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Thursday, October 24, 2013

Your weekly news source for Trussville, Clay and Pinson

www.trussvilletribune.com

Landfill could be open 30 more years near Trussville school site

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

The Birmingham City Council last Tuesday passed a resolution approving a plan to modify the existing Eastern Area Landfill by removing the disposal acreage restriction, allowing the city to potentially use the entire acreage for disposal.

The landfill backs up to the Magnolia Place subdivision in Trussville, and is visible from Mary Taylor Road. The landfill is near the location of the future of a new Trussville City Schools elementary school.

Birmingham City Councilwoman Kim Rafferty said "there was no discussion concerning what was near the modifications" being made.

"It has nothing to do with acquiring property



photo courtesy of Dan Bayse

A view of the Magnolia Place subdivision and its proximity to the Eastern Area Landfill (top).

or expanding," Rafferty said. "It has to do with the development of some of the land that we already held. It wasn't anything where we're going to get bigger."

According to a city of Birmingham public notice, the Eastern Area Landfill is an existing

municipal solid waste landfill located on 370 acres off Alton Road in eastern Jefferson County. The city of Birmingham has previously received host government approval to dispose waste within 48 acres at the Eastern Area Landfill.

"The City proposes see LANDFILL page A-3

that the host government remove the disposal acreage restriction, allowing the City to potentially use the entire acreage for disposal, subject to regulatory limitations and approval by the Alabama Department of Environ-

Business files suit against Trussville over Food World building

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

RRP, LLC and Trussville resident George Glenn have filed a lawsuit in Jefferson County Circuit Court over the process of filling the former Food World on Main Street.

In a lawsuit filed Oct. 9, the Trussville City Council and Downtown Redevelopment Authority members are named as defendants. The lawsuit states that those bodies "acted in violation of applicable law in regards to the subject property." The lawsuit states the individuals or administrative bodies may have acted "arbitrarily, capriciously, negligently or carelessly in the development of or approval for the subject property."

City Clerk Lynn Porter said papers were served shortly before 1 p.m. last Thursday.



file photo by Gary Lloyd

The former Food World building on Main Street is at the center of a lawsuit.

Trussville Mayor Gene Melton said last Thursday morning the city council and redevelopment authority did all it was supposed to do and nothing was done illegally.

Scott Barnett, the Downtown Redevelopment Authority's attorney, said last Thursday morning that he hadn't yet met with the authority about the lawsuit. He did guess that the authority would "likely defend itself vigorously."

The court filing lists RRP, LLC as owning a business at 322 Main St. in Trussville. That is the address for Anytime Fitness.

Anytime Fitness owner Rick Plourde, Glenn and the lawyer listed on the court filing, Donald Brockway, did not respond to messages seeking comment before press time.

Glenn said at an August city council meeting that there was "so much illegal in this." Councilman Brian Plant responded to Glenn at the meeting, say-

see LAWSUIT page A-4

Hewitt-Trussville High School freshman publishes book

by Gary Lloyd

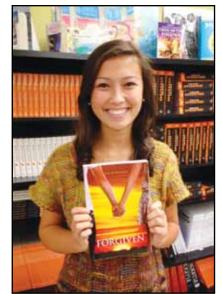
Editor

Hewitt-Trussville High School freshman Lacey Beasley is a published author.

Though Beasley's book, "The Forgiven," doesn't officially publish until Nov. 19, Beasley will have a book signing Oct. 31 at 11 a.m. in the high school's library. The book is being published through Tate Publishing.

Beasley said the book is a realistic fiction book and somewhat along the lines of a love story.

"I would say the main theme of my book would have to be about relationships -- friendships, family relationships or love relationships," Beasley said. "There is some adventure in my book, and some laughs and giggles, depend-



submitted photo

Lacey Beasley with her book

ing on your sense of humor."

"The Forgiven" will be sold through all major chain bookstores and through Beasley, who can be contacted via Twitter @ laceybeas7.

Beasley began writing the book in December 2011 and finished it in August 2012. She was signed by Tate Publishing in December 2012.

"I've always loved reading and writing since I was young, and I've been told since a young age that I am an advanced writer," Beasley said. "Romance novels are my favorite genre of books, so I knew I wanted to write a book with some love, but not an overwhelming amount. I also love adventure novels, so I added adventure elements to my book as well. My book is totally fiction, so there wasn't one event in my life that made me want to sit down and write a 300-page novel. God just gave me a great idea and I started

see BEASLEY page A-4

Pinson closes on Old Rock School, plans to purchase another historic property

by Lee Weyhrich

Staff Writer

The Pinson City Council on Tuesday closed on the Old Rock School property, previously owned by Solid Rock Church. The council will discuss upgrades and repairs that need to be made to the property at a future date.

The city council will also likely purchase another histori-

cal property. The Home Town Bank of Alabama, owners of the old railroad hotel on Spring Street, have offered the property to the city for \$10,000. Through the years, the building has been a hotel, quadruplex and most recently a law office, Mayor Hoyt Sanders said.

