Kennedy Catholic High School in St. Louis in 1988.

After high school he attended Central Missouri and Meramec Community College, and worked in the St. Louis area.

Entering the monastery in 2009, Br. Martin has worked in the Grotto Gift Shop, the farm, and on the grounds crew. In addition to his monastery duties, Br. Martin is attending Wallace State College studying Business Management.

Solemn vows for Br. Bernard and Br. Martin will be in the Abbey Church at 10 a.m. on Saturday, August 17, 2013.

WSCC grad Richard Bradbury earned degree while in Afghanistan



Bradbury

By: Gail Crutchfield • WSCC

HANCEVILLE — Richard Bradbury said he's taken tests in some unusual places, but the most unusual was while he was hunkered down in an Afghanistan bunker during a rocket attack. There he completed a timed macroeconomics exam he'd started just before the alarms rang out.

"It was a timed test," Bradbury said. "It's a 50-question test and I was seven or eight questions in when the alarm rang. I grabbed my computer and went to the bunker," He said he took the exam while sitting for an hour and a half in a bunker with 30 to 50 other people. That ability to do his work whenever and wherever he needed was the biggest benefit of earning his degree online through Wallace State Community College. A contract worker, Bradbury spent 28 months on Afghan bases at Kandahar and Camp Leatherneck. During that time, he completed online all but one of classes to earn his associate in science degree in General Studies from WSCC. Upon his return to the states, Bradbury took the one class that wasn't offered online at that time and walked across the stage at graduation in May.

Bradbury, who now works for a different government contract company in Huntsville, said he shopped around when he decided to earn a degree online.

"I looked at other options and they were down-right expensive," he said. "Wallace is what won out. It was 25 percent of the cost of the big online colleges." Also, he knew his courses would transfer to any Alabama university.

He took a full class-load of 12 to 13 hours every semester and said he earned straight As for the first time in his life. Bradbury said he made the president's or dean's list every semester. He will start online classes at Athens State in the fall for his bachelor degree in business management.

Bradbury said his online experience with Wallace State was wonderful, especially when dealing with his professors. "All were willing to work with my unique situation," he said. His biggest challenge, he said, was sometimes getting a good Internet connection out of the base. By working ahead, Bradbury said he was able to ensure his work was turned in on time. During one of his trips home over those two years, Bradbury took advantage of an on campus study-session for pre-calculus. "I don't see where I missed out anything except a very big bill," Bradbury said.

A good amount of discipline is needed to participate in an online education project, he admits, but the rewards are worth it. "I'm already seeing opportunities opening up at work," Bradbury said.

WSCC now offers both Associate in Science and Associate in Arts degrees that can be completed 100 percent online. The projected time for completion of the online degrees for students enrolled fulltime is two years, with the Associate in Science degree requiring 60 credit hours and 62 for the Associate in Arts degree.

Online Associate in Applied Science degrees are also offered in Business, Computer Science, and Health Information Technology. Other online and hybrid classes are also offered in: Art, Automotive Manufacturing, Technology, Business, Business & Office Administration, Computer Science, Dental Hygiene, Diagnostic Imaging, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Economics, Emergency Medical Paramedic, English, Geography, Health Education, Health Care Information Technology, History, Humanities, Mathematics, Medical Assistant, Medical Transcription Certificate, Music Education, Nursing, Orientation, Occupational Therapy Assistant, Philosophy, Pharmacy Technology, Physical Therapy Assistant, Psychology, Religion, Respiratory Therapist, Sociology, Spanish, and Speech.

WSCC offers seamless transfer of credit to the state's public colleges and universities and other private institutions guaranteed through STARS. For more information, visit wallacestate.edu/online or call 256-352-8000.

Donation made to CRMC Pediatric Closet

By: Amy Linton • CRMC

CULLMAN – The Cullman Regional Medical Center Pediatric Closet on 3-West just became a little more abundant thanks to the Springhill Baptist Church Women on Mission.

The group donated greatly needed items such as blankets, socks, lotion, books, and toys for the young children who require a visit to the Pediatric Floor.

"We're so appreciative of any donations made to our floor," commented Robbie Riddle, RN, Director of the third floor pediatric and medical/surgical units.

"Sometimes a blanket or toy is just what a child needs to put them at ease and get their mind off why they have to be in the hospital."



Shown receiving the items are, front row, from left to right: Roberta Bradley, CPCA; Rita Keller, CPCA; and Ann Rice, LPN. Back row, from left to right: Wallace State Community College-Hanceville Nursing Students, Brady O'Rear, Jessica Brown, and Kevin Foster.

What's Online

Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce, Tourism Board Hires Tourism Director



The Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Board announces the hiring of its first full time Tourism Director. After a lengthy search, the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce has hired Cecelia Smith, originally from...

qrne.ws/71

Governor Bentley Highlights Success of Agriculture Rural Crime Unit

Governor Robert Bentley on Thursday highlighted the success of the newly-formed Agriculture A new unit in the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency, the ARCU is tasked with investigating agriculture and rural crimes...

qrne.ws/72

JasonIsbell–TheTroubadour of the New South

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...

qrne.ws/73

Medicaid Coverage Limits Access to Medications for Painkiller Addicts

By: Michael Ollove • Stateline Staff Writer

To Mark Publicker, a doctor in Portland, Maine, who practices addiction medicine, it's a clear case of discrimination. You wouldn't deprive a diabetic of insulin. You wouldn't stop giving hypertension drugs to a patient with high blood pressure after successful treatment. You wouldn't hold back a statin from a patient with high cholesterol.

Yet Publicker's patients face severe limitations on the amount and duration of medicines they take to fight their addictions to pain pills. And the consequences of those policies by Medicaid and private insurers are at least as dire as they would be for those with other serious ailments if they were denied proven treatments, he said.

"People will die," Publicker said.

Many private insurance companies and state Medicaid agencies across the country impose sharp limitations on access to medications used in the treatment of the addiction to prescription painkillers known as opioids.

A report commissioned by the American Society of Addiction Medicine found that Medicaid agencies in just 28 states cover all three of medications that the Food and Drug Administration has approved for opioid addiction treatment: methadone, buprenorphine, and naltrexone. The study also found that most state Medicaid agencies, even those that cover all three medications, place restrictions on getting them by requiring prior authorization and re-authorization, imposing lifetime limitations and tapering dosage strengths. The study was done by the substance abuse research firm Avisa Group.

"Now that we finally have medications that are shown to be effective and cost-effective it is shameful to throw up roadblocks to their use," said Mady Chalk, director of the Center for Policy Research and Analysis at the Treatment Research Institute, which researches all aspects of substance abuse.

By any measure, there is an epidemic in the misuse of prescription drugs, most of it involving abuse of opioid painkillers such as OxyContin or Percocet. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that 12 million Americans acknowledged using prescription painkillers for nonmedical reasons in 2010.

While opioid addiction is on the rise in the United States, so too are the opportunities for treatment. In January, when major provisions of the Affordable Care Act go into effect, 37 million currently uninsured Americans will be enrolled in health insurance plans, an estimated 11.2 million of them in Medicaid.

Among those newly insured will be many with an opioid addiction. (One study showed a higher rate of opioid addiction among current Medicaid beneficiaries than among those on other forms of insurance.) Yet even though the ACA holds out the possibility of new treatment options for many, restrictions on the medicines used in treating opioid addicts clouds the chances of successful recovery, treatment experts say.

The CDC says that the number of overdose deaths from opioids tripled between 1999 and 2008, when it reached 14,800 deaths. That is more than the number of overdoses from heroin and cocaine combined.

Prescription painkillers bind receptors in the brain to decrease the perception of pain. But they can also produce a feeling of euphoria, cause physical dependence and lead to addiction. These opioids can also cause sedation and slow breathing, sometimes to the point of stopping it altogether.

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

Sen. Bussman Kicks-off Re-Election Campaign

Story by: Noah Chandler
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Photo by: Jessica Norrell

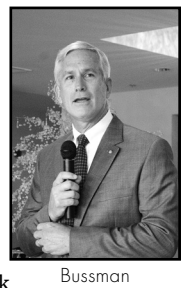
CULLMAN – Friends, family, and supporters came out to the Top of the Town Thursday evening to lend their moral support to Senator Paul Bussman as he officially launched his re-election campaign for District 4.

"I'd like to thank everyone for coming out tonight. I know there are a lot of other places you could be, so know I'm grateful to have you here," Sen. Bussman said. "We have a lot of work to do over the coming months but I look forward to the race."

Senator Bussman has had a successful three years in his first term as a state senator, including several important and significant accomplishments for the district.

Some of these accomplishments include: the initial phase of the Highway 157 4-lane road project and bringing to fruition the longtime promised 222 Interchange.

