SERIES 5 • ISSUE 30 • JULY 27, 2015
CULLMANSENSE
COMMUNITY MATTERS


MARY STANDIFER/CULLMANSENSE

DARK BEFORE DAWN EARNS WESTONE ENDORSEMENT P10

LOCAL VOLUNTEERS GUARD ARMED FORCES CAREER CENTER

Will Hogue
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CULLMAN – Just off Second Avenue at the Armed Forces Career Center in Cullman, Joey Miller and Sheila Huff are on guard. After learning of the shooting at a military recruiting center in Chattanooga, the duo knew they had to take action.

Miller is a former United States Marine and current member of Oath Keepers while Huff is a member of the Sons of Liberty.

"We'll be here every day until, hopefully, something's done," said Huff.

The two volunteers are guarding the Center, just as many others across the nation.

"Just because our service contract's up doesn't mean we're not a Marine and in the military," Miller said. "This is our family. If they can't protect themselves, someone's got to do it."

Huff interjected, "The problem is if P4

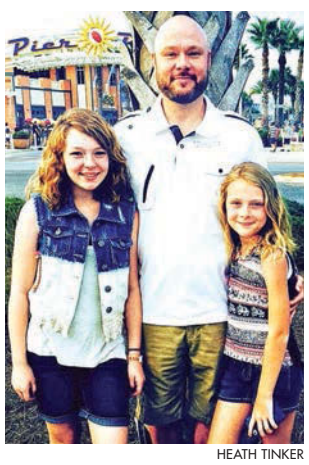

WILL HOGUE/CULLMANSENSE

Miller and Huff guard the Armed Forces Career Center.


SHARON SCHULER KREPS/CULLMANSENSE

EXTENSION OFFICE HOLDS HOME FOOD PRESERVATION BASICS WORKSHOP P12

COUPLE ARRESTED FOR FELONY CHILD ABUSE TO FOUR YEAR OLD CHILD P2


HEATH TINKER

RELIGIOUS SPOTLIGHT

HEATH TINKER, PASTOR AT SIMCOE WORSHIP CENTER P4

CRMC RECOGNIZED WITH NATIONAL AWARD P3

FAMILIES FIRST RALLY BRINGS AWARENESS TO DISTRACTED DRIVING


SHARON SCHULER KREPS/CULLMANSENSE

Residents from all over Cullman County joined the Families First Rally at the Cullman County Courthouse. P12

FANCHER EDUCATION SERVICES TO OFFER COUPONING WORKSHOP FOR BEGINNERS

Hannah Ward
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CULLMAN – An Extreme Couponing Workshop taught by Cherrelle Fancher, owner of Fancher Education Services will be held at the Cullman Chamber of Commerce. There will be a class on Tuesday, July 28th from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and another on Thursday, July 30th from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. The classes are sponsored by Karma in Cullman.

The workshop will include tips on becoming a smarter shopper and how to P12



CONTRIBUTED

The workshop will be offered twice this week.

ANNUAL EVABANK MIDNIGHT RUN 5K TO GET COLORFUL

Will Hogue
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CULLMAN – This year's EvaBank Midnight Run 5K will add a splash of neon color. Black lights will illuminate portions of the course and runners who choose to take part will have neon powder tossed at them.

Waid Harbison, Marketing and Programs Director for Cullman City Parks and Recreation said the idea behind this year's addition was to give runners something different.

"We wanted to change it up, instead of doing the same old, same old," he said.

Along with giving past participants a new experience, Harbison hopes the colorful addition will bring in new runners.

"We want people to get out and get active, so hopefully some people who aren't serious runners come out and just have fun," Harbison said.

There will also be a dance before and after the race that is illuminated by black lights.

"Cullman is pretty quiet at midnight on a Friday night," Harbison said. "So this will give people something to do, something fun."

Awards will be given to the top three in each age division. Cash prizes of $250 will be awarded to the overall male and female winner, and $200 will be awarded to the overall masters male and female winners. There will also be prizes given to the best-dressed runners.

The proceeds from the race go to the Parks Department Foundation, a supporter of community projects. According to Harbison, the main project right now is the all-inclusive Ingle Park Community Playground.

This park will feature traditional playground equipment, along with playground items for special-needs children. The park's proximity to the Field of Miracles, according to Harbison, ties the whole area together. P3

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COUPLE ARRESTED FOR FELONY CHILD ABUSE TO FOUR YEAR OLD CHILD

Bradley Williams
CCSO

CULLMAN – On July 20, 2015 the Cullman County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) arrested Amber Marie Trybalski De Loach, 24 years old of Arab, AL and Jeremy Fitzpatrick De Loach, 22 years old of Arab, AL for felony child abuse to a four year old child.

The victim was taken to a local hospital by a relative and then the hospital in turn alerted CCSO deputies and investigators. Physicians noticed that the victim was very malnourished, had a broken rib that had not healed, a burn that resembled a cigarette burn and also had a BB lodged in the buttocks as well as other injuries associated with child abuse.

"The sheriff's office has made it a priority to care for those who cannot care and fight for themselves," said Sheriff Matt Gentry. "I have stated many times that when someone injures a child there isn't a punishment severe enough for them to receive," added Gentry.

Amber Marie Trybalski De Loach and Jeremy Fitzpatrick De Loach have been charged with Aggravated Child Abuse, UnlawFul Poss. Marijuana 2nd, and Poss. Of Drug Paraphernalia.

CCSO investigators worked in cooperation with the Department of Human Resources and the Cullman County District Attorney's Office.

Both are currently being held in the Cullman County Detention Center with no bond.



CCSO

Jeremy Fitzpatrick De Loach and Marie Trybalski De Loach

WSCC OFFERS CONTINUING EDUCATION PROGRAM

Gail Crutchfield
WSCC

HANCEVILLE – Local high school and college students need not be the only ones making plans to start classes this fall. Area residents with interests in scrapbooking, cake decorating, ballroom dancing and more can get ready for educational opportunities, as well as professionals seeking certification courses or new skills to add to their resume.

The Wallace State Community College Continuing Education Department has a long list of classes to during the fall semester. Some classes will be held on the Hanceville campus, while others are available through online services.

"We strive to provide a wide variety of opportunities that will attract individuals who want to learn a new craft or those in business and industry who need to update their certifications or add skills," said Melinda Edwards, Dean of Institutional Outreach, who directs Continuing Education at Wallace State. Most of the classes are weekly classes that meet no more than two to four times. Classes geared toward business, industry and healthcare can last several weeks, depending on the course hours required.

Below is a listing of the courses planned during the Fall 2015 semester. For more information about these and other Continuing Education programs, call 256-352-7826. Visit www.ed2go.com/wscc-wfd to view the classes listed as online courses and many more online courses related to health, media and design, business and IT and software development.

ART/CRAFT/PHOTOGRAPHY/GRAPHICS

• Photo Collage & Scrapbooking, Tuesdays, Sept. 1-22, 6-8 p.m., $30
• Intro to Digital Photography, Tuesdays, Sept. 8-Oct. 16, 6-8 p.m., $75
• Advanced Digital Photograph, Tuesdays, Oct. 27-Dec. 8, 6-8 p.m., $75
• Intro to Raster Graphics for Small Business, Wednesdays, Sept. 2-23, 6-8 p.m., $75
• Intro to Vector Graphics for Small Businesses, Mondays, Aug. 31-Sept. 21, 6-8 p.m., $75
• Advanced Raster Graphics for Small Businesses, Wednesdays, Sept. 30-Oct. 21, 6-8 p.m., $75
• Intro to Video Production, Thursdays, Sept. 10-Oct. 1, 6-8 p.m., $75
• Home Decorating Sewing, Wednesdays, Aug. 26-Oct. 2, 3-5 p.m., $55

ACADEMIC PREP/ LANGUAGE

• ACT Prep Course (online)
• Spanish (online)

CULINARY

• Fundamentals of Cake Decorating (Course I), Tuesdays, Sept. 1-22, 5-7 p.m., $35
• Cake Decorating (Course II), Tuesdays, Sept. 29-Oct. 13, 5-7 p.m., $35

DANCE/HEALTH AND WELLNESS

• Ballroom Dancing (Session 1), Tuesdays, Aug. 28-22, 7-8 p.m., $30
• Ballroom Dancing (Session 2), Tuesday, Sept. 29-Oct. 27, 7-8 p.m., $30
• Advanced Ballroom Dancing (Session 1), Tuesday, Aug. 18-22, 6-7 p.m., $30
• Advanced Ballroom Dancing (Session 2) Tuesdays, Sept. 29-Occt. 27, 6-7 p.m., $30
• Wellness Center for Seniors, Fall Semester, $35
• Wellness Center for the Community, Fall Semester, $80

GENEALOGY/LIFELONG LEARNING

• Introduction to Genealogy, Aug. 26-27, 5-8 p.m., $30
• Southern Genealogy, Sept. 23-24, 5-8 p.m., $30
• Genealogy and the Computer, Sept. 9-10, 5-8 p.m., $30
• Advanced Genealogy, Oct. 28-29, 5-8 p.m., $30
• Civil War Era Genealogy, Oct. 14-15, 5-8 p.m., $30
• Computers for Seniors (Course 1), Aug. 25-27, 1:30-4:30 p.m., $25
• Computers for Seniors (Course 2), Oct. 13-15, 1:30-4:30 p.m., $25
• Advanced Computers for Seniors (Course 1), Sept. 1-3, 1:30-4:30 p.m., $25
• Advanced Computers for Seniors (Course 2), Oct. 20-22, 1:30-4:30 p.m., $25
• Facebook for Seniors (Course 1) Sept. 1-3, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., $25
• Facebook for Seniors (Course 2) Oct. 20-22, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., $25
• Smartphone and Digital Media for Seniors (Course 1), Aug. 25-27, 9:20 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., $25
• Smartphone and Digital Media for Seniors (Course 2), Oct. 13-15, 9:20 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., $25

