

Habitat home dedication set for Friday

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

A Habitat for Humanity home will be dedicated at noon Friday in the Chalkville area.

For the 22nd time, volunteers with the Alabama Power Service Organization Magic City Chapter and numerous partners are constructing a Habitat for Humanity Home for the Dorsey family, which consists of mother Rayonna, and daughters Elizabeth, 9, and Chloe, 1.

The home was built in five days.

Volunteers built a "green" EarthCents home with energy-efficient and environmentally friendly features.

Habitat for Humanity Greater Birmingham President and CEO Charles

Moore said the partnership allows for the Dorsey family to experience the dream of home ownership.

"The installation of green features means direct savings on utility costs, which will help with keeping housing costs affordable throughout their lifetime," Moore said.

Several features of the Dorsey's EarthCents home will produce savings on electricity. These include Energy Star appliances, lighting and controls, as well as energy-efficient heating and cooling and a hybrid hot-water system.

Other elements in the design of the home and yard will help reduce water usage. For example, the home will have a rain-harvesting system for irrigation. The home will also have low-flow faucets, shower heads and toilets.

Low-toxic paints, caulking and adhesives will make the home cleaner and healthier. Construction materials will be recycled where possible, reducing the amount of waste that ends up in landfills.

"This project will show how a green EarthCents home will improve energy efficiency, and put money back in the homeowner's wallet over the long run," said Robin White, a green building specialist at Alabama Power and past chairman of the U.S. Green Building Council, Alabama Chapter. "This energy-efficient home will be healthier for the family and have less of an impact on the environment."

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

Clay limits city football to those in school district

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

The Clay City Council on Monday motioned to limit city football to people who live in the Clay-Chalkville High School district and those whose family had played in the city before.

The move only applies to football at this time, City Manager Ronnie Dixon said Tuesday.

Dixon said the school's coaches will be working with the recreational program to develop players who will eventually play

in the Clay-Chalkville system.

"The council wanted to be fair to players from last year so they were grandfathered in," Dixon said in an email.

For more information

about Clay, visit www.clayalabama.org.

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



photo courtesy of www.clayalabama.org

The city of Clay

Trussville natives graduate from AU pharmacy school

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

Auburn University's James I. Harrison School of Pharmacy held its spring commencement ceremony last month at Auburn Arena.

The class of 152 included 150 students receiving the doctor of pharmacy degree, three of which were given in absentia and an additional three with an anticipated

degree completion date in the summer. Two students were awarded doctor of philosophy degrees.

Trussville natives Kimberly Amanda Russell and Jaimie Marie Dunion graduated from Auburn University's Harrison School of Pharmacy. Russell plans to work for CVS in the Birmingham area.

Also graduating were Joshua and Rebecca

Blackshear Oliver. Joshua Oliver, who graduated magna cum laude, works with CVS in Birmingham and has a PGY-1 residency at UAB Hospital. Rebecca Oliver has accepted a position with CVS in Birmingham.

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

Alleged Pinson burglar held at gunpoint by neighbors

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

A Pinson man was in Jefferson County Jail on Tuesday after authorities said neighbors of a home he was burglarizing stopped him in the act.

Jefferson County sheriff's deputies were called to a report of a burglary in progress Sunday at 9:15 a.m. at a vacant home in the 5000 block of Gold Leaf Lane near Pinson. Deputies arrived at the home to find an off-duty Tarrant police officer and another neighbor holding the suspect at gunpoint, said Jefferson County Sheriff's Office Chief Deputy Randy Christian.

Christian said that deputies learned that one neighbor had seen the suspect pull up to the home and run to the rear. The suspect could be seen inside the house going from room to room. The neighbor alerted another, who is a Tarrant police officer, and the two men stopped the suspect as he was exiting the house through the front door.

The suspect was identified as 29-year-old Noah Carter of Pinson. He was charged with third-degree burglary and



photo courtesy of the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office

Noah Carter

placed in the Jefferson County Jail with bond set at \$8,000.

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

Pinson Valley exceptional education teacher wins grant

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

A Pinson Valley High School exceptional education teacher recently won a grant for iPads.

Lynn Malchus won a \$1,700 grant from the Alabama State Council Knights of Columbus' disability fund, according

to the Jefferson County School District.

Malchus has been at Pinson Valley High School for nine years, spending seven of them as a collaborative special education teacher in math and science. The other two years Malchus has spent teaching the self-contained class grades 9-12.

Additionally, Malchus is the KEY CLUB sponsor for Pinson Valley High School. The service organization helps the school and community.

