



The Alabama Gazette

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The Gazette began with only a vision in year 2000 and now prints approximately 180,000 copies yearly and estimates 300,000 readers yearly. We hope YOU enjoy reading The Alabama Gazette, (formerly The County Gazette and The Tri-County Gazette). We strive to keep it "FREE" just for you! We appreciate the support of our all of our staff, contributing writers, readers and our ADVERTISERS! We are a locally owned and operated newspaper. Our focus is God, family and our great USA. May this newspaper never compromise its' standards! We are the "People's Paper". Please enjoy the many great articles in this issue which contain valuable information you need to know! Check out politics, sports, upcoming events, community news, education, history, health/wellness, and spiritual encouragement.

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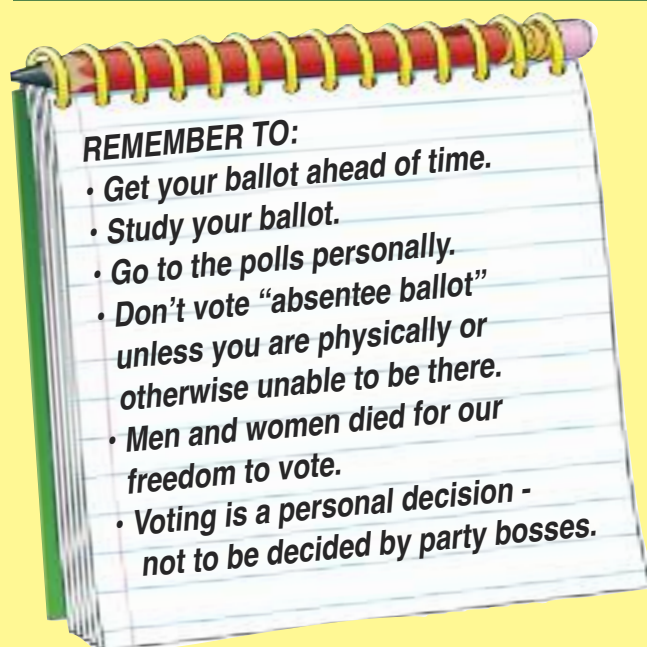
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STATE HOUSE DISTRICT 69

My Major Concerns for District 69 are:

- Quality/affordable/accessible Health Care.
- Support for our law enforcement officers.
- A quality education for all our children.
- A continuing educational program for our rural adult citizens.
- Bringing more jobs into District 69.
- Encouraging existing business growth.
- Improving roads.
- Protecting the right to vote our values.
- Protecting our natural resources.
- Protecting the right to bear arms.
- Protecting our freedom of speech.

MY PROMISE TO YOU:

I will hold quarterly town hall meetings!

I want YOU to have a voice!

I will carry YOUR voice to the State House as your Representative!

I NEED YOUR VOTE ON NOV. 4th.

KNOW THE TRUTH ABOUT YOUR BALLOT & YOUR VOTE!

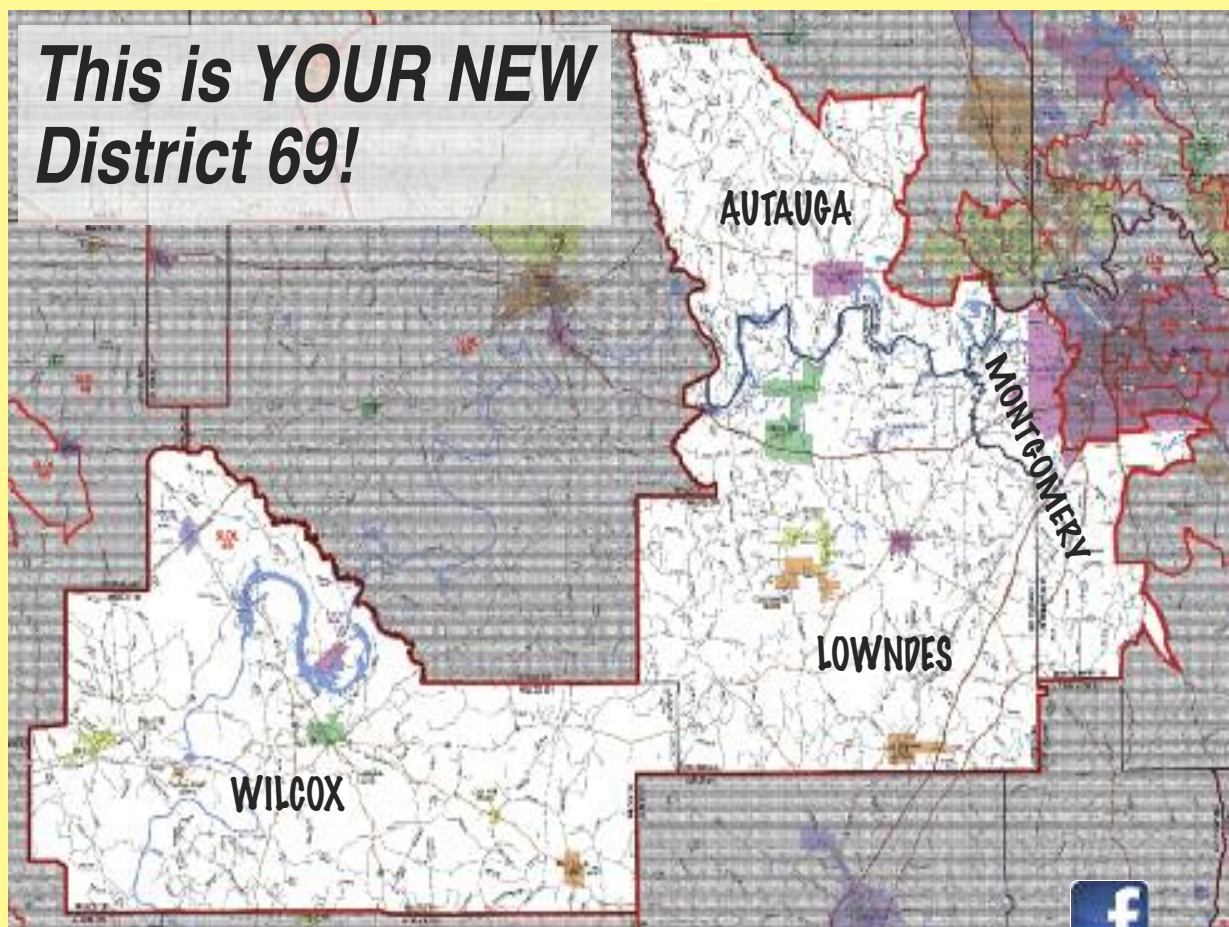
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Shade in the oval next to each individual candidate you want to vote for. 1 vote for each office!

Party Voting:

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TO ARM OR NOT TO ARM YOURSELF



**Chief Derrick
Cunningham**

IF YOU CHOOSE TO ARM YOURSELF BE SURE THAT YOU KNOW THE LAW AND HOW TO USE WHICHEVER FIREARM YOU CHOOSE TO ARM YOURSELF WITH!

I am often asked by citizens what my thoughts are about them purchasing a firearm for self protection. My answer to them is usually the same for everybody, they have to make that decision for themselves. I advise them that they have to know in their heart and mind that they will be able to use that weapon for what it was designed, to kill or injure another person. If they cannot, without a doubt, convince themselves that they will be able to pull the trigger if the time ever came, I do not think that they should arm themselves with a firearm. A gun is not something that they should rely upon to bluff a bad guy because there is a good chance that the bad guy will wind up with their gun and in the worst case scenario, use it on them.

On the other hand, if a person knows that they will be able to use the firearm to protect themselves or another person, I wholeheartedly support them in their efforts to arm themselves. I do suggest that they learn how to safely handle a gun and that they learn what the law says about self protection. This can be accomplished by attending a class offered here at the sheriff's Office or a class offered by the Montgomery Police Department. I also recommend that a person obtain a permit to carry a pistol concealed on their person or in their vehicle when they make the decision to buy a gun. Even though the law allows a person to have a handgun in their home or fixed place of business, without a permit, the time may come when they need to carry a gun on them. A permit is obtained by applying at the Sheriff's Office in the county in which a person lives and is a fairly simple thing to do. An application, listing a person's pertinent data, is filled out and a criminal background check is completed on the person. If everything checks out, no felony convictions or domestic violence convictions or other disqualifiers, the Sheriff will then issue a permit.

The remainder of this article may be controversial but I believe it goes along with the question if whether or not a person should decide to arm themselves. I understand that telling a person that they need to know that they would be able to pull the trigger if the time ever came sounds harsh, but it is very important. I recently read an article in the American Legion Magazine that contained excerpts from a book titled "**On Combat**" by Lt. Col. Dave Grossman. Col. Grossman has a very interesting way to look at



To Arm or Not to Arm— VOTE In November!

people and compare them and I believe that he is correct in his assessment of society. He says that there are sheep, sheep dogs and wolves. He says that most citizens are kind decent people who are not capable of hurting each other, except by accident or under extreme provocation, in other words they are the sheep. We are very fortunate that the majority of the people in this world fall into this group of people.

Col. Grossman says at one point in the article; "*Then there are the wolves, and the wolves feed on the sheep without mercy.*" *There are evil men in this world and they are capable of evil deeds. He goes on to say* "that the moment that you forget that or pretend it is not so, you become a sheep and there is no safety in denial." I believe that he is correct in his statement, that there are people out there who are evil and will do unthinkable things to another human being. I have seen it many times over my career working violent crimes at the Montgomery Police Department and as the Sheriff of Montgomery County. There are the wolves who prey on society and do not care about anything other than themselves and what will gratify their needs or urges. Unfortunately, there are people who do not agree with this assessment of others, but I can assure you that there are wolves out there. Look at the people who rape the innocent woman, the people who abduct and murder children and do unthinkable things to them before they kill them, the people who murder innocent people during robberies or burglaries just because they want to get money to buy drugs, or the people who kill other people

for reasons that most of us cannot understand, the pleasure that they obtain by watching another person die. Thank God that these type of people are few and far between, but rest assured, they are out there.

Now, Col. Grossman goes on to say, "Then there are sheepdogs, and I'm a sheepdog. I live to protect the flock and confront the world." He says "*that if you have no capacity for violence then you are a healthy productive citizen, a sheep. If you have a capacity for violence and no empathy for your fellow citizens, then you have been defined an aggressive sociopath, a wolf. But what if you have a capacity for violence, and a deep love for your fellow citizens? What do you have then? A sheepdog, a warrior, someone who is walking the hero's path. Someone who can walk into the heart of darkness, into the universal human phobia, and walk out unscathed.*"

I think that it is obvious that the people who deal with the wolves in this world, the sheep dogs, are the soldiers who are defending our country, the Police Offices, the Deputy Sheriff's, the State Troopers and other Law Enforcement Officers. But there are plenty of ordinary citizens who are sheep dogs, people who do not necessarily think that everyone is bad, but realize that there are wolves in society and refuse to become their prey. These are the people who know that when the time comes to defend themselves or another person, they will be able to do whatever is necessary, including pulling the trigger to stop the wolf from doing his evil deed. Nobody wants this time to come but when, and if it does, the sheep dog will be there to defend the sheep from the wolf.

After reading the article by Col. Grossman, I believe that the answer to the question often asked by people about arming themselves can be answered by telling them that if they believe that they are a sheep dog, yes buy a handgun and learn the laws pertaining to self defense and learn how to properly handle the gun.

"**On Combat**" (PPCT Research Publications, September 2004) is available in bookstores and online at www.amazon.com.

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

U.S. National Archives and Records Administration
www.archives.gov October 6, 2014

On September 25, 1789, the First Congress of the United States proposed 12 amendments to the Constitution. The 1789 Joint Resolution of Congress proposing the amendments is on display in the Rotunda in the National Archives Museum. Ten of the proposed 12 amendments were ratified by three-fourths of the state legislatures on December 15, 1791. The ratified Articles (Articles 3-12) constitute the first 10 amendments of the Constitution, or the U.S. Bill of Rights. In 1992, 203 years after it was proposed, Article 2 was ratified as the 27th Amendment to the Constitution. Article 1 was never ratified.

Amendment II - *A well regulated Militia, being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear Arms, shall not be infringed.*

**The
Alabama Gazette
recommends
that you vote
"YES" on the
Proposed
Statewide
Amendment
No. 5**



JEFF SESSIONS

United States Senator for Alabama



SESSIONS: PRESIDENT'S PROGRAM TO RECRUIT ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS FOR MILITARY WILL 'DIRECTLY DISPLACE' U. S. SERVICE MEMBERS DURING TIME OF MILITARY LAYOFFS.

WASHINGTON—U.S. Senator Jeff Sessions (R-AL), a senior member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, released a statement today concerning the President's new effort to recruit illegal immigrants and visa overstays into the U.S. military. Sessions also detailed the actions the President should be taking, instead of pursuing an illegal executive amnesty:

"With an unprecedented illegal immigration crisis raging, the President announces not enforcement actions to reduce illegality, but yet one more in an endless series of executive actions to further undermine immigration law. Once more, he has taken unilateral executive action that signals to the world that our borders are not being enforced.

The President is launching a new effort to recruit illegal immigrants and visa overstays for the military at a time when thousands of career military personnel are facing layoffs—meaning that the President's recruitment program will directly displace American military personnel. Military service is a high calling, and a noble career, and is most certainly not a job Americans won't do.

The President has further pledged that, following the midterm elections, he will issue a sweeping executive amnesty for 5–6 million illegal immigrants and visa overstays. This executive amnesty will include work authorization, taking precious jobs directly from American workers at a time when 28.9 million Americans in their prime working years (25–54) don't have a job.

In our economy, like our military, we have a shortage of jobs—not a shortage of workers.

Instead of circumventing the law to eliminate our immigration controls, any President who cares about the rule of law would instead be taking lawful, constitutional executive actions to restore those laws and end the illegality. Here are just a few of the concrete, lawful steps the President is duty-bound to undertake:

- *Complete the border fence that Congress has previously passed into law;*
- *Create the exit-entry system to track foreign visa-holders, which Congress has repeatedly mandated;*
- *Cancel visas to any country that won't take back its own citizens;*
- *Stop the improper issuance of billions of dollars in child tax credits to illegal immigrants,*
- *Enforce the currently un-enforced public charge rule for immigrants to the U.S., both legal and illegal;*
- *Crack down on abuse of the H-1B guest worker program that is displacing U.S. workers;*
- *Increase, don't reduce, prosecutions under the proven Operation Streamline;*
- *Instead of suing states that are trying to enforce the law, target sanctuary cities that are defying the law; and*
- *Cancel all meetings with pro-amnesty groups to plot executive amnesty, and instead meet with Chris Crane, Ken Palinkas, and Chris Cabrera (of ICE, USCIS, and Border Patrol). Instead of ordering them not to do their jobs, sit down with them ask what they need to end the lawlessness and restore integrity to our nation's immigration system."*

BACKGROUND:

According **Military.com**, the U.S. must "get picky" in military recruiting due to force reductions.

ICE officers requested a meeting with President Obama over one-and-half years ago. The President refused the meeting, but invited illegal immigrants to meet in the Oval Office.



UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE MARTHA ROBY ALABAMA'S SECOND DISTRICT



WASHINGTON, D.C. – While Alabama has had some positive job announcements lately – particularly in our booming auto and aviation industries – the economy is still struggling.

According to a recent poll, nearly one in three Americans say their financial situation has gotten worse in the past year. Unemployment remains high. Many have left the workforce altogether. Incomes are stagnant. We can do better.

President Obama frequently says we should measure our economy by how the middle class is faring. I couldn't agree more with the President on this.

But, here is where we differ: by and through his policies, President Obama makes families more dependent on the government. I want American families to be self-empowered because I believe self-reliance is critical to our freedom and well-being.

To be sure, middle class families are struggling in this economy. Why? Big government and radical policies are squeezing family budgets where it counts:

- The ill-conceived and poorly-implemented healthcare law has made premiums and co-pays more expensive. What was officially called the "Affordable Care Act" has made healthcare less affordable for many middle class families.

- President Obama is "all in" on an environmental agenda that kills jobs and increases energy and food prices.

What happens when the cost for basic needs - healthcare, food, energy - goes up, and incomes remain stagnant? Middle class families get squeezed. I'm committed to easing that squeeze on

middle class families by taking action on common-sense, pro-growth policies that will help our economy. Just this week the House passed a number of such bills.

The American Energy Solutions for Lower Costs and More American Jobs Act is a package of bills focused on energy production, infrastructure, reliability and efficiency. It includes allowing the construction of the Keystone XL pipeline, ending the Obama Administration's "war on coal" and removing barriers to developing American energy sources.

The Jobs for America Act is another package of bills aimed to energize the economy and jumpstart job growth. Many seek to revise or repeal burdensome policies that drive up costs, such as

ObamaCare's employer mandate that undermines the 40-hour work week and costs workers money.

These bills now go to the Senate, where many common-sense bills have gone to die. It isn't that the bills do not have the support to pass - it's that they do. Reports are that Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid knows that the more moderate Democrats support our pro-growth bills, and therefore won't risk allowing them to come up for a vote.

That kind of mindset is obviously frustrating, but it won't stop me from working on your behalf to improve our economy and ease the squeeze on middle class families.