DEFENSIVE DRIVING

• Defensive Driving, Aug. 17, Sept. 14, Sept. 28, Oct. 12, Oct. 26, Nov. 9, Dec. 7, 5:30-8:30 p.m., $35

TRAINING FOR BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY

• CDL Training, Monday-Thursday, $2,504, call 256.352.8172 for dates
• Short-Term Welding, Monday-Wednesday (enroll at any time), 5:30-9:30 p.m., $2,000
• Servsafe Test-Prep & Certification (Course 1), Sept. 14, 15, 21, 5-9 p.m., $150
• Servsafe Test-Prep & Certification (Course 2), Nov. 9, 10, 16, 5-9 p.m., $150

BUSINESS, COMOPUTER & ACCOUNTING (All online courses)

• Grant Writing
• Creating Webpages
• Accounting Fundamentals
• Business Communication and Leadership
• Business Fundamentals
• Business Software
• General Business and Management
• Project Management

SHORT-TERM HEALTH PROGRAMS

• Phlebotomy Technician (Class 1), Tuesdays and Thursday, Aug. 11-Oct. 15, 5-8:30 p.m., $1,587.50 plus $11.50 insurance fee
• Phlebotomy Technician (Class 2), Tuesdays and Thursday, Nov. 2-Jan. 21, 5-8:30 p.m., $1,587.50 plus $11.50 insurance fee
• Certified Nursing Assistant (Class 1), Mondays and Wednesdays, Aug. 10-Oct. 14, 5-9 p.m. ., $790 plus $15 insurance fee
• Certified Nursing Assistant (Class 2), Mondays and Wednesdays, Nov. 2-Jan. 20, 5-9 p.m., $790 plus $15 insurance fee
• Physical Therapy Aide Program, Monday-Wednesdays, Oct. 19-ec. 9, 6-9:30 p.m., $999
• EKG Technician Certification Program, Tuesdays and Thursdays, Oct. 20-Dec. 10, 6-9:30 p.m., $999
• Veterinary Assistant Program, Tuesdays-Thursday, Oct. 60Dec. 17, 6-9:30 p.m. or Saturdays, Oct. 17-Dec. 5, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., $1,899
• Home Healthcare Aide, Mondays and Wednesdays, Oct. 5-Dec. 15, 6-9:30 p.m. or Saturdays, Oct. 24-Nov. 21, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., $1,499
• Medical Assisting Review, online course Aug. 14-Sept. 18, $120
• CPR Healthcare Provider, Sept. 8, Oct. 6, 22, Nov. 13, Dec. 1, $50
• Ophthalmic Assistant, Tuesdays and Thursdays, Oct. 20-Dec. 10, 6-9:30 p.m., $999

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ALEA REVOLUTIONIZES ALABAMA DRIVER LICENSE SERVICES

ALEA
Contributor

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Law Enforcement Agency (ALEA) has made significant progress in modernizing the Driver License system to ensure efficiency and effectiveness for Alabama citizens.

"Throughout the transition process, we examined the core functions of each legacy agency and determined the Driver License system was inefficient and archaic," Secretary of Law Enforcement Spencer Collier said.

"As Secretary of Law Enforcement, one of my top priorities was to find and implement a solution for Alabama Driver License. I am pleased to announce a series of technology-based improvements which will result in more efficient service and shorter wait times for citizens of Alabama."

The Driver License system improvements include:

• Online scheduling: Customers can select an appointment time that suits their schedules to make a visit to one of ALEA's Driver License Examining Offices is as convenient as possible.

• Online driver license renewals: Licensed drivers may choose to renew their standard driver licenses or order a duplicate license via Internet when it is most convenient for them.

• Self-serve kiosks: Rather than wait for a DL Examiner, customers who seek to renew standard driver licenses, non-driver IDs, or order a duplicate license may opt to use the self-serve equipment that trims a visit to mere minutes.

• Digital licensing for smart phones: Customers who have smart phones may download a digital license to show as a secure form of identification. (Online renewal required for digital license).

• Equipment upgrades statewide: ALEA has started updating computer stations, testing stations and other equipment at its offices, and at Probate Judge and License Revenue Commissioners Offices, across the state.

For more information on ALEA's Driver License services, visit alrenewal.com.

ADOR INCREASING SECURITY MEASURES FOR MY ALABAMA TAXES

ADOR
Contributor

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama Department of Revenue considers the security of the information that the citizens of Alabama have entrusted us with to be our top priority. That is why beginning July 25 we will be enhancing security features to the online taxpayer portal, My Alabama Taxes (MAT).

In addition to the logon/password, we will implement a second authentication mechanism on MAT which will require users to also enter an authentication code to log in. MAT users will have the option of receiving the authentication code via SMS text message or e-mail.

This code will be used to verify the user's identity when logging into MAT. There is an option to check a "Trust This Computer" box, which will enable MAT to recognize the device and Web browser combination for future logons.

In order to better understand this change, a demonstration of the process can be viewed at this link: myalabamataxes.alabama.gov/files/cbt/TCA.htm

While MAT is already a secure system, Commissioner Magee feels that boosting security will give users an extra level of comfort that their data is being protected. Should anyone need assistance or have questions regarding this change, please call 334-353-0030.

CRMC RECOGNIZED WITH NATIONAL AWARD

Lindsey Dossey
CRMC

CULLMAN – Cullman Regional Medical Center physicians, leaders and clinicians recently gathered to celebrate the Center of Distinction Award, which was given to CRMC Center for Wound Healing by Healogics, Inc., the nation's largest provider of advanced wound care services. The Center achieved outstanding clinical outcomes for twelve consecutive months, including patient satisfaction higher than 92 percent, a minimum wound healing rate of at least 91 percent within 30 median days to heal, and other quality outcomes. There were 506 centers eligible for the Center of Distinction award, only 172 achieved the honor.

"CRMC is proud of the continued success of the CRMC Wound Healing Center," said CRMC Chief Financial Officer Nesha Donaldson. "This award shows the Center's continued commitment to improving the quality of life of patients through their services."

The CRMC Center for Wound Healing is a member of the Healogics Network of more than 635 Centers, and provides access to benchmarking data and proven experience treating more than two million chronic wounds.

CRMC Center for Wound Healing offers highly specialized wound care to patients suffering from diabetic ulcers, pressure ulcers, infections and other chronic wounds which have not healed in a reasonable amount of time. Advanced treatments include hyperbaric oxygen therapy, negative pressure wound therapy, bio-engineered skin substitutes, biological and biosynthetic dressings and growth factor therapies.

"Our physicians and staff make it a top priority to help heal the patients we serve," said Program Director Lorie Strane, CMA, BA.

"Due to the nature of our treatments, our patients become like family to us; therefore, their recovery is just as important to us as it is to them. Our success stories inspire us to continue working hard each day for each patient we serve."



CRMC

CRMC leaders and clinicians receive the Center of Distinction Award.

Run (from Front)

The 23rd annual EvaBank Midnight Run 5K will be held on Friday, August 14, and will begin at the Cullman Civic Center.

EvaBank Midnight Run 5K Schedule:

• 10 p.m. – Civic Center Opens for packet pickup and night-of registration

• 10:30 p.m. – Pre-race black light party starts in front of the Civic Center

• 11:59 p.m. – Race begins in front of the Civic Center

• 12:30 a.m. – After-party under the black lights begins

• 1:15 a.m. – Results awarded for age groups and overall winners

Entering the race costs $25 per runner during the pre-registration period, which continues until the day of the race. Registration will also be open the night of the race at the Cullman Civic Center for $30.

To pre-register online visit active.com/cullman-al/running/distance-running-races/evabank-midnight-run-5k-2015.

To pre-register in person visit the Cullman Civic Center or any EvaBank location.

For more information, visit cullmanrecreation.org/evabank-midnight-run-5k or call 256-734-9157.

POSITION AVAILABLE

Program Facilitator needed for local domestic violence intervention program.

Full time, BS degree required. Send resume to: vsoced@vsoccullman.org

Subscribe to CullmanSense today and have it delivered to your door for only $40 a year.



CULLMANSENSE.COM
July 27, 2015

RELIGIOUS SPOTLIGHT: HEATH TINKER, PASTOR AT SIMCOE WORSHIP CENTER

Sharon Schuler Kreps
sharon@cullmansense.com

SIMCOE – Simcoe Worship Center's congregation has one vision, one goal, and one mission - to reach this lost world for the Kingdom of God and deliver the message of Jesus Christ. Heath Tinker is the church's senior pastor, and he has dedicated his life to the ministry.

Pastor Heath grew up on Sand Mountain in Ider, Alabama. He is the proud father of two beautiful girls, 12-year-old Makena, and 10-year-old Preslie. He accepted the call to preach at the age of 16, and then at the age of 21 began his ministerial training through the Church of God of Cleveland, Tenn.

