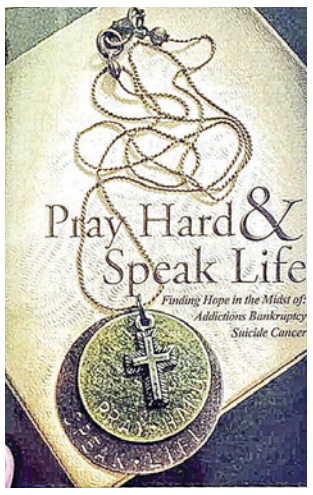
SERIES 5 • ISSUE 35 • SEPTEMBER 8, 2015
CULLMANSENSE
COMMUNITY MATTERS


SHARON SCHULER KREPS/CULLMANSENSE

$10,000 DONATION KICKS OFF UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN P2



CONTRIBUTED

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SHRINE OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT HOLDS DIVINO NIÑO CELEBRATION, SEES ATTENDANCE DOUBLE P4


SHARON SCHULER KREPS/CULLMANSENSE

Hundreds of people gathered at The Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament to celebrate the Divine Child Jesus on Saturday, September 5th.

REHAU OPENS AUTOMOTIVE TECHNICAL CENTER IN CULLMAN



KATE BIERMEIER/CULLMANSENSE

The new facility will allow process developments for products REHAU manufactures for the U.S. automotive market to be made primarily in Cullman. P12


HANNAH WARD/CULLMANSENSE

James Rabalais, winner of the adult sweet potato pie eating contest.

SWEET TATER FESTIVAL: A CULLMAN COUNTY FAMILY TRADITION

Hannah Ward
ward@cullmansense.com

CRANE HILL – Nineteen years ago the Tater Festival started as a community project to raise money for Dowry Park. Today the festival is a great reminder of family and tradition. Each year many families from all over Cullman County attend the Tater Festival and this year was not any different.

Tony Leonardi explained, "It started when Dowry Me- P2

SAVE PROGRAM HELPS CULLMAN STUDENTS PREPARE FOR LIFE AHEAD

Will Hogue
will@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – The goal of Students Achieving Vocational Excellence (SAVE), according to Stacey Ziegenbein – a teacher in the program – "is really not that different from the goals of traditional schools. We want to provide our students with the resources and skills to make them as independent as possible while being active members of their families and the Cullman community."

The administrators of the program set up opportunities for the students, ages 14-16, to begin training for specific jobs.

According to Christopher Chambers with the Cullman County Board of Education, the system is not unlike that of traditional internship opportunities.

"Having a job gives one a purpose," Chambers said. "If they aren't doing a job, then they're just at P6



STACEY ZIEGENBEIN

Students with special needs, those both mentally and/or physically disabled, participate in the SAVE Program.

PRINTED LOCALLY @ PRINTING Alabama Web Press

$10,000 DONATION KICKS OFF UNITED WAY CAMPAIGN

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CULLMAN – On Tuesday, September 1st, United Way of Cullman County celebrated its 2016 Kickoff Campaign with a luncheon in the Colonel Cullmann room at Cullman Regional Medical Center. Residents from across the county came together to enjoy the event and listen to guest speaker Judge Kim Chaney. He spoke highly of the United Way as he spoke about some of the activities they perform to help people in need throughout our community.

"Ninety-eight cents of every dollar that you donate to the United Way stays here in Cullman to help the partner agencies," said Chaney. "So when you are helping your partner agencies, you are giving to the United Way and the money is staying local. It's helping Cullman people; it's helping your neighbors."

Chaney has worked closely with most all of the Partner Agencies associated with Cullman's United Way. He named each and told the crowd what they did.

Partner Agencies:

- 4-H Clubs of Cullman County
- Commission on Aging
- Cullman Caring for Kids
- Cullman County Center for the Developmentally Disabled
- Daystar House
- Easter Seals
- First Call for Help
- The Foster Grandparents & Senior Companion Program
- Girl Scouts
- Good Samaritan Health Clinic
- Hospice of Cullman County
- Pilot Light House
- Victim Services
- Youth Advocate Programs, Inc.

"Every one of these programs helps the people of Cullman County," Chaney explained. "People give to United Way; you are investing in Cullman County and Cullman County people."

Towards the end of his speech, Chaney began to talk about how individuals can make a substantial difference when it comes to helping the United Way. The late Mike Duke was one of those extraordinary individuals.

Duke worked many years at AmSouth Bank, Eva Bank and most recently he was the Chief Financial Officer at Cullman Savings Bank. Sadly, he lost his battle with cancer and passed away this past June.

"Mike has served the community in so many ways and for many years," said Chaney.

"He served on the Cullman County School Board; he was Chairman of the Cullman County Chamber of Commerce, President of the Cullman Regional Medical Center Foundation, President of the Cullman County Farm City Committee, and President of the Cullman area United Way. This man invested in Cullman County. This man made a difference in Cullman County and the people who lived here."

In memory of Duke's lifelong dedication to the United Way and a commitment to the citizens of the community, Cullman Savings Bank gave the first gift of the United Way campaign in his honor. Together, Duke's wife, members of his family and representatives of Cullman Savings Bank handed over a check for $10,000 to the United Way.

After the check had been given, United Way presented Mrs. Duke with a special award in honor of all the years of Duke's lifelong devotion to the United Way.

"I just want to take this opportunity to thank Cullman Savings Bank," Mrs. Duke smiled. "Mike loved his bank. I want to thank Cullman Savings Bank for making this generous contribution to something he truly believed in. He believed in helping others; he had a servant's heart, and he believed in the organizations of Cullman United Way that serves those who couldn't serve themselves."



SHARON SCHULER KREPS/CULLMANSENSE

Cullman Savings Bank makes a $10,000 contribution in honor of Mike Duke.

The event ended with many tears and a round of applause long after the Duke family went back to their seats. It was an excellent way to jumpstart the campaign.

The United Way of Cullman County is located at 304 1st Ave NE, Cullman, AL 35055.

For more information, call 256-739-2948, visit uwaycc.org, and follow them on Facebook at facebook.com/unitedwaycullman.

Festival (from Front)

morial School burnt down and the local communities, especially the women in the community, wanted to raise money to turn it into a park so they had the Sweet Tater festival. They were running short of hands and I started volunteering then ended up being in charge of it," he chuckled.

"It turned into a festival that's fifth in the state of Alabama for festivals."

The beautiful Smith Lake Park was a perfect setting for this type of event. The first two out of three days were full of entertainment.

This year, for the first time, the event kicked off with a sweet potato pie eating contest and a Pepsi chugging contest for both kids and adults.

James Rabalais, winner of the adult sweet potato pie eating contest, came from Inverness to help his girlfriend get customers for her insurance business.

He had no clue he would win a free RV camping spot at Smith Lake Park.

Rabalais said it was his first time at the Festival and stated he would most likely be back next year.

Sunday had a different taste with gospel and bluegrass music filling the air. Monday hosted a car show, which has become a tradition over the last couple of years.

Last year, 125 cars were in the show. The festival had around 130 vendors this year.

Director of Cullman County Parks and Rec Department, Doug Davenport, stated, "It's really turned into a family tradition, people coming every year for the sweet potatoes." Leonardi stated.

According to Leonardi the sweet potatoes sold at the festival are grown by different farms but the Kress family has coordinated everything for the last 19 years.

Leonardi and his family pick up the sweet potatoes at Kress farms each season.

This will be the last year Leonardi will be able to participate in the festival in any way, but the festival's original spirit of community and family will continue.





CCBOE EXPANDS HEALTH SCIENCE PROGRAM

Daniel Sheets
Contributor

CULLMAN – The Cullman Area Technology Academy (CATA), formerly known as the Cullman Area Career Center, is pleased to announce the expansion of its Health Science Program. This program expansion will meet the growing needs of students pursuing careers in health or medical related fields of study.

CATA is excited to have Adrian Basch, RN join the Health Science Program. Mrs. Basch joins the health science team and will work with Tracy Smith, RN to provide a quality learning experience for students as they pursue careers in health and medical fields.

In addition, the program will be adding three simulation mannequins: Trauma Hal, Susie, and Pediatric Hal. These simulation mannequins will replicate real life situations providing a learning environment that will allow students to learn valuable knowledge and skills, without the fear of putting patients at risk.

Instructors will use the mannequins to teach basic health skills such as blood pressure and oxygen saturation monitoring, pulse and respiration monitoring, initiation of IV access and performing 12 lead EKGs.

Jeff Curtis, Cullman County Schools Career Tech Director, states, "The health care field is a large part of the workforce for Cullman County and its surrounding areas. Many of our students have an interest in these areas of study and in the past we have had to turn students away. Now we can serve twice as many students and they will have better opportunities to master their skills."

Billy Troutman, Principal at the CATA explains, "Students in the health science program at CATA have the opportunity to build their academic base from the health science curriculum, but the best part of our program is that students get to put their learning into practice in the classroom and even in clinical settings. With the addition of the new training simulators, this application will be enhanced tremendously."