Friends,

Last week I went to the Central Alabama Veterans Health Care System's (CAVHCS) Montgomery campus to meet with acting director Robin Jackson, Southeast regional director Chuck Sepich, and acting chief of staff Dr. Srinivas Ginjupalli. I asked for this meeting because it has been five weeks since the former director and chief of staff were removed, and I wanted to meet the new leadership and assess their progress toward instilling transparency and accountability at CAVHCS.

I did not hold back in describing my own level of distrust for the VA as an institution, which is the result of years and years of mismanagement and neglect. I felt it was important to convey the frustration of my veteran constituents and their families over the unacceptable failures that we have been able to expose over the last few months.

That said, we had a good discussion about what change needs to look like, both in the immediate future and long term. They explained that efforts to hold problem employees accountable are underway. They also demonstrated a commitment to utilizing the Patient-Centered Community Care program to connect veteran patients with local providers to reduce wait times - a welcome change from the previous leadership.

Both of these developments are very positive. However, I'll tell you what I told them: promises are great, but action is what really matters. **We need to see real results in improving access to care for veterans, not just talk.**



Marcia Chambliss



MONTGOMERY: “A TALE OF TWO CITIES”

The month of October brings cooler temperatures and a multitude of activities to our already busy personal lives: football games, fall festivals, upcoming holiday plans, and the flurry of related shopping and spending.

It also heralds the beginning of new fiscal budget spending at the federal, state, and local levels.

Last month, I shared that *policy* will impact your life whether you love or hate politics. Fiscal policy at all levels of government plays the largest role in determining your own household budget.

The federal budget and spending has reached a level that frankly surpasses comprehension, and our eyes glaze over in reading the numbers. Closer to home, the numbers in our city budget are a bit easier to grasp, but are still extremely concerning when considering the long-term consequences of debt service.

For several years, the focus of Montgomery mayors and the members of the city council has been on the economic development of the downtown Montgomery area. While a thriving downtown area is favorable to business recruitment and our tourism industry, many citizens with serious concerns about the level of rising debt at our local level are also wondering if spending is being prioritized in a manner that benefits all of Montgomery, not just the segment included in the entertainment district. As noted a few days ago by a friend, empty storefronts in recently thriving areas of Montgomery lead one to think we are in the midst of a full-blown depression in certain parts of the city seemingly ignored, while the emphasis is placed on the value of downtown development.

As similarly required in planning our personal budgets, those elected to manage city governments must prioritize spending - identifying “wants versus needs” - and many times have to make extremely difficult decisions for the future viability of our city. Unfortunately, I’m afraid that spending on our “wants” has taken precedence over the “needs” and our city is financially in a far worse position than our elected officials want us to believe.

For those of us who subscribe to a more limited role of government, there is a difference between fostering an environment conducive to the growth of business and city government heavily funding economic development

activity at the expense of essential government services such as police, fire, and emergency responders. I also have to wonder just how much unnecessary spending is categorized under the guise of “economic development” as that term is so easily sold as “job creation.”

If you’re a taxpayer and a voter in Montgomery County, you simply must pay attention to the economic policy decisions at our local level because future decisions regarding Montgomery’s debt will impact your family whether or not you live within the city limits.

Why? Primarily because the idea of an “occupational tax” as a solution never seems very far off the table and remains a crucial issue for voters. There’s simply something wrong in a so-called free society when elected officials think collecting a tax for having an occupation is a positive idea, and to paraphrase State Senator Dick Brewer, an occupational tax is the sign of a struggling and perhaps even dying city. But unless voters educate themselves prior to next year’s city elections, we may well face that tax as the current mayor is absolutely in favor of it and current city council members tend to waffle regarding their support or opposition. Haven’t enough residents already left our city and county for other areas because of problems with our public school system or crime? Are we willing to allow yet another tax add to the exodus from our county?

Montgomery is a city rich in history and I encourage and applaud those who invest in our Capital City. But when one geographical area becomes the spending priority of our city leaders over other vital parts of the city, we run a serious risk of further eroding our tax base as businesses and residents simply leave.

I can’t help but make the comparison between Montgomery and Mobile, another large city in our state dealing with its own financial struggles - perhaps it’s the Alabama version of “A Tale of Two Cities.” But the difference in leadership is glaring - one recognizes the critical financial state of affairs and is proactively addressing them; the other one keeps telling us that all’s well.

Marcia Chambliss is the Alabama State Coordinator of Smart Girl Politics, a 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to the education and training of activists and candidates, and Smart Girl Politics Action, <http://sgpaction.com>, a 501(c)(4) which focuses on conservative issues. She can be reached at: Marcia@sgpaction.com. Her views do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Smart Girl Politics Action.

2014 General Election November 4, 2014

Last Day to Register to Vote
October 20, 2014

Last Day to Apply for an Absentee Ballot
October 30, 2014

Absentee Ballot Hand-Delivery Deadline
November 3, 2014

Absentee Ballot Postmark Deadline
November 3, 2014

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Thank you for the tremendous support thus far in our campaign for State Senate. We've worked hard to reach this point and with your help we can finish strong on November 4th.

Elections are important and this election is no different. The future leaders of our state will be selected and it is incumbent upon us to be informed and exercise our right to vote in honor of those that have fought to gain and protect our freedom.

I look forward to serving all the citizens of Alabama State Senate District 30 to bring a strong fiscal foundation to our state in order to provide jobs, better education, and a strong, pro-family state government. God bless you, the great state of Alabama, and these United States of America!

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Ronald A. Holtsford



WHAT IS THE PLACE OF SHARIA LAW IN THE UNITED STATES?

There is no reason for any foreign law to contradict, circumvent or supersede the laws of the United States or the laws of the independent states. However, there are times when international laws should be considered.

Within the United States, Article IV, Section 1 is often referred to as the "Full Faith and Credit Clause" of the United States Constitution. This essentially means that acts that fall legally within the laws of one state are recognized in any other state. If a marriage takes place in another state then that marriage is accepted as being legal in another state if it met the requirements of the law where the marriage took place. This then allows that couple that now resides in another state to seek a divorce, etc. This is true even if a couple is "common law" married in another state (that it was legal in) when the state they now reside in does not recognize "common law" marriage. As one law professor said in lecture, even if a couple are "common law" married there is no "common law" divorce.

This then brings about the question as to whether a couple married in a foreign country (including one that practices Sharia law) might be divorced or even the marriage annulled as residents of the United States. Whether or not we may as a people not want to consider foreign laws, sometimes it is necessary. It would not be a matter of considering whether the procedure from the foreign country should be used to grant a divorce or annulment but whether that marriage in the foreign country is considered valid here.

In 2011, the Center for Security Policy published, "Shariah Law and American State Courts",

(http://shariahinamericancourts.com/wpcontent/uploads/2011/06/Sharia_Law_And_American_State_Courts_1.4_06212011.pdf)

which gave an overview of Sharia law and a factual background regarding the proceedings of several cases in which Sharia law was inappropriately considered. Most of these were at the trial court level and were reversed at the appellate level. Most of the cases dealt with family law and a few with contract law. Much of the problem arose because the parties used Sharia law as a context for disputes, but when it was brought to an American Court, the Sharia components were not in line with American family law, contract law, etc. As an example, a Washington State appellate case from 2010 involved a Sharia pre-nuptial agreement called a mahr. The agreement was in Farsi, which the husband signed but could not read nor understand. Though the trial court found the mahr enforceable the appellate court found it was not, as it lacked important components under Washington State contract law.

I have had a few Islamic clients and, while I am Christian, I have a duty to assist all clients and to consider as much as possible a respect of their individual beliefs. As a for instance when assisting a businessman that is Islamic, they do not pay or charge interest. So it may be necessary to consider how he or she may conduct business or purchase or lease a building.

While a part of Sharia law is in fact considered law, much of it is also a set of beliefs. In the past many years Sharia banking has become available for Muslims

living in Western countries. A person practicing Islam might therefore contact a bank that provides for Sharia banking in order to buy a home. Because a Muslim would not pay interest they are left with the prospect of paying cash for a home or using some means that does not conflict with their beliefs. One method might be to have the bank purchase the home, add a profit to the purchase price (the profit is not itemized to the buyer) and the buyer allowed to make installment payments. However, this also means that there cannot be late fees so the bank must make allowance for that should it occur while protecting the interest of the bank.

I have been doing a historical read through the Bible in one year and recall some interesting verses under Mosaic law. Deuteronomy 23:19 says, "You shall not charge interest on loans to your brother, interest on money, interest on food, interest on anything that is lent for interest." Deuteronomy 15:1 says, "At the end of every seven years you shall grant a release". For many reasons such laws are no longer practiced, especially the law concerning Jubilee (release of debt after every seven years). Such reasons include all twelve Jewish tribes not living together or the Sanhedrin no longer existing. While such laws are not an issue in America it would be interesting how those following Mosaic law might adapt to follow United States laws.

I think that much of the concern is that Sharia Courts or ruling bodies might become available to those that wish to adhere to it within the United States and that it may influence or circumvent the laws of the Federal and State governments. The above-mentioned report suggests that Sharia law has already influenced several American Courts. Some of Sharia laws include criminal statutes, which are harsher than what the Constitution allows. Civic groups or Christian churches have their own governance and set of laws; however the laws of the several States and the Federal government supersede those laws whenever they come before a civil or even criminal court.

As an attorney I attempt to respect each client's customs or beliefs and counsel them regarding the law and whether such beliefs are in conflict with the law. If there is a conflict then we will attempt to find a solution that allows them to adhere to their beliefs but to fall within the applicable laws.

If you have a conflict with laws you should seek the counsel of an attorney. The Alabama State Bar has a referral service or you may seek an attorney through other means.

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 exist.

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

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NOVEMBER 4, 2014



EXERCISE YOUR FREEDOM NOVEMBER 4



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A PROPOSAL FOR UNFAIR JURIES

Several of my recent columns have been devoted to concerns about the impact of cultural differences on law. Those columns have recognized that the legal system, as it existed, particularly in the South, was a factor in our creating different cultural systems based on race. Unfortunately, the legal system itself discouraged black participation. The exclusion of blacks from the system and mistreatment of blacks by the system resulted in lack of support for the legal system in the black culture. The legal system itself necessitated totally different social structures and institutional structures and reinforced the cultural differences. The segregated institutions included schools, churches and other community organizations. We pointed out in earlier columns that because a working legal system is a prerequisite for economics, the cultural differences can have an adverse impact on economic development.

Desegregation did not eliminate the cultural differences. The remedies provided by the Voting Rights Act created a quilt pattern of segregation in which predominantly black counties came to be governed by the cultural system that evolved because of slavery and segregation. There was continuity of the cultural institution that existed during segregation in those counties, and large scale elimination of influence of the white culture. This development did not usher the black population into the good life of America. Nowhere is the impact greater than in the court system itself. The differences that exist between predominantly black counties in Alabama and predominantly white counties with the regard to the prospects of jury verdicts in trials are extremely significant.

Forum shopping - choosing the county in which to file litigation - has become a way of life with the legal profession. A docket call in rural Macon County almost looks like a meeting of Alabama Bar Association. Litigation that can be filed in Macon, Bullock, and Lowndes counties has a far greater prospect of success for the plaintiff than if filed in Lee, Elmore, or Autauga counties. These significant differences are very difficult to justify in a country that prides itself on providing equal justice for all. To again paraphrase the French enlightenment philosopher Pascal, it is a strange justice that changes with the crossing of a river. (or traveling a few miles on the interstate)

As a practical matter, modern means of transportation and communication probably would justify redrawing county lines and eliminating a large number of counties. That action could promote efficiency and save a lot of money. While it might be totally impractical politically to attempt to revamp the configuration of counties, such a drastic step may not be necessary to solve the problem described here. It would be relatively simple to make much larger districts from which jury panels are chosen. Once the legal framework has been established, a computing program would do the rest. Modern transportation and communication could make the task easy. The State could be divided into ten or fifteen judicial districts and jury panels could be drawn from the entire district. District lines could be drawn to create proportional racial make-up. Jury panels, convened in the present court houses from such districts would provide a much more uniform jury for every case. That solution would be much more effective than the present system of evaluating every jury based on the Batson Case which requires race neutral reasons for jury strikes.

Revamping the system of jury selection for uniform results in jury trials is important, in and of itself. It would help assure equal justice for all. However, the secondary effects would likely be even more important. As previously mentioned the adverse economic impact of lack of uniformity in application of the law is significant. Law is a prerequisite of economics. By taking steps to assure a more uniformity in the black/white ratio on juries throughout the state could contribute materially to economic development in the state. It could help promote economic development in every county.

Celebrate Columbus Day - Monday, October 13, 2014

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY CRIME AND STUDENT SAFETY: WHAT EVERY PARENT SHOULD KNOW

Each summer most parents of college-bound students attend one or more college/university orientations where higher education institution officials showcase their broad selection of academic programs, highlight the prestigious scholarly awards earned by former students, take parents on tours of some of the prestigious athletic facilities, walk-throughs of attractive residence halls and/or apartments, boast of the recreational amenities and usually assure parents of the security measures provided to make a safe campus community for their son or daughter. Parents have probably given all of the usual lectures to their son or daughter about being careful, attending classes regularly, and to call home regularly to keep Mom and Dad satisfied that all is well.

Wherever a student chooses to attend a post-secondary education institution, especially away from their hometown, he/she will have freedoms they have never experienced. They will decide when they attend classes, when and where they go "out" with friends, when to go to bed, when or if they will study for classes and exams, if they will attend parties, if and how much alcohol they will consume and how much of Mom's and Dad's advice they take.

Higher education has proliferated since the 1950's at a rate which has often out-paced the ability of institutions to provide for all contingencies to include crime. Prior to the end of World War II with federal legislation paying for millions of veterans to attend college, these institutions were relatively small tranquil campuses sometimes referred to as "ivy-covered halls of academia" where students considered themselves immune from crime, violence and other personal threats. That changed along with the political and social unrest in our nation during the 1960's. Some campuses became fertile cultures for radical movements. The average age of college students rose with the influx of veterans. University administrations began to loosen the strict check in and check out times for residence hall students. Eventually, some institutions abandoned these restricted hours. Many campuses became more party oriented along with a significant increase in alcohol consumption, binge drinking, recreational drugs, casual sexual encounters, out-of-control behavior, and violence.

Recent media coverage has revealed what is believed to be another party and alcohol-related tragedy. A second-year student at the University of Virginia, Hannah Elizabeth Graham disappeared in the early morning hours of September 13. Hannah may have walked to the private residence which was near the campus of the University of Virginia. As this goes to print it will be nearing two weeks since she has been seen.

Hannah Graham's story is all too familiar. No college or university nor any student is immune from the negative impacts of excessive indulging of

alcohol. No college or university is immune from violence, especially date rape and gun violence. Statistics from the U.S. Department of Education reveal that sex crimes on our nation's college and university campuses increased by 51% from 2001 to 2011. According to the Alabama Criminal Justice and Information Center (ACJIC) in 2013 there were 12 rapes reported at the 26 colleges and universities which submit crime data. It should be noted that crime statistics at two of Alabama's largest universities, Auburn University and UAB, are not reported by those institutions to the ACJIC but through the local municipalities. However, the passage by Congress of a federal law known as the Jeanne Clery Disclosure Act of 1987 requires colleges and universities to report crime statistics to the U.S. Department of Education. This law was prompted by the parents of Jeanne Clery, a 19-year-old Lehigh College student raped and murdered in her dorm room in 1986.

Alabama A & M in Huntsville is one of the nation's top schools for violent crime. In a report done by the **Birmingham News** in 2012, between 2005 and 2010 Alabama A & M experienced 63 aggravated assaults, 29 robberies, and 16 sexual assaults. On June 9, 2012 the fatal shooting of three Auburn University students took place at an off-campus party.

Parents of all college and university students should be aware that their children cannot be guaranteed to be kept safe and free from crimes of violence. Most institutions have initiated measures to better secure their campuses. Yet, safety is a shared responsibility. Students should always be accompanied by one or more other students particularly when out at night whether on or off campus. Never drink to excess, have a competent designated non-drinker to help keep one another from over-indulging. Make wise choices on where, when and what activities are attended. Simply by passing up a party where there is a pattern of binge drinking, unwanted sexual behavior and any kind of violence is among considerations for today's college students.



Dr. David Nichols, Ed. D.

is a retired education administrator and a law enforcement leader. He has served at every level of K - 12 Education and in several roles at the university level. He is a graduate of the prestigious FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia. He served on two local school boards and earned the "Master Level" School Board member awarded by the Alabama Association of School Boards. Dr. Nichols has published widely in both careers.



Inside the Statehouse

with Steve Flowers



Steve Flowers is Alabama's leading political columnist. His column appears weekly in 72 Alabama newspapers. Steve served 16 years in the state legislature. He may be reached at www.steveflowers.us

When Guy Hunt won the Governor's race over Bill Baxley in 1986 it was well publicized that he was a part-time Primitive Baptist preacher. He was also billed as a part-time Amway salesman. These common man vocations appealed to the average Alabama voter. It was Hunt's calling as a Baptist preacher that resonated warmly with his constituency. Alabamians are very religious and very Baptist.

