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alabamagazette@gmail.com

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334-356-6700

WARNING!

AMERICA'S INVASION BY

DOCIALISM: THE ROAD TO DESPOTIC POWER

The polity and government of these **United States is** ORIGINAL. Let us say it again, -Original and Peculiar. It has two great elements of divisions of power: a. that of the States exercising local self-government, and b. that of the Nation, formed by a voluntary

Union of States.

The Manifesto lists ten planks to advance Communism.

- 1, Abolition of property in land and application of all rents of land to public purposes.
- A heavy progressive or gradual income tax.
- 3. Abolition of all rights of inheritance.
- 4. Confiscation of the property of all emigrants and rebels.
- 5. Centralization of credit in the hands of the State, by means of a national bank with State Capital, and an exclusive monopoly.
- 6. Centralization of the means of Communication and transport in the hands of the State.
- 7. Extensions of factories and instruments of productions owned by the State; the bringing in of cultivation of waste-lands, and the
- improvement of the soil generally, carried out with a common plan. 8. Equal liability for all to work. Establishment of industrial armies, especially for agriculture.
- 9. Combination of agriculture with manufacturing industries; gradual abolition of all distinction between town and country by a more equable distribution of the populace over the country.
- 10. Free education for all children in government public schools. Abolition of all child labor in its present form. Combination of education with industrial production, etc.

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Yes, we can acknowledge that Socialism has come to America. The Socialist Agenda is clear. They oppose the ideals of American's founding, and oppose Constitutional Government as was created in our nation.

Excerpts from article on page 3A.

The U.S. Constitution is the Rule of Law for America, and it was and is based on the Declaration of Independence. Thomas Jefferson once said, "If a nation expects to be ignorant and free...it expects what never was and never will be." Today is the day to be informed and involved in restoring the Constitution as the Rule of Law. It is the day to cherish and restore Religious Liberty to our land. Now is the time to become active in the Public Square, to be a responsible, informed citizen in the voting booth in 2016, and to diligently **PRAY** for revival and for the restoration of our beloved nation.

Bent(ley) On Destruction...

Back in 2010, Robert Julian Bentley, the candidate, decided to make a dramatic statement by officially changing his birth name to "Doctor Robert" Sanford who admitted in 2009 to an eight year relationship with an Argentine journalist. Like Bentley, Sanford faced Articles of Impeachment and an inves-

Bentley" in order to be hailed as the physician for a state suffering from a anemic economy and high unemployment. He had planned to run on his new name until party leaders refused to waive its policy of not allowing nicknames on the ballot. Bentley discarded his God given name of 68 years for political expediency.

This small and silly vignette gave a glimpse of what was in store for the citizens of Alabama. Governor Bentley maneuvered through the next six years complete with tornado tragedies, football national championships, staggering government debt, vacuous educational policies, and big mule politics all the while glossing over governmental malfeasance at the highest levels in exchange for ribbon cuttings and the intoxicating appearance of power such a position holds.

The current affair in which Bentley finds himself is nothing new. We need only look to our neighbor to the east in South Carolina

Alabama Governor Robert Bentley

tigation by the Ethics Commission which identified 37 violations. Ultimately, however, Sanford was NOT removed from office in part because "the charges did not warrant overturning an election". His wife of over twenty years divorced him in 2010 and moved out of the Governor's mansion with their four children. Most pundits confidently predicted Sanford's political demise. In fact, Sanford was subsequently elected and currently serves in the U. S. House of Representatives. What ever happened to Sanford'sparamour? After a short engagement, the two broke it off in 2014, but remain friends.

Bentley's political future might seem to be on a similar trajectory but for the fact that the tangled weave of ALEA and Speaker Hubbard suggests otherwise. You should not listen to the embarrassing tapes Mrs. Bentley

recorded to prove her husband's infidelity.

where that noble State endured the sordid tale of its former governor Mark Continue on page 4A

U.S. House

Representative

Mark Sanford

THE QUARTER

Alabama fans are in a state of anxiety again this spring. "Who will be our quarterback?" By Sports Editor, Ed Jones

See page 7A

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ROBSERVATIONS.

by Robert Tate

IMAGINE A WORLD WHERE

A nervous tension hangs heavily over the upcoming press conference. As usual, something major in the world occurs and the President of the United States is expected to step up to the podium and give not only his ideas of the event but will hopefully spell out exactly how his administration plans on reacting. Today is no exception. 80 members of the press corps huddles around waiting for the POTUS to step onto the stage. Over the din and confusion in the room, questions can be heard wondering what the United States is going to do. "Certainly we are not going to go to war over this, are we?" asked one reporter. Another, coughs heavily and spits into a disgusting handkerchief encrusted in green and yellow phlegm. He spouts, "No way. Not over this. We have no right."

Just then, a young man sporting a brown crew cut stands up and says, "The President of the United States." One reporter looks at her watch which reads exactly 1400. She mumbles to the man next to her, "At least this guy is always on time." The President strolls up to the podium and looks over the expectant crowd in front of him. Cameras whirl and light flashes go off throughout the room looking like a dance of 50 million fire flies. The President stands silently, waiting for all the nervous banter and annoying camera work to die down. A anxious 15 seconds lapses. The President clears his throat.

"My fellow Americans, today's events in Belgium illustrate clearly the world in which we live. The bombings are a travesty and abomination to all free thinking men and women around the world. At a time when all free men should be looking to the conquest of space and travel to foreign planets and the taming of the world beneath our seas, it is troubling that such a large percentage of people can think no further than strapping bombs to their bodies and killing innocent men, women and children. It is an atrocity and is one that I will not tolerate. Although I have only been in office two months, I have already met with each of our service chiefs, the Secretaries of Defense and State as well as 9 of our NATO members. I am fully prepared to invoke amendment 5 of the NATO charter where an attack on one country is an attack on all. In the next few days, I will be asking Congress to fully agree to a state of war existing between ISIS and the United States of America.

"I realize this will be an unpopular decision among many but at this point, we have no choice. War is not what we in the US want and is certainly not what I as the President of the United States desires. But along side of the unrest and violence perpetrated by these thugs throughout Europe and the free world, these attacks will not be allowed to continue, unopposed, under my watch. I have also contacted leaders in China, Russia and other non-NATO countries to form a comprehensive, and might I add, deadly coalition to fight ISIS." The President pauses, looks over the crowd and squints his eyes. "These are dark times requiring special attention. I plan on giving this matter my full attention. Are there any questions?" The room erupts in camera flashes and each person trying to get the President's attention. He looks over the crowd and points to a pretty young redhead in a green suit.

"Mr. President. Molly Johnson from the New York Times. Sir, what do you hope to gain by this?"

The President chuckles. "Pain, Ms. Johnson. Lot's of Pain. I really do not think these guys realize what is going to happen to them in about three months. Look, we have been dilly-dallying with these people, to include the Taliban since 2002. We put the thump on Germany and Japan in less than four years. Thus far, we have forgotten what it means to fight-to-win. In my world, it is not fightto-fight. Sorry.' Another reporter stands up and screams, "So what exactly does that mean?"

The President pauses for a moment and answers, "It means that no conventional military options are off the table at this point. Our soldiers in the field will not be hampered by restrictive rules of engagement and all lawyers will be banished from the battlefield. If our guys kill 200 soldiers, the last thing they need to worry about is some blood sucking lawyer trying to charge them with war crimes. Listen, in war, people die. For the enemy who refuses to quit, guess what, a lot of their people are going to die. Men, women, children. Yeah. Although the children will never be the focus of our military might, unlike our enemy, bad things happen in war. And by the way, no offense to all non-blood sucking lawyers out there. Next question."

"Sir, with that kind of rhetoric do you think you will provoke ISIS even more?"

"No, our reactions to their attacks are not going to provoke them into more attacks. Sitting back, letting them rape and kill citizens of the West, however, will encourage them to up their game. I do not intend on allowing that to happen." The President points to another reporter, "You."

"Sir, amidst all of this, North Korea has repeated their claim that they are ready and willing to launch a nuclear missile at the United States. How do you plan on hindering their plans?"

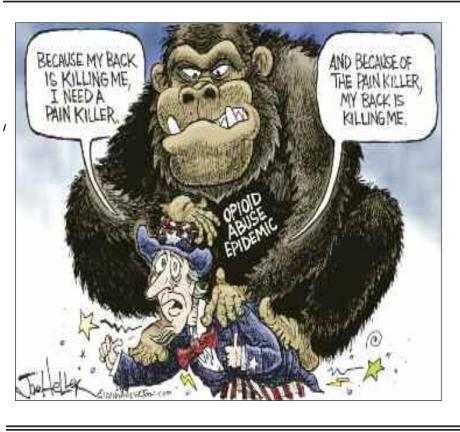
"Good question, glad you asked. You see, what you guys watch on television is just a small tip of a very larger diplomatic iceberg. Trust me, we have little to fear from North Korea."

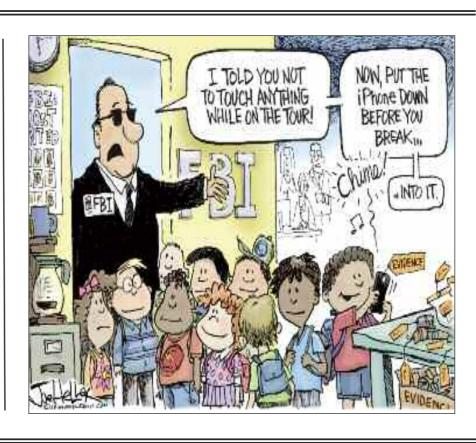
"But how can you say that with such confidence? What can we really expect from you in this scenario? People are getting scared, sir."

"I feel your anxiety but let me put it to you this way. I have personally spoken with the President of North Korea and voiced my concerns over his threats. I did, however, carefully tell him that should he ever launch a nuclear missile at the United States and should he destroy one of our cities, he would indeed gain a major victory and we would be grievously injured. I also assured him that at this time, every known military instillation and institution as well as the 35 major cities in his country are already targeted and that should he attack the US, his society will cease to exist within 6 hours. No, I do not expect any trouble from North Korea. I also informed the U.N. Secretary General to not bother trying to stop any retaliatory strike and that his efforts would be best spent putting a lid on the crazies around the world. If he won't, I will have no choice but to."

"Look, folks, war is something I don't want as my 'legacy.' Losing a war and putting the entire Western Civilization in jeopardy is something I want even less. I don't believe in politically correct wars. If I did, I would have our politicians fight them. Most people will agree that war is something to be avoided. By its nature, war should be violent, bloody and destructive with the rosters of dead reaching in the millions. That is exactly why war MUST be avoided at all costs. But if it is war we are forced to enter because of the demands, doctrine and actions of our enemy, be assured, I am going to end it. All of us in the West must be prepared to end it.

"This is no video game. No movie. This is real world. My number one job as the President of the United States is the protection of MY people. MY PEOPLE. Not refugees from another country, not political correctness at the expense of the safety of American people. Someone once asked me if I thought one American life was more important that 100,000 Syrian refugees, my answer was two sided. As a human being, no, I do not thing we are better "humans" than anybody else. God made each one of us and each one of us has the same God-given rights to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. At the same time, however, as the President of the United States, with my God-given responsibility is to the safety of MY PEOPLE. If I allow 100,000 refugees into our country and even if only one of those is a terrorist and yet he only kills just one American, I have failed in my job. If you cannot see or understand that, you probably should not be writing for any paper. The bottom line is I am going to do what I have to do to protect our people. Right now, I have a conference call with Vladimir Putin. Thank you for your time." The President quickly turns around and heads out of the room.









12 E. Jefferson Street Montgomery, AL 36104

Office (334)356-6700

Owner/Publisher **Managing Editor** Loretta Grant

Owner/Publisher **Samuel Adams**

Marie Hudson ~ Layout, Office

www.alabamagazette.com alabamagazette@gmail.com

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Contributing Writers: Bobbie Ames Dr. John Bitter Michael Brooks Trisston Burrows Marcia Chambliss Oswaldo Chavez Sheriff Derrick Cunningham Steve Flowers Judge Peggy Givhan Michael Hanich Ronald Holtsford Ed Jones Patricia Killough Steve Long Dr. Rick Marshall John Martin

Travis McGough

Kyllé McKinney

Judge Dale Segrest

John Sophocleus

Robert Tate

Ron VanHerwyn

The Gazette, (now The Alabama Gazette) was created in year 2000 for the people of Central Alabama with the intent of being a thoughtprovoking, non-partisan publication reaching over 20,000 readers monthly. Written comments, stories, advertisements, social and church events, as well as classifieds are always welcome. The publisher is not responsible for error in text reprinted from other sources. Furthermore, this publication does not establish due diligence on authors or advertisers and cannot guarantee that their offerings or writings are correct or suitable. We assume no responsibility for errors or omissions. We reserve the right to print, edit or condense any and all contents submitted. The publisher reserves the right to refuse advertising and submissions at its own discretion. All articles, ads and photographs may be subject to copyright.

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The Education Station...

By Bobbie Ames Socialism

AMERICA'S INVASION BY SOCIALISM: THE ROAD TO DESPOTIC POWER!

The polity and government of these United States is original. Let us say it again, Original and Peculiar. It has two great elements of divisions of power:

a. that of the States exercising local Self-Government, and b. that of the Nation, formed by a voluntary Union of States.

The motto on the Great Seal of the Nation gives that origin: E Pluribus **Unum**, confirming that our beginning is found in the 13 colonies and their voluntary union. Let us not forget that their union was based on that idea of local self-government, which developed the State, and the idea of Union, which developed the Nation.

The idea of the individual citizen being totally free to pursue the opportunities of his life is completely unrecognized in cultures where centralization prevails. American Liberty is unique in History.

In Ancient England, many people dreamed of such local rule and liberty, but only a few assemblies were able to frame the laws under which they would live.

The ruling monarchs deprived the people of the power of local rule, but many continued to dream of liberty and just laws. Christians, in particular, had the basis of the Word of God to justify their dreams, and considered their aspirations as not only the advancement of the Christian Faith, but as the honor due to the King and Queen.

The Pilgrim Story is one of the most revered of all in American History, and justly so. Their Covenant signed aboard the Mayflower ship provided for a code of laws, a public authority, as in a local government. In early New England, the local political life was built up in towns, while in Virginia, in counties. In Virginia, political life had a distinct aristocratic type of society, and in New England, more of a democratic society.

Our ancestors built this system of government on the Rule of Law, which was based on Morality and Christianity. Not every citizen was a professing Christian, but the vast majority realized that no government could be secure, nor could citizens be safe, without Moral Absolutes in practice, and codified in the Rule of Law.

It is interesting that the early citizens of Connecticut created a little Republic by the federation of independent towns, and sovereignty still remained at the town level. It is perhaps our earliest model of what would be a republican form of government.

The Founders and Framers of our Constitution shared the love of liberty above all else, and the passion to protect it. The Cause of Liberty and Justice surpassed any and all obligations to the King and Queen of England. Their concepts of Justice came from the Bible.

Moving ahead from the 1800's to the 20th Century, we are stunned at the changes in our own culture. It is a mystery to many citizens who have not recognized the seriousness of the disease invading our nation, which we now call Socialism. Modern Socialism can be traced back to the days of the French Revolution in the mid 1800's, the Russian Empire of 1917, China in the 1940's, and Cambodia in the 1970's.

Since the mid 20th Century, Socialism has reared its head in many Western nations. In America, it was first introduced to us as "Progressivism." These people work within the system to gain their programs, one at a time: be it universal health care, or free government (K-12) education for all. While Socialism was largely accepted in Europe, its first cousin, Communism, was not. When the Communist Manifesto was issued, it was obvious that the main target was against Christianity and Morality, by the overthrow of the social and political order birthed by that Faith.

The Manifesto lists ten planks to advance Communism. 1, Abolition of property in land and application of all rents of land to

- public purposes.
- A heavy progressive or gradual income tax. 3. Abolition of all rights of inheritance.
- 4. Confiscation of the property of all emigrants and rebels. Centralization of credit in the hands of the State, by means of a
- national bank with State Capital, and an exclusive monopoly. Centralization of the means of Communication and transport in the
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- State; the bringing in of cultivation of waste-lands, and the improvement of the soil generally, carried out with a common plan.
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Already implemented in America are the following:

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Yes, we can acknowledge that Socialism has come to America. The Socialist Agenda is clear. They oppose the ideals of American's founding,

and oppose Constitutional Government as was created in our nation.

