SERIES 5 • ISSUE 45 • NOVEMBER 16, 2015
CULLMANSENSE
COMMUNITY MATTERS

CONTRIBUTED



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WSCC

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'FOOD FOR FINES' LETS CITIZENS PAY FEES WITH FOOD P7

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DAMAGING FIRES A BLESSINGS IN DISGUISE FOR TWO AREA CHURCHES



East Battle Ground Missionary Church was ravaged by fire on Aug. 16. yet continues to grow.

P6



IMAGES: FACEBOOK/WEST CULLMAN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HANCEVILLE ELEMENTARY TEACHER RECEIVES $1,000 GRANT





Brown intends to purchase a variety of books for her children with the grant money she received.

FACEBOOK.COM/CULLMAN-COUNTY-SCHOOLS-598871463471843

P4

BENTLEY REFUSES SYRIAN REFUGEES RELOCATING TO STATE

Jennifer Ardis
Contributor

MONTGOMERY – Governor Robert Bentley on Sunday announced he is refusing Syrian refugees relocating to Alabama.

"After full consideration of this weekend's attacks of terror on innocent citizens in Paris, I will oppose any attempt to relocate Syrian refugees to Alabama through the U.S. Refugee Admissions Program. As your Governor, I will not stand complicit to a policy that places the citizens of Alabama in harm's way," Governor Robert Bentley said.

The Alabama Law Enforcement Agency is working diligently with the FBI, DHS, and federal intelligence partners to monitor any possible threats.

Law enforcement presence has been increased at major gathering events in Alabama to further insure the safety of citizens. To date, there has been no credible intelligence of any terrorist threats in Alabama.

Alabama currently has one U.S. State Department approved refugee processing center in Mobile.

There have been no Syrian refugees relocated in Alabama to date, though neighboring states have processed a number of refugees.

"The acts of terror committed over the weekend are a tragic reminder to the world that evil exists and takes the form of terrorists who seek to destroy the basic freedoms we will always fight to preserve. I will not

P4

PRECIOUS INFANTS – COURAGEOUS STORIES OF PREMATURE BIRTH

LOCAL ARTIST DEPICTS SOME OF WORLD'S TINIEST PEOPLE

Sharon Schuler Kreps
sharon@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Bethany Kerr has made her mark on Cullman in many different ways. She is a talented photographer and artist whose work graces the walls of many homes and offices around town. Her historic murals can be seen as you drive through Cullman, especially on the side of Newman's

P6



BETHANY KERR

Kerr drew a total of 160 babies before collecting each family's story.

PRINTED LOCALLY @ PRINTING Alabama Web Press

HANCEVILLE ELEMENTARY'S 'BAM' PROGRAM TEACHES ACCELERATED MATH

Will Hogue
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HANCEVILLE – The Bulldog Accelerated Math program at Hanceville Elementary School allows students who show exceptional abilities in math to grow at a pace that might be faster than their classmates.

When my son was in kindergarten, I was having a conference with his teacher, Michelle Pender," said co-founder of BAM, Dana Lisle.

"The discussion turned to the fact that numerous programs are offered to help struggling students, but nothing is really offered for advanced students until they reach third grade and can test into the gifted program. [Pender] and I decided we wanted to change that, and through several discussions [we] developed BAM, an acronym for Bulldog Accelerated Math," she explained.

Lisle explained that the goal of the program is to promote a love of math. And, the program that was initially meant to fill in the gap that the gifted program left for the younger students, Lisle said that it grew to include even those in the gifted program.

"During the 2011/2012 school year, my math team students began meeting with the advanced Kindergarten, first, and second grade math students. The following school year, I was approached by Amy Cornelius, a third grade teacher at Hanceville, asking if I would expand the program to include third–fifth grade."

"Even though some of these students were involved with the gifted program, many students who are not in the gifted program excel in math," Lisle continued.

"I was excited to include as many students as possible," she said. "During the 2012/2013 school year my Algebra II and Pre-calculus students all became involved with the program."

According to Lisle, the benefit of a program like this is that by working with older students, the younger students see that learning and being good at math can be "cool."

"I love watching the interactions and relationships that develop throughout the year between the students," she said.

Lisle, Cornelius, and Pender now run the BAM program. Lisle herself is a math teacher at Hanceville.

The co-founders of BAM put their money where there mouths are: the three are the ones who supply all the materials for the program and support BAM financially.



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The Bulldog Accelerated Math program helps exceptional students grow.

ST. BERNARD ESTABLISHES "THE 333 CLUB"

Joyce Nix
St. Bernard Contributor

CULLMAN – The St. Bernard Development Office recently announced the establishment of "The 333 Club" as part of the Campaign for St. Bernard. "Members who join this club," said Fr. Marcus Voss, Director of Development, "will play a significant role in the restoration of the St. Bernard Library now underway.'

"The financial support given by those in this club," Fr. Marcus continued, "will help us provide much-needed classrooms, centralize the three libraries on campus, and create an academic center for our school and Abbey."

The organization is named "The 333 Club" in recognition of the following: St. Bernard is seeking 300 alumni and benefactors, who will give a total of $3,000, which can be paid over the next 3 years. "'The 333 Club' invites a wide range of people to be involved in our campaign," said Fr. Marcus. "We have a little over $4M toward the campaign's $5.25M goal. Members of this club will truly make a difference as we work to successfully reach our overall goal."

The members of "The 333 Club" will join many others who will be recognized for their contributions toward the campaign. In particular, the Alumni/Benefactor Room, located on the first floor of the library building, will be named in honor of the Club.

Fr. Marcus was quick to add, "If being a part of this group is not financially feasible at this time, I ask our donors to consider a donation over the next 3 years that more appropriately suits their current budget." "Donations via credit or debit card are most welcome as are gifts of securities or real estate," Fr. Marcus continued. "All donations will greatly benefit St. Bernard today and also future generations who will come to this special place."

Anyone interested in becoming a member of "The 333 Club" should contact Fr. Marcus Voss, at frmarcus@stbernardprep.com or call 256-739-6682 ext. 7116. Information is also available at stbernardprep.com.

Refugees (from Front)

place Alabamians at even the slightest, possible risk of an attack on our people. Please continue to join me in praying for those who have suffered loss and for those who will never allow freedom to fade at the hands of terrorists," Governor Bentley added.

TWENTY SIXTH ANNUAL CULLMAN COUNTY CHRISTMAS PARADE

Saturday, December 5, 2015 – 2:00 P.M.

THEME: "Christ, The Joy of Christmas"

No Entry Fee

Name of Organization _____

Address _____

Phone (H) _____ (C) _____ Email _____

Contact Person _____

Entry Classifications: Bands, Floats, Queens, Churches, Civic Organizations, Business, Tractors, Horses etc._____

Float Division: Please circle one - THEME OR NON-THEME

(All theme entries must have the theme displayed somewhere on the float)

Please mail the form to: Hanceville Civitan Club

P.O. Box 665

Hanceville, AL 35077

If you have questions, contact Joann Walls at 256-352-9799 or 256-590-2759. Email walls747234@bellsouth.net or call Deb at Hanceville City Hall at 256-352-9830 Ext 10.

Cut along this line _____

Keep this portion for future reference.

Drive down Hwy 31 to France Dodd Drive then turn and enter Wallace State Campus. Go pass the Nursing Training Building and continue until you reach College Drive NW. The parade will assemble on College Drive NW. From College Drive NW the parade will enter through the traffic light at the intersection of HWY 31 across from Hardees and proceed south on Hwy 31. Tentative plans are to turn into the Hanceville Nursing Home and loop through the parking lot. The parade will re-enter Hwy 31 and continue down Hwy 31 and turn right at James Auto Parts where the parade will disband at the Hanceville Fire Station. The line-up will begin at 12:00 noon.

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CULLMAN MAYOR PROCLAIMS NOVEMBER "DIABETES AWARENESS MONTH"



OFFICE OF MAYOR MAX A. TOWNSON

Cullman Community Lions Club members Steve Hogland, Charles Osborne, and Patty Miller; Cullman Mayor Max A. Townson; JDRF Executive Director Tracy Smith; diabetes awareness and research advocates Bill and Deborah Chambers; and William Owens (brother of Type 1 diabetic Matthew Owens who was unable to attend).

Leanne H. West
Office of Mayor Max A. Townson

CULLMAN — On Thursday, November 12, 2015, Cullman Mayor Max A. Townson officially proclaimed the month of November 2015 "Diabetes Awareness Month" in the City of Cullman.

Type 1 diabetes, previously known as juvenile diabetes, affects over 1.25 million children and adults. Roughly 40,000 more are diagnosed with this disease each year. Type 1 diabetes is not caused by a poor diet or lack of exercise. It is an autoimmune disease where the pancreas does not produce insulin. Insulin is a vital hormone used to convert sugar, starches, and other food into energy. Without it, Type 1 diabetics must constantly balance blood sugar levels 24 hours a day just to stay alive.

"Type 1 diabetes is a very serious disease that affects many people in our very own community," said Townson. "I am glad that there are organizations and people who work to raise awareness of this disease and who seek to one day find a cure."

The JDRF (formerly known as the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation) is the leading global organization funding research for Type 1 diabetes, and the largest nongovernment funder of T1D research. JDRF seeks to find a cure for diabetes and its complications through the funding of research and new therapies. Their ultimate goal is achieving a world free from Type 1 diabetes.

The Cullman Community Lions Club is a local supporter of diabetes research and education. They place a major emphasis on the education, treatment, and prevention of diabetes. They sponsor many activities and events throughout the year to raise awareness of the disease, and they have helped many in our community living with diabetes.