The land is adjacent to the city's proposed "pocket park" in downtown Pinson.

No plans for the property have been made yet, but Coun-



file photo

The Old Rock School in Pinson

cilman Robbie Roberts hopes a good idea will "come along" from the community. Expect this item to be on the Nov. 7 agenda.

Pinson also annexed five new properties. These include two homes on Willow Ridge, two on Osage Lane and 15 acres of land on Innsbrooke Parkway belonging to Carl Callahan, president of CALCO Builders and Callahan Construction.

see PINSON page A-2



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PINSON continued from page A-1

Pinson Valley softball is still seeking help with a construction project of its own. The softball team is in need of new dugouts. Dugouts were begun earlier this year, but Jefferson County forced construction to stop and imposed stricter codes on the dugouts' construction. The new dugouts will cost an estimated \$15,000, Councilman Joe Cochran said.

The council voted to donate \$5,000 from the discretionary fund to help pay a share of the construction cost. It is

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are now seeing patients in Trussville.

hoped that other money will be provided by the Jefferson County Board of Education, as well as other fundraising.

The city council will entertain bids Nov. 7 for trash pickup. According to Cochran, the new service will be a onceweekly pickup that will

include curbside pickup and recycling. Councilwoman Joy McCain requested limb and debris pickup be added to the

"(The new service) will be the same, or less money than we are paying today and we will receive more services," Cochran said.

He said it's time for the

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council to step in to ensure everyone in Pinson is getting the best service possible. The city would also be able to work as an advocate on residents' behalf in case of disputes.

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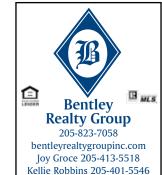
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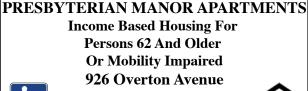
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Local

City of Clay hires youth sports director

by Lee Weyhrich

Staff Writer

The city of Clay has hired its new sports director, City Manager Ronnie Dixon announced at Monday's Clay City Council meeting.

Bill McLeod will fill the new position in the Park and Recreation Department. He starts today.

"He's responsible for everything that takes place within the fences," Dixon said.

This means that McLeod is in charge of all city league sports signup, scheduling and preparation duties. He will also be responsible for locking and unlocking the various venues.

Football is still ongo-



photo courtesy of www.clayalabama.org

The Clay City Park

ing, but Dixon said the next item on the team sports agenda is preparation for spring sports.

"We will start immediately on spring sports preparing the fields just as we did for football," Dixon said.

Clay will also be offering youth basketball this year. Games will take place at Clay-Chalkville Middle School. You can register Sunday from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the

room above the concession stand at Clay City Park, in person at Clay City Hall from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. through Nov. 15 or at www.clayalabama.

Clay City Park on

Old Springville Road includes four baseball fields, a soccer field and football field. There is also a new playground and frisbee disc golf course. The plan for the park includes a walking

path beside the creek in the center of the park, along with more fields and a BMX track. A splash pad is also planned to be close to the new playground.

LANDFILL continued from page A-1

mental Management for development of disposal units within the acreage in accordance with the requirements of 40 CFR Parts 257and 258 ("Subtitle D"); Ala. Admin. Code r. 335-13; and, the City of Birmingham Solid Waste Management Plan," according to the approved resolution.

The Birmingham City Clerk's Office provided this statement to The Trussville Tribune: "The City provided the notice of the public hearing as

required by Alabama Code Section 22-27-48. Any person concerned or affected was invited by the notice to express their views before the City Council. The area in question has been set aside for use as a landfill for years. We are not expanding the area set aside for landfill purposes. The clarification will allow the development of additional cells within the area set aside years ago for that purpose."

The landfill is cur-

rently permitted by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. The proposed modification is relevant to and consistent with the city of Birmingham Solid Waste Management Plan.

Trussville City Schools Superintendent Pattie Neill said over the summer that the landfill near the Magnolia Place site is about 41 years old and is expected to be full and covered in 10 years. The landfill has had some noise and odor complaints, Neill said, all of which were taken care of. Neill said air quality monitors will be located around the school and checked daily.

Rafferty, however, said a report on the modification plan showed the landfill could be open for the next 30 years. Birmingham Solid Waste Administrator Paul Ward referred all questions to the city of Birmingham's public information office.

Trussville City
Schools officials on Friday were working to
gather information about
the approval. Eastern
Area Landfill Manager
Dan Johnson did not return a message seeking
comment before press
time.

Magnolia Place Homeowners Association President Dan Bayse said the association would "vigorously oppose" any expansion of the landfill.

A complaint received by ADEM in April states that "the facility has failed to cover, resulting in odors and vectors. Also, the complainant states that slopes are greater than 4:1, that groundwater



photo by Gary Lloyd

The entrance to the Eastern Area Landfill on Alton Drive

is not inspected, and that the sediment basin is inadequate." A May 29 inspection resulted in a warning letter being issued to the city of Birmingham. Additional inspections were performed June 28, July 17 and Aug. 12. A notice of violation was issued Aug. 30 as a result of the inspection conducted Aug. 12.