Hunt had done surprisingly well as governor for four years and turned back Paul Hubbert's Democratic challenge for his reelection to a second term in 1990. He worked hard to have an agenda and get some of it accomplished. He had a reasonable expectation of accomplishment.

During much of his first term the state legislature languished in the throws of a war over tort reform. Alabama was a plaintiff trial lawyer's paradise. Trial lawyers were getting unheard of fairyland judgments out of some of our rural counties. We were labeled "Tort Hell" by **Time Magazine** and it caught on. We were in the national spotlight again.

Hunt was solidly on the side of business, against the plaintiff lawyers. Hunt was diligent to court pro business legislators and even though he did not grasp all the intricacies of state government or budgets he was good at generalities.

However, Hunt had one Achilles heel that he should have avoided. He was prideful. Hunt was under the illusion that he had been elected governor on his own. He was not aware of the old Wallace adage that more Alabamians vote against someone than for someone. That was definitely the case in Hunt's election. They did not know who Guy Hunt was. They were simply so mad at the Democratic Party for haughtily handpicking Bill Baxley over Charlie Graddick, when Baxley did not get the most votes, they would have voted for Mickey Mouse.

As a preacher Hunt should have known the old proverb, "pride goeth before a fall." He had become careless and had never had any personal money. His salary as governor was the most money he had ever made in his life and he got greedy. Hunt used the state airplane to make trips to churches around the country and kept the offerings given to him for personal use. This was a violation of the Ethics Act.

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Old Fob James had an unusual political personality. When he was out of the Governor's office he showed a tremendous yearning to get back. The proof is he sought the office in 1986 and lost in the Democratic primary and lost again in 1990 in the primary. However, he came back and won in 1994 as a Republican. However, once he got the job he acted as if he did not want it.

As mentioned a few weeks earlier, Fob set a new standard for alienating his friends and supporters during his first term from 1978-1982. If you were his friend or supporter he refused to even see you. He seemed a little detached during his first term. However, if you think he fumbled his first term, "you ain't seen nothin' yet," because the second term was a nightmare.

Fob seemed completely out of focus during his second term and gave the appearance that he was completely uninterested in being governor. He made multiple mistakes right out of the gate and seemed to not really care. By mid-term it was assumed that whoever ran against Fob would beat him. When polls indicated this to be true, Don Siegelman made the decision to pull the trigger.

Siegelman had been elected lieutenant governor in 1994 as a Democrat and now saw his chance to grab the brass ring. In the 1990 Governor's race Siegelman ran second to Paul Hubbert in the Democratic primary, this being his only defeat. Hubbert, who now had two losing battles under his belt, one in 1990 and again in 1994, would not be a candidate again.

Siegelman, who had been secretary of state, attorney general, and currently lieutenant governor, focused on being elected governor in 1998. He started running hard and scared off any major Democratic opposition. He out-distanced Birmingham lawyer Lenora Pate 85% to 15% in the Democratic primary, even though she received lots of editorial support.

Fob was not so lucky in his GOP primary. The Democrats were not the only ones who were disenchanted with Fob and sensed his vulnerability. However, Fob had the religious right wing of the Party in his corner because he had done their bidding.

Winton Blount III had been toiling in the Republican Party vineyards for a decade. He had plenty of time as his father, Red Blount, had made his son wealthy by birth. Winton III took his father's millions and went after Fob with a

A very Democratic and ambitious Attorney General, Jimmy Evans, went after Hunt with a vengeance and impeached him in the middle of his second term. Lt. Governor Jim Folsom Jr. moved up to governor in 1992. Folsom quickly went to work to get elected governor on his own. He got along well with the Democratic legislature. He passed bold incentive tax abatements to lure Mercedes.

The plan we offered Mercedes to come to Alabama was generous. Most national business publications said we simply bought the plant. Regardless of how we got them here, Folsom got the credit. We did receive a lot of positive reaction from mainstream national media. It made us proud that this premier automaker chose Alabama for its largest plant. Folsom seemed in good shape to be elected governor in 1994.

Paul Hubbert was itching for another shot at the brass ring and entered the Democratic Primary against Folsom. It was a tough and expensive primary, but Folsom prevailed. He was ready for battle in the general election. Guess who was coming to the battle, old Fob James, who had been elected governor as a Democrat in 1978 even though most people knew he was really a Republican. He ran a strong third in the Democratic Primary in 1990, receiving mostly conservative votes.

The Republicans had by now elected a governor and were holding primaries. Fob decided it was time that he came out of the closet and came home. Fob James was the Republican nominee to face Folsom in the November general election.

Just like four years earlier when Hubbert had been weakened in a Democratic brawl between Siegelman, Fob, and Flippo, Folsom was weakened by Hubbert's challenge. He had to start raising money all over again. However, it looked like Folsom would still win. He was favored and polls showed him winning with five days left.

However, when the votes were tallied, Fob had pulled off an upset razor thin victory. The margin of his win was less than one point. Regardless of how close it was Fob won the 1994 Governor's Race. Fob had won a second term as governor. He would become the first and probably only person in state history to be elected governor both as a Democrat and as a Republican.

September 24, 2014

vengeance. He cornered the moderate wing of the Republican Party and spent millions on media trying to corral conservative independents into the Republican primary. This worked to some extent. It was a tough 50/50 race, but Fob edged out a victory in a tough runoff primary that split the Republican Party.

Fob was weakened and had spent all of the money he could raise. Fob was not a good fundraiser and although the religious right is big on talk they are small on giving and the business PACs could see the polling that showed Fob would lose in the fall. Winton's supporters never came home. The primary fight had been too bitter. Winton never even endorsed fellow Republican Fob.

Siegelman worked tirelessly. It was the chance for the job he had been working toward all of his adult life. He ran hard on a platform favoring a state lottery. When the votes were counted in November, Siegelman trounced Fob. Siegelman won the 1998 Governor's race and became one of only two Democratic governors in the south. Republicans had won in all of the other southern contested governor's races. Indeed, Alabama has not elected a Democrat as governor since the 1998 Siegelman victory.

October 1, 2014



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# Robservations...by Robert Tate

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

## TIME: THAT RELENTLESS B@#%H

*Over the past month or so, I have become acutely aware of two things. First, time is a relentless, non-caring force that will stop for nothing. Second, I realize that there are still some very small thinking people out there.*

### TIME: THERE IS A TIME FOR EVERYTHING

My wife and I just came back from visiting her family in Texas. While there, I really noticed how much older her family has gotten. It is not like I have never noticed age, but there was something different this time. Her mom seemed to be moving a lot slower, she seemed a bit distant which is unusual for her and yes, she slept a lot. Again, it is not like I have never noticed her age, but this time there was something palpable in the air. Even her house seemed really old. My brother-in-law lives with my wife's mom and even he was wearing the noticeable stamp of older age.

As I sat and watched everything around me, I would inevitably pick up the phone and call my dad. Not too long ago, I would call my dad and we often talked for over an hour. Keep in mind, I call my dad every day and sometimes two or three times. But over the past six months, I have noticed our conversations are getting shorter and shorter. His attention span has quickly diminished and unfortunately our discussions do not last more than a minute or two. The shortness of our conversations has certainly been evident but while sitting in Texas it became more worthy of introspection.

My dad has always had a fondness of the poem

#### THE RUBÁIYÁT OF OMAR KHAYYAM.

*There is a certain passage that reads:*

*"The Moving Finger writes: and, having writ,  
Moves on: nor all thy Piety nor Wit  
Shall lure it back to cancel half a Line,  
Nor all thy Tears wash out a Word of it."*

What the poem is saying to us is that we should strive to "get it right" the first time. In our lives, we all come to crossroads of decisions and we have to choose one of several paths. Once that choice is made, time, the old relentless one, dictates that there is no going back. There are no redo's and no "taking it back." Once the moving finger writes, having written, no amount of tears can undo that choice. That is not to say that we cannot recover, make good our bad decisions, or get our lives back on the right track, but it does say we have to live with the consequences of our decisions.

As I think about my family approaching the next level of our lives, I think about my brother who just told me he has the beginnings of arthritis in his neck from a lifetime of golf and racquetball coupled with football while we were growing up. My dad sits in a wheelchair with no legs because he ignored wounds that sprung from injuries he sustained in service to this country in Korea. My sister has her set of issues and with my wife's family as well. Although both relatively healthy, my wife and I continually fight our own age related battles joyful in the knowledge that God, in His Word, continues to help us as we stand in our faith. Yes, time is relentless and she continues to march on. I think **Ecclesiastes 3:1-9** is the perfect treatise on the concept of time. When we are young and supposedly invincible, rarely do most of us think of such things. Trust me, if someone today told me to take my airplane, line up behind a B-52 and take-off ten seconds behind it, I would have second thoughts about it. As a young Lieutenant however, it was cool to do such a stupid thing.

All I am saying is look at the words in the RUBÁIYÁT and think about the author's words. Look at the passage in Ecclesiastes and consider, as did Omar Khayyam, about doing it right the first time and when you do approach the end of the trail, you are not one of the many who are swimming upstream in a river of tears of regret and sorrow.

### TIME: HELLO PEOPLE, IT IS 2014

People who know me, know that I am NOT the guy who looks at everything through RACE-COLORED glasses. I don't. Never have and never will. But sheesh, people; c'mon. Within the last six weeks, I have been privy to such acts of racial stupidity (from both sides) that I just have to relate some of them here.

1. My wife and I went to the last showing of Mary Poppins at the Shakespeare Festival. We were sitting in our seats when an older white lady, and I am assuming her daughter, sat down next to me. From the beginning, it was obvious that she didn't want to sit next to me. Sitting, she had her back turned toward me and if I looked over at her, she would quickly look away as her daughter wore an expression of embarrassment. Right before the curtain went up, there were several open seats remaining and the lady and her daughter got up and moved to them. Come on, really?

2. Flying the B-717, I get the opportunity to fly into a lot of smaller regional airports. Well, the other day I flew into one (I won't mention which one) and when I pulled up to the gate, the jet was being driven by a black guy about 35 years old. I had seen him there the previous time I flew in there and when I went up to the gate area to pick up my flight plan, he and two black females were behind the counter. I took the paperwork and looked over my flight plan when I became aware of three sets of eyes staring at me. I looked up and asked them, "What?" Without skipping a beat, the guy says, and I quote, "We were just trying to figure out what you are." Wha-What?! I said that I was a "black guy from New Jersey"

(It is the blue-green eyes that throws folks off all the time) but then he answered, and again I quote, "Yeah, but you talk like a white boy." Immediately I looked out the window and saw my jet sitting on the ramp and at least I knew I had not been unceremoniously transported back to 1942. What do you say to that? Come on, really?

3. Last week, my pretty blonde first officer and I flew four days together. Yes, we got many a strange look going through the airport and strolling up to the gate to go fly. She even noticed and mentioned it to me a couple of times. "Did you see how those people were looking at us?" "Yeah." She got a kick out of it. On our way to the hotel one night, our black van driver started talking about Ferguson, Missouri and how the place was "going to explode" and how "we 'ain't seen nothin' yet." Then he ranted on about Ray Rice, Mike Tyson and Lord knows what else. In my mind, I'm thinking, "Okay conspiracy brother, lighten up. You are creeping us out back here." My copilot had this odd look on her face and I just motioned for her to ignore the tirade. Hey, we are in his van and he can kill us at any time. Let's live to fly another day. His anger and clear hatred was quite disturbing. Come on, really?

4. The other day I entered a hotel restaurant in Louisville wearing my uniform since I was getting ready to go fly. When I approached the hostess stand, the hostess, an older black lady, kinda looked me up and down. I said good morning and asked her how she was doing. She simply said, "Table for one?" I acknowledged, she led me to the table, put a menu down and simply said my server would be right with me as she walked away. Now when other people approached the hostess stand, I of course mean white people, she greeted them from 50 feet away. "Good morning. How are y'all doing today?" Very odd to say the least. To me it seemed as though she was acting out a 1930s or 1940s movie when the black people looked at other blacks as somehow acting "above our station." Think of how Tilly the maid acted toward Sidney Portier in Guess Who's Coming to Dinner. Now I have had evil looks from black folks before since my wife is Hispanic, but this was a new entry into my world of Robservations. Come on, really?

5. Lastly, the same morning as this breakfast ordeal, I was riding in the back of the jet going to Atlanta, in uniform, sitting next to an older white couple. Same thing as number, 1 above. You can just tell when someone is uncomfortable. Oh well. During the flight, the husband took out some photocopied articles and the wife, sitting between us, asked her husband to see one in particular. She took it and held it in such a way that I almost had to look at it. On the first page was a drawing of a dead black man sprawled on the ground with the words above him that said, "One Less Vote." It was an article about blacks being denied and I suppose eventually getting the right to vote. For whatever reason, she really wanted me to see what she was reading. Oh, brother. Come on, really?

All of these things have happened in just the past six weeks and I will be honest when I say I have gone years without any foolishness like this taking place. (Except the evil looks my wife and I get - - that is a daily occurrence when we go out in public). The whole point is the year is 2014 and way too many of us are still hung up on racial issues that should not matter. I remember being on Kevin Elkins' radio show one day promoting my first book about German fighter pilot Hans-Joachim Marseille. Within 15 minutes, the discussion turned to civil rights and MLK walking across the Edmund Pettis Bridge. During the break, I asked Elkins how in the heck his audience can twist a discussion from a German WWII fighter pilot to MLK. He just shook his head. I guess I realize some people simply live for this kind of stuff. Not me, life is too short to get hung up on this garbage. But I guess it is what it is. Just thought I would share some recent experiences with you guys. *Cheers.*







John Sophocleus

# THINK

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

## POLITICAL THEFT BY DECEPTION: ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL LOW-TURNOUT SPECIAL ELECTION TO EXTRACT FROM ALABAMA'S PRODUCTIVE CITIZENS

Just as the Republicans \$1.2 billion Amendment One (2003) proposal of significant increases for individual income tax payers, the sales tax, property tax, cigarette tax, corporate income tax, etc. **FAILED** 2 to 1 (defeating 'Spender of House' Mike Hubbard's full court press) on a GENERAL election ballot... the FIRST time this recently passed Lee County sales tax increase was voted upon it also met sound **defeat** of over 2 to 1. The *O/A News* reported 68.5% against with 13,000 votes cast on the November 2008 GENERAL election ballot, almost TEN times the turn-out of citizens who voted this month. 2008's reasonable sample of voters was not enough for politburo members on the Lee County Commission bent on extracting even more from productive citizens they are sworn to represent; the 1 cent (14%) sales tax increase was AGAIN put on the November 2010 general election ballot to fail 56% to 44% with over 9,000 votes recorded. In short, 2010 provided another respectable sample of Lee County voters to convey citizens' preference instead of the 4.5% 'theft by deception' turnout of registered voters in this month's special election. Dare I type the percent of eligible voters is even more abysmal?

Using the special election/low-turnout sham from the Armistead to Waggoner et al playbook, the Lee County politburo made sure they could impose their will over these past two wise decisions determined by a sound sample of Lee County citizens. Reports and inquiries I've made place spending something in excess of \$30,000 to put on the sham 'vote show' this month for politburo members to hide behind a 4.5% turn-out result claiming to 'let the citizens decide.' Another easy victory for soviet-style conservatives as Speaker Hubbard showed his big govt. minions how to game the system with low turnout special election sham results used to amend our State constitution in the 2012 theft of our trust fund by deception. As entertaining to watch all the politburo members stand and clap during state of union addresses in DC; it was equally entertaining to watch and read all the sycophants slobbering over one another in delight at plundering our trust fund with only 14% of registered voters saying yes to amend our State constitution. The more they effusively thanked the voters for an 'overwhelming show of support' the more pathetic the band of thieves appeared delighting in their successful theft by low turn-out deception. Some readers may recall we wasted \$3 million on that special election sham result because it couldn't wait 49 days to be on a general election ballot where it was likely to fail. It is time for our honest Senators on Goat Hill (Brewbaker, Holley, McGill, Reed, Sanford, Scofield, Ward, Whatley, et al small govt. conservative types) to again show their courage and statesmanship in crafting tight legislation and work with the House to stop political theft via this sort of deception.

The waste of resources to put the veneer on this sham vote was profound; countless folks asked why I had my "I Voted" sticker on my shirt, completely unaware (by design) of any vote that day. My favorite illustration comes from young Marine Brian Smith, active member of the Auburn Student Veterans Association (Graduate Adviser) currently completing his graduate work. He was curious why his polling place was open. His initial assumption was just another poorly planned and executed, waste of taxpayer funds. Nonetheless, he walked in to determine why the polling place was even open for voting since he lives in the middle of Auburn city limits - i.e., far from any unincorporated area of Lee County. Since he, nor any of his neighbors were eligible to vote on this issue, Brian wanted the answer to why it was open given the dearth of information about any voting that day. He found six paid election workers waiting for the polls to close after being told he was ineligible to vote by virtue of residing within city limits. Brian then asked the obvious: why open a location serving residents well inside the city

boundary? He found the reply dumbfounding; all six election staffers had been there all day (paid by the taxpayers) waiting for SEVEN possible voters. At 4.5% turn-out, one wonders if the one-third of a person rounded up to show.

