



The Trussville Tribune

March 6 - 12, 2014

Your news source for Trussville, Clay and Pinson

50¢

Board selects architect for new Trussville schools

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

More than a year ago, Michael Brady fell in love with the school building on Parkway Drive in Trussville, constructed in the 1930s as part of

then-President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal program.

Brady, the CEO of Tennessee-based Michael Brady Inc., will now get to know that school even better.

The Trussville City Board of Education on

Monday approved Michael Brady Inc. as the architect for both new community elementary schools that will be constructed in Trussville. The historic school building in the Cahaba Project will be renovated, while a new school will be constructed

near Magnolia Place.

Brady said he believes the two new schools opening for the 2016-2017 school year is "very doable."

"I'm excited to see a community stepping forward," Brady said.

Trussville City Schools

Superintendent Pattie Neill said the Michael Brady Inc. has developed great "synergy" with the community over the past year, during which time the architectural company has presented potential plans to the board and community.

Neill said the architect

company has a track record of designing "very high quality" schools.

"I'm very excited to get started," Neill said.

The board of education on Monday also approved a resolution requesting that

see SCHOOL page 6

Former Trussville schools chief named Pike Road superintendent

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

The Pike Road School Board last Tuesday approved former Trussville City Schools Superintendent Suzanne Freeman to be its first superintendent.



photo courtesy of Principle Portrait Group

Suzanne Freeman

Freeman will begin the job July 1.

The Pike Road School System formed after breaking from Montgomery Public Schools.

"It's just been so fun to get to know (the people in Pike Road) and just to be embraced by them," Freeman said. "I'm just honored and humbled to be a very small part of a very big journey."

Freeman was the first Trussville City Schools

see FREEMAN page 4

Headway at Husky Parkway



photo by Ron Burkett

A construction crew works on the Husky Parkway bridge last week.

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

Headway is being made on the Husky Parkway bridge that will link Hewitt-Trussville High School to the future Hewitt-Trussville Stadium site.

The more than 300-foot bridge spans the Cahaba River and will alleviate traffic congestion on Deerfoot Parkway.

Trussville Mayor Gene Melton said that once the Husky Parkway bridge is completed, traffic patterns in Trussville will likely change. Congestion will move away from Chalkville Mountain Road and the

downtown Trussville area. And, as the housing market improves, that area could be good for development.

"That connection is huge to the city, public services and everybody," he said. "There's no telling what will develop in that area. People just can't imagine when we make those connections how much impact it's going to have on the downtown area."

The Trussville City Council in August 2013 approved Birmingham-based Brasfield & Gorrie to construct the bridge. The contracting company was approved with a base bid of \$3,281,445.13.

Melton said in August

that the bridge could be built in a year.

The bridge will be three lanes and include a pedestrian lane.

"It's wide," Melton said last year.

The new Hewitt-Trussville Stadium, being constructed by Trussville-based Blalock Building Company for \$14,626,550, is expected to be complete by late September. The Hewitt-Trussville football team plays 2014 home games against Gardendale (Aug. 29), Vestavia Hills (Sept. 12), Oak Mountain (Oct. 3), Hoover (Oct. 24) and Clay-Chalkville (Oct. 31).

NTSB releases preliminary report on plane crash near Clay

by Gary Lloyd

Editor



file photo by Scott Buttram

The plane crash site

The National Transportation Safety Board last week released preliminary information about the Feb. 14 plane crash north of Clay near Goodner Mountain Road, in which a Mississippi couple died.

The report states that a Cessna 210L aircraft crashed in a "heavily wooded area" near Clay. Cali Campbell, 46, and Allan Campbell, 44, of Florence, Miss., were killed in the crash.

The airplane was registered to Southern Seaplane, Inc., and operated under the provisions of 14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 135 as a non-scheduled, domestic, cargo flight.

see CRASH page 5

Trussville evangelist's second book focuses on the remnant

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

Trussville evangelist Pat Schatzline was at the track at Jack Wood Stadium, walking and training to combat the writer's block.

He was close to a deadline, and he couldn't seem to break through.

Then, it hit him.

"On that walk I heard the voice of the Lord say, 'Son, I have a

message for you to deliver. Write down what I am about to share with you,'" Schatzline writes in the introduction to his new book, "I Am Remnant," officially released Tuesday.

Schatzline pulled out his phone, pressed open the yellow "Notes" app and began to type. The result was a 34-point manifesto, a solid foundation on which to build his book. He has also authored "Why Is God So Mad At Me?"

"What made this book so special is I walked through different areas



submitted photo

Pat Schatzline

of the Bible where God raised up key voices," said Schatzline, who co-founded Mercy Seat Ministries in Trussville with his wife, Karen.