A complaint received by ADEM on Sept. 1 states that the landfill "continues to grow higher and higher. At times a very noxious smell permeates through the neighborhood in which I live. It is my understanding from newspaper articles that the landfill is to be closed in the near future." No actions have been recorded in that

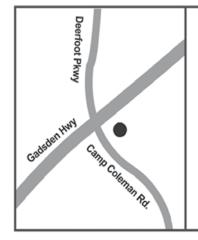
Citizens of Birmingham can dispose of waste at the landfill free of charge. Acceptable materials are household plastic containers, aluminum cans, steel cans (canned food), newspaper, flattened cardboard, junk mail, telephone directories, catalogs, magazines, office paper (shredded, too) and textbooks.

Contact Gary Lloyd at news@trussvilletribune. com and follow him on Twitter @GaryALloyd.

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Last chance at Pinson Insanitarium this weekend, next

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

Last chances to get your adrenaline rushing at the Insanitarium Haunted Attraction at the Palmerdale Homesteads Community Center are this weekend and next weekend.

The attraction will be open Friday and Saturday from 7 p.m. to midnight. The insanitarium's final days of operation for the

fall season will be Oct. 31 and Nov. 1 from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Admission is \$10 for all ages. Photography and video recording are not permitted inside the attraction. The attraction is

handicap accessible, with a wheelchair bypass for the outdoor scene.

For more information, visit www.catacomb-productions.com or find "Insanitarium Haunted Attraction" on Facebook.

You can also contact Justin McElroy at justin@ catacombproductions. com or Chris Screws at chris@catacombproductions.com.

The Palmerdale Homesteads Community Cen-

ter is located at 5320 Miles Spring Road in Pinson.

Contact Gary Lloyd at news@trussvilletribune. com and follow him on Twitter @GaryALloyd.

Hewitt-Trussville Stadium expected to be complete late September 2014



photo courtesy of Trussville City Schools

A rendering of Hewitt-Trussville Stadium

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

The new Hewitt-Trussville Stadium is expected to be complete -- weather permitting -- by late September 2014, according to Trussville City Schools Facilities Coordinator Barry Davis

Hewitt-Trussville home football games would be played at Jack Wood Stadium until the new stadium is complete, Davis said.

Davis told the Trussville City Board of Education on Monday that a soccer concessions/ restroom building being constructed by the soccer field near the Trussville Civic Center should be ready in time for the high school soccer season that begins in late January.

"We're moving some dirt," Davis told the board.

Contact Gary Lloyd at news@trussvilletribune. com and follow him on Twitter @GaryALloyd.

Clay still working on breast cancer fundraising

by Lee Weyhrich

Staff Writer

The city of Clay is still working on fundraising for Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

The Clay City Council has been selling pink hammers for \$15 and has also been promoting its

As part of the council's new garbage contract, pink trash cans have been available to any-

one who can prove they

made a donation to the

Susan G. Komen charity.

pink trash can campaign.

"If you make a donation, (City Manager) Ronnie (Dixon) will personally deliver one to your home," Councilwoman Becky Johnson said. "I'd like to see a lot more pink trash cans in Clay."

Donations may be made at Clay City Hall on Old Springville Road.

For more information, visit www.clayalabama. org.



file photo by Gary Lloyd

Clay City Hall

BEASLEY continued from page A-1

writing from there."

Beasley sees a possible writing career in her future.

"I absolutely love that fact that at 14 years old, I will have a published novel on the shelves of bookstores," she said. "I'm so happy and thrilled that I'm achieving my goals at such a young age because I can only go up from here. I hope that I become a motivation to other young teens for them to start following their dreams now and not wait until they are 'old enough.'

Don't let anyone tell you that you are too young to do something. They are wrong."

Contact Gary Lloyd at news@trussvilletribune. com and follow him on Twitter @GaryALloyd.

HTHS Scholars Bowl wins Hoover Invitational

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

The Hewitt-Trussville High School Scholars Bowl team last weekend won the Hoover Invitational Tournament.

Hewitt-Trussville finished the tournament with an undefeated record and took first place in the novice division.

The group of 11 stu-

dents demonstrated their knowledge of art, literature, music, religion, math, history, science and

Hewitt-Trussville won 540-70 over Loveless Academic Magnet Program High School, which ranked as the top school in Alabama earlier this year by U.S. News and World Report. Hewitt-Trussville ranked as No. 14 in that report.



submitted photo

The Hewitt-Trussville High School Scholars Bowl team after the win

Hewitt-Trussville beat Itawamba High School 520-65, Pell City High School 615-30, Liberty Middle School 270-105 and Enterprise High School 405-170. Hewitt-Trussville beat Vestavia Hills High School 400-70. Vestavia Hills ranked No. 10 in Alabama in the U.S. News and World Report released earlier this

year. Hewitt-Trussville also beat Evangel Christian 335-165 and Hume-Fogg Academic High School 380-130.