In the lifetime of this writer, the progressives have managed to invade every aspect of what we traditionally call the "private sector." Todays socialist candidates believe that Socialism can be achieved by popular consent. Gradually over the past decades, they have achieved the 40 hour work week, the minimum wage, federal control over banking, agriculture, manufacturing, health care, and government subsidies for college. They are well on their way to declare what they will proclaim as Victory.

Socialism as an Economic order is a failure. It is retrogressive, not progressive in a positive sense. Examples of failures are Medicare, Medicaid, and Obamacare. All stifle free enterprise.

The positions of the Socialists against Morality include attacks on the nuclear family, such as their advocating sexual license, abortion, homosexuality, and the sexualization of children.

An excellent writer and researcher of Socialism, Charles Scaliger, quotes Alexis de Tocqueville, a French legislator at the time of the French Revolution. This Legislator gave worthy advice, following the overthrow of the Royals. He identified Socialism and warned of three key ideologies of the movement invading France.

- **1.** The appeal to the material passions of man.
- 2. An attack on the principle of private property, believing that it is one of the "ills of the world."
- **3.** Scorn for personal liberty and scorn for individual reason, a complete contempt for the individual.

Tocqueville told his fellow legislators that "Socialism has contempt for human liberty, to the point where, were I to attempt to sum up what Socialism is, I would say that it was simply a new system of serfdom."

Tocqueville was popular in America due to his travels here and his praise for our Christian Constitutional Republic. He was highly regarded as a political philosopher on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean and we would do well to heed his words today.

What Tocqueville observed in America was reverence for the Rule of Law. For 227 years of living under the Constitution and Bill of Rights, we have been blessed as no other nation on earth. We have to be vigilent, however, because not all amendments to the Constitution have promoted Liberty.



Alexis de Tocqueville

For example, the 17th amendment stripped political power from the State Legislatures, which had selected the U. S. Senators for each State. The 16th amendment gave the government power to tax personal incomes directly and has led to the present day IRS. The creation of the Federal Reserve Act and the private bank, operate beyond the limits and control of the American government elected officials.

The Constitution and the Bill of Rights served us well until Socialism invaded our land. Those foundational documents are based on the philosophy of the 1776 Declaration of Independence, which asserts that our rights are God given, and that governments are instituted to secure these God given rights. It further states that when the government fails to secure these rights, it is the right of the people to take action: to alter or abolish this form of government.

The U.S. Constitution is the Rule of Law for America, and it was and is based on the Declaration of Independence. Thomas Jefferson once said, "If a nation expects to be ignorant and free....it expects what never was and never will be." Today is the day to be informed and involved in restoring the Constitution as the Rule of Law. It is the day to cherish and restore Religious Liberty to our land. Now is THE TIME to become active in the Public Square, to be a responsible, informed citizen in the voting booth in 2016, and to diligently **PRAY** for revival and for the restoration of our beloved nation.

So help us God! For more information and understanding of the U.S. Constitution, we recommend <u>The Christian History of the Constitution</u>, published by the Foundation for American Christian Education, in Chesapeake, Va. On the web at FACE.net The writings of researcher, Charles Scaliger, on Socialism, can be ordered

through The New American, P.O. Box 8040, Appleton, WI 54912.

Quotes from Alexis de Tocqueville

"Nothing is more wonderful than the art of being free, but nothing is harder to learn how to use, than freedom."

"Liberty cannot be established without morality,

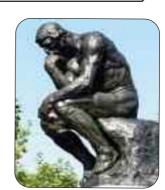
nor morality without faith."



John Sophocleus







The views of this editorial may not express the views of The Alabama Gazette.

Bentley v. Collier and Hubbard's 23 FELONY COUNTS MOVING FORWARD

Seems there's no limit to embarrassment we must endure in Alabama from our political parasites as the next iteration of corruption tremors were felt in Montgomery last month. Some commented they'd never heard of ALEA (Alabama Law Enforcement Agency) until reading their March Alabama Gazette column on 'affidavit wars' in Judge Walker's adjudication of Speaker Hubbard's 23 felony counts which cited Special Agent Jack Wilson's conclusion. According to the Alabama Political Reporter after interviewing AG confidential informant Barron Coleman ALEA found his affidavit did not allege any violation of criminal law recommending, "no formal investigation be opened into the matter of Coleman's allegations.



Alabama Law Enforcement Agency **ALEA**

Now ALEA Sect. Spencer Collier comes with allegations of Bentley's improprieties which appear triggered by far too many events to sort out. Some cite Mr. Collier's failed beggaring before Sen. Pittman's committee for more money while **ALEA** is still far too top heavy with bureaucrats after the State had the courage to rid itself of several redundant politburo agencies. Collier asserts he can't get rid of them while others under similar circumstances have been very effective. In my time in the real world (at Ford Motor Company) and the much more corrupt/subsidized world of universities one must have the courage to assign undesirable duties to cut cost. Doesn't matter if Collier puts them walking beats, administrative duties in the motor pool, janitorial oversite, etc. - even if the cuts were not 'fair' or no fault of their own. The problem(s) is often caused decades prior when the government (in better times) did things it had no business addressing to make the inevitable tough times to follow all the more deleterious. If discouraging enough to accelerate exit/retirement of this excess capacity of bureaucrats, all the better. Presidents where I've worked lacked the spine and integrity to assign corrupt provosts, deans and their lieutenants (oft far too comfortable with the despicable protection of tenure and wildly overpaid) back to classes, duties and positions they impeded productivity while 'serving' the university. Perhaps they'd work to undo the harm they aided and abetted or get discouraged/embarrassed enough by what they've done to leave. I remain hopeful one day Goat Hill will look into administrative waste (further saddling our youth with crushing debt) in education - I'll be happy to share some data on the matter.

As for Dr./Gov. Bentley, readers know I've not been a fan since my May 2, 2011 column entitled, "Lowder Prescription Renewed... time to change Doctors?" I worked hard to block this corrupt 'public servant' continuing on the Board of Trustees for yet another term along with others who feared a headline which would read something like, "AU Trustee Indicted on TARP Fraud," after being responsible for one of the biggest FDIC bank failures in US history. I still feel indebted to the sagacious Senators who courageously ended the harm Trustee Lowder could directly impose upon the University. Lowder supporting and positioning another 'public servant' (Rep. Hubbard) would be instrumental to secure extracting more out of AU students, taxpayers, etc.

I ask readers to forgive my allowing others to convince me to curb efforts to expose this corrupt Governor as I should've these past five years. Bentley's recent crony raises while claiming budget woes could even make corrupt AU administrators blush in comparison to their unjustified (i.e., in excess of 8% without a memo - see my Nov. 2015 Gazette column: http://www.alabamagazette.com/story/2015/11/01/news/all-the-speakers-men-and-the-collapseof-au-athletics/597.html) crony pay increases at Auburn. Funny how many make a big deal when football or sexual escapades are involved; as if the larger theft in other arenas - e.g., destruction of small businesses, education, etc. by the actions of AEA, BCA, et al thugs is somehow less profound. The Holy Spirit has been gnawing at me these past years as I've watched Bentley (who may have been a decent man as some asserted to misdirect me) slowly go to bed with the AEA and esp. the BCA special interests - much more harmful to the general welfare of our State than going to bed with an advisor, intern, staffer, etc. along with what little State resources may have been involved to facilitate it, real or imagined. I know I'm not the only one who has felt this slow and increasing gnawing as Bentley hid behind his brand of "Christianity."

Onto the trigger of our most recent political tremors I find more compelling. The magic bullet Hubbard's new and improved legal 'dream team' put so much time and effort into (instead of actually addressing the 23 felony counts to help the court narrow down to a less daunting number of only those worthy of being addressed) orchestrating failed miserably and only purchased a little more time in stalling. Not only did confidential informant Coleman's affidavit fail to proffer the get out of prison free card as hoped, Hubbard's writ of mandamus was quickly answered (reportedly in three days) upon appeal to further vindicate what an outstanding job (as usual) Judge Jacob Walker is doing in our Lee County Circuit Court. The comfort zone of our smug, big government conservative BCA machine parasites took a big hit with that decision. Insiders/courtwatchers tell me Hubbard is now visibly showing stress and further lashing out as the not very bright wounded animal his e-mails portray.

Finally, the punchline: Bentley is among those who do **NOT** want to testify in open court the despicable things they've done at the behest of this far too empowered and corrupt Speaker. Bentley did not want ALEA involved in the affidavit wars to amplify how foolish Hubbard's legal team was in wasting even more of the court's efforts and time on an inconsequential confidential informant's involvement in the AG assembling their case. Bentley's ALEA firings (along with his pay raises, veto threats, misuse of State resources, etc.) are wrong. Former Secretary Collier has very publicly stated he'll not lie for Bentley - some think it references other issues which may be more damning than coveting another man's wife. In closing, I forecast a reversal in the order of names in the title where Collier will no longer be defending himself from Bentley; instead Collier will be a plaintiff against this corrupt governor. I hope it results in some VERY productive discovery to provide further evidence for federal investigation (as Rep. Williams has requested into the matter) where even more corruption may be disciplined in our courts.

Postscript: I hope all my non-orthodox readers had a joyous Easter filled with many blessings in veneration of our Risen Saviour Jesus Christ. Our Easter/Pascha falls much later than usual on May 1st instead of March 27th - so we really get the jelly-bean discounts this year! We could always tell when our Pascha was after everyone else's Easter by the size of the chocolate bunnies Yiayia would give us. The reasons for conflicting dates are more complicated than I completely understand but appear mostly driven by the Julian calendar which is 13 days behind the Gregorian calendar. A 1923 inter-Orthodox congress held in Constantinople established the revised calendar we currently use, mostly aligned with Gregorian dates except Pascha still set according to the Julian calendar. So most feast days (e.g., Christmas, Epiphany, etc.) are the same and only Pascha along with connected feast days (e.g., Ascension, Pentecost, etc.) are determined via the different Julian calendar dates.

Orthodox insistence to hold onto the early practices of the Christian Church held most dear seem to be the biggest driver of the current result. Most notable is the requirement installed by the First Ecumenical Council [325 AD in Nicea] that Pascha must take place AFTER Jewish Passover to maintain the Biblical sequence of events. Non-orthodox Christianity ignores this dynamic set forth in Scripture, so at times Western Easter takes place either before or during Passover. This is why we usually celebrate Pascha later (MUCH later this year at the 5 weeks maximum difference possible!) than others. The two dates coincide when the full moon following the equinox comes so late that it counts as the first full moon after 21 March in the Julian calendar as well as the Gregorian. This coincidence will occur next year but not again until 2034. The specific rule established in 325 is: Pascha is to be celebrated on the first Sunday, after the first full moon, following the vernal equinox, but always after Jewish Passover. Apostolic Canon VII asserts, "If any Bishop, or Presbyter, or Deacon celebrate the holy day of Pascha before the vernal equinox with the Jews, let him be deposed."

Whether you've celebrated last month or next - I pray all use and apply the scriptural lessons to identify and discipline the corrupt clergy, governors, jurists, procurators, et al far too alive and destructive in our modern lives. Resistance to the tyranny of Tiberius was an unimaginable example of obedience to God which seems increasingly lacking today...

To the Editor:

Honesty is becoming a thing of the past. Somehow we are bent on doing it "wrong" regardless of the circumstances and consequences to family or position...or even to God. One lie always requires a cover up if not "fessed up". The ole saying, "What a web we weave when we first try to deceive." Simple sayings normally carry a great message.

We have become a society of "the end justifies the means". Whatever it takes! Maybe we should give heed to a few old proverbs . A little "Old Testament" logic might help.

Proverbs 11:2-8 (KJV)

- When pride cometh, then cometh shame: but with the lowly is
- The integrity of the upright shall guide them: but the perverseness of transgressors shall destroy them.

- Riches profit not in the day of wrath:
 - but righteousness delivereth from death.
- The righteousness of the perfect shall direct his way: but the wicked shall fall by his own wickedness.
- The righteousness of the upright shall deliver them: but transgressors shall be taken in their own naughtiness.
- When a wicked man dieth, his expectation shall perish: and the hope of unjust men perisheth. The righteous is delivered out of trouble, and the wicked cometh

in his stead. **Isaiah** 59:14 (NIV)

> So justice is driven back, and righteousness stands at a distance; truth has stumbled in the streets, honesty cannot enter.

Bent(ley) on Destruction Continued from 1A

You should not gawk at each new revelation or tweet or post for the sake of deriding a pathetic situation which is more akin to Chaucer's Merchant's <u>Tale</u>. Instead, our focus should be on examining legitimate government functions we elect our representatives to perform. The fact that Mrs. Mason has resigned from being Bentley's senior political adviser solves nothing. It only serves to highlight the incestuous relationship our laws allow between business interests, both profit and non profit and our elected officials.

This situation will not end well for anyone. Mrs. Mason will follow the same path as Sanford's consort. Former Director Collier's good reputation may be reinstated but the bell has been rung, Those law enforce-

ment officers who were fired or reassigned will never again have

confidence in a system they once swore to protect. Representative Mike

Hubbard's tactics will soon be in the spotlight which will reveal even more unwelcome behavior in state politics. And all the innocent families impacted crumble, while seeking to understand how good people can go so horribly bad. Many at times like this, turn to the Bible.

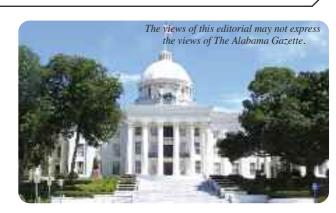
2 Samuel Chapters 11 and 12 tell of the great king David and his infatuation with a married woman Bathsheba. She loved her husband Uriah but David used his power and government resources to have his way with her and in so doing brought destruction to himself and his people. Governor Bentley finds himself in a similar scenario today. It should not be lost on critics that Governor Bentley's children coincidently include the names Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. The message in those New Testament books of Christ's life reminds us all we are all sinners, worthy of God's wrath but for His saving grace. Pray for our State, our leaders and seek forgiveness for the stones in our hands.



Inside the Statehouse with Steve Flowers

Steve Flowers is Alabama's leading political columnist. His weekly column on Alabama politics appears in over 60 Alabama newspapers.

He may be reached at www.steveflowers.us



In early 2009, Dr. Robert Bentley came to see me about his race for Governor of Alabama. Bentley was finishing his second term in the Alabama House of Representatives and closing down his very successful dermatology practice in Tuscaloosa.

I liked Bentley immediately and thought it was magnanimous that he would want to spend his retirement years as Governor. I did not give him much of a chance and predicted he would run a respectable third in the race. However, he surprised everybody, probably even himself.

I offered Bentley the opportunity to appear with me on my 30 minute Public Television show, "Alabama Politics." He gladly accepted and arrived with only his wife, Diane. The two of them were traveling the state together with Diane driving him. After his victory, Bentley returned to the show as Governor with the usual entourage of staffers and troopers. One of the staffers was

Dr. Bentley is a good man. He did an exemplary job his first four years as governor; although he inexplicably had a dismal track record with the Legislature. Even though they all were Republicans, the House and Senate treated him with complete disdain. Therefore, his first term lacked success as far as initiatives. Even still, Bentley remained extremely popular with the voters and was overwhelmingly reelected in 2014.

During Bentley's first term, he stayed in touch and thanked me for favorable columns, but I heard very little from him during the 2014 campaign year. In January of 2015, when I sat down for an annual visit with a contemporary of mine, who is the most astute political guru in the state, I casually mentioned to my friend that I had not heard from the Governor all year. The gentleman, who by the way was an integral part of planning the governor's inauguration replied, "Steve, nobody has."

He privately told me that the Governor at 72 had fallen head-over-heels in love with his 45 year old girlfriend, Rebekah Mason, and was spending every waking hour with her. He further informed me that it was uncertain whether Bentley's wife or four sons were going to attend the Inauguration. Mrs. Bentley was so fed up with his affair that she only acquiesced a few hours before the

Ironically, a week later I was standing in the Rotunda of the Capital after April 6, 2016

Governor Bentley's State of the State speech and Rebekah Mason came up to me and said, "Steve, the Governor really appreciates the power of your pen and the first thing we do every Wednesday morning is I read your column to him." I didn't quite know what to say or take from the comment.

Well, as you know, Mrs. Bentley filed for divorce late last year. It was assumed that the dissolution of the 50 year marriage was over a romantic interlude, but the divorce was quickly settled and sealed. Dr. Bentley agreed to a 50 percent settlement with the agreement that there would be no comment about the divorce or peripheral reasons.

