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Local



Oktoberfest Kicks Off

Bundles of bratwursts were brought in, the beer kegs continued to flow, and the shows were impressive as Cullman reigned in its 32nd Oktoberfest. p6

CCPS Receives Donation Offers to Keep Teachers in the Classroom

With news coming on recently that possible furloughs could be implemented for teachers at Cullman City Primary School beginning next week, Cullman City Schools Superintendent Dr. Doreen Griffeth received multiple inquiries from residents asking what they could do to keep the Head Start teachers in the classroom. p2

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Local art show raises funds for community children in need p7



On the Set of FOX's *Sleepy Hollow*

Nathan Dockery speaks about what it's like to be on the modern day TV version of Ichabod Crane and the Headless Horseman p10



MS. OKTOBERFEST

Ms. Oktoberfest 2013 Payton Palmer



Ms. Oktoberfest 2013 crowned following traditional cupcake selection p12

Payton Palmer with Colonel Johann Cullmann, portrayed by Larry Rowlette



Patton Short, left, shares the spotlight with the newly crowned Ms. Oktoberfest, Payton Palmer. Short was the reigning Ms. Oktoberfest.

Government Shutdown Hitting Home

By: Noah Chandler
noahchandler@cullmansense.com

Harbor Haus just one of the potential casualties of the bi-partisan government shutdown

CULLMAN – With news that the federal government would be shutting its doors, literally, beginning late this past week, many local programs have been left scrambling to cover the newly created financial burden.

"The government shutdown has not effected Harbor Haus to date (Sunday evening) but if it continues it will have serious adverse effects," Donna Jacobs, Executive Director at Victim Services of Cullman, Inc., said.

"I received an email from ADECA (Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs) that simply stated that we would not receive any drawdowns as long as the government was shut down," Ja- p12

Backlogs for Veterans Could Grow Under Shutdown

By: Pamela M. Prah • Stateline

Veterans, who already face a lengthy backlog in getting help, risk not getting their disability and pension benefits at all next month if the federal government shutdown lasts several weeks.

The Department of Veterans Affairs said it has enough money to process veterans' claims for pensions, compensation, education, and vocational rehabilitation programs through late October, but a prolonged shutdown would suspend those programs once the money runs out.

And while veterans' medical care is protected, some call centers and hotlines have already been suspended under the budget impasse between Congress and the White House.

States play a key role in ensuring that veterans receive their benefits. Ever since World War II, each state has developed its own department or agency specifically to manage veterans' affairs. Once the state processes a veteran's pension, compensation,w and disability claim, that claim is then sent to the federal VA "and at that time, it's out of our control," said Robert Horton, spokesman for the Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs, with the federal VA either approving or rejecting the p12

Alabama Treasure Forest Association Joins Alabama Farmers Federation

By: Debra Davis

OZARK – A statewide group focused on improving Alabama forestlands voted recently to affiliate with the Alabama Farmers Federation, the state's largest farm organization.

Alabama TREASURE Forest Association (ATFA) members approved the merger at the organization's annual conference in Ozark, Oct. 4-5. The affiliation is effective immediately.

With similar mission statements, merging the groups seemed natural, said ATFA President Billy Blackwell, who also serves as mayor of Ozark.

"By being a member of p12

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WSCC Fair Promotes Healthy Living



Tom Duncan, left, a freshman in the Emergency Medical Services program, checks Marie Williams' blood sugar during the Healthy Living Fair at Wallace State Community College. Williams is a sophomore in the Respiratory Therapy program.

By: Russell Moore
WSCC Contributor

HANCEVILLE – If anyone wanted to know how much they weighed, what their blood sugar level was, or how to best sit at their computer to prevent carpal tunnel syndrome, they could find the answers to those questions and more at the Healthy Living Fair held Tuesday, Oct. 1, at Wallace State Community College in Hanceville, Ala.

The fair is a cooperative effort by several different programs at college, with each offering testing, information, games, treats, and prizes to students, faculty, and community members who attended.Mary Leah Moss, director of the WSCC Wellness Center, said the day is a way to promote a healthy lifestyle and as a way to promote the programs offered at Wallace State. Along with tents filled with information, there were demonstrations of Zumba, yoga, and CrossFit training. Among the most popular activities were the massages offered by the Massage Therapy program.

The programs that participated decorated their tents to go with the themes they established for the day. Moss said she was impressed with the creativity and effort the students put forth for their displays, from the breast cancer awareness tent that encouraged visitors to the tent be survivors, not statistics, to the Dental Hygiene program, which gave out toothbrushes, toothpaste, and floss.

The Occupational Therapy Assistant classes created an OTA Nerd Alert tent, focusing on the hazards of technology.

Student Jenny Daily said that with the widespread use of technology in the form of computers, phones, and tablets, that they felt it was important to educate others on how best to use those devices in ways that don't cause the user pain. "We set up a couple of computers at a table," she said. "One was ergonomically correct and the other was not." The point was to show the user how beneficial it is to raise the computer screen to a height that will prevent strain on the neck and shoulders.

There were also displays on texting, how to recognize the signs of carpal tunnel syndrome, and other aspects related to using technology safely. "Since we were dealing with technology, we decided to dress like nerds," said Daily, who like her classmates, was wearing black frame glasses with tape on the nose-piece and suspenders with her blue jeans and white T-shirt.

Daily said the tent they designed was not only a learning tool for those who stopped by, it was a learning tool for the OTA students.

"We did a lot of research," she said of the students' efforts with their tent. "So it was a learning opportunity for us, too."

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

CCPS Receives Donation Offers to Keep Teachers in the Classroom

By: Noah Chandler
noahchandler@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – With news coming on Wednesday that possible furloughs could be implemented for teachers at Cullman City Primary School beginning next week, Cullman City Schools Superintendent Dr. Doreen Griffeth received multiple inquiries from residents today asking what they could do to keep the Head Start teachers in the classroom.

"We are very supportive of the job our teachers and staff do for our Head Start Program. As a system, we are keeping the doors open through October 8 at a cost of $3,200 a day," Dr. Griffeth said. "We would love to be able to keep the program doors open longer and would welcome donations to help us do so."

The cost to educate, provide two meals, and facilitate a learning environment costs the school $32 a day for each student. A total of 100 students will be directly affected by the proposed furloughs which are to take effect on Wednesday, October 9.

"We have an inspired leadership team, staff, and board members who would love to keep this program going for students. In addition to the valuable instruction received each day, the two meals that these students receive at the school are critical for many of them," she said.

Dr. Griffeth noted that several residents have made donations to the school system. She said anyone may make a donation of any amount to Cullman City Schools and direct the monies to the Head Start Program.

"The system has committed what funds that it can and will hope that no furloughs will be necessary. We watch every day for the move in negotiations with the federal government," she said. "We so appreciate the support of our community."

The decision regarding the possible furloughs will be made during a specially called Board Meeting, which has been scheduled for Tuesday, October 8, 2013 at 2 p.m. in the Board Room at the Cullman City Board of Education.

WSCC Fall Mini Term II Registration

By: Russell Moore
WSCC Contributor

HANCEVILLE – Registration for Wallace State Community College's fall semester Mini Term II classes takes place Oct. 15 and Oct. 16. Classes begin Oct. 16.

Wallace State has a plethora of options, including online courses, for students to register for during the second mini term. Mini Term II classes are eight-week courses.

See the complete Mini Term II class schedule online at wallacestate.edu/current-schedule.

Registration information is available online at wallacestate.edu.

For more information, call Lion Central at 256-352-8236 or 1-866-350-9722.

Benefactors Day celebrated at St. Bernard

By: Joyce Nix • St. Bernard Contributor

CULLMAN – St. Bernard celebrated Benefactors Day on Monday, September 23 in the Abbey Church. While the sun cast its golden light into the Abbey Church, St. Bernard Abbey honored the capacity-filled church, thanking and praying for all who have supported the work of St. Bernard.

The Rev. Philip N. O'Kennedy, pastor of the Church of St. John the Baptist, Madison, AL delivered the homily. Rev. O'Kennedy, in addressing the crowd, recognized the youth and novices as a sign of restoration and renewal as well as a sign of hope for the future.

"While Birmingham may serve as the center of the Diocese for Alabama, Cullman is certainly the soul - geographic and spiritual center of the Birmingham Diocese," Fr. O'Kennedy said.

Fr. O'Kennedy stated that for 122 years, St. Bernard has been continuing a 1500 year Benedictine tradition. "To the monks, sisters, benefactors, and students, I encourage each of you to study, contemplate wisdom, grow in the fear of the Lord and in the knowledge of God. Benedictines are forever!"

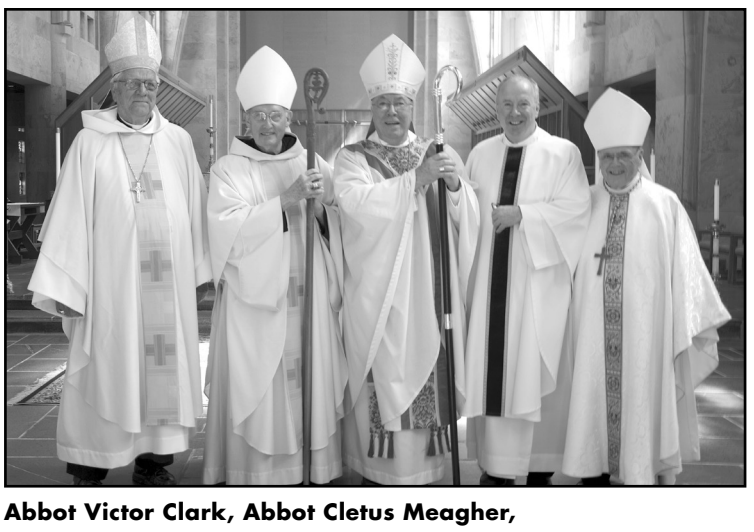
"Be who you are, what you are and where you are," he said.