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

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LIFESTYLE

3 from Trussville to vie for Miss Alabama this week

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

A trio of Trussville natives will vie for the title of Miss Alabama this week.

Holland Brown, Elisabeth Chramer and Katie Malone will compete against 44 other girls in the 2014 Miss Alabama Pageant, scheduled for June 4-7 at the Wright Center on the campus of Samford University.

Brown will compete



submitted photo

Elisabeth Chramer



submitted photo

Katie Malone



submitted photo

Holland Brown

as Miss Shelby County, Chramer as Miss Tennessee Valley and Malone as Miss Point Mallard.

Brown, a 2011 Hewitt-Trussville High School graduate, competed last year as Miss Auburn University. Chramer graduated from Hewitt-Trussville in 2009 and competed as Miss Birmingham last year. Malone, a 2010 Hewitt-Trussville High School graduate, competed as Miss North Jefferson Area a year ago.

This will be the second Miss Alabama Pageant for Brown, fifth for Chramer and fourth for Malone.

Hannah Brown will compete as Miss Trussville and Mi'a Callens as Miss Jefferson County.

For more information, contact the Miss Alabama Pageant at 205-871-6276 or visit www.missalabama.com.

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

Clay Fishing Rodeo set for Saturday

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

The annual Clay Fishing Rodeo is set for Saturday at Cosby Lake Park.

The rodeo is from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and is for children ages 4 to 12. Children will receive a rod and reel, and bait.

There will also be drinks and hot dogs for the kids.

Also on Saturday before the fishing rodeo, a fun walk to benefit Camp Smile-A-Mile is planned. The two-mile walk -- twice around the walking path



file photo by Gary Lloyd

Cosby Lake Park in Clay

that surrounds Cosby Lake -- will begin at 8 a.m. The entry fee is \$10 and is paid on the day of the event at registration.

The Clay-Pinson Chamber of Commerce will provide water for participants.

Trussville native working at Old Cahawba for summer

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

Auburn University history major Lowery McNeal, a Trussville native, will be living and working in Selma until the end of July as part of Auburn's Living Democracy Initiative.

McNeal began the initiative May 14.

She is working with Old Cahawba Archaeological Park to implement many of their new outdoor adventure and ecotourism projects, including a canoe trail on the Alabama and Cahaba rivers.

She also plans to host several community events for youth in Selma. McNeal will be coordinating projects with Old Cahawba Park site director Linda Derry, Selma and Dallas County Chamber of Commerce director Sheryl Smedley and Dallas County Extension Services coordinator Callie Nelson.

The Living Democracy program aims to bring together students and citizens to collaborate on issues that concern Alabamians. McNeal will work with Dallas County citizens to highlight the potential of the area.

McNeal will pursue local adventure projects at Old Cahawba Park, including a birding trail, bike trail and canoe tour service; issues forum and other community engagement events for area youth; and learning about Selma's history, culture and citizens.

Living Democracy is a program of Auburn University's College of Liberal Arts and the David Mathews Center for Civic Life. For more information, visit <http://www.cla.auburn.edu/livingdemocracy/>.

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Paine schools announce 18 who had perfect attendance



submitted photo

The 18 students who earned perfect attendance

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

Paine Primary and Paine Intermediate schools in Trussville last week announced 18 students who had perfect attendance for the 2013-2014 school year.

There were five from Paine Primary and 13 from Paine Intermediate.

On the last day of

school, the 18 students were treated to a special doughnut breakfast and received certificates, and several award coupons for their efforts.

Achieving perfect attendance from Paine Primary School were Ryan Burton, Jacob Samuel, Kathleen Bell, Kaylee Routh and Amber Newman.

Achieving perfect attendance from Paine

Intermediate School were Elijah Bell, John Birdwell, Lily Burford, Andrew Carter, Jakoby Cheatham, Carly Cook, Ryan Cook, Daniel Cosby, Carly DeSimone, Kaitlyn Hendrix, Kate Jordan, Kenny Nguyen and Samuel Washington.