The most revealing questions Brian asked illuminating this recent 'Theft by Deception' committed in Lee County were, "Why was a special vote held for the unincorporated area of the county to vote on a tax hike. Why couldn't this be placed on November ballots less than two months away from this special vote?" Ominously familiar to Hubbard's successful special election vote stealing \$437 million from our trust fund September 18, 2012. The rational forecast: this 'offensive' play will be run again and again by big govt. thugs throughout the State. Upon hearing the sham results of this sudden change to PASSING via special election theft by deception, this wise young Marine understood the enemy's playbook. He sent the following text, "Five percent turnout and the tax increase easily passed! My assumption of stupidity has now faded into suspicion of a clever maneuver by our elected officials to guarantee the result which they desperately wanted with no consideration for the waste of taxpayer funds or their voice."

Indeed a lot easier to get the politburo result desired when not informing the electorate of a vote and make sure your big govt. thugs pack the polls to carry the day with less than one in twenty registered voters participating. The Clarion Inn polling place in Auburn was also open the entire day to facilitate this political theft by deception tallying a whopping total of 18 votes. Sara Falligant at the *O-A News* also reported Probate Judge English as follows, "I think the commission chose because of (previous elections) to hold it as a special election," English said. "We could've done it in November, but we've done it twice, and you saw what happened." I guess when you have no worries about re-election in such an uncompetitive process 'public servants' can be in your face about how they're gaming the system. The sad thing is the deleterious spirit of Hubbard and his big govt. thugs has permeated this once wonderful county and these 'public servants' genuinely believe that if they successfully game the system, theft by deception of this sort is OK. We'll see if a Lee County Jury (hopefully not distorted like special election results) can/will discipline political theft of this sort.

I found Sheila Eckman the most adamant/despicable of the politburo refusing to accept the prior two votes against taking more from unincorporated areas, shamelessly shrilling about letting the citizens decide and saying it got lost and voters were confused when soundly defeating it the last two times. It doesn't really matter if she's too poorly educated to understand how foolish she sounds or doesn't understand arithmetic or genuinely believes this sham special election result was 'letting the citizens decide' in her mind, the deleterious result is the same. It is easy to get her big govt. extremist minions out to insure victory to transfer power and wealth in their favor instead of another reasonable sample of voters who may again stop this sort of abuse/manipulation of outcomes. How many of the 95% of registered voters who did NOT show even KNOW about the special election vote? All is fair to advance their god of bigger govt. and promote their cronies, but this abusive manipulation of the electorate must end or we'll become as backward as most of the other over-taxed counties in the US.

The one cent (14%) sales tax increase, estimated to extract another \$800,000 to \$1 million from taxpayers is earmarked to be split by the Lee County Sheriff's Office and the Lee County Recreation Board. Of course, anyone who understands fungibility/substitution effects knows the commission will simply direct less funding to the Sheriff's office in future budgets to engage in more mismanagement and cronyism to make the cry for

more tax increases again in a few years. Those who've read or heard me speak on the issue in the past know I would have voted for and supported the increase for sheriffs to define, enforce and allow the peaceful/voluntary exchange of property in our county - a legitimate function of county govt. -- but still voted NO under these election circumstances. PUT IT ON A GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT. In fact, this increase also takes more for Parks & Recreation (something which does not serve the general welfare and is best funded by specific user fees) so I would have continued to vote NO until bifurcated to vote on SEPARATELY. Look for more public finance games by the county political hacks to redistribute funds to their special interests over the general welfare after this theft result is forgotten.

When asked by Brian Smith how I'd respond my reply was, "the same as I have been." Just as the unconstitutional 1% Auburn income tax has stolen from me these last 22 years (and we can not vote for any of those taxing us) I'll have increasingly LESS to give to my church. We'll see if the increase to law enforcement makes the roads safe enough again to make unnecessary trips so I'll start donating platelets to cancer patients again. When the 14% sales tax increase (reported as 7 to 8 cents) is imposed next year we'll try to spend more at thrift stores to help the poor and buy more out of State/county so it will not further reduce my donations to the food bank, etc. I can only hope those like Mr. Foxworth touting to the *O-A News* about his, "daughter benefitted from Smiths Station's recreational facilities, and now plays softball for Smiths Station High School. She hopes to one day play college softball. That rec built her to be a part of Smiths Station's softball team," will donate to our food bank I think more important than subsidizing his daughter's softball.

It wouldn't be a true Hubbard playbook 'offense' without some "the children, the children!" rhetoric, so Smiths Station Mayor Lafaye Dellinger 'voiced strong words' in support of the proposal to make it complete. The *O-A News* quoted her with, "I hope to God it doesn't fail, because it says to me that people in this community don't care about the children," Dellinger said. "...I value the kids and what they mean to us. They are our future." Same old tired rhetoric from those who've made government their god. Sadly, more of these children may be too saddled with debt, taxes and a contracted economy to know the joy of being less dependent on others and successful enough to give voluntarily (without the hegemony of taxes) to their church, the sick, the hungry as I was taught and have done.

**Postscript:** I'd be remiss to close without wishing the *Alabama Gazette* a very blessed 15th Anniversary as she remains a courageous "Voice of Reason" in our State to shed Light upon those of ill-spirit written above attempting to envelope us in darkness. Honored to be a *Gazette* writer for a third of those years. I'll again ask all those who write/tell me they do not agree with me for forgiveness. I do not write seeking agreement, but to provoke thought as charged by the column's moniker Loretta assigned. One of the many lessons I've learned from Jesus' teachings is those trying to follow His path to our heavenly Father will often be looked upon poorly by others in our struggle toward righteousness. Jesus was not looking for agreement from corrupt clergy, nor moneychangers, nor Herod, et al. I've read nothing to suggest He expected agreement from Pilate, nor forecasted he would 'do right' in the end but nonetheless had to provide the opportunity for Pilate and others to change their path. An integral part of the process is to first THINK about what one may do which will shepherd you towards the path Jesus Christ shown to the world. May God grant the Gazette many more years applying His word advancing the Holy Spirit to address our modern problems with the Wisdom of many ages past.



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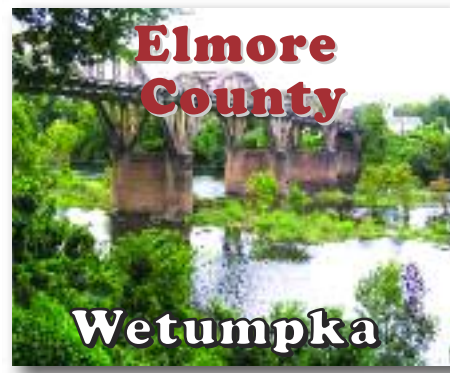
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# The Education Station...By Bobbie Ames

## WHAT IS AN AMERICAN, THIS NEW MAN IN WORLD HISTORY?

Patrick Henry, speaking in the Continental Congress, 1774, declared; "The distinctions between Virginians, Pennsylvanians, New Yorkers, and New Englanders are no more. I am not a Virginian, but an American."

In a letter to Rufus King, Alexander Hamilton expressed these same convictions. "We are laboring hard to establish in this country principles more and more national and free from all foreign ingredients, so that we may be neither 'Greeks nor Trojans' but truly Americans."

In his Farewell Address, George Washington addressed the same sentiment."The name of American, which belongs to you in your national capacity, must always exalt the just pride of Patriotism. . ."

Indeed the American of 1776 and following, was a New Man. In courage, conviction, and sacrifice, he had declared that the Spiritual is Supreme.

That very first Principle of Americanism, declared in the Declaration of Independence, that all men are CREATED. . . endowed by their CREATOR. . .

Therein lies the First Principle: The Spiritual is Supreme.

The Founding Fathers knew that the First Principle of America was religious in nature. Man is of divine origin and his spiritual nature is of supreme and eternal value to his Creator. His governmental philosophy rests on this First Principle. Never before in all of history has a governmental philosophy rested on the Brotherhood of Man under the Fatherhood of the Triune God. Only in a right relationship with God to man, can man live in the right relationship with God and his fellow man.

As we look deep into the First Principle that the Spiritual is Supreme, we see the duty of everyman to live under God's Moral Laws, to recognize the absolutes that are binding upon all men at all times, under all circumstances. As we understand the remarkable heritage of Civil and Religious Liberty in this light, we see that we will never enjoy these liberties without taking the responsibilities that accompany them. The spiritual heritage cannot be separated from the responsibility of the accompanying stewardship. That stewardship should consider as paramount the protection of these God-given unalienable rights that were the very heart of the Declaration of Independence.

In all the writing and journals of the founding period of America, our forefathers rejected all ideas, theories, and schools of thought, that failed to affirm God as man's Creator, and the sole source of his rights. Government's role was to protect those rights.

Essential in the structure of our federal system was that the proposed federal government would have strictly limited powers, and would not be permitted to have any jurisdiction or power in regard to religion. In the following years, there would be a First Amendment to prohibit Congress from making any law "respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof." The Founding Fathers' conviction: Every man has supreme value because he has been created by God, and his value has been set by his Creator. Therefore, the government must rest upon this Truth: The Spiritual is Supreme.

### Principle Two: Fear of Government - Over Man

In the "Kentucky Resolutions" by Thomas Jefferson, there is this warning: "In questions of power, then, let no more be heard of confidence in man, but bind him down from mischief by the chains of the Constitution."

In Washington's Farewell Address, he speaks of the unity of government which has been built on that very first Principle - that the Spiritual is Supreme. He declares, "Interwoven as is the love of Liberty with every ligament of your hearts...The unity of Government which constitutes you one

people is also now dear to you. It is justly so, for it is a main pillar in the edifice of your real independence; the support of your tranquility at home; your peace abroad; of your safety; of your prosperity; that very real Liberty which you so highly prize. But it is easy to foresee that from different causes and from different quarters, much pains will be taken, many artifices employed to weaken in your minds the conviction of this truth; as the point in your political fortress against which the batteries of the internal and external enemies are most commonly and actively (though often covertly and insidiously) directed It is of infinite moment that you should properly estimate the immense value of your national union to your collective and individual happiness. . . The name of American, which belongs to you, in your national capacity, must always exalt the just pride of Patriotism, more than any appellation derived from local discriminations. With slight shades of differences, you have the same Religion, Manners, Habits, and Political Principles. You have, in a common cause, fought and triumphed together."

One of Washington's best known admonitions is this one: "Of all the dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, Religion and Morality are indispensable supports. In vain would that man claim the tribute of Patriotism who should labor to subvert these great Pillars of human happiness; these firmest props of the duties of man and citizens." Farewell Address, Sept. 17, 1796.

Fear of government is a valuable lesson of history. The mixture of good and evil is in the heart of man. The resulting abuse of power, the injuries to individual and collective liberties, are predominate in the history of every nation and culture. Would America be able to overcome the sin nature of man being prominent and dominant in the new government? What was the challenge to the American, this New Man?

J. Hector St. John de Crèveoeur, a French immigrant, who became a New York farmer, wrote essays in 1782, which were compiled in "*Letters From A New York Farmer*." He describes the New Man, the American in this light; "He is an American, who leaves behind him all his ancient prejudices and manners, receives new ones from the new mode of life he embraced, the new government he obeys, and the new rank he holds . . . The American is a new man, who acts upon his principles; he must therefore entertain new ideas, and form new opinions. From involuntary idleness, servile dependence, penury, and useless labor, he has passed to toils of a different nature, rewarded by ample subsistence. . .This is an American."

An entire educational system has been built in America, from the days of the Pilgrims and Puritans, up to the 20th century. A system of Biblical Principles were used as the foundation for all knowledge. Dominant in early America, these principles are now only used in a few hundred Christian schools and Home Schools today. Every child is viewed and educated as uniquely Created by God, building on God's Principle of Individuality and Covenant Promise. These schools are zealous for the safety of individual liberty, treasure their God given unalienable rights. The true American today recognizes government's overreach, and the secular religion in government schools.

We understand the wisdom of fearing government. We have seen what Washington meant when he spoke of the "love of power and the proneness to abuse it." We have seen officials' human weakness and love of power, and we have also seen the corresponding weaknesses in the people themselves.

We are inspired by the thinking of unalienable rights, but do we always cleave to the Moral basis from which they are derived?

Government at all levels was created to be the tools for preserving these liberties, the means of securing these rights for future generations. The checks and balances of national, state, and local

representation, the boundaries of property rights, parental rights, even our most private and personal decisions invaded - all have eroded American culture, erasing even the memory of our Birthright for recent generations. This is the challenge of Education today, and of the Christian Church, and the family altar.

As a long time teacher of American History, I was always so inspired by Washington. In his first Inaugural Address, he was addressing each and every generation, referring to the Republican model of government. His admonition includes these words: "the preservation of the sacred fire of liberty, and the destiny of the Republican model of Government, are justly considered as deeply, perhaps as finally staked, on the experiment entrusted to the hands of the American people."

In order to protect these unalienable rights given by God, the Founding Fathers recognized that there was responsibility that accompanies every single liberty. There is no "just power" in the world that can morally violate these rights. To be the new man, The New American, each individual at the time of the new Constitution, consented to his own limitations to some degree, in order to secure these unalienable rights.

Elbridge Gerry, writing in 1788, affirmed this in these words, "All American writers on government agree. . . that the origin of all power is in the people, and that they have an incontestable right to check the creatures of their own creation, vested with certain powers to guard the life, liberty, and property of the community. . ."

Limited government was their passion. Alexander Hamilton in Federalist 78, wrote; "The executive holds the sword. . . the legislative commands the purse. . . the judiciary has no influence over either the sword or the purse. Liberty can have nothing to fear from the judiciary alone, (as usurpers) but would have everything to fear from its union with either of the other departments . . ." (in usurping power)

The importance of the national government being decentralized and limited in power, and the careful balance of the greater power in the states, and that limited as well, demonstrates the genius of the Founding Fathers, and their clear understanding that the Spiritual is Supreme. The Protestant Reformation had brought the light of liberty to these shores. Dr. Joseph Warren, one of the GREATS of that generation, wrote in an Oration on March 5, 1772, in Boston, ". . . this eternal truth that public happiness depends on a virtuous and unshaken attachment to a free constitution." And in his state's Massachusetts Bill of Rights, 1780, is this affirmation, "As the happiness of a people and the good order and preservation of civil government essentially depend upon piety, religion, and morality."

And since I am a history teacher, let me add Jefferson's words in closing, "Through education of the young in public schools, the first elements of morality too may be instilled in their minds. . . may teach them how to work out their greatest happiness, by showing them that it does not depend on the condition of life in which chance has placed them, but is always the result of a good conscience, good health, occupation, and freedom in all good pursuits." (Notes on the State of Virginia, 1782) .

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Reference: The best book on the subject of America's Governmental Philosophy, as a study guide, is by Hamilton Albert Long, and titled, Your American Yardstick, published in 1963, by Your Heritage Books, Philadelphia.

Information on Biblical Principle Approach Education is available from at least a dozen wonderful foundations, including the Foundation for American Christian Education, Chesapeake, Virginia (www.face.net); as well as individual Principle Approach Schools, such as Emerald Mountain Christian School, locally.



THE TECHNOLOGY MINUTE

Travis McGough, MCP, MCTS, Security+, CNP



I THINK I HAVE A VIRUS!

I hear these words often: “I think I have a virus!” But how can you know for sure? In this month’s article, I’m going to give you some tips to help you figure out if you do have a virus (or some other type of **malware**) and what to do if your computer is infected. But first, let me clarify some of the computer lingo and jargon that the average person may not understand when it comes to “computer viruses.” People often use the term “computer virus” to indicate that they believe their computer is infected with some sort of malicious program that should not be there. While this may be the case, the correct terminology is actually “**malware**.” A computer virus is but one form of computer malware. A computer may or may not actually be infected with adware, spyware, a worm, a rootkit, a botnet, or a trojan. All of these fall under the category of **malware** which, according to Webster’s Dictionary, is “software designed to interfere with a computer’s normal functioning.” So you might have a virus, but you might also have one of the other forms of malware.

But what is the best way to check and see? I would start by using a good anti-virus program (which are all really anti-malware programs) to scan your computer. If you do not currently have an anti-virus program installed on your machine, then I recommend you either get the free version of Avast or download the 30-day trial of Kaspersky. Once it is downloaded and installed, be sure to run updates for the program so that it can have the latest list of definition files (which the program uses to reference code against known malware). Then I would do a “full” or “complete” computer scan and wait for the results. If the program finds anything, then I would follow the prompts given to disinfect and/or quarantine the problems that it finds. Next, you can download the free version of Malware-

bytes’ Anti-malware. Update that program once it is installed, and then run a full/complete scan of your computer with it. Follow the prompts that it gives.

You should now know with a high amount of accuracy whether your machine is infected with a form of malware. If you are infected, then hopefully the infection was removed by the tools that you used. If you still find yourself having problems or the infections persists, then I recommend that you get a computer specialist to take a look and see about cleaning your machine.

Below are a few additional tips:

1. Purchase anti-virus programs through Amazon where the cost is usually half that of the vendor’s website.
2. Always run some sort of anti-virus program. If money is tight, then I recommend Avast’s free version. If you can spare \$30 a year, then I highly recommend Kaspersky’s products.
3. The free anti-virus program that Microsoft provides with Windows (Security Essentials / Windows Defender) have poor reputations for stopping and removing malware, so I would avoid them.
4. URLs for the products mentioned in this article:
 - Avast: www.avast.com
 - Kaspersky: www.kaspersky.com
 - Malwarebytes: www.malwarebytes.org

Travis is a graduate of Auburn University at Montgomery where he studied Business Administration with an emphasis in technology management. He has been helping people to better understand their computers and technology for over ten years. He can be reached at travis.mcgough@gmail.com.