Rebecca Whited was the organist for the celebration. Servers were from St. Bernard Preparatory School Knights of the Altar.

A light breeze combined with warm sunshine provided an excellent outing for the reception under the tent on the Abbey grounds between the Church and the Monastery. Saint Bernard's All-Star Band performed live music under the direction of Mr. Lester Harris.

Abbot Cletus thanked all in attendance for their presence. "We do this every year to honor those who have contributed to the work we do. Thank you for your generous support!"

A German lunch was served in the cafeteria following the reception.



Abbot Victor Clark, Abbot Cletus Meagher, Bishop Robert J. Baker, Rev. Philip O'Kennedy, and Bishop Emeritus David E. Foley.

What's Online

Sipping History at the Blue Moose

Blue Moose Café & Brew Pub will tap into history Friday night as Cullman's first legally brewed batch of beer is unveiled just hours before the 32nd annual Cullman Oktoberfest celebration begins.

qrne.ws/104



Aderholt Statement on House Effort to Go to Conference Committee on Continuing Resolution

"The House passed a Continuing Resolution to keep the federal government funded and to stop the train wreck that is the President's unpopular health care law, not once, not twice, but three times...

qrne.ws/105

WIC Program receives additional funding through October

The federal government has provided additional funds for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) programs to operate. The Alabama WIC Program will continue to see participants and issue benefits through the month...

qrne.ws/106

National Guard Feels Shutdown Pain

By: Maggie Clark • Stateline

Nearly 50,000 full-time National Guard employees have been furloughed as a result of the federal government shutdown. The standoff in Washington also has resulted in the cancellation of most of the weekend's training exercises, depriving even non-furloughed guardsmen of the salaries they receive for drilling.

The furloughed guardsmen are paid by the federal government, even though they are under the command of their states' adjutant generals and governors.

The guardsmen who have been affected generally work as full-time computer programmers, or are engaged in cybersecurity or administrative work. Guardsmen whose salaries come from state funds will not be furloughed. In some states, that is about half of the total.

Most National Guard members are part-time, and hold regular civilian jobs. However, they are paid to train one weekend each month and two weeks each year, in case they are ever called for domestic emergencies or active duty military service.

Those whose training exercises have been canceled will not get paid, even though they have not been furloughed.

Many of the troops who have received furlough notices because of the shutdown were already taking furlough days because of sequestration, the across-the-board federal budget cuts which took effect in March 2013.

Overall, there are 385,000 members of the Army National Guard and 114,000 members of the Air National Guard, according to the National Guard Bureau.

Several governors were furious about having to issue furlough notices to guardsmen in their states. "Some of these men and women have been deployed multiple times," Maine Republican Gov. Paul LePage said in a statement. "This is a shameful tactic to use against Mainers who have put their life on the line to protect our freedoms."

In Colorado, where National Guard troops are helping with the recovery from massive flooding, Gov. John Hickenlooper, a Democrat, ordered the state to pay the salaries of the 650 furloughed guardsmen who were assisting with cleanup.

"We can't afford to lose one day in rebuilding areas destroyed or damaged by the floods," Hickenlooper said.

"Our National Guard troops are an invaluable part of the team working on the recovery. We need them to stay on the job."

Florida also agreed to bring back some of its furloughed federal employees to help with preparations for Tropical Storm Karen, which is expected to make landfall near Pensacola this weekend.

"We're calling in an additional ten (people) so that we can run longer hours, so we can get into more of a 24-hour ops tempo to support the evolving environment with Tropical Storm Karen," said Lt. Col. James Evans, director of public affairs for the Florida National Guard, in an interview with WJCT News.

If Florida Gov. Rick Scott, a Republican, declares a state of emergency, more furloughed guardsmen would be able to come back to work.

National Guard members currently deployed overseas will continue to get their paychecks. Congress is considering a bill that would give back-pay to all furloughed employees after the shutdown is over.

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

Shutdown Could Cost Millions in Lost Tourism Dollars

By: Pamela M. Prah • Stateline

From the Grand Canyon to the Statue of Liberty, the closing of 401 national parks isn't just disappointing campers, school children, and wedding parties.

Local communities and states are losing millions of dollars in lost tourism and tax revenue as the federal budget impasse lingers.

Visitors spend about $76 million a day in communities near national parks, the National Park Service estimated before the federal government partially closed down because of failed budget talks between Congress and President Obama.

The last government shutdown in 1995-1996 cost local businesses near national parks $14 million per day.

The National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA), an advocacy group, estimates the actual impact on businesses from the current shutdown could be closer to $30 million per day.

Miriam Robbins, a spokeswoman for the nonprofit Grand Canyon Association, said her organization is losing about $30,000 a day because it can't operate its seven stores in the park or offer classes or hiking trips in the park. The proceeds go back to the Grand Canyon.

October is peak season for many tourists who want to see the changing autumn leaves and for weddings in some national parks.

Four weddings scheduled for the first week of the shutdown at Yosemite, for example, face cancellation, according to this interactive map from the NPCA.

Approximately 15 percent of the visitors to Great Smoky Mountains National Park come in October, according to Holly Scott, the marketing director of Friends of the Great Smokies, a nonprofit organization that raises private funds to help maintain the park.

Visitors to Great Smoky Mountains National Park generate an estimated $10 million in gateway communities in October, she wrote in a recent blog post.

The shutdown is costing the National Park Service $450,000 a day in lost revenue from fees collected at entry stations and fees paid for activities in the park, such as camping, boat rides, and cave tours. Every federal dollar invested in national parks generates $10 in economic activity, the NPCA said.

The parks also support more than a quarter-million jobs and more than $30 billion in private-sector spending each year, the group said. The National Park Service manages 84 million acres in all 50 states.

The shutdown has furloughed more than 20,000 National Park Service employees. Another 12,500 concession employees are employed in national parks during early October.

Some 3,000 National Park Service employees continue to work, providing security, emergency services, and firefighting.

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

The 10 Most Visited Parks in 2012

By total visitors:

1. Great Smoky Mountains National Park (TN, NC) — 9,685,829
2. Grand Canyon National Park (AZ) — 4,421,352
3. Yosemite National Park (CA) — 3,853,404
4. Yellowstone National Park (WY, MT, ID) — 3,447,729
5. Rocky Mountain National Park (CO) — 3,229,617
6. Zion National Park (UT) — 2,973,607
7. Olympic National Park (WA) — 2,824,908
8. Grand Teton National Park (WY) — 2,705,256
9. Acadia National Park (ME) — 2,431,052
10. Cuyahoga Valley National Park (OH) — 2,299,722

Source: National Parks Conservation Association based on National Park Service data

cpr&
cullman city parks & recreation

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

www.cullmanrecreation.org
256-734-9157

- **Youth Basketball Registration:** Youth Basketball Registration for boys and girls ages 5-15. Cost is $75 which includes a jersey. Games will be played at Ingle Park and the Cullman Wellness & Aquatic Center beginning in November. Call Heritage Park at 256-739-9931 for details, or call the Civic Center.
- **Archery Classes:** Fall archery classes will be beginning on September 30 for ages 8&up at the Cullman Civic Center. Call 256-734-9157 for details; classes are available for beginners, intermediate, and advanced archers.
- **Zumba Classes:** Held at the Civic Center Mon., Wed., and Thurs. 5:30-6:30pm. $40 for 10 classes or $6 per class with instructor Monica Kugler.
- **Nia Dance & Ageless Grace Fitness Classes:** Includes yoga stretching, anti-aging tips, and more with instructor Ann Caretti. Nia class is held Tuesdays at 10:00am at the civic center, and Ageless Grace is held on Thursdays at 5:30pm.
- **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.
- **Dog Obedience Classes:** Classes are held on Tuesdays starting October 22 at the Civic Center with a puppy class at 6pm and adult class at 7pm. $65 per dog; session lasts through December 17. Instructor Tina Cagle Parker.
- **Advanced Dog Obedience Classes:** Held on Thursdays at the Cullman Civic Center, the class will take place from October 10-November 21 from 6:30pm-7:30pm. Must call instructor, Tina Cagle Parker, to attend class and have completed regular course. Call the Civic Center for info.
- **Ballroom Dance Classes:** Want to learn to Ballroom Dance? We've got you covered! Classes will be held 4 Thursday nights from Oct. 3-24 at the Civic Center. Cost is $10 per person for class. Call now to reserve your spot at 256-734-9157!
- **Gun Safety Class:** Learn gun safety and protocol with this class on Saturday Oct. 26 from 8am-12pm. 200 rounds of ammo are required, as well as gun with permit. Cost is $25 and the class will be put on by the Cullman City Police Dept. Call ahead for details at 256-734-9157.
- **Yoga Class Tues. @ 6pm at the Civic Center!**

The Northern Beltline: Still Not a Done Deal or a Good Idea

By: Eva Dillard

Although supporters of the controversial $5.4 billion Northern Beltline held a press conference recently to announce upcoming construction, the reality is the status of the project remains uncertain due to significant concerns about its environmental impacts and costs to taxpayers.

The permit issued only applies to a tiny portion of the project –less than two miles of the 52-mile highway. The state currently has about $160 million in funds, which may not be enough to even cover this section, that can instead go towards further work on Corridor X or Corridor V.

Beyond the $160 million, there is no longer a dedicated funding source for the Beltline. The project will directly compete with immediate transportation priorities around the state.

While an uphill funding battle for the road remains, just as important is the fact that there is an ongoing lawsuit against the Northern Beltline. That federal lawsuit alleges that the project and an analysis of more effective alternatives have not been properly studied, as required by law.

