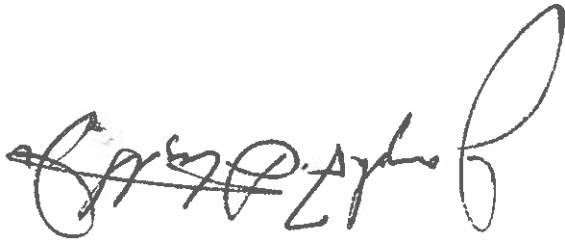


The Hale County Board of Education Office of Technology Initiatives will hold a public hearing, Friday, June 22, 2001 at the R. E. Ramey Education Center at 2:00 p.m. During this meeting a policy of Internet safety that includes measures to block or filter Internet access for both minors and adults to certain visual depictions will be discussed. Your participation is very important.



Have doc. to
auditors 5/1/01

Meet Your Neighbor!

Meet Your Neighbor Salutes Larry and Peggy McCray



Larry and Peggy are most involved in their church, our schools and our community. We are most fortunate to have this fine young couple in our community. We want them to know they are appreciated!

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T I M E S

Volume 15

McDonaldville, Alabama

Wednesday,

June 27, 2001

Ray's Miscellany

By Ray Chandler

Something For Stevie

This article is dedicated to bikers and truckers, two groups that sometimes seemingly go unnoticed and unappreciated by many. Truckers and bikers take notice and take action. They do their

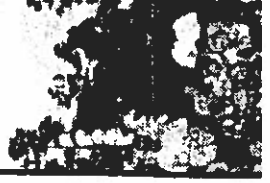
Stewart - Havana VFD Fire Rodeo A Big Hit

By Emily Craft

It's the kind of weekend that makes you proud to live in the South: sitting on wooden bleachers in your cowboy hat and boots, smelling nothing but horses and hay, eating fried catfish and watching a rodeo. There

event fire works sparked the clear sky.

The Stewart/Havana VFD is one of 8 volunteer departments that serve Hale County. The department recently expanded their operations to include a second station located in Havana, Alabama. Proceeds generated from the rodeo will be used to



speed, DUI, safety belt and work zone enforcement will be in effect during the holiday period. Heavy traffic conditions are expected throughout the Independence Day holiday and the summer travel season.

Troopers are asking motorists to drive with caution, obeying speed limits, using safety belts, securing children in child safety seats, and refraining from drinking and driving.

"I have worked hard to give

30-hour period that begins at 0 p.m. Tuesday, July 3, and ends at midnight Wednesday, July 4.

In 2000, 20 people died as a result of traffic wrecks during the 102-hour July Fourth holiday period, 16 on rural roads and four in urban areas. At least five of the deaths were alcohol related, and nine of the wreck victims were not using safety belts.

Troopers plan to concentrate patrols on vacation and beach

speed enforcement. At check points and when patrolling, troopers will be watchful for compliance with child restraint and safety belt laws.

Alabama's child restraint law requires a child safety seat for children through age three in front and back seats, and children ages four and five must be secured in a child safety seat or a regular safety belt. The state's safety belt law requires all front-seat occupants to buckle up.

New policy to focus on Internet safety

By Emily Craft

The Hale County Board of Education held a public meeting Friday to discuss the new policy on Internet safety for children recently passed by Congress.

The Children's Internet Protection Act was passed on Dec. 21, 2000 and declares that "no school or library will receive discounts unless it certifies that it is enforcing a policy of Internet safety that includes the use of filtering or blocking technology."

The policy must ensure protection of children against Internet access to material that is considered obscene, objectionable or dangerous.

"This is the result of a nationwide problem," said technology coordinator Victor Scott, "but it's in Hale County just like anywhere else. In a rural county you would think we'd be

safe from these sites, but if it's out there, they can find it."

Last year was the first year Hale County schools provided Internet access to students in every classroom. Over the past four years, the board has been working on the infrastructure and wiring as well as obtaining the computers. The second step, Scott said, is enabling the children to use the Internet for instruction.

"We almost thought we weren't that technologically advanced in Hale County," Scott said. "But the kids have picked up quick. They have the skills and now we want to channel that in the right direction."