"In 2001 I began to walk in my calling of an evangelist and continued until 2012," Tinker explained.

"During that time I had the privilege of preaching in many different states including Illinois, Arkansas, Tennessee, Georgia, Mississippi, Ohio, Michigan, South Carolina, Kentucky, and Alabama. During that time I also had the privilege to be part of three mission trips in Bulgaria, and in 2013 I went to South Mexico."

"In November 2011 the Holy Spirit began to change my course and on January 1, 2012, I became the senior pastor of Simcoe Worship Center where I continue to minister to a great group of people," he smiled.

"The congregation calls me pastor and I believe it is one of the greatest honors one could have."

The growing group at Simcoe Worship Center believe they can make a huge impact in society, especially in their community. Their vision is to be a church where anyone can find his or her purpose in life.

They believe they can accomplish their vision by doing three things:

1. Call
2. Connect
3. Care.

"Call - means that everything we are and all that we do must be bathed in prayer," Tinker began. "We believe that prayer is the key to everything. Jesus taught his disciples how to pray and many times He was found praying. It's prayer that accesses heaven for us. Jesus called His house the house of prayer so if you visit us at Simcoe Worship Center, you will witness a group of people calling on God."

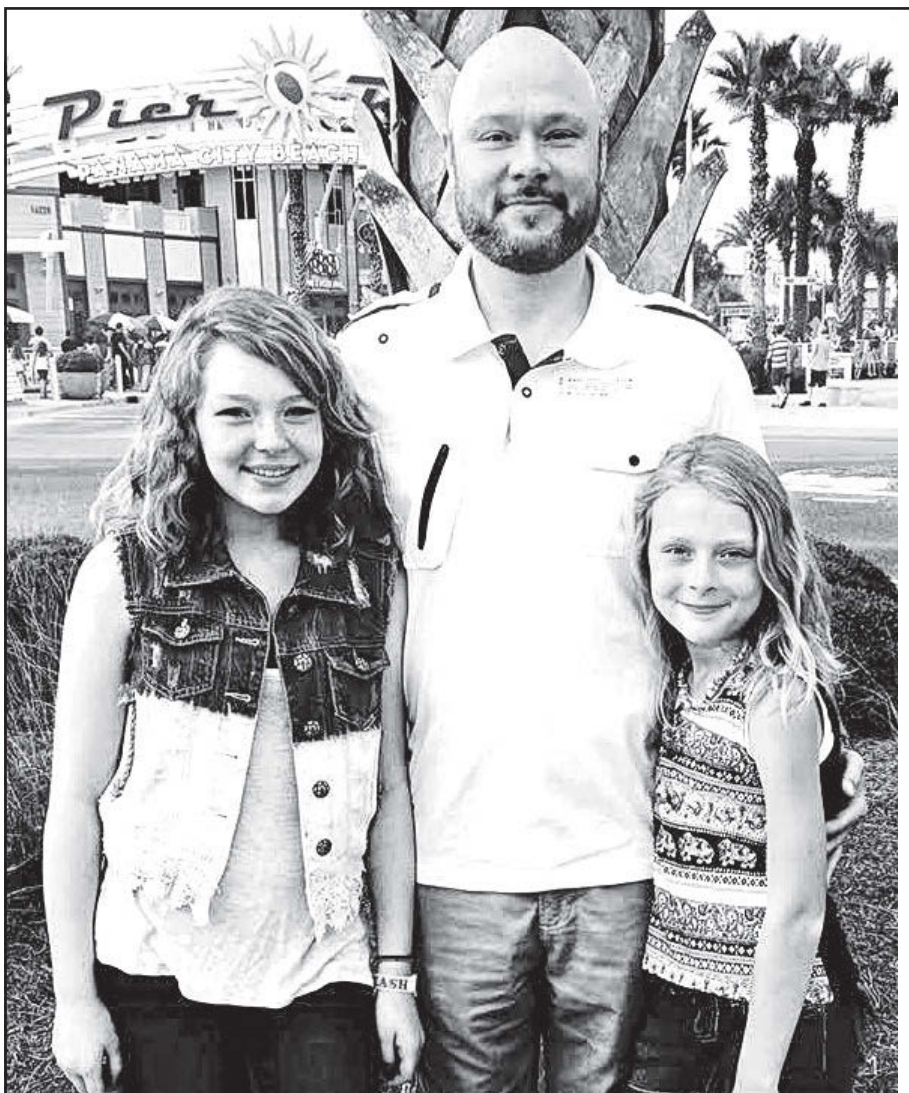
"Connect - it is our mission to connect everyone to Christ, for we can do nothing without Him, and we know that He is the answer for everyone," he continued.

"Care - We reveal who Jesus is by what we do more than by what we say. We want all to know that no matter who you are, or where you are in life that we care for you, and so does Christ," he grinned.

One of the biggest ways the church connects with the community is Operation Go, a project that began last year in the Simcoe area.

On Thanksgiving Day 2014, the church gave away over 200 turkey dinners. Two weeks later they gave away clothes, shoes, toys, and food to everyone that came to the church.

This year they plan on giving away bags of food, clothes and toys to all on December 5th. Simcoe Worship Center also supports missionaries around the world.



HEATH TINKER

Pastor Heath Tinker with daughters Makena and Preslie.

"Jesus commanded us to go make disciples, having the honor of being a part of that, it is sometimes overwhelming."

Pastor Heath Tinker, Simcoe Worship Center

"Jesus commanded us to go make disciples, having the honor of being part of that is sometimes overwhelming," he smiled.

"I am nowhere near perfect; it is by the mercy and grace of God I am who I am and where I am today. It is Jesus that saved me, changed me, and is keeping me, and so I give all glory, praise, and honor to Him".

Simcoe Worship Center is a Pentecostal church, meaning they believe in the power and demonstrations of the Holy Spirit. Their worship services begin at 10:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Sundays and they offer classes for all ages at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Simcoe Worship Center is located at 4442 County Road 1635, Cullman, AL 35055.

For more information, call 256-796-1184 or follow them on Facebook at facebook.com/pages/Simcoe-Worship-Center/204859386216270.

Guard (from Front)

someone doesn't [protect those who cannot protect themselves] then what happened in Chattanooga is going to happen again."

Along with guarding the Center, Huff has created a Change.org petition to Governor Bentley that asks him to allow the recruiters to "at least have a carry-on" side-arm weapon.

Miller and a friend are raising money on GoFundMe to have bulletproof glass installed at the Career Center.

Miller and Huff are not alone in their endeavor.

Several of Miller's military comrades are replicating what he is doing in California and Arizona.

Huff said that in Huntsville residents are doing the same.

Although members are linked through social media and other organizations, the volunteer movement was not an organized nationwide operation. Rather, according to Miller and Huff, it consists of individuals groups "who've had enough".

Both Miller and Huff carry handguns on their hips while on guard.

They started their service on Monday, July 21 and do not take lunch breaks. However, some of the surrounding businesses have brought them food and refreshments, as well as a "thank you" for keeping the area safe.

"I've talked to several veterans and we'll do day shifts. So there will always be at least two-to-three former Marines or Army men here. I even talked to Matt Gentry. We have some active police officers who will help when they're off duty," Miller said.

Miller explained how his presence has affected the people and businesses in the shopping center.

"Yesterday these two offices [the two businesses located on either side of the Armed Forces Career Center] came up to me and said they had been scared to be here until yesterday. They said they feel like they're back to normal since we've been here."

Although the temperature was above 95 degrees, Miller and Huff seemed glad to be standing in front of the building.

"We've got to get people back to loving our country again," Huff said.

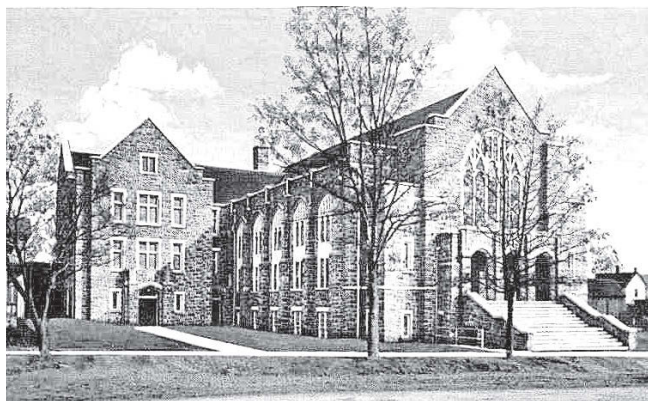
"That's the problem. You've got to get out there. You can't just talk about it. If we can do that, maybe it'll change."

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PHOTOS BY GREG BURDEN

Cullman is filled with a variety of churches of many different denominations.

WHICH CHURCH CAME FIRST?

A BRIEF HISTORY OF CULLMAN CHURCHES

Sharon Schuler Kreps
sharon@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Cullman is filled with wonderful, God fearing people and as a result, there are lots of fantastic churches around town. With so many different denominations represented, there seems to be something for everyone, according to their beliefs. Take a walk through early Cullman and watch how the churches began to spring up and blossom nothing but faith, hope and love.

The first church to form in Cullman was St. John's Evangelical Protestant Church. It was organized on May 1, 1874 and the building located in West Cullman between Fourth and Fifth Avenue. The church's first pastor was Reverend J. Schmaltzer. Several years later the present church site was purchased and a new building was erected. The second church building was used until 1923 when the present building was constructed.

