



Ron Sparks,
Director

Black Belt
Commission
Executive Director,
Emily Law
(334) 353-5185
emily.law@adeca.
alabama.gov

Co-Chairs:
Margaret Bentley
Senator Billy Beasley
Mayor Sheldon Day
Beatrice M. Forniss

Center for Commerce
Suite 320
P.O. Box 5690
Montgomery, AL
36103

Black Belt Commission

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UAB leads statewide GEAR UP program to give low-income students a path to college

by Meghan Davis

October 2, 2014

The \$49 million grant will enhance services for students, parents and teachers in Alabama's high-poverty Black Belt.



[University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Education](#) has been awarded a seven-year, \$49 million grant to increase the number of low-income students prepared to enter and succeed in postsecondary education.

The U.S. Department of Education's [Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs](#) (GEAR UP) grant program provides funding to states to enhance services for students, parents and teachers at high-poverty middle and

high schools.

UAB will be the hub of GEAR UP Alabama, which will impact about 10,448 students from 18 school districts and 53 schools in Alabama's Black Belt.

"Education is the basis for future growth of Alabama's economy," said Gov. Robert Bentley. "This grant will help build a solid foundation for our children and will set them up to succeed, by being better prepared for post-secondary education and to join the workforce. The program that this grant funds will be welcome support in our state's Black Belt region, with some of our most at-need students who attend high-poverty schools. Over the life of this program, we hope to see more of these students being successful in school and in life."

This is the first time Alabama has been awarded funds from GEAR UP, which began in 1998. UAB's annual federal award of \$3.5 million will be matched by state and project partners, including the [Alabama State Department of Education](#), [Alabama State University](#), [Auburn University](#), the [Black Belt Community Foundation](#), [Regions Bank](#), the [University of Alabama](#) and the [University of Montevallo](#). Partners outside Alabama include Allied Practice and Kaplan K12 Learning Services. Key letters of support came from Gov. Robert Bentley and Tommy Bice, Ph.D., State Superintendent of Education.

"Alabama's educators work hard each day to prepare students for lifelong success," Bice said. "The focus is to ensure that our students are both college- and career-ready, and fully engaged in the learning process. GEAR UP provides us with another outstanding resource to help achieve these goals. We are proud to be a part of this new statewide partnership to further student academic achievement. GEAR UP's goals are to increase the academic performance and preparation for postsecondary education, improve high school graduation and college enrollment rates, increase

(Continued on Page 10)

² Governor Bentley joins Black Belt Commission In Thomasville, Alabama

The City of Thomasville was the setting for the July 23rd meeting of the Black Belt Commission with Governor Robert Bentley. Approximately 120 people representing the thirteen committees of the Commission, along with representatives of the three regional councils in the Black Belt, and dignitaries from the region met at 10 a.m. at the Thomasville Civic Center with Thomasville Mayor Sheldon Day hosting the gathering. "It was a great day for the Commission to share what they've accomplished," stated Ron Sparks, Director of the Rural Development Office, where the Commission is housed. "People don't realize this Commission is made up of volunteers and this is one way we can recognize their efforts."

Governor Bentley listened intently as Committee Chairs talked about their projects. Health Committee Co-Chair, Chad Nichols, discussed the children's eye clinics provided by Sight Savers America and the Health Committee that insures Alabama children access to eye care regardless of where they live. In addition, the successful KidCheck Plus Program of Sight Savers America provides comprehensive health screenings for pre-school – 12th grade students in underserved parts of Alabama. That's two examples of the worthwhile projects being implemented in the Black Belt.

AIDT Director Ed Castile, who chairs the Workforce Committee, developed a workforce strategic plan that addresses workforce issues in the Black Belt that will enhance the economic opportunities for its citizens. He states, "I am very proud to be a part of the BBC Workforce Committee and applaud the work our members have put into developing the BBC Workforce Strategic Plan. This plan is aligned with Governor Bentley's Accelerate Plan and with the College and Career Ready Task Force recommendations recently made. This committee is dedicated to helping citizens of the Black Belt."

The Black Belt Commission is made up of thirteen Committees that range from Agriculture to Healthcare to Workforce Development. These committees address the numerous problems confronting citizens of the Black Belt Region by devising strategies and implementing projects that target these issues. The Executive Committee meets bi-monthly to keep up-to-date on projects and provide additional assistance by way of speakers and services that can be utilized in the area. The Black Belt is named for the nutrient-rich, black soil that once grew superior cotton and, today, continues to support an abundance of opportunities.