As serious hurdles remain for the Northern Beltline, questions and concerns throughout the state continue to grow about moving forward with the project. Before taxpayers subsidize wealthy corporate landowners and a handful of others who stand to benefit from the project, and before valuable wetlands and headwater streams are damaged, now is a critical time to determine whether this is really the best choice for our transportation system, our environment, and our shrinking taxpayer coffers.

New Study Commission to review opportunities for pharmacy savings

Contributed by Medicaid

A new Pharmacy Study Commission to review Medicaid's pharmacy delivery and reimbursement system and to evaluate options for reform held its first meeting August 23.

The commission was appointed in June by Governor Robert Bentley and is specifically charged with analyzing the current system, comparing Alabama's program with other states' operations, identifying alternative pharmacy systems that could maintain quality and save money for Alabama and determine the estimated savings and economic impact for each described system if implemented.

The commission is to report its findings to the Governor no later than December 1, 2013.

Commission members will review data from states that have lower costs along with the initiatives that are contributing to those savings.

"You can't figure out if there is any opportunity without knowing how we stack up against other states," he said.

High School Football Week 6 Roundup

By: Josh McBrayer
joshmcbrayer@cullmansense.com

This week saw some teams get back on track while others hit a bump in the road. One team put themselves right in the middle of the hunt for a playoff spot while others won to stay alive. So with that being said, here we go!

Cullman 30 vs. Russellvile 7
By: Josh McBrayer

CULLMAN - Following a tough loss last week to Madison Academy, Cullman was glad to be home and they treated their fans to a 30-7 thumping of 5A rival Russellville.

Amidst all of the week long homecoming festivities, the Bearcats started the game a little sluggish and were held to just a field goal, a 42 yard boot from Carson Cummings.

However the jitters quickly faded in the second quarter when Cullman took over on their own 45 following a 45 yard interception return.

From here the Bearcats methodically marched the ball down the field and Alex Martin capped the drive with a one yard plunge.

The ball would change hands several times before half, neither team gaining any momentum.

The second half was all Cullman. Forcing a three and out to start the third, Cullman quickly ate up the 51 yards needed for the score, thanks in part to a 37 yard pass from Trey Glenn to Maison Goodwin. This set up the touchdown on the very next play, a four yard rush from Garrett Crider.

Another punt by Russellville led to another score by Cullman. Back to back runs of 36 by Crider and 37 by Will Crenshaw were the key plays of the drive. Crenshaw finished with the eight yard rush for the score. 23-0 Cullman.

The Bearcats added their last score of the game in the third when Glenn hit Goodwin for a 26 yard TD pass with 13 seconds left in the frame.

The only blemish on the scoreboard for Cullman was a 45 yard touchdown pass midway through the fourth.

The Bearcats are now in the driver's seat, sitting pretty for the playoffs as they pack up and head to Lawrence County next week.

Hamilton 19 vs. Vinemont 7
By: Zeke McBrayer

HAMILTON - The game started off great for the Eagles, with Orey Woods picking off the Aggies' Justin Scott on the first play of the game. Vinemont worked their way down the field behind the running-back duo of John-Michael Dye and Trey Guthrey.

The Aggie Defense would step up after Vinemont made it to the 14-yard line and kept them just short of the first down.

Hamilton would get the ball on downs and get to work. After crossing midfield, Scott would throw his second interception of the night, this time being picked off by Trey Guthrey.

Vinemont got the ball at their 25-yard line after the interception and would again stay on the ground.

Using short yard runs, they worked their way towards mid-field. An off sides penalty on Vinemont would slow the momentum, and just two plays later the Aggies forced a fumble by Orey Woods and Hamilton's Tre' Lark would recover it.

Both defenses stood strong throughout the rest of the first half. The lone touchdown of the half came on a huge punt return by Charles Metcalf.

A blocked extra point attempt by Hamilton left them up 6-0 at the half.

Vinemont came out after halftime strong, with Taylor Evans breaking a huge 59 yard run on the first play. Again the Aggies D held strong, making a goal line stand at the 1-yard line. Vinemont answered, not letting Hamilton get past their own 20.

Two big passes from Brawner punt Vinemont in the end-zone. A 10-yard pass to Evans on 3rd and long kept the drive going, and a play later Brawner hit Garrett Sipe on a 38-yard touchdown pass. A successful extra point put Vinemont up 7-6 late in the third quarter.

Hamilton and Vinemont were in a stalemate for the majority of the time left. Each offense would get rolling, only to be stopped by the opposing defense. The tide turned late in the 4th quarter.

Hamilton finally got rolling strong enough that the Eagles defense couldn't keep up. In the final 4 minutes of the game Hamilton scored twice, both by Logan Rodgers. The Aggies finished their homecoming win 19-7 over Vinemont.

West Point 15 vs. Lawrence County 7
By: Phillip Hillman

WEST POINT - After a stalemate in the first half, West Point came back and made the home fans happy, winning on homecoming night.

On West Point's first possession of the second half Bryant Farley connected with Will Wren on a 32yd bomb which set up the Warriors at the Red Devils 1 yard line that was capped off by a 1 yard plunge into the end-zone by Levi Laney.

The Red Devils responded on their next possession by marching down the field and scoring a touchdown of their own which tied the game at 7-7.

Late in the fourth quarter the Warriors had a firm goal line stand which got the Warrior fans wound up.

With 2 minutes to go and their crowd behind them the West Point sustained a drive from their own 22 and marched down the field to the Red Devil 18 yard line.

With 53.8 seconds left in the game Bryant Farley, along with some great blocking from the West Point O-line and receivers, ran it in, and converted the two point conversion.



With one last gasp the Red Devils decided to bomb one down the field that was intercepted by Will Wren. West Point defeats Lawrence County 15-7.

JB Pennington 28 vs. Holly Pond 7
By: Howard Cole

PENNINGTON - The J.B. Pennington Tigers hosted the Holly Pond Broncos Friday night for their annual game at the William R Sutton field. The first play of the game the Broncos fumbled the ball and Pennington recovered, taking the ball and the momentum.

A hard pass to Etheredge, resulted in a touchdown with 11:42 left in the first quarter. After an interception by Neely, the Tigers had placed themselves in scoring position once again, with a rushing touchdown by Washburn making the score 14-0 in favor of the Tigers.

After another Bronco turnover, this time on downs, the Tigers pushed the ball down the field with Butts on the carry for another score. Pennington would score once more the first half, their last score of the game, taking a 28-0 lead to half.

Holly Pond scored their one touchdown on the night when Jones took it a short distance to paydirt, making the final score 28-7 in favor of JB Pennington.

Good Hope 49 vs. Danville 21
By: Jim Stenson

GOOD HOPE - Jaci Speegle was named Homecoming Queen, but Jared McClure had a night to remember, scoring 5 touchdowns. He scored in the 1st quarter on a 21 yard romp to the endzone, scored 3 times in the 2nd quarter on runs of 4,1, & 19 yards, and once in the 3rd on a 19 yard dash. McClure would finish the night with 177 yards on 14 carries.

In Sebastian Fendley's return, he would score twice; a 61 yard QB keeper and a 36 yard toss to Justin Turner, both in the 1st quarter.

Danville would score 3 times during the evening. QB Colton McKay called his own number and took it 48 yards for the score on the Hawks 2nd play from scrimmage. In the 2nd quarter Slater Robinson would also take it 48 yards for the TD.

Danville's final score came in the 3rd, when McKay hit William White in the endzone for a 19 yard toss. The game wrapped up with a final score of Good Hope 49 Danville 21.

Hanceville 27 vs. Winfield 7
By: Matt Glover

HANCEVILLE - With number one in the region on the line Friday night at Ray Talley Stadium, Hanceville hosted the lone unbeaten team in Class 3A Region 7. That challenge would come in the form of the Winfield Pirates. The Pirates wasted little time showing why they were the team to beat.

Winfield would receive the ball first, and drive over thirty yards and pick up a couple of first downs. However a fumble would give Hanceville the ball at midfield. The Bulldogs lost yards and punted three plays later.

Only one play was needed for the Pirates to go 74 yards through the air for the first score of the contest.

The point after was good, giving us a score of 7-0 Winfield. Hanceville would again start at midfield after a Pirates penalty.

Again the Bulldogs offense had little success on the first two downs.

Then on third and ten Hurst connected with Dean for 10 yards, enough to move the chains for the first time of the night. Hanceville would fail to convert on fourth down, giving the Pirates a chance to add to the lead.

The Pirates would drive 41 yards on 11 plays, taking them into the second period. On fourth and six, Jake Purifoy sacked the Pirate QB to end the drive on the Bulldog 28 yard line.

The Bulldogs seemed to settle down on offense, moving the ball 72 yards on 9 plays, punctuated by a one yard Brontae Harris TD plunge. It was only appropriate, as his 43 yard dash on third and eight was the key play in the drive. Kolby Smith tied things up at 7 each, with 3:59 remaining in the half.

Winfield would then commit its second turnover of the half just four plays later, setting up Hanceville with prime field position on the Pirate 32.

The Bulldogs would waste little time converting the opportunity into 7 points in just three plays. Harris fought his way in from 5 yards out, giving Hanceville the 14-7 lead with just 1:30 until the half.

The Pirates would quickly move the ball 39 yards before time expired. A hail marry from the Bulldog 32 would fall to the ground on the last play of the first half, keeping the score Hanceville 14 Winfield 7.

The third quarter turned into a slow defensive battle with neither team getting inside of the opponents 30 yard line for the entirety of the period.

Winfield moved the ball 43 yards on 10 plays. The Bulldogs did slightly better with 56 yards on 14 plays.

The Pirates went three and out to start the final stanza giving the Bulldogs the ball on their own 13 yard line. On first and ten, Harris had the play of the game, as he took the toss 87 yards to pay dirt extending the Bulldog lead by 6, making the score 20-7.