"I am pleased to proclaim November 'Diabetes Awareness Month' in Cullman and I encourage all of our citizens to support the efforts of JDRF, the Cullman Community Lions Club, and other organizations that support funding for Type 1 diabetes research," added Townson.

Present in the Mayor's Office to accept the proclamation was JDRF Executive Director Tracy Smith, Bill and Deborah Chambers (advocates for diabetes awareness and research), William Owens (brother of Type 1 diabetic Matthew Owens), and Cullman Community Lions Club members Steve Hogland, Charles Osborne, and Patty Miller.

For more information about JDRF and Type 1 diabetes visit JDRF.org. For more information about the Cullman Community Lions Club and their mission to support efforts in diabetes education and research, visit cullmancommunitylions.com or call 256-739-0131.

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FIVE COMMISSIONERS BETTER THAN THREE?

SEN. BUSSMAN DISCUSSES HOUSE BILL 26 AT PUBLIC FORUM

Sharon Schuler Kreps
sharon@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN — The Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce's Governmental Affairs Committee, in conjunction with Alabama Senator Paul Bussman, hosted a public forum to discuss House Bill 26, a piece of legislation that would change the structure of the current Cullman County Commission from three to five members.

The public forum was held on Monday, November 9, 2015, in the Freedom Insurance room at the Cullman Area Chamber of Commerce, where citizens from across Cullman County voiced their concerns and opinions to Bussman.

"Granddaddy always told me, 'If it's not broken, don't fix it.'," said Barry Slayton.

"The fact of the matter is, yes we have had problems three, four or five years ago. However, we could have had four commissioners and still have the same problems. We are always going to have problems in government but we the people need to be vigilant and we need to hold the people that represent us accountable. Each one of us has a responsibility to make sure that they are doing their best."

"I think the five commissioners would give more citizen involvement," said Bob Burns.

"I think the bill was written in such a way that it saves money, so it would be a good thing. Some change every once in a while is good."

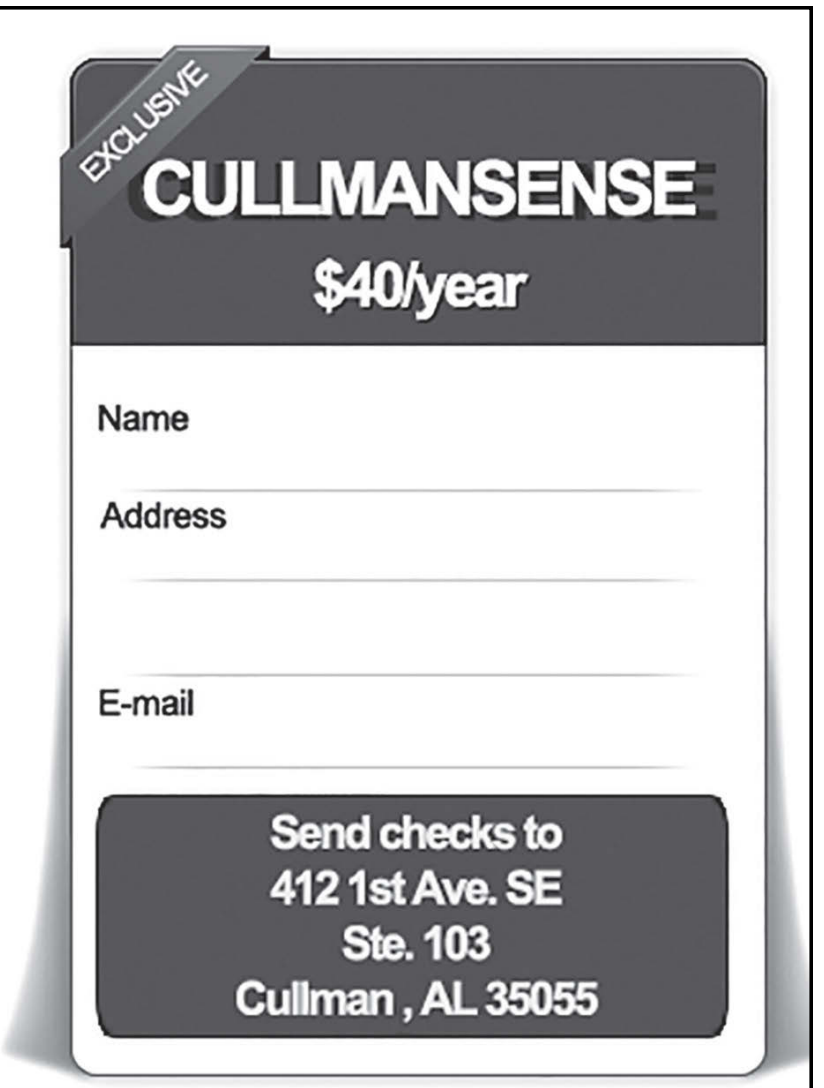
"We promote tourism in this county," said Mike Eddy. "Come out to Hog Mountain, one of our Civil War battlefields — if your tires survive the sharp of the road. Or go to the Civil War Museum or to the Covered Bridge. Right now we need five County Commissioners. We need five districts, it doesn't matter how the districts are drawn up, but we can draw them up so it's fair. But what needs to be fair is the city of Cullman needs to be in one district."

"The City of Cullman is being recognized for being one of the greatest places in America," he continued.

"In the County they are telling me, at the age of 62, the same thing they told my daddy: The roads in Cullman County are awful. But look how wonderful we are here; we are fixing to have the Bass World Hall of Fame and we are going to make County Road 222 the gateway to Smith Lake. And when they get to Trimble, depending on what Alabama Power does, they may find it a drained lake, which is why we need five County Commissioners. Another reason we need five County Commissioners is we need to let the City of Cullman know that there's places out in the County we'd like for you to come and see."

After Bussman listened to everyone that wanted to voice their opinion he thanked the crowd for attending and taking the time to address the issue.

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WSCC'S JOHN MEEKS EARNS 100TH CAREER VICTORY WITH PROGRAM; LADY LIONS LOSE TO WEST ALA. IN EXHIBITION GAME

Russell Moore
WSCC Contributor

HANCEVILLE – Wallace State men's basketball coach John Meeks earned his 100th career victory with the Lions over the weekend.

Meeks' milestone victory came in a 71-61 triumph over Brunswick Community College in the Roger Taylor Classic at Louisburg, N.C.

The 32-year-old Meeks, a North Carolina native, is in his sixth season at Wallace State and has won 151 games between two coaching stops. He has led Wallace State to a pair of Alabama Community College Conference (ACCC) titles (2012, 2014) and two subsequent NJCAA national tournament appearances.

Wallace State (3-1) played three games in the tournament, sandwiching Meeks' 100th victory with a 78-59 win over Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute and a 78-70 loss to Louisburg College.

Immanuel King and Derylton Hill each tallied a double-double for Wallace State in the win against Brunswick. King, a 6-foot-9 sophomore, finished with 11 points and 10 rebounds, and Hill added 14 points and 10 rebounds.

Marcus Barham scored 13 points for the Lions and Darrin Williams and Xavier Mills scored eight points apiece.

Wallace State had four players finish with double figures in the 19-point win against Caldwell. Barham scored a team-high 15 points, Jaylen McCoy had 12 points, Hill had 11 points and seven rebounds and King added 10 points and eight rebounds.

In the loss to Louisburg, Wallace State's King registered another double-double with 24 points and 12 rebounds.

Barham scored 20 points for the Lions and Kylen Butler had 10.

West Alabama women 67, Wallace State 59 (Exhibition)
West Alabama outscored Wallace State 24-16 in the fourth quarter on Monday night, prevailing in an exhibition road game at Tom Drake Coliseum.

Both teams were tied at 43 after the third quarter before West Alabama pulled away in the fourth.

The Lady Tigers led 28-26 at halftime.

Wallace State, which has only one sophomore on its roster in 2015-16, was led by Kelsey Houston's 13 points.

Janese Richardson scored 12 points for Wallace State, Hannah Vest and Alex Lowery had eight points apiece and Velencia Johnson added six.

Women's collegiate games now consist of four 10-minute quarters instead of two 20-minute halves.

Wallace State (0-2) fell to Andrew College, 45-41, on the road over the weekend.

Both Wallace State teams travel to Motlow State for a doubleheader Wednesday.

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

ST. BERNARD COMES OUT ON TOP IN BASKETBALL SEASON OPENER

Johnny Thornton
Sports Correspondent

CULLMAN — Senior Evan Aldridge and sophomore Christian Peterson combined to shoot nine of 10 from the foul line in the fourth quarter that saved St. Bernard Prep School in a 70-64 victory Tuesday on opening night of AHSAA basketball.

The Saints would score more points from the line (12) than they did in field goals (3) in the final 8:00. Shades Mountain cut a 12-point deficit to four when the Saints needed accuracy and did so when the game went down to the wire.

Shooting well from the line changed the course of the game for Greg Boatright's Saints.

In the first half, the Saints knocked down seven shots from 3-point range and went on top at halftime 38-30.

Their final five FGs in the half were from downtown with Aldridge and Dean Smith getting two to go and Peterson one.

Foul trouble hurt the Saints once they went into the fourth stanza with a 52-40 advantage. Smith fouled out with 4:45 remaining and Gavin Harris was done a couple of minutes later.

The Saints were without their point guard and needed help to deal with the Eagles pressuring the ball and making a comeback by 16 points in the fourth from guard Sam Reichle.

Aldridge and Peterson protected the lead with Peterson getting his final two from the line with 0:05 left to make it a six-point margin.