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TRICK, DON'T TREAT, CYBER CRIMINALS

Kids and kids at heart look forward to the end of October, when we use tricks and treats in equal measure to celebrate Halloween. No doubt, you’ll be passing out treats to costumed hobgoblins and hooligans in your neighborhood this Halloween night. But be careful that you’re not fooled by a different kind of trickster looking for a larger handout—such as your identity.

October also is Crime Prevention Month and National Cyber Security Awareness Month. So it is the perfect time to remind you to safeguard your personal information—whether it’s online, on paper, or given out in person. Don’t share your personal information, such as your full name, date of birth, mother’s maiden name, and your Social Security number, with anyone unless you are certain it is safe. Shred paperwork that includes personal information before throwing it out. And never reply to emails claiming to be from Social Security and asking for such information.

Finally, don’t carry your Social Security card or number with you. These tips should help reduce your risk of identity theft.

Identity theft is one of the fastest-growing crimes in America. If you think you’ve been the victim of an identity thief, you should contact the Federal Trade Commission at: www.ftc.gov/bcpl/edu/microsites/idtheft. Or you can call 1-877-IDTHEFT (1-877-438-4338); TTY 1-866-653-4261.

Learn more about identity theft by reading our publication, *Identity Theft And Your Social Security Number*, available at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs. Be cautious of tricksters trying to steal more than a sack of candy. Being the victim of identity theft can be horrifying. Enjoy the treats, but avoid the tricks.

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Years later, after tasting pinot noir from around the world and making several trips to Burgundy, he and his wife Lil purchased the best fruit available and bottled their first pinot noir in 1997. Mac's personal vision to become a winemaker had finally been realized.

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From left to right wearing his trademark overalls: Vintner Mac McDonald, executive chef Rob McDaniel and restaurant manager and sommelier Sam Fonte
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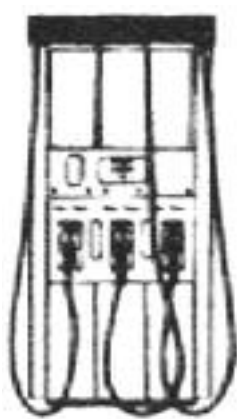
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**Sports Editor,
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MEMORIES

“Pressed between the Pages of Our Minds”

In the spring of 1955, a new high school was being born on Ann Street in what was then East Montgomery. At the time, Sidney Lanier High School, which had been an intellectual bastion of excellence and an athletic power in the state of Alabama, was bulging at the seams, with over 2,000 students. This was somewhat confusing news to nineteen Lanier football players that would be eligible to transfer to the new school, which would be named Robert E. Lee High School. We had all grown up hoping to play football at Lanier, so there was some hesitation on our part as to what to do.

Some fellow by the name of **Tom Jones** had been hired by the Board of Education to be the head football coach. Frankly, none of us had ever heard of Coach Tom Jones. However, he had been a very successful coach at Hayneville High School in Lowndes County, a 1-A school in our 4-A classification system in Alabama. There he coached outstanding players like QB **Mac Champion**, FB **Wilber Supple** and HB **Todd Meadows**. It would not be long before we, along with every football fan in Alabama would be familiar with the name of Tom Jones.

Tom passed away recently at the age of 90. A great offensive mind is gone, but his influence remains. This is his story.

In the fall of 1954, **Coach Bill Moseley's** brother and assistant coach, **Doug Moseley**, was named head coach at Lanier. Bill had decided to go back to Kentucky to coach football. Doug was an All-American center and linebacker for **Coach Bryant** in 1950. This will be important to remember later in this story. He coached similar to his brother Bill, but with less personal interest in each player. This will also be important later in the story.

Most of the guys had heard little about the new school. We thought that it might be a small military school. My inclination was to stay at Lanier. That would change. **Coach Neal Posey**, the Lanier basketball coach had been named athletic director at Lee. Coach Posey called for a meeting of all Lanier football players that lived in the new school district that would serve Lee High School. That only involved nineteen players who were upcoming juniors and seniors. We had the choice to transfer or stay at Lanier, but we did not know enough about the choice to make that decision.

Our meeting with Coach Posey was held in the Lanier gymnasium in the spring of 1955. He told us that **Coach Jim Chafin**, the first year line coach at Lanier would be going to Lee also to coach the line and be the baseball coach. Coach Chafin was very well liked by the players. Posey did an excellent job of convincing the guys that Robert E. Lee would be a first class school and would have a first class football program. He told us that the senior class would be allowed to pick the colors, the nickname, the name of

the yearbook and the name of the school newspaper. He said that Coach Tom Jones wanted the colors to be dark red and white so that the offense could hide the ball better. We did not go against the wishes of the new coach at a later meeting where all of the above named decisions were made. All but four players agreed to transfer.

So, in the spring of 1955, fifteen “former” Lanier players put on brand new practice uniforms of the Robert E. Lee Generals. We met our new head coach for the first time in the dressing room where most of us had played junior high ball under Coach Kyle Renfroe. Renfroe had been offered the Lee job but decided to continue coaching at Capitol Heights Junior High School. However, he was very helpful to the new Lee Coaching Staff.

It was mentioned earlier that Doug Moseley was a consensus All-American football player. He was not really popular with the new Lee “recruits”. Only one of the players that transferred was a full time starter at Lanier. That was All-State left halfback Earl Mills, who would make All-American at Lee. We kind of thought that “Coach Doug”, as we called him, gave preferential consideration to the “Cloverdale and Baldwin Boys”. So, Coach Tom Jones won us over



Pete Poole, Dickie Waites, Tom Jones and Johnny Beasley

quickly with this opening remark, “Boys I don’t think you have to be an All-American to be a good football coach”. That was all he had to say. We were ready to go to work.

All of the spring practices were held at Capitol Heights. There was no grass and it was littered with cinders. There were lots of cinder cuts and skinned elbows that spring. The Lee field was still under construction. We would first put foot on the Lee practice field in August of 1955.

I was privileged to be one of fifteen young men who played both for Sidney Lanier and Robert E. Lee. So, that’s what Coach Tom Jones had to work with. Incoming sophomores from Capitol Heights helped, especially fullback Carl Hopson and center Billy Williams. Now, Coach Jones had seventeen players. Lee students who had never played football helped to provide enough depth for Coach Jones to record a 6-4 season that fall playing a big boy schedule. The only losses were to Ramsey, Phillips, Fairfield and Opelika.

Jones would only lose eight more times in the next ten years on the way to six state championships. That first team accounted for one-third of all his

losses at Lee. But, the foundation had been laid!

Tom Jones, who played for the great “**Hot**” **O’Brien** at Tallassee, would take over the duties of athletic director from Posey, who had taken a job outside of coaching. Someone had to replace Posey as basketball coach. **Coach Leon Ford** was picked for that job along with the duties of coaching the ends in football. **Coach George Peters** was selected to coach the “B” Team.

Tom Jones was known for his quick, fast offenses throughout a magnificent high school coaching career. Check out the following statistics:

7 yrs @ Hayneville H/S - 46 wins-16 losses-8 ties = 71.4%
11 yrs @ Robert E. Lee - 93 wins-12 losses-5 ties = 86.8%
18 yrs /H/S Coaching 139 wins-28 losses-13 ties = 80.8%

To put this into proper perspective, any coach at any level that wins 68% of his games is considered a great coach. Very few in the history of the game of football have won 86% of his games at any one school.

The Auburn alumni in Montgomery “encouraged” **Coach Ralph “Shug” Jordan** to hire Tom Jones as his offensive coach. Coach Jordan, like all success-



Coach Tom Jones and Auburn's First Heisman Trophy winner, Pat Sullivan

ful college coaches, was butt-headed and didn’t like alumni telling him what to do. So, he appealed most people by hiring Tom Jones as his freshman coach and full time recruiter. This occurred in the late 60’s when Auburn was in a slump of mediocrity. Auburn had lost five straight games to Alabama. Tom did a good job with each freshman class and recruited some excellent players to Auburn. His most famous class was the 1968 class that included a guy named Pat Sullivan and a guy named Terry Beasley. Tom might have taught them a thing or two, you think? Auburn beat Alabama in ‘69, ‘70 and ‘72.

With the success Tom had at Auburn, Troy came calling to see if Tom could get the Trojans out of a long slump. It did not work out for Tom or for Troy. Even though Troy was Tom’s alma mater it just was not a good fit. The Troy of today does not resemble the Troy that hired Tom Jones.

Getting a bit long in the tooth, and having been away from his wife Evelyn and his family so much, Tom decided to give up coaching and try the insurance business. Anyone that knew Tom could have predicted that the insurance gig was not going to work. That interfered too much with Tom’s passion for hunting and fishing, mainly hunting. He also found that to receive a full retirement from the state, he would need two more years in the Alabama Educational System. There just happened to be a coaching job open. Guess where? Robert E. Lee High School in Montgomery - he took it. After two years, Tom gave it up for good and retired to his beloved home in Lowndesboro, which he had kept through all the moves. He and Evelyn lived there peacefully for many years.

Occasionally, I would run into Tom at Cramton Bowl. We would sit there and discuss what we would have done differently, as Montgomery’s public high schools began to self destruct. Sometimes, I would meet Tom and Todd Meadows for breakfast at the only restaurant in Lowndesboro, or at his home. We didn’t go to his home often because our visits interfered with Tom’s “soap operas”.

Tom was always the offensive coach that I first met in the fall of 1955. But, like myself, he was finally satisfied to just talk about it, and not do it. He died in that same quiet, serene setting in Lowndesboro with Evelyn by his side.

The likes of his offensive mind we will likely never see again!



Outside Lowndesboro Home



FORMER LANIER PLAYERS WHO MADE UP THE NUCLEUS OF THE FIRST LEE HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM IN 1955
 10- Ed Jones QB/HB, 44- Jackie Spencer HB, 40- Ed Spencer HB, 32- Mickey Newman FB, 13- Cliff Little QB,
 20- Earl Mills HB, 75- Billy McNair T, 80- Charles Tatum E, 66- James Johnson G, 64- Judson Huett G,
 61- Charles Brophy G, 50- Durden Lee C, 82- Pat Garner E. Not pictured: Raymond Parker G and Rex Akin T.



★NEW this year
with the Gazette

**Steve
Long**

Woods & Waters with Steve

ALABAMA GAZETTE WELCOMES OUR NEW WRITER

*Hello everyone, my name is Steve Long, and I'm a life-long outdoorsman with a soft spot for turkey hunting! I enjoy just about every kind of hunting and fishing there is, especially with my four boys. I've even managed to get my wife of 29 years, Renee, to go along once or twice! They say do what you love, and that's exactly where I'm at. I own a couple of small businesses in Montgomery, I do guided hunts at Great Southern Outdoors, and I even co-host a hunting and fishing radio show, **Cast & Blast Outdoors**, with my partner Rob Newman! I also write every other week for the **Montgomery Advertiser**. But enough about me!*

In this article, I'd like to talk about competitive bird shoots; namely, quail and pheasant shoots. GSO hosts a quail hunting tournament as well as a continental pheasant shoot. First, we'll go over the quail tournament!

Quail season for some preservations, like GSO, runs from October 1st till March 1st, while the regular season runs from November 14th to February 28th.

Watching experienced dogs and guides work a field, flushing the quail, and taking a shot at them is an awesome hunting experience you can't get any other way. Being the social sport it is, quail hunting is very relaxed, with a great sense of camaradery and fellowship. The tournament is no different!



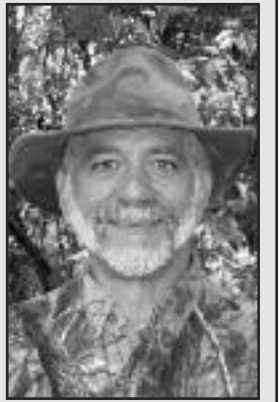
Teams of four show up on Thursday, and take some shots at shooting clays to warm up that afternoon. Friday, the show begins. The five teams will each make their way to their own field, and for about three and a half hours, they go for as many quail as

After writing this column for the past 7 years, I'm turning the reins over my longtime friend, Steve Long. I've known Steve since I coached him in Pee Wee football, back in the early 70's. Most of you have probably heard him on the radio. If you haven't, you need to. Steve is the co-host of **Cast and Blast**, which can be heard every Saturday morning on Sports Radio 740 from 7 - 9 am. He is also a guide at Great Southern Outdoors in Bullock County. He is an avid hunter and fisherman, and I know that he'll bring a great deal of outdoor knowledge to this column.

Zack Azar

★ Was with the Alabama Gazette for 7 years!

Zack,
Thank you
for 7 years of
providing great
hunting and fishing
information for
our readers.
May GOD bless
you and your
family.
Gazette staff



they can harvest. After a good lunch break, they head back out to the fields, rotating to the next field, making sure every team gets a fair shot at each field. With two rounds a day, the third day is when the tournament ends, with all the teams harvested birds being tallied, cleaned, and set up to be shipped home. Hey, quail makes for some good eating! The winners are announced that evening at a banquet, receiving any number of prizes, like ammo, gear, or even a new over-and-under shotgun! Of course, bragging rights still trump everything else!

If quail is a bit too slow-paced for your liking, you might be interested in a continental pheasant shoot! Unlike any other type of bird hunting, you're guaranteed to have shots at birds in this event. While pheasant isn't a native bird to Alabama, Derrick Deese of Deese farms stocks the birds for GSO, allowing the shoot to happen. That being said, it's not entirely out of the norm, as pheasants are pen-raised out west as well.

With a pre-set number of hunters, everyone takes a spot at a station, at the base of a hill. Atop the hill is a tower, from which the pheasants, 10 at a time, are released. After each round of 10, the shooters rotate to the next station. All in all, there are 300 pheasants released. One of those pheasants will be banded though, and named the Royal Rooster. A shooter who's lucky enough to get that wins big! Before the shoot, each shooter puts \$20 in a pot. The one who harvests the Royal Rooster wins the pot, so there's some added incentive to make every shot count. With all the action, it's pretty normal for a shooter to go through four to six boxes of shells for the event.

After the shooting's done, everyone heads to the lodge for a good meal and some bragging. The staff cleans and prepares the birds, splitting up all of the meat for everyone, so nobody goes home empty-handed.

Both of these events are very social, and show a sort of tradition that runs through a lot of the hunting we do in the state of Alabama. It's got a lot to do with bonding and making friendships that last a lifetime, while enjoying a sport that's been around for longer than we have, and will continue to be there for the generations that come after. I've lived my life hunting and fishing, and I've passed that on to my boys, who will one day hopefully pass it on to their kids. It's a passion that we can all share, no matter our background.



So from my family to yours, get out there and enjoy the Outdoors!

Enjoy the Outdoors... take your family and explore nature!



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Beavers are the largest living rodents in North America, with adults averaging 40 pounds in weight and measuring more than 3 feet in length, including the tail. These semi-aquatic mammals have webbed hind feet, large incisor teeth, and a broad, flat tail. Once among the most widely distributed mammals in North America, beavers were eliminated from much of their range in the late 1800's because of unregulated trapping. With a decline in the demand for beaver pelts, and with proper management, they became reestablished in much of their former range and are now common in many areas. Beavers are found where their preferred foods are in good supply along rivers, and in small streams, lakes, marshes, and even roadside ditches containing adequate year-round water flow. In areas where deep, calm water is not available, beavers that have enough building material available will create ponds by building dams across creeks or other watercourses and impounding water. "Busy as a beaver" as the old saying goes especially in autumn.

Beaver dams create habitat for many other animals and plants. In winter, deer and elk frequent beaver ponds to forage on shrubby plants that grow where beavers cut down trees for food or use to make their dams and lodges. Weasels, raccoons, and herons hunt frogs and other prey along the marshy edges of beaver ponds. Migratory water birds use beaver ponds as nesting areas and resting stops during migration. Ducks and geese often nest on top of beaver lodges since they offer warmth and protection, especially when lodges are formed in the middle of a pond. The trees that die as a result of rising water levels attract insects, which in turn feed woodpeckers, whose holes later provide homes for other wildlife. The beaver's incisors (front teeth) are harder on the front surface than on the back, and so the back wears faster. This creates a sharp edge that enables a beaver to easily cut through wood. Like many rodents, beavers construct nesting dens for shelter and for protection against predators. These may be burrows in a riverbank or the more familiar lodges built in the water or on the shore. Beavers eat the leaves, inner bark, and twigs of aspen (a favorite food), alder, birch, cottonwood, willow, and other deciduous trees. Beavers also eat shrubs, ferns, aquatic plants, grasses, and crops, including corn and beans. Coniferous trees, such as fir and pine, are eaten occasionally; more often, beavers will girdle and kill these trees to encourage the growth of preferred food plants, or use them as dam building material.