Josh Haynes is the Hewitt-Trussville High School Scholars Bowl sponsor.

Contact Gary Lloyd at news@trussvilletribune. com and follow him on Twitter @GaryALloyd.

LAWSUIT continued from page A-1

ing he had "every confidence in the world" in the city's and authority's attorneys.

At that meeting, the city council approved incentives and leases for Fresh Value Market-place and 24e Fitness to occupy the former Food

World.

As part of the approval, the city will spend \$912,000 to divide the former Food World into two spaces. The city council also approved abating a portion of the sales tax as an incentive for the grocery

store, which amounts to \$800,000 over a fouryear period. The rent for 24e Fitness will not begin until Aug. 1, 2014, but the business will receive no tax abatement. Fresh Value Marketplace plans to open Dec. 1.

The move was met

with criticism from some Trussville residents, notably other fitness center owners. Plourde said at that meeting that he had a letter from his attorney, saying he reviewed the legality of the leases.

According to the lawsuit, the plaintiff de-

e mands a trial by a struck jury.

The city of Trussville had spent about \$22,000 per month for rent on the building since leasing it in October 2011. The city spent \$250,000 to end a 15-year lease with

America's Thrift Store,

which had planned to open a store there. The building has been vacant since Food World closed in 2010.

Contact Gary Lloyd at news@trussvilletribune. com and follow him on Twitter @GaryALloyd.



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Maple Leaf Run set for Saturday

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

Trussville's Maple Leaf Run will be Saturday at The Mall in downtown Trussville.

Registration is \$25 in advance and \$30 the day of the race for the 5K. Registration for the kids' run will be \$10. The 5K will begin at 8 a.m., and the kids' run will begin at

about 9 a.m.

The first 350 runners who register will get a free T-shirt. Participants can register online at www.active.com. Race packets can be picked up at the Trussville Area Chamber of Commerce office at 225 Parkway Drive on Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m., or beginning at 6:30 a.m. the day of the race at The Mall pavilion.



submitted photo

Runners get set to participate in last year's Maple Leaf Run in Trussville. Prizes will be awarded in each age group as well as overall in the 5K. The top three boys and girls will receive prizes in each of two age groups -- 9 and under, and 10-14 -- in the kids' run.

A portion of the proceeds from the race will go toward the chamber's scholarship fund and also "Turn Trussville Pink," a community project to fund breast

cancer awareness. Turn Trussville Pink representatives are creating ribbons for runners to wear during the race.

For more information on the Maple Leaf Run visit www.trussvillechamber.com or call 205-655-7535.

Contact Gary Lloyd at news@trussvilletribune. com and follow him on Twitter @GaryALloyd.

\$22,200 in gift cards given to HTHS AP Scholars

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

Trussville City Schools Student Support Coordinator Mandi Logan on Monday told the Trussville City Board of Education that 222 gift cards totaling \$100 each were distributed last week to Hewitt-Trussville High School students who earned qualifying scores this year on AP exams.

The cards were distributed to the students at the Hewitt-Trussville vs. Gardendale football game Friday.

It was announced in August that 58 Hewitt-Trussville High School students earned the College Board's Advanced Placement Program Scholar awards in recognition of their achievement on AP exams.

Eight students qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award by earning an average of at least 3.5 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more AP exams. Those students were Grace Bruton, Costa Christopoulos, Jerry Fields, Celia Rudd, Brian Russell, Jessica Vaughn, Robert Waldrep and Ginger Woods.

Nine students qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor Award by earning an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more AP exams. Those students were Hannah Allen, William Brown, Madelaine Julbert, Sagar Modi, Luther Owens, Sarah Pate, Syed Raza, Daniel Stubbs and William Waldrep.

There were 41 students that qualified for the AP Scholar Award by completing three or more AP exams with scores of 3 or higher. They were Taylor Allen, Kirk Bednar, Marlie

Brasseur, Claire Brien, Scott Buksa, Brittany Collins, Payton Davis, Devante Dawson, Danny Do, Carson Foster, Darby Franklin, Rachel Fuller, Nicole Gallups, Amber Gibson, Connor Grove, Brian Heinzman, Autumn Helton, Eric Hollingsworth, Sallie Latta, Shelby Lucas, Tyler Martin, Carly Mashburn, Jordan Metheny, Ciara Morgan, Charles Musulman, Nicole Newman, Jacob Permar, Paresa Rahimi, Emilee Richards, Austin Seeley, Lauren Silverwood, Gavin Slay, Haley Smith, Connor Staggs, Micah Starnes, William Sugden, Justin Tully, Rachel Vise, Kelley Ward, Sean Williamson and Matt Wood.

