

**Jesus  
Christ  
Is  
Risen!**



**Peace I leave with you, my peace  
I give unto you: not as the world  
giveth, give I unto you. Let not  
your heart be troubled, neither let  
it be afraid. John 14:27**

**THE GAZETTE IS "THE VOICE OF REASON"!**



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## 2026 Alabama Legislative Session

Montgomery - 4/2/26

**The Alabama Legislature is winding down the 2026 regular legislative session. This was a productive session that addressed a number of issues facing the state of Alabama.**

Passing the budgets are the primary constitutional purpose of the Alabama Legislative session.

### Education Budget

The Legislature is poised to pass a \$10,479,207,990 education trust fund budget (ETF) – over a half a \$billion more than the 2026 budget. 67.88% of the money will be spent on K-12 education. 25.89% is allocated to higher education, and 6.23% goes to other agencies including the legislature. K-12 is receiving \$376 million of that increase. On the higher education side all the schools are seeing an increase. Auburn is receiving \$440,591,003 in funding from the state, while Alabama receives \$284,765,168 and UAB \$439,340,008. The education budget is sponsored by Representatives Danny Garrett (R-Trussville) and Senator Arthur Orr (R-Decatur). They chair the House and Senate education budget committees.

Of more concern is the state general fund budget (SGF). While the education budget receives all of the corporate and individual income taxes collected in the state the general fund lacks the growth taxes that fill the ETF. The 2027 SGF is only \$3,737,357,400 – essentially unchanged from 2026. The lack of new revenue in the SGF is concerning given the level of inflation – particularly in the healthcare sector. Medicaid is the largest item in the SGF. The 2027 budget line item for Medicaid is \$1,179,054,000 – **exactly what it was in the 2026 budget.** The second largest item in the SGF is the Department of Corrections (the prisons) which received a slight increase at \$868,019,393. Most SGF programs are level funded. Some including Mental Health and the Department of Public Health received slight decreases. **As of press time, neither budget has been sent to the governor so these numbers could still change slightly.** The general fund budget is being carried by Senator Greg Albritton (R-Atmore) and Representative Rex Reynolds (R-Huntsville). They chair the Senate and House general fund budget committees.

**The legislature also passes laws.**

**Getting tough on crime has been a priority of this session.**

This past summer ten individuals in Bibb County were arrested for chaining up children – some as young as three – in a storm shelter turned dungeon so they could be sold to pedophiles for sex. Those individuals – if convicted of what they are charged with – cannot be executed because Alabama does not have a law allowing for the execution of child rapists. The 2026 Legislature fixed that oversight in the 2026 session with legislation carried by Senator April Weaver (R-Briarfield) and Representative Matt Simpson (R-Daphne).

Several other crime-related bills have advanced in the 2026 Alabama Legislature, including major changes to reckless-endangerment penalties (HB266) and new minimum staffing requirements for municipal police departments (SB298).

**HB266** — Expansion of Reckless Endangerment Penalties has passed and been sent to the governor. It expands Alabama's reckless-endangerment statute. It creates harsher penalties when multiple people are endangered or when a firearm is used. Endangering multiple people becomes a Class C felony, and if a deadly weapon is involved, a Class B felony. Single-victim endangerment remains a Class A misdemeanor. HB266 was sponsored by Representative Chris Sells



(R-Greenville). It should become law on October 1, 2026.

**SB298** by Senator Will Barfoot (R-Pike Road) sets minimum staffing requirements for Law-Enforcement Agencies in Class 3 Municipalities (Montgomery being the target city). That has passed the Senate and is in the House as of press time.

Both Houss have passed **SB162**, sponsored by Senator Greg Albritton (R-Atmore), dealing with Domestic Violence Coalition Reporting Requirements. **SB162** requires the statewide coalition against domestic violence to submit audited financial statements, quarterly reports, and an operations plan. This bill is not a criminal-penalty statute but is part of the state's domestic-violence response infrastructure.

The Legislature is also working on promoting traditional values in Alabama public schools.

The House has passed **HB511** - a proposed constitutional amendment that would require every Alabama public K-12 school to begin each day with the Pledge of Allegiance and allow a voluntary, student-initiated, student-led prayer. It also requires local school boards to adopt formal policies, ensures students may opt out, and outlines how violations are reported. HB511 is awaiting action in the Alabama Senate. If passed by the Senate it would still have to be approved by Alabama voters. HB511 is sponsored by Representative Reed Ingram (R-Montgomery).

**The Senate passed a Ten Commandments bill** – SB99 by Senator Keith Kelley (R-Anniston) - that would require the document to be posted in every public school in the state, but that legislation is awaiting action in the House of Representatives.

The Alabama Senate also passed a national anthem bill. Senate Bill 5, a proposed constitutional amendment requiring public K-12 schools to play or broadcast the first stanza of "The Star-Spangled Banner" once per week. SB5 was sponsored by Sen. Gerald Allen (R-Northport). SB5 is awaiting action by the House of Representatives. Since it is a constitutional amendment if passed it would have to be voted on by the voters of the state.

Gambling is a widely discussed topic in the state, but at this time it appears that there will be no gambling bill passed by the Legislature this session. A gambling bill passed both Houses in 2024, but the conference committee version of that bill failed in the Senate. Rep. Phillip Ensler (D-Montgomery) introduced a lottery bill in this session, but that was not considered.

The Legislature also passed controversial legislation that would expand the Public Service Commission and create a new cabinet position – the Secretary of Energy. The Senate version of that bill – House Bill 475 – was passed over the objection of the sponsor, Representative Mack Butler (R-Rainbow City) who voted against concurring with the Senate changes.

Thursday was day 27 of the legislative session. There are a maximum of three days left in the session.

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### APRIL HOLIDAYS

**1st Passover begins  
1st April Fools Day  
2nd Maundy Thursday  
3rd Good Friday  
5th EASTER Sunday**



Rob Tate

# Robservations...

## RESURRECTION SUNDAY: THE DAY OF DAYS

Seven years ago, I wrote the following Robservations. Not surprisingly, it is just as relevant today as it was in 2019. Only certain names have changed. In Christianity, Easter is the arguably the day of days. Some will argue for the birth of Christ which is indeed a valid argument. Others will vote for the day Christ defeated death and rose from the grave. Our faith depends upon the latter day. The Apostle Paul wrote in **I Corinthians 15:14**, *“and if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is vain and your faith is also vain.”* This is central to our faith. Everything hinges upon our belief that Christ was raised from the dead. Without belief in this, as well as other doctrinal truths, what is the point? The answer is simple; there is no point. **Romans 8:11** says, *“But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.”* The Spirit who raised Christ from the dead dwells in us.

