



# The Trussville Tribune

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Your news source for Trussville, Clay and Pinson

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## New Solid Rock Church building feels ‘like home’



file photo by Gary Lloyd

The former New Covenant Fellowship Church on Pinson Valley Parkway, now home to Solid Rock Church

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

It was as if the congregation never moved.

Solid Rock Church held its first services at the former New Covenant Fellowship Church building on Pinson Valley Parkway on Nov. 3. Solid Rock Church had been located in the Old Rock School in Pinson.

The services lured the church's biggest crowds in the 19 years Larry Ragland has been the pastor at Solid Rock Church. Almost 500 people attended Nov. 3, and nearly 2,000

attended a fall festival in the New Covenant parking lot Oct. 30.

"It was really amazing to us," Ragland said. "We had a tremendous first day. It just felt like home. It was awesome. People were so excited. It was just really one of the greatest days of our ministry."

Ragland said past leaders of New Covenant Fellowship Church were honored at the service. There were no feelings of awkwardness, of feeling as if things were out of place, Ragland said.

"It was just incredible," he said. "It felt like we had been here forever."

The Old Rock School has been

in Pinson seemingly forever, dating back to 1921. The school building was closed in 1998 and was scheduled to be torn down. Pinson residents saved the building from demolition and in 2003 Solid Rock Church leased the property. The church's first service in the building was Sept. 26, 2004.

The Pinson City Council in September voted on a financing option to purchase the Solid Rock Church building and nearby Triangle Park for \$975,000. The city council voted to put down a \$75,000 down pay-

see ROCK page 3

## Pinson renews contract with sheriff's office

by Lee Weyhrich

Staff Writer

The Pinson City Council on Thursday voted to extend the city's contract with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office for police services for another year.

This marks the eighth year for the contract.

"It is an honor to serve as the officers that protect and keep your community safe," Jefferson County Sheriff Mike Hale said. "You have our full attention."

According to Mayor Hoyt Sanders and Hale, using deputies is much more cost effective than establishing a city police department.

"You don't have the liability for anything or the cost of a magistrate or a judge, and if deputies are sued you won't be," Hale said.

The contract with the sheriff's office costs Pinson roughly \$350,000 a year.

"We looked at (a police force) previously," Sanders said. "The big thing was the cost of building a jail."

He added that there were several other expenses, including a dispatcher, radio system, liability issues and the cost of a judge. The sheriff's office handles these expenses and liabilities.

Crime in the area is significantly down, Hale said. He attributes that to police presence, and the increased likelihood that offenders will be caught.

"The only crime that is up is the breaking and entering of vehicles," Hale said. "Violent crime is down. Homicide is down."

Pinson currently has four deputies on contract. With the nearness of other contract deputies from other municipalities, Hale said there are always effectively a dozen or more deputies in close proximity.

## Trussville likely to adopt downtown master plan this month

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

The Trussville City Council on Tuesday held a first reading of proposed changes to the city's downtown district.

The city council meets Nov. 26 at 6 p.m. at Trussville City Hall.

The Trussville Planning and Zoning Board last month approved the master plan and recommended amendments to the city's zoning ordinance for downtown development and amendments to the city's

sign ordinance to include regulations for downtown.

KPS Group's Jason Fondren described the plan and answered questions from audience members last month. Fondren said plan implementation includes flood mitigation projects, traffic and streetscape improvements, a public shared parking system, business support and recruitment, and downtown zoning and design standards.

"This is what's most important," Fondren said.

The main goals of the plan are to make it easier to get around town; concen-

trate shopping, dining and cultural experiences in the downtown area; mitigate flooding problems; and implement a design for a consistent, safe and attractive downtown.

The main component of the new revitalization plan involves a major redesign of downtown Trussville, with the primary focus being placed on road construction and commercial property. This project spans extends from Kay Avenue on the west side of downtown to the Cahaba River on the east side. It also extends north of U.S. High-

way 11 to Hewitt Street and down to the railroad tracks on the south side of downtown.

The downtown plan also aims to create more green spaces and walkways throughout the main downtown sector. Parking issues would be addressed by creating shared parking lots and street parking where applicable.

Other visions for the future downtown would make the space friendly for bicyclists and pedestrians, encouraging shops and restaurants to open business in the new district.

Analysis of community feedback indicates that the community would positively respond to more family clothing stores, dining facilities and creative spaces like art galleries and studios. As it is, the development group said last year the downtown area is not concise in design or function.

Some proposed ideas for a more consistent design would involve creating new zoning in the downtown area with specific design guidelines. The proposed image of the new downtown would create a more

inviting, uniform space for storefronts, giving the area a more consistent, functional look.

Fondren said possible financial incentives for business recruitment include tax abatements, waived or reduced fees such as building permits and business licenses, and public parking development. He said the biggest incentive, though, is "taking action on the plan."

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

## Dog killed by ‘mixed breed’ dog in Clay

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

A "very expensive," small bird dog was killed by another dog in Clay last Tuesday, according to Clay City Manager Ronnie Dixon.

The incident happened on Self Road, Dixon said.

The incident is under investigation with the Jef-

erson County Sheriff's Office.

Chief Deputy Randy Christian said last week that deputies were called to a home in the 6900 block of Self Road just after 10 a.m. Tuesday to investigate an animal complaint.

Christian said the resident told deputies that his dog had been tied to a run in his yard. A dog from another home on a

nearby street was roaming free and attacked his dog, Christian said. The dog died as a result of the attack.

Christian described the roaming dog as a medium-sized "mixed breed." The dog was found and the owner was identified, he said.

Christian said that should the owner of the dog that was attacked

and killed decide to press charges, the charge would be allowing a dog to run at large.

According to a June vicious dog ordinance approved by the Clay City Council, existing pit bull dogs, or any of their variations, must be registered with the city of Clay, no new pits may be brought into the city, and any newborn pit puppies will need

to be removed from the city limits within a certain amount of time.

Dixon said the vicious dog ordinance in Clay is "on the books and will be enforced."