Beavers have large, sharp, upper and lower incisors, which are used to cut trees and peel bark while eating. The incisors grow their entire lives, but are worn down by grinding them together, tree cutting, and feeding. Fermentation by special intestinal microorganisms allows beavers to digest 30 percent of the cellulose they ingest. When the surface of the water is frozen, beavers eat bark and stems from a food "cache" (a safe storage place) they have anchored to the bottom of the waterway for winter use. They also swim out under the ice and retrieve the thick roots and stems of aquatic plants, such as pond lilies and cattails. Like many rodents, beavers construct nesting dens for shelter and for protection against predators. However, the basic interior design varies little and consists of one or more underwater entrances, a feeding area, a dry nest den, and a source of fresh air. Beavers flood areas for protection from predators, for access to their food supply, and to provide underwater entrances to their den. Flooded areas also wet the soil and promote the growth of favored foods. Beavers living on water bodies that maintain a constant level (e.g., lakes, large rivers) do not build dams. Dams are constructed and maintained with whatever materials are available wood, stones, mud, and plant parts. They vary in size from a small accumulation of woody material to structures 10 feet high and over 165 feet wide. The feel and sound of flowing water stimulate beavers to build dams; however, they routinely let a leak in a dam flow freely, especially during times of high waters. Beavers keep their dams in good repair and will constantly enlarge the dams as the water level increases in their pond. A family of beavers

" The Kritter Korner" "BEAVERS"

may build and maintain one or several dams in their territory.

In cold areas, dam maintenance is critical. Dams must be able to hold enough water so the pond won't freeze to the bottom, which would eliminate access to the winter food supply. Depending on the type of water body they occupy, beavers construct freestanding lodges or bank dens. Lodges and bank dens are used for safety, and a place to rest, stay warm, give birth, and raise young. Freestanding lodges are built in areas where the bank or water levels aren't sufficient for a safe bank den. Lodges consist of a mound of branches and logs, plastered with mud. One or more underwater openings lead to tunnels that meet at the center of the mound, where a single chamber is created. Bank dens are dug into the banks of streams and large ponds and beavers may or may not build a lodge over them. The bank dens may also be located under stumps, logs, or docks.

One family can have several lodges or bank dens, but will typically use only one den during winter. A mated pair of beaver will live together for many years, sometimes for life. Beavers breed between January and March, and litters of one to eight kits (average four) are produced between April and June. The number of kits is related to the amount of food available (more food, more kits), and the female's age. The female nurses the kits until they are weaned at 10 to 12 weeks of age. Most kits remain with the adults until they are almost two years old. (Some leave at 11 months and a few females may stay until they are three



years of age.) The kits then go off on their own in search of mates and suitable spots to begin colonies, which may be several miles away. Beavers live in colonies that may contain 2 to 12 individuals. The colony is usually made up of the adult breeding pair, the kits of the year, and kits of the previous year or years. Populations are limited by habitat availability, and the density will not exceed one colony per ½ mile under the best of conditions. Because of their size, behavior, and habitat, beaver have few enemies. When foraging on shore or migrating overland, beavers are killed by bears, coyotes, bobcats, cougars, and dogs. Other identified causes of death are severe winter weather, winter starvation, disease, water fluctuations, floods, and falling trees.

Humans remain the major predator of beavers. Historically, beavers have been one of the most commonly trapped furbearers. In the State of Washington, from 1991 to 2000, a annual average of 5,289 beavers were trapped. However, the average for the past three years has dropped to just over 1,000. Beavers live 5 to 10 years in the wild. Beavers are nocturnal, but are occasionally active during the day. They do not hibernate, but are less active during winter, spending most of their time in the lodge or den. Probably no animal leaves more obvious signs of its presence than the beaver. Freshly cut trees and shrubs, and prominent dams and lodges are sure indicators of their activity. Look for signs of beavers during the day; look for the animals themselves before sunset or sunrise. Approach a beaver site slowly and downwind. (Beavers have poor eyesight but excellent hearing and sense of smell). Look for a V-shaped series of

ripples on the surface of calm water. A closer view with binoculars may reveal the nostrils, eyes, and ears of a beaver swimming.

If you startle a beaver and it goes underwater, wait quietly in a secluded spot and chances are that it will reemerge within one or two minutes. However, beavers are able to remain underwater for at least 15 minutes by slowing their heart rate. When seen in the water, beavers are often mistaken for muskrats. Try to get a look at the tail: Beavers have a broad, flat tail that doesn't show behind them when swimming, whereas muskrats have a thin tail that is either held out of the water or sways back and forth on the water's surface as the animal swims. Beavers stand their ground and should not be closely approached when cornered on land. They face the aggressor, rear up on their hind legs, and hiss or growl loudly before lunging forward to deliver extremely damaging bites. Beavers cut down trees, shrubs, and other available vegetation for food and building materials. Large stumps are pointed, 1 to 2½ feet high, and sometimes the tree trunk is still attached. Tooth marks look like twin grooves, each groove measuring 1/8 inch or more. There will be a pile of wood chips on the ground around the base of recently felled trees. Limbs that are too large to be hauled off are typically stripped of bark over the course of several days. The cut on small wood usually involves a 45-degree cut typical of rodents, but at a larger scale. Branches and twigs under ¾ inches in diameter are generally eaten entirely. Most harvesting is done within 165 feet of the water's edge. In areas with few predators, but a lean food supply, topped trees and other signs of feeding may be found twice that distance from the den site. Beavers transport woody material even farther through upstream and downstream sites.

By late fall, all family members concentrate on repairing and building up dams and the family lodge in preparation for winter. Harvesting is at its most intense level at this time of year. Slides are the paths beavers make where they enter and leave the water. They are 15 to 20 inches wide, at right angles to the shoreline, and have a slicked down or muddy appearance. Beavers construct channels or canal systems leading to their ponds, using them to float food—such as small, trimmed trees—from cutting sites. Canals are also safe travel ways for swimming instead of walking. With receding water levels during summer, beaver activity shifts toward building and maintaining channels to access new food supplies. Channels often look man-made, have soft, muddy bottoms, and are filled with 15 to 25 inches of water. Beavers that live in cold climates store branches of food trees and shrubs for winter use by shoving them into the mud at the bottom of ponds or streams near the entrance to their bank den or lodge.

Beaver droppings are seldom found on land; those that are will commonly be found in the early morning at the water's edge. Individual beaver droppings are usually cylindrical, up to 2½ inches long (sometimes shorter), and look as if they were formed of compressed sawdust. The diameter is an indication of the animal's size, with 1 inch being average for adults. The color of fresh deposits is dark brown, with lighter-colored bits of undigested wood, all turning pale with age. In order to warn each other of danger; beavers slap their tails against the water, creating a loud splash. Sounds also include whining (noises made by kits), a breathy greeting noise, and loud blowing when upset. The Beavers Tail; The tail of a large beaver may be 15 inches long and 6 inches wide. It is covered with leathery scales and sparse, coarse hairs.


The beaver's tail has important uses both in the water and on land. In the water, the animal uses its flexible tail as a four-way rudder. When diving after being frightened, a beaver loudly slaps the water with its tail; the sound warns all beavers in the vicinity that danger is near, and perhaps serves to frighten potential predators. On land, the tail acts as a prop when a beaver is sitting or standing upright. It also serves as a counterbalance and support when a beaver is walking on its hind legs while carrying building materials with its teeth, front legs, and paws. Contrary to common belief, beavers do not use their tails to plaster mud on their dams. The tail stores fat, and because it is nearly hairless, releases body heat, helping the beaver to regulate its body temperature.



Congratulations Alabama Gazette on your 15th Anniversary!!!

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The Town of Pike Road Congratulates The Alabama Gazette on their 15th Anniversary !

PIKE ROAD LADIES AUXILIARY HOLD SEPTEMBER 11 COMMEMORATION



As flags were flown at half-staff across the nation, a flag-lined Pike Road Town Hall was the setting for the 13th anniversary of the tragedies on September 11, 2001. We had great weather, great speakers and entertainment and a parking lot full of friends, family, fire-

fighters, first responders and law enforcement personnel. The event captured both the story and the spirit of heroism and helping others that followed the attacks.

Citizens, firefighters, first responders, law enforcement along with dignitaries honored and joined the Pike Road Ladies Auxiliary in recalling and reflecting but above all reaffirming the true spirit of 9/11 – love, compassion, sacrifice and to preserve it forever in the heart of our nation.

Reflections from dignitaries including Pike Road Mayor Gordon Stone, Chief Deputy Derrick Cunningham, Rolling Hills Lakes VFD Fire Chief Wesley Thomas, Major Johnny George (retired firefighter with MFD) and General Ed Crowell (retired USAF) were combined with the voices of everyday people caught in September 11.



Chuck Douglass, a retired Colonel, who spent more than twenty-five years serving in the U.S. Air Force served as the keynote speaker. He was at the Pentagon thirteen years ago when a plane flown by terrorists struck the building. Douglass said he knew something was wrong when the plane struck the Pentagon – the lights went out and smoke filled the building. He recalled how the terror of that day unfolded as he was an active participant in assisting people out of the building as well as pulled casualties from the building.

In addition to the dignitaries listed above, the Pike Road Ladies Auxiliary would like to say thank you to

Montgomery Harley Owners Group, Montgomery County Honor Guard, Pike Road Lions Club, singer-songwriter Donica Knight, Paul Telehany, Melissa Thomas and Rev. Gary Aldridge who gave their unending support and generosity to help make the event a success. A special thank you to the six Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Departments who also assisted in making the event a success and thank you for serving your communities each day– North Montgomery, Waugh/Mt. Meigs, South Montgomery, Pike Road, Rolling Hills Lakes and Snowdown.

The sixty minute ceremony was full of symbolism.



WALK OF HONOR BRICKS

Time is running out for you to give a Veteran the gift of a lifetime! Say THANK YOU to the heroes in your life with a memorial brick. Ensure their service goes down in history by placing their name on a brick paver in the Walk of Honor at Pike Road's Veterans Memorial.

Your brick paver will be installed and dedicated on Nov. 9th at the Pike Road Veterans Day event, but you must order by October 10th!

For more information, call Town Hall at (334) 272-9883 or email info@pikeroad.us

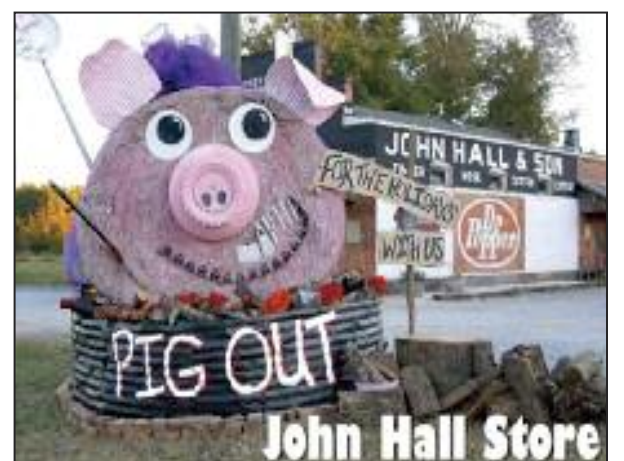
We look forward to helping you honor YOUR veterans!



HEY, LOOK AT THIS!

It's one of the most wonderful times of the year in Pike Road...hay bale decorating season! Hay bale deliveries begin TODAY and we can't wait to start seeing your pencil illustrations come to life! Don't miss out on the fun fall tradition of

"Hey, Look At Us!" Time is running out, sign your neighborhood or business up today! For an entry form and a complete list of rules, go to: www.pikeroad.us/neighborhood-leaders.html





Dr. John Bitter
Editor-Senior Section

Gazette Seniors...

YOU MAY BE
OVER THE HILL
“...if your neckties come in
five widths.”

ALABAMA SILVER HAired LEGISLATURE TO MEET IN CAPITOL

When Alabama's senior legislature begins its three-day session on October 20, it will have the unique opportunity to convene in the old House of Representatives Chamber in the Alabama Capitol building.

Normally the ASHL meets in the House Chamber located in the State Office Building, but that venue is temporarily closed.

For some of the delegates this will be like a homecoming, since a good many of them had close relationships of a variety of sorts with this venue. For you humble scribe, it will be a matter of returning four and a half decades later to the scene of a challenging news reporting era. In those days the focus was on how well the state was doing with respect to educating its young people; especially so in the new integrated school environment.

Today the focus is on how well the state is handling its responsibilities toward its senior citizens, and how well the Alabama Silver-Haired Legislature can convince their legislative counterparts of the importance of insuring that the special needs of the state's senior citizens are being met.

The senior legislators have, as of this writing, introduced 62 legislative resolutions and when they convene later this month, will see them through their unicameral legislative process.

ASHL members have been successful over the years in helping to bring about many changes to and improvements in the way the state carries out its responsibility to its senior residents.

Senior lawmakers in most states meet in this

manner to propose and track legislation effecting their elderly constituency.

The October meeting will be a memorable one for many of the members.

The ASHL will meet in the old House Chamber of the Alabama State Capitol building. The State's first legislative session held in this building was in 1851, and has been held there continuously until 1985, when it moved to its present location in the Alabama State House.

As of this writing there have been 62 resolutions submitted covering a wide range of areas that impact on the lives of senior citizens. Three of the resolutions concerned matters related to the need for more geriatricians to serve Alabama seniors.

Also of concern is a need to expand the scope of the Ombudsman program, which at present covers only seniors living in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. It appears that when Congress prepared legislation related to the welfare of certain elders, a line of authority was drawn which excluded many deserving seniors.. As time passed, the interpretation of independent was broadened considerably, but the services and protection afforded residents of these facilities failed to address their needs.

Pay day lending was another area for which multiple resolutions were introduced. This is a major area of concern since many seniors are the target of pay day lenders.

The remainder of the resolutions cover a broad range of subjects of concern to the senior population.

In the past, resolutions related to elder abuse,

ethics reform, various services that provide aid for seniors, and a host of other related matters have gone on to the Governor's office and to the Legislature and have resulted in the enactment of legislation beneficial to senior citizens.

By the end of the three-day session, five resolutions will have made it through the process that related directly to seniors, and five more of a more general senior interest will have also been approved for submission to the Governor.

At last count there are Silver Haired Legislature Chapters in Alabama, Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Utah, Virginia, West Virginia and Wyoming, and the number continues to grow.

The U.S. Congress will also get an earful when it comes to issues affecting the elderly. Senior advocates belonging to the National Silver Haired Congress see to that.

State Silver Haired Legislature members are elected by their peers and support bills pertaining to medical care, consumer protection and age discrimination, among other matters. But advocacy isn't limited just to matters affecting those with silver hair.

During its three-day session the ASHL will look at resolutions pertaining to senior nutrition, a variety of tax-related measures, Medicaid waivers, a number of health-related measures, resolutions related to rent and landlord responsibilities, and others.

IN PURSUIT OF TRIVIALITY

If you were looking for a time of origin for the cliché it would most likely be to the time man first learned to express himself with words. As soon as early man learned to form sounds into words and to use specific words to describe items or events, clichés soon followed.

Whenever a person joins a group of words together to describe something in a way no one else has, a clever phrase is born. As soon as others pick it up and draft it into everyday use, a cliché is born.

Salvador Dali provided us with a good assessment of the situation when he remarked that: “The first man to compare the cheeks of a young woman to a rose was obviously a poet; the first to repeat it was possibly an idiot.”

And this observation was not all that original either, since the 19th Century French poet Gerard de Nerval had said: “The first man who compared a woman to a rose was a poet, the second, an imbecile.”

A colorful phrase is born when someone comes up with a clever way to express something. A cliché is born when someone else repeats it; and others follow suit—until everyone is mindlessly using the phrase. Unfortunately, the word or phrase soon becomes overused and loses its original intent; becoming trite—to the point of being an irritant.

A quick search of the Internet reveals that “at the end of the day” is said to be “the most irritating phrase in the English language.” But that was most likely written before television sets became standard household furniture.

The second most irritating phrase is probably one made famous by John Dean during the Watergate trials: “At this point in time.” And today's candidate for that spot has to be: “Boots on the ground.”

This phrase gained popularity—and quickly thereafter cliché status—in the 1980, during the Vietnam era, then it moved from that geographic locale to the Middle East. Now, any reference to activities in that realm, or anything related to US military involvement, carries the obligatory tag: “Boots on the ground.” In any newscast it is repeated constantly—ad infinitum.

No self-respecting public official, newscaster, or even the man on the street, would deign to mention the situation in the Middle East without at least a half dozen references to the need for, or presence of “boots on the ground.” The term probably originated in the 1970s, and grew in intensity. Like most clichés, it began as a relatively clever phrase—but it soon became trite. People who work for the government have a way of doing that; it saves thinking. In the 1980's it began to pick up steam, by the end of the 20th Century it was commonplace, and now it's a blight. Most people have no idea what it means, but no one would miss an opportunity to refer to “Boots on the ground.”

As the American version of the English language falls into disrepair we see other blights such as “like.” People say “like” when they don't have anything else to say. It has almost become punctuation, replacing “you know what I mean?”

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Soul Searching

*For God so loved the world,
that he gave his only begotten Son,
that whosoever believeth in him should
not perish, but have everlasting life.*

John 3:16

THE MARSHALL MOMENT

DR. RICK MARSHALL
Eastern Hills
Baptist Church
Montgomery, Alabama



THE CALL TO BECOME

In the well-meaning efforts to spread the Gospel, sometimes people may hear a message which isn't quite the whole story of what it means to become a Christian. In fact, there are many people who find themselves associated with the Christian community who are likewise confused.