Schatzline will sign copies of the new book on Tuesday, March 11 at 6:30 p.m. at the Books-A-Million on U.S. Highway 11 in Trussville. The book is written as an open letter, about those who will stand up, about what it means to be remnant.

"It really is a journey into what it means to make a stand for

Christ," Schatzline said.

The first section of the book explains what being remnant means and how the remnant must rise. The second section is about getting real with God. The final section is about the remnant being marked by His presence.

Schatzline said he will likely have some "arrows shot at him" because he attacks celebrity culture in the book. He said heroes or people to look up to are

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NEWS

John Croyle publishes new book on raising children

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

Big Oak Ranch founder John Croyle has published a new book, "Raising a Princess: 8 Essential Virtues to Teach Your Daughter."

The 224-page book, published through B&H Publishing Group, will be available May 1.

In the book, Croyle poses

the question, "How do you equip your daughter to become the kind of woman who is described in Proverbs 31?" Croyle looks at the parenting techniques that will help readers raise princesses who will some day be queens. He draws from his experience parenting more than 1,800 abused and neglected children at the Big Oak Ranch, alongside his wife and two biological

children.

Croyle focuses on eight virtues a parent can cultivate in his or her princess: praiseworthiness, righteousness, initiative, nurture, character, empowerment, servant-heartedness and stability.

Croyle was an All-American football player at the University of Alabama.

Croyle last June signed copies of "The Two



submitted photo

John Croyle

Minute Drill to Manhood: A Proven Game Plan for Raising Sons" in Trussville. Croyle bases the plan on his experience of raising his own two biological children — former University of Alabama and NFL quarterback Brodie, and former University of Alabama basketball player and homecoming queen Reagan — and the more than 1,800 boys and girls

who have lived on the Ranch.

Croyle founded the Big Oak Ranch in 1974 as a home for children between the ages of 6 and 18 who have been abused, neglected or abandoned. Big Oak Ranch, Inc. operates Big Oak Boys' Ranch in Gadsden, Big Oak Girls' Ranch in Springville and Westbrook Christian School in Rainbow City.

Chamber hears from marketing manager, names customer service winner

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

AAA Alabama marketing and public relations manager Clay Ingram was the featured speaker at the Trussville Area Chamber of Commerce luncheon last week.

The chamber also recognized its February Customer Service Award recipient as Jayna Moore of Express Printing and Promotions.

"She goes beyond the scope of her job as the printer to chase down photos, gather information, and correct names and ads to print



photo by Diane Poole

Trussville Area Chamber of Commerce Board President June Mathews, left, with Jayna Moore

a very polished and professional program," the nominator said. "Jayna is also a pleasure to work with. She is always courteous and polite and has a very positive attitude, even when we are

in the trenches, trying to meet deadlines."

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

Trussville native wins national award for media project

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

A team of students from the University of Alabama won a national award for an interactive media project at the recent national Broadcast Education Association annual conference, and a Trussville native is on the team.

Miller Coop, of Trussville, and Anne Tyler Bushman, of Montgomery, won

first place in the student interactive multimedia competition for small teams with their project on Tuscaloosa's Miracle League. The projects can be viewed at www.miracleleagueoftuscaloosa.com under the "Media" tab.

Coop and Bushman are both 2013 alumni of the University of Alabama.

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

HHS invited to participate in CS4Alabama project

For The Tribune

Hewitt-Trussville High School has been invited to participate in the Year 2 cohort for the CS4Alabama project.

The project will provide yearlong professional development designed to give teachers the training and support needed to teach the computer science principles course.

The course, while still in the pilot stage, will become a full-fledged College Board Advanced Placement course during the 2016-2017 school year.

Pinson woman dies in Tarrant police pursuit

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

An 18-year-old Pinson woman died Friday after

a car crashed into a tree during a brief pursuit through the city of Tarrant.

Natasha Renee Osby, of Pinson, was a passenger in a 2004 Kia Optima that was

involved in a chase with Tarrant police. Jefferson County Deputy Coroner Bill Yates said the car left the road and crashed into a tree in the 1300 block

of Spring Street at around 10:44 a.m. Friday. The police pursuit lasted only about three minutes, he said.

Osby was taken to UAB

Hospital, where she was pronounced dead at 12:25 p.m. Friday, Yates said.

Details surrounding the crash were still being gathered at press time.

The driver of the car was reportedly injured and also taken to UAB Hospital. Yates said the driver was expected to be OK.

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Low-risk inmates cleaning up JeffCo roads 'feasible'

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

Low-risk Jefferson County inmates would be required to clean roads and other areas in the county under a plan that has been discussed by some county officials.