Dixon said in late July that 15 to 18 pit bulls had been registered with the city since the ordinance took effect in June. He said that also since that time, two dogs in the city

had been killed by pit bulls and three more injured by pit bulls. He said in one of those five cases, a dog climbed over a fence, and in another a dog was unleashed. He didn't know the particulars of the other three instances.

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# NEWS

## Trussville native Freeman announces House Seat 44 run

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

Trussville native Joe Freeman announced this week that he is in the race for the Alabama House of Representatives seat that will be left open by Rep. Arthur Payne's retirement in 2014.

"It's going to take a big guy to fill the shoes of Rep. Payne, and I'm that guy," Freeman said. "I want to represent the people of District 44 in Montgomery."

Freeman attended Clay Elementary School before graduating from Hewitt-Trussville High School in 1999. He has worked in public and corporate finance since graduating from Auburn University.

Among many Republican groups, Freeman is known as someone who will take a hard stand on issues that are at the core



submitted photo

Joe Freeman

of conservative values. "The Republican Party has made great strides in the past few years in Alabama. We must have strong conservative leaders

to continue to move this state forward," he said.

Freeman was elected as state chairman of the College Republicans, served on the State Republican Steering Committee, worked on numerous Republican campaigns and is currently serving on the Jefferson County Executive Committee for the Republican Party.

Freeman said he believes the relationships forged by his party involvement and public finance work will greatly benefit the district.

"It helps to have a current and working relationship with people in the Governor's Office, Alabama Department of Commerce and other members of the legislature when working on projects for the district," he said.

Freeman said economic development is an area he feels he can make the greatest impact.

"Our district is ripe for

large economic development projects," he said. "There is no reason the Trussville, Clay and Pinson area shouldn't be on the top of the list for state level recruiters."

Freeman is currently director of the Capital Markets Group with Crews & Associates. His platform of "making public funds public" falls on the heels of Jefferson County exiting bankruptcy. Freeman said legislation needs to be passed to prevent the fraud and corruption of Jefferson County sewer bond deals from happening again.

"It needs to be known that in Alabama, if you're going to do a bond issue and handle taxpayer money, you better play by the rules," he said.

Freeman said it will take someone who's passionate about the conservative cause and the district to keep the area moving forward.

"Arthur Payne instilled that passion in me 20 years ago when I served as a page in the House of Representatives," Freeman said. "I could think of no greater honor than to have the opportunity to serve the people of District 44."

Trussville City Board of Education member Danny Garrett announced earlier this year he will also run for the seat.

Contact Gary Lloyd at [news@trussvilletribune.com](mailto:news@trussvilletribune.com) and follow him on Twitter @GaryALloyd.

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# ADEM notifies Birmingham of Eastern Area Landfill stormwater violation

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

The Alabama Department of Environmental Management in a letter mailed last Tuesday notified Birmingham Public Works that the Eastern Area Landfill, near Trussville, had violated its stormwater permit.

According to ADEM's letter, information submitted to the department indicates that contaminated stormwater "may be draining from the active face of the landfill, roadways, and maintenance areas into a water of the state, which is located in a low-lying wooded area east of the landfill's property and west of Magnolia Place subdivision, prior to entering Stinking Creek. If a discharge to this water of the state is occurring, it would be considered unpermitted as it is not the receiving stream indicated in the NPDES Permit and stormwater from maintenance areas is not covered in your current permit."

ADEM requires an engineer registered and authorized to practice in Alabama to submit a report with steps that will be taken to correct the violations. It must be done within 30 days of



photo courtesy of Dan Bayse

The Eastern Area Landfill is seen in the background of Magnolia Place, a 173-home Trussville subdivision.

receiving the notice of violation.

On Oct. 7, Magnolia Place Homeowners Association President Dan Bayse submitted a complaint about the landfill's "failure to control their stormwater," according to his complaint.

"We look at the landfill every day," Bayse said. "In December 2012, we began documenting and making ADEM aware of the landfill's violations of the laws and regulations. This last complaint was one of several. Everyone can see the results. This

monitoring will continue."

Scott Hughes, a spokesman for ADEM, said the permit the landfill operates under is designed to protect water quality.

"Water quality in the local creek, where the stormwater discharges into, certainly could be impacted on the long term if they don't get this issue corrected," Hughes said.

The Birmingham City Council last month passed a resolution that approved a plan to modify the existing landfill by removing

the disposal acreage restriction, allowing the city to potentially use the entire acreage for disposal.

A statement from the Birmingham City Clerk's Office said the 370-acre landfill was not being expanded, but additional cells would be developed within the area set aside years ago for that purpose.

The landfill is located near the site of a future Trussville City Schools elementary school. Superintendent Pattie Neill said

over the summer that the landfill is about 41 years old and was expected to be full and covered in 10 years. Neill said air quality monitors will be located around the school and checked daily.

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 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.

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](mailto:news@trussvilletribune.com) and follow him on Twitter @GaryALloyd.

# Pinson working toward garbage service

by Lee Weyhrich

Staff Writer

The Pinson City Council on Thursday held a hearing and received comments about the possibility of a citywide garbage pickup service.

The city is not yet accepting bids for the service.

Pinson is working to prepare a request for proposal and welcomes any input from citizens or vendors as it progresses, said Mayor Hoyt Sanders. The future

bidding process includes preparing the bidding documents, advertise them, set a time for them to arrive, set a bid opening, approve a resolution calling for bids and have formal specifications available.

"We are not getting the service level even Kimberly is getting, and they are not even a city, just a small town, really," Councilman Joe Cochran said.

The city council hopes to improve area garbage rates, as well as the service. The service would also be open to those within the

city's police jurisdiction that may not technically be Pinson residents.

"Hopefully we will improve the rate, and possibly the service," Cochran said.

City council members discussed the items they wish to receive in the bids for collection, including weekly curbside trash collection, bi-weekly recycling pickup and new 95-gallon receptacles for participants.

Councilwoman Joy McCain suggested yard debris pickup also be included in

any bid.

One concern was what to do about residents currently getting trash pickup two days per week. Cochran said the council would also entertain bids for twice-weekly pickup and compare rates.