Of the award recipients, 22 were sophomores or juniors. AP exams are scored on a 1 through 5 scale, with 5 being the highest score. Research shows that students who

score a 3 or higher typically experience greater academic success in college and have higher college graduation rates than students who do not participate in AP.

Before A+ College Ready was available to Trussville City Schools in 2011, enrollment in AP courses totaled 187. In 2013, that number was 471. There were 74 qualifying scores in 2011 and 223 in 2013. Trussville City Board of Education member Sid McNeal said opportunities for not just AP enrollment, but success in AP courses, were missed in the past.

"We're capturing it now," he said. "That's a powerful message."

Logan said her next endeavor is pursuing an AP computer science course that would count as a math credit. She should know something about that possibility soon, she said. In 2008, A+ College Ready received a \$13.2 million grant from the initiative to establish the Advanced Placement Training and Incentive Program, which provides extensive teacher training and student support so that students may learn and perform at significantly higher levels in AP math, science and English courses.

Trussville City Schools is nearing the end of the grant it received in 2011 as part of the initiative. Logan said Superintendent Pattie Neill will speak about the end of the grant and future funding sources for AP Scholars at the January Trussville Area Chamber of Commerce luncheon.

Contact Gary Lloyd at news@trussvilletribune.com and follow him on Twitter @GaryALloyd.

CALENDAR

CrossPoint Fall Festival Sunday

CrossPoint Fall Festival will be Sunday from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. at CrossPoint Church in Trussville. The church is located at 8000 Liles Lane in Trussville.

Candy Drop is Oct. 26

The Trussville Parks and Recreation Department's Candy Drop is set for Oct. 26 from 6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Trussville Youth Baseball fields. The event is for ages 4 to 12. For more information, call 205-661-3777.

Wrestling at Palmerdale Homesteads Community Center

GCW Wrestling is the first Saturday each month at 7 p.m. at the Palmerdale Homesteads Community Center. The Mark Taylor Band performs the fourth Saturday each month, clogging and line dancing, 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Zumba on Mondays, Wednesdays in Trussville

Zumba with Karla is at the Trussville Civic Center Mondays and Wednesdays at 9 a.m. The \$7 classes are for members and non-members. For more information, email kgeopet@yahoo.com or call the civic center at 205-655-9486.

Pinson Insanitarium October hours

The last weekend for The Insanitarium Haunted Attraction at the Palmerdale Homesteads Community Center is this Friday and Saturday from 7 p.m. to midnight. The insanitarium will be also open from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Oct. 27. On this date, all attraction lights are turned off and each group is given a single glow stick so that visitors can't see the monsters but they can see the visitors. The insanitarium's final days of operation for the fall season will be Oct. 31 and Nov. 1 from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. For more information, visit www.catacombproductions.com.

Maple Leaf Run Oct. 26

The Trussville Area Chamber of Commerce Maple Leaf Run will be Oct. 26. The 5K begins at 8 a.m., and the kids' run will follow at around 9 a.m. Preregistration for the 5K is \$25; day of race registration is \$30. The kids' run is \$10. Race packets can be picked up at the chamber office (225 Parkway Drive in Trussville) on Oct. 25 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. or beginning at 6:30 a.m. the day of the race at The Mall Pavilion. Participants can register online at www.active.com or visit www.trussvillechamber. com for forms and more information.

Clay Historical Society meeting Nov. 7

The Clay Historical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Nov. 7 at the Clay United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. Sam Harris will deliver a talk titled "Alabama and the Civil War." The society is compiling a list of Civil War soldiers from the Clay/Chalkville area. The public is invited to this meeting and the society would like to have any descendants of Civil War soldiers attend. Light refreshments will be served at the meeting.

Carrington fall festival Nov. 10

Carrington Lakes Community Association will be holding its annual Fall Festival on Sunday, Nov. 10 from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. This year's theme will be The Wizard of Oz. The event will be kicked off at noon with a Brayden Turner Memorial Sports Walk.



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Trimm Landscapes is located at 20 Cedar Street, Trussville, AL 35173 205.655.5942

Argo police warn of car break-ins

by Scott Buttram

Publisher

Argo Police Chief James Downing sent out an alert Friday morning warning residents to be vigilant in locking their vehicles after several break-ins in the area.

"It is that time of year again where crooks are looking for free things at your expense," Downing's alert said. "We have already had a

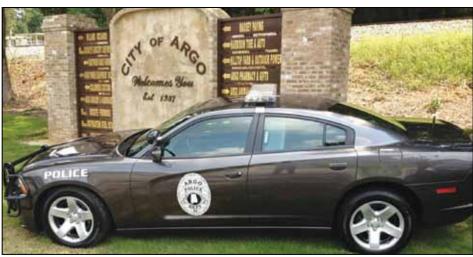


photo courtesy of www.cityofargo.org

few cars gone through. Please lock your vehicles at night when parked in your driveway. They are looking for unlocked vehicles to get into to see what they can find."

Downing asked residents to keep an eye out for suspicious activity and notify law enforcement if they see anything unusual.