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

Pinson library fundraising campaign nets \$2,015

by Gary Lloyd

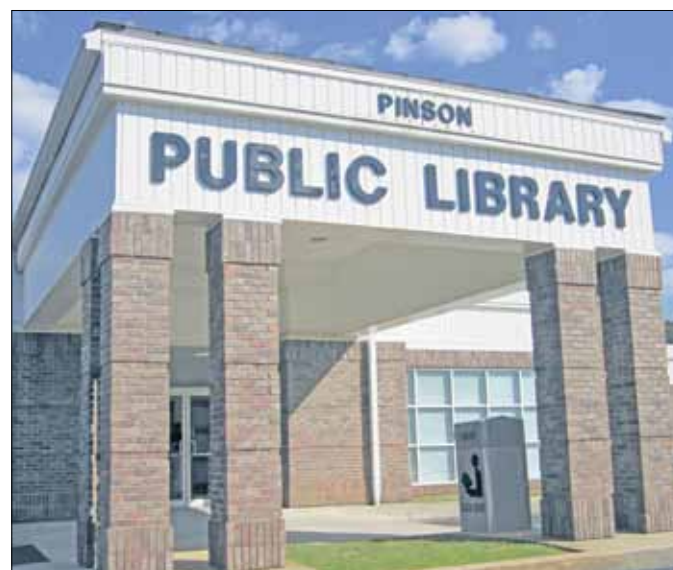
Editor

The Pinson Public Library's fundraising campaign to provide a summer reading program each day this summer met its goal.

The spring fundraising campaign raised \$1,005 online and \$1,010 in offline contributions. The goal was \$2,000.

Meeting the fundraising goal means the library will have a program each day this summer. The summer reading program began June 2 and runs through July 19.

In the library's first year of summer reading in 2012, 14 programs were offered for teens and children. Last year, 40 programs were offered for teens, children and adults.



file photo

The Pinson Public Library

This year, there will be about 60 programs.

A post on the library's Facebook page thanks contributors for "understanding the importance of an outstanding Summer Reading Program in our

community." The library is located on Main Street in Pinson.

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

Trussville Chamber up for BBJ Nonprofit Award

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

The Trussville Area Chamber of Commerce is a finalist for a Birmingham Business Journal 2014 Nonprofit Award.

The awards recognize top nonprofit organizations and charities in Birmingham, as well as the businesses and corporate citizens that support them.

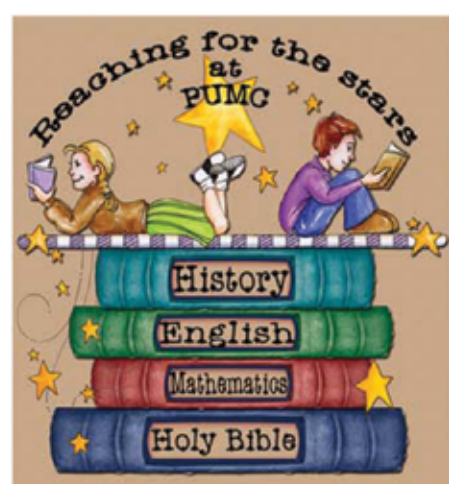
This year's finalists will be honored June 19 at the Sheraton Birmingham

Hotel.

The Trussville Area Chamber of Commerce is a finalist in the Business/Industry Nonprofits category. Other finalists are the Birmingham Association of Realtors, REV Birmingham and Southern Research Institute.

Read more at www.bizjournals.com/birmingham.

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



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Sometimes flunking a college course takes more effort than passing it

All the recent late spring talk of exams and grades and graduations reminded me once again of the time I flunked music appreciation. Yeah, you read it right: music appreciation. The crap course to end all crap courses has a big fat "F" next to it on my college records. But there's more to the story than you might think.

Despite the whole flunking thing, I fondly remember the instructor who taught the course. A church organist when he wasn't teaching music appreciation and related courses, Mr. Williams (not his real name) was a talented man dedicated to making life better for others by sharing his passion for music.

And he was no difficult taskmaster, either. His lectures were fairly interest-

ing, and since I enjoyed the subject, I passed the exams without a whole lot of extra study.

Mr. Williams did, however, have one hard, fast requirement: During the semester, each student was to attend five music-related events of any kind and write a two-page review on each one. Which I did. But man, was it tough. You see, about midway through the semester, my dad was hospitalized with a heart attack, and two weeks later a second, massive attack ended his life.

But being that my education was important to my parents – probably having a lot to do with the fact that they were paying big bucks for it (no scholarship student here) – I slogged along through those weeks of worry and grief, managing to meet at least the



June Mathews
Somewhere in the Middle...

minimum requirements of each course I was taking, including music appreciation.

For some reason, though, Mr. Williams failed to note one of my five reviews in his records. Thus, when my grades arrived at the end of the quarter, music appreciation was marked "Incomplete" on the transcript, but I had no idea why.

So I called the registrar's office, only to learn Mr.

Williams was taking the summer off. But a sympathetic lady gave me his home number, which I immediately dialed. When he answered, I identified myself and inquired as to the reason for the incomplete grade.