The prisoners would fill a void left by county workers who were laid off in the Roads Department.

Jefferson County Commissioner Sandra Little Brown could bring up the topic at a

commission meeting soon. Commissioner Joe Knight, who represents District 4, which covers Trussville, Clay, Pinson, Grayson Valley, Palmerdale, Gardendale, Morris, Kimberly, Warrior, County Line, Trafford, and parts of Center Point, Irondale, Tarrant and Birmingham, said he thinks the program would work if it involves people working off fines or performing community service.

"Is it feasible? I think so," Knight said.

Knight said the potential

program has not yet been discussed in a commission meeting. He said nothing is "imminent."

"We're looking at it," he said. "It's early stage."

Knight said he would like to see litterers fined and have them clean up littered roadsides. He said he was behind a car one day and a box from Chick-fil-A was tossed out the window.

"It's pretty frustrating when you see someone do it," he said.

Knight said he has helped pick up litter in four areas

in his district, including on Edwards Lake Road near Trussville, Grayson Valley Drive and Westridge Drive off Brewster Road in the Grayson Valley area.

"It's just another one of those issues that coming out of bankruptcy that we're going to try to address," Knight said.

Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Chief Deputy Randy Christian said the sheriff's office "would be open to exploring" this possibility.

"Traditionally, that has been a state (Department

of Corrections) function for sentenced inmates that were low risk and work release," Christian said. "Our inmates are pre-trial."

Christian said staffing would be needed to supervise the inmates who would be out picking up trash.

"Remember, we went through the same cuts everyone else went through," he said. "Some funding was allocated this year to re-open the Bessemer jail but was limited to just that. Our guys are getting the job done

by working 12-hour shifts to give us more coverage with less personnel. It's a grind for them but they are doing a remarkable job. The sheriff's office lives by being a can-do organization and we will be happy to come to the table with that kind of attitude. I do believe it would do some good for some of those inmates to earn their keep."

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

JefCoEd approves 2014-2015 calendar

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

The Jefferson County Board of Education last week approved its school calendar for the 2014-2015 year, and it includes five weather days.

Weather days are included on Monday, Feb. 16, 2015, and

Tuesday, May 26, 2015. Students and nine-month employees only will have school on weather days scheduled from May 27-29, 2015. Those final three days did not affect the number of school days or professional development days.

School will begin Aug. 6, 2014, and schools will be closed for Christmas

break Dec. 22 through Jan. 6. Spring break will be March 30, 2015, through April 3, 2015.

The calendar can be viewed at www.jefcoed.com.

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

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not celebrities such as Katy Perry or Miley Cyrus. It's not even the world that speaks the truth.

"The truth is God's word," he said. "The only real hero is 'the nobody,' the one that will make a stand."

He said Rosa Parks made a stand. A student praying over his or her lunch at school makes a stand.

"God loves you, now do something about it," Schatzline said. "God loves you, now stand up and be seen for Him. Anybody can do what the world is doing, but it takes a remnant to do what God has called us to do."

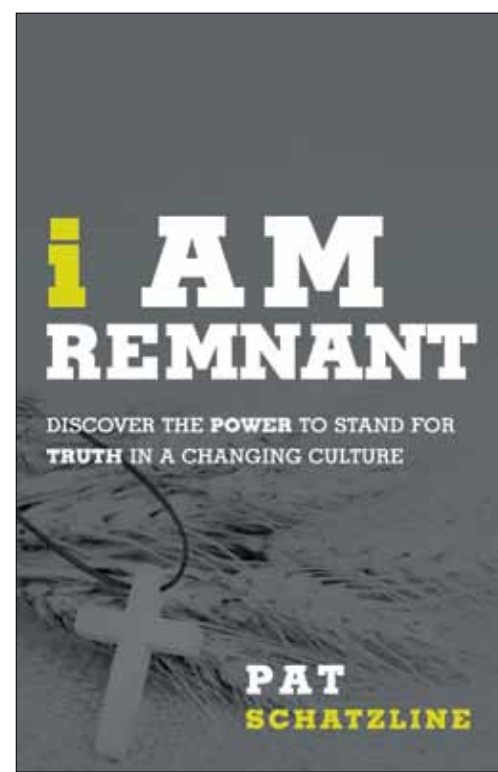
Schatzline said he's OK with being attacked for writing "the truth" because Jesus got attacked for speaking the truth.

"God's word doesn't change," he said.

The book is largely based on Romans 11:5, which states, "So too, at the present time there is a remnant chosen by grace."

The book is "pretty intense," Schatzline said, since some of it addresses sexuality, drugs and abortion. A culture telling you who to celebrate is not right, Schatzline said.