Sacred Heart Church was the second church to come to Cullman. It blossomed into existence in 1877 under the leadership of Fr. James Meurer, a German-speaking priest. Benedictine priests began their tradition of service as parish pastors in 1888, three years prior to the founding of St. Bernard Abbey.

The present stone church with its two massive steeples was dedicated in 1916. The matching stone school located next to the church was built in the years following World War II. The current rectory was constructed in 1961.

The third church in Cullman was First Baptist Church which was organized August 26, 1877. Reverend P. M. Musgrove was the church's first pastor with only 7 members at the time.

The first church building, only 30 x 40 feet, was located on the corner of Second Avenue West and First Street. A new church was built and replaced the small one in 1893, then replaced by a beautiful brick structure in 1914. The current church was dedicated on April 13, 1952. Interesting note: The church had the same organist, Mrs. F. E. St. John, for over sixty years. She played from 1893 until 1953 and surely experienced wonderful changes and growth over the years.

Cullman's fourth church was St. Andrew's United Methodist Church, organized in 1879. At the time it was called the German English Methodist Episcopal and in 1884 the church was renamed West Cullman Methodist Episcopal Church. It was located in a wooden building that was built on Main Street. The church changed its name again in 1954 to West Methodist Church and at the time had a new education building added. The current place of worship was used for the first time on December 27, 1959 and a couple years later, its name changed to St. Andrews United Methodist Church.

Cullman's fifth church to make its appearance was First United Methodist Church. It was organized by Reverend Sam P. West in 1881 at the Cullman Courthouse with 10 charter members. It was a result of the outgrowth of a Sunday school class for Methodists which had been taught by George W. Hardin a couple years prior. The first church was constructed in 1883. It was located on First Avenue West, between First and Second Streets. Unfortunately, in 1893 the building was destroyed by fire.

For two years after the fire, church was held in the courthouse. In 1905 a frame building was completed on the church's present site. The current stone edifice was completed in 1924, which is what we now recognized as First Methodist Church.

The churches didn't stop cropping up after these first five were completed. Since then there have been hundreds of churches added to our town. Each church is like a beautiful flower and together they help to create a truly lovely place to be.

MIRRORING HISTORY: CULLMAN CITY HALL

Sharon Schuler Kreps
sharon@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Located on the corner of Clark Street and Second Avenue East, Cullman City Hall has played a huge part in our local government. The lovely white building has been around for many years. Cullman's Municipal Building was officially dedicated during a ceremony on Sunday, June 21, 1964.



CULLMAN CITY HALL

Cullman's Municipal Building was officially dedicated in 1964.



CULLMAN CITY HALL

The same building still serves the community today.

cullman city parks & recreation

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

www.cullmanrecreation.org
256-734-9157

- **EvaBank Midnight Run:** Come join us for the 23rd Annual Midnight Run on Friday, August 14, 2015 at 11:59pm at the Cullman Civic Center! This year's race will feature black lights, neon color powder, and a glow party before and after the race. More serious runners will also have the opportunity to by-pass the color stations on the course, and the race will be timed with overall winners receiving $250 as well as medals to the top 3 in every age division. Registration is open now at the Cullman Civic Center, Active.com, and any EvaBank location. Cost is $25.
- **Youth Flag Football :** Youth Flag Football Registration is open through Wednesday, July 22 for ages 5-12. Registration is $90 and includes a jersey and the season of play. Signups are open at the Civic Center through this Wednesday!
- **Dive-in Movie:** The Cullman Wellness & Aquatic Center will be playing a movie by the pool on Thursday, August 6 at 8:30pm The Pirates! Band of Misfits will play with gates opening at 6pm for $5 day passes (members will get in for free).
- **Basket Making Class:** CP&R's new art program will hold a basket making class on August 1 at the Cullman Civic Center at 12pm. Cost is $35 which includes the materials and instruction. Pre-registration is open through July 31 at the Civic Center. Must register before the class.
- **Just Play:** CP&R's FREE Just Play Program will continue this Friday, July 17 from 1-3pm at City Park on Main Ave. The program features free fun, games, and activities for children ages 5-12. Check out our website for more details.
- **Fall Youth Baseball Registration:** August 1—20 at the Cullman Civic Center; age groups will be 7-8 and 9-12. Cost is $400 per team or $90 for individual people to register.
- **Fall Men's League Softball Registration** is open now at the Heritage Park. Cost is $400 per team. Call 256-739-9931 for more information.
- **Fall Coed League Softball Registration** is now open at Heritage Park. Cost is $400 per team. Call 256-739-9931 for more information.
- **Mayberry Days Sr. Spirit Trip** will take place Sept. 24-29 to Pigeon Forge, TN . Payment must be received by August 1. so call 256-734-4803 for more information.

KIDS NIGHT OUT TO BE HELD AT C.W. DAY PARK

Hannah Ward
ward@cullmansense.com

HANCEVILLE – Hanceville Police Department is hosting the seventh annual Kids Night out August 7 at Hanceville's C.W. Day Park. The event will start at six in the evening and end around eight p.m.

There will be free food, inflatables, games and all sorts of fun things for the whole family to participate it in. Local Police and fire departments will be there to promote law enforcement, fire and EMTs in a positive way.

This event gives the youth of Cullman County an opportunity to meet the people that protect and serve them every day. They also get a chance to check out the bigger equipment that is utilized by the departments like firetrucks and helicopters.

According to Hanceville Police Chief, Bob Long, "First responders all gather for a great time. I rode the mechanical bull last year. All the kids loved it. CPD helicopter is always a big hit with the kids."

Businesses from all over Hanceville and Cullman County have donated to the event. American Protein and The Shrine are two of the largest supporters. "We have numerous businesses that support us in a huge way," Long stated. "We appreciate their support every year."

The event collects approximately $4,000 in cash and school supplies.

This year they are supplying 650 elementary students with supplies.

"We are a little short this year but we have a couple weeks left to make it," claimed Long. There is still time to make a donation by sending a check to Hanceville City Hall attn. Kids Night Out at 112 Main Street SE Hanceville, AL 35077.

Bring out the kids for a fun and educational filled night the whole family is bound to enjoy. C.W. Day Park is located at 203 Michelle Street NW, Hanceville, AL 35077.



Hanceville Police Chief Bob Long caught a ride on the mechanical bull last year.

CONTRIBUTED

KEEP PETS COOL DURING SUMMER MONTHS

Hannah Ward
ward@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – In this 100 degree weather Alabama has been experiencing lately, humans do a pretty good job of staying cool; hydrating, turning the a/c up, staying indoors. Pets on the other hand is a different story. They cannot always care for themselves the way we can. Therefore it is up to people to make sure they keep cool and hydrated throughout the summer.

Animals are made differently than we are and therefore react differently to heat than we do. Candie Horsley, the Cullman County Animal Shelter Manager, suggested multiple different ways to help your pet endure the heat:

• Furnishing a shallow kiddie pool for your outdoor pets will offer them much needed relief from the heat

• Always make sure they have plenty of fresh water available to them in a source that can't be overturned. In heat waves, it is important to add ice to their water.

• Limit the amount of exercise on the really hot or humid days. Remember that animals pant to evaporate moisture from their lungs which takes heat from the body. If the humidity is too high, they can't cool themselves and their temperature can rise very quickly

• Never leave your pets in a parked car. Not even for a minute. Not even with the car running and air conditioner on. On a warm day, temperatures inside a vehicle can rise rapidly to dangerous levels. On an 85-degree day, for example, the temperature inside a car with the windows opened slightly can reach 102 degrees within 10 minutes. After 30 minutes, the temperature will reach 120 degrees. Your pet may suffer irreversible organ damage or die

• Extreme temperatures can cause heatstroke. Some signs of heatstroke are: heavy panting, glazed eyes, a rapid heartbeat, difficulty breathing, excessive thirst, lethargy, fever, dizziness, lack of coordination, profuse salivation, vomiting, a deep red or purple tongue, seizure, and unconsciousness.