As state-of-the art technology becomes a greater part of the diagnosis and treatment of health care patients, it is imperative that students have access to state-of-the-art training to ensure that they are prepared for future careers in the healthcare field.

The simulation mannequins are lifelike and replicate real-life medical situations on various levels of complexity. Instructors will be able to replicate various patient environments, observe student responses and provide immediate instructional feedback. Multiple medical scenarios allow students to perform assessments and to develop critical thinking skills needed in the healthcare environment. Students will have the opportunity to earn a certification as a Certified Nursing Assistant.

In addition, Cullman County Schools has an articulation agreement with Wallace State Community College which will provide an opportunity for students enrolled in the Health Science Program at CATA to earn credit at Wallace State Community College based on course offerings and alignment that is approved by Wallace State officials.

This opportunity will provide a smooth transition from high school to post-secondary education and enhance the overall quality of education services provided on both campuses. CATA is excited about the partnerships, as they work together to help students achieve their career goals.

The health science program primarily targets the Healthcare Industry such as doctors, nurses, lab technicians, physical therapists, respiratory therapists, x-ray technicians and other medical related fields. It does; however, allow for individualized training for students in other interest areas such as veterinary medicine, dentists and dental hygienists, and chiropractic applications.

Research indicates a growing need for healthcare workers.

This increased need will be a direct result of the retiring baby boomers, which comprise 40% of the current healthcare workforce, along with the increased life expectancy of future generations.

Therefore, it is critical that CATA prepares a new generation of health care providers.

Through this initiative the organizations hopes to meet this challenge, resulting in a highly skilled and trained workforce for the community and state.

"The integration of academics into project-based learning through the use of simulation will prepare students for a successful transition into the workforce," states Dr. Phillip Cleveland, Director of Career Technical Education/Workforce Development

"This type of learning is a model of what career and college readiness looks like, and can be replicated in other parts of the state."

For more information or to learn more about this program contact Billy Troutman, 256-734-7740.

CCBOE ANNOUNCES TIMELINE FOR SELECTING NEXT SUPERINTENDENT

Steven Sides
Contributor

CULLMAN – The Cullman City Board of Education announced in their special called board meeting the timeline for selecting the next superintendent. The superintendent vacancy will be posted beginning September 1, 2015 and remain posted for 30 days as required by Alabama law. Steve Sides, Board president, stated, "That under Alabama law we as a board have to meet within 90 days of the vacancy to announce the process and timeline for posting and selecting the superintendent."

The board selected Dr. Susan Patterson to serve as Interim Superintendent upon Dr. Doreen Griffeth's resignation on June 4, 2015. The Interim contract was for up to 180 days per Alabama law to serve as Interim Superintendent. The board will accept applications through September 30, 2015 and may select the superintendent after the posting requirement is met and they have reviewed applications. "Dr. Patterson has stepped into the role of Interim Superintendent and successfully led our system in meeting what we as a board set as goals in June. Her leadership has seen our school system have a great start to the school year, begin the process of establishing a five-year strategic plan, and lead the final efforts in revising our board policies to bring them current with state law," said Sides.

Cullman City Schoolsinfo-icon is proud to have completed the building process on the Cullman High campus, deployed iPads to all high school students, updated the laptop initiative at Cullman Middle School, and made necessary renovations to our K-6 campuses over the summer.

"It has been a busy three months for all of us. The work of our administrators, teachers, and support staff during this time shows their commitment to the students of Cullman City Schools, and the leadership of Dr. Patterson as our Interim Superintendent has been vital to see all the parts come together," added Sides. Cullman City Schools look to find in its next superintendent the leadership qualities that have been displayed during the last three months.

Sides noted, "We will be looking for a leader who is visionary, possesses the abilities to lead effectively in a 21st century learning environment, and demonstrates the decision-making skills needed to serve in the best interest of students." The Board will look to ensure a smooth transition as it moves to select a superintendent within the coming months.

"Cullman City Schools is a premier system in our state, having always been highly successful in both, academics and extracurriculars. The future of our school system and the importance it plays in our city will be shaped by our strategic plan and the selection of our superintendent. We can't thank Dr. Patterson enough for her current leadership," Sides commented on behalf of the board.

CLUCKNBREW 2015 COMING TO DEPOT PARK

Waid Harbison
CP&R Contributor

CULLMAN – CP&R is announcing its biggest event of the year – the Cluck is back. CP&R will be holding the annual Clucknbrew chicken wing and brew festival on Saturday, September 19 at Depot Park.

Clucknbrew is a community festival celebrating Cullman's strong poultry industry offering a wing cook off contest, a huge Kidzone with inflatables, rock climbing wall, and game truck, contests and giveaways, food and beverages, and more.

The festival will be held from 3 p.m. - 10 p.m. on Saturday, September 20 in Depot Park. Admission is $5, and tickets can be purchased to buy wings and beverages.

The event will also feature a game-day tent playing college football games throughout the event, including the Alabama and Auburn games. Activities and contests will be held throughout the day. All proceeds will benefit the CP&R Community Playground Project.

For more information call 256-734-9157.

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RELIGIOUS SPOTLIGHT: JIMMY PEYTON, PASTOR OF WELTI CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sharon Schuler Kreps
sharon@cullmansense.com

WELTI – Welti Cumberland Presbyterian Church has been a part of the Welti community since 1901. It has a family feel that lovingly welcomes people. Pastor Jimmy Peyton and his family play a big part in creating such a wonderful, loving atmosphere at the church. Not only does Peyton minister to the folks in Welti, but he also spreads the word of God in other countries.

Peyton and his wife Andrea have been married close to 24 years. Together they have a daughter, Katie, who is 18 and a son, Jonathan, who is 15. Both Peyton and his wife graduated from Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Peyton completed the Cumberland Presbyterian Program of Alternate Studies in preparation for his ordination to the gospel ministry.

He began his ministry full-time on the first Sunday in 2000.

Prior to becoming a minister, Peyton worked as a full-time firefighter. He was employed for 5 1/2 years at the Columbia, Tenn.

Fire Department and 1 year at the Mt. Pleasant, Tenn. Fire Department. Eventually he became enflamed with the fire of the Holy Spirit and answered God's calling.

"If I look back at my life it is obvious that God was preparing me for the ministry and perhaps even calling me," Peyton explained.

"Sometimes we don't hear God very well though," he chuckled.

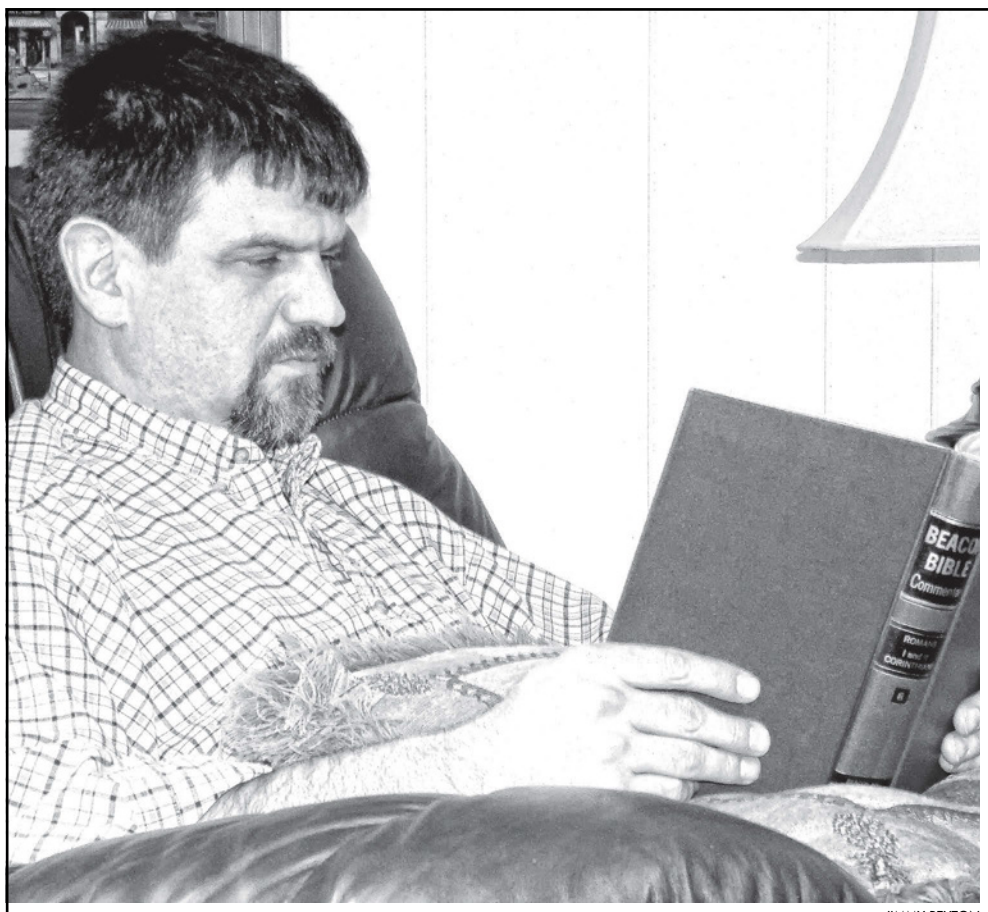
"I had my own plans. One Sunday morning while attending worship service in Mt. Pleasant, I heard God's call on me. While listening to the preacher, God spoke to my heart and said, 'that is what you are supposed to be doing.' Family and friends helped to confirm that call when I talked to them about it. Since then I have tried to fulfill that calling," he smiled warmly.