"If you see someone walking your neighborhood at night that you do not know, or a strange

car riding through slowly please call 205-467-3333 and have an officer come check them out," Downing said. "Usually they will let someone out to walk through yards checking car doors until they find one unlocked, so please be aware of everything in neighborhood and your surroundings wherever you are. Make sure all of your alarms are turned on."

Trussville City Schools wants to be proactive regarding Common Core Standards

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

Trussville City Schools Superintendent Pattie Neill said Monday the system is trying to be proactive relative to Common Core Standards.

Neill said no one has "pulled the wool" over her eyes.

Neill said she hasn't found anything "harmabout Common Core Standards.

The school system has heard concerns from parents about Common Core and that those need
Core have mostly been to be addressed, Neill said.

An Argo Police Department car

Neill said at the Trussville City Board of Education workshop Monday that someone suggested she and Alabama State Department of Education Superintendent Tommy Bice had the wool pulled over their eyes. Neill said that wasn't true.

Parent Advisory Council and Trussville City Schools Foundation member Patrick Campbell was at Monday's meeting and said discussions about Common about its "myths."

Board members mentioned that former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee, who ran for the Republican presidential nomination in 2008, recently urged states to embrace Common Core.

Parents with concerns about textbooks or books on reading lists are encouraged to email the principal of their child's school.

Alabama adopted Common Core Standards in 2010. The standards are a set of internationally benchmarked



file photo

Trussville City Schools Superintendent Pattie Neill

standards established to help states better align their various individual standards. The Common Core's mission statement

states that they "provide a consistent, clear understanding of what students are expected to learn, so teachers and parents

standards are designed to be robust and relevant to the real world, reflecting the knowledge and skills that our young people need for success in college and careers. With American students fully prepared for the future, our communities will be best positioned to compete successfully in the global economy."

know what they need

to do to help them. The

Contact Gary Lloyd at news@trussvilletribune. com and follow him on Twitter @GaryALloyd.

Trussville OKs refunding of 2003 warrants

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

The Trussville City Council on Tuesday unanimously approved an ordinance refunding general obligation warrants from 2003.

The city council earlier this month had authorized Mayor Gene Melton to take out a loan with Compass Bank to pay off a bond issue of \$4.975 million with 10 years remaining on the debt obligation.

The current interest rate on the bond issue is 4.1 percent, escalating to 4.875 percent over the next 10 years. The interest rate on the loan from Compass will be 2.43 percent.

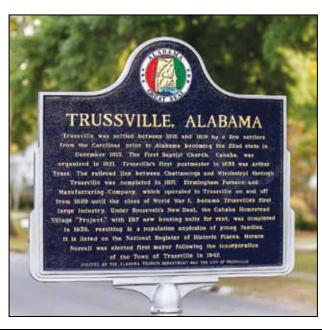
"Banks have cash to loan," Councilman Alan Taylor said earlier this month. "This brings the bank a better return than they can get elsewhere nancing will save the and it lowers the city's city of Trussville about interest rate substantial-

According to the ordinance, the principal of and interest on the warrant shall be payable in monthly installments on the 10th day of each month beginning Dec.

Melton said the refi-\$700,000.

The bonds were issued in 2003 to pay off 1996 warrants for parks, fire trucks and drainage.

Contact Gary Lloyd at news@trussvilletribune. com and follow him on Twitter @GaryALloyd.



Green Drive reopening expected late November

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

The repairs to Green Drive in Trussville are expected to be completed by late November, according to city officials.

Trussville City Councilman Perry Cook said old culvert pipes have been removed.

The city council in September voted award the bid for repairs to Trussville-based Bob Smith Construction for \$379,000. Seven companies had bid for the project.

Trussville Streets and Sanitation Superintendent Wayne Sullivan said earlier this year that replacing and repairing culverts on Green Drive will take about two months.

One of the culverts collapsed in May.



file photo by Ron Burkett

Green Drive remains closed.

The Trussville City Council approved Schoel Engineering doing the engineering for the Green Drive repair at a cost of \$30,600 earlier this year.

Green Drive remains closed from Norrell Drive to Trussville-Clay Road. The closed road is a popular link from

Chalkville Mountain Road to Trussville-Clay Road, on which Hewitt-Trussville Middle School and the Trussville Civic Center are located.

Contact Gary Lloyd at news@trussvilletribune. com and follow him on Twitter @GaryALloyd.

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OPINION

Winning AU season means more exciting in-state rivalry

he 2012 football season was a crushing one for us Auburn football fans. It started out badly and spiraled downward into total disaster.

Just a few weeks in, the Auburn faithful were walking around shell-shocked, wondering how a national championship less than two years before could turn into a humiliating 3-9 season, the worst in 60 years for the Tigers. For those of us who weren't around in 1952, things had never seemed so awful.

Showing up at church to face our Alabama fan friends each Sunday following a Saturday loss was a humbling experience at the first of the season for us Auburn fans, but we eventually became numb to the horror of it all. Even our

most obnoxious Bama buddies stopped ribbing us about the losses and started feeling sorry for us. We were feeling pretty sorry for us, too.