The city of Clay began curbside recycling in April.

The Clay City Council in March accepted a garbage pickup bid from BFI Waste Systems, which is doing business as Republic Services. Residents of Clay are now paying \$13.65 per month, which includes mandatory recycling. Clay residents kept the garbage cans they already had, and

a separate 95-gallon bin for recycling was distributed to them. Residents are responsible for separating their recycling.

On Dec. 1, the city of Trussville will begin a new garbage contract. Recyclable garbage will be picked up weekly instead of every other week.

## ROCK continued from page 1

ment on the property and finance the other \$900,000 at 3.3 percent interest over the course of five years and amortized over 20 years. This will put the monthly payments well below \$6,000, Mayor Hoyt Sanders said.

The former New Covenant sanctuary and building cover 69,076 square feet on 18.5 acres. Ragland said the building is a perfect fit for Solid Rock Church, as well as a future daycare and private Chris-

tian school. The name will remain Solid Rock Church, and Ragland hopes that the nearby softball fields will be ready for playing in the spring.

The church's address is no longer Pinson, but Birmingham, something Ragland believes that God was calling for, an expansion outside Pinson's borders, to Tarrant, Gardendale, Center Point and other areas.

"This is just the major next step for our ministry,"

he said.

Ragland said the church now has the facility to grow into what it wants to be. Months and months of negotiations, public hearings in Pinson and waiting are over.

"The journey has been long, the moment even sweeter," Ragland said.

Contact Gary Lloyd at [news@trussvilletribune.com](mailto:news@trussvilletribune.com) and follow him on Twitter @GaryALloyd.

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# Pinson annexes 37 Emerald Valley lots

by Lee Weyhrich

Staff Writer

The Pinson City Council on Thursday annexed 37 lots in the Emerald Valley Estates neighborhood.

While not every lot in the neighborhood was annexed, enough were brought in that the

city could make much-needed repairs to the roads in the subdivision. The roads were property of Jefferson County, but county financial woes have left little money for road work in the area. Several lots are bank-owned, and the bank has signed a petition granting access to the city.

"The bank has signed a petition in part for the roads to be

completed," Pinson Mayor Hoyt Sanders said. "It is advantageous to us to annex as many (properties) as we can at this time."

Campbell Asphalt Paving and Concrete submitted a bid for paving for \$82,000. The city council will not begin the project until \$38,000 worth of bond money from the county, earmarked for the project, is released.

"The acceptance (of these roads from the county) is contingent on receiving those funds from Jefferson County," Sanders said. "That bond money will fund almost half of the project."

Forest Lane, Emerald Lane, Emerald Forest Drive, Valley Ridge Circle, Brookhill Circle and Deer Ridge Run are all scheduled for resurfacing.

The city council also voted to purchase portable bleachers for the Pinson Valley Youth Association football field for \$10,724.

It was also announced at last week's meeting that the Insanitarium Haunted Attraction at the Palmedale Homesteads Community Center had a record year. There were 2,600 visitors this year, up 800 from last year.

## Campaign to reduce violent crimes begins

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

A campaign to reduce violent crimes in the Birmingham and Jefferson County areas began last week.

The campaign is supported by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives; United States Attorney's Office; Crimestoppers of metro Birmingham; the Birmingham Police Department; Jefferson County Sheriff's

Office; Jefferson County District Attorney's Office; and the city of Birmingham.

People are encouraged to call 205-254-7777 to report firearm violence. Successful prosecution of these individuals will lead to cash rewards.

"The combination of firearms and violent criminals are a threat to all of us," said Jefferson County Sheriff Mike Hale. "I am asking the citizens that we serve to partner with law enforcement to help remove this threat from our society. If

you help us, if you trust us with information, we will act on it and your community will be safer for it."

The campaign is part of ATF's Frontline strategy to reduce violent crimes by leveraging resources from the public and private sector.

"Individuals using firearms in commission of violent crimes pose a great danger to the public and the law enforcement officers who encounter them, making this ongoing collaborative enforcement effort vitally important," said

Jeff Fulton, special agent in charge of ATF's Nashville Field Division.

Contact Gary Lloyd at [news@trussvilletribune.com](mailto:news@trussvilletribune.com) and follow him on Twitter @GaryALloyd.

photo courtesy of Jefferson County Sheriff's Office

Jefferson County Sheriff Mike Hale says the combination of firearms and violent criminals is a threat to everyone.



## Trussville sets effective date for employee health coverage

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

The Trussville City Council on Tuesday approved a resolution setting the effective date for employee health insurance coverage.

The date set was Jan. 1, 2014, for all new city employees hired to have a 30-day probationary period with coverage to commence on the 31st day of full-time employment.

The city of Trussville makes health insurance

coverage available to all full-time employees, with the employee contributing by payroll deduction to the cost of family coverage.

Under the existing model, the entire employee portion of the family coverage premium must be collected in advance to pay the premium, placing new employees at an immediate financial disadvantage.

Also under the existing model, the city must pay all portions of the insurance coverage not assessed to the employee for the month of

hire without rebate, even when the employee accepts employment but chooses to leave within a few days of hire.

Contact Gary Lloyd at [news@trussvilletribune.com](mailto:news@trussvilletribune.com) and follow him on Twitter @GaryALloyd.

## Trussville provides funds to DRA for new tenants

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

The Trussville City Council on Tuesday approved of providing the Downtown Redevelopment Authority \$109,035.25 for broker lease commissions associated with leases for the new tenants of the former

Food World building on Main Street.

The broker lease commissions associated with the lease for Fresh Value Marketplace is \$32,200 to Retail Specialists.

The broker lease commissions associated with the 24e Fitness lease is \$32,834.25 for Retail Specialists and \$44,001 to the 24e Fitness broker,

according to the approved resolution.

Fresh Value Marketplace plans to open in early December. 24e Fitness plans to open in mid to late January 2014.

Contact Gary Lloyd at [news@trussvilletribune.com](mailto:news@trussvilletribune.com) and follow him on Twitter @GaryALloyd.