For more information about the Black Belt Commission contact the Alabama Rural Development Office at 334-353-5185 or email emily.law@adeca.alabama.gov.



Town of Thomasville and Black Belt Commission welcomes Governor Bentley.



Governor Bentley, Mayor Sheldon Day, Ron Sparks, Beatrice Forniss and Emily Law.



"Beauty and the Beast" performed by Rambling Rose Players.

Foundation shares grant money with 10 local organizations

Published 12:40 am Sunday, November 9, 2014

Smiles and handshakes were shared Friday as the Black Belt Community Foundation spread the wealth to nonprofit organizations determined to make a difference.

BBCF awarded a total of \$415,000 to 10 groups dedicated to benefiting young minority boys Friday during its Black Belt Believe Catalyst Grant Press Conference. The 21st Century Youth Leadership, Selma High School of Gentlemen of Excellence and Dallas County Children's Policy Council were just a few of the Dallas County organizations to take away grant money.

"Had we not had organizations on the ground, like each of you, we could not have gotten this grant," BBCF Felicia Jones said to recipients. "It was important for us to be here to share the work going on, and we wanted the young folks to see that these are the groups they can connect with."



Jalen Powell, a member of Bama Kids, speaks during the Black Belt Believe Catalyst Grant Press Conference. The BBCF awarded a total of \$415,000 to 10 organizations dedicated to creating opportunity and health for young men of color in rural communities in the South and Southwest. (Sarah Robinson | Times-Journal)

By [Sarah Robinson](#)

for about 60 young men of color to keep them focused in their pursuits of educational excellence with hopes of increasing graduation rates and reducing truancy.

"We're so grateful that you trust us with this money. We will use it wisely," said District Judge Bob Armstrong, with the Dallas County Children's Policy Council.

The Democracy Project, Bama Kids, Young Men Building for the Future, Greene County Children's Policy Council, Black Belt Faith Council, Tukabatchee Area Council Boy Scouts and 100 Black Men of West Alabama also received grants. According to BBCF, the recipients collectively serve 1,075 boys.

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation in partnership with Public Interest Projects awarded the foundation with a \$415,000 grant, which was shared Friday with local partners working directly with young minority men.

The money BBCF received is known as the Forward Promise Catalyst and coincides with the Forward Promise initiative to improve the health and success of middle school and high school boys and young men.

The 10 organizations that earned grants Friday will have to contribute their own matching dollars.

Hosted by BBCF Board Member George McMillan, the event attracted a large crowd of students, teachers, city officials, school administrators and more. The big announcement followed various speeches, poems and scripture readings from young men, some of which benefited from the organizations that were represented Friday.

Conducted by Colin Lett, the Selma High School Choir performed during the conference.

Mayor George Evans and Selma High Principal Aubrey Larkin Jr. shared a few words with the audience before BBCF handed out the grants. The 21st Century Youth leadership earned a \$75,000 grant, which it will use to engage 60 black young men in leadership camps to focus on mental, cultural and physical development to maximize their full academic and leadership potential. The Selma High School of Gentlemen of Excellence, which accepted \$10,000, will use its grant money to cater to the well-being of 50 boys through a foster collaborative efforts between teachers, parents, students and community mentors.

Honored with \$75,000, the Dallas County Children's Policy Council will provide alternative educational avenues

Second Annual Homegrown Small Business Conference Another Success

The second annual Homegrown Small Business Conference, a joint project of the Black Belt Commission's Small Business Development Committee and the University of West Alabama's Small Business Development Center, was another successful event.

The conference, held September 26, 2014, at Shelton State Community College, offered two tracks: one in agribusiness and the other specifically targeted to youth. Approximately 115 people attended the event.

Keynote speakers were Charles Spurlin, owner of The Shirt Shop in downtown Tuscaloosa, who spoke in the morning, and Moziah Bridges, 13-year-old CEO of Mo's Bows, who spoke at lunch.

Spurlin told the crowd how he grew The Shirt Shop into the downtown fixture it is today. Spurlin said he avoided borrowing money and worked as a waiter to pay for stock until the store became profitable. Even now, he still works six days a week and enjoys what he does.

Bridges, who has been featured in national media as a fashion wunderkind, credited his mother for much of his success. "I'm the CEO of Mo's Bows, but my mom is the CEO of Mo," he told the audience. His mother, Tramica Morris, is responsible for much of Mo's Bows' branding and marketing efforts. She is behind the retro logo and displays that lend much of the charm to Moziah's product.