Peyton has been at Welti Cumberland Presbyterian Church since April 2012.

Before that, he ministered to churches throughout Tennessee and Alabama – including Welti Cumberland Presbyterian Church a few years back. No matter where he goes, there are common rewards and difficulties in doing the Lord's work.

"Considering the present state of our world, it is a challenge to remain a positive and yet truthful leader for God's people," he explained.

"People have many interests and focuses, but it is the pastor's role to keep them centered on the loving mercy and saving grace of Jesus Christ. Jesus is the only hope for our world and the troubles people have. A pastor needs to help people see the love and power of God - even in the troubling and difficult times of their lives."



JIMMY PEYTON

Brother Jimmy Peyton studies for his next sermon at Welti Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

"Considering the present state of our world, it is a challenge to remain a positive and yet truthful leader for God's people."

Jimmy Peyton, Pastor of Welti Cumberland Presbyterian Church

"There are many rewarding aspect to being a pastor," he continued.

"First would have to be experiencing God's closeness and care. He provides for all people so graciously," he smiled warmly.

"Second are the relationships I've developed with people. It is wonderful finding love and friendship among new communities, rejoicing and crying with those people as we spend the course of our lives together."

"The third aspect is the opportunities God has given me to go on mission trips and minister along with my brothers and sisters in Christ. In 2004 I spent 15 days in Cambodia and was involved in several mission activities. I have been to Guatemala three times, in 2007, 2010, and 2014. The 2014 trip allowed me to lead a work team that included my daughter and three other youth from our church," he grinned proudly.

"In February of this year I went to Haiti and I will be returning there this fall. Our denomination is just beginning work there."

Welti Cumberland Presbyterian Church is located at 8817 County Road 747, Cullman, AL 35055.

Sunday school classes begin at 10:00 a.m. and worship service begins at 11:00 a.m. on Sundays.

For more information call 256-737-9138, e-mail weltipastor@welticpchurch.com or visit welticpchurch.com. Follow the church on Facebook at facebook.com/pages/Welti-Cumberland-Presbyterian-Church/269036996542893.

Shrine (from Front)

Sharon Schuler Kreps
sharon@cullmansense.com

HANCEVILLE – The Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament celebrated the Divine Child Jesus by hosting the 2nd Annual Divino Niño celebration on Saturday, September 5th, and Sunday, September 6th. Hundreds of people came by the bus loads to visit the beautiful home of Mother Angelica. They were able to honor the baby Jesus, tour the Shrine and participate in many religious activities. Mother Angelica, the Catholic nun who founded Our Lady of the Angels Monastery and the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament, has a deep love for the Child Jesus. He was the one who asked Mother Angelica to 'Build Me a Temple.'

Saturday was filled with activities for the whole family.

There was a Mass, spiritual talks, confessions, activities for the children and youth, a Eucharistic Healing Service with a Rosary Procession, and a Mariachi Band.

Sunday was the Solemnity of the Divine Child Jesus. There was a Mass at 7:00 a.m. in the Main Church and a 5:00 p.m. Benediction Service.

"I'm serving as a volunteer," said Maria Jose Bonilla, from Holy Spirit Catholic Church in Huntsville.

"Today we are celebrating Divino Niño, or the Divine Baby Jesus. The theme of this year is 'The Love of the Father' so it's a celebration of God the Father's love through his son, Baby Jesus."

"We have people from all over the United States who have made pilgrimages here for the weekend," Bonilla continued. "It's an opportunity for them, as Catholics, to know this is their home," she smiled.

"The celebration is multicultural, very diverse. The spirit or joy this weekend is being reminded of God's love through His son Jesus."

The weekend was a success – the crowd was double that of last year's Divino Niño Celebration.

For more information about the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament visit them at 3222 County Road 548 Hanceville, AL 35077, call 205-795-5717, or visit olamshrine.org. Follow them on Facebook at facebook.com/shrinepilgrimages.

POSITION AVAILABLE
Program Facilitator needed for local domestic violence intervention program.

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

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REMEMBERING FATHER LEO CARTER, O.S.B.

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CULLMAN – Fr. Leo Carter was one of the Benedictine monks that lived at Saint Bernard. He was known for his sweet disposition and was generous, almost to a fault. He served as the associate pastor at Sacred Heart Catholic Church where he was loved and adored tremendously.

Fr. Leo was from Muscle Shoals, Alabama and he was taught at an early age by the Benedictine Sisters in Sheffield. He went to Sheffield High School and later transferred to St. Bernard to study seminary. After finishing Jr. College, the young priest went to St. Vincent Archabby in Latrobe, Pennsylvania where he earned a B.A. in Philosophy. He returned to St. Bernard and worked hard to complete four years of theological studies and was ordained into the priesthood by Archbishop Thomas J. Toolen.

After his ordination, the young Fr. Leo was assigned a pastor in Corbin, Kentucky. In the 1950's he was the chaplain at St. Thomas Home on the Hill and remained there until the 1960s.

He was later assigned to be the associate pastor at St. Barnabas Church in Birmingham and then Sacred Heart in Cullman. Eventually he accepted the chaplaincy at St. Vincent's Hospital in Birmingham and served there from 1976 to 1981.

From 1981 until his death on April 27, 1998 Fr. Leo was the associate pastor in Tuscumbia, Florence and at Sacred Heart Church here in Cullman. During this time he suffered a lot of physical ailments but never let them slow him down.

Fr. Leo was completely dedicated to his ministry of the sick and shut-ins. He took to heart the Lords words, "I was sick, and you visited me". He was widely known and dearly loved throughout most of North Alabama for his tender love and humble attitude.

On a personal note, Fr. Leo assisted in my wedding back in 1991 because he was a close friend of my family. I will never forget that day at the reception when he came up to me and congratulated me on my marriage. In the middle of the crowd of well-wishers the old priest leaned over and kissed me on the cheek and hugged me tight. Reaching deep into his pants pocket, he pulled out something and put it in the palm of my hand and then closed my fingers up around it tightly. With a tear in his eye he said, "I didn't have anything to give you for your wedding, but wanted you to have something."

After thanking him and hugging him once more, he walked away. When I opened my hand to see what he had given me, a tear swelled up in my eye. It was a green plastic watch, still in the clear plastic wrapper.

It was something a little kid would wear. It was all he had to give me – and I treasured it. It wasn't the actual gift but the thought behind it and what it represented – love, kindness and generosity. Just like a green watch, good old Fr. Leo was a true gift – a one-of-a-kind treasure.



SHARON SCHULER KREPS/CULLMANSENSE

Fr. Leo was a tender-hearted man who was devoted to visiting the sick and shut-ins.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES: THE BATTLE OF DAY GAP

Sharon Schuler Kreps
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VINEMONT – The Battle of Day's Gap was fought on April 30, 1863. It was the first in a series of American Civil War skirmishes that took place in what was to be Cullman County.

It lasted until May 2, 1863 and was known as Streight's Raid. Commanding the Union forces was Colonel Abel D. Streight.

Brigadier General Nathan Bedford Forrest led the Confederate forces.

The battle began on April 30 at Day's Gap on Sand Mountain.

Forrest caught up with Streight's expedition and attacked his rear guard. Streight's men managed to drive back the attack.

As a result the Union soldiers continued their march and avoided any further delays and developments caused by the Confederate troops.



SHARON SCHULER KREPS/CULLMANSENSE

The historical marker for this battle stands on Highway 31 next to Hurricane Creek Park.

BATTLE OF DAY'S GAP
APRIL 30, 1863
6 MILES WEST

Here Gen. Forrest overtook larger force of Col. Straight.

Forrest attacked three times. Straight fled toward Rome to destroy Confederate railroad.