"Let me see..." I could hear the sound of shuffling paper on the other end of the line. "Ah, here it is. I received only four reviews from you."

"But I turned in five!" I exclaimed and rapidly rattled off the events I'd attended and reviewed. I also reminded him of my personal situation over the past couple months and that while meeting his "five events, five reviews" requirement had been difficult, I'd done it, by golly. It never occurred to me to retain copies.

After a few more pitiful

entreaties on my part and paper-shuffling on his part, it somehow became apparent to him that I had indeed fulfilled the requirement (I suspect he found the fifth review in all that shuffling). So before we hung up, he'd agreed to change the incomplete grade to the grade I deserved – which probably wasn't an A, but it wasn't an F, I assure you.

Then long story short, in the wake of Daddy's death, the rest of the family moved back to our hometown, requiring a 300-mile relocation effort, and I enrolled in a local university. In all the changes and chaos, I never followed up with Mr. Williams, and he clearly never followed up with the registrar's office. A year or so later, I received a notice in the mail that the grade had been changed to an F for lack of further action.

By that time, I was in the midst of finishing the last of my college courses, working a part-time job and planning a wedding, so dealing with the undeserved grade never made it to the top of my to-do list. Getting it changed, I'd learned, would require a formal appeal, and too many other things were begging for my attention. It wasn't affecting my ability to graduate on time, so even though I really should have pursued it, I let it go.

So that's how I became a musical dolt on paper. I mean, really, who flunks music appreciation – especially when they pass all the tests and fulfill all the other requirements?

Oh yeah... That would be me.

Email June Mathews at jmathews120@charter.net.

Area seniors earn more than \$15 million in scholarships



photo by Ron Burkett

A scene from Hewitt-Trussville High School's graduation ceremony last month

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

Area high school seniors who graduated last month earned more than \$15 million in scholarships.

Seniors at Hewitt-Trussville, Clay-Chalkville and Pinson Valley high schools earned a grand total of \$15,693,604 in scholarship money.

Seniors at Hewitt-Trussville High School who earned scholarships totaled

\$8,622,620.

Clay-Chalkville High School had 80 students who earned 135 scholarships totaling \$4,853,609.

Pinson Valley High School had 49 students who earned 83 scholarships totaling \$2,217,375.

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

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CALENDAR

Palmerdale Homesteads

Community Center events

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

Cahawba Art Association meetings

The Cahawba Art Association meets monthly on the second Monday at 6:30 p.m. at the Trussville Public Library.

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.

Springville Military Order of the Purple Heart meetings

The Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 2213, Springville, meets at the Smokin Grill at 85 Purple Heart Boulevard on the first Tuesday of each month at 6 p.m.

Tribune editor signs new book on Trussville history

The Trussville Tribune editor Gary Lloyd will sign copies of his new book, "Trussville, Alabama: A Brief History" on Saturday, June 7 at The Little Professor in Homewood.

Preschool enrollment at Faith Lutheran

Faith Lutheran Church is now accepting students for the 2014-2015 school year for 2-, 3- and 4-year-olds. There is a low student to teacher ratio. For more information, call the church office at 205-680-2144.

Summer Mother's Day Out at Faith Lutheran

Faith Lutheran Church will be having a summer Mother's Day Out Program for ages 2- to 5-year-olds from June 3 to July 24 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, call the church office at 205-680-2144.

'Bargain Hunters' brunch June 11 at GVCC

Area ladies are invited to attend a "Bargain Hunters" brunch at Grayson Valley Country Club from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on June 11. Guest speaker Brenda Copeland will talk about "Steal and Dealz," and how to get the deal of your life. She'll also provide special music. Reservations are encouraged. Call Janice at 205-853-3022 or email rfooster5@bham.rr.com. Cost is \$14. The brunch is hosted

by Women's Connection East.

Upcoming Trussville City BOE meetings

The Trussville City Board of Education will meet July 21, Aug. 18, Sept. 15, Oct. 20, Nov. 17 and Dec. 15. All meetings are at 6 p.m. with public work sessions at 4:30 p.m. The Oct. 20 meeting will include a board retreat that begins at noon. All meetings are at the Central Office on North Chalkville Road.

Trussville Public Safety Committee meetings

Trussville's Public Safety Committee meets Aug. 21 and Nov. 20. Both meetings are at 7 p.m. at the Trussville Police Department Training Building at 127 Main St.

