

# The Arab Tribune

'The Ledger of Community Progress'

Saturday, June 8, 2019

\$1

## Arab

### Deadline to register for art camp is July 12 at rec center

Arab Park and Recreation's annual art camp is scheduled for July 15-26, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at Arab Rec Center on Main Street (across from Arab City Hall).

Children who will be in first through eighth grades in August are eligible to enroll.

The cost is \$110 per child.

The deadline to register is July 12.

For more information: 256-586-6793.

## Brindlee Mountain

### Pancake breakfast today (Saturday)

The Brindlee Mountain Volunteer Fire Department is having a community pancake breakfast from 6-10 a.m. Saturday, June 8, at the fire station, located at 4373 U.S. 231 in Morgan City.

The department asks for a donation for the breakfast, which includes pancakes, bacon, sausage, milk, juice or coffee.

Proceeds benefit the department.

## MMCN

### BMHS fundraiser

Brindlee Mountain head coach Keith Garner has announced an Independence Day Boston butt sale benefiting the BMHS athletic program.

Sales are underway and will continue until Wednesday, June 26. Cost is \$35 each. Meat will be prepared on campus, smoked for 10-12 hours.

Orders will be wrapped and ready to be picked up from 5-7 p.m. on Wednesday, July 3. All orders must be pre-paid on or before June 26.

To place an order, call 256-486-5102.

## Obituaries

The obituaries for the following people can be found on Page 4 in today's Tribune:

- Carol Breen
- Woodrow Cantrell
- Allen Gore
- Mac Perrin Jr.
- Dorothy Wilson
- Holly Young
- Abel Gore
- Addison Gore

## FYI

- Volume 62
- No. 22
- 8 Pages
- 1 Section
- \$1

### Website:

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■ Office hours: 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

■ Deadlines: 5 p.m. Wednesday: all news items for People & Events

## Arab Fire and Rescue

# Samaritan closing – Arab looking for ambulance service

By ARCHIE ANDERSON  
*The Arab Tribune*

The city of Arab must make a relatively quick decision on providing local ambulance service after being informed by letter last week that Samaritan Ambulance would be terminating its service in Arab effective July 1.

While there was no

"official business" for the council to take care of on the ambulance situation in its nine-minute meeting Monday, there was plenty of discussion during the one hour and 13 minute work session.

"It's a dilemma," said Mayor Bob Joslin, who had already been in contact with Marshall Medical

Centers administrator Gary Gore prior to Monday's city council meeting.

"Financially, I don't think it's feasible for the city to get back into that business," he said.

Unpaid bills and cuts in payments from Medicare

■ Please see  
**AMBULANCE, Page 2**



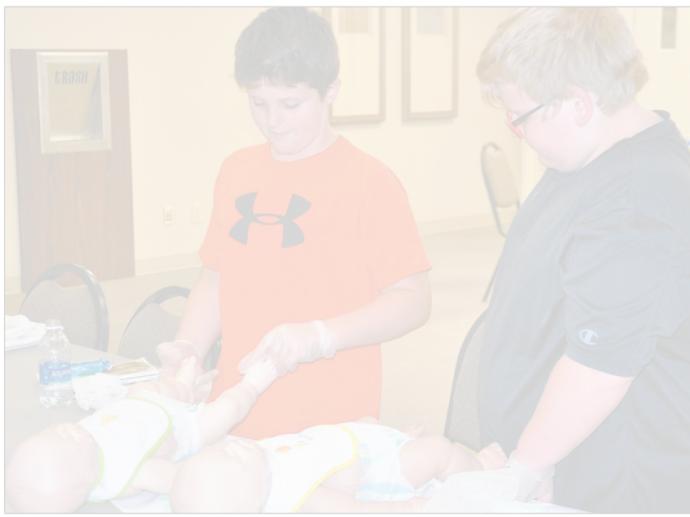
Samaritan EMS going out of business July 1

## Marshall Medical Centers

### Babysitter classes offered



Marshall Medical Centers is offering a babysitting course for young people ages 11 and up on June 28. The course will teach CPR and other babysitting information. Please see the full story on page 2 of today's Tribune. For more information on the course: 256-571-8000.