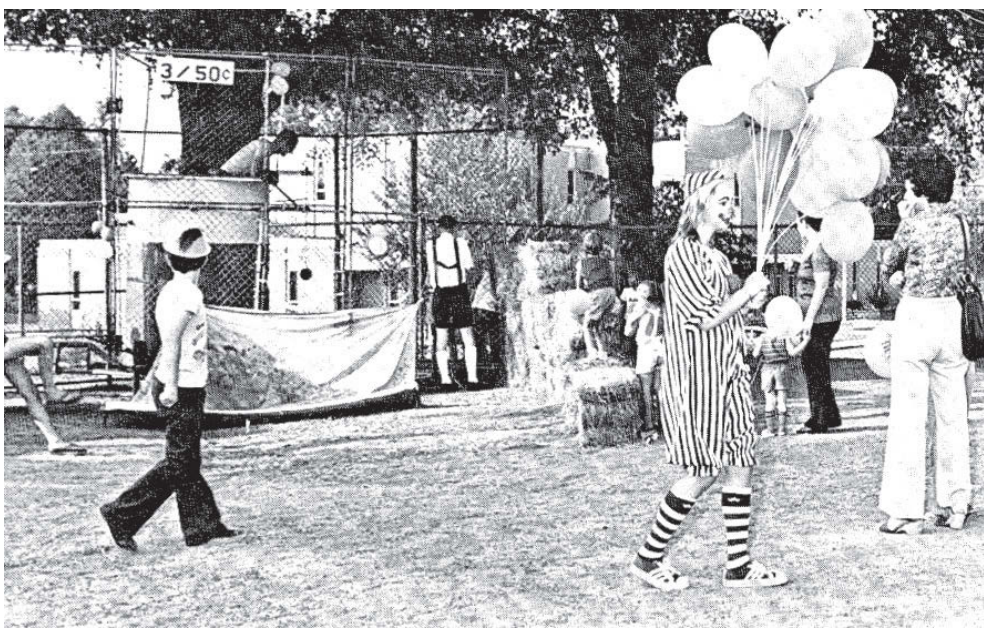
Alabama Historical Association 1952

MIRRORING HISTORY: CULLMAN OKTOBERFEST

Sharon Schuler Kreps
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CULLMAN – Cullman Oktoberfest is just around the corner and it's time to start thinking about dancing, polkas and bratwursts. The citizens of Cullman County have been celebrating Oktoberfest for many, many years and each Oktoberfest celebration seems to grow bigger and better. It's a time for the community to come together and celebrate the town's rich German heritage.

The photographs show what Oktoberfest looked like in 1977 and in 2014. There have been lots of changes over time, but one thing remains the same – the fun and happiness shared by all that attend the yearly event.





Oktoberfest 2014 ribbon cutting at Festhalle.



PHOTOS BY SHARON SCHULER KREPS/CULLMANSENSE

Sacred Heart School's German Festival in 1977.

cp&r
cullman city parks & recreation

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

www.cullmanrecreation.org
256-734-9157

- **Clucknbrew 2015:** CP&R's wing and brew fest is back for the third year! Clucknbrew 2015 will be held Saturday, September 19 at Depot Park in downtown Cullman featuring a wing cook off contest with plenty of wings to sample as well as a free kid's zone, contests, and games. A game-day tent will also be on-site playing the Alabama and Auburn football games as well as other big college football games of the week. For more information, visit us online at www.cullmanrecreation.org
- **FREE Concerts in the Park** at Heritage Park will take place every Thursday in September at the recognition gardens at 6pm. Concerts will feature Heaton Bros. Band on Sept. 3, Ally & the Alley Katz on Sept. 10, Cullman County Bluegrass Band on Sept. 17, and an Elvis Impersonator on Sept. 24
- **CP&R Youth Archery Classes** for beginners, intermediate, and advanced archers will begin on Monday, September 7. Cost is $40 per month; register ahead of time at the Cullman Civic Center.
- **Kid's Create Art Class**: CP&R will be offering an after school art program at the new art studio located at the Cullman Civic Center starting September 10. Classes are registering now and are limited to 15 per class, so signup today!
- **Youth Outdoor Adventure:** CP&R is hosting a fall outdoor adventure session for 6 weeks on Saturdays starting September 12. Activities include hiking, rock climbing, rappelling, kayaking, & more. $75 for class, signup at the Civic Center.
- **Youth Tennis Program Fall Session** registering now at the Cullman Civic Center. The 8 week session will include 2 weeks of practice and 6 weeks of play; athletes will be grouped by skill level. Cost is $95, and the session begins Sept. 14.
- **Home School Art Class:** CP&R is offering a home-school art class starting on Tuesday, September 8. Classes will be held at the Cullman Civic Center for ages 6-14 and cost is $40 per month. Register now at the Civic Center.
- **Mommy & Me Art Class:** CP&R will be offering a Mommy & Me Pre-school art class at the Cullman Civic Center for children ages 5 & under and their mothers; cost is $50 per month and classes will be held starting September 29.

CULLMAN PRIMARY CARE HIRES NEW DOCTOR

Will Hogue
will@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Dr. David Shupe has begun working at the Cullman Primary Care in downtown Cullman on Clark St.

Shupe, 30, left Atlanta for the small-town atmosphere of Cullman.

"Also my wife is from the north Alabama area, too," he said.

Shupe's specialty lies in all-inclusive family care.

"I don't want to send you to anyone else if I can help it," he said. He is equipped to treat everyone in the family, from the babies to the grandparents.

"It's something that you don't see nearly as much," Shupe said.

"Especially in big cities. You have a lot of big hospital systems where doctors hand things off to other specialists. This kind of considered the old fashioned way, but I still appreciate it and small towns appreciate it."

Shupe and his wife are both from the medical profession, however, she is at home with their first child and pregnant with their second.

While he states his specialty as family medicine, Shupe also is capable of doing all procedures himself.

Back in Atlanta he can remember having to give patients to other doctors once the time for operations and procedures came.

"I'd be like, 'I can do [these procedures] guys, I promise,' you know?"

Now that he and his family are settling down in Cullman, he wants to do all the necessary procedures for his patients himself.

"I want to engage in a full-scope of practice," he said. He continued on, explaining that he takes pride when people refer to him as their doctor.

As far as getting hired in Cullman, Shupe says it was fairly simple.

"The process was very easy, believe it or not. Everyone needs doctors like crazy. I know there are several people in Cullman doing what I do, but some of the older doctors are beginning to retire and things, which opens up the door for me."

For any young new family, finding a doctor like Dr. Shupe would be a dream. And for Dr. Shupe, finding new young famlilies to help would be a dream as well. It seems as though the match between Dr. Shupe and Cullman is one made in heaven.



MEREDITH EASTERWOOD
Dr. David Shupe

CULLMAN ACT PREP HELPS LOCAL STUDENTS PREPARE FOR TEST

Will Hogue
will@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Allison Siegenthaler, a High School English Teacher at Cullman Christian School, has begun a new service to the high school students of Cullman: Cullman ACT Prep.

Armed with extensive experience of helping kids prepare for the ACT (all 3 of her children have taken the test 3 times), and the experience of helping students find the best way to learn (she's been a teacher, for both college and high school students), Siegenthaler is confident heading into this operation.

"I have a heart to help kids get to where they want to go," she said. "And God has blessed me to be in the position I am in now to do just that."

Although there are other, more established options for students wanting to improve their ACT scores, there might not be a better option.

As far as students in the Cullman area, one must either travel to Birmigham for the live ACT prep classes (classes in a massive room with dozens of people and hundreds of distractions), or use the online live-stream of those classes (with even more distractions). For Cullman ACT Prep, students just need to be able to make it to Cullman High School, where Siegenthaler has rented a classroom for her sessions and limited the group registration to 24.

The logistics of the program are as follows: for the 3 Saturdays leading up to the actual ACT Test, students in Siegenthaler's prep course will arrive and get to work.

The first Saturday will be informational. Siegenthaler will take two hours, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m., and explain the basics of each of the four subtests on the ACT. Because of her background, she is able to help more with the English and rhetorical portions of the test, while she must reserve herself to explaining the basics of the math and science sections.

Then the next two Saturdays will be run like actual test days. Students will begin taking the ACT (a practice, of course), at 8 AM sharp, so Siegenthaler advises the students arrive around 7:45 a.m.

Siegenthaler explains it like this, "How do you prepare for a state championship game? By practicing. How do you prepare for any big event? By practicing the skills necessary for doing well in that event. Well, the ACT is no different."

She is right. However, not only is the ACT a big event, the ACT can be a huge help. A few points on the ACT can be the difference in a student getting into a certain university or not. A few points can also be the difference in thousands of dollars of scholarship money.

"You wouldn't blink to spend $300 on gear for the upcoming football season, so comparatively speaking, $299 for the class is very fair," she explains.

Not only is that price fair, but it is a competitive one as well. According to Siegenthaler, the ACT prep class offered in Birmingham is $400, and that doesn't include the gas to and from the city.

All in all, Siegenthaler's class, which has opened registration for preparation for the October 24 ACT on its website here, is really the best option for any student who wants to maximize their score. And for parents, Siegenthaler said "My first goal is to focus on the human beings in front of me and help them get to where they want to go."

For Siegenthaler, he or she is not just another student, they're a special human that she has "the blessing of being able to help."

Siegenthaler is limiting the class to 10-12 graders at the moment to "achieve a collegiate atmosphere."

The only necessary book students must have before going into Siegenthaler's class is their own copy of The Real ACT Prep Guide published by Petersons.

Visit CullmanACTPrep.com for more information.



CULLMAN ACT PREP
Siegenthaler and her students at Cullman Christian School.