It may be that some of you who have read this far are asking, "So what problem are you talking about?" My concern is that we may be shortchanging the larger purpose of the Gospel message if it is focused only on a decision. Certainly there is a point of conversion when sin is recognized for what it is and a new life begins in Christ. The Bible clearly points to one of two destinies which is the result of our response to the Spirit of God.

Ponder this comparison. Most all of us are excited that the college football season is in full swing. Almost everyone has a loyalty to some team and looks forward to seeing them play either in person or on television. But a football game is more than a kickoff. It is four quarters of plays, some of which work better than others. It is a game filled with huddles, coaching and cooperative plays as well as individual efforts as players in a position with serious responsibilities.

Some people treat the Christian life like a football game with only a kickoff. Certainly the Christian life is not a game, but the game can teach us spiritual lessons. Without a kickoff there would be no game. But if that is all there still is no real game.

Similarly, most players come to the game as rookies or freshmen. They may have lots of talent yet stand in great need of good coaching and lots of practice. Imagine how frustrating it would be to watch a player who has all the potential in the world decide after the first few plays just to leave the game only to drop in occasionally in other games, but never developing the potential or seeing the need to help the team. Of course, that scenario would not happen because a coach could never let it go on. The whole team as well as fans would be demoralized and the goal of winning would be put in serious jeopardy.

The game teaches us a lesson. Joining the team does not mean you have actually played the game. Neither does a kickoff determine the end of the game. I prefer to think of becoming a Christian as a "call to become." All believers are saved for a purpose. Salvation opens the door to become what God desired for you from before you were born. The Christian life is not "a hop and a skip" from decision to eternal bliss in glory. It is commitment, service and growing in Christ.

Let me illustrate. God called Abraham from his homeland to a new place God would show him. Look further in the Bible and it is filled with God's call to become. Moses never saw himself as a leader, yet he was challenged to obey God's call and to trust God to take care of the results. You may recall how God asked Moses what was in his hand. "A rod," he replied. But when he obeyed God he discovered that what he had was sufficient for the job. Noah would be another who was called of God to become something he never dreamed. Many other examples of leaders and prophets from the Old Testament could be noted.

When we come to the New Testament, the ministry of Jesus with people was a call to become. Men and women were healed and helped from their sins and infirmities to a new life. Whether it was a woman at the well, a man who had been crippled for years or a hated tax collector, when changed by the Lord their lives were never the same. They became something different than they had been

before.

The same is true of the call to the disciples. Let me focus in particular on one, Simon Peter. He was a rough, uneducated fisherman who followed Jesus. If God could speak to this hot-tempered, impulsive man, there is hope for anyone willing to follow. It is clear that following was a process of becoming, not an instant transformation. Note that immediately his name was changed. The call to discipleship is a call to a new identity. Remember when God called Abram, He gave him a new name, Abraham. God called Jacob and after he wrestled with the angel Jacob was given a new name, Israel. Simon was also given a new name, Peter, which means rock. The Bible tells us the early believers were first called Christians at Antioch. In a very real sense when we are saved from our sins, our names are changed to Christian. It is our new identity.

When Simon Peter left to follow Christ his circumstances were also changed. Imagine his conversation with his wife when he got home after meeting and responding to the call of Christ. Becoming a follower of Jesus was not for him or any of us a decision which can remain separated from the rest of life. If we are a believer, it will make a difference in the world around us.

Sometimes that decision is not easy or met with enthusiasm from everyone around us. I remember a woman who left her husband saying, "I married you when you were a naval officer. I liked the life we lived. I liked the parties. I don't want to get up and go to church on Sunday. You can have that life if you want, but I am gone."

Simon Peter is an excellent example of how God can take a crude instrument and use it mightily in his service. Observe a man who polishes stones for a living. On his work table you may see pieces of crude, dark rocks. You can't see any possibility of beauty or usefulness in them. Let him work on them for some time and it is amazing what you will see. The rocks have become polished stones worthy of mounting in the finest jewelry. What a change? How did it come about? It was his skillful hands the tools of his trade.

In the same manner, God can do the same with us. He takes a life filled with the blackness of sin like pieces of ore which is useless to His Kingdom. Through awareness of the need for mercy and grace, repentance comes and forgiveness is given. As God works to develop the gifts given to a new believer, the Bible says they can become "living stones, a royal priesthood able to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God by Jesus Christ." (I Peter 2:5)

There is an old story about a dog chasing a rabbit. The dog was chasing the rabbit just for the fun of it but the rabbit was running for his life. Our Christian commitment is not just for the fun of it; it is a matter of life and death. There should be a sense of urgency and enthusiasm.

William James once said, "Religion is either a dull habit or an acute fever." The early disciples had a faith which was filled with joy and excitement. They were so excited that they were accused of "turning the world upside down." The Christian faith is not a burden, but a lift. It does not shackle us; it sets us free. Most of all it enables us to become all that we were capable of becoming.

Jesus walked along the sea shore one day and said calling to Simon Peter said, "Follow me and I will make you a fisher of men." Focus on the words "I will make you." There is nothing more challenging or rewarding in life than knowing you have a purpose in life and are becoming the person in God's Kingdom work He called you to be. From that day to this the call of God extends to every person who has ears to hear and eyes to see. The call of God is not of force, but rather, an opportunity or call to become.

IS IT WRONG TO CELEBRATE HALLOWEEN?

First of all, understand that this is an American custom and there is no direct reference in the Bible about it. However, there are Biblical principles that bear directly upon it. Perhaps the best way that one can be informed about how Halloween relates to Bible teachings is to relate the history of it and then point to the end-time prophecies and what this celebration is leading up to.

Unlike the familiar observance of All Souls, Halloween traditions have never been connected with Christian religious celebrations of any kind. Although the name is taken from a great Christian feast (All Hallows' Eve), it has nothing in common with the Feast of All Saints, and is instead, a tradition of pre-Christian times that has retained its original character in form and meaning. Halloween customs are traced back to the ancient Druids. Halloween fires are kindled in many places even now, especially in Wales and Scotland.

Another, and more important, tradition is the Druidic belief that during the night of November 1, demons, witches, and evil spirits roamed the earth in wild and furious romping of joy to greet the arrival of "their season" - the long nights and early

dark of the winter months. They had their fun with poor mortals that night, frightening, harming them, and playing all kinds of mean tricks. The only way, it seemed, for scared humans to escape the persecution of the demons was to offer them things they liked, especially dainty food and sweets. Or, in order to escape the fury of these horrible creatures, a human could disguise himself as one of them and join in their roaming. In this way they would take him for one of their own and he would not be bothered. That is what people did in ancient times, and it is in this very form the custom has come down to us, practically unaltered, as our familiar Halloween celebration.

During the Roman empire there was the custom of eating or giving away fruit, especially apples, on Halloween. It spread to neighboring countries; to Ireland and Scotland from Britain, and to the Slavic countries from Austria. It is probably based upon a celebration of the Roman goddess Pomona, to whom gardens and orchards were dedicated. Since the annual Feast of Pomona was held on November 1, the relics of that observance became part of our Halloween celebration, for instance the familiar tradition of "dunking" for apples.

See the continuation of the article at:
Bibleinfo.com

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Patricia Killough



Please send Patricia your family birthdays, anniversaries and weddings to alabamagazette@yahoo.com.

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

October Birthdays

Oct 1	David Hite (72nd) Karen Hollingshead Wallis Litchfield	Oct. 19	Ryan Sellars Joann Hassey Helen Law John Lithgrow Jeff Ludwick Nell Nesbit Evelyn Roger
Oct. 2	Allie Dibole Jerry Hollingshead Donna Karen Janice Vaughn Majors (65th) Bob Morris	Oct. 21	Pam Anderson Ken Guthrie Cheryl Horp Spears Rhodes
Oct. 3	Ladon Boyd (54th) Monica Mills Ben Sawada Stevie Ray Vaughn	Oct. 22	Judith Lamar Joyce Browning Mills Tony Nemunaitis Alicia Smith
Oct. 4	Hazel Campbell	Oct. 23	Mollie Ester Isacson Mike Kirk Elfie Meredith Betty Jo Richie
Oct. 5	Chester Alan Arthur Thomas Chesnutt (93rd) Nikki Smith Womack	Oct. 24	Thomas Norman Connie Thompson Norma Mitchell
Oct. 6	Frances Grant Jimmy Pugh Matthew Sweet	Oct. 25	Glenn Chesnutt David Alexander Dean Hannah Grace Johnson Dot Pouncey (64th)
Oct. 7	Ashley James David Price (65th)	Oct. 26	Alice Cole (64th) Carol Fowler Judd Huett (77th) Mike Horsley Natalie Merchant Georgia Mokler Brynlee Ashmore (4th)
Oct. 8	Jim Fleming Beck Tucker Madera Spencer	Oct. 27	Terry Boyd (53rd) Amy Moore (40th) Glen Raley (60th) Stephanie Selvage (40th) Dora Ann Wallace (92nd) Louise Lareson
Oct. 9	Clower Boyd Vance Cordle Bob Persons Clifton Renfro Linda Stringer	Oct. 28	James Cantrell (87th) Patti Moseley Higgins Josh Hudson Parker Lynch Joakin Phoenix Matt Schall
Oct. 10	Sherry McCulley Ron Selvaggio Mason Williams (4th)	Oct. 29	Marge Crockett (71st) Adam Dupree Lisa Etheridge Amber (Sally) Heitsenrether Caylyn Oswald
Oct. 11	Bonnie Ashcraft Susan Guevara Debbie Moore Anna Marie Sessions Christie Vazquez	Oct. 30	Nellie Cole (89th) Felicity Edwards Lee Sellars Grace Slick Josie Stanton
Oct. 12	Kirstin Boyd Kim Moore	Oct. 31	Carey Cauthen (60th) Ron Johnson Elizabeth Kirk Johnny Marr
Oct. 13	Fred Cole (93rd) Loretta Grant (70th) Danny Ott (54th) Mary Wimpee		
Oct. 14	Margaret Batley Elizabeth Miller Sarah Margaret Poundstone		
Oct. 15	Bob Crowe Noah Edwards Dolores Kavanagh Charlie Lamar Jr. Ray Martin (76th) Linda Stenbridge Gaston Wallace		
Oct. 17	Caroline Adams (104th) Jane Braswell Chris Floyd		
Oct. 16	Louise Light Jessie Watt		
Oct. 18	Charles Andrew Campbell Lillie Hughen		

Happy Anniversary

William and Loretta Grant
celebrate their
52nd Wedding Anniversary
October 13, 2014



William retired from Coca Cola after 38 years and now enjoys his family, grandchildren and working with his cattle. Loretta is the founder and Co-Owner of The Alabama Gazette. They serve God in ministry together at Snowdown Baptist Church. Their love for each other and from family and friends are their greatest earthly blessings.

Oct. 2	Brady & Amy Crowe (10th)	Oct. 9	Ian & Caty Jane Turnipseed (4th)
Oct. 3	Mr. & Mrs. Theo Katechis (35th)	Oct. 12	Mike & Lynn Davis James & Jean Hicks (56th)
Oct. 5	Tom & Mary Lion (61st)	Oct. 15	Glenn & Susan Yost Lance & Amy Brown Gaston & Doris Wallace
Oct. 6	Jack & Kim Golson George & Farley Pugh Lance & Sylvia Smith (56th)	Oct. 16	George & Marilyn Evans
Oct. 7	Jimmy & Donna Grant Jimmy & Judy Grubbs Tracey & Britt Betts (1st)	Oct. 21	Jimmy & Ann Hale
Oct. 8	Eric & Casey Fleming (9th) Bob & Lynda Maddox David & Xan Morrow	Oct. 22	Brad & Lee Ann Williams (9th)
		Oct. 23	Sonny & Lexie Turnipseed
		Oct. 26	Terry & Missy Boyd (23rd)

BELATED 1ST ANNIVERSARY

Connie and Skip Mainor dined at the Capitol Grill in Tampa, Florida on September the 16th in honor of their anniversary.

Sympathy to the families of...

Baker, Irene Colston (88)died August 24, 2014
Morrison, Paulene (97)died August 24, 2014
Byrne, Dr. Thomas King, Jr. (83)died August 26, 2014
Shaver, Frank Martin (84)died August 29, 2014
Henley, Murry Thomas (58)died September 1, 2014
Cruise, Cammie Eleanor Lane (94)died September 2, 2014
Hadley, Leon D. (81)died September 5, 2014
Meriwether, Benjamin Michael (39)died September 8, 2014
Dekle, Lucius (Lou) David (80)died September 11, 2014
Gill, Linda Carter (68)died September 13, 2014
Owens, Brent Tee (32)died September 14, 2014
Xides, Edward Peter (85)died September 15, 2014
Butler, Dorothy Day (88)died September 16, 2014
Suhr, Ronald William (40)died September 21, 2014
Underwood, Rena Alice Pope (85)died September 23, 2014
Morris, Gavin Ray (53)died September 25, 2014

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Dr. Stephen Davidson, Medical Oncologist,
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“DECLARE BLESSINGS”

Did you know that a blessing is not a blessing until it is declared? That's right!

Numbers 6:23-26 tells us, *“Say to them, may the Lord bless you and protect you. May the Lord smile upon you and be gracious to you. May the Lord show you his favor and give you His peace.”*

So declare blessings over yourself and your loved ones. Do so by speaking those blessings in the name of Jesus. Declare you are blessed with God's wisdom and receive clear direction for your life. Declare that you are blessed with creativity, courage, talent, and abundance. You are blessed with self-control and self-discipline.

You are blessed with a great family and friends, good health, faith, favor, and fulfillment. You are blessed with success, strength, divine protection. You are blessed with a compassionate heart and a positive outlook on life.

Declare any curse or negative word that has ever been spoken over you be broken right now in the name of Jesus. Declare that everything you put your hand to is going to prosper and succeed.

Declare it today and everyday! (**Deuteronomy 28**)

Thank God for the blessings in your life. Thank Him for equipping you with everything you need to be successful. Ask Him to teach you to consistently believe in and declare His blessings over your life and the lives of those around you.

Many blessings, my friends!

WATSON –GREEN WEDDING



Stephanie Ann Watson and Jason Michael Green were married on Saturday, September 13, 2014 at Woodland United Methodist Church, Pike Road, Alabama with Reverend Tim Meadows officiating. Beverly Davis directed the ceremony and Scott Borders provided the beautiful vocals and music.

The bride is the daughter of Ms. Theresa Eddins of Rutledge, Alabama and the granddaughter of the late Mrs. Frances Black and Mr. Horace Edward Faulk.

The groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Michael Wesley Green of Cecil, Alabama and the grandson of Ms. Bettye Gafford and the late Mr. David Earl Gafford of Honoraville, Alabama and Mr. and Mrs. Franklin Delano Pouncey and the late Mr. George Green.

The bride was escorted and given in marriage by her sons, Josh and Shaun. She wore an a-line/princess beading strapless swamp/brush train organza dress. Her veil, attached to a crystal

encrusted tiara, had a beaded edge. She carried a hand-tied bouquet of white roses, purple statice and white hydrangeas.

The attendants wore a black strapless chiffon dresses with a layered skirt. Serving as maid of honor was Amy Suzanne Mathews. Serving as bridesmaids were Tracy Janes, Tonya Johnson and Whitney McClelland. Junior bridesmaids wearing a plum one-shoulder short dress with illusion neckline were Chelsea Lewis and Alyssa Lear. Each bridesmaid carried a hand-tied bouquet of light green hydrangeas and purple limonium. Flower girls were Ella Walden and Natilee Eddins. Each carried a satin basket of white and plum rose petals. The ring bearers were Will and Lane McClelland.



Mike Green served as his son's best man. Groomsmen included Phillip Yacko, Blake Green and John McClelland.

Following the ceremony, friends and family joined Stephanie and

Jason in the church fellowship hall where music was provided by Bradley Roberson.

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Judge
Peggy Givhan

worn to touch surfaces to insure that no crack or cranny was left untouched. Those were the days when everyone pitched in and got it done. Unfortunately, I am not as meticulous in the house as I should be, but I also do not have the team Mother was able to muster. However, we are approaching a fall cleanup for our gardens. So much to do, and only a couple of months to get it done.

FALL CLEAN UP



the leaves onto a tarp, pile them in an out of sight area, and within a couple of month there magically transforms into rich organic soil. I also learned at a tree symposium in Savannah that the best fertilizer for tree it its own leaves. Which translates, rake the leaves or blow them under the tree. Now your yard and lawn would not have

I know from my own experience that Wandering Jew, and other weeds have raised their ugly heads, and need removal. Hoeing can help, but pulling these long runners is probably the best way if the weed in amongst plants we are not removing at this time. Round Up answers the call if there are large spaces which can safely be sprayed. For instance, I have tall Pacific Giant Zinnias in full bloom. So before I spray, the sun must be out, no wind, the sprinkler system has already run, I get black lawn bags which I split on the sides to loosely wrap the bunches of zinnias secured with masking tape. Now nothing will get killed except the weeds. Leaves can be a boon to the gardener. Rake or blow

SOUTHERN GARDENING

OCTOBER POTPOURRI - by Peggy Givhan

I can remember as a little girl with 2 other sisters growing up in Dothan, that it was always the fall and spring of the year we scurried around doing "fall cleaning". Windows, porches, closets, rugs, baseboards, in and out and up and down the house got the steely eye of all involved. White gloves were

dozens of piles of leaves waiting to be shoveled into lawn bags to be placed on the street awaiting the City pick up. I believe the term for this is "green or eco use. So no more back breaking hauling and no more burning.