Aldridge delivered 27 on opening night, going seven of eight from the line and led the Saints in treys with four. Peterson scored 18, 11 in the final period, Smith had a dozen, Harris scored three, and Jacob Grey and Luis Zatarian three.

Reichle finished with a team-high 23 points for Shades Mountain.

Girls; St. Bernard 50, Shades Mountain 10:
A good start by Zana Wilson keyed the Lady Saints to a rout in the opener.

Wilson could not be stopped with 13 in the opening period to carry St. Bernard to a 15-2 lead.

She had 20 by halftime with the Lady Saints moving the advantage to 31-6.

The scoring slowed down in the third, but St. Bernard led 38-6 and played the final 8:00 with a running clock, once the Lady Saints secured a 30-point advantage, a rule in its third year in the AHSAA.

Wilson had 27 by hitting 10 field goals, three treys and four free throws. Macy Whaley scored seven, Anna Myers six, Tania Martinez and Avy Whaley four, and Alli Messick two.

Both teams will welcome the Brilliant Tigers to the Fazi-Richard Athletic Center Thursday.

BIG FOURTH QUARTER THE KEY FOR COLD SPRINGS IN WINNING HOME OPENER

Johnny Thornton
Sports Correspondent

COLD SPRINGS — History was made on the hardwood Thursday night for Cold Springs High School.

Danville High paid its first ever visit to Jesse George Gymnasium with the Lady Hawks and Hawks eager to deliver potential upsets of the Lady Eagles and Eagles.

But that never materialized. Cold Springs was able to send Danville back into Morgan County winless on the young season.

The Eagles used a hot fourth period to turn back Danville 82-56. That came after the Lady Eagles had played solid defense and shut down Danville's scoring by the final margin of 51-33.

Both teams complete the first week of the 2015-16 season with a 2-0 mark.

Cold Springs started strong and ended the game the same way with Danville.

The Eagles went on an 11-0 run to close the opening period and led 28-12. Seniors Triston Chambers and Josh Freeman were unstoppable with 27 points combined after 8:00 of play.

But the next two quarters were a struggle for Tim Willougby's Eagles.

Cold Springs was outscored 19-11 in the second and 13-11 during the third by Danville.

Nevertheless, the Eagles were still ahead. It was 40-31 at the half, but just a 51-44 margin going into the final period.

The last period began with positive results. Freeman landed a three then a FG by Fisher Willoughby after a miss from the line by Freeman turned to be a 5-point swing and gave the Eagles a 56-44 advantage.

The lead would go to 66-51 a couple of minutes later thanks to a three-point play by Jesse Lee.

Freeman and Lee combined for six field goals in the last period as the game all of sudden turned into domination by Cold Springs.

The Eagles bettered their point total than from the opener in which they scored 80 at Vinemont. Cold Springs accounted for 59 points through the first and fourth period while they had just 23 between the second and third quarter.

Freeman looked sharp in the home opener with 29 points while Chambers finished with 28 to cap off a big day for him.

Earlier in the day, Chambers signed a national letter of intent to play at Samford University.

Lee scored 12 for the Eagles with Cayde Elliott getting his six points through the final period.

Jonathan Morgan topped a balanced attack for Danville with 17 while Andres Cordova scored 15 and Robert McCormick and Drew Fitzgerald had 10.

Cold Springs 51, Danville 33 (Girls)
Danville coach Paul Wilson said prior to the game, he had never started 0-2 in coaching 10 years at Danville. That changed due to the defensive effort of Tammy West's Lady Eagles.

After the offense managed just five first-half field goals, 17 points and a two-point lead at intermission, the Lady Eagles executed better with 34 points in the final 16:00, scoring 10 FGs, three baskets from three-point range, and five free throws.

But the defense allowed Danville just three baskets during the third with Cold Springs getting an 18-6 advantage in scoring and moving the lead to 35-21.

Six Lady Eagles accounted for the scoring in the fourth and a close contest at halftime was now an 18-point victory.

Bailey West got 15 to anchor balance for the Lady Eagles with Emme Willoughby scoring 14 and Camryn Crider 12.

Freshman Aubrey Negron made her impact with 15 rebounds. Rilee White failed to score, but made up for it with eight rebounds.

Willoughby had eight rebounds and blocked four shots.

Cold Springs will have a week to get some work in before they have back-to-back road games next weekend.

Both teams will be in Jasper next Thursday to play Walker then the two head to Joe Shults Gym next Friday for a county clash with Fairview.

Grant (from Front)

Will Hogue
will@cullmansense.com

HANCEVILLE – Christy Brown, a first-grade teacher at Hanceville Elementary School, received a $1,000 grant last week.

The grant, applied for by Brown on the WIAT42 website, is the first she has received in the 14 years of teaching at Hanceville Elementary.

"It was an easy process," Brown said about applying for the grant.

Brown has plans for expanding her classroom library with the funds.

"This will give the students a bigger variety of books to choose from," she said.

Brown explained that the students need more books that are their grade level to choose from in the first-grade library.

Although Brown was sure she had never received a grant like this in her career, she could not say for certain if any of her fellow teachers had ever received a grant.



HISTORICAL PROFILE

JOHANN GOTTFRIED CULLMANN

A DREAM COME TRUE

Sharon Schuler Kreps
sharon@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – In the past four weeks we have learned that Colonel Cullmann was born in a small village, the son of German educators. He married Josephine Loeb and fathered several children. He became a large exporter to America and accumulated his first fortune.

He and his compatriots blew up a train as it entered the Frankweiler district in hopes to assassinate the Bavarian ruler, Otto von Bismarck, but Bismarck was not on the destroyed train.

His shenanigans made him a wanted man, so he left his home and went to America.

Once there, he studied law and passed the bar in only eight months. He practiced law in Cincinnati. He saved his money and used it to travel in search of a place to build his dream colony.

His wife stayed with her family in Germany, but their eldest son, Theodore, came to America with plans to help his father, but after being in Cincinnati for only a short time, he contracted typhoid fever and died sometime in January 1873 at the age of twenty-six.

Cullmann dug deeper into his quest – to find that special place to call home. While living in Florence and Tuscumbia for almost two years, he explored the area and tried to interest financiers into helping him buy land.

He was unsuccessful because the southern people, depressed by tyranny and persecution, refused to sell land to 'foreigners' due to the ill will created from the aftermath of the Civil War.

The Great North South Railway (later the Louisville and Nashville Railroad) entered north central Alabama through an agreement on May 19, 1871.

An Act of Congress had created the right-of-way for the railroad through public lands of that area on March 3, 1871.

The first through train between Louisville, Kentucky and Montgomery, Alabama ran five days later.

This line passed through a largely unsettled area of North Alabama, and the railway was interested in settling the area to gain business for the rail line.

Cullmann learned the railroads desire for settlers along the right-of-way so they furnished him with horses and wagons to explore what are now Blount, Winston, Cullman, Morgan, and Marshall Counties. Gov. Patton arranged a meeting in Decatur, Alabama between Lewis Fink, land agent and later vice president of the L&N Railroad, and W.O. Meisner, a German immigrant who later was to figure prominently in the settlement of the new colony,

In December 1872, Cullmann was named land agent for that territory and through Mr. Fink secured 349,000 acres in townships 9, 10, and 11, extending 15 miles on each side, east and west, of the railroad; and 180 miles, north and south, extending from Decatur to Montgomery.

The land rights were purchased at $1 per acre and he proposed to sell to settlers at $2.00 per acre. Some 200,000 acres of valuable mineral lands, including what is now Birmingham, were also included in the contract.

The terms of the contract stipulated that he was to be responsible for all advertising expenses incurred as well as all other incidentals to bring desired settlers to this territory.

During his tour of the land, Cullmann found the area to be perfect for the establishment of his dream colony.

Super excited, he wrote to his family, "After traveling around the country and arriving in North Alabama, the impression was made upon my mind that if this country was filled up with good farmers, it would be the garden spot of America. I found here all that I had been looking for, all that I regarded as necessary to make good homes. There was here combined things to an extent not equaled by any other place that I had seen."

The hardy farmers who had settled this area lived under the most primitive conditions but luckily without the presence of Indians.

The absence of an Indian population was an aspect that greatly appealed to Cullmann as most of the areas open to settlement in the U.S. were occupied by very hostile Indian tribes.

A small group of black men and women, the descendants of freed slaves, lived in the southwestern edge of the county in a community known as Arkadelphia. The black population of the area was sparse in the years following the Civil War because no plantations had previously operated in the area.

Contrary to some reports, early settlers did not "run the black people out." The fact is there were very few black residents who historically populated the area.

Col. Cullmann now had sufficient land for his colony and for its future growth. It was undeveloped and had all sorts of wild game. It was the perfect place for his new colony.

He boarded a train and headed north and began planning advertisements for immigrants. He returned to Cincinnati, Ohio, on January 5, 1873, on the first of his many immigration missions. His advertisements appeared in newspapers all over America and even in Europe.

At his first meeting in Cincinnati, Cullmann persuaded fifteen families to come to the Brindley Mountain Plateau in Blount County.

However, by the time the immigrants were scheduled to leave, the group had dwindled to five families composed of fourteen people.

They arrived in North Alabama in April of 1873 by train at a site called Wilhite, between Vinemont and Cullman. They carried their belongings to the present site of Cullman and began to realize their own dreams.

From here starts the tale of Cullman, Alabama's birth. Most of us have heard about it as children growing up, but as the late Paul Harvey may have asked, "Did you know – the rest of the story?"