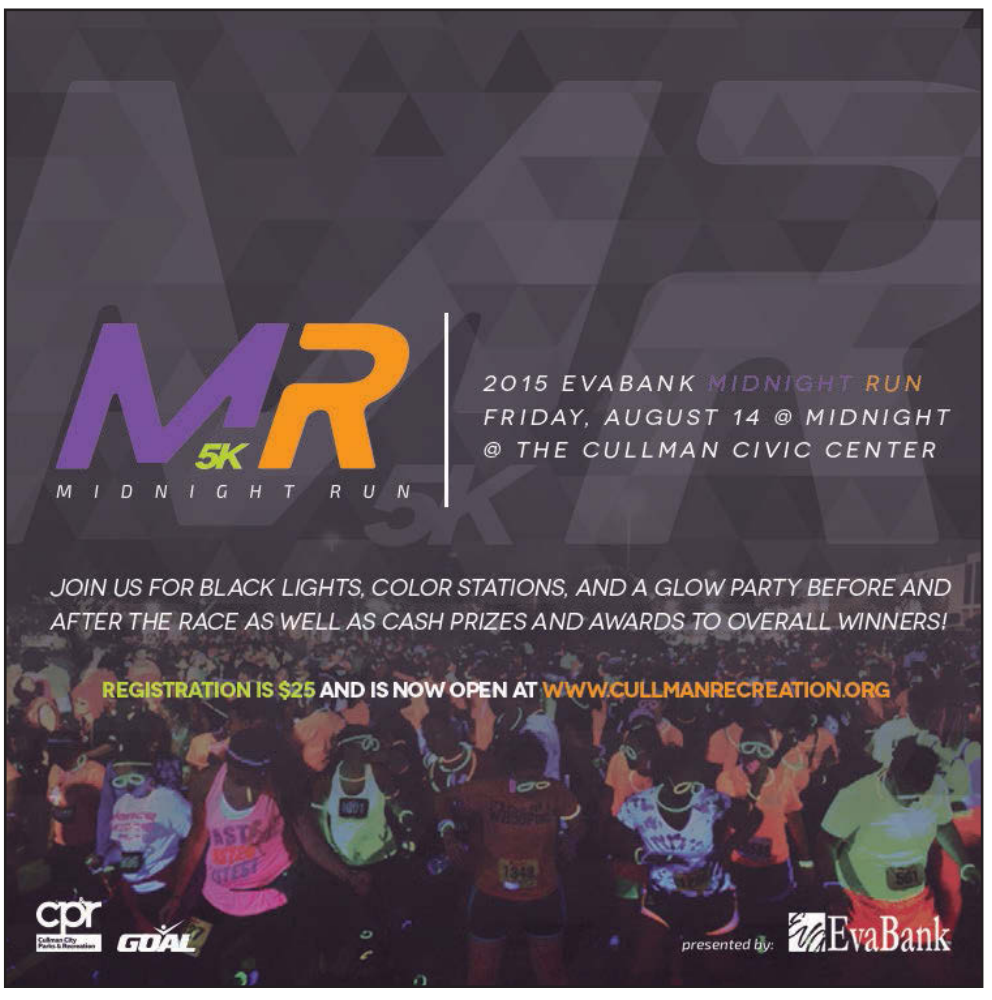
• Animals are at particular risk for heat stroke if they are very old, very young, overweight, not conditioned to prolonged exercise, or have heart or respiratory disease. Some breeds of dogs—like Boxers, Pugs, Shih Tzus, and other dogs and cats with short muzzles—will have a much harder time breathing in extreme heat. How to treat a pet suffering from heatstroke. Move your pet into the shade or an air-conditioned area. Apply ice packs or cold towels to her head, neck, and chest or run cool (not cold) water over her. Let her drink small amounts of cool water or lick ice cubes. Take her directly to a veterinarian.

• Avoid sidewalks and asphalts as they are very hot on dog's feet.

• Make sure they can't get to any liquids that may be coming from your vehicle. They are very dangerous to your pet and in many cases, fatal.

"Please make good decisions when it comes to your pets and this heat. Irreversible damage or death can occur very quickly during these extreme temperatures," Horsley said.

"Please take every precaution to protect your pets. In this case, as in most others, be proactive, be on purpose! As the old adage goes, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure."





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State Farm Agent
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HEARTLAND QUILT GUILD HOSTS THREADS OF TIME 2015 QUILT SHOW

Sharon Schuler Kreps
sharon@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – The Heartland Quilt Guild of Cullman presented the "Threads of Time" quilt show at East Elementary School on Friday and Saturday, July 24th and 25th. People from all over Cullman and surrounding counties came to see the lovely quilts that were on display. This year a special quilt was made to be raffled off. The proceeds from the quilt will go to Cullman Caring for Kids.

"I would especially like to thank everyone who came out to our show, it was a success," said Sandra Tucker, Co-Chairman of the Quilt Show. "In addition to the quilts that are on display for judging, we also have a large display of antique quilts where we are trying to portray the 'Threads of Time' during the different years that people have been making quilts."

"We had a good show this year," Tucker continued. "There were 119 entries that went from bed quilts all the way to miniatures. All the entries were submitted by the Heartland Guild members, which is about 50 people. We had a challenge this year; the rules of the challenge were you had to have six flying geese, a sun bonnet Sue, and could only use the colors red, black and white in the quilt. The finished quilts in the challenge were on display at the show," she smiled.

Melissa Light had a booth at the quilt show representing her shop, Kenzie Be Fabrics. The store, located at 1426 4th Street SW, Cullman, does long arm quilting, embroidery and also sells sewing machines. They have all kinds of beautiful fabric and offer various sewing classes to the public.

"This is my second year to come to the quilt show," Light explained.

"It's a lot bigger this year. We've had more entries and a lot more out-of-towners this year, which is good."

Joyce Davis owns a large fabric shop along with her long arm quilting business called Quilting by Joyce.

She quilts every day for the public and enjoyed being with other quilters at the show.

"This year's show is mind blowing to me," Davis smiled happily. "There's a lot of talent out there and these ladies have done a wonderful job!"

For more information about Quilting by Joyce, call 256-338-1087 and visit facebook.com/QuiltingByJoyce.

Quilts can be lots of fun to make and can be very sentimental, especially to those who receive them. This year's quilt show was fabulous and there were all kinds of great artwork on display.

The Heartland Quilt Guild formed in 2001 with 25 active members.

They continue to grow and have members of all ages, profession and skill levels from beginners to award winning professionals.

The guild's purpose is to stimulate an interest in quilts, to promote and advance the art of quilt make and to conduct educational programs. They are also actively involved in many local community service projects.

The Quilt Guild meets on the second Thursday night of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Christ Covenant Church, located on St. Joseph Drive in Cullman. For more information call 256-339-6379.







CULLMAN PRIMARY CARE WELCOMES

DAVID SHUPE, DO

- Doctorate of Osteopathic Medicine
  Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine-Georgia Campus, 2012
- B.S. in Biology
  University of Georgia, 2007

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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 at the All Steak. 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.

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.

Tuesday

Cullman Caring for Kids in Need of Donations
If you are able to contribute to Cullman County's Community Food Band, the 'Caring for Kids' organization, they would be grateful. Nonperishable 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.

Knifty Knitters Weekly Meeting
Members of the Cullman Knifty Knitters group meet each Tuesday afternoon at 3 p.m. in the Cullman County Library. Everyone is invited to come learn how to knit yarn and needles are free. This group is open to all ages, both accomplished knitters and those wishing to learn the art form. Crocheters also are invited to take part in these weekly meetings. Please call Lesia for more info 256-734-2720, ext. 23.

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.

Wednesday

St. Monica's Group
St. Monica's Group for those addicted to alcohol or drugs meets every Wednesday night at 7 p.m. in the Rectory Basement of Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic Church. All are welcome to attend who feel the need. For further information please contact Brian at 256-595-0515 or Rita at 256-507-0358.

Church Group Wednesday Nights at CWAC
Youth groups, Sunday School Classes and other Church groups are invited to take part in 'Church Group Nights at Cullman Wellness and Aquatic Center every Wednesday night from 6 p.m. until 11 p.m. Please call 256-775-SWIM (7946).

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.

Thursday

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.

'Celebrate Recovery' at Hanceville First Baptist Church
There will be a 'Celebrate Recovery' meeting tonight starting at 7 p.m. at Hanceville First Baptist Church. Childcare will be available. Additional info Church office at 256-352-9150. Open to all!

Ageless Grace Fitness Class
Come join in the Ageless Grace Fitness Class held each Thursday evening starting at 5:30 p.m. at the Cullman Civic Center. Leader Ann Caretti will show attendees the latest fitness tips available. The event is sponsored by Cullman Park and Recreation Department. Call 256-734-9157 for more information.

Thursday Afternoon Overeaters Anonymous Meeting
Those interested are invited to attend the weekly Thursday afternoon meetings of Overeaters Anonymous which begin at 4:45 p.m. at Grace Episcopal Church's Carriage House. For additional information please call 734-376-2124 or 256-352-1143.

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.

Nimble Thimble Quilt Guild of Cullman
Members of the Nimble Thimble Quilt Guild of Cullman will gather at the Colonel Cullman Museum starting at 9:30 a.m. All interested quilters are invited to attend this meeting.

Saturday

Laughter Yoga at the Cullman Civic Center
Everyone is invited to take part in 'Laughter Yoga' classes each Saturday morning starting at 10 a.m. Donations accepted but no set fee is charged. Come start your weekend out with some great 'laughs'! Please call 256-734-9157 for additional information.

Next Monday

Bosom Buddies Support Group
The Bosom Buddies Support Group offers support to individuals affected by breast cancer. The group will hold its next meeting on Monday, March 16th from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in Cullman Regional Medical Center's Ave Maria Room in the Community Education Center located in Professional Office Building 2 (1890 AL Highway 157, Cullman, AL 35058).

Cullman Kiwanis Club
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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.

LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT
Sponsored by Busy Bee Café

MONDAY
- 79 cent wings at Rodney G's Hickory Grill from 6-9 p.m.

TUESDAY
- Pickin' Under the Pavilion at the Senior Center at 6:30 p.m.
- Trivia Night at Rodney G's at 7 p.m.
- Happy Hour at Moe's from 3-7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY
- Karaoke Night at Grumpy's at 7 p.m.
- Happy Hour at Moe's from 3-7 p.m.
- Karaoke Night at Cadillac Ron's at 7 p.m.
- Ladies' Night at Cadillac Ron's from 5-8 p.m.