He has secured $1.8 million over the next three years for Wallace State Community College and provided more than $120,000 in grants for local schools.


Bussman

While Sen. Bussman is currently running unopposed he is preparing for an announcement any day.

"Right now, we have no competition. I don't think that will be the case for too long," he said. "It is going to take a fight in the end but I'm ready for the challenge."

State Agencies Cut Energy Costs by $3.9 Million in 2012

Contributed by: ADECA

MONTGOMERY – Governor Robert Bentley on Thursday announced that the State of Alabama has saved taxpayers nearly four million dollars by cutting energy costs of state government agencies. The savings reported for 2012 came following a December 2011 Executive Order issued by Governor Bentley requiring state facilities to reduce energy consumption by 30 percent from 2005 levels.

"State employees are taking many steps to reduce costs and make better use of taxpayer dollars. State agencies are operating more efficiently, and our energy-saving program is making a significant difference," Governor Bentley said. "The savings reported today prove that we will meet and exceed our original financial target as more agencies are able to participate and additional conservation measures are implemented."

The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs analyzed energy data submitted by agencies and presented the data in a report to Governor Bentley. Agencies included in the first progress report achieved about a 10 percent reduction in energy use in 2012 for a total savings of $3.9 million. The order sets a 2015 deadline for reaching the full savings goal.

"ADECA is working with agencies to make state government a model for cost cutting through energy efficiency," ADECA Director Jim Byard Jr. said. "With three years left in the project, 72 percent of our original $5.4 million in estimated energy savings has been achieved, and we expect to significantly exceed the estimated target before 2015."

The Department of Corrections reported the largest reduction in the report, saving $1.5 million, a 16-percent decrease from 2005. Energy-saving initiatives have been underway in the department for the past few years. The department recently completed more than 480 energy conservation measures at 34 facilities statewide using energy performance contracts and a federally-funded grant administered by ADECA in 2009. The measures included lighting upgrades, programmable thermostats, occupancy sensors that turn lights off when rooms are vacant and centrally-controlled energy systems.

The Alabama Emergency Management Agency reported the largest percentage reduction in the report, using 39.5 percent less energy than in 2005 and saving $79,848 in annual costs. Renovations to the agency's headquarters in Clanton included energy-efficient heating, air conditioning and ventilation equipment and lighting upgrades. A 12,000-square-foot annex building constructed in 2008 was built to energy efficiency standards.

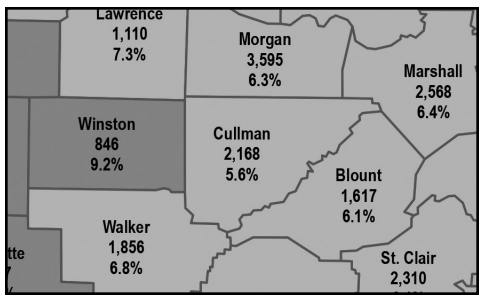
Other agencies and institutions that reduced energy consumption by 10 percent or more include the Alabama Department of Environmental Management, Alabama Forestry Commission, the Military Department, the University of Montevallo and Athens State University.

Many of the cost reductions were the result of implementing low- or no-cost conservation measures including turning off lights when rooms are not occupied, switching to more efficient lighting and turning off computers at night. Other savings were achieved through utility rate reviews and adjustments.

Twenty state agencies and institutions submitted data to ADECA using free online software that enables building managers to track the energy performance of their facilities. State agencies that lease office space and do not receive utility bills are not included in the energy-saving program.

Alabama's June Unemployment Rate Drops to 6.5%, Cullman at 5.6%

By: Tara Hutchison



Nearly 34,000 more people employed than in June 2012

MONTGOMERY – Governor Robert Bentley on Thursday announced that Alabama's preliminary June unemployment rate is 6.5%, down from last month's rate of 6.8% and well below last year's June rate of 7.6%. June 2013's rate represents 140,148 unemployed persons, compared to 147,720 in the previous month and 163,982 in June of 2012.

"We're working hard every day to recruit more jobs for the people of Alabama," Governor Bentley said. "We're encouraged to see year-to-year improvements in the factors that comprise our unemployment rate. Since June of 2012, the labor force has increased by more than 10,000, the number of people working is up by nearly 34,000, and the number of people unemployed is down by almost 24,000. This is why our unemployment rate is down by more than one percentage point since then."

The number of people in the civilian workforce in June of 2013 was 2,170,100, compared to 2,159,944 in June of 2012. The number of people employed in June of 2013 was 2,029,952, compared to 1,995,962 in June of 2012. Also, the number of people unemployed in June of 2013 was 140,148, compared to 163,982 in June of 2012. (All figures are seasonally adjusted.)

"Although we didn't see growth over the past month in the labor force or the number employed, it's not anything to be terribly concerned about," Alabama Department of Labor Commissioner Tom Surtees said.

"These summer months always bring an influx of people looking for summer jobs or new graduates looking for full-time jobs. The May to June numbers have been 'seasonally adjusted' to allow for those expected increases. Basically, the adjustment removes any spikes when seasonal factors occur and allows us to have a more accurate picture of employment in Alabama."

It should be noted that county rates are NOT seasonally adjusted.

Wage and salary employment increased in June by 3,700. Monthly gains occurred in leisure and hospitality (+4,600), construction (+1,800) and trade, transportation, and utilities (+800), among other sectors.

The number of initial unemployment compensation claims is down by 14.0%. In June, 17,680 initial claims were filed, compared to 20,553 in the previous month and 20,588 last year.

Counties with the lowest unemployment rates are: Shelby County at 4.5%, Cullman County at 5.6% and Limestone and Baldwin Counties at 5.7%. Counties with the highest unemployment rates are: Wilcox County at 15.8%, Perry County at 14.0% and Dallas County at 13.4%.

Japanese Maples & Football Talk

By: Josh McBrayer
joshmcbrayer@cullmansense.com

Coach Pat Dye showing support for Quail Hollow Gardens through sale of Japanese Maples

CULLMAN – On Saturday, one of Auburn's favorite former coaches will be at Southern Accents to help raise support for Quail Hollow Gardens by selling Japanese Maples? Yes, you read that correctly...Japanese Maples.

"Coach Dye was invited to come to Southern Accents because we have a tremendous amount of respect and admiration for the efforts he is making to preserve and promote these beautiful Japanese Maples that are rich in ancient history," Southern Accents owner Garlan Gudger said.

Coach Pat Dye will be at Southern Accents from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m., selling trees and signing autographs. Gudger said while the coach will be signing autographs, those seeking signed memorabilia will first have to stop by the store's showroom to pick up a ticket.

"Visitors are asked to come by Southern Accents showroom the day of the event and pick up a ticket. There is no charge for the tickets but you must have one in order to line up to meet Coach Dye," he said. "We want everyone to have an opportunity to meet him, get an autograph and/or pictures. The tickets will ensure that this is done in an orderly fashion."

The tickets also double as entries in a drawing for signed memorabilia. A limited number of special commemoration t-shirts will also be available during the event.

Since the event is scheduled around lunch, Gudger said he is making preparation for food to be available for purchase.

"We are planning to have food available for purchase," he said. "The plan is to grill hamburgers and hot dogs and have a stand set up around the iron lot but I do not have all the food details worked out yet."

Gudger said he is looking forward to coach's visit. He said the two both share the love of preservation, which will hopefully transfer to those attending the free event.

"Just as we are passionate about saving and preserving architectural artifacts of historical significance for future generations to enjoy, his passion is extended, for the same reasons, to these trees," he said. "We think this is a good fit. We are excited about Coach Dye's visit and would love to see a huge turnout."

The sale of the Japanese maples as well as the sale of any memorabilia that he brings helps support Quail Hollow Gardens: http://www.quailhollowgardens.com.



Dye

Cold Springs' Tammy West honored with Making a Difference Award

By: Josh McBrayer
joshmcbrayer@cullmansense.com

MONTGOMERY – Ask any female player who has ever laced up a pair of basketball shoes at Cold Springs who has impacted their lives the most and chances are they will say Coach West.

For anyone who has ever been around Tammy West knows that she is a proven winner and expects 110% each and every time her players step out on the court but what you may not know is the genuine love she has for each of her players. It is this aspect of her coaching that has earned her the class 2A Making a Difference Award.

The Making a Difference Award was established in 2011 and is awarded by the Alabama High School Athletic Association and the Alabama High School Athletic Directors & Coaches Association. It is given to one educator from each classification. It is the equivalent of winning the Heisman Trophy.