Another Pirate three and out led to Hanceville with the ball on their own 32 to start the drive. The Pirate defense stepped up, stopping two consecutive runs for little to no gain.

Then on third and ten Hurst tossed the ball to Harris, who pulled up and threw a perfect pass to Carlos Chacon for 24 yards and the first down.

The Bulldog offense would then just chew away at the clock moving the ball 44 yards on 7 straight running plays, capped off by a Torrey Green 13 yard scamper into the end-zone for the game's final score.

Smith would connect on his third extra point of the evening, giving a score of 27-7 with just over two minutes remaining in the contest. Winfield would get a first down and move the ball a few yards on 7 plays to bring the game to a close.

Hanceville has now put themselves in a multi-team tie atop the region standings. Next week they will host Winston County.

St. Clair County 34 vs. Fairview 36
By Josh McBrayer

ST. CLAIR - "We got off to a great start early and hurt ourselves some in the second," said Fairview coach George Redding about his squads nail-biter of a game Friday night.

QB Tyler Maples did everything in his power, which was considerable, to ensure a win. He was 18 of 25 with 289 yards and three touchdowns and just one interception.

"It was important for us to stop swaying with the highs and lows of the game," said Redding." I felt we began playing consistently, with more confidence in the second half."

Behind deep roster, Wallace State volleyball sweeps Snead State, Lawson State to remain perfect in league play

By: Russell Moore • WSCC Contributor

HANCEVILLE – With three players, including one starter, out due to illness, Wallace State's volleyball team showed its roster depth recently, using a mixture of new lineups and rotations to sweep Snead State and Lawson State in a pair of conference matches at Tom Drake Coliseum.

Wallace State, the four-time defending state champions, also utilized the matches to get tuned up for some highly-competitive tournaments over the next few weeks. The Lions beat Snead State 25-9, 25-23, 25-18 and followed with a comfortable 25-9, 25-15, 25-7 victory over Lawson State. Wallace State, winners of four in a row and 11 of 12 matches, improved to 20-8 overall and 11-0 in Alabama Community College Conference (ACCC) play.

"I liked the rhythm and energy we played with against both Snead State and Lawson State. We played with a lot of confidence. Sometimes it's unpredictable because you never know which player is going to play well, but we went with a couple of lineups and it worked out," said Wallace State coach Randy Daniel. "There's honestly not a whole lot of difference or drop off among the 14 players on our roster. During every match or set, someone new has a chance to contribute. I hope that is going to help us down the road."

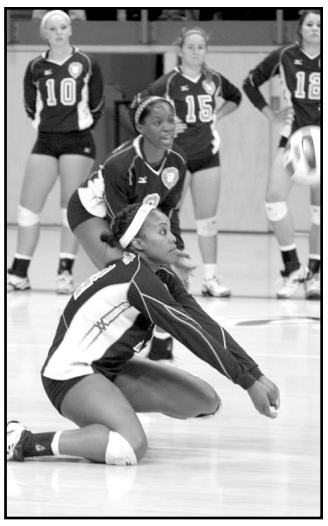
Against Snead State, sophomore Kianna Delaney paced the way with 15 digs, 13 kills, and a block. Bethany Johnson finished with 10 kills and eight digs, BreAnna Thompson had seven kills and four digs, Syretha Pride contributed six digs and five kills, and Lynlee Taylor added four kills. Taylor Traglia put together a team-high 19 assists and added five digs, Kaci Kirk had 12 assists and three digs, and Payton Norris finished with 12 digs.

Kirk finished with 12 assists and two digs in the victory over Lawson State, while Traglia added 11 assists and five digs. Thompson finished with eight kills, Johnson had seven kills and two digs, Delaney had six kills and eight digs, and Pride and Taylor each added five kills. Olivia Walker collected a team-high 10 digs, Norris had nine, and Rosemary Wendel contributed eight.

Beginning Friday, Wallace State will oppose two Top 10 teams among its tournament opponents in the Vincennes (Ind.) University Invitational. The Lions play Kaskaskia (Ill.) College and ninth-ranked Illinois Central College on Friday followed by No. 2 Parkland College (Ill.), and Owens (Ohio) Community College on Saturday. Illinois Central and Parkland are NJCAA Division II programs. Wallace State is a NJCAA Division I program, the highest division rank among junior college athletics.

"The competition we face over the next few weeks is going to be unreal. It's going to be a huge test. We need to continue to be challenged," Daniel said. "It's going to be three straight weekends of blood and guts volleyball. Maybe that will prepare us for our region tournament."

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



Wallace State sophomore Kianna Delaney sets up to successfully dig a serve from a Lawson State opponent during their match Wednesday night.



Wallace State volleyball coach Randy Daniel shouts out instructions during the team's match against rival Snead State.



Wallace State freshman Lynlee Taylor, a middle hitter from Mortimer Jordan, celebrates after WSCC collects a point against Lawson State.



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2013 Cullman Oktoberfest



By: Natalie Bonner

Bundles of bratwursts were brought in, the beer kegs continued to flow, and the shows were impressive as Cullman reigned in its 32nd Oktoberfest. The 8 day-long festival is where residents can come out to appreciate and celebrate Cullman's German heritage.

From authentic German food and local choirs' performances at the Festhalle Market Platz to the Tapping of the Keg and a Zumba Party in Pink, there was not a dull moment to be had at this year's opening day of Oktoberfest.

Marsha Mechaw Norris is this year's Burgermeister, otherwise known as Mayor of Oktoberfest. This was Norris' first time being nominated and elected to this position. Coming from a German heritage herself, Norris said it was a great honor to be elected. She will still be pulling double duty though as she is a board member and Burgermeister this year.

"It's just an honor to me. No, I'm not blond-headed or blue-eyed, but I have a sister that is," Norris said, while laughing. "It's such an honor to me because I love Cullman. I live here, I work here, and I will always live here."

One very popular event was the Oktoberfest Car Show at Depot Park where people from all over came out and parked their rare four-wheeled beauties.

Selwyn Spaulding is the owner of a 1952 Volkswagen Beetle that he and his wife, Susan, brought to the show. Spaulding explained that it was purchased over 25 years ago, and over the years, he was finally able to restore it to its truly rare beauty. As one of only eight in the world, he and his wife truly cherish their car and enjoyed sharing it with Cullman.

Spaulding said, "We love Cullman, and we thought to ourselves, 'Well, what better place to have a German car than here in Cullman at Oktoberfest?'"

Everyone enjoyed all of the German food and craft beer, as well as other tasty delights. A delicious handful of Cullman restaurants will also be serving authentic German food throughout the week of the festival.

Keelan Banks, head barista at Rumors Coffee House said they had felt the flow of traffic all day. "It's been bananas over here. It's been very busy. The volume's been higher with the frequency of both regulars and people out of town. It's been stressful, but so much fun."

There was so much going on all around that sometimes one couldn't decide where to go or what to do, but there were some events that combined many parts into one multi-faceted endeavor. One example of this was the Zumba Party in Pink, sponsored by State Farm.

Shirley Quattlebaum is a State Farm agent and was in charge of the Zumba Party in Pink,





which benefitted the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation. Combining the high-energy dance of zumba with the renowned color of pink to increase awareness for breast cancer, as October is the month for this special cause, proved to be a brilliant idea.

Quattlebaum said, "All of these are a natural fit for Cullman. Zumba is a very multicultural, musically diverse activity and just goes to show how Cullman is growing in a lot of ways, yet we are still clinging to our German heritage."

Oktoberfest proved to be fun for the whole family. Jessie Johns was a face painter at the Oktoberfest Block Party that ran all the way from All Steak to Carlton's where live music, food, and drinks were available.

Johns said, "I love painting at Oktoberfest because I get to interact with the kids, and it's awesome to see little kids have fun and enjoy the games and paint the pumpkins."

Speaking of kid's activities, this upcoming Saturday's Kinder Art Park will be a hotspot to take the little ones for tons of fun ideas, arts and crafts.

Laura Willingham Walker from Shop Around the Corner said, "[Kinder Art Park] is free for the children. There will be areas for the kids to build things and paint. And we are going to be doing a group mural on wood and it will be a Kinder Art Park sign."

Obviously, many activities will be going on throughout the week, but no Oktoberfest is complete without Colonel Johann Cullmann, portrayed by Larry Rowlette.

"For years I have portrayed Colonel Cullmann during Oktoberfest with one goal in mind; I want people who come to Cullman Oktoberfest to have a great time. I want kids and adults to play together, I want people to realize what a unique town Cullman is, and I want us to be proud of our city and to highlight Cullman to others," Larry Rowlette said.

"Every year Cullman Oktoberfest creates memories that enhance the lives of residents and visitors alike."



October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

By: Noah Chandler
noahchandler@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – On Friday, Cullman County Commission Chairman Kenneth Walker recognized Victim Services of Cullman, Inc. for the groups work with abused women and children.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Judges from Cullman County, members of the Victim Services and the Cullman County Commission joined together on the steps of the Cullman County Courthouse to mark the occasion while trying to raise awareness.

For more on this story, visit CullmanSense.com later in the week.

Renting? How to Make Your Space Feel Like Home

(StatePoint) Creative decorating solutions are needed when decorating your rental space. Make sure you are complying with the rental rules and regulations.

"If you want to decorate your rental home, but aren't permitted to make drastic changes to walls or fixtures, temporary décor solutions can help you bring style and personality to your space, without the worry of lasting damage." says Wendy Froehlich at Homes.com.

With that in mind, Homes.com is offering tips to help you dream big when sprucing up your space:

• Lovely lighting: If you ask, management companies or property owners may allow renters to switch out light fixtures. Ask before you remove and always keep the original fixture to leave behind should you move out.