THURSDAY
- Open Mic Night at Brothers from 8 p.m. to close
- Happy Hour at Moe's from 3-7 p.m.
- Karaoke Night at Cadillac Ron's at 7 p.m.

FRIDAY
- Live Music at Brothers
- Live Music at Moe's
- Happy Hour at Moe's from 3-6 p.m.
- Live Music at Cadillac Ron's from 8 p.m. to close

SATURDAY
- Live Music at Brothers
- Live Music at Moe's
- Happy Hour at Moe's from 3-6 p.m.
- Live Music at Cadillac Ron's from 8 p.m. to close

NEXT MONDAY
- 79 cent wings at Rodney G's Hickory Grill from 6-9 p.m.

BUSY BEE CAFÉ HAPPY HOUR SPECIALS
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Fill'er Up Fridays • Sudsy Saturdays
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Women of all ages enjoyed learning how to embroider by hand at the Agriplex. SHARON SCHULER KREPS/CULLMANSENSE

HAND EMBROIDERY CLASS TEACHES BASIC SKILLS

Sharon Schuler Kreps
sharon@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – On Thursday, July 23rd, the North Alabama Agriplex held a Hand Embroidery class. Sisters Ashley and Emily Price lead participants through the basics of hand embroidery. The participants created an embroidered tea towel that they were able to take home and keep.

"Tonight we are teaching everyone how to embroidery using the basic stitches," said Emily.

"We'll teach nine different stitches that will break down into different areas, such as clothing."

The nine basic stitches the Price sisters taught during the class were the Back Stitch, Split Back Stitch, Stem Stitch, Running Stitch, Running Whipped, Lazy Daisy, Chain, French Knot and the Satin Stitch.

The students were excited to get to work after watching an informative video - just to get the hang of things. There were people of all ages at the class.

Each had their own personal reasons for being there that night.

"I am happy to be here. I know how to sew a little bit," said 7 year old Brilee Carter. "I want to start making clothes," she grinned.

"We are excited to come up here," said Misty Carter, Brilee's mom.

"We love Agriplex stuff; they offer a lot of great things! Brilee came to sewing camp here last year with Ms. Rachel. I know nothing about sewing, so I will probably be asking a lot of questions." she laughed.

There was a great turnout for the class and the lessons were well received.

It was just another great way to spend time at the North Alabama Agriplex.

For more information on other great classes and informative seminars the Agriplex offers, visit agriplex.org or like them on Facebook at facebook.com/NorthAlabamaAgriplex.

CULLMAN COUNTY SCHOOLS BUS DRIVERS WIN STATE COMPETITION

Hannah Ward
ward@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Cullman County recently had three school bus drivers place top 10 in the State School Bus Safety Road-E-O Competition. The competition was held at Montevallo, Ala June 18, 2015.

Cullman County Schools Transportation Director, Mike Floyd, stated, "Our 3 representatives did extremely well in the competition bringing home 1st, 5th and 9th place awards. Almost all counties in the State were represented and for our school bus drivers to bring home 3 of the top 10 awards is quite an accomplishment. Our Superintendent and School Board representatives along with me and Rena' are extremely proud of their accomplishments. I would put our Cullman County school bus drivers up against any other bus drivers in the State when it comes to driving skills and student safety."

Bus drivers enter the State School Bus Safety Road-E-O contest annually to put their driving and school bus safety skills to the test against other drivers from across the State. To enter, each driver must not have a driver-faulted accident during the current school year.

There are 11 events the driver must go through to complete the contest.

The first part of the competition begins with a pre-trip inspection.

Pre-trip inspections are made every time a driver drives children to make sure the bus is safe for transporting students to school and back. In the contest judges make 5 items faulty on the bus and give contestants a time limit to inspect the bus attempting to find the problems with the bus.

The objectives of the contest are:

- To motivate reinforcement of learning and implementation of good practices involved in superior job performance as a school bus driver.
- To recognize excellence and provide for demonstration of the skills and responsible performance of the demanding job of the school bus driver.
- To develop public awareness of the skills and responsibilities involved in the job of a school bus driver.
- To encourage communication between drivers to share awareness and experience.

"We continually stress student safety with all of our school bus drivers and this competition allows competitors to compare their ability in driving skills and student safety with drivers from other parts of the State," Floyd said. "We are extremely proud of the way our bus drivers compete each year in this competition".

Terry Bentley, a Child Development Center School Bus Driver, came in 1st place this year making him a 3 time State Champion. Bentley won first place in the State Competition in 2009, 2013 and again this year.

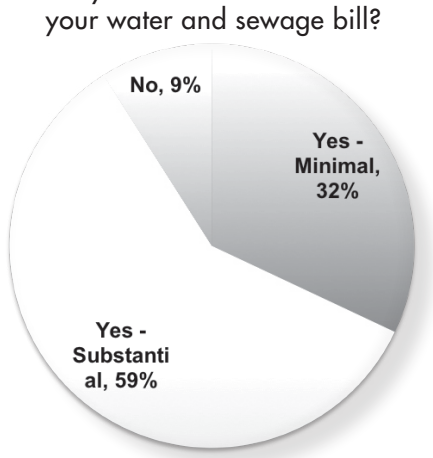
"It's real competitive, I just love to compete and try to win, even if I don't always win," Bentley stated.

"The practicing that we do before and during the competition makes you more aware. Especially student pickup, which is when you're picking up a student."



Poll

Have you noticed an increase in your water and sewage bill?



This Week's Poll

Should National Guard members be able to arm themselves at recruiting centers?

Vote Today at CullmanSense.com/Poll

WHAT'S ONLINE



CULLMAN COUNTY MUSEUM

THE HUMBLE BEGINNINGS OF CULLMAN COUNTY COURTHOUSE

Before Cullman became a county in 1877, court, and all official transactions were held in the Blount County Courthouse. Later, when Cullman became an official Alabama county, court took place at Ambruster's Hall. Before long it was relocated to a... **QRNE.WS/377**



SHARON SCHULER KREPS/CULLMANSENSE

VICTORIAN MANOR CHANGES NAME TO BROOKDALE HANCEVILLE

On Thursday, July 16th, Victorian Manor Assisted Living officially changed its name to Brookdale Hanceville. Excited residents and employees celebrated the event by hosting a ribbon cutting ceremony. Afterwards, a reception was held where attendees enjoyed a variety of food and... **QRNE.WS/378**

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DARK BEFORE DAWN EARNS WESTONE ENDORSEMENT



MARY STANDIFER/CULLMANSENSE

Dark Before Dawn is now an official Westone endorsed band.

Mary Standifer
mary@cullmansense.com

HANCEVILLE – Dark Before Dawn's talent has been officially recognized by Westone Music Products. The band announced July 17 that Westone has agreed to endorse them.

Westone is one of the top designers of in-ear equipment for multiple industries. The company designs products for military, medical, casual music listening and professional musical performances.

Westone offers custom fit, in-ear monitors to artists. Their products include noise cancellation features as well as five or six drivers depending on the model.

Westone's W60 in-ear headphones model won Digital Trends's Best of CES 2014 Headphones award in 2014.

Westone has worked with a variety of popular musical acts including Aerosmith, Rodney Atkins, Goo Goo Dolls, Joan Jett and even Disney's Animal Kingdom. Dark Before Dawn has now been added to that list.

The band will be receiving custom fit, in-ear monitors with five drivers. Ear impressions will be made of each member at an audiologist to ensure the monitors hold a secure seal to their ears.

The products should be ready to accompany Dark Before Dawn to shows a few weeks after the third.

This endorsement is a huge step for Dark Before Dawn and will grant them access to top of the line professional equipment.

To find out more about Westone, visit westone.com.

To find out more about Dark Before Dawn, visit facebook.com/darkbeforedawn.

SMITH LAKE FIREWORKS RE-DO ATTENDED BY LARGER CROWD

Will Hogue
will@cullmansense.com

SMITH LAKE – On Saturday night, July 25, Smith Lake Park hosted a fireworks show, with free admittance.

The event was a result of a malfunction during the fireworks show earlier in the month. During the Independence Day Fireworks Show at Smith Lake Park on July 4 there was a malfunction with some of the equipment. Pyro Production and Cullman Parks and Recreation decided to reschedule the show.

Saturday's event had an impressive attendance, with unconfirmed reports stating that the crowd on July 25 was in fact larger than the one for July 4.

There was, just as the July 4 event, live performers on stage along with a plethora of food vendors and other stands and tents selling everything from strobe lights to Confederate Flags.

Debbie Neu, with Pyro Productions said that the weather made for a better show and, pointed out what she thought was a substantially larger crowd.

"The weather can affect how the show is, you know," Neu said. "The humidity can make the colors seem duller."

Neu and her crew were arrived at Smith Lake Park early on Saturday morning to begin preparing for the evening's show. "The show was a little different," Neu said after the finale of the fireworks which sent the crowd into applause and cheers. "We didn't want to do the exact same thing. I think it went well."

Pyro Productions utilized the most advanced pyrotechnics system in the world; the same system used for nearly every major event - Super Bowls, the Olympics, massive concerts - and the new technology is called digital pyrotechnics.

Much like lighting specialists for performing artists queue music and lights together, Neu and her crew sync up tunes and the fireworks weeks before an actual event.

Most of the work for Pyro Productions is done before they even arrive to a venue, all they have to do is unload their equipment and power up their computers.