## Arab police

# Teen arrested for DUI in Waffle House wreck

By CHARLES WHISENANT  
*The Arab Tribune*

Rebekah Paige Monk, 19, of Somerville was arrested Thursday morning for DUI of alcohol and being a minor in possession of alcohol. She was booked in at Arab City Jail about 8:30 a.m. after turning herself in.

Arab Police on Wednesday issued warrants for her arrest. Monk is the driver of the car that crashed through Waffle House last Saturday causing major damage.

No one was seriously injured when her car left U.S. 231 and crashed through the Waffle House building.

Monk was taken to Marshall Medical Center North, where she was treated for minor injuries and later released.

Arab Assistant Police Chief Shane Washburn said it's not unusual for police to withhold arresting someone when they are taking to the hospital for injuries, even if they are minor injuries.

The wreck happened a little after 7 a.m., according to Washburn.

"The driver was headed south on U.S. 231 when her vehicle left the roadway, went up the embankment, went airborne, landed in the Waffle House parking lot before crashing into the south side of the building and exiting the other side," Washburn said. "The building suffered significant damage, but luckily no one inside the building was hurt."

The car came to a rest just before Old Huntsville Highway.

Monk allegedly blew 0.04 percent blood alcohol content on a portable breathalyzer.

While the legal limit for those 21 and older is 0.08 percent, the legal limit for anyone under 21 is 0.02 percent, Washburn said.



Monk

## Fiber network

# Otelco invests \$5 million in Arab, other areas to improve network

By CHARLES WHISENANT  
*The Arab Tribune*

Otelco announced this week it is investing \$5 million in its Alabama operations, including Arab, to expand fiber and improve its broadband connectivity.

The project will add 113 miles to the company's fiber network just to the company's Arab business. That will make fiber available to 4,100 more



locations in Arab.

Construction is set to begin in July and be complete in early 2020.

"This year, Otelco began

a major initiative to rethink our broadband deployment strategy in an effort to deliver the greatest improvement to the largest number of our

customers in the shortest time frame," said Trevor Jones, vice president of sales and marketing for Otelco. "By investing in fiber expansion and major upgrades to our cable and DSL networks, we are committed to bringing more bandwidth to all of our customers by this time next year."

In addition to those upgrades, Otelco announced it would also upgrade its DSL by adding VDSL (very

high speed digital subscriber lines).

"That will nearly double the speed of our traditional DSL," said Jason Fuller, OSP engineering and mapping manager for Otelco.

The following is part of Otelco's announcement:

- Otelco is building 113 miles of fiber to the home network within Arab city limits. This will bring

■ Please see  
**OTELCO, Page 2**

## Hydrofest 2019

# Hydrofest boat race tickets on sale at Chamber of Commerce

A STAFFREPORT  
*The Arab Tribune*

Guntersville Lake Hydrofest will be this summer's biggest event at the lake featuring four classes of hydroplanes and two concerts.

The weekend of racing on the South's fastest water will open Friday, June 28, with testing and qualifying. Competitive racing will take place on Saturday and Sunday,



June 29-30.

A free kid's zone with waterslides, static displays and food vendors will round out the weekend.

Tickets for Guntersville Lake Hydrofest are available now and can be purchased at:

- Arab Chamber of Commerce – 1157 North

- Main Street;
- Albertville Chamber of Commerce – 316 Sand Mountain Drive;
- Marshall County Convention and Visitors Bureau – 200 Gunter Avenue;
- Boaz Area Chamber of Commerce – 100 Bartlett Avenue;
- Mosley Monogram – 444 Gunter Avenue;
- Sand Mountain

- Toyota – 9167 U.S. 431;
- Santa Fe steak house – 7349 U.S. 431;
- Bakers on Main – 336 Gunter Avenue.

