

## Cullman EF-4



*The old Fuller Bros. Ford building in downtown was heavily damaged and has since been replaced by the new All Steak restaurant.*

## Shoal Creek/Ohatchee EF-4



*The Webster's Chapel VFD in Wellington was completely destroyed, but today they have a beautiful, new building.*

The storms of April 27th, 2011 were historic; it was an event which affected all of Alabama, directly or indirectly. Every life lost was tragic. Even so, the fact that a greater number of lives were not lost reflects upon the awareness and preparedness of many individuals and communities across Alabama. This event also highlighted the importance of an effective relationship between the National Weather Service, Media, and Emergency Management. Then as now, these partners are committed to working together to ensure you are prepared and can make informed decisions when it is time to act.

Although overshadowed by April 27th, there were five other severe weather episodes in April 2011. Even if you were not hit directly by any one of these series of events, the need for awareness and preparedness for all Alabamians was certainly made clear in this month of weather disasters.

As Alabamians continue to heal and rebuild from these storms, the lessons learned will be carried forward. The need to be prepared for disasters, of any type, has never been clearer. Use the information on the following pages to learn how to prepare for disasters and how to remain safe both during and after the storm. It could make the difference the next time disaster strikes!

The photos to the left are only a few examples of the destruction which occurred on April 27th and the rebuilding that has occurred over the last 2 years.

The damage photos were taken as part of National Weather Service Storm Assessment Surveys. Other photos courtesy of Eric Jones, Elmore County EMA; Tammy Bain, Calhoun County EMA; Billy Green, Tuscaloosa County EMA; and Tara Goggins, NWS Birmingham.