Clay Fishing Rodeo June 7

The annual Clay Fishing Rodeo is set for Saturday, June 7 at Cosby Lake Park. The rodeo is from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and is for children ages 4 to 12. Children will receive a rod and reel, and bait. Also on Saturday before the fishing rodeo, a fun walk to benefit Camp Smile-A-Mile is planned. The two-mile walk -- twice around the walking path that surrounds Cosby Lake -- will begin at 8 a.m. The entry fee is \$10 and is paid on the day of the event at registration.

The Warblers Club at Mountain Brook June 21

The Warblers Club men's chorus is having a show June 21 at Mountain Brook High School at 7 p.m. Admission is \$20. The show is titled "Warblers 85th Anniversary Show." For tickets, call 205-591-6080.

Paine Primary School 2014-2015 important info

All students registering for Paine Primary School must complete online registration and submit the following items to the school office: copy of state certified birth certificate, copy of Social Security card, original current Alabama blue immunization form and parent survey available in the office. Online registration is accessible at www.trussvillecityschools.com in the "Quick Links" box. Registration should be completed by June 30.

Young Rembrandts in Trussville June 9-13, July 7-11

The Young Rembrandts summer drawing workshop for those ages 6 to 12 will be at the Trussville Civic Center June 9-13 and July 7-11. Each session is from 9 a.m. to noon. The cost is \$150 per week. To enroll or for more information, visit www.youngrembrandts.com/Birmingham-AL or call 205-943-1923.

Float Your Boat in Pinson July 19

The fifth annual Float Your Boat Summer Festival will be at Turkey Creek Nature Preserve in Pinson on July 19 at 11 a.m. This event offers games, boat

races, trail runs, food and music. Proceeds benefit the preserve's Environmental Education Programming, which reaches 10,000 students every year. For more information, visit www.turkeycreeknp.wordpress.com.

'Charlotte's Webb' auditions in Trussville July 14-15

Auditions for "Charlotte's Webb" at Trussville's ACTA Theater will be July 14-15 at 7 p.m. at the theater on Parkway Drive. Roles are available for adults and children ages 8 and up. Those auditioning need to be prepared to read from the script. Anyone auditioning for any barnyard animal or spider should be prepared for a short movement audition, so dress comfortably. Those auditioning should bring a headshot. Resumes are optional. Rehearsals will begin July 21 and the show will be presented Sept. 19-21 and Sept. 26-28. For more information, contact the theater at 205-655-3902.

Day camp at Camp Coleman July 21-25

Day camp at Camp Coleman in Trussville will be July 21-25 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. each day. To happen, the minimum amount of participants is 20 and the maximum is 80. The cost is \$120 per camper per week and the registration deadline is July 14. Adult volunteers are needed. The camp includes archery, hiking, lawn sports, team-building games, hopscotch, arts and crafts, rock climbing, kayaking, leadership development, canoeing, water scavenger hunt, tubing, and more. To register, visit <https://thriva.activenetwork.com>.

Hewitt-Trussville High School Class of 1964 50-year reunion

A reunion for Hewitt-Trussville High School classes of 1963 through 1966 will be Saturday, Aug. 9 at Grayson Valley Country Club from 7 p.m. to 11

p.m. The cost is \$45 per person and the attire is casual. Checks should be made payable to HTHS Reunion and are due no later than Aug. 1. Checks can be mailed to Dianne Mize at 2664 Altadena Road, Vestavia Hills, AL 35243-4503. For more information about the 1963 class, contact Sue Wilkins at swilkins2712@charter.net. For more information about the 1964 class, contact Carolyn Green at zmnana5@gmail.com. For more information about the 1965 class, contact James Alexander at 205-854-1219. For more information about the 1966 class, contact Mary Louise Sutter at mlsutter@cs.com. For more information, find the HTHS Reunion Group on Facebook.

National Night Out Aug. 5

Trussville's second National Night Out will be Aug. 5 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Target parking lot. For more information, visit www.nationalnightout.org.

Trussville Bridal Show Aug. 10

The Trussville Bridal Show will be Sunday, Aug. 10 at the Trussville Civic Center. More details will be released as the date approaches.

Trussville Muscle and Fitness Classic Sept. 6

The first annual Trussville Muscle and Fitness Classic will be Sept. 6 at the Trussville Civic Center. To register or for more information, visit www.trussvillemuscle.com.