Surprisingly, the divorce and rumored relationship seemed to dissipate as an issue. The mainstream media left it alone. In the meantime, Ms. Mason/ Caldwell took on a significant role as the governor's advisor and it appeared to all involved that she was the governor. Her overt, forthright and offensive approach in all important meetings with the governor further alienated Bentley from the legislative leadership.

A number of Bentley's cabinet members are his former legislative buddies. His best legislative companion was Spencer Collier, who he made head of the ALEA. You know the rest of the story. When Bentley fired Collier he fired back. That gave the media the door they needed to open the Rebekah Mason can of worms. It is suspected that the salacious tapes were leaked to Collier by Ms. Bentley or a son.

The bottom line is Dr. Bentley has quietly fallen in love in his 70's like a school boy although he looks like the least likely person in the world to have an affair. He has paid a heavy price for his transgression. He has lost half his life savings and is estranged from his wife of 50 years and his four sons.

However, Bentley has done nothing illegal that should prevent him from serving out the remainder of his term as Governor. Impeachment proceedings will go nowhere nor should they. The leadership in the House and Senate cannot withstand the same scrutiny. The Biblical admonition that Jesus evoked, "To those who are without sin cast the first stone," applies to those who would castigate Bentley. There is also a more secular version of Jesus teachings, "Those who live in glass houses should not cast stones."





Engage Educate Empower

The views of this editorial may not express the views of The Alabama Gazette.

REALITY CHECK

Marcia Chambliss

I find that most people detest election years because of the onslaught of ugly political advertising, never-ending robo calls, or roadside signage that is never fully eradicated. I detest it because while many of us are involved in campaigns to elect replacements in hopes of solving some of the problems created by the last election cycle, we tend to take our eyes off the shenanigans that continue to take place in our halls of government.

I shudder to think of the damage likely being done in Washington, DC while the voters duke it out over their choice of presidential candidates. But whenever our Alabama Legislature is in session, there's usually plenty of activity closer to home that should also be of concern.

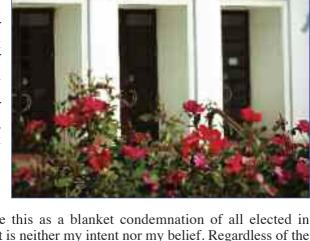
I'm well aware that I incessantly beat the drum for smaller, more limited government at all levels. That desire stems from believing that less government allows more freedom for Americans, but more limited government would also greatly diminish the whack-a-mole frustration experienced by those of us who are weary of the constant monitoring of actions by those we elect that is so crucial to maintaining a free society.

I understand that the substance of politics consists of constant battles between ideology and policy, conservative versus liberal, and Republican versus Democrat. But when those elected have campaigned on the principles of limited government and "no new taxes," it becomes a bitter pill to swallow to have to stay on endless high alert as citizen activists.

It's especially hard when we were promised that it would be different. I fail to see Republican legislative and gubernatorial endorsement of a statewide amendment to bust the state trust fund, serious consideration of the expansion of gambling to solve budget problems, a proposed 6-cent per gallon gasoline tax, a Speaker of the House indicted on 23 counts of alleged use of public office for personal gain, or a Republican governor bringing public disgrace to his office with rumors and speculation regarding his former political advisor fulfilling the campaign promises of a "new day" in Alabama.

Regarding the gasoline tax, **HB394**, my understanding is the bill would base Alabama's fuel tax on the average tax of four adjacent states, which in my mind cedes state authority. Further, a companion bill in the Senate, SB180, would create yet another layer of bureaucracy in the form of the Alabama Transportation Safety Fund, and allowing members of special interest groups to play a role in determining how the new revenue will be spent.

some foolish reason, I wanted to believe that I could take the candidates on "my side" of the aisle at their word, but I made the mistake of thinking a member of a specific political party was the equivalent conservatism. However, finally accepting that reality is actually quite liberating as I'm becoming a bit better at discerning the difference.



Many will likely take this as a blanket condemnation of all elected in Alabama since 2010 – that is neither my intent nor my belief. Regardless of the intense lobbying influence at our State House, there are still conservatives who are diligently trying to hold to their principles and they need our support. As I've wallowed in my disillusionment of late, I've failed to adequately thank those men and women who still remember the meaning of public service.

Following the November 2010 elections and the Alabama Republican sweep, I mentioned to a lobbyist friend that I was really looking forward to the next legislative session. I still remember how she looked at me and said with a smile, "Nothing's changed - only the players." How unfortunate that far too many of those we elected in that historic change of political governance confirmed her prediction.

All said, the current state of our culture and politics reinforces the quote (attribution disputed) that still rings true through the years: "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

Marcia Chambliss serves on the leadership team of Smart Girl Politics, www.smartgirlpolitics.com, an online community for conservative women. She can be reached at: Marcia@sgpaction.com. Her views do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Smart Girl Politics.



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Woods & Waters with Steve

Steve Long

TURKEYS ARE FEELING THE PRESSURE OF SEASON

Turkey season has kicked off now in Alabama, and even though I haven't held a gun yet this season, I've seen plenty of action while helping hunters and huntresses chase after those elusive birds. Now, while some folks have started the season with a big bang, knocking down turkeys well before the morning's really started, there are also folks out there who just can't quite get the rascals to fly down from the roost in the right direction. Some of these birds have been talkative, and sometimes they won't so much as make a peep. I've personally taken some of these same determined hunters out into the field, and it never gets old, even if I'm not the one doing the shooting. If you haven't had the chance to chase those Thunder Chickens yet, don't worry. As a matter of fact, it seems that pressure has more of an effect on these birds than we may have realized!

Recently, I happened upon an article from Westervelt, detailing the findings of a study conducted in Louisiana, where 12 gobblers were outfitted with GPStracking transmitters, and hunters in the same area carried a similar device with them when they hunted. The goal of the study was to see just how strongly turkeys reacted to pressure from hunters, and the results were fairly interesting. Turkeys generally act as individuals, not as a group, in that each bird followed its own routine, with the turkey's on personal experience seeming to dictate the bird's movement the most. If the bird had been pressured in previous days, it would have no problem heading to an area that was far less pressured. More importantly, birds that were more experienced at surviving the season were more likely to continue to learn and, eventually, maybe even become unhuntable.

There are plenty of other conclusions to draw from that study, but the one that struck me the most was how the birds were far more aware of our movements as hunters than I originally thought. Hunting down here for as long as I have, I know they're practically ghosts, but to think that it's more than just instinct that they use to skirt around us is pretty darn interesting!

Of course, all this talk of birds just makes me want to get out there and hunt them even harder. So stay determined, folks! If you haven't had very good luck, try changing your routine a little bit. Maybe try an area that you and other hunters

haven't pressed hard yet. With determination, you'll definitely do better than people who never leave the couch!

As for me, I'll keep on doing what I do; guiding and assisting other folks, and occasionally sneak out and get myself some time to hunt these birds. I'm still pushing hard on the QDMA front, and I still want you guys to take a little time and check us out at www.qdma.com.

Good luck, guys and gals, and don't get too frustrated.

These birds may seem silly, but they have no problem making us look like fools.

So get out there, show those bids who's boss, and go get'em!



Hunter Smith with a fine Osceola gobbler.



Chipmunks

The chipmunks are small, grounddwelling members of the squirrel (Sciuridae) family known for their burrowing habits and love of nuts. Despite their size, chipmunks can cause significant damage to homes, yards, and farms. The average size of a chipmunk is: 2-6" long with a 3" tail; less than 1 lb. in weight. Their lifespan in the wild: 2-3 years Identifying Features: Shades of brown/ yellow/grey fur with white and black stripes down the back.

There are 23 existing species of chipmunks all chipmunk species except for one - the Siberian chipmunk - are native to North America. As indicated by its name, the eastern chipmunk inhabits most of the eastern half of the United States and Canada. Western chipmunks inhabit the western states as well as most of

The Siberian chipmunk is the only species that is found outside of North America - its range extends throughout northern Asia, from central Russia to

Chipmunks feel most at home in areas with plenty of ground cover, including logs, trees, stumps, shrubs and rocks. While the ideal habitat for a chipmunk is a deciduous forest, woodland or brush land, they're also comfortable in other areas that provide cover like urban parks, fence lines, hedges and houses.

Chipmunks dig extensive burrow systems directly underneath or next to natural or manmade cover. They dig two types of burrows: shallow burrows in which they seek refuge while foraging during the day, and deeper, more complex burrows where they nest, store food and spend most of the winter months.

Chipmunks rarely venture further than 1/3 mile from their burrows at any

Chipmunks are omnivores, dining on various types of foods that are found mostly on the ground Their diet consists mainly of corn nuts seed and grain berries insects and mushrooms, plant roots and blubs however their diets are more diverse during the warmer months, during which time they hoard nuts and seeds in their burrows to eat in the



Ron VanHerwyn

winter,. Chipmunks are active in the daytime during spring, summer and fall. Chipmunks remain in their deep burrow systems during the winter, where they enter patterns of torpor (deep sleep and lower body temperature) interrupted by periods of feeding.

Breeding occurs twice per year - once in the spring and once in the summer when chipmunks give birth to 4-5 babies at a time. Chipmunks dig their own pairs of burrows, excavating as deep as 3 feet underground. Burrows are typically dug directly underneath or next to cover, because a chipmunk always requires protection from predators. Oftentimes chipmunk burrows cause damage when dug next to a home foundation. The main entrance of a chipmunk burrow can extend up to 20 feet in length.

When they prepare for the winter hibernation period, chipmunks begin to stockpile nuts and seeds in their burrows during late summer and early fall. Chipmunks are protective of their burrows and use a range of loud chirps as well as body language to express occupied territory, dominance, or warn their young of danger. Females also have a mating call for which they use their high-pitched, bird-like vocalizations. Did you know that one tiny chipmunk can gather up to 165 acorns in one day and they have pouches inside of their cheeks in which they store food when foraging. A group of chipmunks is called a scurry.

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Sports Editor, **Ed Jones**

THE QUARTERBACK BATTLE

Alabama fans are in a state of anxiety again this spring. "Who will be our quarterback?" This question is asked of me almost every day. Everybody loved Blake Sims two years ago, but he could not deliver the prize. Nobody wanted Jake Coker last year. All he did was go 14-0 as Alabama's starting quarterback and hand the unbelieving Tide fans another national championship. "Really, who will be our quarterback this year?" As long as Nick Saban

is the coach, there will be an adequate quarterback!

Before this column is read, the Alabama faithful can throw away the Xanax and get ready for another run at the championship.

Auburn fans are leary of anything Coach Gus Malzahn decides to do with the quarterback situation at Auburn. A complete melt down at the end of 2014 with the ultimate quarterback for Malzahn's sneaky offensive system, Nick Marshall, Auburn lost four of its last six games including their bowl game. Then in 2015, Coach Rhett Lashley and Malzahn put a javelin thrower into the system which is designed for a Nick Marshall type. The results were astronomically abysmal. Jeremy Johnson was named a Heisman Trophy candidate with the assistance of the Auburn publicity machine. The national media bought it. The local media really bought it. Heck, I even bought it when the national pre-season polls came out with Auburn ranked high in the top ten with an outside chance of a spot in the national championship play-off.

The SEC Sports Writers picked Auburn over Alabama for the SEC Championship. Blue and orange was THE color for 2015. Black and blue would have been a better choice. Thanks to Idaho and San Jose State, Auburn avoided a losing season! Coach Gus Malzahn will not survive another season like that one. From 12-2, to 8-5, to 7-6. This is called coaching success in descending order! So, Malzahn and his staff must settle on a quarterback, adapt that quarterback to his version of his offense and then develop a number two quarterback that can be adequate at that offense. However, the back-up may have skill sets that don't match the chosen offense. This will require extra effort in practicing a hybrid offense that Malzahn can live with.

Developing a starting quarterback at Alabama is much easier than developing a starting quarterback at Auburn. Why is that? Well, it is so fundamentally simple that it often goes unnoticed. Nick Saban recruits a quarterback that is smart, big, strong, tall and adaptable. It helps a lot if he can throw the football well and read defenses, but then, if he could not throw well, Saban would not have recruited him in the first place. Reading defenses is not a natural skill. It must be learned. Alabama teaches that very well.

Malzahn on the other hand recruits the best athlete that he can find who is quick, fast and as agile as a mountain goat. It will help if he can pass and read defenses, but is not a requirement. His running skills are more important than his throwing skills. After all, any good athlete can learn to throw a football. Reading defenses well would be excellent, but would not be a requirement. Malzahn's quarterback must read the defensive end and react. If he can't do that,

the rest of his skills are relatively unimportant. This discussion of the difference in the types of quarterbacks at Auburn and Alabama is elementary of course, but it will help to understand why Alabama can take a fifth year senior halfback and make him successful, or a Florida State reject and make him successful.

In a nutshell, Saban is looking for a quarterback that will not lose the game. Malzahn is looking for a quarterback who will win the game. There is a big difference. For twenty-five years, I watched Coach Vince Dooley pick quarterbacks that would not lose the game. Some were very good, most were not. Can you name two quarterbacks who played for Dooley? Check Dooley's twentyfive year record. Saban is of the same mind. Can you name two great quarterbacks that played for Saban?

It must be admitted that Coach Malzahn at Auburn has a razzle/dazzle offensive system that is based on smoke and mirrors. It is very exciting and can put up big numbers...IF, he has that quarterback with the magic feet, the deceptive arm and the intangible ability to make the big play. That quarterback my friends...is as scarce as hen's teeth. What is the best system? What works best may be the best system...Check the records.

Alabama has a three-way tough quarterback battle going on. That is usually good news if the three top guys are all good. That probably is the case in Tuscaloosa this spring. Cooper Bateman, who Lane Kiffen tried to make the starter last year, losing the Ole Miss game in the process, has the inside track simply because he was Jake Coker's back-up last year. That means that he was the second best quarterback on the team in 2015. His biggest asset is his athletic ability. He was even tried at wide receiver in the spring last year. He is poised. He throws well. He is a tough football player, and he is ahead in experience. He held for all extra points and field goals in 2015. That's how much faith the coaching staff has in Bateman. Does all of this mean that he will be the starter when Alabama opens up with USC in 2016? Not necessarily. There is more raw talent behind him. I hope he is the guy, but he has to hold off two tough competitors.

David Cornwell is about the same size as Jake Coker, 6'-5" - 240 lbs. He is a drop back passer with a rifle arm. He is definitely competitive. After being talked about as a potential starter last spring, Cornwell wound up being listed as the number five quarterback on the depth chart. One quarterback transferred but not Cornwell. He had rather fight than switch. His size and his strength make him a candidate for the starting job. He will generally not make bad decisions. However, he is not as mobile as Bateman or his other competitor, red-shirt freshman Blake Barnett.

Blake Barnett came to Tuscaloosa with more press clippings than Joe **Namath**. However, he was not strong enough to be the man last year. The California phenom came in at close to 200 lbs on a 6'- 4" frame. It was evident to me in the spring game that he needed to put some muscle on that frame. He has bulked up to 215 now and is definitly in the mix for the starting job. He is a player that could be the starter at Auburn. By that I mean that he has the running and passing ability to run the zone read. He is a former five star prospect dual threat type quarterback. He is by far the best runner. He is also more mobile in the pocket. He has the arm and he is smart. A year running the scout team has



Alabama Junior - 6'3", 220 lbs



Alabama red-shirt Sophomore - 6' 5", 240 lbs



Blake Barnett Alabama red-shirt Freshman - 6' 4", 215 lbs

toughened him up. He should be ready to take the reigns. He just might do it.

Regardless of whether it is Bateman, Cornwell or Barnett, Alabama will start a quarterback that will not lose the game, and maybe one that is capable of winning some games. The talent is there. The coaching will make him a winner or just a quarterback.

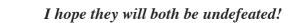
Auburn has a real problem. Jeremy Johnson decided to come back for his senior year instead of transferring to a lower division team where he could have started in a system that fit his skill set. This decision is admirable but not exactly what was best for Johnson. He wants to be the quarterback at Auburn. He has invested three years in the system. It will surprise me if Coach Malzahn can afford to try to make Johnson the Heisman candidate that he was supposed to be last year. It would be a fantastic sports story...but, it ain't gonna' happen. Hopefully Johnson can contribute in some way to a successful season at Auburn in 2016.