As Christians, we must stand on this truth and be prepared to defend this reality against the wolves in sheep’s clothing. This Easter, now more than ever, we must be prepared to stand against not only those elements outside of Christianity that want to do us harm and damage or destroy Christ’s church, but we must also be vigilant to the attacks that come from within. This was the purpose for the Robservations back in 2019. The attacks from the Muslims for example, which we continue to see, are to be expected. Those attacks are clearly part of their long-term strategic objectives. Always has been and always will be. But we also have to be on guard for enemies from within. So, here is my 2019 Easter Robservations.

### THE “C” WORD

Easter morning, I woke up to celebrate the most amazing miracle in the history of the universe. **The resurrection of my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.** We talked about this at length last Friday night out at Red Eagle where three guys from my church go out twice per month for prison ministry. After listening to Brother Cedrick speak, I was pumped up for Easter. Sunday morning, I got up, had a little breakfast making sure I left ample space for lunch a little after church, got semi-dolled up, turned on the tube to catch some news and boom, another suicide bombing. Or in this case bombings, each taking place in Sri Lanka. In all, the death toll now stands at 290 with almost 500 injured. As one can imagine, a bombing of this magnitude taking place on Easter Sunday was done to send a message of hate and evil on a day where love should reign supreme. No surprise but a radical Muslim group is claiming responsibility. In all, 24 people have been arrested and although warnings allegedly went out ten days prior to the bombings, authorities decided to do nothing about it. But that is another story. I am not going to sit here and bash the evil people who did this. There is no point. They do what they do because they are what they are; questions?

I want to shift the focus to those who lurk here within our borders. No, I am not talking about the usual hate groups per se, but perhaps in a way I am. Let’s talk about some people within the People’s Democratic Nationalist Front here in the states. It is amazing to me how these socialist wackos are so quick to rally around a pathetic narrative instead of offering any heartfelt thoughts and/or condolences to the Christian victims in these bombings. **Here are just five examples of worthless words mired deep in non-thinking groupthink.** Each of these tweets come from <https://thefederalistpapers.org/opinion/200-christians-murdered-terrorists-dems-refuse-call-christians>

*The attacks on tourists and Easter worshippers in Sri Lanka are an attack on humanity. On a day devoted to love, redemption, and renewal, we pray for the victims and stand with the people of Sri Lanka.*

Barack Obama

*On this holy weekend for many faiths, we must stand united against hatred and violence. I’m praying for everyone affected by today’s horrific attacks on Easter worshippers and travelers in Sri Lanka.*

Hillary Clinton

*On a day of redemption and hope, the evil of these attacks on Easter worshippers and tourists in Sri Lanka is deeply saddening. My prayers today are with the dead and injured, and their families. May we find grace.*

Julian Castro, Former HUD Sec.

*“Such a horrific terror attack on Easter worshippers and tourists in Sri Lanka. My thoughts are with the victims of today’s attack. We must stand united against hate and violence.”*

Michigan Rep. Dan Kildee

*“The horrific attacks on Easter worshippers in Sri Lanka are heartbreaking. It fills me with sadness that an act of such hatred and violence took the lives of so many on the holiest of days. We have work to do so that every person, wherever they live, may worship in peace.”*

Arizona Rep. Greg Stanton

At one level, a very small one, these thoughts seem to be sincere. In reality, however, I see something much different; something two-faced, fallacious and hypocritical. First of all, until yesterday, I had never heard the term, **“Easter Worshippers.”** If I were a gambling man, and I am not, I would go “all in” on the assumption that until this past weekend, few if any of you guys have heard that term either. What exactly is it supposed to mean? Easter Worshipper? I don’t know about you, but I do not “worship” Easter but Someone infinitely more significant. To say we are Easter Worshippers is to liken us to a bunch of Druids magnifying Stonehenge. It is utterly ridiculous and disingenuous.

And the fact that each of these people, and others on the Left, have used almost the exact same words lets us know they have rallied around one another to push through a certain narrative; lock-step like the little fascists they are. That narrative of course cannot be that Muslims have once again killed hundreds of Christians although these same people certainly had no problem stating that exact reality in the Mosque killings in New Zealand last month. [2026 Note: On 15 March 2019, two mass shootings took place in Christchurch, New Zealand. In all 51 people were killed and 89 injured] Not only did the press not have an issue with claiming the Muslims as victims in the NZ massacre, indeed they were and should have been identified as such, but the words “terrorist attacks” featured front and center on news programs for well over a week (rightfully so). Yet in the Sri Lanka situation, you have so-called prominent Americans who seemingly cannot bring themselves to utter either the words “Christian victims,” or “Muslim terrorists.” They just cannot do it. And then we have Hillary’s interesting comment including the phrase, “On this holy weekend for many faiths . . .” Sheesh!! I am left shaking my head over her questionable choice of words, “many faiths.” What faiths is she actually talking about other than the Christians who celebrate Resurrection Sunday? Do other faiths really celebrate Christ’s resurrection or even reverently acknowledge this day? Please, somebody teach me something here. We are not talking about different Christian denominations but completely different faiths. Her words not mine.

Regardless, I find it sad that these people, some supposedly professing to be Christian, cannot even say the “C” word and yet have to conjure up a ridiculous term to rally behind an insincere and misleading narrative. If I were to have chronicled this situation, it would read, **“Easter morning services were interrupted today when Muslim terrorists exploded bombs in several churches killing 290 Christians celebrating the resurrection of their Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.”** Simple. Wasn’t that easy? I personally would not care if anybody was offended either. As the Apostle Paul said in **Galatians 4:16**, *“So, have I become your enemy by telling you the truth?”* It is what it is. Put on your “man pants” and speak the truth. Any other narrative is worthless and should be ignored. I will look at their words for what they are worth. Absolutely nothing.



### BACK TO 2026

But Resurrection Sunday 2026 is especially important to me. Those who know me, know the reason. I hope every believer in Christ reading this Robservations will have/or had a wonderful Easter Sunday. When we turn our eyes to the Lord and focus on His goodness, every other little thing in life falls into the proper perspective. Remember always, **“He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed.”** 1 Peter 2:24 - Christ did this for us on the cross and His resurrection tells us that He is still alive and with us always. Praise God!

*The views of submitted editorials may not be the express views of The Alabama Gazette.*

*He is Risen*

DEATH COULD NOT HOLD HIM.  
Rejoice in the resurrection of  
*Jesus Christ.*





Ronald A. Holtsford

## Are there actually any legal issues associated with Easter? Surely not!

I would like to say there are zero legal issues associated with Resurrection Sunday, popularly called Easter but unfortunately there are issues.

Even with the innocent secular emblems of Christmas there are issues. It makes me think about a friend who is a local professional artist. He had painted several Santa Clause images which by the way were very good. But he needed them protected as intellectual

property so that some other individual could not legally use his now copyrighted images in a way that might make another individual or company profit from his talent and hard work.