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION SEEK FAMILY RECORDS

OLD FAMILY BIBLES AND FAMILY INFORMATION IN HIGH DEMAND

Sharon Schuler Kreps
sharon@cullmansense.com

HANCEVILLE – The Wallace State Library is working in conjunction with the National DAR Library in Washington, D.C. to photocopy family records, including old family bibles, to be preserved at the National DAR Library.

On Saturday, November 14th, representatives from the Alabama Society DAR Dripping Springs Chapter were on hand at the Wallace State Library to collect Bible information and help interested patrons apply for DAR membership.

"What we are trying to do is obtain old family Bibles so we can make copies of the family information inside," said Athelia Gibbs, DAR Registrar, AL Society, Dripping Springs Chapter.

"In times past that was the only record that most families had of births, deaths and marriages. Today the Bibles of that era are falling apart and sometimes they are packed away in boxes. When people die, the children and grandchildren want to clean up the house and may not realize what they are looking at, all packed away. Most think it's a falling apart mess and throw it away and then those records are lost forever," she frowned.

"We are trying to preserve those records from that."

"The old Bibles are records and the DAR will accept them as proof of lineage," she continued.

"For some of those in 1800's generation, that is the only proof you are going to find. We are gathering all these records and will send them in to the DAR and they will be a digitized and kept as a permanent record for future generations to use."

DAR is collecting the Bible records as a whole but they are encouraging the Chapters, such as the Dripping Springs Chapter to take this on as a project. They will continue trying to get people to bring them their Bibles to copy for record.

"We don't want to keep them or anything; we just want to make photo copies of the family record pages," said Gibbs.

"We will also need the title page and the copyright of the Bibles. Sometimes the front page is missing, but the title page of the New Testament section will have a date on it. We can accept that," she smiled.

"We'd also like to know a little bit about the person who originally owned the Bible and who has it now. If you have a picture of the original owners, that would be nice, but we don't have to have it."

Photocopies or scanned image files of old family Bible information, can be e-mailed to DAR at awgibbs@centurytel.net.

Physical copies can be dropped off at Wallace State Library, located at 801 Main St. NW, Hanceville, AL 35077.

Copyright information, a title page, and owner information are required.

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November 16, 2015

'ANGELS AND RELICS' ON DISPLAY AT WALLACE STATE

Gail Crutchfield
WSCC Contributor





WSCC

"All That I Am" by Kathy Hagood, left, and "Tight Spot" by Steve Kinney, right, are among the works in the "Angels & Relics: From Florence Italy, to Florence, Alabama" exhibit on display at WSCC.

HANCEVILLE — A new photography exhibit at The Evelyn Burrow Museum features the work of Steve Kinney and Kathy Hagood. "Angels & Relics: From Florence Italy, to Florence, Alabama" will be on display in the Exhibit Hall of the Burrow Center for Fine and Performing Arts through the end of the year.

The photographers chose 60 of their favorite photographs "that celebrate exquisitely aged stone figures and vintage vehicles found and photographed primarily in the deep south, but also far beyond," according to their blog angelsandrelics.blogspot.com.

Though they photograph similar subjects, the execution and finishing of their photographs vary enough to provide different perspectives and viewpoints. Hagood's work in the exhibit focuses primarily on stone sculptures found in museums, parks and cemeteries. Kinney's work also includes such monuments, as well as photos of rusting cars and industrial machinery.

"We enjoy giving a little more exposure to the beauty of bygone eras that might not be seen by as many viewers if not for our photographs," their blog reads.

"When something is made to last, it won't forever, but for a time as it ages, it may become ever more lovely in different ways than the original designer could have foreseen."

An architect and award-winning fine arts photographer, Kinney draws inspiration from a wide range of subjects.

More of his work can be found at stevewkinneyphotography.com. Hagood is a veteran photographer and writer who paid her dues photographing weddings, events and portraits. She is currently focusing on inspirational photographic art. More of her work can be found at angelfinger.com.

The Exhibit Hall at the Burrow Center For Fine and Performing Arts is open Monday through Saturday, during regular operating hours for Wallace State Community College. The Evelyn Burrow Museum is open Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. until 5 p.m., and Saturday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

For more information, contact museum director Donny Wilson at 256-352-8457 or donny.wilson@wallacestate.edu, or visit burrowmuseum.org.

Blessing (from Front)

Sharon Schuler Kreps
sharon@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – Everything happens for a reason, but why do bad things have to happen to good people? Most everybody asks that question at some point or other in their lives, whether it be a devastating tornado, the death of a family member or loss of a job, there is most always someone who cries out, "Why God, why?"

God works in mysterious ways. What seems to be a terrible event they can be blessings in disguise. Take, for example, two area church fires. Both lost their buildings, but their faith has grown tremendously.

On August 16, 2015 fires ravaged East Battle Ground Missionary Church.

The building, which had been a part of Vinemont for many years, was completely ruined.

The congregation was shocked and devastated.

Though they knew God was in control, surely most desperately prayed, "What are we going to do?"

Shortly after the fire the church was able to obtain a mobile chapel set up on the church property. Their faith is alive and continues to grow every day.

"Things are going better than I ever dreamed," said Mr. J.C. Cook, Deacon, East Battle Ground Baptist Church.

"From the first Sunday we started having services in the mobile chapel, we have had somebody new every Sunday, and that's been about ten Sundays now," he chuckled.

"God's love still ceases to amaze me," he smiled.

"We have already gotten the new church started; it will have the roof on it next week."

Bread of Life Church also suffered severe fire damage on September 27, 2015. The church building was brand new when fires swept through and destroyed it.

Though the church building was lost, God provided them with a place to continue their worship services.

"We moved into the new church building on June 7th," said Brenda Barnette, Pastor's Wife, Bread of Life Church.

"We had bought the old Shaw's Catfish building in Holly Pond and had remodeled the whole place, which took about a year to complete. Then, about ten weeks after actually having services there, the fire happened."

"We are now having our services in the New Life Worship Center building on Brooklyn Road in Holly Pond," she continued.

"It was empty and we were able to move right into it and use it for the time being," she grinned. "We are still waiting on the insurance to make a decision as to what we need to do."

God is good and He takes care of His people. Just ask any of the members of Bread of Life and East Battle Ground Churches.

Their faith has literally been tested by fire. Rather than asking God, "Why?" think about them and know that He has a reason, even though that reason may not be clear.

Infants (from Front)

Cleaners and the Community Shopper's Guide buildings. She is a loving wife and the mother of seven adorable children whom she homeschools.

Bethany is also an accomplished author. After suffering two miscarriages in 2007, she was inspired to share her heart with others through her book, Answers in a Time of Miscarriage.

In late October 2015 her second book, Precious Infants – Courageous Stories of Premature Birth was published.

The book is a compilation of stories about premature babies from around the world. With each heartfelt story, Bethany has drawn each tiny baby by hand.

The book was a labor of love for her and is sure to be a source of strength for others.

"In January 2014, my friend had a little micro preemie," Bethany began.

"She said, 'Hey you should feature some of your artwork in my premature baby forum on Facebook'. I said, 'Okay' and went into the forum and told them if they would submit their baby's photos, I will choose one and I'll draw it for them for free. I started getting submissions right away, but there was something about each of the pictures, I just wanted to draw all of them," she giggled.

"Well, I got to thinking, 'maybe I can draw 12 of them and make a calendar or something'." she continued.

"I made the suggestion and everybody loved the idea. Then more and more pictures came in and all I could think about was, 'these are so sweet, maybe I can do a book'. I mentioned it to my husband and he thought it was a good idea, so I decided to do it. Let me just say, it took a long time to draw 50! I had a huge stack of pictures and I remember thinking, 'What have I gotten myself into?'" she chuckled happily.

Drawing all those sweet babies was fun, but she wanted more.

She needed to hear their stories, and wondered what ever happened to all those sweet tiny faces.

"Well, I drew a total of 160 babies and then asked for their families to send me their stories," she explained.

"I have babies from all over the world in the book, some from Australia, Sweden, Canada, England and of course from all over the United States. When they started sending in their stories, I thought, 'Wow, these are incredible stories, this will make a really nice book'."

Precious Infants – Courageous Stories of Premature Birth is full of heartwarming stories from Neonatal Intensive Care Units that span the globe.

The artwork brings out each child's personality.

In the back of the book there is a glossary with common terms that are used in hospitals concerning premature infants.

People who read the book will come away with a wealth of knowledge, as well as a deep respect for the doctors, nurses and families of those born prematurely.

"When it comes to premature babies, I learned a lot while doing this book," Bethany smiled warmly. "I had no idea all the things they go through. Before this, I just saw them as little babies and thought they were so cute," she mused.

"I knew they went through stuff, but never knew how bad it was and how many surgeries they go through. I never realized how many life-threatening scares the parents go through either," she frowned.

"I think this is a good book to give comfort and encouragement to parents of preemies that are wondering if their baby is going to make it. If they read these stories, it will give them encouragement."

Bethany has managed to educate people about the wonderful, yet heart wrenching world of premature babies. Precious Infants – Courageous Stories of Premature Birth would make a great gift for anyone who has had a preemie. It makes for excellent reading for others who enjoy uplifting stories.

The book is available at Amazon.com for $24.95 and preciousinfants.com for $19.95, plus shipping.

Keep up with Bethany's latest projects by following her on Facebook at facebook.com/BethanyKerrFineArt.

LET'S GO TO THE LIBRARY

LIBRARY SYSTEM'S 'FOOD FOR FINES' PROGRAM ACCEPTS FOOD IN PLACE OF MONEY TO PAY OVERDUE FEES

Sharon Schuler Kreps
sharon@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN – It's that time again and the Cullman County Public Library System has begun its 'Food for Fines' drive. Beginning November 2nd and lasting until November 20th, all library locations will accept non-perishable food items as payment for overdue fines. For each non-perishable food item, either canned or boxed, the library will deduct $1.00 in overdue fines. All food collected will be given to area food banks.