FOLIAGE IN THE GARDEN SETTING

Shrubs and small garden trees, ferns and other leafy plants, can add interest, drama, and even color to your garden. Even in formal beds where all flowers are removed and replanted at the same time, Japanese boxwoods or other low growing hedges, which surround the geometric beds, give interest. These box hedges, along with other non organic edgings, are called parterres. Buying and planting the plants which give interest through their foliage should be done in fall and winter. At this time of the year the plants have the best chance of thriving because, generally, we have more moisture, lower temperatures, and less pests.

Plants which have gray/green leaves are often used in color schemes of all white flowers. In beds which have a variety of color, they act as a contrast or foil, many times pulling the bed together and making the garden more pleasing to the eye. The gray/green color of the leaves indicates the plant over the course of eons has been exposed to drought, wind, salt, sun or a sharply drained soil. There are exceptions to everything even for plants. Hostas require shade and moisture; Pulmonaria prefers shade; and Anaphalis can not tolerate drought. Artemesias, both the mounding and free form, are good additions for foliage in the beds. These are drought tolerant and are perennials. Mahonia japonica with its gray green pinnate leaves bloom lax racemes in winter which give rise to clusters of blue berries. Great foliage arrangements of Mahonia can include the leaves and the berries to an exotic affect. Other perennials, such as Achilleas have gray/green leaves, and are on their way to being drought resistant and heat tolerant. Lambs' Ears follow suit in thriving in low moisture and can tolerate both sun and shade. Other colorful shrubs include Acuba, Nandina, variegated hydrangeas, Chinese ferns, and variegated Pittosporum.

GOOD GARDENING.



David Spooner
Retired Chef
Volunteer Fireman,
Lowndesboro V.F.D.
Senior Warden,
St. Paul's Episcopal Church,
Lowndesboro
Town Councilman,
Town of Lowndesboro

Southern Cuisine

with David Spooner

My father was in the Air Force, and I spent my childhood, moving from base to base, city to city and country to country. We lived in Germany, Portugal, Turkey and West Pakistan, and toured the world from the U.S. to Europe, the Middle East, India and Korea. A saying in our family was, "*It's June, time to pack.*"

The exposure to different foods from around the world influenced what I like to eat and how I prepare it. I used a mix of flavors in some of the dishes I prepared for food competitions, especially "SPAMARAMA", where I won the cooking trophy, "SPAMERICAS CUP" eight times.

I will be writing about Southern Cuisine. This is a broad topic, which gives me unlimited directions to explore. My first topic, one that I will explore many times, is about family. You can not talk

about Southern cooking without the influence of the family. Recipes that are handed down, cooking utensils that were used by your grandmother, memories of spending time in the kitchen with relatives, these influence us as who we are.

My earliest memories of cooking and learning about food was with my grandmother. I would spend summers with my grandparents and learned about cooking from my grandmother and eating from my grandfather.

My mother knew the bus schedule and would flag down a Greyhound bus on the highway not to far from our house. It was ninety miles and I would look out the window and try to remember if anything had changed since the last time I took the trip.

My grandmother would pick me up at the bus station and since she didn't go into town very often, we had to stop at the grocery store. I would go up and down every aisle and look at every item, a trait I still possess.

When we got to the house, lunch would be on the stove, and grandma would heat it up for me. I don't remember her ever serving sandwiches or quick cold cuts.

Granddaddy owned a HUMBLE gas station, later on it was changed to an ESSO station, and I would work with him once in awhile. Learned how to fix flats, fill up cars, and generally ran the station while he would take a nap on the back counter. I would also drink every Delaware Punch I could find.

Time with Grandma was spent prepping for meals. Picking through the pinto beans for rocks and dirt, cutting vegetables, baking cookies and pies. Picking figs from the tree that was in front of the kitchen window and picking the chili peppers from the bush by the back door. The figs and the peppers are stories of their own. But every so often, grandma would have special projects to do. Two would be making and canning Green Tomato Chow Chow and Spiced Peaches. These two condiments were offered at every meal. These recipes are the ones I want to share. Recipes handed down from my grandmother that I still use when I have a garden full of tomatoes and my peach trees have more fruit then I can eat.

GREEN TOMATO CHOW

- 6 lbs. green tomatoes
- 4 large green bell peppers
- 5 medium white onions

My grandmother would chop all of this by hand and into a medium dice. You want to see the different vegetables. I would rough cut and then quickly pulse in the food processor. Be careful not to process too much and turn the vegetables into mush. Put into a colander or sieve and let drain. At least for an hour. After draining put in a large pot and add:

- 1 tablespoon ground cloves
- 2 tablespoons mustard seeds
- 1 tablespoon celery seeds
- 2 tablespoons ground cinnamon
- 1 ½ teaspoons allspice
- 2 teaspoons turmeric
- 2 teaspoons ground ginger
- 3 tablespoons kosher salt
- 2 cups apple cider vinegar
- 2 cups cane sugar
- 4 ounces chopped pimento peppers

Mix everything thoroughly and simmer until it turns dark and the vegetables are not crunchy. Process in a hot water bath for 20 minutes. Yield about 20 half-pint jars.

SPICED PEACHES

- 4 quarts of small peaches
- 9-12 whole cloves
- 3-4 cinnamon sticks
- 8 cups cane sugar
- 1 quart apple cider vinegar

Peel peaches, either in hot water bath or hand peeling. Boil sugar and vinegar with enough cloves to be able to put 3-4 cloves in each jar and at least one cinnamon stick. After 2-3 minutes add peaches and boil gently until peaches are soft. Pack in jars and process in water bath for 10 minutes.

Make sure that the jars and utensils are sterilized and you follow sanitary procedures while working.



PET PAUSE

Prattville Autauga Humane Society

1009 Rueben Raod • Prattville, AL 36067 334-358-2882
autaugahumane@yahoo.com

“NO ROOM FOR ROVER”... NEEDS YOUR HELP!!

Autauga County's pet overpopulation numbers are alarming. January- November of 2013, the Prattville Autauga Humane Society (PAHS) took in over 2,500 animals; this number includes strays, owner surrenders, and animals gathered by Animal Control officers. It is a shocking statistic of which most local animal lovers are not aware. While some of our cats and dogs are adopted, find permanent foster homes, or are sent to rescue organizations, others do not have such a bright future.

As a result of Prattville and Autauga County's increase in population, we have outgrown the shelter's capacity. We can safely house 85 animals at one time. Since 2011 we have been raising money for our “No Room for Rover” kennel expansion project, which is estimated to cost approximately \$150,000. To date, we have raised roughly \$103,000.

The new construction will include the following additions: 18 indoor/outdoor dog runs, a small dog/puppy room, a cat room, a feeding/bathing/work space, a medical examination area, and a storage room.

State law requires that new in-takes must be held for seven days unless

reclaimed. We need the additional kennels to keep new in-takes segregated from adoptable animals awaiting adoption. PAHS wants to begin building immediately; however, we cannot until we are closer to our monetary goal.

We are asking for your financial support. Please consider making as generous a gift as you are able. **It will be deeply appreciated and is also tax-deductible. Checks should be made payable to PAHS and mailed to P.O. Box 680697, Prattville, AL 36068. You may donate electronically via our website:**

www.prattvilleautaugahumane.org. Thank you for considering this request. If you have any questions about “No Room for Rover,” please call the shelter at 334-358-2882 and ask for Shelter Manager Claudia Rigsby.

Together we can make an impact in our community: Protect-Adopt-Help-Serve!

The Prattville Autauga Humane Society Board of Directors



HSEC

THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF ELMORE COUNTY

www.elmorehumane.org

WE ARE OPEN FOR ADOPTIONS MON-THU 10-4, FRI 10-5 AND SAT 9-3



Patsy is a female Rat Terrier mix, about 3-4 yrs old, 12-15 lbs and just a little sweetie though only for an adult home. Patsy does not seem to care for children, but she is good with other dogs. She is a bit shy at first and came to us with hair loss on her hindquarters which is filling in rapidly now that she isn't covered in fleas. She deserves a calm and loving home where she can be the lap dog she wants to be.

Our normal adoption fees are \$100 for dogs & \$50 for cats under 1 year old; cats over one year old can be adopted by approved adopters for an adoption fee of their choosing. This adoption fee completely covers the mandatory spay or neuter, basic immunizations, deworming, microchip, heartworm check for dogs, rabies vaccination if old enough, 45 days of pet health insurance and a free health exam with your participating veterinarian.

HSEC ANNUAL MEETING - OCTOBER 21- 6 pm Trinity Episcopal Church

All HSEC Members are invited to our Annual Meeting on Tuesday, October 21-6 pm, Trinity Episcopal Church, Hwy 231, Wetumpka. Join us to review our accomplishments & future plans and meet all who care about the future of our shelter! We will also be approving minor changes to our Society By-Laws and you can see those on the home page of our website at www.elmorehumane.org. See you on the 21st!

We are blessed to have so many wonderful supporters and one group that is truly going above and beyond on our behalf are the employees of Prime-South Bank. Right now they have \$5 tickets for sale at every branch for your chance to win a fantastic Yeti Cooler! You can buy tickets at any one of their four branches listed below and we will also get tickets at the shelter this week. **The winner will be drawn at the November 22nd.**



Fur Ball Event (see below) but the winner does not have to be present to win. Please make sure to ask for tickets supporting the Humane Society of Elmore County.

Wetumpka Hwy 231
 Wes Mathews or Leah Thomas
 3936 Us Hwy, 231
 Wetumpka, AL 36092

Tallasse Main St
 April Cartwright or Kayla Baker
 301 Main Street
 Tallasse, AL 36078

Tallasse Gilmer Ave
 Angie Harper or Amanda Fomby
 1217 Gilmer Avenue
 Tallasse, AL 36078

Pike Road Chantilly
 Derona Wilson
 225 Emma Lane
 Pike Road, AL 36064

This same PrimeSouth crew will also be conducting FOUR Supply Drives at the Wetumpka Walmart on our behalf from 10 am – 2 pm on

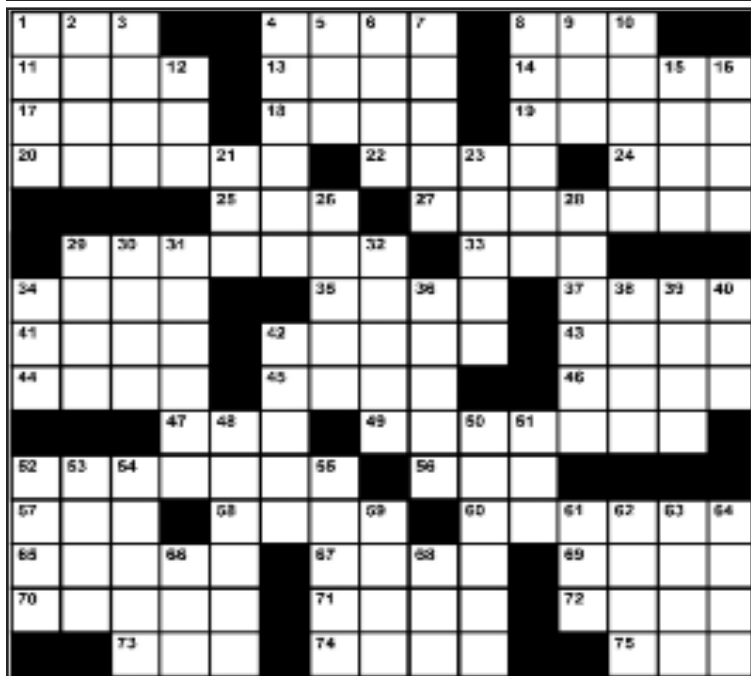
Thu, 2 Oct; Wed, 5 Nov; Wed, 3 Dec and Fri, 2 Jan. They will have lists of our needs so that supporters can purchase needed items and donate them easily to help our animals!

BUT, this awesome Prime South crew has even more planned so look for more info to come on The Fur Ball and your chance to win \$10,000 and support our shelter! This event will be on Saturday, November 22 at Quail Walk Country Club, Wetumpka. Tickets are \$50, includes dinner and will also be for sale shortly at all the above noted bank branches & the shelter. We are truly humbled by all this hard work being done to help our shelter and work to help all the pets that come to us daily and hope everyone will support their enthusiasm, hard work and our shelter in a big way!

E-mail: hselco@bellsouth.net • PHONE: (334) 567-3377 • FAX: (334) 567-8774
 The Humane Society Of Elmore County • 255 Central Plank Road (Hwy 9) Wetumpka, Alabama 36092

RELAX!

JUST FOR FUN!



Across

1. Ship, affectionately
4. Young seal
8. Jellied
11. Exist
13. Space
14. Dash off

17. Suggestion

18. Landlord payment
19. Chewed and swallowed
20. Dread
22. Brave
24. Oliver Twist, e.g.
25. Was the victor

27. Communications
29. Mad
33. Tree type
34. Fastens together
35. Binding influence
37. Digging, so to speak
41. Kind of testimony
42. Rot
43. 12:00 pm
44. Used to be
45. Unwrinkle
46. You can take one in football
47. Destroy
49. Charges
52. Stop a process, activity or a habit
56. Is down with
57. Basic metal
58. Einstein split it
60. Field
65. Spy
67. Blemish
69. Queue
70. Piano part
71. Like Darth Vader
72. Shoestring
73. Company mole
74. Goes down

75. Chaired

Down

1. Buttonhole
2. Obscure
3. Unending
4. Enticement veggie
5. "The best things in life ___ free"
6. Extend credit
7. "___ Attraction" movie
8. Desserts
9. Roger Clemens' statistic
10. Ownership paper
12. Song processor
15. Get misty-eyed
16. Winds up
21. Hold
23. Poised
26. Warmer and sunnier
28. Believes
29. Let go
30. Parent
31. Unaware
32. Drink served with marshmallows
34. Ferry
36. Salad dressing
38. Love in tennis

39. Extremities
40. Lunch hour
42. Did not
48. Tidily
50. Desert saddle animals
51. Practise
52. Cleaning bar
53. Push
54. Origins
55. Astro and Metro
59. Shake
61. ___ one's energy
62. Call
63. Enough, for some
64. Get rid of, with out
66. 40 winks
68. Ignited





Elect **Chief Deputy Derrick Cunningham**
 Sheriff of Montgomery County
 Alabama

An Experienced. Qualified. Trusted leader



Vote I am asking for your vote on
Tuesday November 4, 2014

Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

Paid for by friends to elect Derrick Cunningham
P.O. Box 250228, Montgomery, AL 36125
dcunningham4sheriff@gmail.com
www.cunningham4sheriff.com

Qualified, Trusted, Experienced Leader

Employment History

- 15 years of experience as Chief Deputy with Montgomery County Sheriff's Office
- 10 years of experience with the homicide unit at the City of Montgomery Police Department
- Certified with American Crime Prevention Institute as a crime prevention specialist
- Grant writer and administrator for the Sheriff's Office
- Graduate of Leadership Montgomery Class XVII
- Retired from the Alabama National Guard with 24 years of service

Education

- Master of science degree in police administration and security- University of Phoenix, December 2012
- Bachelor of science degree in sociology-Troy University, May 2007
- Graduate of the FBI National Academy, December 2007

Family

- Married to Mattie
- Two daughters, Eboni and Jillian
- Members of Progressive Baptist Church

Proven Record of Service in Montgomery County

Crime Reducing Strategies in Montgomery County

- Increased the number of patrol units in the county
- Expanded the crime prevention unit ensuring all deputies are attending "Neighborhood Watch" meetings throughout the county
- Installed Advance Vehicle Locators (AVLs) in all of the sheriff patrol units to assist in dispatching calls in an efficient manner
- Implemented P25 Standards with the Montgomery County Communications District (MCCD) digital radio system for interoperable communications among agencies and the sheriff's office
- Purchased an Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS)
- Increased the number of latent fingerprint examiners to assist with solving crimes
- Linked bordering counties fingerprint stations to the AFIS System
- Partnered with Montgomery Public School System to educate the youth on Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) and Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT)

Committed to the Safety of Montgomery County Citizens

- Implemented Project Lifesaver (for Alzheimer's and memory and medically impaired illnesses)
- Implemented Are You OK? (telephone reassurance in which the sheriff's office check on the well-being of seniors living alone)
- Implemented Yellow Dot Program
- Implemented Operation Identification business and church watch
- Facilitates the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office firearm familiarization course

Montgomery County Community Outreach

- Show and Tell Summer Camp (a week-long camp and mentoring program for 100 school-age children)
- Deputy Dave's Day (a day of fun along with health and safety tips for the entire Ramer Community)
- Senior and Youth Fishing Rodeos
- Spooktacular (Sheriff's Office teams up with local businesses, churches, and community organizations hosting a county-wide trick-or-treat event for the youth)
- Sheriff's Office Annual Easter Egg Hunt