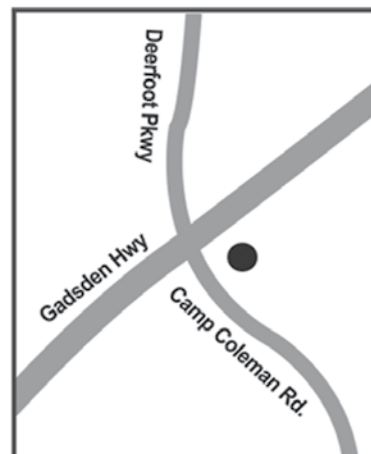
Jazzercise at Trussville Civic Center

Jazzercise is Mondays at 5 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays at 9 a.m. and 5:30 p.m., and Saturdays at 9 a.m. at the Trussville Civic Center. For more information, contact Beth Gilbert at 205-966-9893.

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OPINION

Reforming government: Action, not just words

Four years ago, when the Republican legislative majority was entrusted by voters with the task of genuinely reforming state government, one of our first priorities was to dramatically restore confidence in the public trust.

We said there shouldn't be two sets of rules for those entrenched in special interests in Montgomery with power, money, and influence and another set of rules for everyone else. At that time campaign finance laws and ethics laws were watered down, confusing or rigged for the special interests.

Our goal was not only to enact policies to create new jobs, reform a costly and antiquated state government, but also to change the "business as usual" atmosphere that had long dominated Montgomery.

We wanted to create one of the most transparent and accountable governments in the nation. Voters deserved nothing less. Our majority tackled the failed system in Montgomery immediately. As a new member of the Senate, I was privileged to cast my very first votes for landmark ethics reforms on behalf of the hard-working men and women of my district.

Over the last few legislative sessions, we have continuously improved upon and strengthened these laws to restore the integrity of the political process. Alabama's ethics laws are a model for the nation in transparency and full disclosure.

Several of the landmark reforms we passed include:

Ban on "Double-Dipping": Members of the Alabama Legislature are

prohibited from receiving two taxpayer-funded paychecks by holding another job with state government.

Legislative Pay Raise Repeal: We repealed the 62 percent pay raise Democrats voted themselves in 2007 and tied legislative pay to median household income.

The Alabama Ethics Commission Protection Act: Protects the Alabama Ethics Commission from political retaliation by ensuring that its annual appropriation in the State General Fund is secure.

Public Official Transparency Act: Requires public disclosure of the names of public officials, candidates, or spouses of public officials or candidates who are employed by the state or who have a contract with the state.

The Revolving Door



Slade Blackwell
From the Statehouse

Act: Bans any legislator from lobbying either the House or the Senate for two years after leaving office. It also strengthens the consequences for elected officials who resign office early by establishing that the two-year prohibition from lobbying does not begin until the end of the term to which the official was elected, and that the elected official is prohibit-

ed from lobbying any government body whatsoever for the remainder of the elected official's term.

Granting Ethics Commission Authority to Uphold Law: The Ethics Commission has the authority to subpoena witnesses and launch investigations.

Restrictions on Lobbyist Gift-Giving: Limits what a lobbyist can spend on a public official to prevent attempts to corruptly influence votes. Prior to passing this law, lobbyists were allowed to spend up to \$250 on legislators per day with no overall limit.

PAC-to-PAC Transfer Ban: Banning the laundering of campaign contributions through various political action committees frequently used in the past to confuse voters and hide the true source of a contri-

but ion. **Ethics Training:** Requires mandatory ethics training for all elected officials, state and local government employees, and lobbyists.

Eliminated Nepotism: Our ethics law banned the practice of handing out state contracts to family members. No more "brother-in-law" insider personal service contracts.

"Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty," Thomas Jefferson said.

Serving the taxpayers honestly and faithfully is the hallmark of the Republican legislative majority you have entrusted with your confidence and vote.

Slade Blackwell is serving his first term in the Alabama State Senate representing Jefferson and Shelby counties in District 15.

Explaining requirements of common law marriage

A common law marriage is one that hasn't been formalized through a ceremony or a marriage license with the state. The term comes from English common law, which recognized marriages could result from a husband and wife representing themselves as being married. The Supreme Court decision of *Meisher v. Moore*, 96 U.S. 76 (1877) states that unless a state passes a statute outlawing



Chesley P. Payne

common law marriages then they are still legal under our system of law. Ala-

bama is one of the states that hasn't yet passed such a law. Therefore, common law marriages are just as valid as ceremonial marriages.

The requirements of common law marriage in Alabama are:

- First, you and the other person must have the capacity to marry.
- Second, each person must intend to be married to the other person.
- Third, you both must

hold yourselves out to family, friends and the community as being married.