"We are doing 'Food for Fines' through the 20th," said Lesia Coleman, Librarian. "We have a load of food going to Cullman Caring for Kids today," she smiled. "We've been doing this for probably fifteen years now. We originally started doing this at Christmas for Christmas Love, but it has kind of evolved and changed so that now we are doing it for Thanksgiving. We give the food to Cullman Caring for Kids primarily but we also take some of it to St. Vincent de Paul."

The food drive has been very successful. It has been a great help for both hungry families during the holidays, and people with overdue book fines. If you or someone you know have overdue books, this is a wonderful time to get them taken care of and help those in need.

The Cullman County Public Library offers a lot of great programs to its visitors, free of charge. For more information, stop by and see them. The main branch is located at 200 Clark Street NE, Cullman AL 35055. Call them at 256-734-1068 or visit ccpls.com.

CRMC FOUNDATION'S LIGHTS OF LOVE PROGRAM HONORS AND REMEMBERS LOCAL CITIZENS

Meredith Easterwood
CRMC Contributor

CULLMAN — The Cullman Regional Medical Center Foundation hosts the Annual Dr. Herman C. Ensor

Lights of Love Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on Thursday, December 3 at 5:30 p.m. in the Col. Cullmann Room.

Giving a gift of love for $20, $40, $60 or more places a light on the Christmas tree as a tribute to someone special to you. Your tax-deductible gift will help support the Foundation's mission of advancing healthcare services at CRMC.

Special acknowledgement cards are sent to those who have been honored and to the families of those being remembered. All community members and contributors are invited to the tree lighting ceremony to view a presentation of the names of those being honored or remembered.

Join us for special Christmas music performed by Dr. Joe Johnson, First Baptist Church Ladies Ensemble, Dr. Mike Lunsford and Maggie Lunsford and area choirs as they take part in the annual program.

The evening will conclude with the lighting of the Christmas tree by the family of Mike Duke. Light refreshments will be served during and after the ceremony.

The event is named in honor of the late Dr. Herman C. Ensor for his many contributions to the community and to Cullman Regional Medical Center. Dr. Ensor was a member of Cullman's medical community and is fondly remembered by those who knew him as a caring and dedicated physician.

Dr. Ensor was recruited to Cullman Hospital in 1975 and helped found the first obstetrics and gynecology practice in the area.

He helped found the CRMC Foundation in 1977 and served as president of the CRMC Medical Staff and Chairman of the Board of Directors. In 1991, Dr. Ensor created the Lights of Love Tree Lighting Ceremony in order to honor and remember those lost during the year.

Donations may be contributed throughout the entire holiday season and gifts received by Tuesday, December 1, will be included in the special ceremony. Contributions may be made in memory or in honor of someone special in your life.

Donate today online at crmchospital.com/LightsofLove or call the CRMC Foundation Office at 256-737-2565 for more information.





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Monday

Overeaters Anonymous
Overeaters Anonymous will be meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Carriage House, located behind Grace Episcopal Church. From more information contact 724-376-2124 or 256-352-1143.

Free Online Tutoring
The Cullman County Library is offering to students of all ages free one-one-one help live online from professional tutors. Sessions are offered from 3 p.m. until 10 p.m. For more information visit homeworkalabama.org.

Fleeting Pleasures: Japanese Wood Block Prints from Georgia Museum of Art
The Evelyn Burrow Museum at Wallace State Community College is pleased to present "Fleeting Pleasures: Japanese Wood Block Prints from the Georgia Museum of Art" through December 3. Drawing from the outstanding collection of works on paper at the Georgia Museum of Art, this exhibition will provide a history and overview of Japanese woodblock prints or ukiyo-e, literally, pictures of the floating or fleeting world. As their name suggests, these landscapes, cityscapes and scenes of domestic life were intended to emphasize the impermanence and fleeting beauty of the world around us. The showing is taking place now through Dec. 3, 2015, with hours from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Saturday. Admission is free. Contact Donny Wilson at 256-352-8457 for more information.

Food For Fines
The Cullman Public Library is currently conducting its annual Food For Fines drive. For each non-perishable food item, either canned or boxed, the library will deduct $1 in overdue fines. All items collected will go to the local food banks. Call Lesia, 256-734-2720 ext. 21, 22, or 23 for more information.

Tuesday

Board Games at the Library
Each Tuesday the Cullman County Public Library will host a gaming program from 9 a.m. until 8 p.m. A variety of board games, cards and dominoes are available for play at the library for teens and adults.

Worst Hard Time
A discussion about Timothy Egan's Worst Hard Time, pertaining to the Dust Bowl, will be held at the North Alabama Agriplex, located at 1714 Talley Ho St., beginning at 6 p.m. For more information please call 256-297-1044.

Cullman Senior Center
The Cullman Senior Center will have a live band or karaoke beginning at 8 a.m. until noon every Tuesday. A hot meal is served at 11:30 a.m. daily. For more information call 256-734-0145. Cullman Senior Center is located by Sportsman Lake Park.

Cantanti della donna
Cantanti della donna presents Simple Gifts beginning at 7 p.m. at 7th Street Baptist Church free of charge.

Free Online Tutoring
The Cullman County Library is offering to students of all ages free one-one-one help live online from professional tutors. Sessions are offered from 3 p.m. until 10 p.m. For more information visit homeworkalabama.org.

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Drug Awareness Class
A Drug Awareness Class will be held at the Jones Chapel Fire Station 1, located at Co. Rd. 940, in the community room beginning at 6:30 p.m. This event is sponsored by Jones Chapel Fire Department and the Cullman County Sheriff's Department.

Yoga Classes
The Cullman City Parks and Recreation Senior Spirit Program will offer free yoga classes from 9:30 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. for men and women 50 years and older. The classes will held at the Donald E. Green Senior Center. Fabian Holland will conduct the class. May use mat or chair. To register, contact Angie Jochum or Catherine Hasenbein at 256-734-4803.

Wednesday

Food For Fines
The Cullman Public Library is currently conducting its annual Food For Fines drive. For each non-perishable food item, either canned or boxed, the library will deduct $1 in overdue fines. All items collected will go to the local food banks. Call Lesia, 256-734-2720 ext. 21, 22, or 23 for more information.

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Thursday

Food For Fines
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Substitute Teacher Training
Beginning at 5 p.m. at the Cullman Board of Education Central Office Substitute Teacher and Lunchroom training will take place.

Southwest Cullman County Historical Society Meeting
The Southwest Cullman County Historical Society will be meeting at Brushy Pond Community Center, located at 2729 Co. Rd. 143 in Bremen, at 6 p.m. For more information contact Joan at 256-615-9249.

Free Online Tutoring
The Cullman County Library is offering to students of all ages free one-one-one help live online from professional tutors. Sessions are offered from 3 p.m. until 10 p.m. For more information visit homeworkalabama.org.

"Imba Means Sing"
A free screening of the documentary Imba Means Sing will be shown at the Burrow Center Recital Hall at Wallace State Community College at 9:30 a.m. The film focuses on the story of an 8-year-old boy in an African Children's Choir.

Friday

Cullman Senior Center
The Cullman Senior Center will have Gospel Singing beginning at 9:30 a.m. every Friday. Special guests bring a devotion at 10:30 a.m. A hot meal is served at 11:30 a.m. daily. For more information call 256-734-0145. Cullman Senior Center is located by Sportsman Lake Park.

Food For Fines
The Cullman Public Library is currently conducting its annual Food For Fines drive. For each non-perishable food item, either canned or boxed, the library will deduct $1 in overdue fines. All items collected will go to the local food banks. Call Lesia, 256-734-2720 ext. 21, 22, or 23 for more information.

Saturday

Food For Fines
The Cullman Public Library is currently conducting its annual Food For Fines drive. For each non-perishable food item, either canned or boxed, the library will deduct $1 in overdue fines. All items collected will go to the local food banks. Call Lesia, 256-734-2720 ext. 21, 22, or 23 for more information.

Annual Turkey Shoot
The Annual Turkey Shoot at the Cullman Moose Lodge will be held every Saturday until Dec. 19, starting at 8 a.m. Proceeds will benefit the Cullman County Child Development Center. For more information call 256-255-5266.

Sunday

Free Online Tutoring
The Cullman County Library is offering to students of all ages free one-one-one help live online from professional tutors. Sessions are offered from 3 p.m. until 10 p.m. For more information visit homeworkalabama.org.

Public Notices

Piano Player Needed
Voice of Victory Church, located at 1515 St. Joseph St, is searching for a piano player for Sunday morning and evening services. For more information please call 256-734-9861.

Living Bread Food Bank
The Living Bread Food Bank, located at Hanceville 1st United Methodist Church has changed its food bank opening to the second Saturday throughout November and December. For more information please call 256-352-5536.

WSCC Alumni Foundation 2016 Trips
The WSCC Alumni Foundation is planning a number of trips to popular tourist destinations throughout 2016. Please contact Gail at 256-352-8604 or by email at gailcrutchfield@wallacestate.edu.

Church's New Gathering Place
East Battleground Baptist Church will now be hosting services in a mobile chapel on the home site. Members and visitors will be in this location until the new church is completed.

Baby Bottle Blast
The Baby Bottle Blast is a project to benefit substance exposed newborns. It is a great program for schools, workplaces, civic groups and churches. You simply purchase baby bottles and fill them with change then donate to The King's Cradle. For more information call 1-888-722-2426.