"My heartbeat for this whole message is, simply, it doesn't matter where you're coming from, it doesn't matter what you



submitted photo

The book's cover

do, God knows He has a plan for you," Schatzline said. "He just wants you to make a stand for Him. That's the conscience of the remnant. The remnant stands out and declares the truth about God."

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Pinson inmate dies in Shelby County Jail

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

An inmate from Pinson died Monday in the Shelby County Jail.

At about 4:45 a.m. Monday, inmate Brandon Lee Hays, 27, was found unresponsive by corrections employees while delivering breakfast.

Hays was immediately treated by medical personnel on the scene while Southeast Shelby Rescue was also called. Upon arrival, paramedics determined that Hays was

deceased.

The preliminary investigation found no sign of obvious physical injury that would have caused his death. He was in a cell by himself. The Alabama Bureau of Investigations was contacted and an investigator responded to begin their investigation as a matter of policy. The Shelby County Sheriff's Office will cooperate fully with this outside investigation.

Hays had previously been charged with first-degree criminal possession of a forged instrument and

was being held on a bond revocation with no bond.

The Shelby County Sheriff's Office and Prison Health Care LLC have a cooperative agreement in which qualified medical personnel staff a separate medical unit 24 hours a day within the facility.

Sheriff Chris Curry offered his sympathy to Hays' family and friends.

"While there are no words that bring immediate comfort, on behalf of the sheriff's office and all of the corrections staff, I want to express our condolences for your loss," Curry said.

Alabama Farmers Federation endorses Garrett for State House

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

The Alabama Farmers Federation has announced its endorsement of Trussville's Danny Garrett for State House District 44.

"Danny Garrett's business background will serve us well in the Legislature," said Jefferson County Federation FarmPAC advisory trustee John Morris. "He is a strong conservative who will work hard for the people of this district."

District 44 includes Clay, Pinson, Trussville and part of northeast Jefferson County. Arthur Payne is retiring from the seat. Primaries are in June.

Garrett is vice president of the Trussville City Board of Education.

The Alabama Farmers Federation is the state's largest farm organization with



photo courtesy of Principle Portrait Group

Danny Garrett

more than 365,000 members.

Johnny Amari and Joe Freeman are also running for the District 44 seat. Amari said Friday he had not yet received any endorsements. Freeman did not respond to a message seeking comment before press time.

FREEMAN continued from page 1

superintendent, serving from 2004 until 2012. In July 2012, the Trussville City Board of Education unanimously approved a contract settlement with Freeman.

Freeman in 2008 was named the state superintendent of the year by the School Superintendents of Alabama and in 2009 was one of four finalists for National School Superintendent of the Year.

Prior to that, she was the superintendent of Cullman City Schools since 2000. Freeman earned a doctorate in curriculum and teaching from Auburn University, and had worked for Auburn City Schools as an assistant

superintendent and principal for the Auburn Early Education Center.

Freeman interviewed with the Pike Road School Board on Feb. 21. Other candidates who were considered were Susan Cole, who earned her doctorate in educational leadership from the University of Alabama and had most recently served as the director of human resources for Gordon County Schools in Calhoun, Ga., and Craig Ross, who earned his doctorate in educational leadership from Auburn University and was serving as the principal of Robertsdale High School in the Baldwin County

School District.

Before her approval by the Pike Road School Board, Freeman was retired from public education but was working as a consultant for school systems.

Freeman said she consulted for Pike Road with its "early planning stages" in 2006. She said the new school system is "building from the ground up," since no schools have been constructed yet. A school in the Waters community will open for students in K-8 in 2015. High school students will filter into Montgomery schools or private schools until Pike Road can have a high school.

"It's going to be explosive," Freeman said of future growth in the area.

Freeman said future plans for additional facilities are being worked on.

"They have a real strong vision for being bold and innovative," Freeman said of Pike Road leaders and parents.

Freeman said she hopes the school system develops a culture of high expectations and innovative strategies so that students learn at high levels. She said the community is all about family, and quality of life and education.

"The enthusiasm is just contagious," she said. Freeman is the school system's first employee,

and it will look at hiring about 41 teachers and staff members to work at the school. There will be neighborhood meetings to "really capture people's voices and their passion and their vision for the system," Freeman said.

"It's a blank slate, and that's exciting, the opportunity to create something with a blank canvas, with people that just have a vision and passion and enthusiasm about wanting to build something great," she said. "They're bold and innovative and charismatic. They just want it to be spectacular for kids."

Freeman's obligations to Trussville City Schools and other school systems as a consultant will conclude

June 30.

"God has a plan that far exceeds anything that we could try to figure out on our own," Freeman said. "You just have to know that He's got His hands on everything and if you just listen and believe that He creates these amazing opportunities and uses the gifts He gave us to do great work. It's just exciting."