Students from both Black Belt and Tuscaloosa area schools attended the conference. Dr. Dan Carden, Headmaster of American Christian Academy, brought about sixteen students to the event. "It was a great conference for kids who have thought about starting a business," Carden said. "I was impressed that money is available for students who want to do something agriculturally. There really isn't an excuse for young people not taking the plunge and trying to get a business going. With hard work, anything is possible in our society today. I thought it was an eye-opening experience for our students. It was so good to be a part of something that really helps kids."

Donald Mills, Chairman of the Small Business Development Committee and Director of UWA's Small Business Development Center, was pleased with how the event helped attendees. "Every year, we try to offer inspiration and education to entrepreneurs and small business owners," Mills said. "A lot of people left this conference with the tools and the encouragement to pursue their goals."



(above) Charles Spurlin, owner of The Shirt Shop in Tuscaloosa, with Ginger Stewart, Program Manager.

Moziah Bridges, (right) 13 year old CEO of Mo's Bows, waiting to speak.



(left) Attendees registering for Second Annual Homegrown Small Business Conference.



Moziah Bridges, (left) Mo's Bows and Guest Speaker at Conference.

Charles Spurlin (right) speaking to audience.



DELTA DISTINGUISHED: ALABAMA

Radio station manager tunes into Delta voices, promotes service across Black Belt airwaves



Candy Capel

Candy Capel's varied career has included multiple ventures in public service, but she seems to have found her voice at the Alabama State University's radio station WVAS. Now the station manager for the non-profit university station, Capel nurtures new reporters and on-air announcers delivering a mix of "Jazz, Blues, News and Views." The station provides Capel with the perfect blend of creativity and community service she needs to indulge her passion for radio while training a new generation of talent on campus and providing valuable promotional support to a multitude of causes that impact her state.

While licensed to ASU and housed in the oldest building on campus, the non-profit station is far from a typical classroom environment. The 80,000-watt NPR affiliate boasts the second-most powerful signal in its 17-county listening area. With eight daily broadcasts, WVAS provides the most comprehensive coverage in the greater Montgomery region.

Capel strives for visibility in the community—supporting blood drives and food drives and covering issues in local schools. The station was designated a certified minority station by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, and it targets issues of significance to Alabama's communities of color. A qualitative analysis conducted in 2009 found that WVAS programming delivers \$1.3 million in public relations services to the university every year.

One program queued up for completion about which Capel is very excited is the design and construction of the Black Belt Farmers Fruit and Vegetable Market and Innovation Center. "This project, when it finally comes to fruition, will provide truly unique opportunities for Black farmers in Alabama to process and market their produce as well as to train the next generation of growers," Capel said.

Capel's commitment to the Black Belt of Alabama transcends her personal and professional life, and she views the challenges the community faces as opportunities for economic growth in the Delta if correctly addressed and supported. "I believe that the top priority for the Delta, particularly within our great State of Alabama, is the improvement of economic conditions for our citizens. Our state's Black Belt includes some of the poorest counties in the nation. While we are taking great strides with respect to the recruitment of industry and business to this region, any support that we can provide for these efforts is always a good thing."

The station answers the call of the community in a multitude of ways, ranging from on-the-scene coverage during a tornado to a step-by-step recount of a political debate. Capel's tasks during an "average" day are equally eclectic, as she bounces between paying bills, educating future broadcasters, and housekeeping duty when necessary.

Capel believes in lifelong learning, and she takes her own professional development as seriously as one of her students. She recently completed coursework at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government through the Delta Leadership Institute to learn more about the region she calls home and strategies to apply solutions to its most pressing challenges. "The DLI has allowed me to make lifelong friends with great leaders and achievers from throughout the Delta. It has also allowed me, I truly believe, to grow as a leader in my own arena through excellent training and priceless networking opportunities," she noted following her graduation from the program.

While some broadcasters tend to view the world from a safe place on the other side of the lens, Capel is determined to affect the action as it happens, when she can, in her community. For those in the Delta, her voice will be amplified by those she teaches and reaches through the airwaves of WVAS.

