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**Office coordinator Kim Body Quest:** Food of the iPad. This app was created Extension Office as a way nutrition and health for ted characters.

this program in the life-long pursuit of good nutrition and exercise.

In the game application itself, students are given challenges to try a new fruit or vegetable, and it also tells students how each food impacts their bodies. The elementary students become "Body Quest Warriors" who view health as a personal

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learn about domesticated and wild animals as they

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## According to Rep. Barry Moore Alabama legislators hard at work this legislative session

by **Whitley Kilcrease**,  
Troy University  
journalism student

Since the Alabama Legislature began its regular session on March 1, freshmen legislators such as Representative Barry Moore, R-Enterprise, have been hard at work.

Gov. Robert Bentley signed his first bill into law nearly two weeks ago; a bill that will reconstruct the way the state education budget is developed. This is one of the changes intended to help balance the state's budget and remedy the \$700 million deficit, according to Moore.

"Rather than managing (federal) stimulus money and cutting spending the past two years, the money was treated like it would be in the budget every year," Moore said. "Now we have a \$700 million hole to fill."

The Education Trust Fund Rolling Reserve Act

passed both the House of Representatives and Senate before the governing bodies adjourned for spring break. Bentley signed it Friday, March 11, into law.

The bill is intended to prohibit lawmakers from spending all available money in good economic years so there will be funds to fall back on in economic downturns. The bill will create budget caps based on a 15-year average annual growth rate.

Additional revenue would then be placed into the Education Trust Fund Rainy Day Account, which would be used in economic downturns to avoid spending cuts.

"It's better to have a system to help accommodate for years when projections are wrong," said Moore, who co-sponsored the bill and also voted for it in the House.

"We're (Republicans are) just working through our promises to our voters. We promised to protect Alabama long-term and for future generations."

Democrats are concerned that schools could suffer during economic good times because the bill was enacted during a downturn in the economy. This could cause funding for books, supplies and other needs not to be met.

A decision on repealing the DROP Act, a law allowing teachers in the state to continue working after retirement, has yet to be made.

According to Moore, DROP, or the Deferred Retirement Option Plan, was enacted to set teachers up for retirement while

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## Area Happenings

### **THE ANNUAL LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST**

sponsored by the Elba Chamber of Commerce, will be held Friday, March 25, starting at 7 a.m. at First Baptist Church's Social Hall. There is a small charge for breakfast. Senator Jimmy Holley and Representative Barry Moore will be at the breakfast and will provide an update on the current Legislative session for citizens. Contact the Elba Chamber of Commerce (334-897-3125) regarding this event.

### **THE 37th ANNUAL PINEY WOODS ARTS FESTIVAL**

will be held Saturday, March 26, from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. and Sunday, March 27, from Noon until 4 p.m. The event will be held at the Enterprise State Community College track in Enterprise, Ala. Admission is free.

**A HEALTH FAIR**, sponsored by the Coffee County Extension, will be held Thursday, April 7, from 4-6 p.m. at the Farm Center complex in New Brockton.



Spicer said he is working with city officials on problems with a sewer lift station and expects that problem to be solved soon.

## MOORE

allowing them to keep working. The goal was to persuade teachers to remain in the state upon reaching 25 years of service.

Moore said this law was meant to help the teachers, but state employees and politicians were also benefiting, costing the state an estimated \$2 billion a year. He said repealing this act could save \$53 million per year.

Former Gov. Bob Riley also proposed a repeal of this act in 2004. However, it did not pass the Legislature, controlled by Democrats at the time. Republicans took control in the 2010 elections.

The new bill passed the Senate, and the House passed it with minor revisions. However, the Senate had not passed the revised bill when the regular session adjourned for a break.

The Senate may reach a decision this week.

"Democrats are trying to slow us up, but Republicans have a handshake with Alabama," Moore said. "Us freshmen, we're sticking together. We

at the Elba Nursing Home in Elba, Ala.

He was born Sept. 17, 1923 to James Walton Chandler and Maggie

age 76, of Elba, Ala., died Friday, March 18, 2011, at the family residence.

Funeral services were held March 20, 2011 at

(Stacey), Elba; 14 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

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didn't get elected so we could be re-elected. Certain choices have to be made. We're going to stand up and make them."

Moore serves on the Small Business and Labor Committee, which is a subcommittee of Commerce and Small Business. He is the owner of Barry Moore Industries, a waste hauling company.

Moore will be speaking Friday, March 25, at the Elba First Baptist Church Social Hall with Sen. Jimmy Holley, R-Elba, at the annual legislative breakfast sponsored by the

## Easter pageant set for April 8th at Zion Chapel

The Zion Chapel Community Learning Center (Extended Day) is sponsoring an Easter Pageant April 8, 2010 at 6 p.m. in the Zion Chapel High School auditorium.

Sunday/Christmas attire for birth through 6th grade and pageant dresses for 7th through 12th grades. Pageant forms can be picked up at the Zion Chapel High School office or Kids Unlimited.

The pageant is open to everyone. For more information, call 897-1941 after 6 p.m.

Elba Chamber of Commerce. The breakfast is meant to provide citizens an update on the legislative session.

*Editor's Note: Troy University journalism major Whitley Kilcrease wrote this story as part of a project partially funded by the Alabama Press Association Journalism Foundation.*

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of your  
choice  
this  
Sunday!

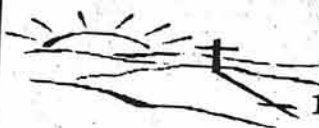
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