Freeman said there is a lot of hard work and heavy lifting ahead, but that's OK.

"This is fun stuff," she said. "This is the good stuff."

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Trussville company honored by U.S. Chamber of Commerce

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

A Trussville company has been named a winner of a Blue Ribbon Small Business Award by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

There were 100 companies recognized for their dedication to the principles of free enterprise and contributions to restoring jobs and supporting economic growth.

Trussville-based McSweeney Holdings won

one of the awards.

"We are certainly honored to be chosen as a standout company in Alabama," said McSweeney Holdings Managing Partner Michael McSweeney. "Our success is entirely a by-product of what an incredible team of people we have been blessed with. McSweeney Holdings has some of the most talented automotive designers, plastics engineers and specialty automotive technicians in the world and it is always nice when they can get some recognition for

their talent and hard work."

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce will announce seven regional finalists March 19 and honor all of this year's Blue Ribbon Small Business Award winners at the 10th annual America's Small Business Summit from June 11-13 in Washington D.C. One regional finalist will receive the DREAM BIG Small Business of the Year Award and a \$10,000 cash prize.

"As the business community has worked hard to do its part in moving the

country forward economically, small businesses have continued to be the driving force responsible for much of our progress," U.S. Chamber President and CEO Thomas J. Donohue said. "Our Blue Ribbon Award winners are the best of the best—growing and succeeding despite significant challenges."

Donohue said the U.S. Chamber of Commerce is proud to honor the small businesses for their contributions to the country's economic recovery and continued hard work in

their communities.

"They represent the creativity, the determination, and the resilience of the U.S. business community and are examples of the enormous potential of businesses and employees across the country," Donohue said. McSweeney Holdings has also been named the 2013 Birmingham Small Business of the Year, the 2013 U.S. Department of Commerce Exporter of the Year and won the Alabama Governor's Trade Excellence Award.

"We appreciate the Birmingham Business Alliance for nominating us for this award, and for supporting our growth efforts with their local resources," McSweeney said. "It's exciting to see what an immediate impact they are making on progressing the economic development efforts in Birmingham. This, too, is a by-product of what a great team they have."

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

CRASH continued from page 1

Instrument meteorological conditions prevailed in the area at the time and an instrument flight rules clearance had been obtained by the pilot, Allan Campbell, from air traffic control.

The flight originated from Jackson-Medgar Wiley Evers International Airport in Jackson, Miss., and was destined for Birmingham-Shuttlesworth International Airport. Earlier in the day Feb. 14, an individual with the Mississippi Organ Recovery Agency contacted Southern

Seaplane, Inc., and asked if it was able to transport specimens from Stennis International Airport in Bay St. Louis, Miss., to Birmingham and also to Jackson. While at the Jackson airport, the pilot said he would fly to Birmingham if the weather cooperated.

Preliminary air traffic control information indicates that at approximately 10:08 p.m. Feb. 14, the pilot established contact with Birmingham Approach Control. The controller

provided the pilot the altimeter setting to advise having automated terminal information service "Gulf," and advised him that Birmingham was instrument flight rules and asked him his intentions. Campbell requested IFR clearance for Runway 24. The controller asked the pilot if he was capable and qualified for IFR flight, to which he replied "affirmative."

The controller cleared the flight to Birmingham via radar vectors and to maintain 4,000 feet.

Radar data indicates the flight continued in an east-northeasterly heading, while at approximately 10:18 p.m., the controller instructed the pilot to fly heading 090 degrees and to descend to 3,000 feet, which he acknowledged.

The radar data indicated the pilot turned to the left and at about 10:20 p.m., the pilot asked the controller to say again. The controller then informed the pilot that it appeared he was in a turn to the north, and advised him to level the wings, maintain 2,800

feet, or climb to 3,000 feet. There was no reply from the pilot. The airplane was lost from radar and radio contact was lost.

The full preliminary report is available at www.ntsb.gov.

ntsb.gov.

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Trussville property tax increase: A comparison to past elections

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

Voter turnout was 34 percent in last Tuesday's property tax referendum in Trussville.

Voting for the seven-millage increase that will fund two elementary schools were 2,812 people, while 1,935 voted against the increase. That totals 4,747 votes cast from among 13,788 eligible voters in Trussville, according to numbers provided by Trussville City Clerk Lynn Porter.

Seven additional mills



Trussville City Schools Superintendent Pattie Neill shows off some vote totals last Tuesday night.

in property taxes will cost Trussville residents \$70 per year on homes appraised at \$100,000, \$140 per year on homes appraised at \$200,000 and \$210 per year on homes appraised at \$300,000. The increase will generate roughly \$2.1 million for schools for 25 years to go toward construction of a new elementary school near Magnolia Place and renovation of the New Deal-era school building in the Cahaba Project.