- The capacity to marry in the state of Alabama involves a few basic requirements such as being of the age of majority (19), be of sound mind and not be married to someone else.
- Contrary to popular myth, there is no set amount of time you must act as a married couple

to be married. In some cases, a time as short as two to three days has been considered enough to establish evidence of marriage.

Common law marriage often becomes an issue in the event someone passes away without a will and a survivor claims common law status even though there has been no ceremonial marriage. The survivor must present evidence that all the above requirements

are met before a court will declare a common law marriage. However, there's no such thing as common law divorce, so a couple that is common law married must go through the same divorce process as all other married couples.

So watch out, if you and your significant other tell others you're married, you just may be married, whether you like it or not.

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SPORTS

Clay-Chalkville DE now with double digit offers

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

A Clay-Chalkville rising senior defensive end collected a couple new scholarship offers last week.

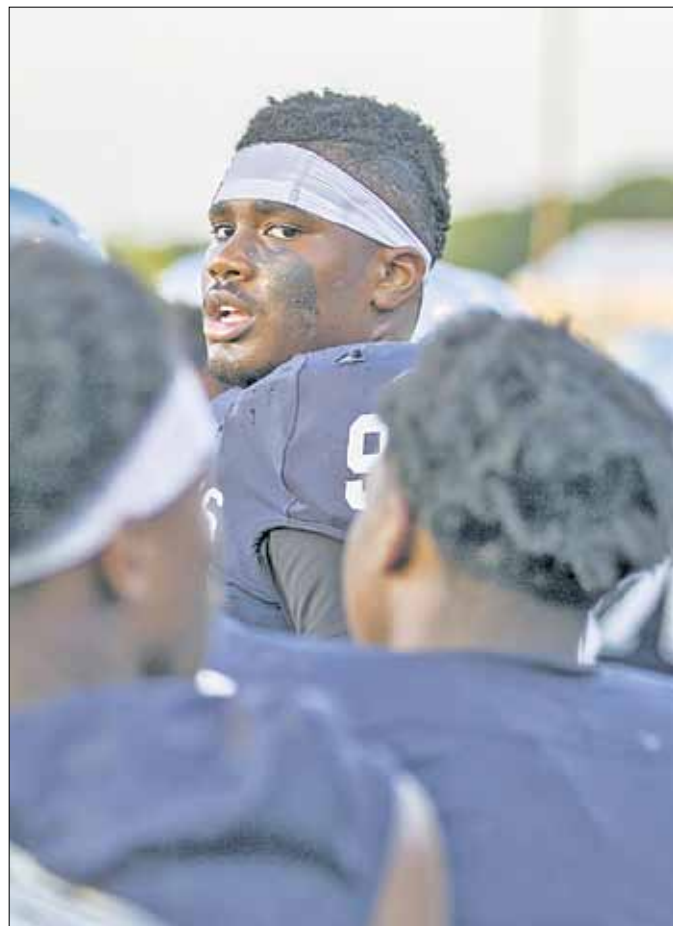
Kendell Jones was offered by Memphis and Arkansas State.

The 6-foot-4, 250-pound Jones has other scholarship offers from Cincinnati, Louisville, Middle Tennessee State, Mississippi State, North Carolina State, South Alabama, Southern Mississippi, Troy and Western Kentucky.

Jones said last month that Mississippi State is his leader.

Jones said he will likely make his college decision known right before the 2014 season starts or in the middle of the season.

As a junior last season, Jones totaled 18.5 tackles, 3.5 tackles for loss and 2.5 sacks. Clay-Chalkville rising senior defensive lineman LaDarius Har-



file photo by Ron Burkett

Kendell Jones

ris picked up an offer last week from South Alabama. He also holds an Alabama A&M offer.

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

Former Hewitt golfer 55th in NCAA Championship

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

UAB senior golfer Sam Love, who prepped at Hewitt-Trussville, finished 55th individually at the NCAA Championship last week in Hutchinson, Kan.

UAB, as a team, finished in 21st place.

Love finished 4-over par for the tournament, his career best at the NCAA Championship. He birdied three of his final seven holes in the final round to shoot a 2-over 72.

"They are an excellent team," said UAB head golf coach Alan Murray. "They have played really well all year. Right now it is still probably a bit raw and the guys are disappointed in how it finished, but overall they have had a great year. The results speak for themselves. We had several guys win tournaments individually and everyone has contributed. I am just really proud of them and pleased with this group. I am really going to miss the three seniors so we will have to restock the cupboard now and get ready for next year."