Last year, the Auburn back-up to the Heisman candidate was a true freshman named Sean White. At 6' - 0", 200 lbs., White had neither a height advantage or a weight advantage on the opposition. With everything going in the toilet with Johnson, Coach Malzahn decided at mid-season to try the freshman. What did he have to lose? Despite a disappointing result, there was some reason to be confident in White. He was cool and calm under pressure. When given the time he could locate his receivers better than Johnson. More importantly, he could run the zone read effectively, giving Auburn a little running room for the bevy of backs that were available. The problem was that even if White made the right read, he was just not quick enough or fast enough to be a credible threat for big plays, which is the foundation of Malzahn's machine.

White is tough. He is accurate. But, he can not run the Malzahn zone read offense effectively. So, why was he recruited, and for that matter, why was Johnson recruited? This is the baffling story that haunted Auburn in 2015, two quarterbacks who could not run Malzahn's offense, both of whom were recruited by Coach Gus Malzahn.

There are other quarterbacks on campus but the only one that has a chance to shine in this offense is a junior college transfer. John Franklin III, was dismissed from Florida State and came to Auburn by way of East Mississippi Community College. Of course Coach Jimbo Fisher was not going to dismiss his Heisman quarterback **Jameis Winston**, so, he took the low road and kicked Franklin out. John Franklin III has all the tools that Malzahn requires to run the Malzahn machine. He is quick, he is fast (4.3 forty), he has a good arm. If he can read defenses and keep a cool head, Franklin will be the starting quarterback at Auburn when they host Clemson at Jordan-Hare Stadium in the fall. He has to be tough enough to take a pounding. At 5' - 11", 180 lbs., Franklin will have to play through pain. He is Malzahn's only chance to return to the magic of 2013.

So, barring injuries, John Franklin III will lead Auburn into the Iron Bowl in Tuscaloosa against Blake Barnett of the Alabama Tide.





Jeremy Johnson Auburn Senior - 6' 6", 230 lbs



Sean White Auburn Sophomore - 6' 0", 210 lbs



John Franklin, III Auburn Junior- 5' 11", 180 lbs



Ronald A. **Holtsford**

Q. I have read a little about a Qui tam action, but why does a "whistleblower" need a lawyer?



Qui tam actions are a part of the False Claims Act. Whenever a government contractor or payee defrauds the Federal Government, the Federal Government wants to know about it so that they might recover lost funds or in some cases the False Claims Act can cover illegal acts by companies. To do so the Federal Government encourages "whistleblowers" to

report the wrongful action and if found to be legitimate, a private attorney and possibly Government inclusion (intervention) may pursue the wrongful gains for a recovery. In addition to wrongful gains, the actions by those that have defrauded the government may even cause harm to patients having insurance such as Medicare, Medicaid and Tricare or harm to military personnel. For the "whistleblower" it may well include monetary compensation for reporting the wrongful

The False Claims Act was passed in 1862 during the War Between the States and is sometimes called the Lincoln Law. Originally the "whistleblower's" reward was 50% plus \$2,000.00. In the 1940's the reward was significantly reduced. Qui tam actions were significantly reduced as a result. When reports in the 1980's of \$400 hammers and \$600 toilet seats surfaced, Congress looked again at the False Claims Act. Congress decided that the wrongdoer should be fined triple the actual damages to the government. Amendments in 2009 addressed judicial interpretations that did not fall in line with original Congressional intent and amended in 2010 under the Patient Protection Act and the Affordable Care Act.

The "whistleblower", dubbed a relator under these cases is generally an employee, an ex-employee, a contractor or subcontractor or even a competitor. If the relator is an employee then protection is extended to the relator in that the relator cannot be terminated from employment because they have turned in their

Rewards to relators can fall between 10% and 30% of the penalty. Where most of the facts are publicly known a relator's recovery is 10%. When the government is included, the relator's recovery falls between 15% and 25%. When the government does not intervene the relator's recovery falls between 25% and 30%.

As an example I have met an individual that saw an irregularity within the company that the individual worked for. My description is purposely vague to protect the person's identity even though it is publicly available. My understanding is that this person objected to the practice and ultimately left the company. At some point the individual contacted an attorney and the government did become involved. When the case was resolved the company was fined several million

dollars and the individual received a very handsome reward. Though still significant, after taxes and attorney fees that amount becomes significantly less.

In answering the original question let's consider what we have discussed thus far. Number one, the government does not always intervene so attempting to bring such an action without being an attorney and even specializing in qui tam actions would be at a significant disadvantage. Number two the government does not per se represent the individual so there would be no protective counsel from a private attorney. Even though a current employer cannot retaliate against a relator one must consider that professional

Whistleblower (noun) a person who makes public disclosure of corruption or wrongdoing

harm might come once an individual is identified. I would guess that future employers may well be concerned that they might become the subject of a False Claims Act investigation even if they always attempt to do everything within the law. With an investigation a company could end up settling a claim and should they end up with multiple claims for different issues it could be financially difficult.

If you have determined that a company is defrauding the government and feel you should "do the right thing" you should contact an attorney that specializes in qui tam actions.

This article is informative only and not meant to be all inclusive. Additionally this article does not serve as legal advice to the reader and does not constitute an attorney- client relationship. The reader should seek counsel from their attorney should any questions

"No representation is made that the quality of legal services performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers."

Ronald A. Holtsford, Esq. Ronald A. Holtsford, LLC 7956 Vaughn Road, Box #124 Montgomery, AL 36116 (334) 220-3700 raholtsford@aol.com

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Family



Therapy

Oswaldo Chavez,

MS, LMFT-S, LPC-S, NCC Clinical Counselor, Non-profit organization.

Growing up in a gender-based family, there were distinct roles that my father and mother had, but there was some moderate flexibility (e.g., my father played with children and my mother disciplined the children). I don't recall any argument concerning parental roles, but I also do not recollect ever seeing my Dad do what is typically considered a feminine role, in a historically Mexican family, of cleaning the home, washing clothing and cooking.

My father died at an early age of thirty-nine, causing the family structure to change and also creating lasting family dysfunction. The death also delayed some family life cycle processes. My mother tried to fill the void of my father by trying to be the father figure, as is the case in many single parent dwellings. I remember my father was more playful and more fun to be around and my mother was not. She tried to reproduce this natural bond that we had with our father, but it was not the same. My mother struggled much emotionally and financially because she had to work two jobs and really did not have time for us. Although we did grapple with financial issues, my mother always had food to give us . How often have you found yourself wanting to change yourself or others because the way you grew up was not the ideal, healthiest or the best environment, but at the time it worked for you?

As you grow as a person and in a family, many times you realize things were dysfunctional. Often we would like to change behaviors in the family of origin because we have learned that how we interacted or did things is now unhealthy that don't seem to be of any value to us, because we have changed or they have changed or both. What we need to realize is that we are all different and have contrasting life experiences that have created distinctive perspectives. We need to love and accept our family of origin no matter their idiosyncrasies, as I am sure you would like others to love and accept you.

Food for Thought

Take some time and examine the way you think about your family of origin. We all have some form of dysfunction in our family no matter who were are or where we are from. Are you accepting of the way your family of origin is or are you tempted to change some things about them?

Learning to accept your family of origin dysfunction is difficult, however, it is plausible.

Acceptance is part of being happy, so would be advantageous for you to take some time and say to yourself the following

- 1. I can love my family of origin as they are.
- **2.** My love is a
- free gift that I offer to others without any strings attached as should be with my family of origin. I love them because I choose to love them.
- 3. Regardless of whether my family of origin are crazy or centered, shy or loud, uptight or free spirited, athletic or bookwormish, wealthy or poor, wise or ignorant, spiritual or non-believers, I choose to love my family of origin just the way they are.
- **4.** At times my family of origin may lash out in an unloving way towards me. Instead of responding in kind, I rise above the negativity and respond with compassion. Today, I choose to love all of my family of origin with kindness and

Self-Reflection Questions:

1. Do I love my family of origin unconditionally? 2. How can I separate my past from present to live healthy?

Age into Notice

the Evilly

Cowling One

3. Who do I need to show more love to in my family of origin?

Author of "Orderly for Lee" to attend April 23, 2016, Old Alabama Town Book Fair.

The Old Alabama Town Book Fair will be held on Saturday, April 23rd at Old Alabama Town. While the hours are not yet publicized, it is generally held from mid morning to early afternoon and will personally highlight many regional authors which will include kids books and regional interests.

It has come to my attention that Al Arnold, author of Orderly for Lee will be in attendance. Borrowed by permission of the author, the following is taken from

A descendant of a slave, Al Arnold, tells his journey of embracing his Confederate heritage. His ancestor, Turner Hall, Jr., a Black Confederate, served as a body servant for two Confederate soldiers and an orderly for General Robert E. Lee. Turner Hall, Jr. returned to Okolona, Mississippi after the Civil War. Hall served a prominent family in that community for five generations. His life's journey eventually led him to Hugo, Oklahoma where he established himself as the town's most distinguished citizen receiving acclaim from Black and White citizens alike for his service. In 1938, his journey continued to Pennsylvania as the last Civil War veteran from his community to attend the final Civil War veteran reunion, as a Black Confederate. He also traveled to New York City and

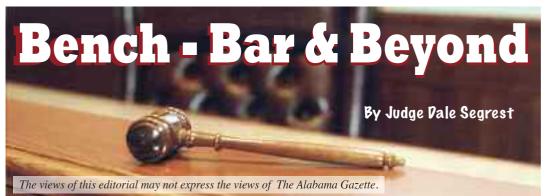
was interviewed by the national talk radio show, "We, The People" in 1940. One hundred and three years after the Civil War, Hall's great-great grandson,

Al Arnold, was born in Okolona, Mississippi. Raised in North Mississippi, Al

would later discover the history of his ancestor and began an eight year journey of why, how and for what reasons his ancestor served the Confederate armies? To his amazement, Al discovered that seventy two years after the Civil war, his ancestor was a proud Confederate and held in his possession a cherished gift from the Confederate Civil War general, Nathan Bedford Forrest. Al's personal research discovered that his ancestor was owned by Forrest and was enthusiastically warm toward the general and his service to the Confederate armies. This amazing connection to two famous Confederate generals awakened a new perception of curiosity about Confederate heritage in Al and challenged his traditional thoughts. He grew to accept his heritage and now embraces it with a desire to see African Americans embrace Confederate heritage instead of rejecting it on the notion of modern ideology. This is a deep personal journey of faith, heritage, race and family wrapped around the grace of God through the eyes and honest thoughts of a modern black man. Al tells the story of Turner Hall, Jr., his personal Confederate journey and how family and faith has brought harmony to his new found heritage. Arnold argues for the revitalization of the lost Black history of the Civil War era. He bestows dignity and honor on his Confederate ancestor and

challenges the traditional thoughts of modern African Americans. Arnold rests in

his faith as the uniting force that reconciles our colorful past to our bright future.



Judge Philip Dale Segrest

Want to know more about the author or to comment on the column:

http://www.segrestlaw.com The Segrest Law Firm

> 301 King Street P.O. Box 780791 Tallassee, AL 36078 334-252-0036



LEGAL AID DIFFICULTIES

The cost of access to the legal system presents difficult, perplexing questions. The legal system is the last resort for dispute resolution. But access to the legal system costs money. Lawyers engage in the practice of law to make a living. They cannot provide their services free. The cost of a judiciary has caused the legislature to impose substantial charges in the form of various court costs. If the dispute involved involves only a small economic value, the cost of the legal solution may be prohibitive, so the dispute goes unresolved. For poor people access to the legal system to resolve disputes can be almost impossible.

The 1960's with its hope for a "Great Society" escalated the growth of the welfare state. We are now wrestling with the problems of Medicaid and other serious issues confronting efforts to provide adequate medical care. We believe that everyone should receive appropriate medical attention and care. But providing such care is not simple. However, the philosophical problems encountered in the effort to provide medical care for the poor are not nearly so perplexing as those involved in attempting to provide legal care at an affordable cost. The fundamental difference between medical care and legal care is that medical care is needed by a single recipient, but in legal issues there are always two sides.

In the criminal arena, Gideon v. Wainwright, decided in 1969, made it clear that before anyone can be incarcerated (other than on a temporary emergency basis) indigent defendants must be provided a lawyer. So State and Federal governments pay the costs of legal defense for indigent defendants. I will save for another article discussion of the fact that Gideon v. Wainwright probably called into being a cadre of lawyers and a type of law practice that was never anticipated by the high court when it made that decision.

This article focuses on legal aid in civil matters. That is the area that presents the perplexing policy issues alluded to above. There is almost no fair way for the legal system as it presently exists to deal with legal disputes that have small economic value. The solution costs more than the problem. Even if a person is poor, cases with larger economic impact can often be addressed with contingency fees. The contingency fee system often produces a satisfactory result for the poor

victim. Even then the transaction cost i.e. the attorney's fees on both sides, renders the legal system inefficient in providing the ultimate dispute resolution. But this article is not focused on the inadequacies of the contingent fee eligible case. As mentioned above legal disputes usually have at least two sides. If the alleged victim is poor, and cannot find an attorney who will take the case on a contingency fee basis and public funds are used to subsidize the alleged victim by paying attorney's fees, there is grave danger that injustice will be done to the defendant, who must pay its own attorney. When corporate America absorbs this type of expense the cost is ultimately passed on to the consuming public and you and I pay for the defense of such lawsuits.

But the main concern is when the litigation involves poverty on both sides. If public funding is provided for either side, there is a grave risk of injustice for the other side. If public funding is to be available on either side it should be available on both sides, unless the provider of the legal services has the omnipotent, omniscience power to judge the case in advance. I do not believe that there is any obvious solution to this

Unfortunately, having the free attorney choose sides in the case (the only choice being the one who seeks the service), is not the only difficulty in legal aid. People who have money



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try very hard to avoid disputes that wind up in court, so that they can keep their money. This is true whether they would be the plaintiffs or the defendants. But if the person contemplating the proverbial "day in court" does not have any "skin in the game," the human propensity for conflict has no limits. If there were no cost, State and federal governments could not afford the dispute resolution

How should we measure the success of law? On the one hand, the commonly held American view seems to be that the more controversies courts can resolve, the more likely we are to have Justice. But I believe that law meets its highest goal when people obey the law and don't have to go to court.

April 2016

John Martin

not a real solution.

THE IMMIGRATION DILEMMA

By John Martin

Everybody in America knows that we have a serious problem with immigration. However, very few have offered any reasonable and workable

One "solution" that will not be effective is building a "Berlin Wall" along our southern border. Building and guarding it would not only be outrageously expensive, but it could be easily bypassed on both ends by boats or even swimmers.

Deportations to the other side of the border are also mostly ineffective. The illegals simply come back again and again until they finally get far enough inside to escape the law officers.

During the 1950's, President Dwight Eisenhower developed and implemented a plan that did work—Operation Wetback. He loaded the illegals onto boats and shipped them to southern Mexico—to Veracruz and beyond. It took them considerable time and expense to get back to the border and cross again. The few that did come back were easily manageable. However, this was still

Let's forget an impenetrable barrier. The only effective solution is to eliminate the temptations that draw them here. Instead of spending billions of dollars to keep them out, we could save billions of dollars and let them voluntarily stay out.

How do we do it? America's biggest problem is the gross excess of public assistance programs—so generous and so loosely enforced, they are magnets for riffraff from our own people as well as from abroad. They are also disincentives for people to do productive work. Over the past several decades, more and more people have become addicted to public assistance and converted from self-sufficiency into parasitism. We must put a stop to all forms of public assistance that illegals can currently use—education, health care, EBT, welfare, social security, and the numerous others. Of course, many come to find work. We require people to have a valid ID

to vote. We could do the same for people to be hired. Employers hiring illegals

can be fined, and the salaries of illegals could be confiscated. Also, we could place a stiff limit on the amount of money that can be wired or otherwise sent abroad. Eliminating the

minimum wage laws would provide a free market and help reduce the disparity in the cost of labor.

A third item is the serious problem of "anchor babies." As our Constitution is now interpreted, any child born on American soil automatically becomes a citizen by birth regardless of the status of his parents. An estimated several million babies have been born to illegals via this loophole and have not only become citizens themselves, but have allowed their entire families to legally come, stay, consume our resources, and even vote (in the future, perhaps, in big enough numbers to overthrow our government). Closing this loophole with a Constitutional amendment should be a top priority.

Once the above three items have been addressed, we could open up our border to all who want to travel back and forth with little fear of the violence that is now present in that area.

Another problem we must address is to limit the number of legal immigrants to avoid diluting our American culture to extinction. In the 19th and early 20th centuries, nearly all immigrants who came wanted to become like us and adopt our culture. They came to find opportunities to work for themselves and become productive citizens. Today more and more of them want to isolate themselves from our culture and form their own little cliques. Some of these have grown very large and problematic. Many seek various forms of public assistance and/or partake in criminal activities.