According to Neu, Pyro Productions has been doing the fireworks for Smith Lake's Independence Day celebration for three years.

"We hope to be back next year," Neu said.

Families gathered at Smith Lake Park from all around the state.

The Bailey family drove to Smith Lake Park from Cleveland, Alabama to see the fireworks show.

"We had heard about the Fourth of July thing but were having family over so we didn't go to it," said Kathi Bailey. "But then we heard about this and the weather has been nice tonight and it's a very family-friendly atmosphere."

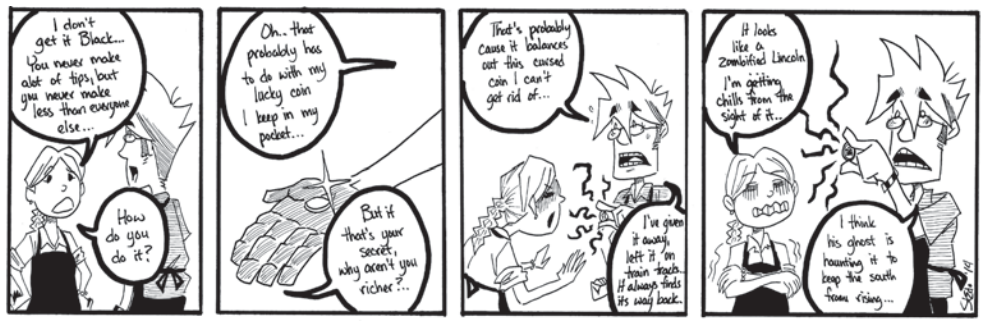
The only hitch in the whole event was getting cars out of the park at the end of the night.

Some had to wait in line for 20 minutes to finally exit the park.

Ultimately, the fireworks at Smith Lake Park were an excuse to gather up as a family and watch fireworks by the water in uncharacteristically hospitable Alabama evening weather.

COMICS

WHITE & BLACK • **"All About Your Luck"** • st.edo@cullmansense.com



MAMA'S BOYZ www.jerrycraft.net **JERRY CRAFT**



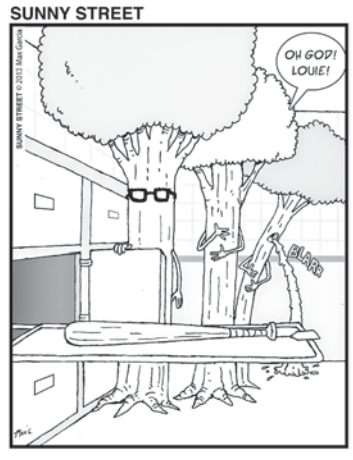
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PETS OF THE WEEK

BARNEY RUBBLE



Hello my name is Barney Rubble and I am about 4 years old. I am a Shepherd mix and I currently weigh 61 lbs. I was a surrender so I am up for adoption at that time. My adoption fee is $90 and that includes my spay/neuter, vaccines, wormer, and also covers my general exam at the Vet, the rabies vaccine, microchip, free 45 day health insurance policy and our local Pet Depot will give you a free bag of food (you pay the taxes) in support of you adopting a Shelter animal.

CHARLIE BROWN



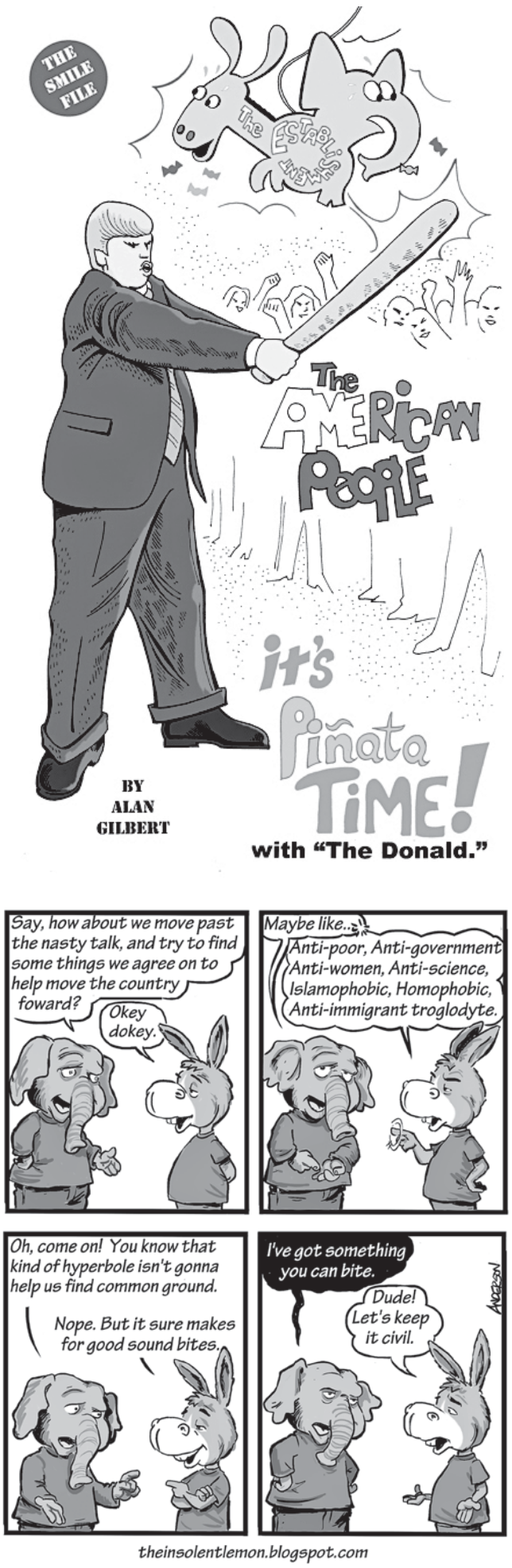
Hello my name is Charlie Brown and I am about 4 year old. I am a Labrador and I currently weigh 79 lbs. I am full of life and I love to play. My adoption fee is $90 and that covers my first set of vaccines and wormer at the Shelter. It covers my general exam at the Vet, the rabies vaccine, spay, microchip, free 45 day health insurance policy and our Pet Depot will give you a free bag of food (you pay the taxes) in support of adopting me.

ADOPT THESE PETS TODAY

Both of these dogs have an adoption fee of $90 that will include their general exam at the Vet, vaccines, wormer, rabies shot, microchip, spay/neuter, and free 45 days of pet health insurance. Pet Depot will give you a bag of food (you pay taxes) as their way of supporting adoption.

If you know the owner of either dog or if you are interested in adopting one of the dogs, please call 256-734-5448 or come by the Animal Shelter.

EDITORIAL CARTOON



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OPINION

ADJUNCT PROFESSORS AND WORKER'S RIGHTS

Laura Finley, Ph.D.
PeaceVoice

The worker's rights movement has exploded in the last few years, with fast food, agricultural and other workers staging strikes and other nonviolent actions to demand increased wages, benefits, and better working conditions. One group of workers that has received far too little attention is adjunct college professors.

According to data collected by the Chronicle of Higher Education, adjuncts at one college and two universities near my home in Southeast Florida earn between $1,380 and $3,000 to teach a fifteen week, three credit course. My own university's published rates range from $1,500 to $3,000. A national survey found the average pay for a three credit course to be $2.700. Given that the typical equation for calculating preparation and grading time for a three credit course is three hours for every one hour of class time, it's safe to assume that adjuncts put in a good 135 hours during a semester. That works out to just over $10 an hour for someone making the lowest rate and about $22 an hour for the higher rate based on the rates listed above. This is appalling, and it puts many adjuncts in the same camp as 42 percent of workers in the U.S who earn less than $15 an hour, according to Forbes. The American Association of University Professors has noted that of the more than 30,000 adjunct professors who would like to obtain a full-time academic position, more than 60 percent hold one or more other jobs.

These wages are not nearly ample to afford the basic necessities of life in the U.S. The Service Employees International Union (SEIU) estimates that in New England, an adjunct professor would have to teach 17 to 24 classes a year to be able to afford a home and pay for utilities. Teaching four classes per year would cover only the grocery bill for a family of four. The work is also unstable, as classes can be cancelled at the last minute if enrollment is not adequate. One adjunct even described her class being canceled the morning it was to start.

According to MIT's Living Wage Calculator, a living wage in Miami is $11.45 per hour for a single adult.

In addition to these low wages, adjuncts do not receive any kind of benefits. Many times, they are not even allotted a space on campus to meet with students, or if they are, it might be one without a computer or phone. A report from the University of California at Berkeley found that nearly a quarter of all adjunct professors receive some form of public assistance, like food stamps or Medicaid. Many must, as grown adults, live with their families, and struggle to afford basic food requirements. One adjunct professor reported, "I lived off of fried potatoes and onions for the semester. I actually lived better as a grad student than I do now."

To make ends meet, many adjuncts become "gypsies," jetting from one campus to another to teach as many classes as possible. I did this some time ago, at one time teaching seven classes at three different universities, just so that my family of three could afford a cheap apartment. The hours spent on the road, of course, are not calculated in the pay.

Adjunct faculty are rarely integrated into school or departmental activities. One study of 105 research universities found that faculty senates at approximately two-thirds of the sample excluded adjuncts from participation. Another study conducted by the Chronicle of Higher Education's Adjunct Project found that more than half of the respondents had no say at all in faculty governance. My own experience is that the adjuncts are physically separated in that, when office space is allotted, it is nowhere near the other faculty. I was never invited to nor was I welcomed to departmental activities. Indeed, most faculty members had no idea who I was.