Love was named as an All-Conference USA Second Team selection this season. Love this season



photo courtesy of www.uabsports.com

Sam Love

had a 72.3 stroke average, ranking him fourth on the UAB team. He totaled four top-10 finishes, including a runner-up finish at the 2014 John Hayt Collegiate Invitational and a third-place finish at the 2013 Tony Cup in Tanagura, Japan. Love was the top finisher from an American university in the Tony Cup. While on the Hewitt-

Trussville golf team, Golfweek/Sagarin rated Love as the fifth-best high school golfer in the state of Alabama.

Love was coached in high school by Chad Dahlke.

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

Gibson No. 109 in recent Rivals 250

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

Pinson Valley rising senior running back Nick Gibson is one of the top 110 college football prospects in the country, according to Rivals.com.

Gibson was ranked No. 109 in the most recent edition of the Rivals 250, released last month.

Gibson last month was announced as one of 11 Alabama high school football players as a candidate to play in the U.S. Army All-American Bowl on Jan. 3, 2015. The game will be televised by NBC at noon.

Gibson, the Alabama Sports Writers Association Class 5A Back of the



file photo by Ron Burkett

Pinson Valley rising senior running back Nick Gibson

Year, rushed 293 times for 2,205 yards and 27 touchdowns as a junior last season. Gibson also caught 25 passes for 266 yards and three scores.

He holds scholarship offers from Alabama, Mississippi State, Tennessee, Arkansas, Kentucky, Florida

State, Louisville, North Carolina State, South Alabama and Jacksonville State.

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

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Clay-Chalkville game against Niceville (Fla.) confirmed for ESPN

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

What you probably already surmised is now official.

Clay-Chalkville head football coach Jerry Hood confirmed last week that its season opener Aug. 23 against Niceville (Fla.) at Hoover High School's Bucaneer Stadium will be televised by ESPN at 3 p.m.

Hoover will host Miami (Fla.) Central at 11 a.m. on ESPN.

Hood said tickets are \$12 and will be on sale later this summer.

"All Clay-Chalkville fans can benefit the Cougars by purchas-



file photo by Ron Burkett

Clay-Chalkville head football coach Jerry Hood

ing tickets at Clay-Chalkville," Hood said.

The game will be Clay-

Chalkville's first national appearance in program history. Clay-Chalkville was originally slated to face off with Hoover on Thursday, Aug. 21 to open the season.

Niceville finished as the Class 7A runner-up in Florida last season.

"We're going to line up, see what we've got right there on the national stage," Hood said in April when the game was announced.

Niceville will be led by rising senior running back Shi'Kim Coward, a three-star prospect with scholarship offers from at least 14 universities, including Georgia Tech, South Florida



photo by Ron Burkett

Clay-Chalkville football players take a breather during warmups before their May 16 spring game against Parker.

and UAB.

Clay-Chalkville has five players with scholarship offers. Rising seniors defensive end Kendell Jones, cornerback Kam Prewitt, defensive line-

man LaDarius Harris and running back Terrelle West all hold scholarship offers. Rising junior wide receiver T.J. Simmons also has several scholarship offers.

Hewitt softball player makes college commitment

by Gary Lloyd

Editor

A Hewitt-Trussville varsity softball player made her college commitment last month.

Junior Amber Hammonds verbally committed to play at Wallace State Community College.

Hammonds primarily plays center field, but also plays third base for the Lady Huskies.

In the 2014 Shelby County Showdown against some of the top teams in the state, Hammonds went 4-for-9 with two stolen bases.

Hewitt-Trussville finished the 2014 season with a 32-16 record.

Hewitt-Trussville was the Class 6A, Area 12 champion this year and was ranked No. 13 in the regular season's final Class 6A poll.

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



photo courtesy of Hewitt-Trussville Athletics

Amber Hammonds

Trussville Cherry Bombs win tournament



photo courtesy of Dennis Washington

Pictured are team members Lily Fincher, Kyndall Bailey, Lauren Gray, Jessie Morales, Allie Ford, Summer Stephens, Kaitlin Hughes, Anna Purvis, Erin Thompson, Morgan Washington, Lauren Wright and Katelyn Washington. Coaches pictured are Wade Brown, Joe Morales and Scott Hughes. Not pictured is Raleigh Parrish.

For The Tribune

The Trussville Cherry Bombs won its first tournament of the spring season Saturday, May 31 with a championship in the USS-

SA Summer Showdown Liberty tournament.

The tournament was held at Liberty Park in Vestavia Hills. The Cherry Bombs finished the day 5-0 with wins against Fury, Elimi-

nators, Venom, and two victories against Chaos.

The Trussville Cherry Bombs is a fast-pitch 12U softball team from Trussville.

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