

LOCAL NEWS

College stages South Pacific in Enterprise

Often associated with grand orchestral numbers, South Pacific is considered by many critics as one of the greatest musicals of the twentieth century. Set in an island paradise during World War II, two parallel love stories are threatened by the dangers of prejudice and war.

Enterprise State Community College's production of South Pacific will run April 9, 10 and 11 in the Enterprise Performing Arts Center at Enterprise High School. Curtains open at 7 p.m. There will also be a 2 p.m. matinee on April 11. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the door or by calling (334) 347-2623.

The award-winning musical by Rodgers and Hammerstein is directed by Alan Moore of Enterprise and showcases college students and community actors. Involved in various aspects of community theater since 1987, Moore is a retired Army officer who works at Fort Rucker. He has performed and directed on stages in Virginia, Washington DC, Tennessee, Georgia and Italy. Locally his efforts include shows at Fort Rucker and at Southern Broadway Theater Company in Enterprise.

The cast includes new and veteran actors. Trisha Matthews, an ESCC student, plays Nellie. Retired Army officer Page

Dionne plays Emile. Jotty Parker, a former ESCC student, is Luther Billis. Deanna Workman, a teacher, plays Bloody Mary. Christian music artist Troy Kaszas, also a former ESCC student, plays Lt. Joe Cable.

The crew is local as well including stage managers Jane Evans and Tammy Robinson. Jan Parker is in charge of costuming and Erin Smith is the voice coach. Dr. Ken Thomas of ESCC will be conducting the orchestra.

The play will have authentic period uniforms and props including a WWII plane on stage.

For more information, call ESCC at (334) 347-2623.

No discussion about charter schools in Enterprise

By Emily Beckstrom
Special to the Sun

With a new charter school law in effect, Alabama residents can expect to see charter schools as early as next year, but according to Alabama Education Association official Elfriede Marsh, that doesn't mean it will happen in Enterprise.

Marsh, AEA's Uniserv director for local District 25, said there has not been any discussion about charter schools in Coffee County. AEA opposed the new law.

"We really don't know what's going to happen in Enterprise or any other local system at this time," Marsh said, "mainly because there's a statewide charter board that takes local citizens out of the decision-making."

Gov. Robert Bentley signed the Alabama School Choice and Student Opportunity Act into law March 19 after a four-hour debate in the Senate.

Senate Bill 45, sponsored by Sen. Del Marsh, R-Anniston, passed 24-11, with most sup-

port coming from Republicans.

Del Marsh said in a published interview that he believes charter schools will help improve education and will offer school choice to Alabama residents.

Charter schools are publicly funded institutions operated by a coalition of community members such as teachers and parents.

In addition, charter schools are not required to use the Common Core standards, which is a set of nationwide teaching standards adopted by Alabama in 2010, and used by public schools to prepare students for college and career.

Rep. Barry Moore, R-Enterprise, a local supporter of the law who has three children in the Enterprise public school system, said he is not pleased with the Common Core curriculum.

"Statewide, Alabama is only 19 percent where it needs to be for eighth-grade testing," Moore said. "Common Core doesn't seem to be fixing that."

"So we've got to give these school systems, parents and children some other options

besides the same ole same ole."

According to Moore, the public school system requires every teacher to obtain a certificate through a one-year program.

"We've got some rocket scientists in Huntsville who would like to teach mathematics at the public schools occasionally," Moore said. "But because they don't have a certificate, they aren't allowed to."

The charter school legislation allows available positions for qualified individuals, such as business owners and scientists, who want to teach but do not have a certificate.

AEA says the creation of charter schools will take away money from already underfunded public schools.

The law says that charter schools can be new schools or converted former public schools. It sets a limit of 10 start-up charter schools each year, but there is no limit for conversions. Public schools are the only types of schools allowed to convert to charter schools.

An evaluation will be held after five years to determine the success or failure of charter schools.

"It's not like once it's here, it's here for good," Moore said. "It will be very competitive."

Enterprise City Schools Superintendent Camille Wright could not be reached for comment.

Troy University journalism student Emily Beckstrom of Destin, Fla., wrote this story as part of a project partly funded by the Alabama Press Association Journalism Foundation.



Dauphin students learn about potential careers

Dauphin Junior High Students had the opportunity to gather information about future careers March 27 at a Career Fair. Julie Smith, Career Clusters instructor at DJHS, said the students have learned about the 16 different career clusters during the school year and are eager to gain more knowledge about potential future jobs. Students visited with each of the 16 tables during the event to learn about what degrees are necessary, what colleges to go to, how much potential salary can be earned and the pros and cons of different professions. Pictured are DJHS students from left, Kaylynn Ellis and Bailey Holland discussing Trasportation, Distribution and Logistics with CW4 Joel Anderson. (Courtesy photo)

SALVATION'S STORY

HE CAME
↓

+

HE DIED

HE AROSE
↷

HE ASCENDED
↗

HE'S COMING BACK™
↓

APRIL 5

10:30 AM

El Bethel Baptist Church

9432 N. State Hwy 27 • Chancellor

684-9544

MCE partnership connects stroke patients to neurologists via telemedicine

Special to the Sun



Medical Center Enterprise announces it has expanded its stroke and emergency neurology treatment capabilities through a partnership with Specialists On Call, Inc. This collaboration will deliver neurologists directly to the bedside of stroke patients via telemedicine. Working together, local physicians and SOC's board certified neurologists will treat patients suffering stroke or any other neurologic emergency.

"We are thrilled to offer this new telemedicine service at our hospital" said Rich Ellis, Medical Center Enterprise CEO. "This collaboration will give us additional resources for treating patients who may have a neurologic emergency and it can potentially save lives. Technology is creating opportunities every day for health care providers to treat patients quickly and safety and Medical Center Enterprise offers this new, advanced technology right here in our community."


"With a stroke, time is of

the essence," commented Specialists On Call's CEO, Dr. Joe Peterson. "We offer fast, quality neurology care from board certified neurologists. It's a win for the patients, their families and Medical Center Enterprise. We're thrilled to be working with them and making a real difference within their community."

See us for all your CPAP needs!



Respiratory Specialist



Locally owned and operated since 1995
705 Boll Weevil Plaza • Suite 4 • Enterprise (Next to Winn-Dixie)
393-2495 • 1-800-445-4482

Buds N' Blossoms Sale



Glazed Pottery

Just in from across the sea. Buy 1 Get 2nd 1/2 Price

Potted Ferns

Three varieties Buy one get one FREE

Fresh Blossoms


Beautiful color blooms just in from Miami!

Pine Straw \$2⁹⁹ per bale cash and carry



5881 US 431 N • Dothan • 334-793-0616
www.budsnblossomsnursery.com
Mon. - Sat. 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. • Closed Sunday
4 Miles past Northview H.S. on 431 North


POWER TO BE EFFICIENT



Jeremy Wright

Wright Homes

Safe, affordable, reliable electricity is one form of power we provide, but not the only one. For Wright Homes, it's helping them build beautifully designed, highly efficient homes. With a little help from Alabama Power to envision the most efficient homes for their customers, Wright Homes is proving that beauty and function can go hand in hand. That's power to imagine. That's Power to Alabama.



ALABAMA POWER

A SOUTHERN COMPANY

Always on.™

Watch the Wright Homes story at AlabamaPowerRealTalk.com.