BLACK BELT COMMISSION MANUFACTURING COMMITTEE MEETS IN MONTGOMERY WITH BILLY JO CAMP AS SPEAKER

The Manufacturing Committee of the Black Belt Commission met in Montgomery December 2, 2014 for its quarterly meeting to discuss the Economic Development climate and what can be done to attract new industry to the Black Belt Region. David Hooks, Chair Manufacturing Committee, introduced former aide to Governor George Wallace Billy Jo Camp.

Billy Joe Camp, former Secretary of State and aide to Governor George Wallace, is shown with Ron Sparks, Director of the Alabama Rural Development Office, along with David Hooks, Chair of the Manufacturing Committee of the Black Belt Commission, and members of the Manufacturing Committee, Mayor Mike Grayson, Bill Bryant, Attorney, William Scott with Tristatz Consulting, and Gary Pinault, Cemex in Demopolis.



Roundtable Discussion



Billy Joe Camp



Mayor Mike Grayson; Demopolis, William Scott; Selma, Bill Bryant, Attorney; Ron Sparks, Director of the Rural Development Office; David Hooks, Chair of the Manufacturing Committee; Billy Joe Camp, speaker; Gary Pinault, Cemex in Demopolis; and, by phone Joanne Hinson, Marengo County EDA for Benda Tuck.



Thomasville Student's Life Changed by Sight Savers America's KidCheck Plus Program

When John Keith West, a student at Thomasville Elementary School, participated in the Sight Savers America KidCheck Plus health screening in 2nd grade, his life was changed. John Keith's blood pressure screening revealed an elevated reading of 182/102. His school nurse immediately called his mom, Sandi West, who was able to take him to the doctor that day.

Though John Keith had not complained of feeling bad, his blood pressure was elevated enough for his pediatrician to express concern that if it had not been detected the results could have been catastrophic. High blood pressure, formally known as hypertension, puts a patient at risk for stroke, heart attack, kidney failure, and loss of vision. John Keith's pediatrician told Mrs. West there was no way to be sure how long his blood pressure had been elevated and the damage caused could have been significant if it had not been identified. Since high blood pressure in children usually does not cause symptoms, KidCheck Plus health screenings play a vital role in detecting pediatric hypertension.



John Keith a 4th grader at Thomasville Elementary School.

John Keith is now a 4th grader at Thomasville Elementary School. He plays soccer through the City of Thomasville Recreation Department and is actively involved with the children's program at his church. He controls his blood pressure by taking a daily medication, and he sees a cardiologist once a year for monitoring. Mrs. West is very thankful for Sight Savers America's KidCheck Plus program and encourages everyone to take advantage of the service our health screenings offer. She says, "We would have never thought John Keith would have high blood pressure at age eight, but thanks to KidCheck Plus it was discovered."

Summary of 2014 Alabama Partnership for Telehealth Summit

The Third Annual 2014 Telehealth Summit hosted by the Alabama Partnership for Telehealth (APT) and the Southeastern Telehealth Resource Center was held October 16th & 17th at the beautiful Embassy Suites in Hoover, Alabama. The summit brought together 115 leaders, stakeholders, and experts in the fields of rural healthcare and telehealth.

Ron Sparks, of the Office of Rural Development, welcomed everyone with opening remarks about telehealth and the exciting opportunities that lie ahead for reaching the underserved rural citizens of Alabama.

Lloyd Sirmons, APT Executive Director, kicked off the event with a live telemedicine demonstration connecting with a "patient" hundreds of miles away. All in attendance were impressed with the pristine video connection and how the high definition cameras and peripherals allowed for a physical examination of the eyes, ears, throat, and heart of the far away "patient."

The agenda was stacked with telehealth practitioners, experts and champions from across the state and nation. Even though barriers such as the lack of telehealth reimbursement and reluctance of providers and facilities to embrace telehealth technology exist in Alabama, this year's summit highlighted the growing practice of telemedicine across the state. From stroke to wound care to behavioral health, telemedicine is thriving and expanding across Alabama.

Distinguished Speakers addressed such topics as: **TeleStroke: Real People, Real Results; Alabama's Stroke System; The Necessity of Telehealth Training for Future Providers of Healthcare; Geriatric Telehealth; Remote Patient Monitoring; The Role of Telehealth in Medicaid; Telehealth in a Rural Alabama Hospital; Behavioral Telehealth: Thinking Outside the Box; How Technology is Transforming Healthcare in Alabama; Telehealth & Mission Opportunities.**

Speakers, supporters, and attendees contributed to the success of the event. The sponsors, who generously supported the summit, were engaging and provided valuable information. Everyone present took time out of busy schedules to discover how rural health in Alabama is being impacted by the current healthcare environment and to see how telemedicine is already meeting some of the healthcare needs of rural Alabama citizens.