Looking at the intellectual property side of Easter, what kind of things might be an issue? How about the Easter egg? Apparently painting and gifting eggs date back to at least the 13th century and later adopted by some Christians in the early church. Apparently, the egg had represented new life and rebirth in the pagan world and therefore came to be a symbol of Christ's resurrection. Like my friend the professional painter, one that designs and decorates and/or paints an egg in an appealing specific manner may copyright the design so that it cannot otherwise have its likeness copied for commercial profit. Also consider as intellectual property a trademark which likeness represents a service or a product. We can all see for instance the trademarks of Nike, Amazon, Coca Cola, Apple, Hewlett Packard, Master Card, Google and McDonalds. These are symbols that relate to certain products and we don't even have to see the company name. In the Easter business what about the distinguishable purple foil color of the Cadbury products? As you peruse the various products it's easy to pick out the Cadbury products or the Lindt products with the gold foil and crouching bunny? Companies depend on these nuances because there are customers who appreciate and seek out these products finding them tasty, affordable and maybe a symbol of their happy childhood, wanting a repeat of these happy memories for themselves and their families. So a quick look at the Easter chocolates display can be quick when your products stand out for your discerning eye. In 2010, a legal issue arose between Cadbury and Nestle over the specific purple tint of Cadbury. Cadbury won the fight in the courts.

There are even a few Easter related recipes that are protected, but mainly through European agencies such as the European Union, Protected European Indication mark. It seems that more so in Europe there is a greater interest in individualistic painted designs.

Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act require employers in the United States, having more than fifteen employees to accommodate employees who hold reasonably serious religious beliefs, observances or practices. This is however provided that it does not create an undue hardship. Consider hospital employees for instance since patients require twenty-four hour care during every day of the week including a Judeo-Christian Sabbath. While I think most individuals prefer to not work any weekends some may do so as a supplement to their financial situation or because it works better for a family schedule or they prefer time off

when most people are working Monday through Friday. There may of course be times when a typical Monday through Friday employee may be needed to work on the Sabbath because of a shortage of available workers. I think a lack of a sufficient number of employees working on a Sabbath or other religious holiday can be an undue hardship when patient lives are potentially at stake because care or services (such as nursing, x-ray, lab or respiratory therapy) are unavailable. In 2023, the United States Supreme Court held that an employer must show a substantial increased cost in order to deny an employee request for religious accommodation. An employee requesting reasonable accommodation must submit in a timely fashion and in writing when a reasonable chance exists of interfering with a religious practice.

Having a saving relationship with the one that walked the earth, Yeshua and known in English as Jesus means having an eternal relationship with the Son of God. Celebrating Christmas as God's gift to man by sending His Son is a joy, but the truest celebration in Christianity is Resurrection Sunday or Easter when the risen Christ is celebrated. What hope can there be in eternity if you don't know that Christ died on a cross and after three days as he said he arose from the dead? An unselfish death meant as the ultimate sacrifice for the sins of us all. There is no reasonable accommodation needed to Believe or to worship. God has no copyright or trademark. Whether one uses the sign of the cross or a fish as a symbol of faith, there is no legal maneuver necessary.

**John 3:1-5 (ESV)** says, "Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. 2 This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." 3 Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." 4 Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" 5 Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God."

**I pray that God will open the eyes of any that read this and do not understand and will seek the salvation of Jesus Christ.**

*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.*

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## The SAVE Act Is the Test and Reconciliation Is the Answer

There comes a moment in every Congress when talk has to end and governing has to begin. This is that moment. President Donald J. Trump has made the stakes unmistakably clear when it comes to election integrity: "We must have secure elections. Without secure elections, we don't have a country." That is not rhetoric. That is reality.

Republicans were not elected to clutch their pearls and seat on their hands. They were not sent to Washington to complain about the filibuster, hold press conferences, and then go home empty-handed. They were elected to deliver results on the issues that matter most to the American people. At the top of that list is something fundamental to the survival of this republic: election integrity.

The SAVE Act is not controversial outside the bubble of Washington. It is common sense. American elections should be decided by American citizens. That is not a partisan statement. That is the foundation of self-government.

And yet, everyone in Washington understands the reality. Senate Democrats will not provide sixty votes to pass meaningful election integrity legislation. Not now. Not later. Not ever. So the question is no longer whether the SAVE Act is necessary. The question is whether Republicans are willing to use the tools they already have to get it done.

The answer is staring us in the face: budget reconciliation. This is not theoretical. This is not uncharted territory. This is exactly how Washington works when one side is serious about governing. Senator John Kennedy has already said it out loud. As he put it plainly: "We need some smart lawyers to rewrite this bill so it complies with the rules and pass it through reconciliation with 51 votes."

That is not a fringe idea. That is a roadmap. The Republican Study Committee, the largest conservative caucus in Congress, has gone even further. Chairman August Pfluger has said plainly that reconciliation is the best vehicle to get the SAVE Act across the finish line. Vice Chair Ben Cline is already framing a second reconciliation package as the way to deliver the America First agenda. And Mark Alford, who leads messaging for the RSC, put it in terms no one can misunderstand: failing to use reconciliation would be political malpractice and that is exactly right.

The American people are not interested in process excuses. They are not interested in procedural lectures about what cannot be done. They want to know why, with control of the House and Senate Republicans would choose not to act. Here is where the contrast becomes impossible to ignore.

Democrats used reconciliation to pass trillions in spending. They used it to expand government. They used it to reshape healthcare, energy policy, and the economy itself. They did not ask permission from Republicans. They did not wait for sixty votes. They used the rules as they exist and they delivered their agenda. Republicans now have that same tool in their hands. The difference is

whether they are willing to use it and here is where this conversation becomes even more important.

The path forward has already been laid out in detail by someone who understands both policy and strategy. Gerrick Wilkins, a respected conservative voice and someone I am proud to call a friend, has provided a clear, actionable blueprint for how to get the SAVE Act through reconciliation.

His argument is straightforward and grounded in reality. Pair the SAVE Act with election-integrity funding mechanisms that meet the requirements of the Byrd Rule. Structure the legislation so that it is not just policy, but budgetary policy. Do the work. Follow the rules. Pass the bill.

That is not a gimmick. That is exactly how Democrats passed their agenda when they had the chance. They did not hesitate. They did not apologize. They governed whether you like the outcome or not.

Now Republicans have the same opportunity.

Members like Alabama Congressman Gary Palmer understand this. He has already recognized that reconciliation becomes the pressure valve when Democrats inevitably block a clean path forward. Congressman Ralph Norman and other conservatives have signaled the same thing. The will is there. The alignment is there. The public support is there.

What remains is execution.

Let's be honest about what is at stake. If Republicans fail to use reconciliation to pass the SAVE Act, it will not be because the path was unclear. It will not be because the votes were impossible. It will be because they chose not to act and voters will remember that.

They will remember who fought to secure elections and who found reasons to wait. They will remember who treated this moment with the seriousness it deserves and who treated it like just another Washington debate.