And finally, we must face the most serious problem of all, immigrants who come from dangerous parts of the world. It might seem cruel to deny refugees from Syria, Sudan, Yemen, and certain other areas, but it is utter suicide to allow even a single one given the ease that ISIS members and other terrorists can disguise themselves as refugees and then wreak havoc and massacre thousands of people. For many years, and especially since 9/11, we have seen how easily a handful of men, women, and even children have committed jihads against multitudes of innocent victims.

Our country's biggest vulnerability is its very loose immigration policy. There is not another nation anywhere in the world that is so lax in admitting whoever comes along. We must protect ourselves from an immigration invasion with the same effort we would take in averting a nuclear holocaust.

The views of this editorial may not express the views of The Alabama Gazette.

April is **Financial Literacy Month**, which is a perfect time to take stock (pun intended) of your retirement savings. Social Security is there to help secure your future, but savings should be the foundation of a bigger retirement plan.

Have you ever done business online? The convenience and safety of doing business online is another way we're meeting the changing needs and lifestyles of our customers. You can open your own personal my Social Security account within a matter By Kylle' D. McKinney of minutes and have access to your information at any

time of day, from the comfort of your home or office. With a my Social Security account, you can:

Keep track of your earnings and verify them every year, which is important because we use your earnings, along with other information, to help determine your benefit amount and eligibility; Get an estimate of your future benefits, if you are still working;

Get a letter with proof of your benefits, if you currently receive them; and manage your benefits: Change your address;

Start or change your direct deposit; Get a replacement Medicare card; and

Get a replacement SSA-1099 or SSA-1042S for tax season. If you live in the District of Columbia, Michigan, Nebraska, Washington,

or Wisconsin, you may be able to replace your Social Security card online using my Social Security. It's an easy, convenient, and secure way to request a replacement card online.

To take advantage of this new service option, you must:

Have or create a my Social Security account;

TAKING STOCK DURING FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH

Have a valid driver's license in a participating state or the District of Columbia (or a state-issued identification card in some states);

Be age 18 or older and a United States citizen with a domestic U.S. mailing address (this includes APO, FPO,

and DPO addresses); and

We plan to add more states, so we encourage you to check: www.socialsecurity.gov/ssnumber throughout the year.

In April, Social Security celebrates National my Social Security Week. The biggest day in that week is "Check Your Statement Day." It's important that you check your Social Security Statement every year since we base your future benefits on your earnings record. Your Statement can help you plan for your finan-

Not be requesting a name change or any other changes to your card.

cial future. We encourage you to go online to my Social Security to access your Statement whenever you wish to verify your earnings history or check your estimated future benefits. One sure way to stay on top of your financial future: you can join the more

than 23 million people who have opened their own my Social Security account at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount.

kylle.mckinney@ssa.gov. $oldsymbol{A}$ labama Public $oldsymbol{A}$ ffairs Specialist JOHN BOE

Kylle' McKinney, SSA Public Affairs Specialist, can be reached by e-mail at

Social Security Administration 4344 Carmichael Road, Suite 100 Montgomery, Alabama 36116



Dr. John Bitter **Editor Senior Section**

Gazette Seniors.

You may be over the hill if... it costs more for the candles on your birthday cake than it did for the cake

THE OLD FOLKS BEST FRIENDS

It's been a good eight decades since your humble scribe has enjoyed the company of a dog; and then it was for only a short time.

But now, canine company once more brightens this humble life, albeit its once every fortnight, and then for only an hour. But, one makes the best of

what one is allowed.

This time its many dogs, but they belong to someone else. At any rate their company is enjoyed even though its only twice in a month. And it is enjoyed with a vigor, as may be witnessed by the way the dogs' countenances light up at our meeting. And so it is with other seniors when "Dogs on Call" make their twice monthly visit to Elmcroft at Halcyon – bringing with them great pleasure and companionship.

Carolyn McFeely and her daughter, Sherry, bring with them two beautiful canine friends, Willa and Cassie, and a host of other pet owners share their pets with seniors, for whom their fortnightly visit is greatly anticipated and enjoyed; as well as that of other canine members of "Dogs on Call," who stop by, first at Eastdale Estates independent living facility, then they share their presence with your chronicler, and other residents of Elmcroft assisted living facility on Halcyon Boulevard.

At these meetings one may witness the joy it gives to the residents wherever such meetings take place. And, if you don't believe this, just ask Columbia Professor Mary Park Byrne, who writes: "It doesn't take a scientist to know that pets make humans feel good; anyone who's ever stroked a dog's fur or felt a cat's thrumming purr knows this."

She goes on to note that: "Just 15 minutes bonding with an animal sets off a chemical chain reaction in the brain..."

"Over the long term," she continues, "pet and human interactions can lower cholesterol levels: and heart rate blood pressure and stress levels immediately drop...."

The faces of the old folk at Eastdale and Elmcroft light up and smiles brighten their countenance at each fortnightly visit. These visits mean a lot to the residents. One Saturday, for example, your humble scribe forgot about the dogs'

bi-monthly visit, until there came a knock on the apartment door and there awaited a bevy of dogs who filled the apartment with excitement and tail wagging—their trademark. They hadn't forgotten their old friend. "Dogs on Call" are a part of Easter Seals of Alabama's "Canine

program," which has been bringing joy and happiness to seniors in the Montgomery area since 2008.

The volunteer, non-profit group supports, trains, and certifies both the

WHAT'S A BROUHAHA?

Anyone who has been watching the side show labeled "Presidential Debates" has probably heard a frequent reference to brouhaha. The word itself seems more than applicable to what the so-called Republican "debates" have become.

We know what the event has degenerated to on our TV screens, but has anyone ever wondered where the word itself comes from, or what it originally meant.

Well, wonder no more.

There are those who believe it came from a Hebrew phrase: bar Ukh hasbba, which meant "blessed be he who enters."

But the word itself comes from the late 19th Century French version of the Hebrew phrase, which eventually came to mean a "noisy confusion of sound." At least that's what the Internet reveals.

And if what we've been watching on our TV screens lately is any indication, it sounds as if brouhaha, might just do the trick.

From this writer's standpoint, what's been going on under the guise

of "Presidential debates" also brings to mind the word anarchy. It can't come to an end too soon.



Willa and Cassie with their senior citizen friend

dogs and their owners to provide compassion and assistance to folks in a variety of settings, such as hospitals, senior living facilities, schools, hospices, and a variety of other settings, where their presence is greeted with anticipation and pleasure.

Among those who regularly visit with the seniors are: Sherry McFeely and "Cassie," and her mother, Carolyn, who brings "Willa," to visit with the old folks. Also making regular visits are Anita Sherman, who brings "Charlotte," to the Saturday sessions, and Cheryl Dorsey with "Mora." Claire Edwards brings "Scout," and another "Scout" comes with Lynn Higgins.

"Dogs on Call" is a 501c3 non-profit organization. The dogs are tested at several levels of certification. Nationwide, they provide comfort to more than 25,000 people annually.



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TERRELL S. HARTLEY **TURNS 103** ON APRIL 4, 2016

Terrell S. Hartley was born in Hartford, AL in Geneva County. He started work with the Hartford News Herald, a weekly newspaper at approximately age 10. He joined the Wetumpka Herald and then moved to Prattville for several years and worked with The Prattville Progress. From there he worked at The Alabama Journal and then The Montgomery Advertiser. He remained with them for 33 years, three months and three days as a lino-

type operator. After retiring he gardened, which produced enough food to keep his freezer full and canned many items to share with neighbors and friends.

His partner was the same age and passed away after seventy years of married partnership in 2011.

He sleeps good and take no medication.

He does have arthritis in knees and hands now. He has been a member Dalradia Baptist Church for 60 years. Past member of The Exchange Club, and served in the United States Navy -- not a disabled Veteran, member local chapter.

Take care of yourself and I trust God will bless you also.



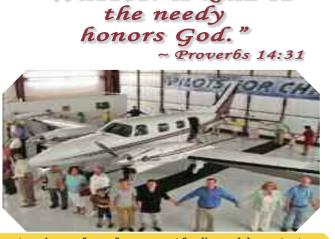
We go through life thinking, "The would never happen to us.", but truth is NOTHING is guaranteed. We don' know

what tomorrow holds or even the next minute for that matter. But GOD does and that is why Pilots For Christ is in existence.

PFC is a group of Christian pilots in need of transportation due to medical reasons and are not able to travel any other way but by plane. *PFC* in not an air ambulance or a medical aircraft but they believe that it is their mission through the call of our *Holy Father* to

help those that are in need and can not

afford the costs.



"Whoever is kind to



Pilots For Christ does not receive any form of government funding and does not get reimbursements from insurance companies. They are fully funded by individuals, churches, civic organizations, and businesses. If you feel that the Lord has put it on your heart to make a contribution please visit their website at www.pilotsforchrist.net, and as always your gift is tax deductible



THE MARSHALL MOMENT

DR. RICK MARSHALL Eastern Hills **Baptist Church** Montgomery, Alabama

Soul Searching

WHAT GETS TO YOU?

Everyone has a pet peeve. One of mine is telemarketers. Telemarketers are both resolute and resilient sales professionals. Their job is to get on the phone to make cold calls and try to sell a product or a service. They do not give up easily. If you do not pick up the phone they will call you again. If they encounter your answering machine, they may leave a recorded message but you can be assured they will call again.

Perhaps you are like me. You don't like professional sales callers and just as quickly let me add, "I don't want another candidate for office or their surrogate calling and trying to solicit my vote, as the saying goes, "That's my story and I'm sticking to it.'

So what gets to you? It is your neighbor's son or daughter playing music too loud or someone at the family gathering who insists on being the center of attention? Do you struggle having patience with people who are always late, who don't dress appropriately for the occasion or can't speak without using foul

Sometimes we find ourselves angry over these kinds of situations or worse. All of us have something which gets to us. The question is, "What are we going to do with that anger?" Anger is one of the hardest emotions for Christians to

There is confusion even among the faithful about anger. Some do not acknowledge it assuming that any anger is sinful. Paul helps us at this point with a magnificent verse in his writing to the Ephesian Christians, "Be angry but do not sin, do not let the sun go down on your anger and do not make room for the devil." (Ephesians 4:26-7)

The dictionary tells us anger is simply "an emotional response to a perceived threat." Anger is neither good or bad, but rather, depends on what we do with that rather raw emotion which creeps up within us.

I remember the rather humorous story of a little five year old boy who was put in the closet as a punishment for being naughty. After he quit screaming and crying it got quiet. His mother became concerned and spoke to the young boy through the door. "What are you doing?" she asked. His reply was "I spit on your coat. I spit on your shoes. I spit on your dresses and I'm sitting here in the floor waiting for more spit."

Of course we smile at the story. Yet within us is the awareness of the destructive dynamics of anger at work not only in the story, but within us some-

There are some good things we can say about anger, but we need to be honest and own our unhealthy anger. Mishandled anger must be viewed as the major contributor to family and society breakdowns. Psychology has taught us that repressed anger is the leading cause of depression.

Let me call attention to three situations in which anger must be addressed. One is prolonged anger. Anger left alone rarely heals itself. "Psychologists disagree about almost everything, but on one point they display surprising unanimity. There is no such person who never gets angry, there either those who resolve it or suppress it. And sending anger underground can produce an untold number of emotional and physical problems as well as serious relational issues."

A second situation to be concerned about is explosive anger. Anger out of control results in destructive behavior. We see this night after night on the news in various shootings and other disturbances. Many people are behind bars today because of the inability to control temper. Physical abuse statistics are alarming and getting worse in a society with less tolerance and less training in selfdiscipline in the home. The writer of Proverbs spoke to this very issue when he wrote, "An angry man stirs up strife, and a furious man abounds in transgression." (Proverbs 29:23)

A third concern is misplaced anger. Haven't we heard the phrase, "delivering the mail to the wrong address?" That communicates doesn't it? We sometimes see it in the home when one member jumps on another over a minor matter. Psychologists remind us that many chronically angry people are not angry about the situation at the moment, but rather, have not resolved anger somewhere else.

These situations call on us to evaluate our anger. Each event becomes sinful if not addressed. If you find yourself or someone in your family with ongoing anger issues, you may need to seek out a professional to speak to. Further, a Christian needs to seek the Holy Spirit's help in resolving anger. If I could add any word to someone struggling with anger right now, it would be this: identify it, accept it and address it.

Just as quickly I would say that anger can have a good side in our lives.

an-ger ˈaNGgər/

noun: anger; plural noun: angers

- 1. a strong feeling of annoyance, displeasure, or hostility. "the colonel's anger at his daughter's disobedience" synonyms: rage, vexation, exasperation, displeasure, crossness, irritation, irritability, indignation, pique; annoyance, fury, wrath, ire, outrage, irascibility, ill temper/humor; informal slow burn, aggravation; literary choler "his face was livid with anger"
- 1. fill (someone) with anger; provoke anger in. "she was angered by his terse answer" synonyms: infuriate, irritate, exasperate, irk, vex, peeve, madden, put out; enrage, incense, annoy; rub the wrong way; informal make someone's blood boil, get someone's back up, make someone see red, get someone's dander up, rattle someone's cage, make someone's hackles rise; aggravate, get someone, rile, tick off, tee off, burn up "she was angered by his terse reply"

Wikipedia

Remember what Paul said, "Be angry but do not sin..." Find something which disturbs you and make a decision to turn wrong into right. Florence Nightingale was known for her anger against inadequate hospital care. William Carey was angered by the inhumane slave trade in Africa.

Not everyone can become a crusader of historic proportions. Yet, each of us can work at correcting the wrongs we see in our society. Anger can be a powerful redemptive energy. We can speak to issues, vote our convictions, volunteer in organizations which help others, tutor underprivileged children or donate to worthwhile causes just to name a few opportunities. We aren't likely to do much with any of those until we develop emotional convictions. And those emotions are the same ones which provoke anger and get turned in the opposite

Finally, I would remind you we don't accomplish this alone. It is God who is able to take that which is destructive and transform it into positive energy. I think God gave us anger for a redemptive purpose. We, in our humanity alone, have transformed it into something harmful.

So what gets to you? How are you handling your anger? Perhaps the first question to ask in finding the answer is this, "How is your anger handling you? Are you willing to go through the pain of learning to handle your anger appropriately? What we do after that emotional response we call anger determines whether we sin or not.



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Reflections

By Michael J. Brooks

How Then Should WE WORSHIP?

It was an unusual comment. He was with a group who came to our church to use our facilities for a

civic event. I was fairly new at the church and he told me he went to a neighboring church. "We don't worship like you do," he said with a smile. I got the impression he was making a judgment about our worship. His comment, however, reminded me that every church I've known worships

differently. Every church is a unique mix of folks with unique social and denominational traditions.

I've been to a few Episcopalian services over the years and I appreciate the grand reverence of their worship. The readings and prayers highlight the majesty of God and their services remind us of the holy God Isaiah saw in his call

should be conducted. I was forced to think through the prayers I offered since

the pastor prayed four or five times in each service. I appreciated the mandated

experience (Isaiah 6). I had the happy experience of being stated supply at a PCA (Presbyterian) church for nearly four years. The Book of Church Order prescribed how services



petition to God for forgiveness and the assurance of pardon spoken to the people as we confessed our sin. The PCA minister ends the service with a blessing instead of a benediction, and a kind lady gave me a document with several blessings on it after seeing my unfamiliarity with this tradition!

Donna and I served an American Baptist church in Indiana when I was in seminary in Louisville. The folks there enjoyed putting her on the piano bench and singing the gospel songs of the South. They loved gospel preaching, too, and told me their best pastors always came from Alabama and Georgia!

I have a cousin who preached in Africa and he showed a film of the people dancing and celebrating when one of their number accepted Christ. He said the celebrations sometimes would last an hour. I've wondered how this would go

over in our time-conscious American services! When I was a child my mother's only sister took us with her to a revival

service one night in her Nazarene church in Georgia. I still remember my aunt running down the aisle testifying of God's goodness to her. Another unique phenomenon in the South is the cowboy church. Ranchers and rodeo folk enjoy worshipping together and the music is most often sung

with guitar rather than organ or piano or synthesizer. So many worship styles, yet all offer praise to the same Lord.

If we bring people into his presence, welcoming all without partiality, and if we offer a word of hope and encouragement, I believe we've worshipped well.