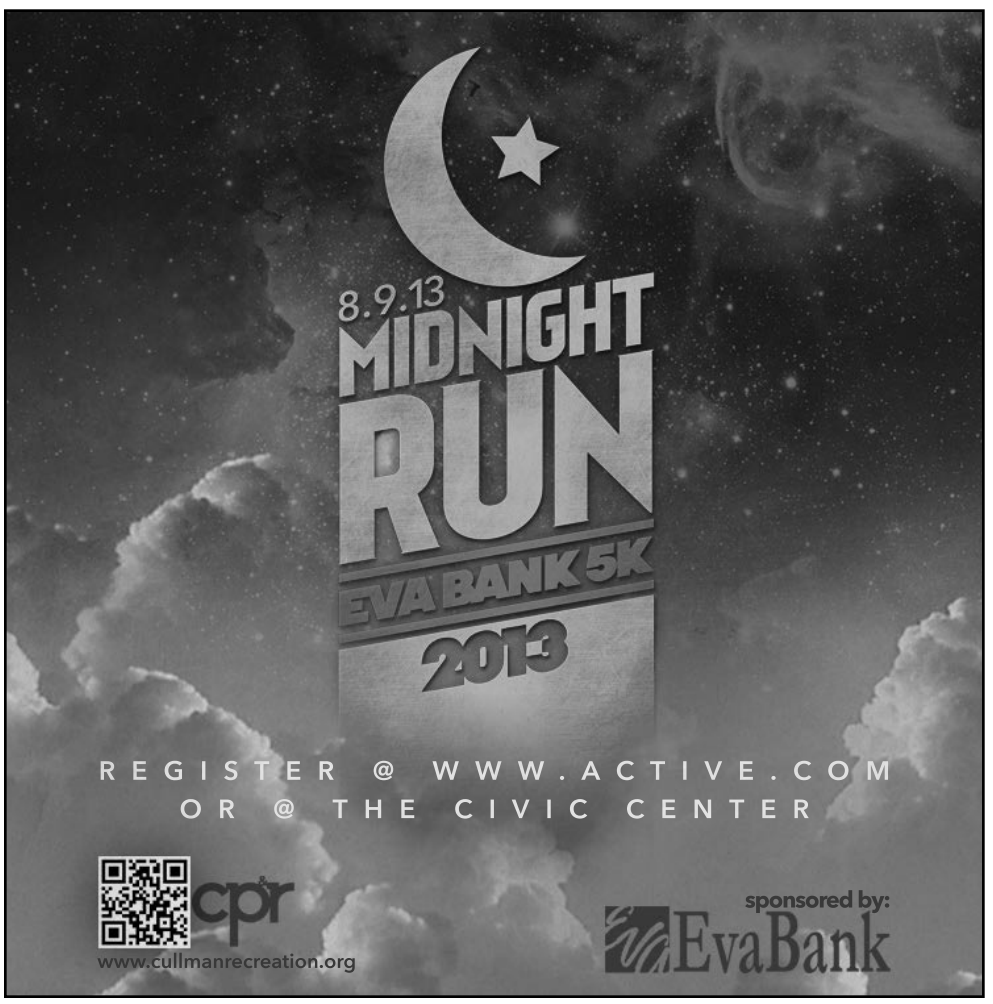
Coach West received her prestigious award at The Championship Coaches Banquet at the Renaissance Montgomery Convention Center on Friday. The banquet closed the week long 2013 Summer Conference and All-Star Sports Week in Montgomery.

Along with West from 2A Cold Springs, five other coaches were recognized in their classifications and honored with the award. 1A James Lucas- Notasulga, 3A Jim Burkhalter- Fayette County, 4A Richard Brown- Beauregard, 5A Dan Buczek- John Carroll Catholic, 6A Pat Hamrick- Thompson.

"We think the members of our third class of Making A Difference recipients are wonderful examples of what this award stands for. Each has made a major difference in their communities and schools. All are excellent role models for the students, faculty and community," AHSAA Executive Director Steve Savarese said in a press release. "This award is the most important honor a professional educator in our state can receive.



Left to right: Patrick West, Toni West, Bailey West, Tammy West, Hayden West. Photo contributed by Shelia Welborn





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SEC Football Media Days

By: Josh McBrayer
joshmcbrayer@cullmansense.com

HOOVER - Tuesday marked the moment that every SEC fan has waited for since the final seconds melted off of the clock in Alabama's 42-14 drumming of Notre Dame in the BCS Championship just a short year ago. Why Tuesday you ask? Because Tuesday marked the start of the 2013 SEC Media Days at the Wynfrey Hotel in Hoover.

Coaches and star players descended on the Wynfrey as well as droves of fans trying to catch a glimpse of their favorite coach or grab an autograph from their favorite player. The "rock star" atmosphere suited some players and coaches who are used to the spotlight. Coaches like LSU's Les Miles, Gerogia's Mark Richt, and of course Alabama's Nick Saban, all appeared on a star studded Thursday.

Others talked about the new direction of their program like Gus Malzahn, Auburn's new head coach, saying that his players have really bought into the "New Day" philosophy of putting the past behind them and looking forward to the future.

Players answered questions about actions on the field such as Jadeveon Clowney, the beast of a defensive end from South Carolina, who was quoted as saying quarterbacks were "Scared to face him and the D-line." This comes with good reason as Clowney is the player that obliterated Michigan's Vincent Smith in last year's Outback Bowl.

Still other players like the first ever Freshman Heisman Trophy winner, Johnny "Johnny Football" Manziel had to answer questions about his actions off the field, especially about his recent time at the Manning Football Camp and early departure.

"I simply overslept. There's nothing more to talk, and the rumors about the other things weren't really true. I just overslept and missed a meeting. I absolutely lived up to it. There was no excuse for not having my phone charged or having an alarm set. I was disappointed to not go on being a camper there three or four years prior. I was upset with myself, that was the biggest thing, but hearing Eli and Peyton afterward and the key thing was they wanted me to come back next year, that was great because I had such a great time working with the kids I had and doing some things we do at A&M. I've just been on a hectic schedule and overslept."

Another focal point at SEC Media Days is the fans.

Huge numbers turned out and the players and coaches were more than willing to sign for everyone there.

Yes it seems that football season is truly just around the corner and I for one, cannot wait!

Quotes courtesy of secdigitalnetwork.com

County Football Schedules Released

By: Josh McBrayer
joshmcbrayer@cullmansense.com

Eight teams, 80 games (plus playoffs), and well over 6,000 miles traveled. Those are the numbers that CullmanSense logged just a year ago in our campaign to cover every team and every game both home and away, in person. The task had never been accomplished before, and this year we are going to do it again!

With football season less than two months away, things are starting to heat up. We here at CS will again strive to bring you the best football coverage across Cullman County and we will do it from "down in the trenches."

Reporters from the CullmanSense crew will be at each and every game and provide up-to-the-minute scoring updates on the CS Scoreboard. With that being said, here is a look at the upcoming schedules for the teams across the county.

COLD SPRINGS EAGLES
8-30 @ Decatur Heritage Christian (1A)
9-6 @ Sulligent (2A) Region Game
9-13 VS. Hale County (2A) Region Game
9-20 @ Aliceville (2A) Region Game
9-27 VS. Lynn (1A)
10-4 @ Francis Marion (2A) Region Game
10-11 VS. Marion County (2A) Region Game
10-18 VS. RC Hatch (2A) Region Game
10-25 @ Oakman (2A) Region Game
11-1 VS. Carbon Hill (4A)

CULLMAN BEARCATS
8-30 @ Walker (5A)
9-6 VS. East Limestone (5A) Region Game
9-12 @ West Point (5A) Region Game
9-20 VS. Hartselle (5A) Region Game
9-27 @ Madison Academy (3A)
10-4 VS. Russellville (5A) Region Game
10-11@ Lawrence County (5A) Region Game
10-18 VS. Athens (5A) Region Game
10-25 @ Muscle Shoals (5A) Region Game
11-1 VS. Center Point (5A)

FAIRVIEW AGGIES
8-30 @ Hanceville (3A)
9-6 VS. Douglas (4A) Region Game
9-13 @ Guntersville (4A) Region Game
9-20 VS. Locust Fork (4A) Region Game
9-27 VS. Holly Pond (3A)
10-4 @ St. Clair County (4A) Region Game
10-11 @ Oneonta (4A) Region Game
10-18 VS. Sardis (4A) Region Game
10-25 @ Crossville (4A) Region Game
11-1 @ West Point (5A)

GOOD HOPE RAIDERS
8-29 VS. Holly Pond (3A)
9-6 VS. Hanceville (3A) Region Game
9-13 @ Winston County (3A) Region Game
9-20 @ Hamilton (3A) Region Game
9-27 @ New Hope (3A)
10-4 VS. Danville (3A) Region Game
10-11@ Vinemont (3A) Region Game
10-18 VS. Cordova (3A) Region Game
10-25 @ Winfield (3A) Region Game
11-1 VS. West End Walnut Grove (2A)