Here in Alabama, we understand what it means to stand up and lead. Senator Tommy Tuberville has been clear that election integrity and border security are inseparable from national security. Senator Katie Britt has been on the front lines fighting to ensure that federal policy reflects the will of the people, not the priorities of Washington insiders. Both have shown that when it comes to protecting the country, you do not wait for permission. You act, that is the standard. This is the test. The tool is available and the mandate is clear. The strategy has been laid out.

Now it is time to deliver. Because if Republicans cannot secure American elections when they have the power to do so, then what exactly are they in Washington to accomplish? That is the question and answer voters will remember in November, so act now or you may never have the chance again.





## INSIDE THE STATEHOUSE With Steve Flowers

Steve Flowers is Alabama's leading political columnist. His weekly column appears in over 60 Alabama newspapers. Steve served 16 years in the state legislature. He may be reached at: <https://steveflowers.us/>



### A Look at the 2026 Governor and Lt. Governor Races

The 2026 state races have officially begun. The qualifying ended on January 23. It will now be a less than three-month horserace sprint to the finish line.

**Our May 19th GOP Primary will be our election day**, because winning the Republican Primary is tantamount to election in the Heart of Dixie.

The Governor's race will not be one of the best races. Coach Tommy Tuberville appears to have a cakewalk coronation tour to the Governor's office. He has been running full steam ahead for over a year and has \$10 million in the bank. He is recognized as the most conservative right-wing politico in the Heart of Dixie, and only has token opposition in the GOP Primary. However, he will spend some money and campaign. He is a prolific and effective campaigner and loves it.

Some of you may be wondering why I do not consider the candidacy of Democratic candidate Doug Jones a challenge to Tuberville. My belief is a Democratic candidate cannot win a statewide race in Alabama, especially Governor, and even more especially, a recognized and proven Bernie Sanders liberal Democrat like Doug Jones. Around 40% of the vote is what a Democratic candidate can get in Alabama. Therefore, Jones is not a viable or serious candidate.

The Lt. Governor's race may very well be the best contest on the May 19 ballot.

As qualifying ended, there was a lengthy list of seven qualifiers for this race. The list includes Wes Allen, George Childress, Pat Bishop, Rick Pate, Nicole Jones Wadsworth, John Wahl, and Stewart Hill Tankersley.

This will probably boil down to a three-man race between current Secretary of State Wes Allen, Agriculture Commissioner Rick Pate, and Republican Party Chairman John Wahl. It will be interesting to see who makes the two-man runoff. Although the female candidate in the race, Nicole Jones Wadsworth, has worked hard and will get some votes.

Secretary of State Wes Allen is the favorite to win this race. He began in earnest



over a year ago. He has been like a plow horse and has worked tirelessly. He has raised more money than the other candidates. Money is the mother's milk of politics, and it will be especially important in a down ballot race with seven people in the race. He has received every important, major pro-business group endorsement, including ALFA and BCA.

In addition, with a large field of candidates in this race, Wes Allen being listed first on the ballot alphabetically may be worth a 10-point advantage. He already has some statewide name recognition, having had a successful four-year tenure as Secretary of State, and has significant name identification in the Wiregrass having been Probate Judge of Pike County for 10 years and a Wiregrass legislator for four years.

Agriculture Commissioner Rick Pate will be a major player in this race. He has had a very successful eight year run as Agriculture Commissioner and would probably like to run for another four-year term in that important post. However, he is constitutionally term limited. I have never seen anyone in or around state government or Alabama politics who does not like Rick Pate.

It looked like a two-man race between Allen and Pate until a bombshell was dropped into the race the last night before qualifying. President Donald Trump surprisingly endorsed Republican Party Chairman John Wahl in the Alabama Lt. Governor's race. Wahl qualified the next day. The big question in this race is whether Wahl can raise the campaign money to tell Alabamians he is the Trump endorsee. Again, money is the mother's milk of politics. Money equates into media, and media equates into name identification, and name identification equates into votes.

The problem with raising money for this job is that this job has no power. Therefore, it lacks interest for special interest donors.

More than likely, this Lt. Governor's race will extend into a very interesting June runoff.

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## Lower Ballot Races

There are several down ballot Constitutional offices up this year. All are contested. Several are open where there is no incumbent.

Highlighted today will be Secretary of State, State Treasurer, State Auditor, and two seats on the State Public Service Commission.

In these races, name identification is most of the gambit. Therefore, those who have the most money, usually win. Money is the mother's milk of politics. Money buys name identification, and name identification equates into votes. It is a crowded ballot. Many times politics, and especially for lower ballot races, is a simple matter of whose name you see or recognize the most. That is one reason why incumbents have an inherent advantage.

State Treasurer Young Boozer is running for another term as our State Treasurer. In my over six decades of following Alabama politics, there has never been a more qualified and accomplished State Treasurer than Young Boozer III. He has a stellar record of safekeeping the state's coffers. Boozer also has made the state money. He has invested wisely, like only a successful banker could adroitly accomplish. He had a stellar career as a banker that invested for the largest banks in the world on a daily basis.

Young Boozer has the longest tenure as treasurer in state history. He also is one of the most popular public officials in the state with one of the most memorable names on the ballot. He will be overwhelmingly reelected to another four-year term on May 19. He only has one token opponent.

Caroleene Dobson will be elected Secretary of State on May 19. She does have two unknown, last day qualifying opponents, so she could be forced into a June runoff, but probably not. She has unlimited campaign funds.

At the beginning of the campaign year, it looked as though the Secretary of State race would be interesting and competitive. However, Caroleene

Dobson jumped out to an early and commanding lead and ran her primary competitor, current State Auditor Andrew Sorrell, out of the race.

Caroleene is an outstanding candidate who is the brightest rising star on the GOP stage. She is an accomplished lawyer, mother, wife, and campaigner. She is also a very good fundraiser. She has garnered the endorsement of every major group, including ALFA, BCA, and Forestry, to name a few. She reminds you of another Katie Britt.

Poor ole Andrew Sorrell got run out of the Secretary of State race by Caroleene Dobson and jumped from the frying pan into the fire when he jumped into a race for his old job as Auditor against another bona fide rising superstar in Derek Chen. Twenty-eight-year-old Chen will be hard for anyone to beat for the obscure job of Auditor. He has a commanding lead in this race. He has been endorsed by every major Republican and business group in the state, including ALFA. He will be able to outspend Sorrell 10 to 1 and may very well be endorsed by President Donald Trump.

Derek Chen is probably one of Trump's longest and most ardent campaign contributors in the state. Derek Chen will be tough to beat in this race. Besides having the endorsement of ALFA, BCA, Manufacture Alabama, Forestry, Homebuilders, and Trucking, he is supported by the MAGA loyalists from throughout the state. He has worked the state tirelessly for over a year. Derek Chen probably will be elected State Auditor on May 19.

There are two PSC races on the ballot. Place 1 Incumbent Jeremy Oden is being challenged by a fellow Cullman Countian. Popular Cullman County Sheriff Matt Gentry has a significant fundraising lead over Oden. The PSC Place 2 post has a horde of candidates. It is difficult to say what will happen in this race. The incumbent is Chris Beeker, who has done a good job and deserves to be reelected.