Reflections is a weekly devotional column written by Michael J. Brooks, pastor of the Siluria Baptist Church in Alabaster, Ala., and adjunct instructor of speech at Jefferson State Community College, Hoover. Permission is granted to use this material with attribution.

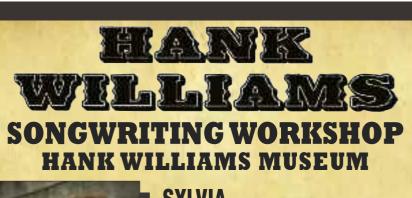
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Aaron Bowlin



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(Space limited to 30 writers) **Concert Saturday Night with photo ops and autographs.**

(Public tickets also available for concert) For information or to register contact The Hank Williams Museum 334-262-3600 or visit TheHankWilliamsMuseum.net



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Montgomery's Downtown Business Association Promoting the Growth and Vitality of the Downtown Montgomery Community

The Downtown Business Association hosted a town hall meeting on March 15th at D'Road Cafe on Montgomery Street. Clay McInnis, president, spoke to a large and enthusiastic crowd explaining it's mission and recent events. DBA's mission is to inform, connect, advance, and

advocate for it's shareholders and stockholders in the downtown area. Janett Malpartida of D'Road Cafe provided food and beverages while various individuals addressed ongoing activities. Clay announced that Downtown Montgomery will enjoy free WIFI courtesy WISE Broadband and Wind Creek. This innovation will enhance the residential and commercial experience.

The Gumption Fund, a philanthropic effort started by the association to assist entrepreneurial enterprises, has awarded a number of grants throughout the last 12 months to worthy applicants. Some of these include a wall mural entitled "Montgomery Your Opportunity", a "Peace Within" walking trail, a "Lemonade Day" in March, "Laptops to Learn" for kids, and even support for a community garden in Cloverdale just to name a few.

Jordan Kirkland described his venture called "Live and Listen" as a movement to bring great musicians and entertainment to the River Region.

Michael Coleman, founder of "Hope Inspired Ministries", shared his passion to demonstrate the love of Jesus to the marginalized of our society.

Steven Lambert of Southern Makers discussed this annual event held in the Train Shed as a celebration of southern creativity and innovation. It brings together highly curated, hand-

picked top southern talent that "make"...music, designs, buildings, farms, art, food, beer, clothing, soap, coffee, and tea-essentially the top makers in their respective trades. For ticket information go to southernmakers.com.

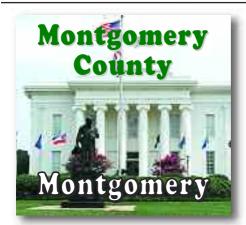
To reach Clay and his staff about becoming a member of DBA or learning about these and other events please call (334) 850-1101. DBA can also be reached at dbamontgomery@gmail.com.



Clay McInnis addresses DBA members and other interested parties at a recent town hall meeting.

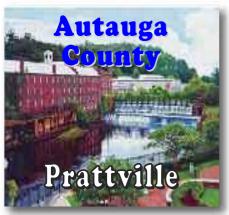


We are proud to announce that The Alabama Gazette is also being delivered in parts of Crenshaw, Butler, Pike and Lee Counties. If you cannot find the Gazette in your area, please check out our website: www.alabamagazette.com

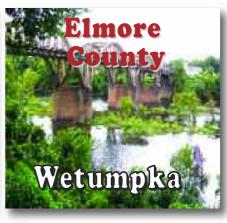


April 2016

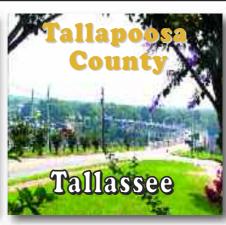
Cities, Towns and Communities: Pike Road, Cecil, Mathews, Pine Level, Grady, Ramer, Lapine, Snowdoun, Pintlala, Hope Hull and Catoma



Surrounding Town and Communities: Autaugaville, Billingsley, Booth, Marbury, Pine Level, Independence, Statesville, Jones and Vida



Surrounding Town and Communities: Millbrook, Coosada, Elmore, Eclectic, Tallassee, Titus, Santuck, Slapout, Rockford, Deatsville, Kent, Red Hill, Weoka and Robinson Springs



Surrounding Town and Communities: Tallassee, Rockford, Deatsville, Kent and Red Hill

ANNUAL SPRING YARD SALE APRIL 23, 2016 Yard Sale Hours 6 AM until 2 PM Anything left will be donated to the Elmore County Humane Shelter.

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Monday ~ Friday...... 10:00 to 6:00
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Sunday...... 12:30 to 4:30

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- Registration for new families opens January 27th.
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Thanks to all our Tallassee Quarterly ADVERTISERS!

If you have a business...don't miss advertising in the next issue!

Call Janice at 334-850-5510.

VOL. 3. ISSUE 1

SPRING EDITION 2016

TALLASSEE QUARTERLY

Tallassee, Alabama
Southgate to Lake Martin

The Alabama Gazette Publishing, LLC

"The Treasure on the Tallapoosa"





Sheriff Derrick Cunningham

Montgomery County Law

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www.montgomerysheriff.com

(334) 832-4980



Chief Deputy Kevin J. Murphy

Deputy Dave Day Saturday, April 30th, Dunbar-Ramer School

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office is excited to once again have our annual **Deputy Dave Day on Saturday, April 30th**, Dunbar-Ramer School, 56 Naftel Road, Ramer, from 10am-2pm, for our youth. Come out and meet and greet with Sheriff Cunningham, the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office official mascot, Deputy Dave, as well as the Sheriff's Office staff!

There will be lots of things to do and fun to be had by all!! **Directions:**

- Take Highway 331 South until you reach Highway 94.
- Take a left on Highway 94 and travel approximately 5 miles.
- Turn slightly towards Naftel Ramer Road.
- School is down on the right.

For more information, call 832-1646.

The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office had a successful Easter Egg Hunt at AUM again this year! Sheriff Cunningham would like to thank the many citizens who came out with their children and grandchildren to make this event



Firearms Familiarization Course

Our February Firearms Familiarization Course was a huge success! **Sign up now for our April course** and learn now to protect yourself! We know that learning how to protect yourself is very important in today's world. Our course is held one Saturday a month and has been scheduled for the following dates:



- Saturday, April 23rdSaturday, May 14th
- Saturday, June 11th
- Saturday, July 9th
- Saturday, August 13th
- Saturday, August 13th • Saturday, September 24th
- Saturday, October 8th
- Saturday, November 12th

The class is held at our Firing Range and lasts all day and is **FREE** to Montgomery County citizens! The morning session is classroom instruction on firearm safety and firearm laws. The afternoon session allows citizens to practice shooting on our Firing Range for the remainder of the class. All classes are under the instruction of the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Range Master.

Course Requirements:

- Montgomery County Citizen
- Obtain a Montgomery County Pistol Permit (prior to the course date)
- Complete an Application for the Course

Pistol Permit Questions? 334.832.1335 or 334.832.1337

Course Questions or to Obtain an Application? LisaCrenshaw@mc-ala.org 334.832.1339

Your safety is our primary concern; therefore, we ask that you **do not bring** children to this class.

the State honored

Retired Sheriff D. T. Marshall

July14,1950 -March 23, 2016

Memorial Service - Monday, March 28, 2016 at Frazer United Methodist Church, Montgomery, Alabama.

This is to remember a man who had dedicated himself to service to his country during the Vietnam War, and with the Montgomery Police Department for 20 years, and as Sheriff of Montgomery County for 16 years. Hundreds filed by the rotunda area of Frazer United Methodist Church to give their respects to his family and honor his commitment to law and order.

The bonded brotherhood shown between law enforcement men and women of this State was a tribute to all law enforcement everywhere. When you see the armor of guns, radios, cameras, etc. worn by them, we are reminded of the danger they face everyday to keep us safe.

The Vietnam vets who were standing at the entrance to the open rotunda area remind us of the sacrifices made not only by the men and women of law enforcement, but the men and women who have served our country, many times without proper thanks and recognition.

Even in his death, "D. T." as he was so fondly called, gave honor to those who sometimes get little respect for their individual service. They carry the burdens of their decisions to serve, protect and defend.

The service was performed by Pastor Brad Zimanek of the Snowdoun United Methodist Church. His sister Annie Pease gave a warm and loving account of her brother "David". She was accompanied by their sister Elizabeth Wamhoff.

Sheriff Derrick Cunningham gave a personal account of their many years together as co-workers, but most inspiring was his honor to their personal friendship, going much deeper than being co-workers.

A beautiful rendition of Beulah Land was sung by David Miles. The procession was incredible from the eyes of all you witnessed.

Probably no less than 100+ "flashing blue light" law enforcement vehicles proceeded from Frazer United Methodist Church through the city, into rural south Montgomery County to the cemetery for the grave side service. Family, friends and dignitaries followed the procession.

friends and dignitaries followed the procession.

He was laid to rest at Forest Hills Memorial Cemetery, Highway 331 in Snowdoun in Montgomery, Alabama.

After the graveside service his family and friends were honored with a meal at the Snowdoun Volunteer Fire Department by the ladies of the Snowdoun United Methodist Church.

D.T. MARSHALL FIRING RANGE & TRAINING FACILITY





Dedication to Former Sheriff D.T. Marshall

Former Sheriff D.T. Marshall retired in 2015 after serving four terms as Sheriff of Montgomery County (1999-2015). As a token of gratitude for his dedication to the citizens of Montgomery County, Sheriff Derrick Cunningham has renamed the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Firing Range and Training Facility to be the...

D.T. MARSHALL FIRING RANGE & TRAINING FACILITY

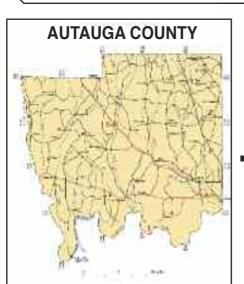
The Proclamation was approved by the Montgomery County Commission and presented to Sheriff Marshall prior to his death.

A "Thank You", for Sheriff Marshall's many years of dedicated service.



The staff of The Alabama Gazette are saddened by the death of Sheriff D. T. Marshall. He was my neighbor and friend and a loyal supporter of this newspaper. His article, in 2000, was one of the foundation pages that help begin this publication. His "County Law" page continued until his retirement. He was faithful and committed to see that vital information was passed on to the people of Montgomery County through his articles. During his service as Sheriff he began many programs to help the children of Montgomery County. Changing the lives of children was a major focus of his office. He involved his deputies and the surrounding community.

Loretta Grant, Owner/Publisher



Autauga County Law

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www.autaugasheriff.org

162 W 4th St, Prattville, AL

(334) 361-2500



Sheriff Joe Sedinger

The Autauga County Sheriff's Office recognized local businesses and organizations for helping with our drug education program

Each business and organization was presented with a Certificate of Community Service and copies of the "Let's all Work to fight Drug abuse"

We would like to thank the following for the ads purchased and donations made so the Autauga County Sheriff's Office could receive these books at no cost.

Thank you to:

- 1. The Autauga County Commission
- 2. Auto Save Tire & Automotive
- 3. Quick Stop
- **4.** Airport Automotive, Inc.
- 5. D & J Auto Parts Inc.

- **6.** Jet Pep #47
- 7. Smith Auto Sales
- 8. The Minnow Bucket
- 9. Bryan Jewelry
- 10. Long-Lewis Of the River Region
- 11. AL Pendley's Impact Center, Inc.
- 12. Sayer Cab Service
- 13. Autauga Pharmacy
- 14. Mickey Smith's Tire Company.

We could not continue to move the Sheriff's Office forward without your continued support.

































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"Every cell to your body functions like a car, it has it's own engine, You can put the best gasoline (food) in, and the best oil (vitamins/minerals); but if you throw sand (chemical toxins & heavy metals) into the motor, the first two doesn't matter. At MEDAC, PC, we focus on helping

the oil so that you motor can hum and run in the optimal way it





Sheriff Bill Franklin

Elmore County Sheriff's Office 8955 U.S. Highway 231, Wetumpka, Alabama 36092

Dial 911 for EMERGENCIES ONLY NON-EMERGENCIES: (334) 567-5441 Secret Witness: (334) 567-5227 Chief Deputy R. H. Lowery

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.elmoreso.com

334-567-5441



A message from Sheriff Franklin:

The Elmore County Sheriff Office strives to do the best job possible and readily recognize the fact that each citizen that provides input and assistance regarding matters relating to our duties only makes our mission more effective. There are a number of links that can be visited here on our website at www.elmoreso.com and, if necessary, call our secret witness hotline at 334-567-5227. Please know that we do appreciate your input and support.

Pistol Permit Requirements

In order to obtain a concealed pistol permit in Elmore County you will need to visit the Elmore



County Sheriff's Office at 8955 U.S. Highway 231, between the hours of 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM Monday through Friday. You will need to bring a valid Alabama ID when

applying for a permit. If you have recently established residency in Elmore County from out of state, you must bring your previous state ID and proof of residency in Elmore County. Upon arrival you will need to fill out a pistol permit application that will be provided to you. You will also need to provide names and telephone numbers for three (3) character references. The fee for a pistol permit is \$20 per year. You may purchase a 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5 year permit. Fees must be paid in cash or check.

Crime Stoppers

Do you have information concerning a crime?
Contact Crime Stoppers today to possibly earn up to \$1,000 in reward money.
Call our Crime Prevention Line: (334) 215-STOP or (334) 215-7867
Or visit our website at www.215stop.com

How to pay your Fines/Citations

Fines and citations are neither paid nor collected by the Elmore County Sheriff's Office. You must go to the Circuit Clerk's Office during normal business hours. The amounts owed can be found out by calling (334) 567-1123 or (334) 567-1124. Brian Justiss is the Circuit Clerk for Elmore County. His office is located in the Judicial Complex (Courthouse) at 8935 U. S. Highway 231 on the 1st floor.

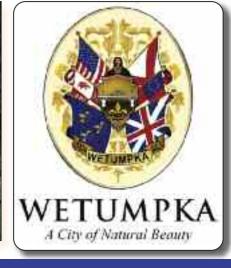
Sex Offender Watch

Check out the website below to search for registered sex offenders in your area.

http://dps.alabama.gov/community/wfsexoffendersearch.aspx







viayor Jerry willis

City of Wetumpka Administrative Building 408 S Main St., Wetumpka, AL 36092-2748 • P. O. Box 1180 Phone: (334) 567-5147 • Fax: (334) 567-1307 Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

It is very exciting times in the City of Wetumpka. Things did not happen overnight. It took years of planning and working a plan to get into the development stage we have been in the last few years. It's a proven fact that with patience, stability and perseverance you will have successful opportunities come your way. We have enjoyed since 2000, by purchase, 109 acres of property on 14 bypass that joined 45 acres the City had owned for many years. With the acquisition of 25 more acres, we now have 179 acres that at its full potential will be a full sports related complex. What a blessing for a City of our size. It hasn't always been easy to pull people together for the common purpose of providing activities for our children, young adults, and adults. To have just finished and now enjoying the baseball and softball campus that will be connected to a youth football field, soccer field, youth fishing ponds, a major archery course and upgrades to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Multicultural properties is a blessing to this community and will play a major role in the future of Wetumpka.

As we move forward in our developments, we realize one completed project

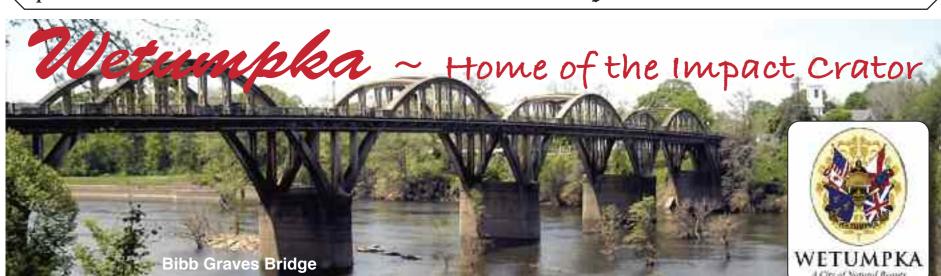
As we move forward in our developments, we realize one completed project opens doors for other developments. We are now in construction of a Hampton Inn in the downtown area backing up to our Riverwalk, which will eventually extend all the way to the Sports Complex. We do realize this hotel will open more doors for more restaurants and food establishments to meet the needs of the people. Our downtown redevelopment will soon be entering the 2nd phase which will consist of all new sidewalks, street designs and street paving for the downtown area. The designs were determined through numerous public meetings and charrettes to help formulate a plan. Again, we are now working the plan. This will also open the doors for new business downtown and upgrades to

existing buildings to help us as we all prepare Wetumpka for the future. These

are just a few of the exciting things happening in Wetumpka. So again, I remind you, make a plan then work your plan.