Even worse, while often being hired sight-unseen, adjunct professors can be undermined when administrators determine they need to excessively control the curriculum. At one university where I was hired based only on my curriculum vitae (no personal interaction, not even a phone interview) to teach an introductory course, I received an e-mail three weeks into the semester detailing my syllabus, lecture notes, and exams. Given that I had obviously already provided my students with a syllabus and the course was well underway, I chose to ignore this e-mail from the department chair (whom I never met) and carry on as I had planned. Not surprisingly, there was no follow up to that e-mail and, despite ignoring these requests, I was asked (but could not) teach again for that university.

In essence, while they are among the the workhorses of higher education, adjuncts are decidedly second-class citizens. In February, the SEIU recommended that adjuncts earn $15,000 per course. They admit this might be reaching for the sky, but argue that a national conversation about adjunct wages is desperately needed. If we truly believe that education is the pathway not only to financial success but also to personal satisfaction, it is completely deplorable that we compensate a significant portion of the people who provide it so poorly. In particular, at universities that pledge to value social justice and human rights, it is an atrocity that employees who perform such a valuable service are not afforded a living wage.

OPINION

WHERE THE PRESIDENCY IS HEADED

Lee H. Hamilton
Contributor

Before the ins and outs of the 2016 presidential contest become a preoccupation for many of us, it seems a good time to step back and look at the office of the presidency for which so many candidates are vying. The presidency inherited by whoever wins next November will be substantially changed from the position his or her predecessors occupied a few decades ago.

The President is now the chief — and sometimes the sole — actor in American government. He far outweighs the other so-called "co-equal" branches. People don't expect Congress or the Supreme Court to solve the country's problems. Instead, they look to the President for initiatives, for remedies, and increasingly — and sadly — to serve as a de facto pastor to the nation when we confront a tragedy.

Not even the press can hold the President to account any more, except under extraordinary circumstances. For one thing, it's very hard to grill the President these days.

The tradition of regular presidential news conferences has all but disappeared, making it very hard to find a forum or a place where people outside the White House bubble can ask the President probing questions and press for thorough explanations of a policy or problem.

Which is a shame not just for the obvious reasons, but also because the federal government cries out for more accountability these days.

Whoever is President next, he or she would do well to pay more attention to effective management of the vast executive establishment than has been the practice until now. Otherwise, the breakdowns in the operation of government to which we've grown accustomed will continue.

That's because government today is strained at every level. Highly complex problems pile up with great rapidity, and government needs highly skilled people to deal with them.

Every President comes into office insisting he'll make government work better, but invariably he is distracted by the rush of events.

This is not entirely the President's fault. The Congressional Research Service estimates that 1,200 to 1,400 positions are subject to confirmation by the Senate, and Presidents often have a hard time getting the people they want into position.

To sum it up, while the President's accumulation of power is a serious problem in the big picture, it nonetheless is a fact.

We ought to make it easier for him to get the people he needs in a position to make government work more effectively.

Lee Hamilton is Director of the Center on Congress at Indiana University. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

IF THIS CAUGHT YOUR EYE, WHY AREN'T YOU ADVERTISING HERE?

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EXTENSION OFFICE HOLDS HOME FOOD PRESERVATION BASICS WORKSHOP

Sharon Schuler Kreps
sharon@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – The Cullman Extension Office held its 2015 Home Food Preservation workshop from July 21, 2015 through July 23, 2015. The classes were held from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. each day and provided a hands-on learning experience in the basics of pressure and water bath canning.

"It's a great class," said Jim Burk, the only male in the class. "I'm a survivalist. You can grow a tomato and keep it for a week. If you learn to can it, you can keep it for 5 years. The county does this for us (offer the class) free of charge – we are only paying for the supplies. I really think it's great and more guys should get involved."

The Home Food Preservation workshop was held at Springhill Baptist Church because of their large family life center and kitchen. The first day the group made and preserved vegetable soup and meats.

The second day was devoted to peach pie filling, peach preserves, and pickles. The third day was spent recapping what they learned and prepared a meal from some of the foods they preserved. The meal was delicious and was enjoyed by all who attended.

"I think the class is absolutely awesome," smiled Jo-Amrah Dillingham, who drove from Decatur to take the class. "I'm an 18th Century Culinary Historian, and what I like to do in my presentations is tell about the past but then say, 'Now, we don't do it this way because.....'. So this is bringing me totally up to date as to what's going on."

There were about twenty-five people who took the canning classes and each brought their own talents and personalities. A lot was learned and the group seemed to truly enjoy each other.

"I've had more fun with these folks and I will come back for single class I can get because I enjoy the company," Dillingham chuckled.

"It's wonderful being around all the folks – What a wealth of knowledge!"

The Cullman County Extension Office is located at 402 Arnold St NE, G-1, Cullman, AL 35055.

For more information call 256-737-9386 or e-mail at gloveta@aces.edu. Visit their website at offices.aces.edu/cullman/ and like them on Facebook at facebook.com/pages/Cullman-County-Alabama-Extension-Office/208455425869717.



SHARON SCHULER KREPS/CULLMANSENSE

Area residents learn home food preservation techniques while also having a great time.

Couponing (from Front)

stretch a dollar. Fancher will teach how to plan a menu, shop at meat markets, and knowing how long you can store items that you want to bulk buy. Additionally, she will discuss how to calculate price per unit, and tracking prices of items most commonly bought.

Fancher will also teach about digital savings: store apps, cash back/rebate apps, and apps that save you time or provide a service.

"I firmly believe that this class is about more than couponing - it's about learning to take control of finances in small, manageable steps. Over the next year, I plan to introduce this class as the beginner in a series of financial education and literacy that I hope will empower those who choose to take it. For now though, I start the class by going over basic shopping knowledge," stated Fancher.

"I talk about a couple of terms couponers use and discuss newspaper insert schedules, the parts of different coupons, and where you can find them all. All of that is pretty common knowledge information that most people know, they just don't know that they know," explained Fancher.

"The next half is where I get to the stuff that they tend to get confused about. The rewards cards and loyalty programs. I cover the big 3 pharmacies: CVS, RiteAid (and their partner Plenti), and Walgreens. Then spend a decent amount of time on Kmart. This class I am really excited about because I've added new sections on Publix, in honor of the new store, as well as the program they partner with, UPromise."

All of this is information Francher gives away for free.

For those who want a physical reminder Fancher offers all of the information in a booklet that is available for purchase, download, and print on her website at fanchereducation.com/couponing-kits.html.

Fancher also offers complete couponing kits from $20 to $30 for people that are excited to dive in and don't want to waste time running around picking up all the parts they need to put it together.

Register for the event by joining the Fancher Education Facebook page to save your seat and get a reminder before the event.

Check out her online videos at facebook.com/FancherTutoringService .

The Cullman Chamber of Commerce is located at 301 2nd Ave SW, Cullman, AL 35055.

Rally (from Front)

Sharon Schuler Kreps
sharon@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – On Sunday, July 26th, the first annual Families First Rally was held on the steps of the Cullman County Courthouse. The rally is for the betterment of our community through love, education, and support. As part of the event, there was a candlelight vigil honoring victims of crime, a pledge drive against the use of cell phones while driving and educational information on the hazards of distracted driving was given out. There were numerous community organizations there, banded together for a night to honor our most valuable resource, our families. Many enjoyed hot dogs, refreshments and giveaways as they came together to share in this important community event.

On May 21st, 2014, Jerry "Jay" Kendall, Jr. was struck and killed by a teen boy who was driving distracted. In July 2014 a special rally, Jay's Last Ride, was held in his honor. Jay's Last Ride was a free rally to raise awareness against texting and driving.

Many people joined the fight against distracted driving that night. This year the rally's name changed to Families First. It has grown and taken on multiple causes.

"Today we are here to bring awareness to distracted driving," said Gloria Hutson from Hands on the Wheel.

"We just wanted to bring the community together to help bring families together and to make it a better community. Last year, just a few months after Jay was killed, we wanted to get together to bring awareness, of course, but also in honor of him – to celebrate his life. This year we wanted to have more community involvement. We have had great sponsors, donations and speakers."

Hands on the Wheel is a nonprofit organization founded to educate the community on the hazards of distracted driving as well as to advocate changes in Alabama state law, and eventually national law, to implant tougher penalties for distracted driving in the hopes of saving lives.

"Distracted driving is the easiest crime to prevent," explained Rebecca Koehler, of Hands on the Wheel.

"All one needs to do is put down whatever distraction is at hand and pull to the side of the road if needed. But most importantly, to keep your eyes and mind focused on the task at hand and to keep your Hands on the Wheel," she smiled.

"This is our second rally, but our first Families First rally," said Suzette Kendall, Jay Kendall's widow.

"We decided to involve a lot more of the community this time and expand it. That's our hope every year, to expand it to the communities to involve agencies such as the United Way, breast cancer awareness and all the different organizations so we can just blow these rallies out of the water – It's what Jay would have wanted," she smiled warmly.

To get involved with Hands on the Wheels, or for more information, call Suzette Kendall at 256-347-0267, Gloria Hutson at 256-962-8262 or Rebecca Koehler at 256-595-7718. You can also visit their website at handsonthewheel.co.