Computers in Hale County classrooms were made possible by E-rate funding.

E-rate funding comes from money the federal government sets aside from telephone bills. The amount of money given to the counties is based on the poverty rate. Eighty-five percent of

Hale County's resources comes from the E-rate funding.

This has been offered for the past three years. As counties begin requesting for their fourth year, they must be prove they are moving toward an Internet Safety Policy. Next year, they must comply with all the new standards.

The Children's Internet Protection Act requires that schools implement a technology protection measure, monitor the online activities of minors and create an Acceptable Usage Policy.

Hale County currently uses ScreenDoor filtering technology, put in place by its Internet service provider, Trillion Digital Communications.

ScreenDoor protects the schools by blocking user access to inappropriate or objectionable content by protocol, port and server address using a human generated list.

Despite the use of an Internet filtering device, it is still a "con-

stant battle" to protect the children, because it is still possible to accidentally stumble upon objectionable material, Scott said.

"Under any ordinary computer search, objectionable sites can still be found," he said, since many of the dangerous sites use "innocent" names in order to bypass the filters.

ScreenDoor also has tracking capabilities that enable the Internet service provider to know what sites have been visited and for how long. The board foresees using this judicially.

"We don't have the time to do the watchdog bit," superintendent Frank Stegall said. "We don't want this to be like Big Brother."

Scott stressed the importance of having the teachers monitor the students' Internet usage.

Please see *INTERNET*, page 6

lived with his mother, a surgeries for cancer. They in public housing two miles

l to check on him every so on the cracks. Money was bly the difference between tevie being sent to a group gloomy place that morning e years that Stevie missed chester getting a new valve ial worker said that people problems at an early age so s a good chance he would e and be back at work in a

the staff later that morning gery, in recovery and doing

a war hoop and did a little od news. Belle Ringer, one lat the sight of the 50-year-y shimmy beside his table. i and shot Belle Ringer a as that all about?" he asked. of surgery and going to be as. I had a new joke to tell

and the other two drivers ary, then sighed. "Yes, I'm ut I don't know how he and s. From what I hear, they're r nodded thoughtfully, and f her tables. Since I hadn't ce Stevie and really didn't g their own tables that day alked into my office. She and and a funny look on her

Ringer and his friends were ony Pete and Tony Tipper can it off," she said. "This cup."

three \$20 bills fell onto my ued on page 5

"We depend on the kids to do the right thing," he said, "but we can't turn kids loose on the computer or give them uninhibited access."

Scott also has developed an Acceptable Usage Policy, which outlines Hale County's policy on Internet usage.

The policy requires that all use of computers be "in support of education, research or business applications consistent with the purposes of the Board."

cess to harmful materials.

Stegall said the disciplinary measures for abuse of the Internet would be the same as if a student or teacher brought a pornographic magazine into the school. In an Internet case, the board would have to determine whether the student accessed the material accidentally or on purpose.

Violating the Internet policy could result in a loss of access as well as other disciplinary or legal action.

Scott welcomes any written suggestions or comments from the public, especially those who are parents.

"LOTROXIN" USER:

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration recently re-quested that the prescription drug Lotronex be removed from the market.

Lotronex, used for treatment of irritable bowel syndrome, has been linked to several deaths and numerous health problems including colitis and other severe intestinal problems.

If you have taken Lotronex and suffered injury, you may have a valuable claim against its manufacturer. Call now for more information.

BOULOUKOS & OGLESBY

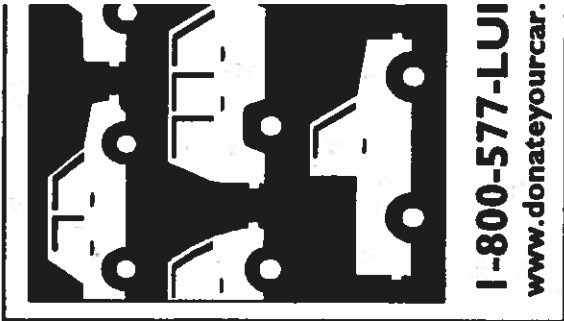
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BRASIL, MEXICO, MONGOLIA, Yugoslavia, China, Belgium PIE. has also been invited to fund a program to bring Independent States of the States. PIE is a non-profit sponsored more than 18,000 founding in 1975. The org: States Department of State dards for International Ed that the organization.com] CSJET's Standards for Inter Duty encourages families as it will allow the proper to know one another before th Moundville area famili student exchange or arrange representative may call PI Agency also has travel/stud American high school stude nity volunteers to assist and and schools.