The APT Partner of the year award went to Mike Bice with the Regional Health Care Network. Mike is also the Director of the Childersburg Primary Care Clinic in Childersburg, Alabama. Mike has been an advocate for telemedicine in Alabama for some time and has been a great partner for the Alabama Partnership for Telehealth.

The overwhelming interest in this summit demonstrates the intent and determination of state, local, public, private, healthcare officials, practitioners, and innovators to advance telehealth services across the state of Alabama.



Lloyd Sirmons presents Mike Bice an award for ADT Partner of the Year with Ron Sparks looking on



2014 Partnership for Telehealth Summit Embassy Suites, Hoover, AL



Boyd Resigns as Education Committee Chair

The Black Belt Commission was disappointed this past October to receive a resignation letter from Dr. Daniel Boyd, chairman of the Education Committee since 2007.



Dr. Daniel Boyd

Under Boyd's leadership, the Education Committee worked to secure grant funding for Black Belt schools to meet many needs, including providing professional development to over 1000 educators through summer conferences. The committee also secured scholarship money for nine Black Belt students to attend summer engineering camps at the University of Alabama over the past several years.

In his resignation letter, Boyd expressed his appreciation for the trust and faith that Governor Bentley, Senator Hank Sanders, and Rural Development Office Director Ron Sparks had placed in him over the years. "My tenure with the commission has been a rewarding and pleasurable experience," Boyd said. "However, I must focus on my main occupation, which is being the superintendent of Lowndes County Schools."

Education Committee Project Manager Ginger Stewart called Boyd's resignation "a great loss to the Commission." Said Stewart, "Boyd's dedication to the children of the Black Belt and his wise leadership have been the backbone of the Education Committee." Emily Law, Executive Director of the Black Belt Commission, concurred. "Dr. Boyd is the epitome of dedication," Law said. "He is dedicated to his job, the people with whom he works, and most of all, to the children he is responsible for in Lowndes County. We will miss him."

Ron Sparks, Director of the Alabama Rural Development Office, expressed his regret at receiving Dr. Boyd's resignation letter. "Dr. Boyd was my 'go-to' person. Whenever people came to me with new programs involving education, I immediately thought of Dr. Boyd. I've never asked Dr. Boyd to do anything that he did not gladly do. He will be missed."

University of West Alabama names Ken Tucker as new president

Taken from article

*By Ed Enoch
Staff Writer*

Published: Friday, November 14, 2014 at 10:00 p.m.

LIVINGSTON | The University of West Alabama board of trustees named College of Business Dean Ken Tucker as the next president of the campus and approved sending a proposal to the Alabama Legislature that would change UWA's existing charter and give the body more authority over personnel decisions.



Ken Tucker

"Obviously, I am deeply honored," Tucker said. "I love the university. It is home."

Tucker was elected unanimously by the board, which spent most of its quarterly meeting in executive session discussing the finalists for the position. Tucker, who was nominated by trustee Alex Saad, praised the board and said he looked forward to working with them.

"They have acted with integrity and honor. I am very appreciative of the opportunity. I look forward to working with this board and our excellent faculty and support staff," Tucker said.

The new president predicted a bright future for the regional university that has struggled with enrollment declines and retention in recent years in one of the state's poorest regions.

"I think we are poised for greatness," Tucker said. "There are certainly challenges and issues that need to be addressed very quickly but we have excellent people."

Tucker will take office Jan. 1, and his employment contract will be negotiated with the university attorney before being brought back to the board for approval, according to board President Terry Bunn. UWA Interim President John Blackwell will continue to serve until the end of the year.

Bunn and Tucker praised Blackwell's leadership Friday, and the former Auburn University trustee who has led the campus since March received a standing ovation.

Tucker currently serves as Co-Chair of the Workforce Development Committee of the Black Belt Commission.

(Continued from Page 1) participating student and family knowledge of postsecondary educational options and financing, and increase program teacher preparation to serve GEAR UP students.

The program will begin this fall with a cohort of students in either sixth or seventh grade and follow them through their first year of college. Fifty percent of the grant will fund scholarships for all GEAR UP program students. The remainder will establish or improve programs that will systematically enhance the region's educational infrastructure to encourage and support students, parents and teachers in students' pursuit of postsecondary education.