By all indications, the whole debacle apparently wasn't much fun for Alabama fans, either. To be a worthy opponent requires a worthy opponent, and as much as I hate to say it out loud, last year's Auburn team would have had a tough time giving a high school team, much less the powerful Saban machine, a run for its money.

Let's face it: The Iron Bowl is what counts around here. And whether a team has won or lost during the season isn't necessarily a predictor of who's going to win or lose the Alabama-Auburn game. It's a game



June Mathews Somewhere in the Middle...

unto itself, a mini-season of sorts, that can make or break a season and give the winner statewide bragging rights for the coming year.

But it was perfectly obvious Auburn had a snowball's chance in Hell of winning last year. We Tiger fans simply gritted our teeth and prayed for the day to pass. Something had gone terribly awry within our program, and we

knew it. And it was horribly, horribly sad, not just for the Auburn family but for the entire state as well. Our nationwide reputation as a double football powerhouse was suffering.

But oh, what a difference a year has made.

As I write this, we Auburn fans are basking in the afterglow of a spectacular win over Texas A&M, and we finally dare think our winning record so far this season isn't a fluke. The Gus Bus is rolling, and we have reason to cheer again, not to mention show up at church on a Sunday morning with heads held high and wide grins on our faces.

What's even more gratifying is to watch the Facebook reaction of fans on both sides of the fence. Many an Alabama

fan was cheering for Auburn to win Saturday, and not only for the sake of once again showing Johnny Manziel that maybe he's not all he's cracked up to be. We were united in our desire to see our state chalk up two wins against the Aggies in one season.

Don't mess with Texas? Don't mess with Alabama is more like it.

I also enjoyed seeing the congratulatory notes from Alabama fans. Our own publisher, Scott Buttram, native Tuscaloosan and a University of Alabama man to the core, posted: "Fun to see my Auburn friends excited again. Congrats!"

Thanks, Scott. We appreciate it.

So for now at least, the rivalry is rather cordial, even though I don't expect it to last. With Au-

burn getting back up to speed again, we'll soon be back to our rabid old ways. That old orangeand-blue vs. crimsonand-white competitiveness is rooted deep in our souls.

But we should all be happy at the prospect of watching a real game again come Thanksgiving weekend. I don't think any of us care to revisit that horridly lopsided 2012 Iron Bowl. I know my Alabama friends were glad for the win, but the excitement factor in a game like that is mighty low.

And maybe, just maybe, Auburn can beat Alabama this year. I'm keeping my fingers crossed, anyway.

So War Eagle, folks! And until Nov. 30, Roll Tide, too!

The sources of the United States' laws

n your high school civics courses, you learned that the source of our system of laws came from England. In general, this is true throughout the United States (An exception is Louisiana, which obtained its original system of laws from France). However, in our present system, we have two general bodies of law that guide our legal system. The first is statutory law. These are the laws everyone is familiar with as the body of law that consists of those statutes and ordinances passed by our elected representatives. Traffic laws, criminal laws and tax laws are all examples of statutory law. However, there is another, different system of laws that are the remnant of the legal system we inherited from England.

Common law is the name for the body of law that is based on judicial



Chesley P. Payne

decisions. The idea is that judicial decisions by

one court in a jurisdiction should be followed by other courts in the same jurisdiction to provide a predictable outcome for similar factual situations. In our system, common law stands as that body of law that "fills the gaps" in situations that statutory laws do not cover.

Usually, in the event of a conflict between common law and statutory law, statutory law will overrule common law. The most visible exception to this rule is the power of "judicial review" held by the U.S. Supreme Court. Under the doctrine of "judicial review," the Supreme Court has the power to declare a statute void and deem it unconstitutional. However, the Supreme Court's decision can be rendered ineffective by the passage of a new law by Congress that meets Constitutional

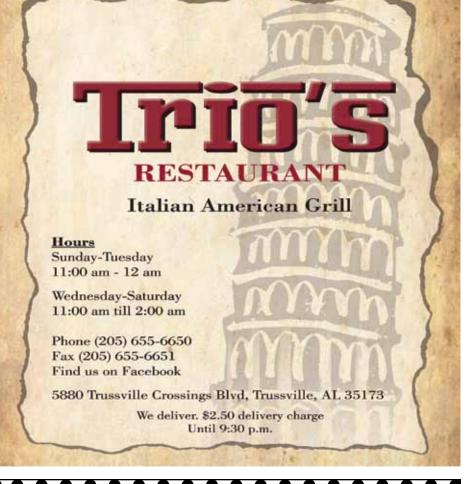
standards or the addition

of an amendment to the Constitution.

In this way, the legal field must keep informed of not only the activities of the various legislative activities, but also the activities of the judicial bodies of our state and nation. As you can imagine, an attorney's ability to research how and which laws apply to a particular situation is one of the legal professional's most important skills.