HANCEVILLE BULLDOGS
8-30 VS. Fairview (4A)
9-6 @ Good Hope (3A) Region Game
9-13 VS. Hamilton (3A) Region Game
9-20 @ Vinemont (3A) Region Game
9-27 @ West End (5A)
10-4 VS. Winfield (3A) Region Game
10-11 VS. Winston County (3A) Region Game
10-18 @ Danville (3A) Region Game
10-25 @ Cordova (3A) Region Game
11-1 VS. West Morgan (3A)

HOLLY POND BRONCOS
8-29 @ Good Hope (3A)
9-6 VS. Brindlee Mountain (3A) Region Game
9-13 VS. New Hope (3A) Region Game
9-20 VS. Sylvania (3A) Region Game
9-27 @ Fairview (4A)
10-4 @ JB Pennington (3A) Region Game
10-11 VS. Geraldine (3A) Region Game
10-18 @ Pisgah (3A) Region Game
10-25 @ Plainview (3A) Region Game
11-1 VS. Appalachian (1A)

VINEMONT EAGLES
8-30 @ Brindlee Mountain (3A)
9-6 VS. Danville (3A) Region Game
9-13 @ Cordova (3A) Region Game
9-20 VS. Hanceville (3A) Region Game
9-27 @ Brewer (5A)
10-4 @ Hamilton(3A) Region Game
10-11 VS. Good Hope (3A) Region Game
10-18 VS. Winfield (3A) Region Game
10-25 @ Winston County (3A) Region Game
11-1 VS. Randolph (4A)

WEST POINT WARRIORS
8-30 @ Brewer (5A)
9-6 @ Athens (5A) Region Game
9-12 VS. Cullman (5A) Region Game
9-20 @ Russellville (5A) Region Game
9-27 VS. Hanceville (3A)
10-4 VS. Lawrence County (5A) Region Game
10-11 @ Hartselle (5A) Region Game
10-18 VS. Muscle Shoals (5A) Region Game
10-26 @ East Limestone (5A) Region Game
11-1 VS. Fairview (4A)

Tigers Begin Football Season with Three Night Games

By: Shelly Poe

AUBURN – Auburn's first three football games of the 2013 campaign will all be evening contests, the Southeastern Conference announced today. All three are home games at Jordan-Hare Stadium.

Auburn's season opener with Pac-12 opponent Washington State will kickoff at 6 p.m. Central on August 31. That first game of Coach Gus Malzahn's tenure at Auburn will be televised nationally by ESPNU.

The Tigers' September 7 home game with defending Sun Belt champion Arkansas State will kickoff at 6:30 p.m. Central, televised by Fox Sports Net. Auburn's SEC opener with Mississippi State September 14 will have a 6 p.m. Central kickoff; that game will be televised nationally on ESPN, ESPN2, or ESPNU.

Season and select single-game tickets for the 2013 Auburn football season are now available to the general public through the Auburn Athletics Department Ticket Office.

All tickets can be purchased online at www.AUBTIX.com.

For more information or questions regarding tickets, contact the ticket office by e-mail at tickets@auburn.edu or by phone at 1-855-AUB-2010, ext. 1.

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.

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Good, Family Fun in Fairview



By: Noah Chandler
noahchandler@cullmansense.com

11th Annual Fairview Bluegrass Festival & Jam Session brings large crowd to James Cummings Pavilion

FARIVIEW – Each year, around the end of July, hundreds of music lovers pack Fairview Town Park for the community's annual Bluegrass Festival & Jam Session.

"It just seems to keep growing each year, which is great thing," Betty Howard, event promoter, said. "We generally draw a pretty good crowd, but there's definitely more people here this year."

As the festival continues to grow in popularity, Howard said she looks forward to bringing in more musical acts from around the area.

"This year we had the Clay Boys start things off," she said. "We always have a great selection of bluegrass musicians each year and we look to continue this for years to come."

Not only did The Clay Boys perform but Stan Nelson & The Hurricane Creek Band made their trip up to Cullman after playing another festival earlier in the day.

"We've been working all day trying to make it up here, and I'm glad we made it," Stan Nelson exclaimed just before starting the band's set.

The Ward Family concluded the day's entertainment, leaving most concert goers with an extra pep in their step as they walked back their cars. "If you've not been out here before, you should definitely come next year," Howard said. "So come on!"

For more photos of the 11th Annual Fairview Bluegrass Festival & Jam Session, visit CullmanSense.com.



Hospice Truck Draw Down Set for Thursday

By Lindsey Dossey: • CRMC

CULLMAN – CRMC's Hospice of Cullman County will hold the Annual Truck Draw Down, its largest annual fundraiser benefiting indigent patients, on Thursday, July 25 at 6 p.m. in Cullman Regional Medical Center's Colonel Cullmann Room located in the Community Education Center in Professional Office Building II. This year's event features a chance to win a new 2013 Chevrolet Pick-up Truck or $10,000 cash while enjoying dinner, door prizes, and much more!

"Each year the event grows due to the support from our generous community. I would recommend getting your tickets early as there are a limited number of tickets sold," Hospice of Cullman County Board Member and Event Chair Gloria Williams said.

Dinner will be served to ticket holders at 5:30 p.m. with the Truck Draw Down beginning promptly at 6 p.m. In addition, the event will feature wonderful prizes and auction items, including homemade cakes. Tickets cost $100 each and all monies raised will fund indigent patient care.

Thanks to Healthcare Authority of Cullman County Board Member Judy Butler & Tri-Green Equipment Company in Cullman who have donated a 2013 Stihl Backpack Blower. Hospice will be taking donations for chances to win this exceptional outdoor yard tool. The drawing for the Yard Blower will be held in conjunction with the Truck Draw Down on Thursday, July 25 and you do not have to be present to win.

"This event is so important to patients and families who need our care and support when dealing with difficult end-of-life issues," Williams said. "The monies raised will help us provide care to anyone needing it regardless of their ability to pay."

Tickets for the Truck Draw Down and chances to win the Stihl Backpack Blower can be purchased from the Hospice of Cullman County office located at 1912 AL Highway 157, POB I, Second Floor or can be purchased from one of the following Hospice Board Members Hank Allen, Jean Alexander, Wendell Copeland, Peggy Doss, Jimmy Drake, Nell Dunlap, Felton Easterwood, Donald Jones, Clara Kent, Mike Manning, Dean McMinn, Rita Nicholas, Amy Walker, Randy Weathersby, or Gloria Williams. For more information or to buy tickets for the Truck Draw Down, please call the Hospice office at 256-739-5185 or visit online at HospiceofCullmanCounty.com.



Festival of Smiles



By: Noah Chandler
noahchandler@cullmansense.com

Fun Fest offers day of fun for CCCDD clients, family

CULLMAN – How does playing with water balloons, tossing a football around, having balloon races, getting your face painted and, of course, taking time out of the day to get in some hardcore inflatable bounce house time sound? Well, if you were one of the lucky ones at Friday's Fun Fest you'd know exactly how much fun each of these activities were.

Terry McGill, Director of the Cullman County Center for Developmentally Disabled, said the event started out as a Day of Champions but due to the aging of the clients the celebration has undergone some revamping. "It began as a Special Olympics sort of event but as I've gotten older so have our clients, so we've had to change the pace of the event just a bit to accommodate for everyone, so now we have Fun Fest" McGill said. "It is a yearly event held for our clients and basically for anyone who'd like to come out to enjoy the fun."

The Field of Miracles, located at the Chester Freeman Park, has been the home to the event for several years. "This is just a great location, not too far from our center, that allows our clients and their families a place to come enjoy this great event," he said. "We appreciate everyone who came out to help, from the CCCDD staff, Cullman City Parks & Recreation for allowing us the facility, the players from both the boys and girls basketball teams at Holly Pond for always working with us year after year, and all the others volunteers and parents who make this Fun Fest, fun!"

Tiffany Wilson, Assistant Program Coordinator/Summer Coordinator CCCDD, had the challenge of setting up activities for the day of fun. "We wanted everyone to have a great time, so we made sure to plan games that everyone could participate in," Wilson said. "Of course since it's hot out we made sure to have several games that involved water or water balloons, something everyone can enjoy."