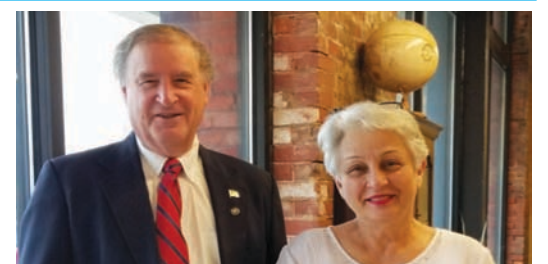


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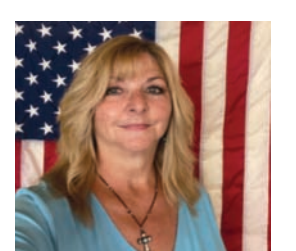
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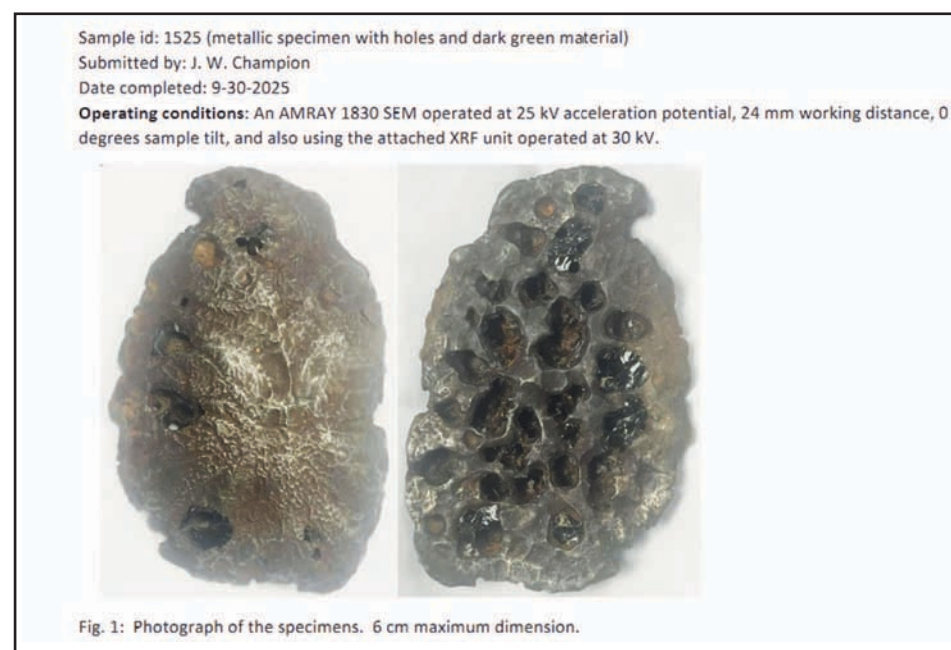
John Martin

new gravel additional searches.

About the year 2022, he found a very peculiar 3.5 inch chunk of iron that really puzzled him. It looked like a natural rock and showed no signs of being manufactured, cast, or forged. It was filled with holes and cavities that resembled Teredo boreholes.

I knew that there are no manufactured items that looked anything like this. The only natural iron that could even come close is a rare pallasite meteorite. It appeared to be one, but the olivine inclusions that would have filled the cavities were absent, except for a few tiny bits I saw at the bottoms of a couple of the holes. They did have the proper color of olivine. I told Joe that it was a seriously weathered pallasite that had been exposed to the outdoor elements for anywhere from a century to more than a millinnum. Oddly, it was only lightly rusted.

The specimen was smooth and rounded on one side and rough and somewhat flat on the other. It appeared to have broken from a larger piece when it fell through the atmosphere, a very common occurrence in many meteorites.



In spite of its weathered condition, I advised Joe to keep it. It is a freakishly rare chance to find a real meteorite in your own yard.

Joe showed it to many of his friends and the members of the Montgomery Gem and Mineral Society. It was his hot bragging piece.

Last year (2025), Joe decided on a whim to make a solo trip to Maine and back, spending the nights sleeping in the back of his Toyota Camry, which had room for only one person. He made several stops, including the Smithsonian, where he had his picture made standing next to the Tucson Ring.

While in Bethel, Maine, Joe found a laboratory at the Maine Mineral and Gem

## A Mysterious Meteorite

Museum that could give his meteorite a serious analysis. The lab is considered one of the finest in the nation. When Joe received the results, he and I were both absolutely shocked. What we thought would be a simple analysis of a badly weathered pallasite turned out to be something even the lab could not understand.

### In the lab's own words:

**"This is a strange specimen. The dark olive green parts show gas bubbles. They are GLASS! The metallic part is mainly iron with 4.5 – 5.3 wt % nickel. This is slightly low for pallasites where 7 or more wt. % of nickel are commonly found. Another problem is that there are NO noticeable kamacite / taenite intergrowths. The nickel content is overall consistent."**

**"The dark olive green material is NOT OLIVINE, but a high sodium-calcium GLASS with about 5-7 wt % iron and about 10 wt % zirconium with clearly visible bubbles... This glass is without doubt man made and not of meteoritic origin..."**

**"Nickel iron meteorites with poor exsolution do occur and can also be at times very coarse-grained so that a uniform appearance is presented."**

**"The specimen is not what I expected, and somebody either made it up like this or we have some other material from some industrial product here. The relatively flat surface is also a little odd. Metal tends to separate in a more irregular fashion. Everything about this specimen brings up questions."**

Yes, fake pallasites have been made. One noteworthy example came from Russia about 2002. Pieces were sold to dealers under the name Shirokovsky. In 2003, at the InnSuites mineral show in Tucson, AZ, in meteorite dealer Mike Farmer's room, I actually saw a slice of one for sale. At that time, Mike was not aware that it was fake.

Making a fake pallasite apparently is not all that difficult—as long as the telltale outside surfaces are completely trimmed off. But duplicating the natural outside's patina and weathering like on Joe's specimen is just about impossible. Even though its nickel percentage is near the lower boundary, there can be no doubt that Joe's specimen is genuine.

Joe told me that even though the lab did not accept it as a genuine pallasite, one member offered him \$20,000 for it because of its peculiarities. Joe refused the offer and decided to keep it.

On the phone, I later talked to the lab's curator, Scott Harris, and he told me something that was missing in the lab report. He said the melting temperature of the glass inclusions was higher than the melting point of the iron-nickel specimen. He also said that it was fused into the iron. That suggests that the iron and glass were melted together.

If the glass had been natural, I could write off Joe's specimen as a freak pallasite with a different inclusion other than the usual olivine. But if the glass is really man-made, has a higher melting point than iron, and is fused into it, then the iron portion is also man-made. Considering its complexity, the labor and technology required to fabricate and age a "pallasite" like this, creating it would be borderline on the impossible, especially without a financial incentive.