For the March 2010 property tax increase vote, voter turnout was 41 percent. There were

4,939 votes cast from among 12,009 eligible voters. The increase was overwhelmingly voted down, 72 percent to 28 percent.

In the municipal election of the mayor and Trussville City Council in August 2012, only 2,668 out of 12,857 eligible voters exercised their right to vote. That equates to just 21 percent voter turnout.

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

photo by Ron Burkett

JeffCo Distinguished Young Women program deadline March 10

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

The Distinguished Young Women Program of Jefferson County is accepting applications from high school girls graduating in 2015 and residing in Jefferson County.

The deadline for receiving applications is March 10.

The program, formerly Jefferson County's Junior Miss, is July 18-19 at Samford University. Interested girls may visit www.DistinguishedYW.org and click on the icon "Participate" to receive an application or they may contact Chairman Eddie Macksoud at jefferson@distinguishedYW.org or 205-907-0210.

There is no entry fee. Participants compete in the categories of fitness, self expression, interview, scholastics and talent. More than \$13,000 in cash-tuition scholarships was awarded and more than \$489,000 in college-granted scholarships last year. Any participant in the program may qualify for a full tuition, room and board scholarship with a qualifying grade point average and test score.

The Jefferson County representative will advance to the Distinguished Young Women Program of Alabama in Montgomery, where she will compete for more than \$40,000 in cash-tuition scholarships and more than \$1 million in college granted scholarships.

All state winners will travel to Mobile to participate in personal development activities and community service projects before competing for the opportunity to become the Distinguished Young Woman of America for 2015 and for a share of more than \$125,000 in cash scholarships.

Distinguished Young Women is a scholarship program that inspires high school girls to develop their full, individual potential through a fun, transformative experience that culminates in a celebratory showcase of their accomplishments.

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SCHOOL continued from page 1

the Trussville City Council approve the intermittent transfer of funds as needed from the joint trust fund to the Trussville City Board of Education for startup, construction and other costs connected with school projects by the board as a result of the tax referendum. The requested funds from the trust fund will be reimbursed from the

initial new tax proceeds, up to the point where the balance at the time of the initial withdrawal is restored. The board will send the resolution to the city council for approval at a later date.

Neill and board members noted the quick turnaround on the approval, selecting an architect less than a week after Trussville

residents approved a seven-millage property tax increase to fund the two schools.

"We were successful," Neill said. "Now it's time to get to work."

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

CCHS career fair a success



photo courtesy of Jefferson County Schools

Clay-Chalkville High School

For The Tribune

Last week's career fair at Clay-Chalkville High School was a success.

Carrie Beth Buchanan coordinated and worked with teachers at her school to assemble one-half day comprising six 30-minute sessions in different job break-out sessions for all seniors at the school Feb. 19.

Job groups included

skilled and technical science, retail and food service, business management, information technology and communication, education and human sciences, civil service and health science.

Principal Michael Lee thanked Clay Mayor Charles Webster, Clay City Councilwoman Becky Johnson and the council's support for this initiative and all the support for area schools given by the city of

Clay. Long-range plans for inclusion of elementary and middle school career studies support the state superintendent's 2020 Program of having a 95 percent graduation rate for Alabama and the College/Career Ready Initiative.

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Complete Cleaners adds delivery service

by Erik Harris

For The Tribune

Several days a week Alex Yearout rises early to leave his home in Hoover.

He makes the 30-minute commute, leaving his wife and two small children behind at 5:30 a.m. in order to fire up the equipment needed to operate a 12-hour day of dry cleaning.

Yearout is a manager at Complete Cleaners in Trussville.

From unlocking the doors to heating up the machinery, Yearout tees up Patterson's company for a dawn until dusk operation that cleans and presses the laundry of many Trussville households.

Patterson has built a fast, easy drive-thru business that prides itself on friendly customer service and economically efficient labor that he's stood behind for nearly 20 years.

"We hope that you never have to be here for

five minutes when you do a transaction here," Patterson said.

Complete Cleaners, which currently employs 23 workers, offers same-day service and has recently added a delivery aspect that gives customers three options: to become a member of a route that will stop by their home twice a week to pick up and deliver dry cleaning; to place call-in orders; or to drop off the material at one of the two Trussville locations and have it delivered back to their home after cleaning.

"Anything that's dropped off in the morning can be picked up that afternoon if it comes in before our typical cut-off times," Patterson said.