## Business briefs: by Gary Lloyd

Editor

### 2 new tenants for The Crescent

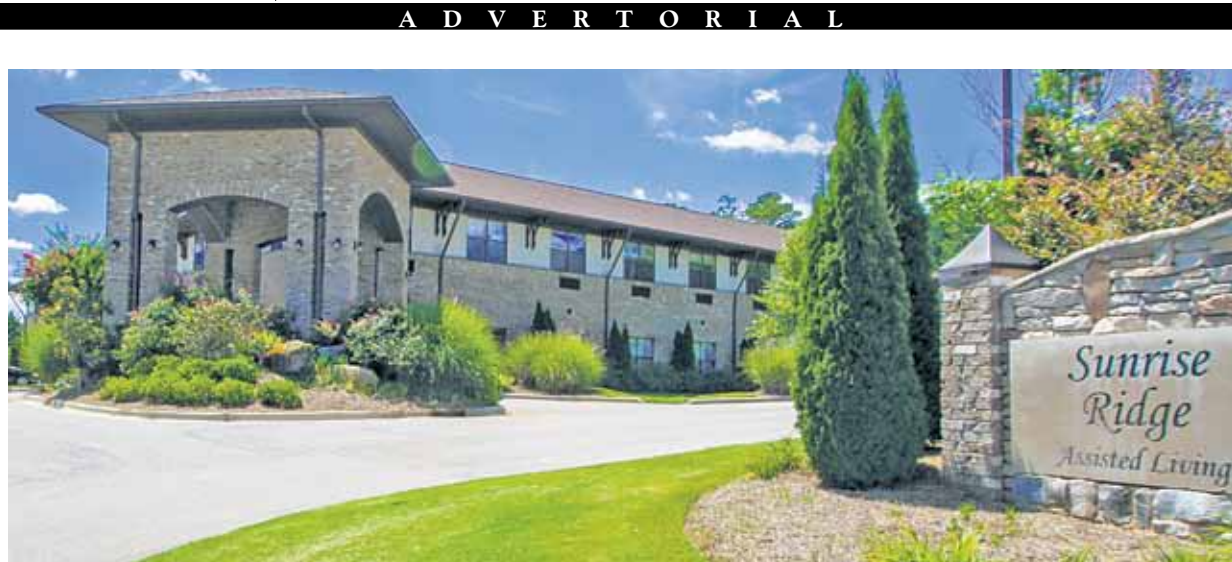
Ponder Properties announced last week that it leased space to State Farm at The Crescent at Trussville, a shopping center on U.S. Highway 11.

Walldin Jewelers just opened in a space at the shopping center, too, according to Ponder Properties.

Coco Bistro is expected to open this month in the Colonial Shoppes at Clay shopping center off Old Springville Road in Clay.

In other business news, Regions Financial Corp. last week disclosed a subpoena it recently received from a government agency over its mortgage practices, according to the Birmingham Business Journal. Regions said it received a subpoena from the Office of Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development regarding mortgage-related practices, including those relating to origination practices for loans insured by the Federal Housing Administration, the BBJ reported.

Contact Gary Lloyd at [news@trussvilletribune.com](mailto:news@trussvilletribune.com) and follow him on Twitter @GaryALloyd.



Sunrise Ridge is Trussville's largest and newest assisted living. Nestled on the outskirts of Trussville it features beautiful landscaped grounds, a classic soda shop, a large spacious dining room and so much more. Sunrise Ridge brings a contemporary feel to the world of assisted living. When touring the building the cleanliness and beautiful woodwork is not only pleasing to the eye but displays the pride of the owners and the staff.

When developing Sunrise Ridge the owners sought to design a facility that would change seniors and family's minds about Assisted Living and the preconceived notions that go along with long-term care facilities. The philosophy "Let Our Family Take Care of Yours" was the mindset of the owners and is still the anthem of Sunrise Ridge. By structuring rates to doubling the industry budget for food costs, it is evident that Sunrise Ridge is willing to pull out all stops to be successful. In 4 years of operation the facility has occupied 89% of its suites and has plans to add an additional 42 beds in the next year.

There comes a point in some senior's lives when they are faced with the difficult news that they can no longer live at home by themselves. Unfortunately, when this news is given, a tremendous burden falls on the families and concerns flood their minds. Where will my loved one go? Will they adjust to a new home after living in theirs for so long? Will they be safe? Will my loved one be able to afford the care they need? The staff at Sunrise Ridge is aware of these concerns and work day in and day out to dismiss any worry and replace it with full confidence. With 24 hour staffing families can rest well knowing their loved ones are receiving any help needed no matter the time of day.

So what makes Sunrise Ridge different from other facilities? Most facilities do not offer all-inclusive rates. The monthly rates at Sunrise Ridge include: cable, phone, long distance service, transportation to doctor visits, medication management, any assistance with activities of daily living, incontinence care, etc. There are also no move-in fees or deposits required. Typically, medication management, assistance with bathing, toileting, dressing and other activities of daily living are not included in a monthly rate. Another thing that makes Sunrise Ridge unique is that in the 4 years it has been opened rates have not increased at all. Most facilities have a set yearly increase.

If you or someone you know is looking for an assisted living, visit Sunrise Ridge for a tour or visit their website for more information: [www.SunriseRidgeTrussville.com](http://www.SunriseRidgeTrussville.com)

Also, Veterans needing assisted living, please call if you want to know more about the monthly benefit called Aid & Attendance. This benefit would significantly reduce the amount of your monthly obligation.

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# BUSINESS

## Indiana group's \$307 million deal includes retail centers in Trussville, Clay

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

An Indiana-based real estate investment trust has entered into a purchase and sale agreement to acquire a portfolio of nine retail operating properties, including ones in Trussville and Clay.