Or is it possible that the glass is a currently unknown natural material that became included with the iron?

The big mystery is that the remnants of "olivine" were identified as man-made glass inside of an almost impossible to produce fabricated weathered "pallasite."

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John Sophocleus

the federal government has wrongfully mobilized National Guard personnel without war declarations. Former Rep. Ron Paul [R-TX] warned for decades undeclared wars became reoccurring 'no-win' military actions from the moment of failing to follow the constitutional process of declaring them - i.e., once we stopped declaring 'em we stopped winning 'em...

Illegal use of Guardsmen aids and abets the ability/means to further engage in undeclared wars. The two ways Congress [federal government] is authorized to mobilize the National Guard are as follows. **First**, under Title 10; which allows federalized National Guard troop use for training, to enforce federal authority and for homeland defense - seems we can play 'name-games' for Secretary of Defense/War Pete Hegseth, but don't have the spine to actually declare war anymore. **Second**, there's Title 32; which keeps Guardsmen under the control of their governor but allows use for humanitarian assistance during declared disasters and again stressed for homeland **defense**. Readers may recall past columns on the designed use of militia to repel invasion. Some saw the Governor of Texas' missed opportunity to deploy militia/guardsmen when the President went on record with 'invasion' nomenclature... the Constitution is rarely included in politburo members' decision calculus these past several score.

Neither provision authorizes mobilization of a State's National Guard for overseas combat operations. Since the launch of the Global War on Terror in 2001 (as if we've not had enough 'war on abstractions' in my life - e.g., war on cancer, war on drugs, war on illiteracy, war on poverty, etc.) it is revealing nearly **half** of all personnel deployed to the undeclared wars in Iraq and Afghanistan were National Guardsmen. Moscow on the Potomac has become very comfortable engaging in long military engagements without proper Constitutional adherence. Sadder still, don't expect over-degreed/under-educated comrades like Biden, Blinken, Trump, Miller, Navarro, Hassett, Bessent, **et al** to realize Letters of Marque and Reprisal were designed to address goals of this sort much more cheaply the \$1 Billion/day 'war porn' for White House 'Reality TV' show efforts. Of course, letters of this sort may not be as effective 'weapons of mass-distraction' perfected by previous soviet presidents.

The National Guard motto is "**Always Ready, Always There.**" But they're increasingly **less** ready/there when wrongfully deployed overseas, unavailable to assist/defend their people at home. Not "Always Ready, Always There" was illustrated when Hurricane Katrina hit Louisiana and Mississippi hard when roughly 35 to 40 percent of their home-State's National Guard was deployed in Iraq. Personnel and essential equipment - e.g., trucks, helicopters, etc. needed for relief were improperly allocated thousands of miles away while their own people at home needed humanitarian assistance. **Less "Always Ready, Always There"** for Alabama tornadoes and hurricanes is similarly easy to imagine if our troops and equipment are being used illegally overseas instead of being available for the people of our State. Sadly, our government killed Alabama's State Defense Force which was available to address shortfalls resulting from this sort of Guardsmen misuse.

## Defend the Guard! ...now more than ever

"Defend the Guard" is proposed State-level legislation prohibiting overseas deployment of National Guardsmen to combat operations without formal congressional declaration of war. Authority to declare war is specifically assigned to Congress according to Article 1, Section 8, Clause 11 of the Constitution. Since unconstitutional creation of the National Guard (further decaying State sovereignty)

The federal government benefiting from this misuse will not change course and press for adherence to the Constitution they (yes, including the Troops) swore to uphold and defend. Congress abdicates their responsibility time and time again by delegating war-making powers to the Executive branch. We see DC bureaucrats repeatedly overreach and neglect the Constitution as addressed in last month's column on tariff uniformity. Expect politburo members to continue evoking unconstitutional codes and statutes to justify their abominations.

Stipulating the federal government will continue overreaching and violating the Constitution, it is the State(s) responsibility to discipline - now a much more difficult task under our hegemonic union far from when voluntarily joining the compact. Persons of each State must compel the federal government follow the Constitution, and this legislation is one way States may accomplish this noble end affirming "You are not going to use our troops, our blood, and our treasure unless you follow the Constitution to do so," quoting Libertarian Party of Alabama Vice Chair, Patrick Merritt II.

This legislation has growing support around the country. In 2022, it was introduced in over 20 States then increased to over 30 States in 2023 and it reached nearly 40 states in 2024. The trend continued with over 40 States in 2025 last year, hard to forecast similar numbers in 2026 with another 'euphoric' moment of initial military conflict. Mr. Merritt noted in some States, the bill may successfully pass one chamber with strong Republican support, only to be stalled on the other side by the opposition, citing an example of Virginia's 2025 House of Delegates passing it unanimously, 99 to zero, with the Senate killing it in committee.

Endorsed by Ron Paul, Rand Paul, and Thomas Massie, it is even in the official Republican Party platform in the States of Georgia, New Hampshire, and Texas. Many in Alabama are in the military or have family and dear friends who serve(d) with five major military installations in the mix. However, Merritt's efforts to get a sponsor for this legislation have failed after speaking with legislators and the Bring Our Troops Home Foundation championing this legislation nationwide with grassroots efforts. Not a single Alabama legislator has the courage to pre-file this Constitution (re)affirming bill on behalf of our Guardsmen.

Unable to get a sponsor, Merritt has endeavored to address groups like local Republican Assemblies, the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Eagle Forum to spread the word. I pray some organizations will pass resolutions in support of the Defend the Guard Act. When legislators visit those groups or come knocking on your door asking for your vote, your money, or your help getting re-elected... look them in the eye and ask: 'We support Defend the Guard Act; where do you stand?' Mr. Merritt stresses this is an important step in taking our country back. Given recent military action in Iran; timing is indeed critical.

**Postscript:** please do not contact me w.r.t. Iran if you can only remember back to Carter being pressured into allowing former Shah of Iran into the US. I do not expect big government/modern 'Biden Buffoon' Democrats and 'Trump Chump' MAGAT's (yes I know he's currently 'donning' the Red soviet party jersey) to know of Balfour Lines, 1946 Iran Crisis - among the first Cold War stand-offs, the CIA Mosaddegh debacle, etc. Of course better scholars than I (like my well educated Pastor) can take it back to Persian Emperor Cyrus... an integral part of Hebrew history - i.e., return to Jerusalem and rebuild the Temple.

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THINK

## HISTORY BITS AND PIECES

### THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY



Justice Will Sellers

### Washington's First Victory

The first major victory for the Continental Army occurred 250 years ago on March 17, 1776, when the British evacuated Boston.

Following the fighting at Lexington and Concord, thousands of colonial militiamen surrounded the British army when they retreated to Boston. The Royal Navy maintained supply lines, and while the colonial forces effectively contained the British, they lacked the manpower to liberate Boston from British occupation.