Church's New Gathering Place
Due to a fire in the Bread of Life Church in Holly Pond, members will now attend services in the old New Life Worship Center building, located at 721 Brooklyn Rd., Holly Pond, until further notice. Please contact Brenda at 256-507-2650.

Bob's Grief Support Group
The last Thursday of each month Bob's Grief Support Group meets at the Chapel at Smith Lake Park. For more call 256-595-7331.

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

TUESDAY
- Tuesday Night Trivia at Augusta's Sports Grill beginning at 7 p.m. 1st place receives $50 gift card.
- 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
- Trivia at the Busy Bee Cafe beginning at 7 p.m. 1st place receives a $25 gift certificate.
- 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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BALANCED SCORING KEY FOR HANCEVILLE IN GETTING BY GOOD HOPE

Johnny Thornton
Sports Correspondent

HANCEVILLE — Issac Weissend avoided a scoreless fourth quarter by hitting four straight from the foul line in the final 36 seconds to preserve a 55-49 Hanceville Bulldog triumph over the Good Hope Raiders Friday night.

Weissend had been one of four Bulldogs who delivered scoring on knocking down five field goals. His free throws allowed the Bulldogs to take a 2-point lead and extend it, spoiling the debut of Chris Harris who is the new coach at Good Hope.

Things started well for Harris' team. Good Hope led 2-0 before time elapsed. A technical foul was called on Hanceville for Luke Duffie having the wrong number listed on him in the scorebook.

The Raiders led 8-0 less than 2:00 after the technical, but Hanceville showed poise and fought back to get the game tied at 16-16 at the end of the quarter.

One person who helped rescue the Bulldogs was freshman RJ Evans. He came off the bench and scored three field goals from close range. That with scoring from the perimeter by Weissend, JK Davis, and Xavier Malcom created balance for Daniel Wakefield's team.

Hanceville led 31-21 late in the second with Good Hope going on an 8-0 spurt to finish the half, trailing only 31-29.

Issac McDonald scored a three in this run with Kenneth Lyle netting three from the line and a layup by Garrett Bagwell.

A Matt Cofer field goal early in the third evened the score at 31-31. Hanceville then struck for seven consecutive points and never trailed the rest of the night. The Bulldogs were ahead 46-41 at the end of the third.

Down 51-43 with time winding down, the Raiders made their last comeback. A three by McDonald closed it to 51-49.

They had a chance to tie, but missed as Weissend got fouled with 36 seconds left. He put the Bulldogs up 53-49 with two in a row and added two more from the stripe 12 seconds later.

Good Hope didn't score the rest of the way and Hanceville ran out the clock to go home 1-0 on the season.

Weissend's four free throws pushed him on top of the leaderboard in scoring with 16, Evans wound up with 14, Davis scored 12 on four treys, and Malcom had 11.

Cofer was impressive in his first game back at Good Hope after playing last year at Cullman. Cofer scored 19, McDonald hit for 11, and Moniz tossed in eight.

Good Hope 66, Hanceville 37 (Girls):
Mixing veterans with youngsters, Good Hope controlled the second half by a 37-16 margin. The Lady Raiders were up 29-21 at the break and forced Hanceville to go into its bench with starters Taylor Hollingsworth and Karmen Johnson picking up their fourth personal foul early in the third.

That gave Good Hope what it needed to go inside with three FGs by Kate Kent to lead a 17-8 run and send the Lady Raiders to the fourth period with a 46-29 margin.

The season opener for Michael Oldacre's Lady Raiders ended with 20 points in the final 8:00 as six earned scoring honors in this segment. Senior Kaylee Maddox got 17, eighth grader Miriam Oldacre scored 14, Kent, a sophomore, chipped in with 13 to give Good Hope 44 points between a guard, forward, and center.

Eighth-grader Kelly Pickett accounted for eight in her first varsity game, driving for a couple of shots in the final stanza.

Hollingsworth was able to deliver 15 for the Lady Bulldogs, but the foul problems factored in and Hanceville had no one to pick up the slack. The rest of the team netted three field goals in the final 16:00 while Hollingsworth scored three on her own.

Good Hope goes to Vinemont for its road opener Tuesday with Hanceville having six days to prepare for a visit to Dora on the 19th and to play West Point on the 20th at Lane Horton Gymnasium.

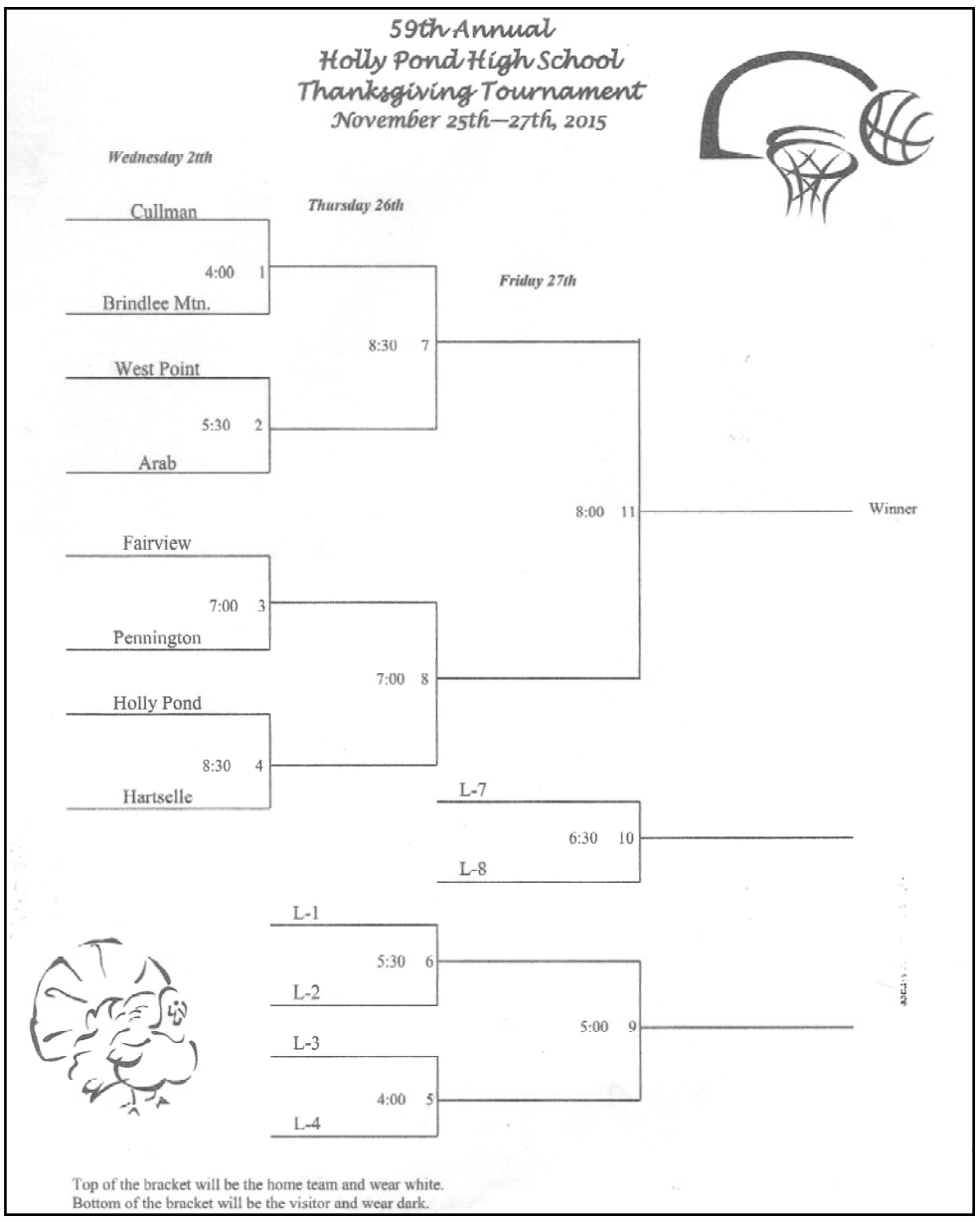
Other Scores
Cullman 57 — Athens 51 (Cullman 1-1)
Holly Pond 69 — Scottsboro 59 (HP 2-0)
Scottsboro 56 — Holly Pond 32 (G) (HP 1-1)
West Point 75 — Vinemont 44 (WP 1-1, VM 0-2)
West Point 61 — Vinemont 26 (G) (WP 1-1, VM 0-2)

PREP BASKETBALL SCHEDULE
WEEK OF NOV. 16

TUESDAY 11-17
Cullman at Brewer Girls 6 p.m. Boys 7:30 p.m.
Vinemont vs Good Hope Girls 6:30 p.m. Boys 8 p.m.
Fairview at Arab Girl 6 p.m. Boys 7:30 p.m.
Holly Pond at West Point Girls 5:30 p.m. Boys 7 p.m.
Hanceville at Mortimer Jordan Boys 1:30 p.m.

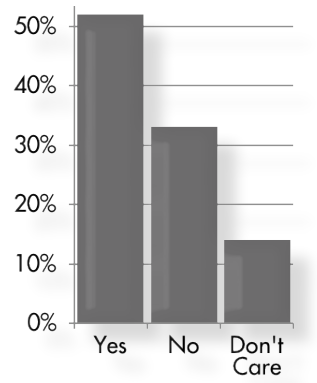
THURSDAY 11-19
Cullman vs West Point Girls 6 p.m. Boys 7:30 p.m.
St. Bernard at Meek Girls 5:30 p.m. Boys 7 p.m.
Cold Springs at Walker Girls 6 p.m. Boys 7:30 p.m.
Good Hope vs Fairview Girls 6:30 p.m. Boys 8 p.m.
Holly Pond vs Darlington Girls 6 p.m. Boys 7:30 p.m.
Hanceville at Dora Boys 4 p.m.