SAVE (from Front)

home with mom and dad."

As far as which students in the Cullman Schools that are involved in the SAVE program, "student involvement is based on the needs and abilities of each individual students.

Each student has, and is a part of, a team that meets to discuss education and transition strengths and needs," said Ziegenbein.

The program is federally funded through designated special educational allotments and is a part of each student's educational plan.

The impact of the program is overwhelmingly positive, according to those surrounding it.

"Anyone who has observed our students, while they work, can tell you that the students truly enjoy it," Ziegenbein said.

"Teachers, administrators, and other school staff can see the enjoyment students get from working and the maturity and skills each student gains as they work there way through the program. Our parents have nothing but positive things to say in regards to the SAVE program."

Ultimately, the program is set out to ensure that all members of the Cullman community are given the tools to be able to become a contributing citizen.

"You know, we have students who go out and learn how to do certain things with specific industry in Cullman, and those supervisors give me a call and say, 'when he graduates I would like to hire him part-time,' you know, and that's what we want to do," Chambers said.



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CULLMAN EC ANNUAL MEETING SET FOR SEPT. 12, BALLOTS MAILED



Austin Godwin



Josh Shaddix



Neil Rainwater



Phillip Garrison



Robert Tidwell



Lisa Weeks

PHOTOS BY CULLMAN ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE

Cullman Electric Coop.
Contributor

CULLMAN – Registration cards and ballots for the board of trustees election have been mailed to all Cullman Electric Cooperative members in advance of the 79th Annual Meeting, set for Saturday, Sept. 12, 2015. The event is at Northbrook Church from 8 a.m. until noon, with registration closing at 11 a.m.

Included with the Annual Meeting packet are a registration card, ballot, postage-paid return envelope and voting instructions with profiles on each of the board candidates as well as information on all of the events and activities at this year's annual meeting.

Members can register and vote by mail or on the day of the annual meeting. Members who register and vote by mail must return their card and ballot by Thursday, Sept. 10, 2015.

Members who register and vote are entered into a drawing for one of 20 $100 bill credits. Members who register and attend the annual meeting receive a $15 bill credit and can enter to win the grand prize drawing for a 2007 Chevy Colorado truck.

Activities at this year's annual meeting include a concert by the Dixie Melody Boys (9-11 a.m.), inflatable games for children, bucket truck rides, a free health clinic by Cullman Regional Medical Center as well as free hot dogs, popcorn and drinks for members and their guests.

The business meeting (11 a.m. to noon) will feature comments and a video presented by President & CEO Grady Smith, election results and prize drawings. Members do not have to be present for the drawings in order to win.

Board of trustee positions for District 1, District 3 and District 5 are on this year's ballot. Robert Tidwell, Jr. (District 3) and Dr. Lisa Weeks (District 5) are running unopposed.

Four candidates are running for the District 1 position — Phillip Garrison, Austin R. Godwin, incumbent Neil E. Rainwater and Josh Shaddix.

TRUSTEE DISTRICT 1 CANDIDATES

Phillip Garrison — Phillip Garrison has worked at J & R Feed Service for 29 years. He started as a warehouse manager and has worked up to assistant plant manager where he oversees daily production and customer service. He has also helped manage a poultry farm for 36 years, operates a bee and honey business (Goldvine Farms) and has worked with beef cattle for more than 40 years. Phillip is a graduate of Wallace State Community College and the Mississippi State University Tristate Management Course. He is a member of Faith Baptist, Lions Club and Farm-City Committee.

He is past president of the Alabama Beekeeper Association, president of the Cullman County Beekeeper Association and past president of the Cullman County Farmers Federation.

"I have worked in business for 40 years," he said. "I've done everything from serving the customer, helping manage a business, owning and operating a business, helping plan budgets and serving on several boards. I feel this gives me the experience to serve well on the Cullman EC board of trustees."

Austin R. Godwin — Austin Godwin is the chief financial officer for Deep South Freight and Commercial Hauling Company in Birmingham. He originally moved to Cullman to work as the controller at Alabama Farm Credit. Prior to that he worked four years in public accounting for Jackson Thornton, specializing in financial institution audits and tax.

Godwin graduated from Auburn University with a degree in business administration (accounting) and is a Certified Professional Accountant in the State of Alabama.

He has been an active member of the Kiwanis Club in Cullman, and is a member of Cullman First Baptist Church along with his wife, Natalie, and their two children, Andrew (5) and William (20 months). Godwin believes his professional experience as a business executive, working for a cooperative and his CPA skills make him an excellent candidate. "I grew up in a co-op family," Godwin said. "My dad worked 35 years at Pioneer Electric Cooperative in Selma. Growing up, the co-op supplied us with financial stability and the means for an education. The co-op has given so much to me and my family, and I would love this opportunity to give a little back."

Neil E. Rainwater — Neil Rainwater is a life long resident of Cullman County. He graduated from St. Bernard College with a degree in accounting. His father, W.E. Rainwater, was one of the original trustees that organized Cullman Electric Cooperative.

Neil is a member of the Cullman Masonic Lodge. He is also a Scottish Rite 32nd degree Mason. He is a member of the Shriners, Cullman Lions Club, Cullman County Fair Association, Cullman Cattlemen's Association and attends Hamby's Chapel United Methodist Church. He retired with more than 32 years in financial management from Monsanto Company.

Presently he assists his two sons in operating a cattle farm at Gold Ridge.

Neil has completed the curriculum of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association (NRECA) to become a Certified Cooperative Director as well as being certified in the Board Leadership Program.

During his time as your trustee at Cullman EC, the board has implemented voting by mail for annual meetings, expanded billing service for garbage, water and fire dues for one monthly billing for utilities, continues to enhance the technology to locate and repair power outages faster and greatly improved the fleet of service vehicles.

"My goal is to continue to help direct your co-op to maintain quality electric power at the lowest possible cost, and keep the co-op as one of the best in Alabama."

Josh Shaddix — Josh Shaddix has worked for the Boeing Company in Huntsville for six years, first in the missile defense program and currently as a structural engineer.

He primarily works on commercial aircraft fuselage and engine components, and each of the past two years has received Boeing's Stars in Alabama Award given the employees for extraordinary achievement. His first business experience came growing up in Cullman at Earl's Body Shop, which was started by his grandfather and is owned today by his father.

Josh graduated in 2009 from the University of Alabama with a B.S. in mechanical engineering, and completed his master's degree in aerospace engineering from Mississippi State University in 2013. He earned his Professional Engineering license from the Alabama Board of Engineers and Land Surveyors in 2014. Josh and his wife, Elizabeth, along with their son, Andrew (1) raise cattle on their farm and attend Cullman First Baptist Church.

"It is essential that we make smart decisions now that look ahead the next 10 to 20 years," he said. "It's important that we continue to help members understand how to lower their energy costs by keeping them informed of the latest technology in energy efficiency."

TRUSTEE DISTRICT 3 CANDIDATE

Robert Tidwell, Jr. — Robert Tidwell is a graduate of Cullman High School and Auburn University.

He holds a B.S. degree in business administration & accounting. He serves as finance manager for General Dynamics Global Imaging Technologies with responsibilities for the Cullman, Rochester Hills, Mich., Nashua, N.H., San Diego and Grass Valley, Calif., facilities. In his career, he has worked with national, state and local governments to bring jobs and enhancements to the Cullman Electric Cooperative service area. Tidwell is a member of Northbrook Baptist Church where he serves as a member of the choir and music praise team. He is married to the former Glenda Smith and they have three children Trey (Erin), Will and Emmalee, and one granddaughter, Emma Grace Tidwell. "It is an honor to serve the members of Cullman Electric Cooperative," he said.

"During my time on the board of trustees, we've been able to utilize the co-op's resources responsibly to enhance service and reliability, making Cullman Electric one of the best co-op's in the country." Tidwell has successfully completed the curriculum for both the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Credentialed Cooperative Director and Leadership Certification.

TRUSTEE DISTRICT 5 CANDIDATE

Dr. Lisa Weeks — Dr. Lisa Weeks is the owner of Weeks Chiropractic Clinic in Cullman and has been a chiropractic physician for 28 years. She earned her Doctorate of Chiropractic from Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa. She is a graduate of Athens State University, Wallace State Community College and Holly Pond High School. Weeks currently serves on the Park and Recreation Foundation Board, and is a member of the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce and the Wallace State Alumni Association. She served on the Cullman City Parks and Recreation Board for 10 years.

"Being a life-long resident of the Cullman area, I have a personal interest in working for the betterment of the community in which I live and work. I will continue to take my fiduciary responsibility very seriously and will continue a relationship of trust and confidence between Cullman Electric Cooperative and its' members." Weeks has successfully completed the curriculum for both the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Credentialed Cooperative Director and Leadership Certification.



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. 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.

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).

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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.

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

FRIDAY
- Live Music at Brothers
- Live Music at Moe's
- Happy Hour at Moe's from 3-6 p.m.