The poverty rate for children in the Black Belt region is 143 percent higher than the Alabama average and 192 percent higher than the U.S. average. Eighty-four percent of students in the participating schools qualify to receive free or reduced-price lunch, and only 46 percent of those who graduate attend college directly after their senior year.

"GEAR UP Alabama provides an opportunity to make a significant impact on the students and families of over 10,000 sixth- and seventh-grade students in the Black Belt region of Alabama," said Lawrence Tyson, Ph.D., associate professor of counselor education in the Department of Human Studies and principal investigator for the program.

"This impact can result in more students' receiving the support they need to become better prepared for college and for achieving success once they are admitted into college. This is an effort that could not happen without the many community partners and school superintendents from throughout the Black Belt region who are committed to improving the future for at-risk students."

Royrickers Cook, Ph.D., assistant vice president for outreach at Auburn University, Tamara Lee of Alabama State University, Joyce Stallworth, Ph.D., associate provost of the University of Alabama, and Felecia Jones, executive director of the Black Belt Community Foundation, will serve as the program's co-investigators.

The program will help students be ready for college academically and financially by offering tutoring, academic advising and college entrance exam preparation, as well as workshops for parents. Summer programs and college visits will expose students to campus life and guide them as they transition between middle school, high school and college.

GEAR UP will give teachers professional development opportunities that will allow them to develop rigorous academic curricula and introduce students to college-level coursework. The improved curricula are expected to benefit the students in grade levels adjoining the GEAR UP cohort and have a lasting impact on the quality of instruction at participating schools.

Once cohort students enroll in college, GEAR UP-trained advisers will help them meet academic requirements.

"UAB is proud to lead this tremendous effort to increase college-readiness in Alabama," said UAB President Ray L. Watts. "GEAR UP Alabama will have a lasting impact on the state by laying a pathway to postsecondary education for low-income students. The program will also continue to improve the quality of instruction in Alabama, a goal to which the School of Education is extremely dedicated. We look forward to cultivating our partnerships across the state and continuing our commitment to making world-class knowledge available to all."

The grant is the largest ever awarded to the UAB School of Education. The school offers nationally accredited programs in counselor education, educator preparation, health education, kinesiology, teacher leadership and educational leadership.

"We are very excited about GEAR UP Alabama," said School of Education Dean Deborah L. Voltz, Ph.D. "It will provide us the opportunity to work with our district and state partners in delivering innovative supports that will promote high school graduation and college success for over 10,000 students across the Black Belt region of the state. GEAR UP Alabama will make an important difference in many young lives."

The community partnerships forged through GEAR UP Alabama will remain in place after the program ends.

(Continued on Page 11)

New \$400,000 Regional Soft Infrastructure Economic Marketing Project In The Black Belt

During the Black Belt Commission Meeting held in Selma, the Co-chair (William Scott) of the Infrastructure Committee, introduced a 14 County Black Belt Regional Soft Infrastructure Project. The project will serve as an inexpensive way to market all the positive resources, jobs, services, businesses, scholarships, tourist attractions and other places in the Black Belt Region. Tristatz (a veteran owned consulting company) is developing the concept with the project title: The Black Belt Information Hub. Mr. Scott is the Senior Consultant of the company and a longtime member of the Black Belt Commission.

The Hub solves a major connectivity problem in the Black Belt through a New High-Speed Information Website, Phone App and Social Media Page that people can access free. People who download the free app will be able to play educational and fun scavenger hunt games as they travel across the Black Belt. All of the information access points and services will be available for user in January 2015. Websites, Phone Apps and Social Media Pages are the way people stay Connected! If you are interested in collaborating or need further details about the project, please contact Tristatz Consulting Company at 334-526-0228 or blackbeltinformationhub@gmail.com. "Connectivity Is The Key To Opportunities"



William Scott

(Continued from Page 10)



Ron Sparks, Director, Alabama Rural Development Office, addresses attendees



(below) Deborah Volts, Ph. D. Dean UAB School of Ed.

(below) UAB Associate Professor of Counselor Ed. Dr. Lawrence Tyson



(above) ASU President Gwendolyn Boyd



(right) Royrickers Cook, Asst. V.P. for Outreach Auburn University

(below) Veronique Zimmerman-Brown Dept. of Curriculum and Instruction UAB School of Education



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P. O. Box 5690

Montgomery, AL 36103