For more photos for Fun Fest 2013, visit CullmanSense.com

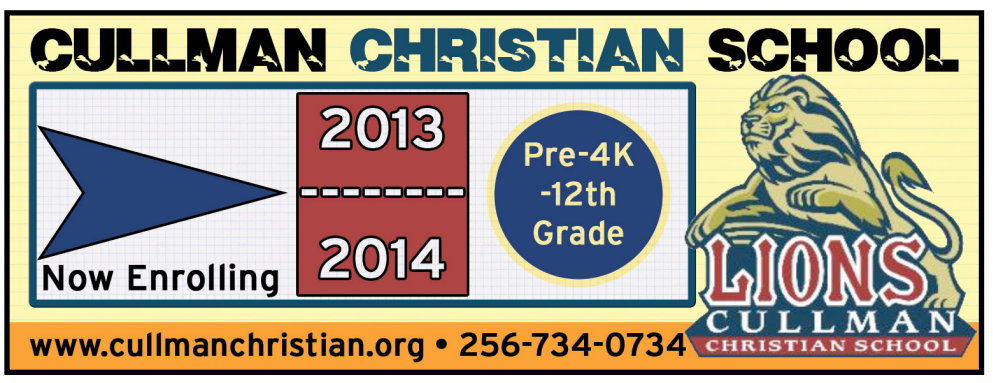


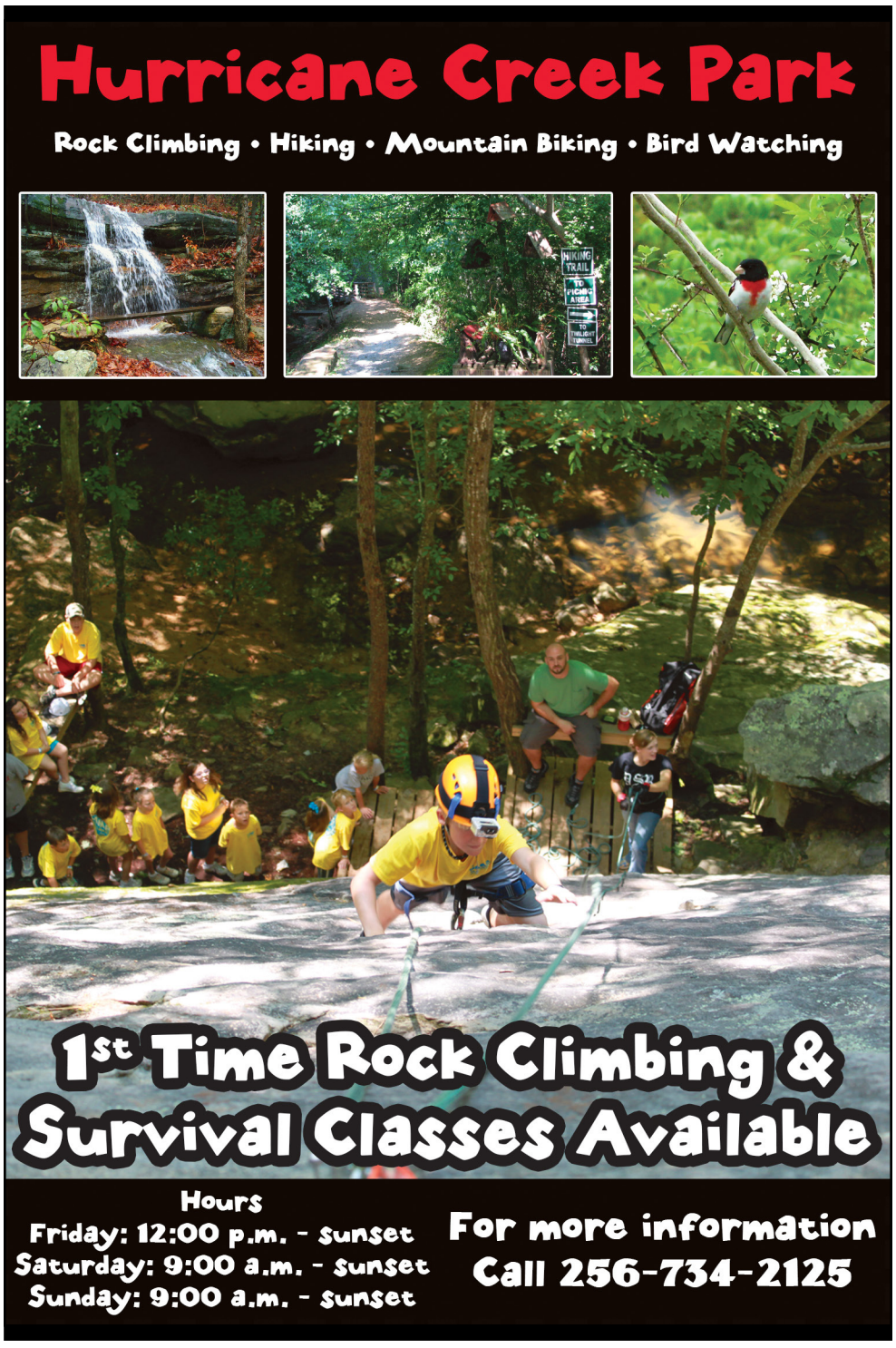
NASA Astrophysicist to Speak at Cullman Hamfest

By: Michael Tucker

CULLMAN — The Cullman Amateur Radio Club (CARC) will host NASA Astrophysics Project Scientist Colleen A. Wilson Hodge at its annual Hamfest on Saturday, July 27. Dr. Wilson Hodge will speak on her experience with NASA'S High Energy Replicated Optics to Explore the Sun (HEROES) project. The CARC invites the public to attend this forum during its hamfest, which takes place Saturday From 8 a.m. until 2 p.m. at the Cullman McGukin Civic Center, located at 510 5th St. SW. Hamfest admission is $5.

Dr. Wilson Hodge is the daughter of two Vinemont amateur "ham" radio operators. She began her career at NASA as an undergraduate cooperative education student in 1989. After receiving bachelor's degrees in physics and in math from the University of Arkansas in 1992, she became a fulltime NASA employee. She received a masters degree in 1996 and a doctoral degree in 1999, both in physics from the University of Alabama in Huntsville. During her career at NASA she has been involved in several projects including the Burst and Transient Source Experiment (BATSE) on the Compton Gamma ray Observatory from 1991-2000 and the Fermi Gamma ray Burst Monitor (GBM) from 2005 to present. Her recent scientific research has focused primarily on Xray binaries and the Crab Nebula. The HEROES project is an advanced version of NASA's successful High Energy Replicated Optics telescope, or HERO, first flown to the upper atmosphere by Marshall Researchers in 2001 to detect distant Xray sources in space. HEROES will significantly modify the original highflying imager with a number of upgrades, most notably an innovative targeting technology dubbed the Solar Aspect System. Developed at the Goddard Center, this sophisticated, new pointing technology will enable scientists to aim HEROES with a high degree of precision, targeting specific points on the sun to obtain high-resolution images and spectroscopic data. When the sun sets on HEROES, the telescope will use its star camera to target and document additional Xray sources overnight. HEROES is a joint effort to fly a powerful Xray telescope high into Earth's atmosphere. During the day, it will study solar flares, providing new insight into the way the sun's magnetic energy functions. At night, the telescope's eye will turn outward to the stars, observing astrophysical targets. NASA'S HEROES project will launch a balloon borne hard Xray telescope from Ft. Sumner, NM, in Sept. 2013.





– 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.

Holly Pond Center Open Daily
Holly Pond Senior Center opens its doors to all seniors each Monday through Friday with games, fellowship, rook, Wii bowling and a lunch served each day at 11 a.m.

Domestic Violence Survivor Support Group
Victim Services of Cullman sponsors a Domestic Violence Survivor Support Group meeting every Monday evening from 5 p.m. until 7 p.m. in the old County Board of Education Building with childcare available. For additional information please call 256-775-2600. CRISIS HOTLINE - 256-734-6100.

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.

Fairview Senior Center Open Tuesdays
Fairview Senior Center opens its door in the Town Hall each Tuesday morning for all seniors. Activities and games include rook, dominoes and other entertaining events. A covered dish meal will be available until 12 noon. For more info please call 256-796-5424.

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.

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.

Elementary Garden Camp: Water
'Water' is the theme for the 'Elementary Garden Camp at the North Alabama Agriplex from 9:30 a.m. until 1100 a.m. Youth ages 6 - 10 are eligible to take part in this program. Further information 256-297-1044 or email at cullmanag@gmail.com.

Preschool Garden Camp: Water
North Alabama Agriplex will offer its 'Preschool Garden Camp' session for children ages 3 to 5, with the theme being 'WATER'. The $35.00 per child fee (with adults accompanying them FREE) covers the cost of the 5 sessions scheduled throughout the summer. The next session will be on August 7 (Garden Friends). Please contact the Agriplex for additional info and to register 256-297-1044 or cullmanag@gmail.com. Limited space is available for each session so register early.

Good Hope Senior Center Open Wednesdays
Good Hope Senior Center welcomes all senior citizens to come visit on Wednesday mornings for music, games such as rook, dominoes, Wii bowling and many other activities. A covered dish lunch is served at 11:30 a.m. All welcome!! The Senior Center is located inside the Good Hope Town Hall.