The original Complete Cleaners went up in November 1994 where the Mazda dealership currently stands off U.S. Highway 11. Patterson took the 3,000 square-foot convenience store building, put a covered



submitted photo

The Complete Cleaners location near Tutwiler Farm in Trussville

drive-thru up front and started the business, which was operated by himself and five employees.

In 2001, after moving to a new location, Complete Cleaners became one of the first 50 Green Earth cleaners in the world. Green Earth cleaning is a silicone-based process that lacks the hazardous chemicals of traditional dry cleaning.

"The Green Earth

process uses silicone, which is composed of sand and water and CO2 and is much safer for both our employees and the environment," Patterson said.

In addition to its safety benefits, Green Earth is more fabric friendly than previous methods because of the reduced friction.

Complete Cleaners erected its second location in 2005. Patterson wanted

to move it further north, as that was the direction Trussville was expanding at the time. This store currently produces roughly 30 percent of the company's revenue, according to Patterson.

Back in 1994, Rachel Stewart became Complete Cleaners' first part-time employee. She stayed loyal to the company through two years of high school and four years of college

before becoming an elementary school teacher.

While employed for Patterson in the 1990s, Stewart made Christmas decorations that have been put on display for the holidays every year since. Stewart is currently a third grade teacher at Leeds Elementary School, where she's been for more than 12 years.

While Complete Cleaners continues its growth and expansion, it's the lasting foundation such as friendly faces, fast service, early risers and, of course, reliable Christmas decorations that have kept this company thriving for nearly two decades.

"The main thing is our people," Patterson said. "The way we interact with the customer, we hope every customer leaves here and says, 'She was nice or he was nice' and that they feel confident in the capability of that person."

Trussville's Got Talent winners named

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

Winners from the sixth annual Trussville's Got Talent have been named.

From Paine Primary School, first place went to Abbi Besenlehner and Sittre Paige Jones. Virginia Glidewell finished in second place and Emma Lombardo took third. Most entertaining went to Haven White.

From Paine Intermediate

School, first place went to Lily Sauger. Second place was awarded to Molly Bruno and third place went to Mia Graham. The most entertaining went to Sydney White.

At Hewitt-Trussville Middle School, Brinkley Rackstraw finished first. Second place went to Robin Dunn and Kara McCulloch was awarded third. Most entertaining went to Desi Gillespie.

At Hewitt-Trussville High School, the trio of

Madeline Steward, Charlie Steward and Lee Scott won first place. Claire Caddell took second place, and third place went to Gavin and Emma Slay. Erin Bardwell, Anna Cunningham and Rachel Johnston were named most entertaining.

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

School bus runs into ditch near Clay-Chalkville HS; no injuries

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

A school bus Monday morning ran into a ditch on Deerfoot Parkway near Clay-Chalkville High School.

Students were on board but no one was injured,

said Principal Michael Lee.

The bus ran into a ditch near the Fred's Super Dollar store.

"(The students) just walked to school," Lee said. "They were all high school students."

The driver of the bus reported that a bus following behind him had

struck him in the rear, said Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Chief Deputy Randy Christian. Rather than blocking the roadway, they decided to pull off the road. The driver of the lead bus slid on mud a distance when pulling off the roadway, Christian said.

Council ratifies final property tax vote results

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

The Trussville City Council at a canvass meeting on Tuesday unanimously approved the final results of the Feb. 25 tax referendum.

After unsealing one provisional ballot, the final results were 2,813 people voting for the seven-mill-

age property tax increase, while 1,935 voted against it. The seven additional mills will fund the construction, renovation and operation of two new community elementary schools in the city, one in the former high school and middle school on Parkway Drive and the other near the Magnolia Place subdivision.

Seven additional mills

in property taxes will cost Trussville residents \$70 per year on homes appraised at \$100,000, \$140 per year on homes appraised at \$200,000 and \$210 per year on homes appraised at \$300,000.

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LIFESTYLE

Paine Primary announces Mercedes Kids Marathon participants

For The Tribune

Paine Primary School last month announced the names of the 41 participants in the 2014 Mercedes Kids Marathon.

The local event helped raise money for various charities in the area.

After training in their physical education classes at school, the students ran the last mile of their marathon with several hundred other students from across the state. After crossing the finish line, they received a medal



submitted photo

Paine Primary School's participants in the 2014 Mercedes Kids Marathon

to reward them for their accomplishment.

