Shelton State Remembers: Inside the Tornado

On Wednesday, April 25, students, faculty and staff of Shelton State Community College will gather to commemorate the events that one year ago changed their lives.

The college will pay tribute to two Shelton State students and the hundreds of others victims who were killed during the April 27, 2011, storms in a special memorial Shelton State Remembers: Inside the Tornado.

Michael Carr, Theater Program Coordinator at the college, says students will present a special production Inside the Tornado, a series of plays in May, but the theater group will preview parts of the production during the April 25 commemoration.

“The plays capture the emotions, virtues and foibles that terrible day exposed, showing us our strengths and weaknesses, our struggles and victories but ultimately this
production celebrates the resilience and character of a community that has and will continue to rebuild and reinvent itself, “ says Carr.

The theatrical preview is just one part of the two-hour remembrance. B101.7 will host a live remote radio broadcast on Shelton State’s main campus from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. There will also be an art exhibit and other activities to educate attendees on severe weather preparedness.

Kevin Burns who advises the Shelton State student chapter of the American Red Cross says last year's storm thrust his team into action. “Our small group was organized and answered the call to help so many families in the community. I am proud of the work they performed from working in distribution centers and shelters to cleaning up debris in neighborhoods. Additionally, the club created a peer support center for Shelton State students impacted by the storms. Club members have been involved in debris removal and construction support throughout the year.”

Dr. Mark Heinrich, President of Shelton State, says, “As we move forward, we stand proud of our Tuscaloosa home, its citizens, our students and their determination to make a brighter future for themselves and for us all.”

Friends and family members of Shelton State students are encouraged to attend the commemoration.

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