Martin Luther King, Jr. Multicultural Park



It's Craterfest time!!

Saturday April 16, 2016 from 2:00 PM to

7:00 PM CDT

The 4th Annual 2016 Craterfest at Gold Star Park in Downtown Wetumpka, AL with music, arts and crafts, concessions, Free Kidzone, Crater Tours, Artwork and Lectures.

Sponsored by Wind Creek Wetumpka Hotel & Casino, City of Wetumpka, and the Wetumpka Crater Commission. Gold Star Park, Wetumpka, AL

Top 12 Reasons to Visit Wetumpka

- 1. Wetumpka Impact Crater
- 2. Coosa River
- 3. Wind Creek Casino & **Hotel Wetumpka**
- 4. Fort Toulouse/ Fort Jackson
- 5. Historic Downtown Buildings
- 6. Riverwalk
- 7. Alabama River Region Arts Center
- 8. Christmas on the Coosa Events
- 9. Elmore County Historical Society & **Museum & Elmore County Museum** of Black History
- 10. Jasmine Hill Gardens
- 11. Quail Creek Golf Course & **Emerald Mountain Golf Course**
- 12. Wetumpka Sports Complex

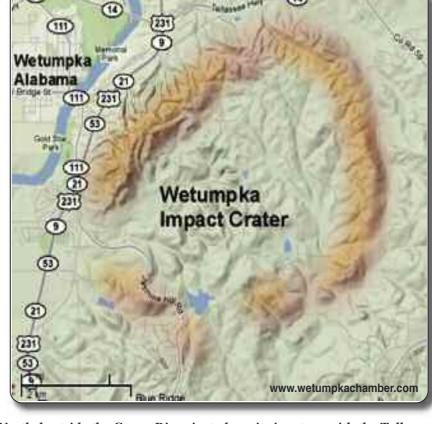
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Nestled astride the Coosa River just above its juncture with the Tallapoosa, lies the lovely little city of Wetumpka. Framed against the picturesque backdrop of the Appalachian foothills, the thriving community is a study in contrasts. From the freshly renovated architecture of the downtown area to the stark beauty of Elmore County's new Judicial Complex...from the elegant facades of vintage homes to the planned graciousness of sparkling modern subdivision...Wetumpka is a delightful blend of the past and the

The name Wetumpka is derived from the Indian words "we-wau" (water) "tum-cau" (rumbling). We-wau-tum-cau, anglicized to Wetumpka, was the Creek description of a prominent point in the Coosa where the rapids raced across the river rocks.

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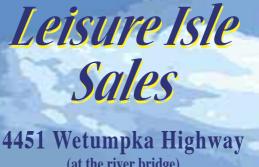
9:00 AM ---- 2:00 PM

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9:00 AM ---- 5:30 PM

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The 40th Anniversary Decorators' ShowHouse benefiting the Alabama Symphony Orchestra

There will be 14 outstanding Decorators that are participating in the house. This 40th Anniversary House proves to be a show-stopper. For the past 39 years this event has raised just under 5 million for the Alabama Symphony Orchestra. We are hoping to go over the 5 million mark this year with the McTyeire Home. This is the largest fundraiser for the Alabama Symphony which is put on by the Symphony Volunteer Council.



April 9 - April 24 2016

The McTyeire Home



Alabama Symphony
Orchestra

For detailed information: Call 518-6117 or visit ShowHouse-AL.com

PETTY OFFICER 3RD CLASS ASHLEY JORDAN is a boatswain's mate aboard the Wasp-class amphibious assault ship operating out of Norfolk, Virginia.

She is a George Washington Carver High School graduate and Montgomery, Alabama native is serving in the U.S. Navy aboard the amphibious assault ship, USS Bataan (LHD 5).

A Navy boatswain's mate is responsible for the upkeep and preservation of the ship.

"I like the fact that I am doing something different than I ever thought I would do," said Jordan. "I get to drive the ship which is always cool."

Commissioned in 1997, the Wasp-class amphibious assault ship, USS Bataan, is 844 feet long. The ship is named in honor of the defense of the Bataan Peninsula during World War II and is the second ship to bear the name.

Bataan, one of the largest of all amphibious warfare ships, resembles a small aircraft carrier. It is equipped with a mix of helicopters and attack aircraft, launchers and machine guns and an extensive medical facility with 600 hospital beds.

"I have the best job in the entire world," says Capt. J.C. Carter, commanding officer of the USS Bataan. "Every day, I get to work the best young Americans that our country has to offer! They have endured long deployments and they have engaged the enemy successfully! It is an honor to serve alongside the next greatest generation!"



Approximately 70 officers and 1000 enlisted men and women make up the ship's company. Their jobs are highly specialized and keep each part of the amphibious assault ship running smoothly.

"Why Being There Matters"

On our planet, more than 70 percent of which is covered by water, being there means having the ability to act from the sea. The Navy is uniquely positioned to be there; the world's oceans give the Navy the power to protect America's interests anywhere, and at any time. Your Navy protects and defends America on the world's oceans. Navy ships, submarines, aircraft and, most importantly, tens of thousands of America's finest young men and women are deployed around the world doing just that. They are there now. They will be there when we are sleeping tonight. They will be there every Saturday, Sunday and holiday this year. They are there around the clock, far from our shores, defending America at all times.





Be a gift to the world



District 6880 Rotary Club Upcoming Community Events.

7th Annual Sporting Clay Tournament

MAY13



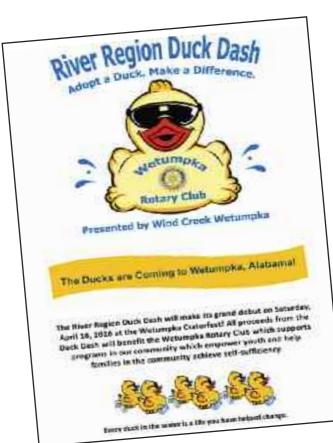
Prattville/Millbrook
Sunrise Rotary
invites you to
participate in the
7th Annual Sporting
Clay Shoot.

rusty_smith@trustmark.com
(334-313-1365 cell)
(334-358-3104)
or Harris Garner
harris@garnerelectricinc.com
(334-799-0770 cell)

Contact:

Rusty Smith





Rotary Club Meetings

(334-285-0101)

Monday:

Prattville-Millbrook ~ 7am Hampton Inn off I 65

Montgomery ~ 12:00 pm RSA Activity Center *Tuesday:*

Wetumpka ~ 12:00 pm Wind Creek Casino

Prattville ~ 12:00 pm Capital Hill Marriott Wednesday:

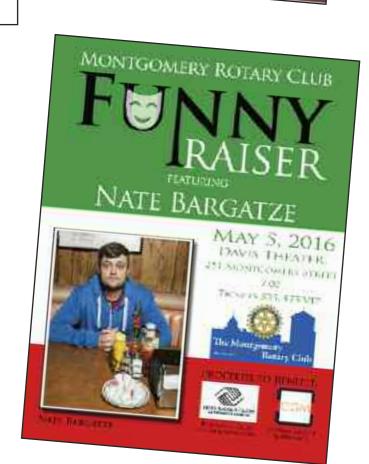
Wednesday: **Chilton County** ~ 12:00 pm
Shoney's 1st & 3rd Wed

Thursday:
Montgomery Capital~12 pm
Wynlakes Country Club

Tallassee ~ 12:00 pm Cozumel Mexican Restaurant

Friday: Montgomery Sunrise ~ 7 am

RSA AL Center for Commerce





Is Your Yard Wildlife-Friendly?

(StatePoint) Being a good neighbor means more than being friendly to the humans across the street, it also means being friendly to the animals in your yard. Making your yard a safe place for local wildlife should be a top lawn care priority.

With that in mind, here are some tips for creating a healthy habitat for local critters.

BE A VALUABLE REST STOP

Stock your garden with small native species of trees, shrubs and flowers to give wildlife needed nourishment, as well as cover from predators.

A source of water can also be a great resource for visiting fauna.

Whether it's a pond or a bird bath, be sure this zone is well-maintained so you don't inadvertently create a haven for unwanted species. In the warmer months when mosquitoes are most active, you should change the bird bath water even more often.

PROMOTE SAFETY

A bird feeder in your backyard, full of water and seeds, will be the perfect invitation for beautiful migrating and local birds to stop by.

Just be sure your property is safe for birds. Unfortunately, birds don't see clear glass. As a result, millions of birds die every year by striking glass. Don't let your sliding glass doors or other windows become a death trap for birds.

To protect birds, apply special decals that reflect ultraviolet sunlight. For example, those from WindowAlert have the appearance of frosted glass, but glow like a stoplight for birds, so you don't have to compromise your own view out your window. The brand also makes a high-tech liquid called WindowAlert UV Liquid, which should be applied between decals.

"Wildlife can beautify your garden and be a sign that your yard is healthy" says Spencer Schock, founder of WindowAlert. "But birds and other wildlife need food, shelter, and safety."

Get out the binoculars! With a few small actions, you can make your yard or garden a wildlife refuge.



Judge Peggy Givhan

Southern Gardening Potpourri for April

Hpril by Peggy Givhan

to take a perennial course, or a Master Garderning course, we are growing.

Nature is always changing, never the same year to year, and we can follow the

teachings of nature with expansion of knowledge and experimenting with new

plant varieties. It does not have to be new varieties on the market, but new varieties for our gardens. Therefore, growing as a gardener is a good thing.

When the earth renews itself with a patina of pale greens, wherever one looks there is evidence of exuberant energy, and what we are viewing is nature establishing her glory. Gardens can be the sum total of our expressions of beauty, love and for so lets get started with April plantings so that

joy. What are we waiting for, so lets get started with April plantings so that April showers can bring May flowers.

Much is heard today about organic foods, and many have asked me about organic fertilizers. Organic fertilizers are natural substances which are excellent for the plants. Some of these substances you are already familiar with, so I will name a few and give a description of the proper use. Use bloodmeal, cottonseed meal, fish meal, or chicken manure for nitrogen. Use Bonemeal, fish meal, guano, colloidal phosphate, and wood ashes as good sources for phosphorus. Choose ganite dust, wood ashes for potassium. Bonemeal, dolomite, gypsum, and wood ashes for calcium.

The application amounts are on the packages, so use only these amounts. Remember, more is not better as one can burn the plants. Also, raw sawdust should never be added to amend the soil a

sawdust should never be added to amend the soil as it must cure for at least 6 months before ready for use in the garden. For example, on a label for Ronamed it describes the

garden. For example, on a label for Bonemeal it describes the nutrients supplied such as percentages for nitrogen, phosphorus, and calcium. It also instructs to use up to 5 pounds per 100 sq. ft and a good source to acidify the soil. The application should work for at least 6 to 12 months. Gypsum, which is calcium sulfate, has an application rate of 4 pounds per 100 sq. ft. and its use is a good way to lower the ph of the soil (from alkaline to acid), and aids in loosening clay soils. Anyway, these are great means to add nutrients which are not chemicals.

Every gardner starts out from square one since many of us are not born with the talent of a Mozart. But that does not mean we can not grow. Even if we start with the simpliest of pot gardens and expand into flower beds in the yard, we are growing. Even if we change out and experiment with the flowers, bulbs, or foliage plants in our pots, we are growing. Even if we branch out and plant fruit trees, or other flowering trees in our yards, we are growing. Every year that we change the flora in our space, we are growing. Even if we decide

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PLANT OF THE MONTH

Caradonna Salvia

Salvia nemorosa 'Caradonna' can become a showy workhorse for the areas of the garden which get plenty of sun, but after it gets established, requires less water that average flowers. It is a mounding perennial with violet blue spikes and attract hummingbirds and butterflies. It blooms throughout the summer and

Another attractive attribute is that it is deer resistant. The plant gets about 18" in height

ets about 18" in height and will spread to 18" in width. Once the blooms have died, it is best to prune back so new blooms can shoot up. It is readily available at nurseries, and garden centers. Caradonna is not a rampant grower so it is easy to control. Fertilize in the spring, and it should perform like a pro.

GOOD GARDENING!

And God created great whales, and every living creature that moveth, which the waters brought forth abundantly, after their kind, and every winged fowl after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

Genesis 1:21

And the earth brought forth grass, and herb yielding seed after his kind, and the tree yielding fruit, whose seed was in itself, after his kind: and God saw that it was good.

Genesis 1:12



Dining Out!

Take Mom out for Mothers Day! May 8th

Place your ad on our Dining Out Page. Call 334-356-6700 to appear on this page next month!



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Sweet Iced Tea".

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Chef **David Spooner** Retired Chef

Volunteer Fireman, Lowndesboro V.F.D.

Senior Warden, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Lowndesboro

Town Councilman, Town of Lowndesboro

Southern

THE ELECTION IS OVER (FOR NOW) SO LET'S EAT, DRINK AND BE MERRY, AS LONG AS IT'S SOUTHERN.

I like the month of April. It is a great month to celebrate FOOD. April is National BLT Sandwich Month, National Grilled Cheese Month and National Garlic Month. The week of April 12th to the 18th is National Egg Salad Week. Just think of all the meals that can be fixed celebrating these items.

And don't forget the food that has placed Southern Cuisine on the map. April 13 is National Peach Cobbler Day. National Pecan Day is the 14th. Pineapple Upside-Down Cake day is the 20th and two of my favorites, April 24th is National Pigs-ina-Blanket Day and April 28 is National Blueberry

Pie Day. Just preparing and eating these items should keep you busy and full all month long.

By the time you read this you may have missed the Alabama Chocolate Festival, April 2, in Rainbow City, but put it on your food calendar for next year. But you may make it to the 11th Annual Tri State BBQ Festival in Dothan, Alabama April 8-9, or make it to the 29th Annual Baldwin County Strawberry Festival in Loxley, Alabama April 9-10. And if you have to plan further in advance to eat and to have a good time, try the 31st Annual Poke Salat Festival - Arab, Alabama, May 20-21st. I miss Poke Salat. It is hard to find fresh and the last canner of Poke Salat greens filed for bankruptcy. But you can order seeds and grow your own.

Springtime is the time to get out of the house and enjoy the warmer weather and go to farmers markets for the seasonal produce. Cooking with the seasons gets you fruits and vegetables that are at the peak of freshness and flavor. And as I have said before, locally grown produce is the best: local produce is less likely to be damaged, uses less energy to transport, ripens more naturally and you support your local economy. If spring is late arriving or winter was not normal, your local produce will have slim pickin's. But you are bound to find something fresh and yummy! Online I saw where asparagus, broccoli, cabbage, greens, and strawberries should be found locally. There is at least one item you can always find around here, greens!

So here I go again and coming up with a recipe that goes against conventional wisdom on how to cook a Southern icon. I'm not going to put the greens in chicken stock with bacon drippings, sautéed onions, smoked ham, sugar, salt and a splash of vinegar and boil until tender. I will never ever turn down greens if they are offered to me cooked that way. I don't think I would turn down collards no matter how they are prepared!

This recipe removes most if not all of the salt, the fat, the meat and the sugar. I read many reviews of this recipe and changes people have made. Most changes were the amount of time the greens were blanched. I'm sure the time depends on the tenderness of the greens, how young the leaves were. This way of fixing collards works well if you want to serve them on a plate that has a breaded item or something you don't want to be standing in pot liquor.

SAUTEED COLLARD GREENS

INGREDIENTS

2 pounds of fresh collard greens 1-2 garlic cloves 1 tablespoon unsalted butter 1 tablespoon olive oil Fresh lemon juice to taste



METHOD

- 1. Pull the stems and center ribs from the leaves, and cut into 1 inch
- 2. Place greens in a pot of boiling water for at least 2 and up to 10 minutes. If greens are fresh and tender less time is needed. You still want them to have some body.
- **3.** The next step is up to you. Either drain the collards in a colander and try to press out as much liquid as you can with a wooden spoon, or let them drain for a couple of minutes and place them in a tea towel and wring out as much liquid as you can.
 - 4. Mince up the garlic.
 - 5. Heat a cast iron skillet and add the butter and olive oil and heat until the foam subsides. Add the garlic and the collards and salt and pepper
 - **6.** Sauté the collards, stirring until heated through. About 5 more minutes.
 - 7. Remove from heat and drizzle collards with the lemon juice and toss

Serves four.