Latter Day Saints Genealogy Library
The Genealogy Library at the Latter Day Saints (L.D.S.) Church is open to the public each Wednesday night from 7 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. Don Jones is available to open the Library at other times, if needed, so please contact him at 256-784-5098.

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.

CWAC Closed Due to State Swim Meet
Cullman Parks & Recreation Department has announced that the outdoor pools at the Cullman Wellness & Aquatic Center will be closed for three days, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, July 25, 26 and 27th, due to a State Swimming and Diving competition that will be held at the Center. The entire Center itself will be closed to the general public on Friday and Saturday, July 26 and 27.

Baileyton Senior Center open Thursdays
Baileyton Senior Center opens its doors every Thursday morning with music, games, activities, rook, dominoes, Wii Bowling and fun for all. A covered dish lunch is served at 1130 am. For more information please call 256-796-6447.

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.

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.

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.

Chamber's 'Fourth Friday' Luncheon
The Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce's Agri-Business Committee is hosting the 'Fourth Friday' luncheon today at the All Steak Restaurant starting at 11:30 a.m. Featured speaker will be John McMillan, Alabama Commissioner of Agriculture. This event is being sponsored by Alabama Farm Credit. Networking starts at 11:30 a.m. when the doors open, with lunch and program starting at 11:50 a.m. Lunch is $15.00 for chamber members and $20.00 for 'future' members. Everyone welcome but RESERVATIONS IN ADVANCE are REQUIRED. Please register online at www.cullmanchamber.org or RSVP by email at info@cullmanchamber.org or by calling 256-734-0454.

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.

CARC Hamfest 2013
The Cullman Amateur Radio Club will hold their CARC Hamfest 2013 event at Cullman Civic Center from 800 am until 2 p.m. Admission is $5.00 per person, with youths 10 and under free with paid adult. For information please contact Charlie McBrayer WB4PED at 256-708-1000 or thru email cmcbrayer@corrwireless.com or any other CARC member. Also check the club's site www.cullmanarc.webs.com.

Circle of Hope's Shoot for A Cure 3D Archery Shoot
All archers are invited to participate in the Circle of Hope's Shoot for A Cure 3D Archery Shoot this weekend, with Saturday hours from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. Entry fee is $15.00 or participants can join the Fun Round for $8.00. Sunday's shoot will be from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. All score cards must be presented by 4 p.m. on Sunday. There will be awards presented at the conclusion of the weekend. Please contact Janet Laney at 256-338-6650 or Debbie Blackwood at 256-339-5303 for further information. This event is being held at Camp David.

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.

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

Looking Ahead

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.

Reflections of History



Parker Bank & Trust Drawing — Contrib. by Cullman County Museum

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

This Week in History
July 22 - July 28

July 22nd
1775 – George Washington takes command of U.S. troops
1918 – Lightning kills 504 sheep in Utah's Wasatch National Park
1969 – Aretha Franklin arrested for disturbing peace in Detroit

July 23rd
1764 – James Otis publishes views on taxation without representation
1973 – President Nixon refuses to release Watergate tapes of conversations in the White House relevant to the Watergate investigation
2012 – America's first female astronaut, Sally Ride, dies of pancreatic cancer at age 61

July 24th
1793 – France passes first copyright law
1900 – Race riot in New Orleans, 2 white policemen killed2011 – BP announces plans to begin drilling for oil off the coast of Libya

July 25th
1918 – Annette Adams sworn in as 1st woman district attorney of U.S., California
1965 – Bob Dylan booed off Newport Folk Festival for using electric guitar
1997 – Autumn Jackson, found guilty of trying to extort $40M from Bill Cosby

July 26th
1790 – U.S. passes Assumption bill making U.S. responsible for state debts
1945 – Winston Churchill resigns as Britain's Prime Minister
2010 – Over 92,000 classified documents detailing incidents related to the war in Afghanistan are released by Wikileaks; this is the largest leak in U.S military history

July 27th
1586 – Sir Walter Raleigh brings first tobacco to England from Virginia
1909 – Orville Wright tests first U.S. Army airplane, flying 1h12m40s
1996 – Bomb explodes at Atlanta Olympic Park, 1 killed, 110 injured

July 28th
1868 – 14th Amendment ratified, grants citizenship to ex-slaves
1931 – Congress makes "Star-Spangled Banner" the second U.S. national anthem
1959 – Hawaii's first U.S. election sends first Asian-Americans to Congress

Last Week's Poll

Did the Trayvon Martin case directly impact you?

No 100%

This Week's Poll

How do you feel about anonymous posts online?

Vote Today at CullmanSense.com/Poll

The Cullman Amateur Radio Club
Presents the 7th Annual

CARC HAMFEST 2013

to be held
Saturday, July 27, 2013
8am to 2pm
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(Free parking around Civic Center)
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ADMISSION $5.00
Under 10 free w/paid adult
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TABLES $10.00 ea
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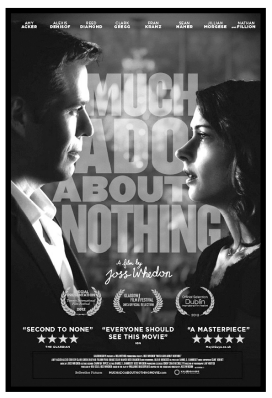
CULLMANSENSE
Community Matters
CULLMANSENSE.COM

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Giant Monsters, Big Robots, and Shakespeare

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

Much Ado About Nothing



Pacific Rim



The two movies I want to discuss, Guillermo del Toro's *Pacific Rim* and Joss Whedon's *Much Ado About Nothing*, have very little in common. One could argue that one film is about giant monsters, while the other is based on work by a literary giant, William Shakespeare.

The only other commonality is the quality and distinction of their directors. Mexican born Guillermo del Toro and geek fan-favorite Joss Whedon are both know for their genre movies and their association with Marvel Comics. Del Toro found renown directing horror films in Mexico, namely *The Devil's Backbone*.

Since then he has made an impact in the US by directing *Blade II* (based on a Marvel Comics character), the two *Hellboy* films (based on the Dark Horse comics character) and the original horror/fairy tale *Pan's Labyrinth*. Whedon has long been established as the reigning lord of geek culture having created the TV shows *Buffy The Vampire Slayer*, *Firefly* (including film spin-off *Serenity*), *Angel*, and *Dollhouse*.

Whedon has also written for Mavel Comics and made his biggest impact on the mainstream last summer directing and writing the record breaking blockbuster *The Avengers*. The films in question are still likely to appeal to these artists built-in fan base, but their content could not be more dissimilar.

Pacific Rim is del Toro's attempt to make the giant rubber suit Japanese monster movies of his youth. Having grown up loving *Godzilla* and its countless knock offs and spin-offs, del Toro thought the genre of giant monsters fighting and destroying entire cities needed to be revitalized. And, in theory, I agree.

It's important to make a distinction between plot (or premise) and story (the way plot is delivered). The plot of *Pacific Rim* is rife with potential as a dimension crack in Pacific Ocean allows for giant monsters, called Kaiju, to wreak havoc on earth. Our best defense being giant robots, called Jagers, piloted by two heroes with their minds linked together in order to control the massive machine.

Therein lays all the explanation needed for bombastic fights, otherworldly conflict, and drama as two people are forced to share one mind in order to survive, fight, and win.

Unfortunately, all we really get is bombastic fights. Those fights are well-done and massively entertaining, everything you'd expect from a visionary director with access to cutting edge CGI. What is sorely lacking is any good sense of character. All the conflicts and relationships are the most predictable stereotypes of an action blockbuster- the conflicted hero, the reluctant heroine, the gruff commander.

The possible complications and drama of sharing your mind with another person are only touched superficially. Comedian Charlie Day (*Its Always Sunny In Philadelphia* and *Horrible Bosses*) teams with del Toro favorite Ron Perlman (*Hellboy*) to attempt to explain the extra dimensional threat of the Kaiju.

These scenes deepen the pseudoscience behind these giant monsters and the "drift" technology that links two minds together through technology, but largely they serve as comedic relief not substantial plot development.

Combine all these elements and the audience fails to get a sophisticated Godzilla-style movie with fully realized human characters; instead the audience is served a big budget version of the 90s show *Mighty Morphin Power Rangers* with the technical prowess of the modern *Transformers* films. Still, at its core, the premise of this movie is tantalizing. There are hundreds of other stories that could be told in the so-called "Kaiju Wars"- loss, triumph, and devastation. In this film, we see snippets of the year's long conflict, making the real stakes of the conflict and the audience's attachment to them paper thin. *Pacific Rim* is ultimately fun to watch, but soulless and often boring.