• Funky furniture: If painting the walls isn't allowed, paint the furniture instead. Painted furniture will add a splash of color and personality to any space.

• Wall Decals: Make a statement on your walls using fun wall decals to match your personality. If you decide to move, simply peel away the decal without damaging the walls.

- Outlet covers: Play up your plain white light switch and outlet fixtures with colorful tapes to bring a pop of color to any room.
- Drawer pulls: Replace your drab drawer handles with fabric pulls, or mix and match knobs to personalize your desk and dresser.
- Drawer lining: Dress up your drawers by lining the insides with your favorite scrapbook paper. Adhere the paper with double stick tape.
- Liquid starch: Grab extra fabric and soak it in liquid starch to embellish storage boxes or any hardware around your apartment or rental home.
- Removable Hooks: Use adhesive hooks to secure wall decor or storage solutions without harming your walls.
- Window box: Renters don't always have the ability to plant an outdoor garden, but a beautiful window box garden can spruce up an apartment and create space to grow herbs and other small plants.

For more visitthe Idea Gallery at Homes.com or to view how-to videos, visit, http://youtube.com/user/homesdotcom.

Painting for a Purpose

By: Natalie Bonner

CULLMAN - Southern Accents sponsored a community art project called Painting for a Purpose this past Saturday, Oct. 5, on the opening day of Oktoberfest. The event lasted from 9 a.m – 1 p.m. and was located at Southern Accents.

The premise of the project was to raise funds for Southern Accent's non-profit children's charity to secure funds for children in need in our community. Melissa Meeks, an artist from Huntsville, headed the painting portion where two large-scale, oversize works of art were being painted.



Lisa Jones, who does Internet marketing and is the Webmaster for Southern Accents, explained the event in detail, as she was one of the three people to brainstorm this idea and bring about this community-wide art effort for a cause. The other two people who helped facilitate this idea were artist Melissa Meeks and Heather Gudger.

"We invited the community to come out and help us paint. Southern Accents purchased the paint and donated the materials. This was our first official fundraiser for our non-profit children's charity," Jones said.

Both pieces of art were exceptional ideas translated onto various mediums. Using materials such as salvaged wood and a reclaimed door, the paint project started to take shape. One was a rendering of a 1955 Chevy and the other was of downtown Cullman.

Jones said, "Melissa had kind of outlined it so it was really a paint-by-numbers approach that anyone could participate in."

There were plenty of people that showed up all morning long, offering their brushstrokes to the canvas, painting in a piece, and signing their autograph on another piece of wood that would serve as the back piece to each work of art.

Following the wrap-up of the event, Meeks took the works of art home to finish them.

When completed, they will be on display at Southern Accents for a couple of weeks.

Both works of art will then be auctioned off to the highest bidder in a silent auction style of bidding

All proceeds will go to benefit Southern Accent's children's charity.

Jones concluded, "Our goal and our hope is that the charity will continue to grow, and as it grows and we are able to raise more funds, that we can branch out and be able to help a variety of needs as they arise in our community."





Create Special Family Memories with Quick and Easy Dessert Ideas

(StatePoint) Nearly a third of American parents feel they are not spending enough time with their family, according to a 2013 Pew Research Center study, and with cooler weather bringing hectic schedules for most families, quality time is in short supply.

The kitchen is often considered the hub of most homes, so involving the entire clan in a culinary adventure is an easy way to create special memories together.

Transform family members into dessert chefs while enjoying fun times together with easy recipes that satisfy everyone's sweet tooth.

Create a semi-homemade dessert without too much fuss by transforming a store-bought snack cake into a confectionary treat using just a few simple ingredients.

It's an inventive way to be creative in the kitchen without breaking the bank.

"For families in a rush, coming up with delicious desserts that are simple to make is essential," says Meredith Butler, brand manager for Mrs. Freshley's, an award-winning line of snack cakes and pastries.

"Keeping the ingredients and price to a minimum, while maximizing flavor, provides hustling households with the best of both worlds."

To help active American families create sweet treats, Mrs. Freshley's is offering semi-homemade recipes using their snack cakes.



Dreamie Strawberry Shortcake

Bake up something warm during cooler months with delicious dessert recipes such as **Honey Bun Bread Pudding.**

Ingredients

- 4 Mrs. Freshley's Honey Buns
- 2 cups milk
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 3 tablespoons brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1/8 teaspoon cinnamon

Directions

- Cut Mrs. Freshley's Honey Buns into bite size pieces.
- Place honey bun pieces in greased 2-quart baking dish.
- Beat milk, eggs, sugar, and vanilla in small bowl.
- Pour egg mixture over honey buns and sprinkle with cinnamon.
- Bake at 350 degrees Fahrenheit for 30-40 minutes, or until golden brown.

For a quick and simple shortcake with big flavor the entire family will love, try this recipe for **Dreamie Strawberry Shortcake**.

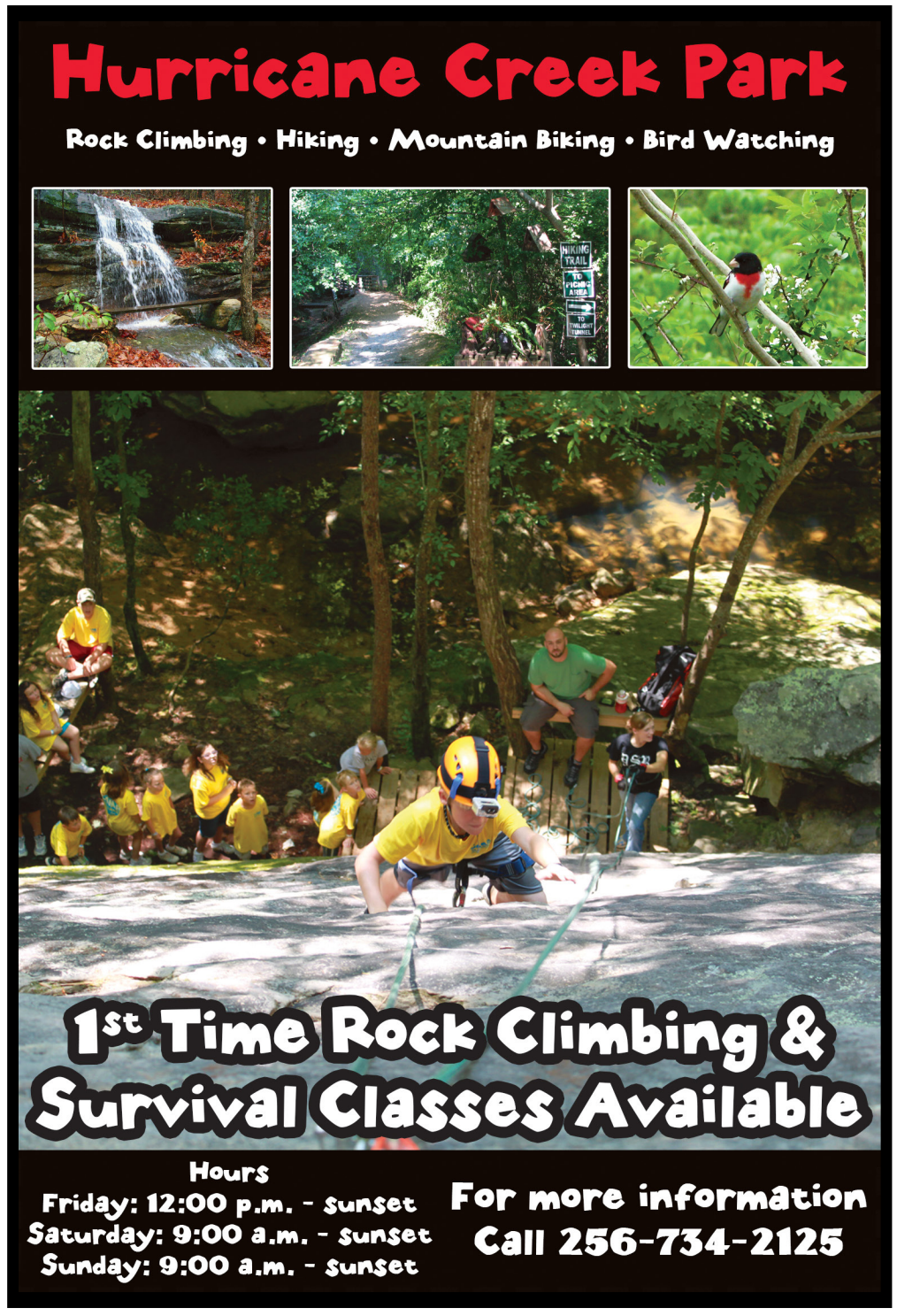
Ingredients

- 1 1/2 pounds fresh strawberries, washed and hulled
- 3 tablespoons granulated sugar
- 6 Mrs. Freshley's Dreamies, sliced
- Whipped topping

Directions

- Cut strawberries in half and add to bowl.
- Stir in sugar.
- Refrigerate strawberry mixture for at least 30 minutes to develop juices.
- Place Dreamie slices into serving dish and top with strawberry mixture.
- Add whipped topping, serve, and enjoy!

More easy dessert recipes and affordable entertaining tips can be found at www.MrsFreshleys.com.



– 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.

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.

CCCDC Meeting
The Cullman County Community Development Commission is scheduled to meet at 6 p.m. at Welti. This is an open meeting.

CCSF Meeting
CCSF will meet on from noon until 1 p.m. at Rumors Deli, located at 105 1st Ave. NE. All members and officers should plan to attend. Contact Dawn at 256-590-3159 for additional information.

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.

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 information 256-739-3326.

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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.

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, amd 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.

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.