Kite Realty Group Trust lists Trussville I and Trussville II are centers with a total of 671,000 square feet of space off Chalkville Mountain Road. Those locations are the Trussville Crossings shopping centers, anchored by Walmart Supercenter and Sam's Club. Other anchors in the area include Regal Cinema, Marshalls, PetSmart and Kohl's. Kite would own 446,484 square feet of that space with an occupancy rate of 95.4 percent if the deal is completed.



photo by Gary Lloyd

The shopping center in Trussville anchored by a Walmart Supercenter

The realty group also lists the Colonial Shoppes at Clay, where Publix is located off Old Springville Road, as the other local center it intends to purchase. The 66,165-square-

foot center has 94.7 percent occupancy.

Kite Realty Group announced in a press release that the nine retail properties in Alabama, Florida, Georgia and Texas have

an aggregate owned gross leasable area of about two million square feet for a gross aggregate purchase price of approximately \$307 million in cash.

"This off-market port-

folio acquisition enables us to add approximately two million square feet of high quality shopping centers to our portfolio," said Kite Realty Group chairman and CEO John

A. Kite. "These properties will complement those in our existing portfolio and provide us with an opportunity to strategically increase our footprint in our targeted markets. We believe there are significant value creation opportunities through the lease-up of vacant space, roll-over of below market rents, and the pursuit of redevelopment opportunities."

The acquisition is expected to close in late 2013 or early 2014.

Kite Realty Group Trust Senior Financial Analyst Adam Basch said talking with specific retailers that could locate to the area will be part of the process if and when the trust closes on the properties.

Contact Gary Lloyd at [news@trussvilletribune.com](mailto:news@trussvilletribune.com) and follow him on Twitter @GaryALloyd.

## Paine Primary teacher awarded \$1,000 grant

For The Tribune

Paine Primary School first-grade teacher Chrissy Mauldin has been awarded a \$1,000 grant to fund technology in her classroom.

Mauldin plans to purchase iPads for her classroom with the "One Class at a Time" classroom resource grant. Mauldin submitted an application to CBS42 in August requesting a grant to fund technology in her classroom.

The grant was presented by CBS reporter Trent Butler and representatives from America's First Financial and Pepsi.



submitted photo

Paine Primary School first-grade teacher Chrissy Mauldin, center, with the grant

## CBS 42 anchor to speak in Trussville

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

CBS 42 news anchor Sherri Jackson will be the featured speaker at the Trussville Area Chamber of Commerce luncheon Nov. 21 at the Trussville Civic Center.

Reservations are \$17 each and are required by noon Tuesday. Networking begins at 11:30 a.m. and lunch is served at noon. Jackson will speak at about 12:30 p.m.

Jackson came to CBS 42 in 1998. Prior to making her home in Birmingham,



submitted photo

Sherri Jackson

she worked for stations in Macon, Ga., Savannah, Ga., Charleston, W.V. and Huntington, W.V.

Voted "Best News Anchor" in Alabama twice in the last four years by the Alabama Broadcasters Association, Jackson is the weekday anchor for the 5 p.m., 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. news.

The award-winning journalist has received recognition for her work covering AIDS in the city of Birmingham. Her piece "AIDS from Alabama to Africa" received a national award from the National Association of Black Journalists.

For more information, visit [www.trussvillechamber.com](http://www.trussvillechamber.com) or call the chamber at 205-655-7535.




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# CALENDAR

## Wrestling at Palmyrdale Homesteads Community Center

GCW Wrestling is the first Saturday each month at 7 p.m. at the Palmyrdale 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.

## Georgiana Davis Masonic Lodge meetings

Georgiana Davis Masonic Lodge No. 338 in Trussville meetings are at 7:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Monday each month. Practice nights are on the first and third Monday. Family nights are on the fifth Monday of the month. The lodge is at 190 Beechnut St. in Trussville. For more information, call Bryan Stover at 205-706-5220.

## Cumberland Lake arts, crafts show Nov. 16

Cumberland Lake will be hosting a Christmas arts and crafts show Nov. 16. Booths are \$10. For more information, call 205-680-4653.

## Boots and Bingo Nov. 14

Boots and Bingo will be Nov. 14 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Trussville Civic Center. One card is \$10 and additional cards are \$5 each. Finger food and soft drinks will be provided.

## Christmas open house in Trussville

A mall-wide Christmas open house will be held Nov. 14-16 at Trussville Antiques & Interiors on North Chalkville Road. There will be snacks and door prizes. For more information, call 205-661-9805.

## Steven Ehrensperger Memorial Blood Drive Nov. 16

The fourth annual Steven Ehrensperger Memorial Blood Drive will be held at Faith Lutheran Church at

6704 Deerfoot Parkway on Saturday, Nov. 16 from 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. Potential donors are encouraged to make an appointment online at [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org). The sponsor code for this drive is "STEVEN." Contact Fred Ehrensperger at 205-655-2725 for more information.

## Bake and Craft Sale at Faith Lutheran Nov. 22-23

There will be a bake and craft sale with raffle at Faith Lutheran Church in Clay Nov. 22-23 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. both days. Jewelry, craft items and baked goods will be for sale. Raffle tickets are \$2 for a chance to win a handmade quilt.

## Everything Christmas in Trussville Nov. 22-23

Everything Christmas will be Nov. 22-23 at the Trussville Civic Center. Organized by the Trussville Historical Society, the event features local retailers, arts, crafts, trees, Santa Claus and entertainment. Nov. 22 hours are 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and Nov. 23 hours are 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Admission is \$5 for adults and children 12 and under get in free. In lieu of admission, you can donate a new, unwrapped toy to benefit the "Christmas for Kids" program through the Trussville Fire Department. For more information, contact Donnette Plant at 205-492-8008 or Jane Alexander at 205-655-3144.

## Christmas Around the World Nov. 23

Christmas Around the World arts and crafts show is Nov. 23 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Palmyrdale Homesteads Community Center. For more information, visit [www.palmyrdale.org](http://www.palmyrdale.org).

## Baking for the Battle in Trussville Nov. 23

Baking for the Battle Against Cancer will be Nov. 23 in Trussville. The bake sale fundraiser benefits Laurie Echols and Tracy Rodman. The bake sale will be at the Trussville Area Chamber of Commerce at 225 Parkway Drive from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

## Clay tree lighting Dec. 1

The Clay Christmas tree lighting will be Sunday, Dec. 1 at 5 p.m. at Cosby Lake Park on Old Springville Road. For more information, call Clay City Hall at 205-680-1223 or

email [snelson@clayalabama.org](mailto:snelson@clayalabama.org).