Tickets can also be purchased online: [www.guntersvillelakehydrofest.com](http://www.guntersvillelakehydrofest.com).

Ticket prices are as follows:

- Adult general – \$20

■ Please see  
**TICKETS, Page 3**

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**Marshall Medical Centers**

# Babysitting class, including CPR training, June 28

**A STAFF REPORT**  
*The Arab Tribune*

Youngsters hoping to earn money by keeping an eye on the neighborhood children can get a jump start with a one-day class that teaches everything from feeding and diapering to bedtime and CPR.

Marshall Medical Centers is offering a class for youth aged 11 and up on Friday, June 28. Cost is \$99

and includes lunch, snacks and CPR certification by a Red Cross instructor.

Students will be taught how to:

- Supervise infants and toddlers;
- Perform basic skills such as diapering and feeding;
- Choose safe and appropriate games and toys;
- Handle bedtime and discipline issues;

- Identify hazards and prevent injuries;
- Care for common injuries and emergencies such as choking, burns, cuts and bee stings;
- Communicate effectively with parents;
- Find and interview for babysitting jobs;
- Perform and become certified in child and infant CPR.

The class begins at 9 a.m.

and ends at 5 p.m. It will be held in the classroom of the Marshall Professional Center, next door to the Marshall Cancer Care Center and just south of Cracker Barrel on U.S. 431 in Albertville.

The deadline to register is June 13.

For more information or to sign up: 256-571-8000 to sign up.

Space is limited.

**Arab Stockyard report**

<b>June 4</b>	500-600 lbs. \$106-127
Receipts this week: 1,036	600-700 lbs. \$96-113
Receipts last week: 589	
Receipts last year: 984	
<b>Slaughter Classes</b>	
<b>Bulls and Steers</b>	<b>Cows</b>
Medium and large No. 1 & 2	Breaker \$58-62
300-400 lbs. \$139-162	Boners: \$55-65
400-500 lbs. \$126-150	Lean: \$47-55
500-600 lbs. \$115-134	
600-700 lbs. \$113-131	
<b>Heifers</b>	<b>Bulls</b>
Medium and large No. 1 & 2	Normal Dressing
300-400 lbs. \$125-135	\$81-85
400-500 lbs. \$120-129	High Dressing
	\$88-94
	Low Dressing
	\$78-80

**Marshall Medical Centers**

# Snead work program a continued success

**A STAFFREPORT**  
*The Arab Tribune*

The Snead State Community College Ready to Work Program continues to see success among its students.

According to its recent success report, the program has an 86.67-percent success rate in its participants finding employment, entering college and completing training.

"We're very excited to continue to see this program grow and provide opportunities for our students in going to work or going to college," said director of workforce development Teresa Walker. "It's a team effort among our instructors, our workforce development staff, the admissions staff and our recruiters. The effort is paying off, and the benefit is success for our students."

As part of the Ready to Work program, students train in the necessary "soft" skills requested by employers for today's workplace. The curriculum includes both on-line and classroom components, including communication, workplace behaviors, problem solving, job prep, computer skills and financial literacy.

Individuals successfully completing Ready to Work receive the Alabama Certified Worker Certificate and a National Career Readiness Certificate.

The Ready to Work program is operated by the Alabama Community College System in cooperation with AIDT.

The training is six to eight weeks in length.

Other benefits of graduating from Snead's Ready to Work program include a free three- or four-hour credit course at Snead State, job placement assistance, career assessment, job search information, Alabama Job Link registration, financial aid/enrollment/ advising information and information about Workforce Development class offerings.

Job placement assistance is provided to students during attendance and after graduation.

"The college recently set a goal of recruiting 10 percent of our Ready to Work students to enter college and continue their education and training," Walker said. "We are currently tracking approximately nine percent

of students who will take advantage of the free class, so we're on track to celebrating more milestones with these students."