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'Biggest Loser' talks in Trussville

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

"The Biggest Loser" and former Alabama football star Roger Shultz was the featured speaker at the Trussville Area Chamber of Commerce's monthly luncheon last week.

In April 2008, Shultz walked away from the finale of NBC's hit show "Biggest Loser Couples" a winner. The prize money he won as the runner-

up was nice but what he Alabama. He had basireally gained back was cally kept eating as if he his health. was training to win the

He said \$250,000 in prize money wasn't life changing.

"What is life changing is having my health back," said Shultz, who lost 164 pounds in five months on the show.

Shultz was diagnosed as a Type II diabetic on his 37th birthday. He had struggled to keep his weight down after his All-American playing days at the University of

Alabama. He had basically kept eating as if he was training to win the national championship but wasn't exercising at all to burn the extra calories. His motto was "Food, Fun and Football."

Shultz played for three different coaches at Alabama. When asked what he learned from these men, he said he learned from Ray Perkins that change is good. From Bill Curry, he learned you should just be who



Roger Shultz

submitted photo

you are. From Gene Stallings, he learned about unconditional love. He said he feels he can call on Stallings to help him now.

Shultz shared an acronym for his infamous "Pride on 3" slogan. Persistence, Respect, Influence, Determination and Enthusiasm.

Contact Gary Lloyd at news@trussvilletribune. com and follow him on Twitter @GaryALloyd.

Trussville OKs first step to acquire property for North Chalkville Road right turn

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

The Trussville City Council on Tuesday approved a memorandum of understanding between the city and Ellison Investments, LLC, for the purchase of approximately 1,839 square feet of property located at 102 North Chalkville Road.

That property will eventually be part of a dedicated right turn lane from North Chalkville Road to Main Street. The property is the old Husky Barber Shop, sandwiched between the Braden's Furniture property

The 12-point memorandum of understanding details the purchase price as \$250,000 and that after the city's purchase -- which the city council must approve -- Ellison Investments shall lease the property from



file photo by Ron Burkett

Trussville Mayor Gene Melton

the city on a month-tomonth basis for \$800 to \$1,000 each month.

The city of Trussville will be responsible for the maintenance of the air conditioning and heating system at the property and Ellison shall be responsible for maintaining the property during the lease, including the roof. If ad valorem taxes on the property are due after the city's purchase, Ellison will pay those.

Ellison will maintain liability insurance for the property and name the city as one of the insured and the lease will terminate on the first day of the month following Ellison's vacating of the property. Trussville has no obligation to pay Ellison's costs of moving and relocation whenever the lease terminates.

Mayor Gene Melton said he hopes the city can acquire other adjoining properties along North Chalkville Road and the dentist office at the corner of North Chalkville Road and Linden Street by the end of the year. Melton said it will likely cost about \$2.2 million to acquire all the property necessary to construct a dedicated right turn lane that would stretch from Main Street to Vann Circle on North Chalkville Road.

Melton said the city has to work to acquire the properties because the federal government declared the area historic and would not help with the project.

He "just guessed"

that actual construction would cost between \$1

million and \$1.5 million.

Melton expects all engineering to be complete in the next eight or nine months and construction to "hopefully" begin in the next 24 months.

Melton said the right turn lane could be in place by 2016.

When construction begins, Melton said the existing and affected businesses will be relocated and detour routes will be in place for motorists. Part of the project will include aligning Linden Street with the road to the Trussville City Board of Education Central Of-

псе.

In December 2011, the city council approved preliminary engineering to be done for the North Chalkville Road widening project. Former Trussville City Council President Wayne Taylor said at the time that the next step in that process was the acquire the Braden's Furniture property and possibly put a traffic light at Linden Street's intersection with North Chalkville Road.

Contact Gary Lloyd at news@trussvilletribune. com and follow him on Twitter @GaryALloyd.



a Community Outreach Group (COG) for the *Birmingham*Northern Beltline Project and we need your help!

What is it?

The COG is a 10-member volunteer group of private citizens who will meet with ALDOT to provide feedback on the project, offer suggestions, ask questions, and keep others in the community informed.

Who is it?

Anyone with an interest in the project who can attend regular COG meetings and public meetings concerning the project can be nominated. An independent panel will review all nominations and select the COG.

When is it?

VV NEN IS IL:Nominations close November 22. Those selected for the COG will be notified in December.

How often will the COG meet?

The COG will meet as often as necessary to discuss the project and issues of importance to the group and the communities.

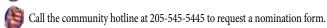
How to obtain a Nomination Form

There are three simple ways:

Download the New Member Nomination Form from BetterBeltline.org and mail it to the address below.



Write to the address below to request a nomination form.



BetterBeltline.org

Media & Community Relations Bureau 1409 Coliseum Blvd. Montgomery, AL 36110

Questions?

Visit us on the web at BetterBeltline.org or reach us by phone. Community hotline at 205-545-5445.