## 'Madeline's Christmas' at ACTA in December

"Madeline's Christmas" at ACTA Theatre in Trussville will show Dec. 6-8 and Dec. 13-15. Friday and Saturday shows are at 7 p.m. and Sunday matinees are at 2:30 p.m. For more information and for reservations, call 205-655-3902.

## Trussville Christmas Parade deadline Dec. 6

The registration fee for entry into the Trussville Christmas Parade is \$20 until Dec. 6. After Dec. 6, the fee is \$25. Applications are available at [www.trussvillechamber.com](http://www.trussvillechamber.com). The parade will be Dec. 14 at 3 p.m. in downtown Trussville.

## Jennie June Croly Study Club Dec. 5


Jennie June Croly Study Club will host its 44th annual Christmas Coffee on Dec. 5. Hours are 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Trussville Civic Center. For more information, call 205-655-3144 or email [janealex@centurytel.net](mailto:janealex@centurytel.net).

## Solid Rock Lutheran turkey, toy outreach Dec. 7

On Dec. 7, Solid Rock Lutheran Church will celebrate the fourth annual Food, Turkey and Toy outreach to the community. The doors will open at 8 a.m. and the distribution of food and toys will begin at 9 a.m. There will be toys for children ages 12 and under. In addition, there will be 125 boxes of food containing cans of corn, green beans, yams, peaches, a dozen eggs, milk, bread, macaroni and cheese, stuffing and cake mix. Distribution also includes 125 turkeys along with the box of food. Everything is free and there are no reservations required. Solid Rock Lutheran is located at 1935 Highway 11 in Argo.

## Clay Christmas Parade Dec. 14

The Clay Christmas Parade will be Dec. 14 at 3 p.m. starting in front of Clay-Chalkville High School. A form to fill out to participate in the parade is available at [www.clayalabama.org](http://www.clayalabama.org).



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# OPINION

## Dressing the home for holidays with Ginni G Florist

by Abby Hathorn

For The Tribune

The spirit of Christmas is beginning to light up stores and homes here and there, the essence of cinnamon brooms and grandma's homemade gingerbread cookies will soon fill the air, and Christmas music will be played everywhere. With many ideas floating around on the Internet and Pinterest, it can be a bit overwhelming deciding how to dress your home with Christmas spirit. So, how will you be decorating this holiday season?

Think about styling a home for the holidays like



photo by Abby Hathorn

From left are Pam Saxon, Ginni Griffin and Kaleen Riley.

accessorizing an outfit for a Christmas party. It's important to have key, traditional pieces as well as trendy ones. Now, don't let deco-

rating a home for the Season of Good Cheer stress you out because Ginni Griffin and Kaleen Riley from Ginni G Florist in Truss-

ville are here to offer their advice. First, pick out a fabulously inviting wreath or door hanger to add some Christmas cheer to any

front door. "A very popular style wreath right now is a square wreath," Griffin said. "Also, you can't go wrong with a traditional Christmas greenery wreath for a front door."

Riley said an alternate to the traditional wreath are wooden door hangers.

"You can do a cute snowman or a whimsical Christmas tree," she said.

Second, decide on a theme for your Christmas tree. Ask yourself if you want to go traditional or trendy. "The latest thing that we have been doing is the really natural look by including cotton and burlap," Griffin said. "For ornaments on a natural

Christmas tree, a popular choice is mercury glass—it looks so great. "Whimsical, brightly colored trees are also in again this year."

Third, choose flower arrangements that will compliment the rest of the decorations throughout your home. "There is nothing better than an open red rose for Christmas," Griffin said.

Riley said you can't go wrong with lilies, either. Griffin said she likes to include different greenery, such as long needle pines, pine cones and magnolia leaves.

Ginni G will have a Christmas open house Nov. 21-23.

## Ben Carson speaks at Alabama Policy Institute banquet

For The Tribune

Author, retired neurosurgeon and conservative leader Ben Carson spoke to a crowd of more than 1,400 community leaders and concerned citizens at the Alabama Policy Institute annual dinner last week about the need to move forward from the current win or lose mental-

ity in politics and to begin working for reasonable, conservative solutions to the nation's problems.

"We have to embrace a dialogue where we can disagree with one another and not consider one another an enemy," Carson said. "In our efforts to address the issues that face the United States, we cannot be offended, and we cannot

be uninformed."

Carson discussed the role that education can and must play in the development of youth, and how education carried him from abject poverty to his role as a leading conservative voice.

Carson encouraged attendees to not be offended and not be distracted from U.S. issues. He challenged

them to speak their minds and to weigh in on the debates about education, health care and equitable taxation in America.

"In order to put our nation back on track, we have to be willing to talk about the problems that plague our nation," he said. "All

of you have to lead that very necessary dialogue and propel us toward policies that provide real solutions to the issues our communities face."

Carson is an emeritus professor of neurosurgery, oncology, plastic surgery and pediatrics at the Johns

Hopkins School of Medicine and has directed pediatric neurosurgery at the Johns Hopkins Children's Center for more than 25 years. He's also the author of "America the Beautiful: Rediscovering What Made This Nation Great."

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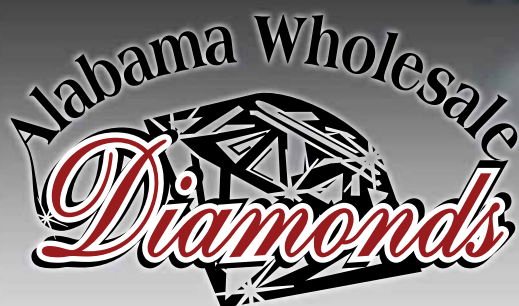
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# LIFESTYLE

## Trussville PD offers ID theft, cell phone tips

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

The Trussville Police Department last week offered some tips on its Facebook page to protect your identity.