SATURDAY
- Live Music at Brothers
- Live Music at Moe's
- Happy Hour at Moe's from 3-6 p.m.

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

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UNITED WAY HOLDS 'DAY OF CARING'

Will Hogue
will@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – On Saturday, September 15, United Way of Cullman County, along with other United Way chapters across North Alabama, will hold their annual Day of Caring.

According to Stephanie Wood, the Communications and Marketing Coordinator with United Way of Cullman County, the Day of Caring is a National United Way tradition that was just last year brought back into observance.

"The national event is normally held of the second Tuesday of September," Wood said. "But because of that day's closeness to Labor Day, the United Ways of North Alabama decided to make it Saturday the 15."

Projects and volunteers to accomplish those projects are both still needed for this year's Day of Caring.

Any project is eligible for the day. If there is a senior citizen that needs help doing yard work, or a local park that needs basic clean-up or repairs, or a larger scale project such as the new Wal-Mart's handicap accessibility ramp, are all projects that the volunteers are willing to tackle.

Volunteers are also welcome for the annual event.

"Cullman gives so much to United Way," Wood said. "We use this as an opportunity to give back to the community."

Not only is the event a great way to give back to the community, but it is a unifying event as well. While several churches in the area hold annual serve-days throughout the year, the United Way iteration of the event connects the community in a way that the separate churches do not. Whether Anglican or Baptist, Catholic or atheist, United Way's serve day is an opportunity for the Cullman citizens to help one another.

"I know my church has a serve day that I participate in every year," Wood said. "But this isn't just one church or one denomination, it's everybody coming together."

If anyone knows of any projects contact United Way of Cullman at 256-739-2948, or visit the Facebook page for United way of Cullman. It is also on the Facebook page that Wood will update volunteers on the official meeting time on Saturday morning, as that has yet to be officially set.

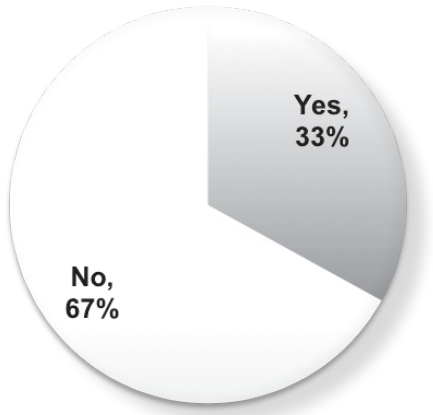
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Poll

Are you ready for summer to end?



This Week's Poll

Have you ever participated in a walk/run for a charity?

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Exhibitors... Save This Page!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM Receive Handicraft, Sewing, Canning and Art entries in the Exhibit Building

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM Receive Photography and Art entries in the Exhibit Building

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Set up Exhibit Booths for 4-H, FCCLA, FFA in the Exhibit Building
Set up Exhibit Booths for Commercial and Community Clubs in Buildings 3 and 4
12:00 PM - 6:00 PM Receive Handicraft, Sewing, Canning and Art entries in the Exhibit Building

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM Set up Exhibit Booths - 4-H, FCCLA, FFA in the Exhibit Building
Set up Exhibit Booths for Commercial and Community Clubs in Buildings 3 and 4
12:00 PM - 6:00 PM Receive Handicraft, Sewing, Canning and Art entries in the Exhibit Building

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23
1:00 PM - 6:00 PM Receive Field Crops, Vegetables, Fruit and Honey entries in the Agricultural Exhibit Building

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24
8:00 AM - 11:00 AM Receive Baked Goods entries in Exhibit Building
8:00 AM - 10:00 AM Receive Potted Plants in Agricultural Building
9:00 AM - 11:00 AM Receive FCCLA Baked Goods, Sewing and Handicraft in the Exhibit Building
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM Judging of Exhibits [Closed to Public]

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4
11:00 AM - 5:00 PM Pick up Exhibits in assorted buildings.
Pick up Award Checks at Fair Office - Checks not picked up will be mailed to the exhibitor address of record

Entry Forms, Rules and Check-in times for all competitive exhibits are available at

CullmanFair.com

Exhibitors may come by the Fairgrounds Office starting Thursday Sept. 3rd (9:30 a.m. - Noon) to register. Your name, address and telephone number are required. Your information will not be sold, given or shared with anyone outside of the Cullman County Fair Association or the Cullman Lions Club.

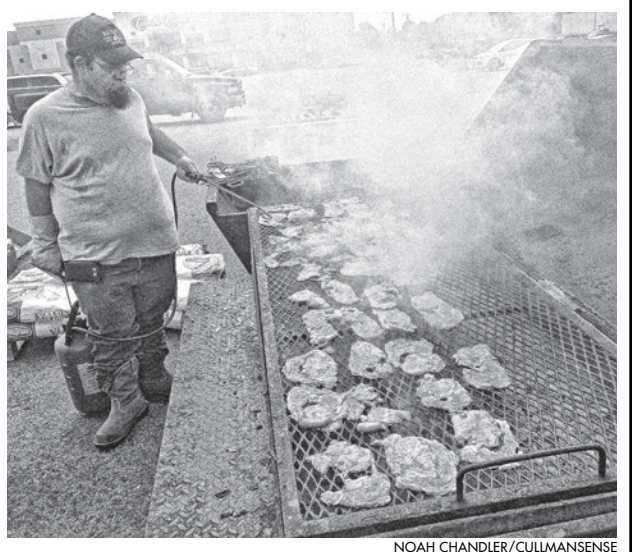
Exhibitor labels will be ready when you come on your division's entry day. Please advise us of any change of name, address or telephone number.

For each exhibit entered, you will receive a ticket to place in a drawing for $100.00 cash!

$2500 Awarded in Prizes....
- (20) $100 Winners
- (1) $500 Grand Prize Winner

Exhibitors may only win one time each year. Exhibitors may enter one exhibit in each class of all divisions and departments.

WHAT'S ONLINE



NOAH CHANDLER/CULLMANSENSE

SLINGIN' STEAKS: CULLMAN COUNTY CATTLEMEN AND CATTLEWOMEN ASSOC. HOLDING ANNUAL EVENT AT CARMIKE CINEMAS

Many residents of Cullman County look forward to each Memorial Day and Labor Day, but not necessarily for the holiday itself but for the... **QRNE.WS/388**



FOX6

ALABAMA EXAMINER'S OFFICE SPEAKS ON DEFICIENCIES AT FAIRVIEW HIGH SCHOOL

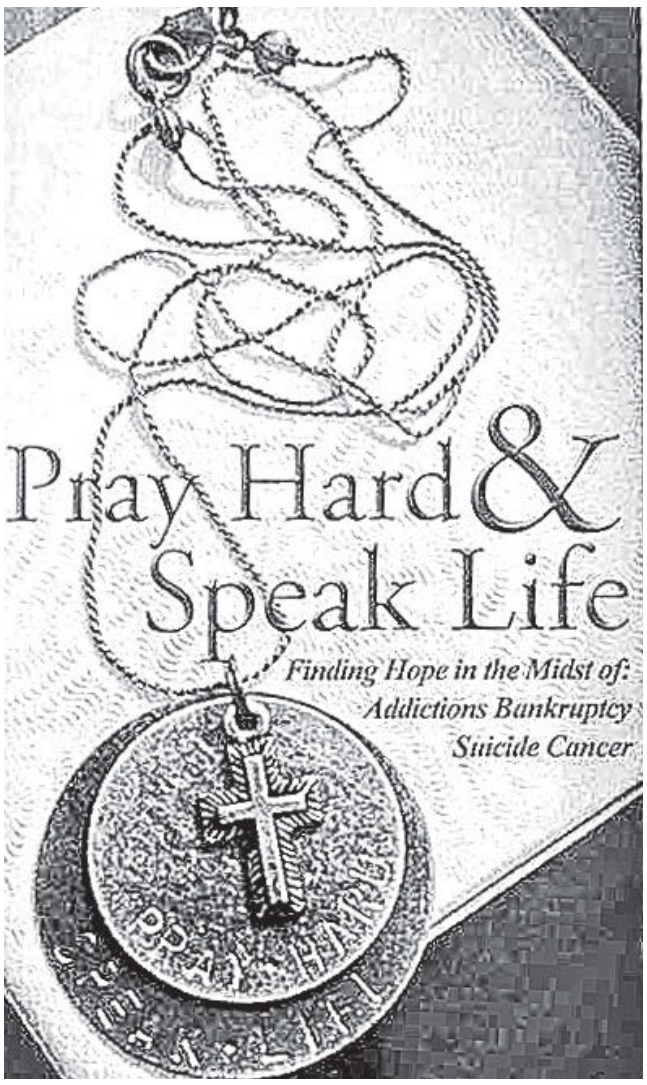
During Thursday evening's Cullman County School Board meeting a representative from the Alabama Examiner's Office spoke on behalf on the organization, reading off a list of infractions which did not meet certain specified requirements. A press releases issue on behalf of the CCBOE states... **QRNE.WS/389**

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BOOK SIGNING EVENT

DEB'S BOOKSTORE TO HOST AUTHOR CLIFF POWELL

Sharon Schuler Kreps
sharon@cullmansense.com



CONTRIBUTED

Powell will be at Deb's Bookstore from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. to sign his new book "Pray Hard & Speak Life."