FRIDAY 11-20
Good Hope vs Holly Pond Girls 6 p.m. Boys 7:30 p.m.
Fairview vs Cold Springs Girls 5:30 p.m. Boys 7 p.m.
Hanceville vs West Point Boys 7:30 p.m.



Poll

Do you feel Russia will use nuclear weapons against ISIS in Syria?



This Week's Poll

Are you concerned about an attack from ISIS following Friday evenings massacre in Paris, France?

Vote Today at CullmanSense.com/Poll

WHAT'S ONLINE



JOEY CHILDRESS

WALMART HOLDS GRAND OPENING FOR NEW STORE
During the ceremony, Cullman Mayor Max A. Townson will read a Veterans Day Poem and the store's management teams will introduce themselves. "There will be a projector on a loop showing photos of veterans who... **QRNE.WS/408**



WSCC

GROUP TRIP TO AUSTRALIA PLANNED BY THE EVELYN BURROW MUSEUM
Australia is a destination that finds a spot on bucket lists, and it is one item that can be checked off with a July 2106 trip planned by The Evelyn Burrow Museum at Wallace State Community College. The 12-day "Journey Down Under" is planned for July 1-12, and includes stops in... **QRNE.WS/409**

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APPLEBEE'S HOLDS MONTHLONG DISABLED VETERANS FUNDRAISER

$2 BROWNIES AND BLONDIE BITES HELP BUY ALL-TERRAIN WHEELCHAIRS

Sharon Schuler Kreps
sharon@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN — During November, Cullman's Applebee's restaurant is holding its annual Disabled Veterans Fundraiser. All proceeds from every $2 Brownie or Blondie Bite sold will be donated to help purchase TrackChairs for disabled veterans.

"We have our Brownie or Blondie Bites desserts that we sell all month to help buy TrackChairs for the veterans," said Debbie Wilson, Applebee's General Manager. "Our restaurant's goal this year is to raise a minimum of $2,000. As a company, our goal is to raise $100,000.00," she smiled.

"Last year we were able to buy several TrackChairs. This is our 3rd or 4th year to do this particular fundraiser. We exceeded our goals and were able to buy more TrackChairs than we thought we'd be able to do."

Applebee's is located at 2106 Cherokee Ave SW, Cullman, AL 35055. For more information call 256-736-6336 or visit their website. Follow Applebee's on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Pinterest.

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OBITUARY ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOVEMBER 9 - 15

Charles Author Henderson
Jimmie Leon England
Johnny Charles Cook
Ruth Faye Freeman
Robert Eugene O'Neal
William Henry Speegle
Katie Miller Livingston
Imogene Morris Mann
Frances Marie Braden
Bobbie Buettner
William Howard Elliott, Jr.
Ouida C Wisener
Thomas "Tom" A. Wildomn
Melba Green Stewart

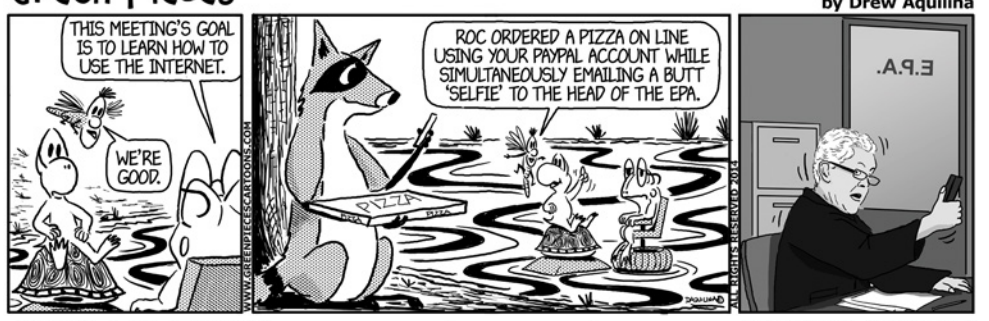
Complete obituaries may be found free of charge at CullmanSense.com/obituaries.

COMICS

WHITE & BLACK • **"Holiday Breaks are Around the Bend"** • st.edo@cullmansense.com



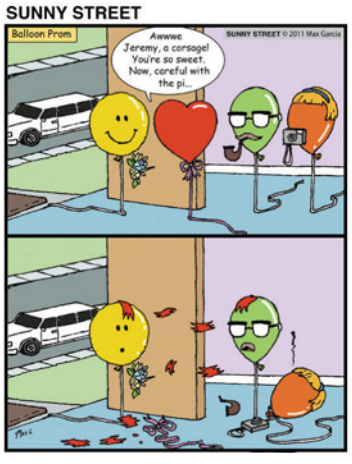
Green Pieces® by Drew Aquilina



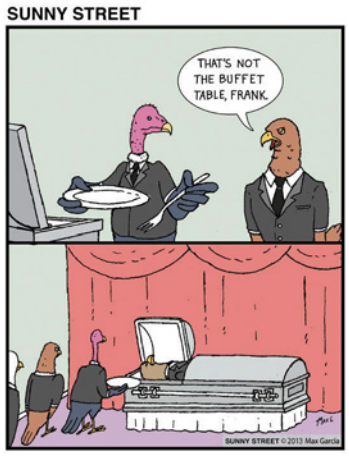
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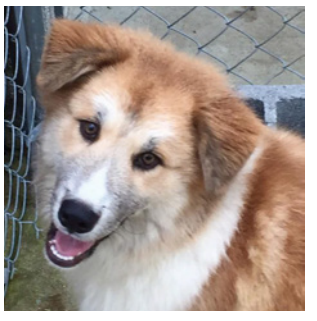
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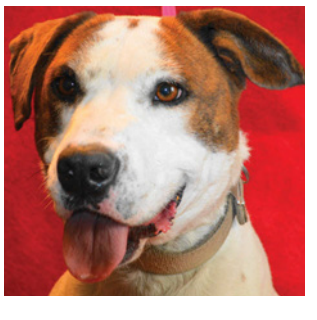
PETS OF THE WEEK

RIDDLE



Hello my name is Riddle and I am about 1 years old. I am a Collie mix and I currently weigh 42 lbs. I am a stray but if no one claims me by 11/10/15 at 9:30 a.m. I will be put 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 adopting me.

ROXIE



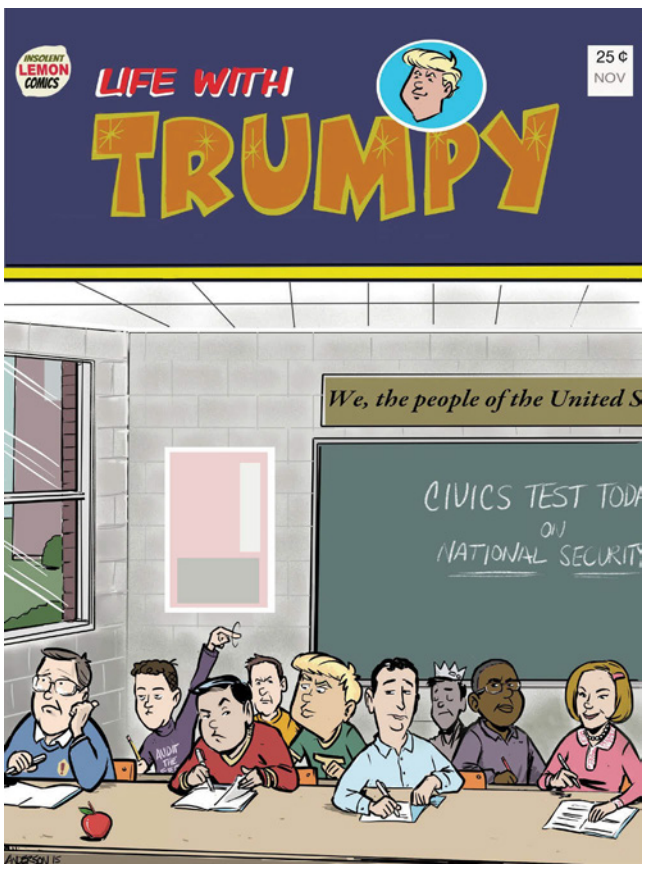
Hello my name is Roxie and I am about 5 years old. I am a Jack Russell Terrier Mix and I currently weigh 40 lbs. My adoption fee is $25 because I came to the Shelter already spayed. That also covers my microchip, free 45 day health insurance policy and our local Pet Depot will give you a free bag of food (you pay the taxes) in support of you adopting a Shelter animal. That is a great deal and I will give you a lifetime of love and loyalty.

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





theinsolentlemon.blogspot.com

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OPINION

ARMING DICTATORS: AN AMERICAN TRADITION

Mel Gurtov
PeaceVoice

Recently the Obama administration announced another military aid package for Pakistan: eight F-16 fighter jets. Once again considerations of human rights and democratic values have been sacrificed to strategic calculations. Recall, the robust figures for US military assistance to Pakistan: more than $20 billion in weapons, training, and other activities between FY2002 and FY2015, making Pakistan the 16th ranking recipient of US arms. And that amount does not include drone strikes.

The contrast between Obama the engager and Obama the warrior is striking. US arms exports to authoritarian regimes such as Pakistan's, just one element of military aid, continue to rise even as we celebrate the President's initiatives with Iran and Cuba. From 2009 to 2014, I count $12.5 billion in arms exports to eight other authoritarian regimes: Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey. That figure is nearly a quarter of all US military exports in those years, which total $50.7 billion.