Tips for protecting identity theft include not signing the back of your credit cards, but instead putting "Photo ID Required." Although merchants and their employees are still hit-and-miss on actually checking the ID, more of them are paying attention.

When ordering checks, don't list a telephone number. You can always write it on the check at the time of the transaction. The police department encourages people to be aware of which credit cards they carry that have embedded RFID chips because the information on them can be read surreptitiously by someone near you using a handheld scanner.

To keep records, place the contents of your wallet



file photo

The Trussville Police Department is providing safety tips on its Facebook page.

or purse on a photocopier and make copies of both sides of each license and credit card. Then, keep those copies in a secure place so that if your cards are ever lost or stolen, you can report the card numbers to your bank and police.

Trussville police also encourage people to know their international mobile equipment identity number, accessed by pressing \*#06# on the cell phone's keypad. This will display

a 15-digit number that you should make a record of in case your phone can be identified if it's ever lost or stolen.

Your cell phone provider can block others from using the phone on their network, which could also help protect you against expensive 1-900 phone calls and other mischief.

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

## HHS freshman to sign book Sunday

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

Hewitt-Trussville High School freshman Lacey Beasley will sign copies of her book, "The Forgiven," Sunday at the Trussville Public Library.

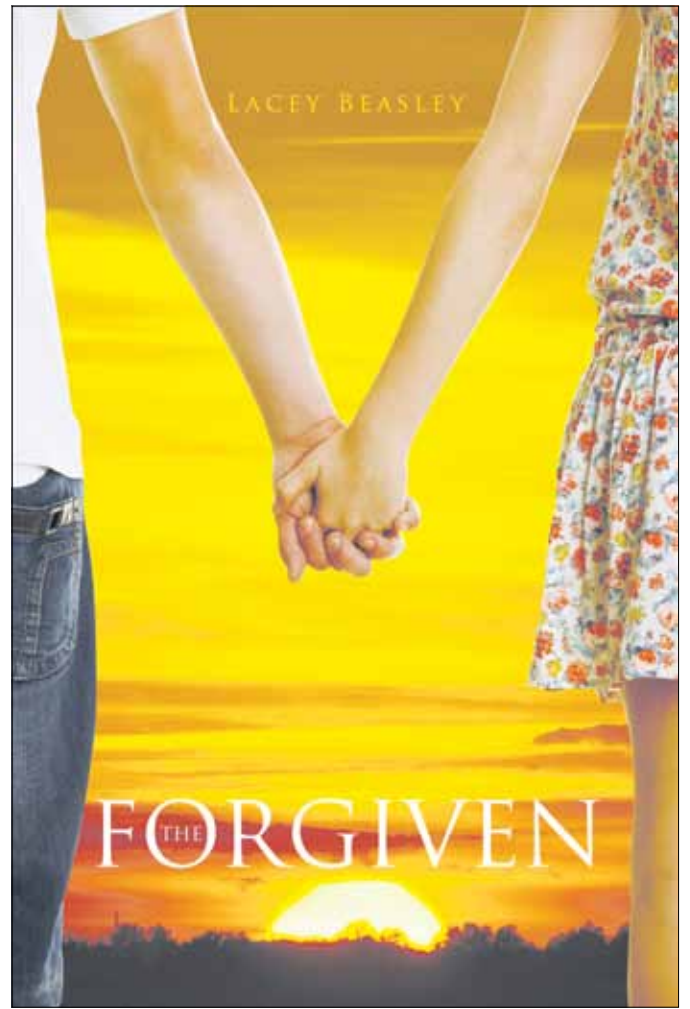
The signing will be from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Beasley's book is about 17-year-old Alice Blain having a tough decision to make. Will she stay with her bad-boy boyfriend, Owen, or date his best friend, Collins, instead? Before she has a chance to make up her mind, her mom ships her off to Florida to stay with her dad, and she has to say goodbye to them both for the summer.

But Florida is not without its adventures. Alice soon meets Dylan, a mysterious Southern boy, who completely turns her world upside down. Together, they uncover the secrets of Alice's past, forcing Alice to discover who she is, who she loves, and more importantly, where she belongs. But when the people she loves are in danger, will Alice find a way to put together the pieces of her shattered life?

"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, depending on your sense of humor." Beasley began writing the book in December 2011 and finished it in August 2012. She was signed by Tate Publishing in December 2012.

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



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# Does diet equal deprivation? Myths vs. truths

America is getting fatter and more and more unhealthy every day. We see it on the news and read it in the headlines. We may even be experiencing it ourselves or in our families. What is the answer?

If you're like many Americans, the dreaded "d" word pops into your head -- diet. You know you need to, but the thought of another dreadful, bland diet is too much to take. You know that if you "diet," it

will be less about eating healthy and more about starvation. If you feel this way, you have bought into some diet myths. In Ben Lerner's book, "Body by God," he shares some "diet myths" and "undiet truths."

The first diet myth so many of us believe is that diet equals deprivation. Think about most diets you've read about or have done. Don't they usually deprive your body of something? The "undiet truth" is you don't have to



DR. CHANNING KING

restrict portions, cut calories, or eat bland, tasteless food. Rather, you need to make sure you're eating your foods at the right

times of day. For instance, you don't want to eat carbohydrates before bed because carbs are used for energy, and if not burned, they're stored as fat. While it's definitely true that the healthier you eat, the better your body will function, if you just eat your foods at the right times of day, you will see better health benefits.

The second "diet myth" is if you eat like an elephant, you'll look like an elephant. The truth is

if you eat the foods that God created and eat them the way He designed, you will never look like an elephant. If you're eating the way God intended, your body will be able to process, use and eliminate food the way it's intended. This will help you not only get the vitamins, minerals and enzymes you need, but also to lose unnecessary weight.

Do you ever feel like your diet is over if you cheated during a moment

of weakness? That is "diet myth" No. 3, once you crave, you cave. It may come as a surprise, but it's all right to have, at times, the foods you love. Lerner calls these times short vacations. Short vacations fall into another "undiet truth." This truth is that if you don't have these small treats or "vacations," you will continue to crave them so much that you may sabotage your whole plan to get healthy.