Since the program began in 2009, 103 free classes have been awarded to Ready to Work graduates, and they also enrolled in an additional 1,508 within the last 10 years. Snead State has awarded 37 degrees and 14 certificates to its Ready to Work graduates to further their education.

"Our success is due in part to the relationships we have with our industry partners. Our industry champions include Newman Technology, Kappler, HFI, Atrion Medical and Syncro," Walker said. "Each company has employees regularly enroll in our Ready to Work classes, including those we are currently running. These companies also interview any Ready to Work graduates for vacant positions within their business."

Walker has served as an original voting member since the organization was formed in 2003, as chair of the organization in 2007 and as fiscal agent and administrative support since 2016.

# Otelco

■ Continued from Page 1

faster internet speeds, up to a gigabit per second (1,000 megabits per second) up and down, to 4,100 locations in Arab, both homes and businesses.

Otelco is building another 83 miles of fiber in the nearby communities of Ryan, Jones Valley, Summit, Joppa and Strawberry.

As a result, an additional 820 customers in the surrounding area will also benefit from faster internet service (up to 1 gigabit per second).

If you add the two together – that is 196 miles of fiber serving 4,920 homes and businesses in and around Arab.

Those customers will be able to get our IPTV service, bringing many of those outside of Arab a cable TV option for the first time.

The city of Arab is excited about the economic development opportunities that will come from having better internet connectivity available to prospective businesses.

The additional Internet bandwidth will offer consumers the ability to work from home, participate in online education programs, and home healthcare through

advanced telemedicine in addition to the obvious benefits for entertainment.

The VDSL plan includes:

- VDSL offers the potential for two to four times the internet speeds for customers close to Otelco's equipment - up to 50 megabits per second.

Customers who are not part of the current fiber plan will benefit. This includes customers in Arab and throughout the service area in Marshall, Morgan and Cullman counties.

This will offer better options for video streaming and working-from-home for our customers in those areas.

For more information: 256-586-2682.

# Ambulance

■ Continued from Page 1

for an ambulance have made it difficult for those who provide the service to stay in business.

Councilman Johnny Hart, who is also the executive director of Marshall County E-911, said there are problems with ambulance service in other areas as well.

"It takes 120 runs a month per ambulance to pay for itself, but at the same time you can't have enough ambulances," he said.

Joslin said that after speaking to Gore, "they would be willing to put one ambulance at the (Arab) fire station, but only one."

As it turns out, only one ambulance has been serving the area for some time. Ben Yanhkhoo of Samaritan, said that after the company lost its Morgan County contract, one ambulance has been housed at the fire station for the last four years.

"We originally had one in Morgan City as a backup but most recently, Marshall Medical has been the primary backup," he said.

Arab Fire and Rescue Chief Ricky Phillips said he would have several concerns if the hospital ambulances took over the service.

"I have a lot of questions about what they would actually provide," he said.

Phillips noted that all the medical supplies used by Arab personnel on emergency calls have been provided by Samaritan.

"They provided the software system used for inventory and this will mean a change in work crews and communication accessibility," he said.

Councilman Mike Allen said subsidizing the service may be an area where the city can help.

"Samaritan had even offered us four ambulances to get back into that business," said Joslin. "That's our alternative, but we can't afford it. We would have to have at least two crews to

make it, and right now we're not making enough runs each month for the service to pay for itself."

Also, pulling firemen off duty to serve as paramedics could affect the city's ISO rating, which directly affects everyone's insurance costs.

Council members voiced priority concerns as well that could potentially leave Arab without an ambulance in town if certain emergencies occurred in other parts of the county.

"I've talked with Mayor (Leigh) Dollar in Guntersville, and I'll talk to some other mayors about this, too," said Joslin. "If we work with the hospital, every city would need to be treated the same."

Joslin said he would meet with Gore and Phillips to "have a memorandum of understanding" on what to expect.

"We do appreciate the service Ben and the people at Samaritan provided for us. They did a good job and were always very honest with us," said Joslin.

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The Arab Tribune

Founded by Ralph W. Reed, March 27, 1958

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