CULLMAN – On Saturday, September 19th, Cullman author, Cliff Powell will be at Deb's Bookstore from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. signing copies of his new book, "Pray Hard & Speak Life". Copies of the book will be available during this time.

"Pray Hard & Speak Life" was written from the heart of a man who desires to use his darkest secrets to help others overcome. At age 12, Powell began a 20 year run of life on the wild side, which included binge drinking, drug abuse and a life of impurity until finding Christ in 2009, which changed his life forever.

Powell has written and published about his personal demons of which most would never share. It's a heartfelt life story of overcoming tragedies & how hope was found.

A must read memoir that testifies the love of Christ and the power granted by Jesus to overcome.

"I know that God placed this opportunity into my life to share my story in a way that can reach lost and hurting people all around the world," he admitted.

"It is a story about overcoming the hard times in life. We all have moments when it feels as if all hope is lost. I know there have been times when life seemed unfair and you felt like giving up, but I am hoping to encourage my readers to find hope in the midst of chaos."

The book is wonderfully written and offers encouragement for most of life's difficult situations. Mark your calendars for September 19th and come meet Powell between 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Deb's Bookstore. Deb's is located at 207 3rd Street SW, Cullman, AL 35055.

For more information, call Deb's Bookstore at 256-736-2622 and follow "Pray Hard & Speak Life" on Facebook at facebook.com/PrayHardSpeakLife.

COMICS

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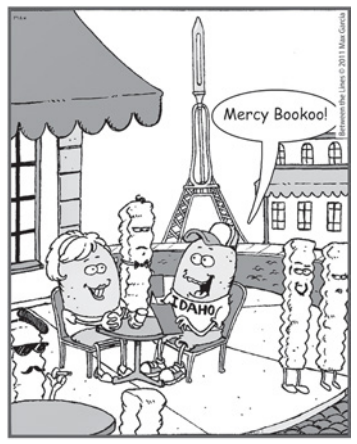
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PETS OF THE WEEK

LITTLE SALLY WATERS



Hello my name is Little Sally Waters and I am about 8 year old. I am a Chihuahua and I currently weigh 8 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 also covers my general exam at the Vet, the rabies vaccine, spay, 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.

TRIXIE



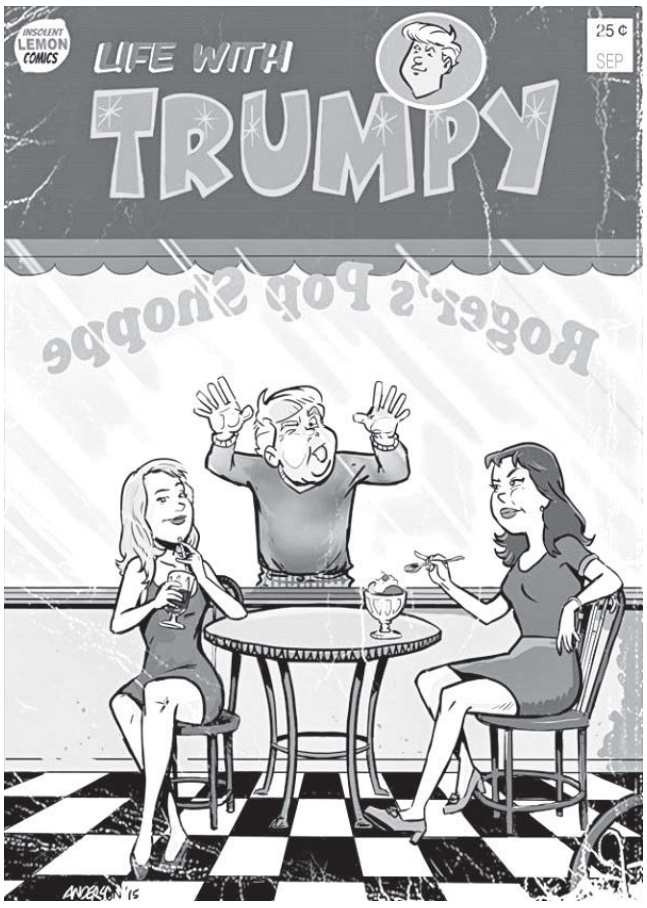
Hello my name is Trixie and I am about 1 year old. I am a Chihuahua and currently weigh 8 lbs. I was a stray but no one claimed so now I am up for adoption. My adoption fee is $90 and that includes my spay/neuter, vaccines, wormer, and also covers my general exam at the Vet, the rabies vaccine, microchip, free 45 day health insurance policy and our local Pet Depot will give you a free bag of food, you pay the taxes.

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 CARTOONS





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OPINION

POLITICIANS FAIL ON THE ECONOMY

Lee H. Hamilton
Contributor

A couple of months ago, the Congressional Budget Office issued a sobering report on the U.S. economy's long-term prospects. Not to put too fine a point on it, we're headed for the fiscal rocks.

Federal spending accounts for about 20 percent of the nation's GDP, the budget analysts note; if current trends continue, that will rise to fully 25 percent by 2040. Revenues will not keep up — they'll amount to only 19 percent of GDP.

Here's what the non-partisan CBO has to say: "Mainly because of the aging of the population and rising health care costs, the extended baseline projections show revenues that fall well short of spending over the long term, producing a substantial imbalance in the federal budget. As a result, budget deficits are projected to rise steadily and, by 2040, to raise federal debt held by the public to a percentage of GDP seen at only one previous time in U.S. history — the final year of World War II and the following year." We face a fiscal crisis of historic proportions.

Our presidential candidates can talk all they want about American prosperity and world leadership, but without a firm fiscal base it's just hot air. Unless we can stabilize the debt and put the country on a path of sustainable economic growth with prosperity evenly shared, we'll have no firm economic base for all those lofty goals to rest upon.

This means tackling a host of complex problems. We have to get long-term debt under control. We have to preserve Social Security yet find a solution to rising entitlement spending, which will be a key driver of federal spending for decades to come.

We have to deal with health-care costs, which pose the same challenge. We have to invest in skills, education, and infrastructure without breaking the bank. We have to craft a simpler, fairer, less intrusive tax policy that promotes economic efficiency and is conducive to long-term growth.

The people who have to do all these things are politicians who, thus far, have been unwilling and unable to take these obvious challenges head on. The problem is not with the system itself. Similar barriers have been overcome repeatedly in the past, with reforms in Social Security in 1983, taxes in 1986, and repeatedly in budget agreements.

Rather, the problem is that our leaders are divided between those who want to cut spending and those who want to boost taxes in order to expand government's role.

Yet it's impossible to solve our problems by finding new revenues or cutting spending alone. Without doing both, we face a weakened future. It is unreasonable and unacceptable to try to continue our present course of trying to muddle through.

There's a reason that you don't hear much talk about this in Washington. Americans themselves want it all — lower taxes without significant cuts in federal spending.

But here's the problem: Almost 60 percent of federal spending is accounted for by Social Security, Medicare and defense and national security.

Add the 7 percent of the budget that goes to interest on the national debt, and there's little room for significant progress without painful and difficult legislative action.

Political leaders should grasp these realities and act now. But they have not, so it's up to Americans to pressure them to do so. True, nothing will happen without presidential leadership. All issues will have to be on the table, because the pain needs to be shared broadly. And progress will require the adroit bipartisan participation of congressional leaders.

Instead, those who believe in a single path assure us that we need only wait until the next election and they'll get the forces they need. This is a pipedream. The electorate is too evenly divided and too volatile to sustain complete control by one side over several elections.

So really, it's up to the American people to demand action. We have to create the political will that drives our leaders to deal with these difficult economic problems — that leads them to tackle entitlements, health costs, investing in the future, and tax reform. The question is whether our political leaders are up to the task before our economy runs out of time.

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.

POWER IN THE WORD: THE GOSPEL THAT WORKS

ALLOWING THE WORD OF GOD TO DIRECT OUR GIVING, AND OUR LIVING

Dr. Henry W. Roberts, II
Contributor

When we turn to Deuteronomy 11:16, we read, "Take heed to yourselves, that your heart be not deceived, and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them." Take heed to yourselves that your heart be not deceived. If I check myself, I don't have to worry about you checking me. If I keep myself in line, I don't have to worry about what anybody has to say. Why? Because I'm taking heed to myself.

That your heart, or spirit, be not deceived. There are spirits out there that will tell you that you can do whatever you want to do. You're grown. That's true. Man is a free moral agent. God will not force His will on your life. He only wants you to receive the blessings of God because they are there for you. He said, "Behold, I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life." (Deuteronomy 30:19). Choose life, but He said that both of them are there.