As the siege of Boston began, George Washington assumed command. His army consisted largely of short-term militia with uneven training, limited discipline, and severe shortages of weapons, ammunition, and artillery. Washington quickly realized that the Americans lacked the heavy guns necessary to threaten British positions within Boston.

Determined not to launch a reckless frontal attack with significant losses, he instead focused on strengthening the army's organization and searching for a strategic opportunity that might force the British to leave.

One of the most important developments in breaking the stalemate came far away from Boston. Earlier, in May of 1775, American forces captured Fort Ticonderoga in northern New York. The fort contained a large supply of artillery, including cannons, mortars, and other heavy weapons that the Continental Army desperately needed.

Washington approved a bold plan proposed by Henry Knox, who suggested retrieving the captured cannons from Fort Ticonderoga and transporting them hundreds of miles through winter conditions to Boston. Against all odds, Knox and his team moved nearly sixty tons of artillery over frozen rivers, snow-covered roads, and mountainous terrain. In January of 1776, Knox successfully delivered the artillery to Washington.

Although the Americans now had artillery, Washington still needed a way to use it effectively. Boston was heavily defended and a direct assault, even with artillery support, was unwise. So, Washington identified a location that could shift the balance without requiring a full-scale attack.

South of Boston stood Dorchester Heights. Whoever controlled these heights would command a dominant position over the British fleet and the city below. If American artillery could be placed there, British ships would become vulnerable, and the entire British position in Boston would be threatened.

But Dorchester Heights lay within range of British defenses, and any attempt to fortify the hills would have to be carried out quickly and secretly.

Washington carefully planned the operation and organized a diversionary bombardment of British positions while troops prepared materials for fortifications. Under cover of darkness, American soldiers quietly moved artillery, timber, and tools onto the heights, where they constructed fortifications and placed the cannons brought from Fort Ticonderoga in menacing positions. When British forces looked up to see fortified positions armed with heavy artillery, they knew the siege was over.

On March 17, 1776, British troops and loyalist civilians began evacuating Boston as approximately 11,000 soldiers and more than 1,000 loyalists boarded ships and sailed to Halifax in Nova Scotia.

The withdrawal ended the nearly year-long siege without a large-scale battle. Washington entered Boston soon afterward, greeted by cheering residents who celebrated the departure of British forces.

The evacuation was a remarkable success for the Continental Army. What had begun as an improvised militia force had managed to contain and ultimately force out one of the most powerful armies in the world.

Based on Washington's strategic leadership, momentum seemed to shift to the Americans.

Washington had transformed a loose collection of militia units into an organized army. He introduced discipline, established supply systems, and encouraged cooperation among soldiers from different colonies. These efforts created a more unified, fighting force capable of carrying out complex operations.

Most importantly, Washington showed patience and strategic judgment. Instead of attempting risky frontal assaults potentially destroying the Continental Army, he focused on strengthening his position and waiting for the right opportunity. His decision to rely on artillery and maneuver rather than a direct attack proved crucial.



Washington's leadership embraced a larger strategic view of the conflict by supporting innovative solutions that were risky but offered substantial rewards. His approval of Knox's plan to retrieve the artillery from Fort Ticonderoga and transport it in winter over rough terrain demonstrated his willingness to trust capable subordinates. Without those guns, the siege of Boston would have continued unabated.

In the end, the secrecy, preparation, and timing of the maneuver reflected tactical planning to covertly place heavy artillery above Boston Harbor. Thus, Washington's broad and comprehensive vision ensured that the cannons were strategically placed on a high point to force the British to leave.

The British evacuation of Boston had several important consequences for the American Revolution:

First, it provided the Continental Army with its first major victory. Up to that point, the war's outcome remained uncertain. Forcing the British to abandon a major city demonstrated that the American cause was viable and strengthened confidence among soldiers and civilians alike.

Second, the victory boosted morale across the colonies. News of the British withdrawal spread quickly, encouraging support for the revolutionary movement and paving the way for the Continental Congress to seriously consider independence.

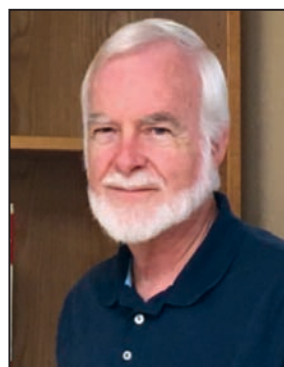
Third, the evacuation allowed Washington to gain valuable experience as commander-in-chief. The siege taught him important lessons about patience, organization, logistics, and strategy that would influence his leadership throughout the war. In many ways, the action in Boston was a precursor to crossing the Delaware River.

Finally, the British retreat shifted the focus of the conflict. After leaving Boston, British forces concentrated their efforts on New York, beginning a new phase of the war. Although the fighting would continue for many years, the events at Boston showed that American forces could challenge British power effectively. The British also saw their vulnerabilities in concentrating forces in an unfamiliar environment.

The British evacuation on March 17, 1776, was more than a simple retreat. It was a powerful demonstration that the Continental Army could organize, plan, and execute operations capable of overcoming British advantages. Success at Boston strengthened the revolutionary cause and helped set the stage for the long struggle that would ultimately lead to the Declaration of Independence four months later.

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John Taylor

### The Post-War Southern Exodus

On April 9, 1865, Robert E. Lee surrendered the Army of Northern Virginia, one week prior to almost certainly the most tragic Easter in Southern history. Joseph Johnston, Richard Taylor, and other Confederate commanders soon followed. After an unsuccessful four year effort to gain independence, the South faced a bleak future. The Union's total war policy had added insult to injury by making war on non-combatants and property. Abraham Lincoln and U.S. Grant approved this strategy, which required morally reprobate individuals such as William Sherman and Phillip Sheridan to execute.

Approximately 500,000 Union troops were foreigners and many were mercenaries void of loyalty to America. One example of total war conducted by a foreigner is reflected through the actions of Ivan Turchin, a Union officer and former Russian Cossack, who was responsible for the sacking of Athens, Alabama. Union General Don Buell attempted to have Turchin court-martialed but Lt. General James Garfield (later president) and Lincoln de-railed those efforts. Showing at least tacit approval of Turchin's actions, Lincoln rewarded him with a promotion to Brigadier General.

After being forced back in the Union, Southern States feared retribution for seeking independence. The ill-timed assassination of Lincoln made matters worse, further incentivizing the Radical Republicans who had long desired to control Southern land and resources; some had even intimated genocide of the Southern people. The charge that leaving a voluntary union was somehow treasonous raised alarm bells. Ex-Confederate soldiers returned to destroyed homes and property, along with disenfranchisement; their input into government was essentially nonexistent. Exorbitant taxes and martial law further eroded a previously ordered, primarily Christian society. Since there was no redemption of Confederate currency, poverty was virtually assured to non-sycophants.