Participants included Wilks Nichols, Elly Morris, Wesley Patterson, James Avvil, Luke Pinion, Chaney Peters, Reagan Hanson, Isabel Delgado, Emily Giangrosso, Kaylee Rose Elrod, Beck Peterson, Sam Brooks, John DeArman, Rob Burtram, Anna Morris, Trent Northern, Avery Burke, Kate Harrington, Antonio Delgado, Cooper Landry, Asher Sharp, Brynlea Franklin, Michael Kennedy,

Addison Freeman, Ren Peterson, Conrad Jones, Noah Pearson, Christian Zwiebel, Pierce Heinzman, Josh Dodson, Mallory Lane, Nate Dodson, Veronica Sherbrook, Same Greene, Reagan Lawson, Teague Jones, Cade Watkins, Ramsey Faye Wilson, Sara Beth Slaughter, Micah Johnson and Gentry Briggs.

The Mercedes Marathon has raised more than \$4 million for local charities over the past 13 years.

Turkey Creek Nature Preserve manager wants feedback

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

Turkey Creek Nature Preserve Manager Charles Yeager is asking for feedback about the preserve so that it can be further improved.

A visitor questionnaire at www.turkeycreeknp.wordpress.com asks if you've visited Turkey Creek Nature Preserve, how often, how you learned about the preserve, what time of year you visit, safety at the preserve, if you feel the preserve makes Pinson a more desirable community, what you do at the preserve, if you'd be willing to pay admission to enter the preserve, what additional public programs would interest you and more.

The survey totals 24 questions.

Yeager said a lot of plans are in the works to provide new opportunities at the preserve. He said the survey will help to better understand how the public uses the preserve and how

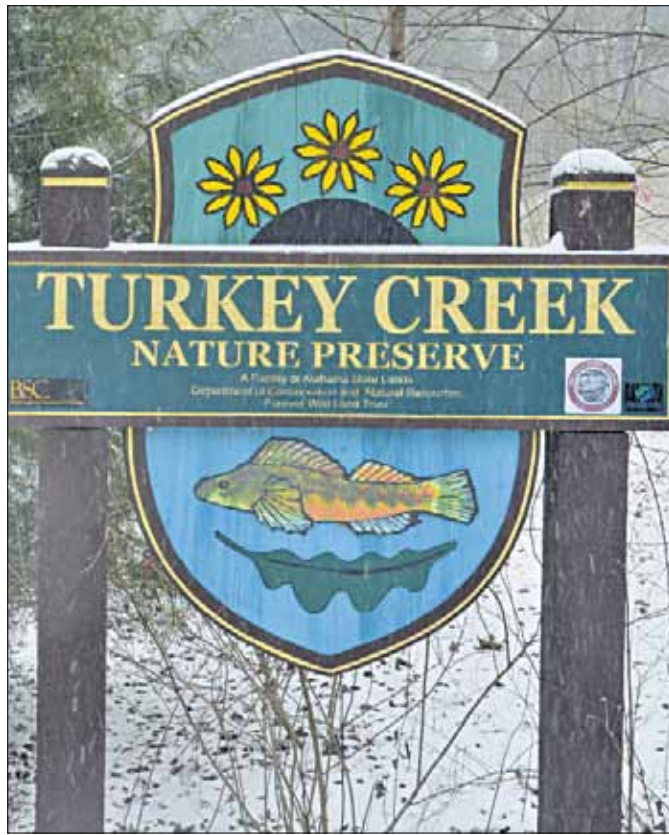


photo courtesy of Turkey Creek Nature Preserve

A snowy scene at Turkey Creek Nature Preserve in Pinson earlier this year

it can continue to improve.

If enough people respond to the survey, Yeager said, he will address in a column some of the more popular questions or concerns that come up.

Turkey Creek is in its fifth year as a nature

preserve.

For more information, visit www.turkeycreeknp.wordpress.com.

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

RadioShack closing 1,100 stores; locations not named

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

RadioShack is planning to close up to 1,100 underperforming stores in the United States, but the company is not disclosing which stores are being closed.

"We are not releasing a store closing list at this time," according to a statement provided by RadioShack Media Relations. "However, RadioShack will maintain market coverage as part of this plan, with more than 4,000 U.S. stores in the RadioShack footprint. We will have information to share in the future."

RadioShack has a Trussville location on Chalkville Mountain Road.

"Over the past few months, we have undertaken a comprehensive review of our portfolio from many angles - location, area demographics, lease life and financial performance - in order



file photo

The Trussville Radio Shack

to consolidate our store base into fewer locations while maintaining a strong presence in each market," said RadioShack CEO Joseph C. Magnacca. "The result of that review is our plan to close up to 1,100 underperforming stores."

The RadioShack in Trussville was robbed at gunpoint Feb. 13. Two black male suspects made away with about \$340 in

cash and four iPhones. The Trussville Police Department on Feb. 24 arrested a robbery suspect, 22-year-old Victrick Laray Jones Cooper, of Center Point, but it is not clear if he is a suspect in the RadioShack robbery case.

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