The audience needs to connect to the protagonists in the film or at least fully realize the dire straits the world is facing. These elements of drama are explored superficially at best, decreasing emotional investment, despite all the pretty spectacle.

Stepping as far away from giant monsters from another dimension as possible, there is Joss Whedon's *Much Ado About Nothing*. The making of this film has its own story. During the last months of post-production on Whedon biggest project ever - *The Avengers* - he was given a 12 day vacation. Instead of taking that time to relax on a beach or tour Rome, Whedon decided to make ANOTHER MOVIE.

It had long been his passion to make a filmed adaptation of Shakespeare's most popular, and perhaps best, comedy *Much Ado About Nothing*.

The story, for those unfamiliar, is typically Shakespearian, as a prince and his heroes returning from a foreign war are given rest at a wealthy noble estate where love blossoms and villainy abounds while identities are mistaken and mischievous plots are hatched. And given this most ripe source material, the drive to create overpowered the need for rest. So, Whedon with his friends, actors he had worked with in past television projects (notably *Angel* and *Dollhouse*), made this jewel of a film at his California home. Shot in black and white, slick, stylish, funny, and sexy, *Much Ado* shines as a passion project for not only the director, but also the actors.

They are clearly having fun with the material and with one another. Like any great theatre troupe, you can tell these actors know their strengths and enjoy honing their craft with like-minded artists. As the writer, Whedon updates Shakespeare's work subtly adding depth that a modern audience appreciates more than the Bard's typical love-by-accident or love-at-first sight conventions. He also adds an understated modern sex appeal, reminiscent of Baz Luhrmann's recent *Great Gatsby*.

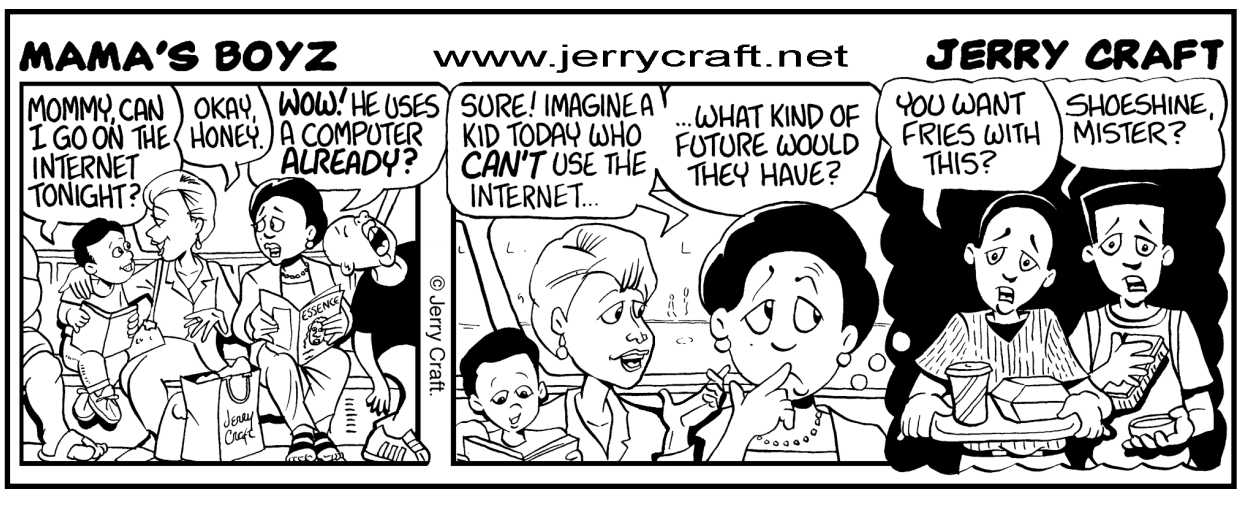
And yet, Shakespeare's words remain unaltered; they are still lyrical, whimsical, and acerbic. Moreover, they are spoken by actors that understand the wit of their presentations. Lesser adaptations of *Much Ado About Nothing*, especially those on the stage, are reduced to moments of slapstick absurdity in order to provoke a laugh from the audience. And while the absurdity of characters like Constable Dogberry (played by TV's *Castle*, Nathan Fillion) are intact and brilliantly played, Whedon allows the dynamic, understated rapier wit of the lead characters - Beatrice (actress Amy Acker of *Dollhouse*) and Benedict(actor Alexis Denisof of *Angel*) - to exist on its own merits, while jovially poking fun at the actions of foolish people in love. Shakespeare is not all comedy; there is always an element of pain and tragedy- salt to accompany the sweet. The range of the actors and the agility of the director is on display in these moments of tempestuous anger, grief, and regret. In direct opposition to *Pacific Rim*, there is no real spectacle to imbibe here. The entire film rests upon the strength of the characters and the charm and truth of their interactions. The tonal shift does not weigh this film down; in the end it is still a comedy. In fact, it is almost the formula for the modern Romantic comedy. So, the audience walks away with a delightful smile and the warmth of true love's victory- no matter how fictional that may actually be. Academically, the humor and style of *Much Ado* might even break that barrier between those literature and theatre buff who love Shakespeare and those that exist on the fringes. This film doesn't go for the over the top fast cuts or frenzied pace of other "modernized" Shakespeare interpretations like *Romeo And Juliet* (starring Leonardo DiCaprio). This film is truer to Shakespeare's original tone and plotting, but comedy is the ultimate bridge as a genuine laugh can charm the most stubborn movie goer. *Much Ado About Nothing* is not going to convince anyone that despises Shakespeare of his timeless wit, but anyone with an open mind should be able to appreciate this film's sharpness, intimacy, and warmth.

Recommended watching: Joss Whedon's short-lived Sci-fi Western *Firefly* and his co-written and produced horror film *Cabin in the Woods* are examples of Whedon's sense of humor and craft as well as his genre bending and blending. Guillermo del Toro, who began his career as a designer and artist, displays his best work to date in the subtitled Spanish films *The Devil's Backbone* and *Pan's Labyrinth*.

Comics

More on p12

Are you a local cartoonist? We want to feature your work! E-mail comics@cullmansense.com





No(ah)-It All: A Simple Guide to Burning Bridges

By:
Noah Chandler
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cullmansense.com

Due to legal issues concerning the content of the column slated to be published this week – entitled anonYmous Cowardly Acts – it will be instead be printed in the July 29 edition of CullmanSense. In its place, we ask that you please enjoy the following piece. We apologize for the inconvenience; A Simple Guide to Burning Bridges by Noah Chandler.

As far back as I can remember people have been telling me "boy, you better not burn your bridges." Burn my bridges? When that phrase was first thrown my way I thought why anyone would burn a bridge, mainly because fire won't do that much damage to the concrete structures, plus you'd be wasting perfectly good flammable material.

Honestly. It didn't make sense to the small version of yours truly other than the real-world application of physically setting fire to a bridge. As the years ticked away it became rather clear what the old timers were trying to hip me to; don't be a pariah. Here though was the dilemma that faced the teenage version of this guy. How do you burn bridges when none exist? While reflecting on these times, trying to compile information for this little column, it struck me like a 1986 model Buick; I have always been a pariah. If you want to adhere to the dictionary's version of the word then I'm nothing more than an outcast, one that is despised or rejected, which isn't far off from the truth whenever certain segments of the population think of me, so it's accurate to some extent.

Now for most out there, the mention of pariah may trigger a negative emotional response. However, it should rather send a signal that this person is not aligned with any one group, philosophy, or general thought process, mainly because they live outside the context of a normal life, which allows them the ability to navigate all roads without leave a wake of destruction behind. So now that we have the proper classification of who I am – at least to some – then let's move on to how to simply burn bridges.

