

Ruben Studdard performs tonight at Live at the Plaza



Tide receiving unit is among the best in SEC and the nation



The Tuscaloosa News

Friday, July 29, 2016

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LOCAL & REGION

Missing person



Gov. Robert Bentley increases reward for information about Emmett Kyzer, last seen June 27. **B1**



Athletic summit

Student-athletes learn the importance of character at Tuscaloosa City Schools' inaugural athletics summit. **A6**

Duck Derby

Prizes, kids' activities highlight 10th annual fundraiser for Children's Hands-On Museum. **B1**

Montgomery

Gov. Robert Bentley says a state lottery is the best option for revenue. **B3**

SPORTS

Football

College Football Playoff abandons plan to play most semifinals on Dec. 31. **C1**

PGA Championship

Jimmy Walker opens with 65; McIlroy stumbles. **C1**

NFL

Star wide receiver Julio Jones is pulled from Falcons' first practice with an injury the coach describes as minor. **C1**

TODAY SAT SUN

90°/73° 91°/74° 92°/75°

Complete forecast, B8

Volume 197, Issue 211

Bridge.....D7	Horoscopes.....B3
Business.....B4	Obituaries.....B2
Classifieds.....D1	Opinion.....A4
Comics.....B6	Sudoku.....D7
Crossword.....D7	Television.....B7
Dear Abby.....B3	Weather.....B8



AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY

Expansion to create 535 new jobs

Lear plant to make more seats for Mercedes

By Patrick Rupinski
Business Editor

Automotive supplier Lear Operations Corp. plans to expand its factory in Vance — a move that will create more than 500 new manufacturing jobs during the next few years.

Lear now makes auto seats

for Mercedes-Benz's C-Class sedans. It will make seats for Mercedes' GLE and GLS sport utility vehicles when the additional plant comes on line in 2019.

Mike Thomas, Lear's plant manager, said the plant will add an estimated 535 employees when the SUV seating production begins. The plant now has around 140 employees. With the expansion and additional hiring, Lear will become one of

the largest employers among the automotive suppliers in Tuscaloosa County.

Lear will spend more than \$27.7 million on the expansion at its plant at 17499 Brookwood Parkway. The figure includes construction and addition equipment. Construction is expected to start this fall.

Thomas said the company will do its own training of the new employees. It might start hiring in the second quarter

of 2017. Lear's hiring will be done through Alabama Industrial Development Training, the state's workforce development partnership, he said.

When the hiring begins, Lear will post the jobs and job applications on AIDT's website, he said.

Lear revealed its expansion plans Thursday at the Tuscaloosa County Industrial

SEE EXPANSION, A5

15TH AND MCFARLAND

Major intersection work delayed



Project may go into September

ABOVE: Cars on Thursday wait for the light to change at the intersection of McFarland Boulevard and 15th Street where road construction continues. The roadwork at one of the city's busiest intersections was supposed to be finished this month but now may take until the end of August or early September. STAFF PHOTO/ERIN NELSON

By Stephen Dethrage
Staff Writer

Road improvements at the heavily trafficked intersection of 15th Street and McFarland Boulevard may take until late August or early September to complete, according to James Brown, a division engineer for the Alabama Department of Transportation.

The postponement of the project's completion, which was originally slated to be finished in July, will mean inconvenience for

both full-time residents of the Tuscaloosa area and students returning to the University of Alabama, but that was only one takeaway among many at the 2016 Transportation Summit Thursday afternoon.

The summit, hosted by the Chamber of Commerce of West Alabama at the Tuscaloosa River Market, brought together the biggest movers and shakers in Tuscaloosa County to discuss current and future infrastructure projects in the area.

Tuscaloosa Mayor Walt Maddox and

SEE PROJECT, A5

DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVENTION DAY 4

Clinton's pledge: Steady hand at 'moment of reckoning'

By Julie Pace and Robert Furlow
The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — Confronting a "moment of reckoning," Hillary Clinton is casting herself as a unifier for divided times and a tested, steady hand to lead in a volatile world.

"We are clear-eyed about what our country is up against,"

she said in excerpts released ahead of her speech Thursday accepting the Democratic presidential nomination. "But we are not afraid. We will rise to the challenge, just as we always have."

Clinton was introduced by her daughter, Chelsea, who spoke warmly of her mother as a woman "driven by compassion,

by faith, by kindness, a fierce sense of justice, and a heart full of love."

Clinton's national convention address follows three nights of Democratic stars, including a past and present president, asserting she is ready for the White House. On the gathering's final night, she was making that case for herself on the

convention's final night.

Acknowledging Americans' anxieties, Clinton is vowing to create economic opportunities in inner cities and struggling small towns. She also says terror attacks around the world require "steady leadership" to defeat a determined enemy.

SEE CLINTON, A5

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