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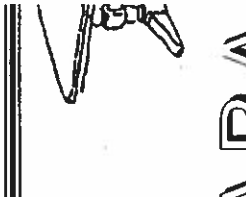
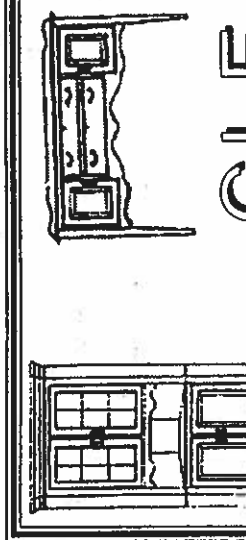
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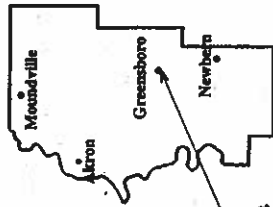
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THE GREENSBORO WATCHMAN

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Hale School System will have second Pre-K unit

Gov. Don Siegelman announced on Wednesday, June 13, that Hale County has been selected for a pre-kindergarten class funded by the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC). This new class will be in addition to the previously established pre-kindergarten class funded by the Office of School Readiness (OSR).

"The children of Alabama are our most precious and cherished resource, and we must do everything possible to make sure their best interests are served," said Gov. Siegelman. "Early childhood education is the best long-term investment we can make."

Greensboro West Elementary has been designated as the site for the new ARC pre-kindergarten class. The Hale County School System's pre-kindergarten for children with special needs has long been located at Greensboro West, and it became the site of the OSR pre-kindergarten



ATTEND BOYS STATE — The American Legion Post 65 commanded by F. M. Tucker selected three students as their 2001 representatives to Boys State at the University of Montevallo. They are: Wen Broussard, son of Mr. and Mrs. Wendell Broussard; Nick Seale, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Seale; and Craig Justice, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Justice. All three boys will be seniors this fall at Southern Academy. They are active in all school sports and the Greensboro Baptist Church Youth Group. The boys attended Boys State June 10-16. They enjoyed their trip and learned about the duties and privileges of American citizenship.

Plane crashes into home of former resident's kin

From June 10 to 17, the Greensboro Police Department answered 47 calls. Officers responded to four security alarms, four civil/domestic disturbances, one E-911 hangup call, and two robberies and assaults on the outside of Dollar General with two arrests. Officers answered 11 citizen complaints, assisted 16 businesses at closing, assisted the Greensboro Volunteer Fire Department on one call, and continued regular walk throughs of residential and business areas.

The Greensboro Police Department issued six citations — four for speeding, one for improper lights and one seatbelt violation. Officers gave six verbal warnings — two for speeding, one for improper lights, two seatbelt violations, and one for reckless driving. Officers worked two minor accidents this past week in Greensboro.

Officers made three arrests this week — two males for robbery and one for outstanding warrants. In the robbery two female customers were accosted outside of Dollar General on Monday, June 11, and their pocket books were taken. Two males were arrested on charges of robbery and assault. One is in the Hale County Jail, and the other, a minor, is at the WAYS detention center. The incidents occurred between 12 noon and 1:45 p.m. and between 2 p.m. and 2:35 p.m. Officers Russell Jones and Mike Hamilton investigated the incidents. Corp. Mike Hamilton's quick apprehension of the first suspect in the robbery led to the subsequent arrest of the second suspect.

Officers arrest two in robberies on store lot

The Greensboro Police Department urges citizens to clearly mark their residences with their 911 addresses in order to assist officers in quickly locating their residence. Thank you. — Corp. B. Rouliane.