2nd Annual Charity Bedrace
Cullman Community Lions Club has announced plans for it's 2nd Annual Charity Bedrace to be held on the second Saturday of our Oktoberfest weeklong celebration! Further information can be obtained by contacting Ron Seybold at 256-531-6075.

Ladies Day Out
Ladies, make your plans to take part in the "Ladies Day Out' activities going on at Cullman's McGukin Civic Center. There will be vendors such as Avon, Mary Kay, Oragami Owl, Jordan Essentials, Tupperware, Thirty-One, Be Blessed Jewelry, VK Originals, Handmade jewelry, It Works Body Wraps, and tons more!! FREE admission, door prizes, free facials and demonstrations, all just waiting for you to come thru the doors!! Bring your friends and plan a girl's day away. For further information, email cindysroi@gmail.com.

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
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Looking Ahead

Monday, October 14, 2013 – Benefit Dinner at Dyron's Lowcountry,
Dyron's Lowcountry in Mountain Brook, AL will host a dinner benefitting St. Bernard Preparatory School beginning at 6:30 p.m. Cost per person is $75. Reservations may be made by contacting the school at (256)739-6682.

Cullman First United Methodist Church Annual Holiday Bazaar
Cullman First United Methodist Church's Annual Holiday Bazaar is Thursday, November 7, 2014 from 7 am- 4 pm. Event includes baked goods, homemade candies, crafts, sewing, needlework, country store with homemade jellies and fresh produce, silent auction, quilt giveaway and more! Breakfast served 7 a.m.- 9 a.m., and lunch served 11 a.m.- 1 p.m. Proceeds donated to local non-profit agencies. Plenty of parking in lot behind the church, 320 3rd Street, SE.

Oktoberfest 5K Trail Run
The St. Bernard Prep Oktoberfest 5k Trail Run will be held on Saturday, October 19, 2013 at 7:15 a.m. Entry Fee - Only $15.00 – Pre-registration is highly encouraged. On-site registration will be $20.00 on race day. www.raceit.com/search/event.aspx?id=23068. Awards – Top 15 runners in the race will receive T-Shirts. Overall male and female winners, masters male and female winners will receive awards provided by "First Place Athletics". The top three male and female finishers will receive medals. The event will precede the Oktoberfest High School Cross Country Meet that begins at 8:45.

Sunday, November 10, 2013 – Open House at St. Bernard Prep
St. Bernard Prep will host an Open House on Sunday, November 10, 2013 at 2 p.m. Families will have an opportunity to visit the school and talk with teachers, students, and monks about the educational opportunities at St. Bernard Prep. St. Bernard Prep offers a college preparatory curriculum for students in grades 7-12. For more information visit www.stbernardprep.com or call 256-739-6682.

Reflections of History

Share your historic photos with us!
E-mail history@cullmansense.com



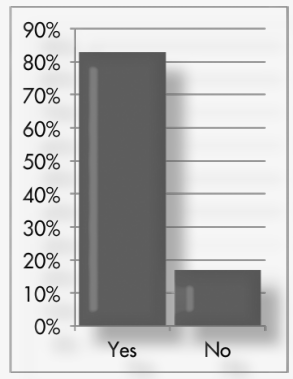
"Elizabeth" on the South side of the Sparks home



Contrib. by Cullman County Museum

Poll

Do you know someone that has been diagnosed with breast cancer?



This Week's Poll

Is the Government Shutdown affecting you?

Vote Today at CullmanSense.com/Poll

CULLMANSENSE
Community Matters

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This Week in History

October 7th
- 1963 – Hurricane Flora hits Haiti and Dominican Republic, kills 7,190
- 1990 – Israel begins handing out gas masks to its citizens

October 8th
- 1953 – Birmingham Alabama, bars Jackie Robinson Negro-White All-Stars from playing there Robinson gives in and drops white players from his group

October 9th
- 2006 – North Korea conducts first atomic weapons test

October 10th
- 1868 –First written account of a Canadian football game
- 1963 – Treaty banning atmospheric nuclear tests signed by U.S., UK, U.S.S.R.

October 11th
- 1981 – Unknown rocker Prince opens for Rolling Stones at LA Coliseum

October 12th
- 1892 – Pledge of Allegiance first recited in public schools

October 13th
- 1775 – Continental Congress orders construction of a naval fleet
- 1981 – Vice President Hosni Mubarak elected president of Egypt

Hey Dad, Get Creative With Your Kids!

(StatePoint) There is something about the way dads think that allow them to transform the ordinary into something extraordinary. If you're the kind of handy dad that can be counted on to fix and build things around the house, consider translating those skills to getting creative with your kids.

"There are so many benefits to making things with your kids - they learn practical skills, they get one-on-one time with daddy, they get to exercise their imagination, and they have lots of fun," says Scott Bedford, author of the new book, "Made By Dad: 67 Blueprints For Making Cool Stuff," and a Webby Award-winner for his website, What I Made.

"It's definitely one of the things that define my relationship with my kids, and that's why I'm so keen for other dads to enjoy the benefits too - there's no reason why the 'crafty' stuff should be left to Mom!"

Bedford offers a few ways for dads to go that extra mile:

Shared Interests

There are an endless number of things that fathers and their children bond over. Bedford suggests creating projects centered on these interests.

For example, if you both like sci-fi movies, creative dads can make a Martian Door Decal -- a custom created sticker for the bedroom door. Or try making an Alien Abduction Mobile, which is a flying saucer made from household products.

You can find these ideas and more in Bedford's new book, "Made By Dad."

Homework Help

Most dads can help their children answer a math problem or name the capital of France. But to really teach them, try using projects such as the Spaghetti and Marshmallow Eiffel Tower, the Slingshot Car Launcher, or the Balloon Ballast Balancing Act.

These are great for showing the laws of science in motion, and even work well as science fair projects.

Transform the Ordinary

There are many ways dads and kids can turn simple household materials into unexpected fun projects, points out Bedford in "Made By Dad."

Fathers and their children can try some great ideas to work on together, such as the Frankenstein Fling, which is a game created from a paper cup and a stirring stick, or the Target Place Mat, which will make eating neatly a blast with just some cardboard and poster paint. These projects and other great activities can be found in the book and online at www.whatimade.com. More information about Bedford's book is available at www.workman.com.

Show Mom Some Love, Too

The best dads also teach their children to show appreciation to those around them -- namely to their mothers! Create Pop-Up Roses or Mommy Rewards coupons for her to redeem for everything from breakfast in bed to a big hug. And of course, these could work great for dad too!

For dads who want to go above and beyond, there is constantly something new to try.

Victim Services of Cullman

Domestic Violence Training



Victim Services of Cullman is offering a free training open to DHR employees, law enforcement, justice system personnel, advocates, service providers and other community stakeholders. We will look at the effects of domestic violence on children, the use of technology and social media in domestic violence relationships and how you can become an engaged bystander.

Grace Episcopal Church Fellowship Hall

Thursday, October 17, 2013

8:00 am—Noon

Registration: 8:00-8:30

The Use of Technology in DV Relationships	***Presenter: Bridgette Wilder, Verizon Wireless***
The Effects of DV on Children	***Presenter: Emily Kelly, ACADV***
Becoming an Engaged Bystander	***Presenter: Traci Bynum, Crisis Services of North Alabama***

Register below and return to VSOC no later than October 14,2013.

Name:_____ Email:_____

Agency:_____ Phone:_____

**Social Work CEU's in process for this training.*

Please return via email or fax to:
vsoced@vsoccullman.org
Fax: 256-775-8354

United Way

LIFE After Dark: Oktoberfest Starts at a Sprint

By: Dillon Lee • Entertainment Editor
dillon@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Oktoberfest officially kicked off Saturday, October 5th, but those in the know realized that Cullman's downtown culture wasted no time beginning the city's unique celebration of our German heritage. The Busy Bee, Carlton's, All Steak, and the Blue Moose Cafe kicked off things a day earlier starting with three unique events on October 4th.

Friday night in downtown continues to offer a variety of distractions but this past Friday offered temptations too numerous for one man to fully experience. As such, I had to pick and choose selectively, experiencing each as fully or tangentially as possible. Thankfully Cullman offers a singular embarrassment of riches- friends and neighbors around every corner. This allowed me to interview and talk to participants in each impressive Friday night activity, experiencing it second hand when I could not be there in person.

My evening started just after five at the Busy Bee. Manager and culinary mastermind Kyle Spears went through significant effort to secure authentic imported German beer for Oktoberfest while simultaneously crafting a special, varied German menu. Spears had to pressure his distributor to bring in the European style kegs not typically imported even during Oktoberfest celebrations. According to Spears, he "harassed" his contacts at the beer distributor daily until he made his goal of serving authentic German beer off the tap a reality.

The Busy Bee is serving two German beers, both direct from Munich, on tap as long as they last. The Warsteiner Premium Dunkel from the Warsteiner Brauerei (Brewery) did strike me with the darker caramel style typically associated with a German Dunkel. The coppery beer had a mild bready almost pilsner taste. While sippable with a modest ABV of 4.8%, the Warsteiner Dunkel was not as bold as I had hoped.

The offering from the another Munich based brewer, Spaten-Franziskaner-Bräu's Spaten Dunkel struck me as much more interesting example of a German Dunkel. Darker than the Warsteiner and slightly stouter at 5.5 ABV, the Spaten provided a more striking flavor profile. The initial flavors and aroma are of chocolate and caramel, appropriate for a dunkel. The Spaten sets itself apart with a unique lingering citrus hint combined with the roasted caramel. They are complimentary, if slightly juxtaposed flavors, with a satisfying bitter finish.

Most American beer drinkers assume that German beers have the "skunky" finish of mass distributed beers like Beck's. Or more serious beer drinkers associate the German beer with a hefeweizen, a type of wheat beer and a lighter cousin to the dunkel. The dunkel provides a distinct alternative to what many people think of as a "German beer."

