

Herbs, Etc., Santa Fe, New Mexico

On April 27, 2011 we saw on TV and read about the devastation that the South hasn't seen in over 35 years. On that day, 173 separate tornadoes touched down in five separate states killing 292 people.

Alabama was the worst hit. One hundred and ninety five people perished. The hardest hit city was Tuscaloosa where the tornado stayed on the ground for over 176 miles carrying winds between 167 and 200 mph. With a population of 77,906, this rural town lost 39 people. The tornado cut a swath of devastation one-third mile wide by 6 miles long. Everything that was in its path is gone. The trees that once graced this community are gone. Not one tree stands.



(photo courtesy of Birmingham News)

1,096 miles away in Santa Fe, New Mexico, the employees of Herbs, Etc. wanted to do something to help the people of this ravaged town. “With everything that is going on around the world, it would be great to help people who have lost everything”, voiced several employees. So they contacted Earle Drennen, owner of Manna Grocery in Tuscaloosa and asked how they could help. “We have people who can't sleep, whose nerves are on edge”, replied Mr. Drennen. “Everyone here in this town knows someone who has died from this F-4 (category) tornado. Our hearts are broken. It's going to be a slow recovery. We lost power for 5 days. 500 businesses that were operating in April are no longer in existence. It will never look like normal again in my lifetime.”

Herbs, Etc. donated a care package that arrived at Manna Grocery in Tuscaloosa on May 5th. Inside the boxes were herbal supplements with a retail value of over \$2,400. Deep Sleep®, Nervine Tonic™, Respiratonic® and Kava Cool Complex™ were being handed out to residents eager for a

restful night's sleep, something to help with their respiratory challenges or a day of calm nerves.

Daniel Gagnon, Owner and Medical Herbalist of Herbs, Etc. said "it was a proud moment here in Santa Fe when the packages were picked up by UPS. To be able to positively impact the lives of people who are living through this tremendous tragedy is what Herbs, Etc is all about." "I have spent considerable time in Tuscaloosa. I've done a number of in-store presentations to the public, as well as a number of radio shows at the local station. I consider the people of this town my friends".

Francis Drennen said their customers greatly appreciated the products coming from a business over one thousand miles away. "It's great to know people care and are willing to reach out to their far away neighbors."

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