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And since I mentioned Pot Liquor, please if you have a dinner of the ground, please put the corn bread before the greens with their rich flavorful juices and don't serve them with a slotted spoon. How are you supposed to get the Pot Liquor to ladle over the buttered corn bread?

Since I stuck my neck out with collards greens, I might as well break another culinary rule. And that is cooking asparagus in a microwave. If you want tasty, slightly crunchy and fast asparagus, there is no better way. I even saw Alton Brown "steam" asparagus in a microwave on his TV show. This recipe has appeared everywhere and this is my version.

STEAMED ASPARAGUS

INGREDIENTS

1 pound asparagus Paper towels Water **Italian Salad Dressing**

METHOD

- 1. I prefer a glass baking dish. **2.** Cut or break off the hard stem
- part from the bottom of the asparagus stalks. Spread out three or four paper towels and lay out the asparagus. Loosely roll up the paper towels and place in the baking dish. Dampen the towels with about ¼ cup of water.
- **3.** Place the dish in microwave and heat on high for about 3 minutes.
- **4.** Carefully remove the bundle from dish, unwrap and remove paper towels and then place the asparagus back into the dish.
- **5.** Drizzle about a ¼ cup of your favorite Italian Dressing over the
- **6.** Place back into microwave about 1 or 2 minutes longer, until asparagus is tender.
- **7.** Arrange on serving plate and serve.

Serves four.

Steaming is a good way of cooking vegetables. They don't get water logged as with boiling. They can retain their color better. And, yes it is healthier than some other methods.

Now is the time when to go on an adventure and follow the **Alabama Food Trails.** Did you know there are Food Trails in Alabama? There's a Golf Trail, so why not Food. The Alabama Tourism Department has named five trails, and they say to "Use our trails as a guide for your next culinary adventure." We are in the middle of the Alabama Heartland Trail, going from Selma to Auburn and down to Fort Deposit and Greenville and up to Clanton and

National Peach Cobbler Day and for National Pecan Day. If you take the Lower Alabama Trail, you can stop in Monroeville and find a spot to celebrate National BLT Sandwich Month and go to Mobile to celebrate

Bessemer. From their lists of trails, you can decide where you want to go for

National Chocolate-Covered Cashews Day. The Coastal Cuisine Trail hits the hotspots for Alabama seafood in Gulf

Shores, Point Clear and Orange Beach. If you take the Trails, you can be that much closer to eating all "100 Dishes

to Eat in Alabama Before You Die". Look on www.ilovealabamafood.com and you will find the places that deserve our support. Let's eat in Alabama.

Recipes submitted by our readers. A few ideas for our "sweet tooth".

STRAWBERRY CAKE

4 eggs

3/4 cup vegetable oil

1 (18 1/2-oz) box of white cake mix

1 (3-0z) box strawberry gelatin

1 (10-oz) pkg. frozen strawberries, thawed.

Preheat oven to 325 degrees.

Chop the strawberries in a blender and reserve 1/3 cup. In a large mixing bowl, beat eggs, add oil Add cake mix, gelatin and strawberries. Mix at medium speed for 3 minutes. Pour into greased and floured 8-in pans. Bake for 20-25 minutes. Cool. Frost.

CARMEL ANGEL WHIP

1 cup brown sugar

3 cups whipping cream 1 angel food cake

Mix brown sugar and whipping cream in large bowl. Stir well and chill for at least 1/2 hour. cut the angel food cake into three layers. When the sugar and cream mixture is thoroughly chilled, beat with mixer until whipped. Spoon this very generously over the three layers of cake, being sure to cover sides. Refrigerate at least 12 hours. 24 hours is better. Serves 12-14.

AUNT BETTY'S MICROWAVE CHEESECAKE

Crust:

1/4 cup margarine or butter, melted

1 cup graham cracker crumbs Mix 1/4 cup of melted margarine of butter with 1 cup of graham

cracker crumbs; then press into pie plate. Microwave on high for 3 1 pkg. cream cheese

Put cream cheese in glass bowl and microwave on low for 30

minutes. Beat in sugar and egg. Place in shell and cook on high for 2 minutes. **Topping:**

1 cup of sour cream and 3 T of sugar. Mix sour cream with sugar. Spread on cheesecake and microwave for 1 to 1 1/2 minutes on high. Cool in refrigerator before serving.

Patricia Killough

10B



Home Town Community News Please send Patricia your family April Birthdays April Birthdays

birthdays, anniversaries and weddings to alabamagazette@gmail.com

The Alabama Gazette will make every effort to include your submissions as space permits.

ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

Congratulations to Baxter Moseley and Nagam Sayegh



They were engaged on March 26th, 2016 at St. Michael's Catholic Church in Auburn, AL following the Easter mass service.

Baxter is the son of Michael and Jackie Moseley, of Ramer, Alabama. The grandson of Mike and Brenda Moseley of Ramer and Mickey and Susan Holmes of Montgomery,

Nagam is the daughter of Ayman and Wafa Sayegh of Auburn, Alabama. The grand-daughter of Zulfa Sayegh and the late Issa Sayegh of Amman, Jordan and Naim and Angel Abu Leil of Amman, Jordan.

Both are currently attending Auburn University. Baxter is pursuing a degree in Mechanical Engineering,

and Nagam a degree in Biomedical Sciences.

The couple is tentatively planning their wedding for the summer of 2017.



Magan Gramling Linda Mann Ann Pascal

Ronnie Broadway Helen Gordon Ken (Buddy) Hicks Christopher Kenmore Patricia Killough (66th) Colby Mills Ruth Neilson

Cole Andrews Winston Webb Emily Claire Needham (8th) Shelby Hartley (100th)

Owen Scott Edwards (8th) Terrell S. Hartley (103rd) Sonny Turnipseed Bill Younkin

Prasertsi Atkinson Steve Stringer Coleman Taylor Coleman Taylor (20th) Edwina Davis Walker

Lew Baxter Brenda Caprara

Winford Collier (83rd) Caroline Handey Bea Ward

Debra Ehrlich Cynthia Mull James White Clara Wright

Rev. Melvin J. Hendricks (63rd)

10 Jean Douglass Wade Norris Jimmy Grubbs Hayden Ward

11 Mae Bishop Margaret Boyd Buddy Handey James Griffin

12 Sally Brown Morgan McGough Carolyn Perry

Tim Sansom

13 Kim Golson Lillie Ben Harris Sherry Knight Patrick O'Mailia Jimmy Sellars

April 2016 >

14 Brenda Blackburn

15 Skylar Campbell (18th) Moseley Higgins (16th) Tom Ward

16 Judy Barnes (64th)

17 Donna Daffron Allen (71st)

18 Julia Norris Slade Rhodes Eunice Broadway Samuel Sullivan

19 Haley Boyd (23rd) Mae Gibson

20 Frank Grove

21 Jennifer Champion Emily Garner James Queen Elizabeth (90th)

22 Sue Arant Tammy Orr Brandy Terrell Alice Guntharp

23 Shane McKinley Jud Parenteau (7th)

24 Bara Edwards

25 Blane Campbell (19th) Don Cooley Debra Kinman

26 Joe Cotney Betty Strickland 27 Erik Box

Julie Livingston Wayne Watkins Landyn Whigham (6th)

28 Johnny Johnson

29 Katie Moseley (18th)

30 Luke Adams

(Send us YOUR Birthdays!)

George McKinley

celebrated his 70th birthday on March 18, 2016. His wife and family had a surprise birthday party on Saturday, March 11th at the Woodland Creek Lodge in Pike Road. His long time friend John Killough and wife Pat were to have him at the party at 6:00 but due to several car problems, they finally arrived at 6:40. George was totally surprised to see so many of his family members, former classmates and friends there to celebrate this milestone. DJ music was provided by Billy Ferguson of Hubcap Classics. Everyone had a great time.

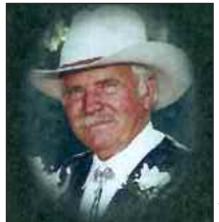
> Standing: Tommy Champion, Lynn McKinley (wife), Shane McKinley (son) Seated second row: Jennifer Champion (daughter), Cad McKinley Turnipseed Gates (mother), George McKinley (birthday boy) Seated first row: Haley Champion, Stephen Garner, Austin Champion, Anna-Leigh McKinley and Cortney McKinley



Happy Anniversary

- Warren & Doris Miller (54th)
- Bobby & Mickey Ann Boyd (28th)
- John & Patricia Killough (45th) Milton & Wanda Madison (6th) Shawn & Katie O'Mailia (6th)
- Clint & Tiffany Hammock Pat & Lonnie Smith (48th)
- T. G. & Margaret Batley (60th)
- Richard & Susan Feaga
- 8 Eric & Melony Gwin
- 11 Herb & Mary Sue Meadows (41st) Mike & Donna Mulchay (29th)
- 12 Jason & Kaycee Wiggins 20 Jeremy & Stacy Dickinson
- Jimmy & Barbara Pugh (60th)
- 21 Russ & Valerie Russell
- 22 Jim & Phyllis Fenn
- 23 Zack & Geri Azar (39th)
- 24 Byron & Pam Lynch
- 25 Bill & Dee Russell
- 27 Scott & Heather Russell
- 30 Aaron & Kayla Ramer (6th)

If you see a birthday person or anniversary that needs to come off these list, please contact us at 356-6700 or email us at alabamagazette@gmail.com



Connelly, Edward Larry (79)

of Hackleburg, AL passed Monday, at North Mississippi Medical Center in *Tupelo*, MS. March 21, 2016. *Graveside services were held Friday* March 25, 2016 at 2:30 pm at Greenwood Cemetery in Montgomery, Alabama. Visitation was held Thursday evening at Union Hill Freewill Baptist Church in

He served in the U.S. Air Force and retired from Alabama (Energen) Gas Company in Montgomery, AL.

Survivors are: Wife, Mildred Connelly, Son, David Connelly, Daughter, Kristi King. Grandchildren are Cole Beach, Tamala (Marty) Burkett, Coy (Amber) Connelly, Dustin (Tessa) Connelly, William (Tracy) Connelly, Mattie King, Kowen King, Karli King, and Emily Connelly. He was blessed with several great grandchildren. **Proverbs 3:5-65**

Sympathy to the families of...

Smith, Joan Strength "Maw" (81)died February 22, 2016 McCrummen, Emma Lee "Kitty" Smalley (94)died February 23, 2016 Bloodworth, Charles R. "Charlie" (102)died February 25, 2016 Williams, Francis Smith (94)died February 28, 2016 Alford, Ruth Vence (90)......died February 29, 2016 Pugh, George Bryan, Jr.died March 1, 2016 Britton, William Brown "Bud" III (85)died March 2, 2016 Gibson, Dr. James Loren "Pete" (81)died March 2, 2016 Nolan, William Virgil (86)died March 5, 2016 Davis, Susie Stough (88)......died March 6, 2016 Douthit, Lanelle Pouncey (72)died March 19, 2016 Duggar, Jane Windham "Wendy" (63).....died March 19, 2016 Nichols, Mary Ida Tatum (92)died March 19, 2016 Guy, James Ricky (61)died March 20, 2016 Jackson, Mary Jane (74)died March 23, 2016 Marshall, (Retired) Sheriff David "D.T." (65)......died March 23, 2016 Gordon, Zachariah Pope, Jr. "Zach" (94)died March 24, 2016 Lyons, Ruby Johnston (90)died March 24, 2016 Turner, Paul Kevin (46)died March 24, 2016 Morgan, Arthur L. "Buster" (91)died March 25, 2016

Smith, Wallace L., Sr. (86)died March 25, 2016

Kelley, Gen. Charles Daniel (91)died March 26, 2016

The Value of a Woman...Be very careful if you make a woman cry – because God counts her tears.

TODAY'S WOMAN

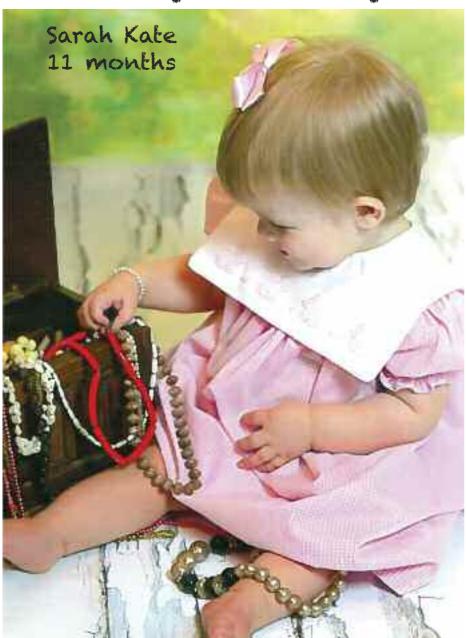
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Wright Burrows

Ms.Wheelchair

America/ Alabama 2005

Learning to select your jewelry begins early!





Davis Abbott Mason

Baby Mason was born
March 1, 2016 at 4:57 p.m.
He weighed 7 lbs., 7 ozs.
and was 20 inches long.
His proud parents and big brother are
Chad, Shelby & Trace Mason.
Congratulations to the Mason family!





Ramer author holds on to dear life, sharing her inspiring experience.

Nationwide release of author Tamatha Latham's heartrending, new autobiography, "I.C.U. From the Other Side," where she takes her readers to death and beyond.

"I.C.U. From the Other Side" is the true story of the author's experience, while she was on life support for 15 days. Suspended between life and death, the story recounts in vivid detail where she was and how that what was happen-

ing in the "real" world came through to the village she when she was unconscious.

occupied, even when she was unconscious.

Published by Tate Publishing and Enterprises, the book is available through bookstores nationwide, from the publisher at www.tatepublishing.com/bookstore,

or by visiting barnesandnoble.com or amazon.com.

Latham has another book coming soon, "We Are Sweet," a book for young children with diabetes. For more information you may contact Michelle Whitman, publicist at michelle@keymgc.com.



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Trisston's Tidbits... By: Trisston Wright Burrows www.trisstonwrightburrows.com

"Beautiful in God's Timing"

Happy Spring! Time to open up the house and let the sunshine in. Perhaps, grab a few dozen trash bags, go through all the closets and the attic, and throw away everything that has cluttered up the

I decided this spring I needed to clear the junk out of my head first. Only a few months into the New Year, and I already had too much on my mind. I still had a lot of questions built up from the past few year. God, why did this happen? Why did I pray for this, and it still fell apart? Why, God, why? The questions were piling up, and no answers were in sight to help

with the mess. "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven" Ecclesiastes 3:1.

We are reminded that every season of life is purposeful. We will face times of great difficulty and times of great joy. We will experience seasons of hard work and seasons of plenty. And if we'll let Him, God wants to use each of these seasons to teach us something new about who He is and how much He loves us.

We will never wrap our minds around what God has planned from the beginning to the end. But our attitude toward life changes when we learn to see good times and bad times as opportunities to grow closer to our Heavenly Father. As we learn to trust Him, we begin wholeheartedly enjoying the good times because we're not worried about what's coming next. And, we start to embrace the bad times knowing God is with us and

He will make everything beautiful in its time.

Many Blessings!



We're here for you.





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2016 Meeting Schedule



Breast Cancer Support Group Meetings

Support group meetings are free, do not require registration and convene the 2nd Tuesday of each month at:

Frazer United Methodist Church

6000 Atlanta Highway - Room 8114 - Mashison Activity Center - Hontgomery, AL

5:30 PM Social time with light meal 6:15 PM Program followed by Q & A

> Tuesday, April 12 Finding My Purpose

Presented by Julia Upton, Breast Cancer Survivor

=:

Tuesday, May 10 (Room 8253)
The Role of Physical Therapy

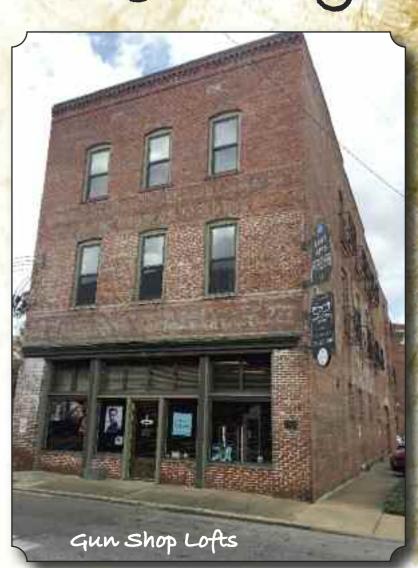
in Cancer Treatments

Caitlin Butts, PT, DPT, ATC • Chris Ireland, PT, DPT, OCS
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