The Bee's menu includes a variety of Schnitzels and Wursts served with traditional red cabbage and German potato salad. Samples of their special menu were not provided, but with each dish Kyle Spears has provided a list of wine and beer pairing. These pairings include suggestions from Spears' Oktoberfest import offerings- the two on tap and a wider selection in bottles.

Speaking of food pairings, the All-Steak and Carlton's teamed with Gadsden based brewery Back Forty for a Progressive Beer Dinner. Five courses were served, three at All-Steak and two at Carlton's. Each course offering was served with a Back Forty Beer. This unique event will hopefully return as it features our local culinary artists and an Alabama brewery with a original approach.

During a tour of the Gadsden Brewery earlier this year, Founder and President Jason Wilson shared Back Forty's marketing approach with me. "We walk right by the bar manager and head straight for the kitchen." Once there Wilson and the Back Forty crew offer suggestions for food pairings complimentary of the restaurants signature dishes. Wineries have used this strategy for years, inculcating their brands into restaurant chains and exclusive local bistros. Wilson argues that "there are only so many types of grape," but beer brewing offers a myriad variety of combinations and exotic ingredients.

With that flexibility, Back Forty can and has concocted brews specifically for dish and nationally known chefs. Moreover, they do so with a commitment to local agriculture. Wilson uses Alabama honey and other ingredients grown in the State whenever possible. He has even encouraged barley and hops production to local growers.

Brewing is not just an activity for the regionally distributed folks like Back Forty. At the Blue Moose Café and Brew Pub, a commercially available locally brewed keg of beer was tapped. It is been over 100 years since this has happened in Cullman. The first batch of "The Colonel's Festbier" garnered local attention as residents lined up to buy a ticket for a chance to enjoy the first few pints. Blue Moose was also thrilled to receive attention from AL.com and TV news from Birmingham.

Packed to capacity at the 7 p.m. tapping, the Blue Moose enjoyed the healthy demand for their Oktoberfest style beer. The first keg of The Colonel's Festbier quickly ran dry, but the excitement over the event continued into the late hours as the crowd was entertained by a personal favorite, local entertainer Chris Bushey.

For more information about the beer and the lead up to the tapping of this historic keg, see CullmanSense's article "Sipping History at the Blue Moose". Keep your eye on CullmanSense.com as coverage of Oktoberfest continues online and in print.

Ala. Native Continues on Film Festival Trail

By: Sarah Baskin

Alabama native and University of Alabama alum Michelle Glick continues on the film festival trail with the award winning film *Chance of Rain*, in which she holds both roles as producer and star. The film debuted and took home the award for Best Short Film at the prestigious Sonoma International Film Festival in April. Next it will screen in October in San Francisco at The Roxie Theater and debut in London in November. *Chance of Rain* is directed by Glick's husband Philipp Wolter, who also co-stars in the film. The duo met in an acting class in New York City in 2004 and are the driving forces behind The FilmGym, a Brooklyn based film production company they both founded.

Chance of Rain is FilmGym's follow up to *The Bridge*, a short film which garnered Glick and her husband awards on both the national and international level, which led them to qualify for an Academy Award. "I feel incredibly fortunate to be making films," says Glick. When asked about making a film set in her hometown: "you never know, do you?" she says, with a smile and a wink.

Comics

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



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On the Set of *Sleepy Hollow*

By: Natalie Bonner

Nathan Dockery may be new to acting, but he's already gotten some invaluable face time on camera in the newest TV show to hit FOX, *Sleepy Hollow*, the resurrected story of this ethereal little town and its infamous residents.

You remember the story of Ichabod Crane and the Headless Horseman. Is there a Halloween that goes by when we don't hear of this beloved spooky tale? Well, now you can watch a modern day version in your living room on Monday nights.

Dockery's experience in acting and being on camera was a completely new endeavor to him but one that he immensely enjoyed.

"Although I never considered myself to be an actor, growing up I recall a great deal of my childhood being recorded and screened at family gatherings," Dockery said. "I feel like those early experiences encouraged me to do things above and beyond the ordinary in the presence of a camera."

Having heard about the opportunity to be on *Sleepy Hollow* through a friend, Dockery submitted himself via e-mail with some photos to the casting agency for extra work and landed his first paid acting role.

Dockery said, "Securing an acting or a background extra role, for me, was a complete shot in the dark. I had no previous acting experience and no professional portfolio, so it was a pleasant surprise when I found out that a few cell phone photos could open the door."

He was blown away when he walked on set and was surrounded by a crowd of theatrical colonists, the special effects crew, and cameramen. "It was a surreal experience," he said.

The first day on set, Dockery said he paid special attention to the directors and production crew. He watched them intently hoping to learn as much as he could about the filming process. He said, "I watched everything they did, hoping to discover insight into their guiding thoughts. I realized that the crew behind the footage are just as talented as the actors themselves."

Of course, as exhilarating as it is to be on set, it can also be quite exhausting. With call times as early as five a.m. and wrap times adjourning late into the night, almost everyone works overtime, even up to or beyond 14 hours a day.

Dockery said his favorite part of the whole acting experience was walking into the spirit world, which was heavily constructed by a team of visual special effects artists.

"The special effects team had several bright, golden lamps going through a thick blanket of fog, representing a spiritual place," Dockery explained. "A large group of us walked into that fog and it was so thick that, upon stepping in, you completely lost everyone around you. It was a magical experience to disappear there for a moment."

A letter to a Vietnam Veteran from a Vietnam Veteran

By: Ken Brown, Colonel, U.S.A.F. (RET)

CONTACT
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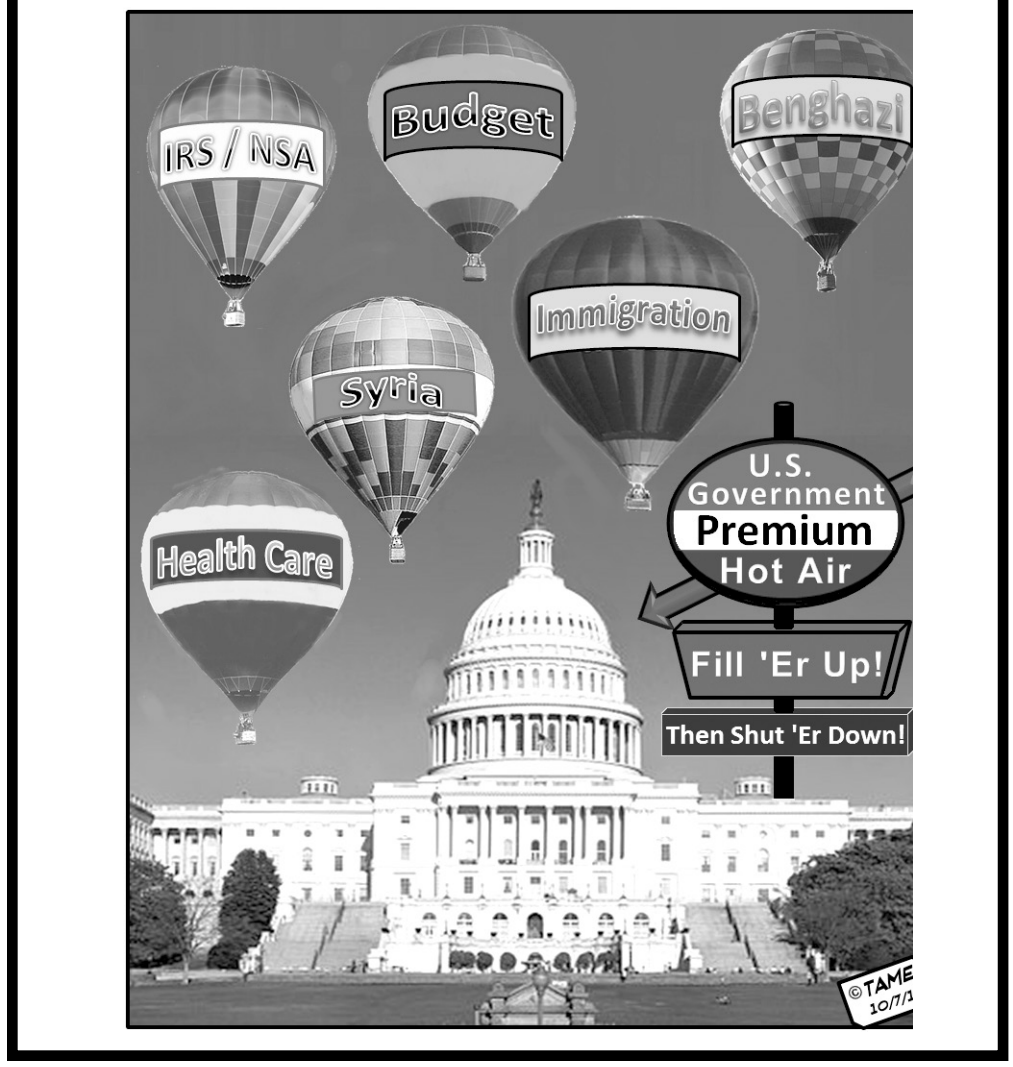
Dear Vietnam Veteran,

I know you've spent over 40 years trying to forget the sounds, smells, and images of combat, the loss of buddies, the oppressive heat, the monsoon rains, the aching for home, and the frustration of fighting a war with rules of engagement dreamed up in fantasyland! Then, you got on that freedom bird and excitedly returned home to the land of the big PX, only to be met by your countrymen spitting at you, calling you a baby killer, insulting your uniform, burning your flag, and protesting in the streets, the war your friends were still over there fighting. Every day you had to listen to Cronkite, Jennings, and Rather bad mouth the war, Jane Fonda, Ramsey Clark, and John Kerry slander the U.S. Military and watch Congress snatch defeat from the jaws of victory. So, you did what you had to do. You swallowed hard, took off your uniform, went to work to support your family, avoided all mention of Vietnam and learned to live with the bitterness. It wasn't difficult to slip away unnoticed, as there were no homecoming parades, flag waving events, welcome home parties, yellow ribbons, or adoring crowds. You tried to avoid joining a veteran's organization, and if you did, the World War Two Guys looked down on you for losing America's first war. And so, the years passed, the country remained divided, the anti-war theme continued to color every mention of your war, and your kids and grandkids grew up largely ignorant of the war you fought and of your role in it. Your welcome home never happened. Year after year after year, you watched from the sidelines as the greatest generation was honored again and again. When you met a Vietnam Vet, you would quietly say Welcome Home Brother, shake hands, and move on. Until now, that's been your celebration.