There is no evidence that those weapons, or military assistance as a whole, have moved authoritarian governments toward greater respect for human rights, social justice, accountable government, or environmental protection. Even their support of US policy on terrorism has been tentative, and in Pakistan's case, two-faced, since its government accepts US drone strikes while its intelligence apparatus coddles al-Qaeda and the Taliban. On the other hand, there is plenty of evidence that military aid has abetted repression, official corruption, and strong-arm rule. Pakistan has thumbed its nose at US aid even more, expanding its nuclear-weapon arsenal to more than 100—an arsenal that heightens tension with India and, because it now consists of tactical nukes, is especially vulnerable to theft by terrorist groups. On top of that, we now have word that Pakistan has its own drones, probably built with Chinese help, adding to South Asia's instability.

Needless to say, the US is not the only democracy on the arms export list; it merely tops it. Nine of the twelve arms-exporting countries are democracies, starting with Germany and ending with Sweden.

So the next time we think about a liberal in the White House, or some other house, we might want to remember that it's always a mixed blessing, and that while a liberal administration may pursue progressive policies domestically, it may act in the opposite direction internationally.

Footnote on Syria: I have been promoting the idea that a political settlement in Syria must have at least two elements if it is to have any chance of gaining Russia's support: a place for Bashar al-Assad in a transition to a new, broad-based government, and the participation of Iran in crafting an agreement. Jimmy Carter weighed in with an excellent op-ed that says exactly the same thing I've been saying.

I have also presented the idea that positive fallout from the nuclear deal with Iran might be further US-Iran contact on Middle East issues, such as Syria. Until October 28, the Obama administration had not accepted either of these elements, but then it agreed to invite Iran to talks on Syria. And the ayatollah accepted, despite his repeated insistence that no further talks with the US would take place beyond the nuclear agreement. Iran's participation is an important endorsement of the engagement strategy.

Mel Gurtov, syndicated by PeaceVoice, is Professor Emeritus of Political Science at Portland State University.

OPINION

WASHINGTON'S LATEST DEAL: LITTLE CAUSE FOR CELEBRATION

Lee H. Hamilton
Contributor

You can understand why President Obama and congressional leaders on both sides of the aisle sought to cast their end-of-October budget deal in the best possible light. They avoided a potentially catastrophic national default. They reduced the possibility of a government shutdown. And they raised the debt ceiling until March, 2017, taking that bargaining chip off the table until the next president is in the White House.

For a last-minute, secret backroom deal, that's not too shabby. It was bipartisan and took modest steps in the direction of political stability and fiscal responsibility. And it was vastly preferable to the alternative, which would likely have produced a government shutdown, the possibility of a default on the national debt, and certain fiscal chaos.

That's the good news. The bad news is that for all their hard work, our political leaders indulged in two bad habits that they really need to kick, because they wreak havoc with effective and efficient government and cost taxpayers a pile of money.

First, while they gave themselves some breathing room before the next time the debt ceiling has to be raised, they will nonetheless have to raise the debt ceiling eventually. They should have abolished it, or at least suspended it.

The debt limit was instituted during World War I, when Congress handed over to the Treasury the ability to sell bonds to fund government needs without getting permission every time. In essence, the debt ceiling was a way to keep tabs on the Treasury, while still allowing the government to pay spending bills that had already been approved.

It has outlived that reasonable goal. These days, the debt ceiling is a political pawn, used repeatedly as leverage by opposition parties to make demands of the President. It has driven the persistent national game of "chicken" that has so tarnished Congress's image in recent decades.

Most political leaders recognize that defaulting on the national debt — which is what failing to raise the debt ceiling would cause — is an inconceivable outcome for a responsible nation. By destroying our creditworthiness, it would devastate consumers, taxpayers, businesses, retirees who invested in government bonds, the financial markets, and our ability to conduct normal relations with trading partners and foreign governments. Moreover, the legislative maneuvering surrounding each debt ceiling bill takes large amounts of legislative time that is better spent on other matters.

The need to raise the debt ceiling no longer reins in spending. Instead, it creates crises and exacerbates tensions within Congress.

The second bad habit is equally pernicious: the budget deal did little to shift Congress from its reliance on continuing resolutions. The CR, as it's known, was designed to keep government operating for a few days or weeks while congressional negotiators worked out the budget. In recent decades, though, it has become the way we fund the government. It's hard to find a member of Congress who defends this process, but most of them end up voting for it.

Continuing resolutions bypass the appropriations bills written by specialized committees and provide a favored few interests a bonanza. They also keep the federal government — and hence state and local agencies that rely on federal commitments — in "handcuffs," as a recent article in Politico put it. "Under the continuing resolution," the website noted after the most recent CR passed at the end of September, "multi-year projects...faced new delays. Hiring departments closed. Budget officials began to tally losses as their typically powerful purchasing power dwindled. For pretty much the rest of this year, and perhaps 2016, too, the U.S. government will effectively be in a state of suspended animation."

The CR puts the government on auto-pilot, avoids hundreds of difficult funding and policy decisions, and has become a substitute for working hard to pass a budget by the regular process. It lacks transparency, sidesteps good budgeting, puts all the power in the hands of a few congressional leaders, and invites Congress to act in a crisis mode.

Do you want the Congress to work better? If so, ask your favorite member to think big and not lock into a failing system. A good start would be to kick these two bad habits.

Lee Hamilton is a Distinguished Scholar, Indiana University School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice, IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs, and was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

CELEBRATING LOCAL HEROES

APPLEBEE'S TREATS VETERANS TO FREE MEAL, AMERICAN LEGION HOLDS POW/MIA CEREMONY

Sharon Schuler Kreps
sharon@cullmansense.com

CULLMAN — All day Wednesday Applebee's honored local veterans by providing them free meals. The American Legion and the ladies of the American Legion Auxiliary performed a POW / MIA Remembrance Ceremony before the restaurant opened its doors.

The symbolic Remembrance Ceremony is conducted in a place of honor. The table is set for one person as a way of remembering members of the armed forces who are missing and unable to share the meal.

Ceremony guidelines detail the symbolism of each item:

- A small table is set for one person symbolizing the frailty of one prisoner alone against his oppressors.
- The tablecloth is white symbolizing the purity of their intentions to respond to their country's call to arms.
- A single red rose is displayed in a vase to remind us of the families and loved ones of our missing comrades who keep faith while awaiting their return. The red in the rose symbolizes the blood that may have been shed in sacrifice to ensure the freedom of the United States.
- A red ribbon is tied to the vase is reminiscent of the red ribbon worn upon the lapel and breasts of thousands who bear witness to their unyielding determination to demand a proper accounting of our missing.
- A candle that when it is lit symbolizes the light of hope which lives in our hearts to illuminate their way home.
- A slice of lemon is on the bread plate to remind us of their bitter fate.
- Salt upon the bread plate is symbolic of the family's tears as they wait.
- The glass is inverted because they cannot toast with us • The chair is empty because they are not here.

"They (American Legion) do an awesome ceremony," said Debbie Wilson, Applebee's General Manager. "This is the second year that they've done it here to remember the fallen veterans and prisoners of war, it's just amazing," she smiled.

"We love it, they do a great job. Our staff is super excited to be here today. Some of them worked it last year so they are way more excited this year because they knew what it was about. They understand how touching it is — I had servers in tears this morning during the ceremony."

Veterans from all branches of service each enjoyed their lunch and were treated like the heroes they are.



American Legion Post 4's Commander Dan Raley plays "Taps" in honor of MIAs and POWs.

SHARON SCHULER KREPS/CULLMANSENSE

"It's good to see things like this," said Michael Best, U.S. Air Force Security Police Veteran. "It seems like as time progresses more companies are doing more for veterans. That's a wonderful thing to see," he grinned as he petted his service dog, Sam.

Sam, a 102-pound Husky/Golden Retriever mix, has become a vital part of Best's life.

"I was in Desert Shield and Desert Storm," Best continued.

"I take Sam with me everywhere I go. I have been diagnosed with Post-traumatic stress disorder and my doctor figured this was better than all the medications," he chuckled.

"So far it has worked out pretty good. He was 6-weeks old when I got him, and we went through all the training together. When we finally completed the last part of our training, my doctor signed off on him. He's been by my side now for 6 years," Best said. He looked down at his best friend, then added, "At one time I was taking 16 different medications a day, now I'm down to four so it's been wonderful."

As part of the celebration, American Legion Post 4's Commander, Dan Raley played Taps, a bugle call performed at U.S. military funerals, in remembrance of the many POWs and MIAs that have never returned home.

"Today's program is to honor veterans, to thank them for their service," Raley stated.

"Applebee's is giving them a free meal and we're out here supporting them and inviting them to our meal tomorrow night at the American Legion. The ceremony earlier was outstanding. Sergeant First Class James Caudle with the National Guard did a great job. We played Taps afterward. We have a great group of people," he grinned proudly.

Applebee's is located at 2106 Cherokee Ave SW, Cullman, AL 35055. For more information call 256-736-6336 or visit restaurants.applebees.com/al/cullman/2106-cherokee-ave-sw.html Follow Applebee's on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Pinterest.

LOCAL YOUTH WINS SUPREME CHAMPION BANNER



Evan Roden of Cullman won supreme champion ewe in the Alabama National Fair Youth Sheep Show Nov. 6 in Montgomery. Standing with him is George Smith of Montgomery Kiwanis. Roden also won grand champion commercial ewe in the Alabama National Fair Youth Sheep Show.

CONTRIBUTED