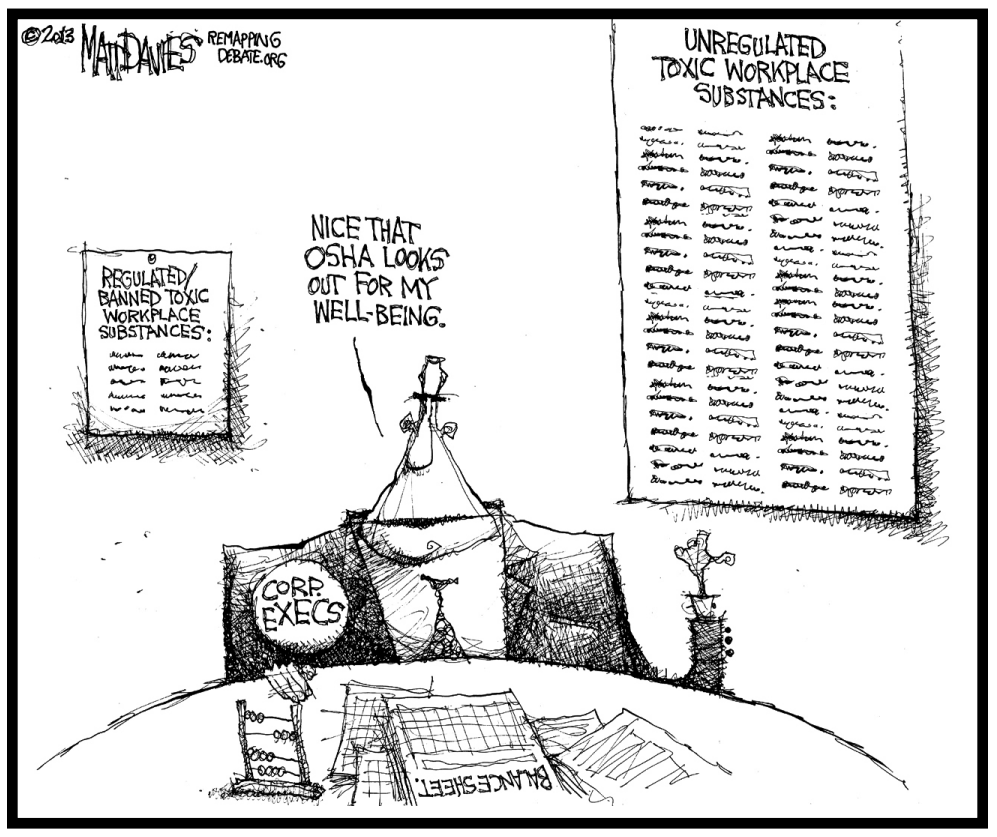
1. Purchase 40 boxes of toothpicks
2. Purchase one bottle of glue
3. Take one empty pizza box – open box, flattening out both sides
4. Sit down at a table and begin building a miniature bridge from the toothpicks (make sure to build structure outside, in a well-ventilated area)
5. Make sure to use glue on the structure so it will stay perfectly in place (again, well-ventilated area)
6. Let bridge sit overnight
7. Request a burn permit from your nearest fire department, city/town hall, and landlord if you rent...no permit, no burn
8. Take a water hose, wet down a designated safe zone – preferably on concrete since, you know, it's concrete
9. Set bridge – still on pizza box – on the wet surface
10. Install a long, long, long fuse (a long fuse means you don't get burned or hurt while burning your bridge)
11. Once all the permits are in order, all areas are wetted down to prevent the bridge burning from spreading, and you are at a safe distance, light the extremely long fuse – remember long fuse means minimizing your risk of injury, though it is always possible – but only as you hold a water hose in the other hand
12. Once the miniature bridge is ablaze, have someone take a picture so you can remember the day you burned a bridge.
13. Quickly extinguish the burning bridge, so you can have a memento of your time spent together

In all seriousness though, telling someone they are going to burn a bridge is the same as saying you won't risk it all for what you feel is right. Bold statement? Perhaps, but at least I'm willing to make it.

And seriously, don't build the bridge just to burn it. It's dangerous, stupid, foolish, and although fun to watch, I and many attorneys would encourage you not to build a miniature bridge out of toothpicks, glue, and a pizza box for the sole intent of burning it.

What's sad is that someone would actually go through with the plan. Anyway, that's how to burn a bridge. Be sure to grab a copy of CS next week as I take a look at anonymous online posts, what drives a person to do so, and why I chose such a cowardly way to express myself years ago. Oh yeah, there might be an unmasking of one of Cullman's worst anonymous posters, but then again God may evoke grace. Have a great week! And seriously, don't burn bridges – it's just not cool!

YOUR VOICE
Send us your voice and we may publish it! E-mail your submission to voice@cullmansense.com.



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NEW LAW CHANGES

Cullman County Revenue Commissioner's Office

The Alabama Department of Revenue recently announced a new law that applies to homestead exemptions for all property owners who are age 65 or older or who are totally and permanently disabled.

How does this affect you?

The new law applies to people claiming homestead exemptions on their primary residences and amends the 2012 homestead tax law. If you had previously qualified for an over age 65 or disability exemption but did not qualify in 2012, you may be eligible now.

Important facts to remember

Your age and income matter: if you are 65 or older and your annual taxable income was less than $12,000 on your 2011 Federal income tax return, you're eligible for a specific tax exemption on your residence. (If your taxable income was greater than $12,000, you still qualify for a partial homestead exemption.)

To request your over age 65 homestead exemption, bring documentation of your age and income (2011 Federal and State income tax returns) to the Revenue Commission office at the Courthouse or one of the satellite offices in Baileyton, Dodge City, or Hanceville.

Your disability matters; if you are permanently and totally disabled, you're eligible for a specific tax exemption on your residence. To request your disability exemption, bring your ID, along with proof of disability, to the Revenue Commission office (Courthouse or satellite office).

Proof of disability may include documentation of disability income, such as your private disability annuity or Medicare Card (SSI does not qualify). You may also submit two **Alabama Department of Revenue Physician Affidavits**, as long as one of the physicians is actively treating you directly related to your disability. To be totally and permanently disabled, you must be unable to work because of a medically-determinable physical or mental impairment.

The deadline to submit your over 65 or disability homestead claim for the 2013 tax year is July 31, 2013. For assistance, contact the Revenue Commission at (256) 775-4776.

Give us a Tweet - @cullmansense

Relaxation At The Park

By: Noah Chandler
noahchandler@cullmansense.com

Boy Scout Troop 989 services community, provides relaxation area at local park





CULLMAN – Sportsman Lake Park has undergone many transformations over the years. From the times when it played host to a pseudo-Zoo, to the addition then removal of a miniature Ferris Wheel, to the mighty return of the children's train, and of course, the Veteran's Memorial, which stands guard at the entrance to the park.

While these different phases and faces of the park are unique, the newest addition was laid by the hands of Boy Scout Troop 989.

"What we are doing is building a relaxation area with a game platform here at Sportsman Lake for those who come to the park to enjoy," Gray Cummings said. "We will be putting in benches and a table with a chess board inlayed, just so people can have a relaxing place to sit."

Besides breaking ground on the relaxation area, Cummings along with the rest of Troop 989, worked throughout the rain soaked Saturday to make homes for the wood's feathered friends.

"We will also be building between 10-15 birdhouses to place throughout the park. Birding has always been a fasciation of mine, so I thought why not build them since we know how." Although the rain prevented the full completion of the relaxation area, Cummings said it will be completed later in the week.

Check with CullmanSense.com for more on this story later in the week.

FCA (from Front)

Wallace State's own, Randy Putman, will be be on hand to help with baseball instruction.

In addition, Former NFL coach Bobby Jackson, who has 21 years of college and NFL coaching experience, and Devin Wyman, a former New England Patriot and current player for the Utah Blaze of the Arena Football League, will be offering skill training and spiritual guidance at the camp.

"We believe that this camp will be a great community outreach to the children of Cullman county. We hope that this would be a big boost to our ministry in the area," said Strange about the impact of the camp on Cullman.

Along with sports and spiritual guidance, the camp also offers scholarships to children who otherwise would not have the means to attend college.

"We are offering scholarships to those in need," said Strange.

"These scholarships have been made possible by local businesses, churches, and individual donors. FCA is a non-profit ministry that relies on the support of the local area to do all local events and programs."

The Fellowship of Christian Athletes Multi-Sport Camp will be held from July 22nd to July 26th at Heritage Park.

The camp will operate from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. each day.

The cost for the camp is $150 per camper and includes lunch each day, with Chic-Fil-A being served for lunch at least one day, FCA t-shirt, FCA bible, drinks, and sunscreen.

For more information contact the FCA office at 256-536-7333.



Grant (from Front)

instruction.

In addition, volunteers will coordinate a new program for speakers of English as a Second Language (ESL).

New resources, including hand-held tablets will make the learning process more interactive as coaches and students work together.

"At Dollar General, we are passionate about our mission of Serving Others throughout the communities we serve," said Rick Dreiling, Dollar General's chairman and CEO.

"It's exciting to see the Dollar General Literacy Foundation's outreach in action as we partner with organizations to further education and literacy and make a real difference in people's lives."

Celebrating its 20th anniversary in 2013, the Dollar General Literacy Foundation is proud to support initiatives that help others improve their lives through literacy and education. Since its inception in 1993, the Dollar General Literacy Foundation has awarded more than $81 million in grants to nonprofit organizations, helping more than 4.7 million individuals take their first steps toward literacy or continued education.

For more information on the Dollar General Literacy Foundation, a complete list of grant recipients, or grant application deadline information, please visit www.dgliteracy.org.

For more information about the Wallace State Adult Education program, which offers free classes on campus, online, and at locations in Cullman, Blount, Morgan, and Winston Counties, please visit www.wallacestate.edu/adulted or call 256-352-8077.