This year, the Cullman City Council, the Cullman County Commission, and the Cullman Business Community are determined to take the first step. They are sponsoring an all day Veterans Day event, the Saturday (Nov. 9) before Veterans Day, to say thank you, especially to you. It has been designed to make it possible for your Wife, your siblings, your kids, and your grandkids to learn about the war you fought. Videos will show what it looked like. Period music and AFVN radio clips will bring back the good sounds. The same jeeps and trucks you drove in NAM will be there, as will a HUEY that flew in Vietnam and the pilots who flew it. Some of your fellow Vietnam Vets will be interviewed about their time in country, our guest speaker will be an F-105 pilot, shot down twice and rescued twice. An old car cruise-in will highlight what you bought when you came home, as a DJ plays the music from those years—your years. Vietnam Vets will fly two airshows, skydive Alabama will jump some prior military guys in, and you and your Wife will enjoy a free lunch, cooked by the ELKS Lodge. You will be entertained by bluegrass, country, and Gospel singers. Everything will be jungle rather than desert camouflaged. Fellow Vietnam Vets will be coming from Huntsville, Birmingham, and elsewhere. Your community is in the last stages of finishing an impressive Veterans Park complex that will serve to celebrate your service in coming years and has paid for the permanent placement, in your park, of the Alabama Mobile Vietnam Wall, where we shall close this year's program with a memorial ceremony for our brothers killed in NAM and hear from some of their relatives. The day is, of course, a day to honor all veterans, but Vietnam Vets—this one is for you!

Over the coming weeks, between now and November 9, we will try to find you. The VA isn't permitted to tell us who or where you are because of the Pivacy Act. We will spend a good bit of money on fair booths, Times ads, Shoppers Guide ads, radio ads, TV morning shows, posters in countywide banks, flyers at fast food drive ins etc., so that you know about this event in your honor. I urge you to rise above the hurt, understand the effort being made for you, even though belated, and come out to be honored. To our fellow Cullman County Citizens, I would say, please, please don't let these guys down again! Yes, it's on a Saturday! Yes, you're busy! Yes, Auburn is playing! Yes, Alabama is playing!

This Veterans Day weekend, I'm counting on you. It's time—no—it's way past time, to spare a few minutes to honor your Father or your Grandfather and come to their special place, to shake their hand, to say thank you and to speak those three words they have waited so very long to hear, "Welcome Home Brother".



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West Point Superette

Ms. Oktoberfest 2013 (from Front)

By: Noah Chandler
noahchandler@cullmansense.com

Ms. Oktoberfest 2013 crowned following traditional cupcake selection

CULLMAN – Young women representing schools from across Cullman County met on Sunday to dig in to chocolate cupcakes to claim their spot as Ms. Oktoberfest 2013. "I'm not a fan of chocolate but I was excited when I tasted it today," Ms. Oktoberfest 2013 Payton Palmer said after finding the chocolate pudding center. "It was an exciting surprise."

Patton Short, Ms. Oktoberfest 2012, was on hand to pass the flowered halo forward. Short said she had more fun than imagined representing the annual German festival this past year.

"Last year was the first time I had attended Oktoberfest and I have to say it was a blast," Short said. "It was a lot more fun than I thought it would be, so I was anxious to get back this year." Palmer will be making the rounds to many of the Oktoberfest events, including church dinners and children's functions, with Col. Cullmann.

"When they (Oktoberfest Board) interviewed us early in the week one of my emphasises was working with children, so I am really looking forward to working with the children," Palmer said. "It's going to be a great week!"

As part of her duties, Palmer will also have to put on her dancing shoes. "I'm not what you call a dancer, so if you want to have a good time and a good laugh then come out and watch me dance," she said.

For more on the 32nd annual Cullman Oktoberfest, visit CullmanSense.com.

Shutdown Hitting Home (from Front)

cobs continued.

"What that means is if the government stays shutdown, I cannot continue to pay staff. We have enough money in the bank to get by one more week."

Jacobs said the group currently has enough money in accounts to pay staff through Sunday, October 13.

Jacobs will forego her salary until the government shutdown is over.

The shelter operated through VSOC will not close its doors to those women and in children of need, despite the lack of funding.

"The shelter Harbor Haus will not shut down and no one will be asked to leave. That would be too dangerous and that cannot happen. I will close the office and work the shelter myself, if all else fails," she said.

"The shelter is too important to close. I have talked to the staff and asked them to consider working as usual, knowing that I probably won't be able to pay them on schedule."

Jacobs said as long as the group is completing their grant contract obligations, they will be able to submit request for funds as usual. She said they will have to wait a bit longer on reimbursement.

One issue which has hurt VSOC and Harbor Haus has been the lack of contributions in recent years.

She said this can be attributed to the sprouting up of various new nonprofit organizations operating within the county lines.

"Our community contributions have not recovered since the April 27, 2011 tornado," she said.

"We have had new nonprofits open during the aftermath of that, that's has affected our community contributions."

If you would like to make a monetary contribution, mail donations to VSOC P.O. Box 416, Cullman 35056. If you would like to volunteer, please call 256-775-2600 or contact Donna Jacobs directly at 256-615-5789 for more details.

"Remember, we are here if any victim of sexual assault or domestic violence needs us. Please don't hesitate to call the Crisis Line at 256-734-6100," she said.

"Our crisis line is operated 24/7, even when the government is shutdown."

Details and updates will be posted on CullmanSense.com as the story develops.

Treasure (from Front)

the ATFA and the Farmers Federation, forest landowners will have a more prominent voice," Blackwell said.

"This affiliation will help our members and our ability to market forestry as a viable, renewable industry on a state, national, and international level."

Blackwell said ATFA would continue its education programs, noting affiliation with the Farmers Federation will enhance its ability to grow county chapters. He praised leaders of both groups for negotiating the affiliation.

"Working on this partnership with ATFA board members and officials of the Alabama Farmers Federation has been a rewarding experience," Blackwell said. "We could not have had a better working relationship."

Alabama Farmers Federation President Jimmy Parnell said the Federation welcomes ATFA members.

"Many TREASURE Forest Association members also are Farmers Federation members," Parnell said.

"This affiliation will strengthen efforts to serve forest landowners throughout the state. Agriculture, forestry, and related industries contributed $70.4 billion to Alabama's economy. It's important we work to keep the forestry industry strong and growing in Alabama."

The Alabama Farmers Federation represents 17 Alabama-grown commodities, including timber, which is produced in every county.

Alabama Farmers Federation Forestry Division Director Rick Oates will serve as a director of the ATFA, which will be a separate association under the Federation structure.

"The Farmers Federation and the ATFA both have a strong history of representing forest landowners," Oates said. "This merger will increase opportunities to spread the message of good forestry to both rural and urban communities."

The Alabama TREASURE Forest Association was formed in 1991 and has about 3,600 members. The Alabama Farmers Federation is the state's largest farm organization with more than 365,000 members.

Backlogs (from Front)

claim.

The federal VA has been widely criticized for the backlog. As of Sept. 28, the VA said there were 725,469 cases pending, 58 percent of them for more than 125 days.

State veterans agencies can offer additional programs to veterans. Collectively, states contribute more than $6 billion annually for veterans and their families, according the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, an organization that dates back to 1946.

"If the federal VA has to lay off employees, then claims won't be processed and veterans possibly won't receive their benefits or payments for pension and compensations, but right now there is no effect on the state VA," Horton of the Alabama VA said.

Which VA Services Are Protected?

All VA medical facilities and clinics will remain fully operational during the federal shutdown, including VA hospitals. In 2009, Congress passed a law to fund the VA one year in advance. This allows the VA health care system to plan ahead and ensures that VA health care is funded for an additional year beyond the government shutdown, according to a "Government Shutdown FAQ" from Tom Tarantino, chief policy officer for the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA), a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization for new veterans.

Also not affected are VA medical appointments, prescription drug phone lines, home loan processing, and veterans' crisis lines, according to the VA's "Field Guide to Government Shutdown."

"While veterans may be more protected than other constituencies, a government shutdown does not bode well for top priorities within the veterans' community," Tarantino wrote.

Among the VA services that are affected under the shutdown:

- Call centers and hotlines related to education and consumer affairs are suspended as well as the Inspector General Hotline (1-800-488-8244).
- No decisions on claims appeals or motions will be issued by the Board of Veterans Appeals.
- The VA's Veterans Benefits Administration will not be able to continue overtime for claims processors.
- Recruiting and hiring of veterans job applicants will cease with the exception of the Veterans Health Administration.



Cullman City Mayor Max A. Townson, along with Cullman City Council members Clint Hollingsworth, Garlan Gudger, Jr., Jenny Folsom, Johnny Cook, and Andy Page, commend **Col. Johann G. Cullmann, portrayed by Larry Rowlette**, for his continued service of promoting and representing **Cullman's Oktoberfest Celebration**.