## Cookbook signing in Trussville on Monday

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

Authors of "The Legacy Garden," a cookbook featuring recipes and recollections from a Southern cooking family, will be in Trussville on Monday for a

book signing.

The signing is at Ginni G Florist on Main Street from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The authors of the cookbook are Scott Wilson and his mother, Jean W. Butts. The 163-page book features more than 130 recipes of traditional and mod-

ern Southern food.

For more information, visit [www.thelegacygardencookbook.com](http://www.thelegacygardencookbook.com).

Contact Gary Lloyd at [news@trussvilletribune.com](mailto:news@trussvilletribune.com) and follow him on Twitter @GaryALloyd.

## PVHS' fall production is Friday, Saturday



photo courtesy of Pinson Valley High School

Pinson Valley High School students rehearse for the fall show.

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

Pinson Valley High School's Theatre Department presents its fall production Friday and Saturday.

"You Can't Take It With

You," a Pulitzer Prize-winning comedy about the whacky Sycamore family, will show at 7 p.m. both nights in the theatre at Pinson Valley High School.

Tickets are \$5 for students and \$7 for adults. Tickets will be sold at the door.

Kimberly Cantrell is the fine arts/theatre teacher at the high school.

Contact Gary Lloyd at [news@trussvilletribune.com](mailto:news@trussvilletribune.com) and follow him on Twitter @GaryALloyd.

## Trussville beekeeping company seeks votes for grant

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

A Trussville beekeeping company needs votes to possibly land a large grant from Chase Bank.

GreenBeehives.com is seeking 250 votes from customers, fans and the public by Friday to be considered

for a \$250,000 grant to grow its business.

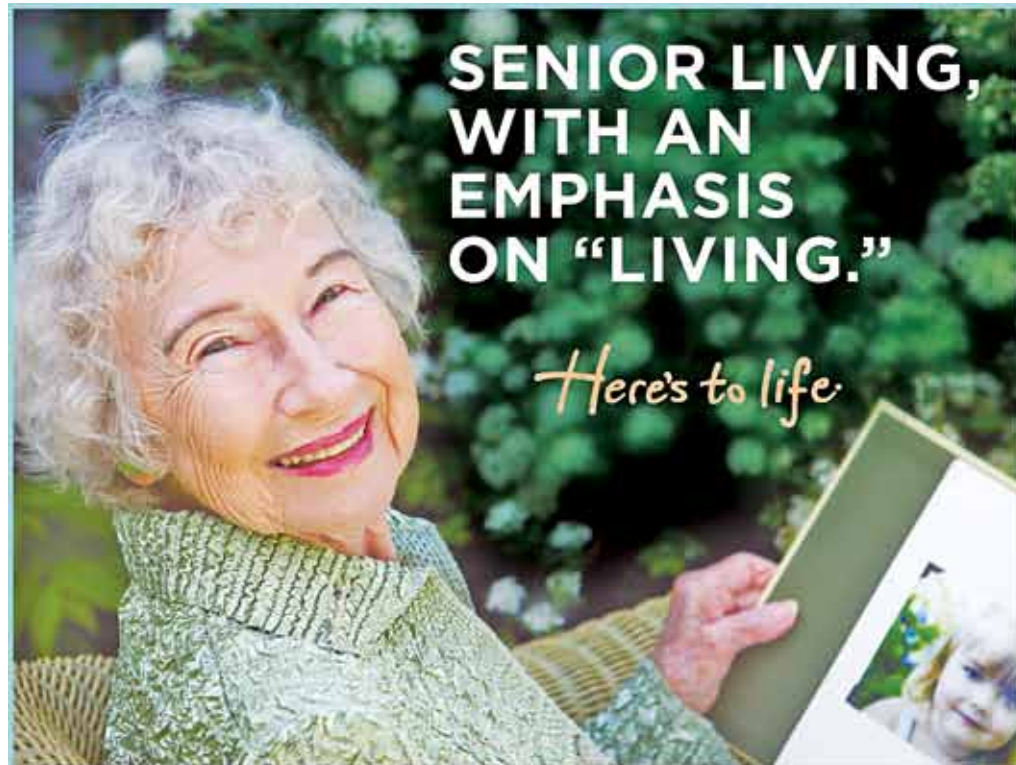
The company hopes to protect the honeybee by continuing to find poison-free methods of controlling bee pests and diseases. The company hopes to provide the methods and tools to the general public.

To vote, visit [www.missionmainstreetgrants.com](http://www.missionmainstreetgrants.com),

type in 35173 as the ZIP code to bring up GreenBeehives.com.

The company has been located in Trussville since 2008.

Contact Gary Lloyd at [news@trussvilletribune.com](mailto:news@trussvilletribune.com) and follow him on Twitter @GaryALloyd.



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## America Recycles Day set for Friday

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

The Turkey Creek Nature Preserve in Pinson is encouraging people to participate in America Recycles Day, scheduled nationwide Friday.

According to the initiative's website, there are recycling events in Auburn, Albertville, Montgomery, Troy, Florence and Guntersville on Friday.

The Trussville, Clay and Pinson areas have been encouraging recycling op-

portunities this year. Boy Scouts Troop 845 in Trussville earlier this month held an electronics recycling day at the old Clay City Hall on Old Springville Road.

The city of Clay began having curbside recycling for its residents this spring. The Trussville City Council in September awarded a bid to Advanced Disposal for trash collection that includes weekly recycling pickup. The city had bi-weekly recycling trash pickup with Waste Management. The contract with

Advanced Disposal begins Dec. 1.

Pinson City Councilman Joe Cochran submitted a request for proposals for residential recycling Sept. 19. The city of Pinson is expected to move toward residential recycling.

For more information about America Recycles Day, visit [www.americarecyclesday.org](http://www.americarecyclesday.org).

Contact Gary Lloyd at [news@trussvilletribune.com](mailto:news@trussvilletribune.com) and follow him on Twitter @GaryALloyd.

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