The decision process is yours. The quality decision process belongs to you. "...and ye turn aside, and serve other gods, and worship them;" The scripture records that you turn away and serve other gods and worship them, such as the lotto, casino boats and dog tracks. It's your money. I'm just showing you something. Now, here's a financial plan that God has outlined for us. God says, "I guarantee that this will work. Prove Me. Try Me." But we'd rather go somewhere and stick our money on a blackjack table or a tonk game or in a dice game or pitty-pat and believe that we're going to win something, when all I've got to do is sow me some seed and I've got a guaranteed return.

God is the only Person I've met or heard about that gives you a ninety-percent increase on every dime you sow. That means that out of the ten cents He makes a penny. Everybody wants 60-40, 70-30. The average lawyer wants a third and he wants a retainer at the door.

But we'd rather go on all these other opposites and look to all these other gods as our source when our father, Abraham says, "His name shall be known as Jehovah-Jireh, the Lord My Provider." (Genesis 22:14) God said, "Make sure now. Take heed to yourselves that your job has not become your source."

That's just one vehicle that God has allowed to funnel finances into your life. That's just one. He's got other kinds of things He could do. He could have an uncle that you never knew about leave you a bunch of money or an oil field in Texas pumping oil. He can send somebody from Timbuktu with a million-dollar check. But if you box Him in and say, "This job is my source," you've gotten another god.

"I'm going to the casino and see if I can't hit big." Well, you've got another god. All you've got to do is get you an envelope, find you some good hot soil where the church is growing and going, where the Spirit of God is and the people are receiving the Word, things are happening and they're reaching the community, and sow that seed.

Deuteronomy 11:19: "And ye shall teach them your children" When you learn something you're supposed to teach it to your children. But if you learned it wrong, you've been teaching them wrong. If you learned how to come to church and pay dues, you talk wrong when you teach them to pay dues. That's not God's way. He said, "Even from the days of your fathers you have gone away from My ordinances and have not kept them." (Malachi 3:7)

Order is God's way of doing things. That's what an ordinance is. That's God's order for the way He wants to finance everything that He has to do. ". . .teach them to your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou riseth up."

The Word, the Word, the Word. Teach them what thus saith the Lord all the time: at the dinner table, before they go to bed at night, "Baby, God loves you." Before they go to school, "God loves you and He's covering you. Just do what God says. Walk in His precepts and His examples and everything is going to be all right."

Dr. Henry W. Roberts, II is the pastor of Word of Life Community Church of Mobile, AL. For a free book, entitled, What Is Salvation, call 251-456-2652.

CULLMANSENSE PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

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Cold Springs Player of the Week - Drew McClendon, Hanna Hicks - Traditions Bank, Jr. Brooks - Traditions Bank



Fairview HS Player of the Week - Austin Harris, Courtney Dean - Traditions Bank, Jonathan Yeager - Bill Smith Buick GMC



Holly Pond HS Player of the Week Michael Lambert, Hanna Hicks - Traditions Bank, Joe Bryan - Bill Smith Buick GMC



Vinemont HS Player of the Week - Garrett Boland, Jamie Ramsey - Traditions Bank, David Runge-Bill Smith Buick GMC, Vinemont High School Football Coach

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WALLACE STATE WELCOMES RETURN OF SOUTHERN CIRCUIT TOUR OF INDEPENDENT FILMMAKERS

Sharon Schuler Kreps
sharon@cullmansense.com

HANCEVILLE – For the third year in a row, The Evelyn Burrow Museum at Wallace State Community College will host the Southern Circuit Tour of Independent Filmmakers. Starting in September, the first of six films will be screened, all of which are free and will include an appearance by the filmmakers for question and answer sessions. All of the films will be screened in the Recital Hall of the Burrow Center for the Fine and Performing Arts.

"This film series has developed a core group of area residents who have been coming back each time since the first year we hosted the series," said Kristen Holmes, administrator for the museum. "In the previous two years they've been able to view some wonderful films on a wide range of subjects that have been both entertaining and informative. This year's lineup of movies, I think, is the best yet."

The six films showing at Wallace State this year are all documentaries and provide glimpse into lives of the famous and not-so-famous, share stories that have historical significance and intrigue, and celebrate different cultures and diversity.

"I Will Dance" is the first film and will be shown on Sept. 17 at 6 p.m. The film follows young people from an integrated theater program in Selma as they journey to New York City to dance their hearts out, defy statistics and share their stories.

"1971" will be shown on Oct. 15 at 6 p.m., and tells the story of a March 8, 1971, break-in at an FBI office in Media, Penn., during which every file in the office was removed. The documents were mailed anonymously to newsrooms and revealed an illegal surveillance program overseen by FBI director J. Edgar Hoover. No arrests were ever made and, until now, those responsible never revealed their identity.

"Imba Means Sing" will be shown on Nov. 19 at 9:30 a.m. The story follows three children from the slums of Kampala, Uganda, through a world tour with the Grammy-nominated African Children's Choir.

"Dorothea Lange: Grab a Hunk of Lightning" will be shown Feb. 18, 2016, at 6 p.m. The film will explore, through her granddaughter's eyes, the life of acclaimed photograph Dorothea Lange who captured the iconic image "Migrant Mother" that personified the Great Depression.

On March 10 at 6 p.m., "American Made Movie" will look back on the glory days of manufacturing in the United States, when there was a more balanced relationship between the goods produced and consumed, and illustrates how technology and globalization have changed the competitive landscape for companies doing business in America and overseas.

"Althea" will be the last film of the series on April 14 at 9:30 a.m.

Althea Gibson grew up as a truant on the rough streets of Harlem but emerged as a most unlikely queen of the highly segregated tennis world of the 1950s.

She became the first African-American to play and win at Wimbledon and Forest Hills, a decade before Arthur Ashe, only to be shunned by the tennis establishment.

The Southern Circuit Tour of Independent Filmmakers is a program of South Arts. Southern Circuit Screenings are funded in part through a sponsorship with the National Endowment for the Arts. For more information about the series call The Evelyn Burrow Museum at 256-352-8457 or visit burrowmuseum.org.

REHAU (from Front)

Kate Biermeier
Contributor

CULLMAN – REHAU hosted a grand opening for their new Automotive Technical Center on Wednesday, September 2. The $3 million addition consists of a 12,000-square-foot building located next to the company's manufacturing facility. The Cullman-based technical center is the first of its kind in North America.

Attending the ceremony were Alabama Secretary of Commerce Greg Canfield, Cullman City Mayor Max Townson, Cullman County Commission Chairman Kenneth Walker, as well as locals from the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce, Wallace State Community College, Cullman Economic Development Agency, and the Cullman City Industrial Development Board.

Also in attendance were Holm Riepenhausen, President of REHAU Automotive LLC; Helmut Ansorge, REHAU Automotive Executive Board; Albert von Pelser, REHAU Cullman Plant Manager; and REHAU Americans CEO, Christian Fabian.

President of the Cullman Economic Development Agency, Peggy Smith, opened the ceremony. She has been working on the project since its beginning.

"This beautiful new freestanding facility is one of a kind. Engineers are bringing specials skills and they're doing it right here in Cullman. This is a new day for us," she stated.

The opening of the technical center also marks the company's completion of a multi-phase project that includes an expansion to its automotive production facilities that was completed in 2014.

This project is a significant investment in REHAU's Cullman location and signifies the company's position as the top manufacturing employer in the area.

"REHAU's continued investment in Cullman has a vital impact on the local workforce and economy," stated Alabama Governor Robert Bentley.

"REHAU has been a great partner in job creation, and I am honored that REHAU decided to open its first U.S. technical center in Alabama. This decision speaks volumes about the capabilities of the state's automotive sector and our workforce."

The new state-of-the-art facility provides a workspace for 45 engineers. It will combine production, engineering, and development into one location.

This will allow research and development functions at REHAU to take place right beside production, and it will keep jobs related to the company's North American business in the Cullman area.

REHAU currently makes car parts such as bumpers, spoilers, and rocker panels for companies such as BMW, Mercedes, and Nissan. The recent improvements in production allow an increase in efficiency.

Cullman REHAU Plant Manager Albert von Pelser pointed out that before the improvements, developments took place at German REHAU technical centers and then transferred to Cullman.

"Now, process developments for products REHAU manufactures for the U.S. automotive market will be done mainly in Cullman," he added.

REHAU also plans to use the facility as a venue for its new apprenticeship program. "This program mirrors the program we've been doing in Germany for years," stated von Pelser.

The company has partnered with local educators to offer paid apprenticeships through the Cullman County School System's Fast Track for Industry Program and Wallace State Community College.

At the end of the ceremony, Peggy Smith presented a bench that will be placed outside the technical center in honor of the REHAU Technical Center grand opening on behalf of Industrial Development of the City of Cullman.

REHAU delivers "Unlimited Polymer Solutions," and is the premium worldwide brand for polymer-based innovations and systems in construction, automotive, and industry.

The company generates continuous growth through its expertise and innovative capabilities in materials development, systems design, and surface technology.

Approximately 19,000 employees at more that 170 locations around the world ensure success of the independent, privately held company.