Many Southerners looked for alternatives rather than live under military occupation. The Radicals had been cheerleaders for Lincoln's agenda of protectionism, corporate welfare, and a national bank. They favored mercantilism, especially when the government-protected industries provided them direct financial benefits. The South was virtually defenseless against the avaricious, more empowered Radical Republicans.

Dissatisfied and disenfranchised Southerners understood escape from the boot heel of Northern military rule might require moving to another location, possibly thousands of miles away. There were some logical geographical options. For example, Mexico had a generally good relationship with the South. Thousands of "Hispanics" fought for the Confederacy, such as those who served under Confederate Colonel Santos Benavides. Central and South America were viable options as both areas were heavily agrarian. Belize (British Honduras) was another possibility. Also, the prospect of moving to Great Britain, France, and other regions of Europe looked feasible.

Jefferson Davis and General Lee encouraged Southerners to remain and rebuild

the South, the U.S. Government was sometimes aggressive in their efforts to stop the exodus. Regardless of any threats, some moved to the American West, North, Midwest, and Canada. Others left the upper regions of North America. For example, about 2,500 Confederates and/or their families moved to Mexico. This group included Virginia scientist and naval officer, Matthew Fontaine Maury; former Louisiana Governor, Henry Watkins Allen; and Kentucky businessman Joseph Shelby. Maximilian I, whose predominantly French troops opposed Benito Juarez and his Juaristas, invited Southerners to Mexico. Shelby and his followers soon realized Mexico was a sometimes extremely violent place to make a new home.

Many Southerners moved to Belize, where English was routinely spoken. Some historians contend Belize was the most common destination for ex-Confederates. The fact that many Southerners were highly skilled in agriculture made them valuable immigrants. This group included Colin J. McRae, ex-Confederate States European Financial Agent and Joseph Benjamin, the brother of Judah Benjamin, a key adviser to Jefferson Davis.

Perhaps the most publicized are the ex-Confederates who moved to Brazil. Some have estimated as many as 20,000 Southerners moved there. Known as Confederados, they still maintain a place of significance in Americana, Brazil. Emperor Dom Pedro encouraged Southerners to migrate and offered many incentives in the process. Colonel William H. Norris of Alabama was the first Confederado to move to Brazil; he brought thirty Southern families with him, arriving in Rio de Janeiro on December 27, 1865. In 1972, Georgia Governor Jimmy Carter made a trip to Brazil and noted similarities in the cultures of Americana and the South.

Ex-Confederates who moved to England included Judah P. Benjamin, John C. Breckinridge, and Lt. General Jubal A. Early. Obviously, there was a close genetic and cultural connection to England as well as Scotland, Wales, and Ireland. Also, before, during, and after the war, many citizens of Great Britain showed great admiration for the South.

Other destinations included Venezuela, Cuba, Egypt, Canada, and New Zealand. The loss of representative government and federal occupation were primary catalysts for the exodus of many Southerners. Although some moved back, large numbers stayed and their genealogical legacies remain in those countries.

Sources: The Confederate Handbook, by Robert Wood; "Athens Sacked and Plundered," The Historical Marker Database, at: <https://www.hmdb.org/m.asp?m=85387>; "Thousands of Southerners Fled the U.S. after the Civil War and Ended Up in this Country," by David Stusowski, 5/16/17, History Collection, at: <https://historycollection.com/americana/>; "Southern Emigration," RADIO IQ, by James Robertson, Jr., Published October 17, 2019, at: <https://www.wvtf.org/civil-war-series/2019-10-17/southern-emigration/>; "Confederate Migration to Mexico," by George D. Harmon (Lehigh University), The Hispanic American Historical Review, at: [https://www.latinamericanstudies.org/civil-war/Confederates\\_Mexico.pdf](https://www.latinamericanstudies.org/civil-war/Confederates_Mexico.pdf); NOTE: Despite the proliferation of modern history-destroying Jacobins, there are still signs around Athens, AL that describe the sacking of the city. Also, the total war strategy was largely derived from Prussian officer Carl von Clausewitz' strategy known as "absolute war." Records show Easter fell on April 16, 1865.

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Col John Eidsmoe

## IRAN: WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM THE AZTECS AND ALABAMA?

In an earlier writing, I suggested that the President as commander-in-chief of the armed forces has authority to engage in limited military action without a congressional declaration of war, and that a preemptive strike can be justified when the threat is instant and overwhelming and when waiting could make self-defense difficult or impossible. Trump's deep-bombing of Iran's nuclear facilities in June 2025 was justifiable on constitutional, legal, and moral grounds.

But the latest strike on Iran seems focused on bringing down the regime. Two reasons are given to justify this action. Are they valid? Let's examine each in turn.

(1) The Iranian regime is a threat to world peace. The fanatical Shiite regime took power in 1979 and shortly thereafter took 57 Americans hostage and held them for 444 days. They and their puppet states have waged war against Israel, they have repeatedly threatened the United States and other nations, and they have built a nuclear arsenal in violation of the non-proliferation treaty. Allowing the Iranian regime to continue this build-up could lead to a nuclear apocalypse. If nothing short of bringing down the regime could prevent this, bringing down the regime is justified.

(2) The Iranian regime terrorizes and brutalizes the people of Iran. Assuming this is true (and I believe it is), does this justify foreign intervention? This is a more difficult question. Many Iranians – some say as many as 80% -- oppose the current regime because of its flagrant human rights violations, but many others support it. At what point do a nation's human rights violations become so extreme that other nations have a right or duty to step in and stop those abuses? We believe in self-determination, but what if the people of another country choose a government that suppresses the rights of some of its own citizens? If the Iranian regime had the support of 51% of its own citizens, does the U.S. have a right to intervene to protect the rights of the minority?

Let's consider two lessons from history. First, consider a lesson from the Spanish Conquest of the Americas in the 1500s. In many ways, the Spaniards brought to the people of the Americas a better religion and better way of life. But did that justify them in forcing a better religion and a better way of life on people?

The Spaniards themselves questioned this. In 1538-39 Fr. Francisco de Vitoria, a Dominican priest and Prima Professor of Theology at Spain's leading university (Salamanca), presented a series of lectures on the legitimacy of the Spanish Conquest. He analyzed the arguments presented to justify the Conquest and rejected most of them but accepted two.

First, he rejected the suggestion that Native Americans had no claim to sovereignty because they were infidels, noting that the legitimacy of human government does not depend upon the regeneration of either the rulers or their subjects.

Second, he denied that the Native Americans lived in a "state of nature" without human government. He noted that they had distinctive, albeit sometimes tyrannical, governments and well-developed laws and customs.

Third, he denied the validity of the Pope's division of the New World between Spain and Portugal as a basis for conquest, because the Pope's authority is spiritual and not temporal.

Fourth, he said, Israel's conquest of Canaan was not a valid comparison because Israel acted under a direct command of God; Spain did not.

But Fr. Vitoria said two justifications of the Conquest were valid. First, a Christian nation may intervene in the internal affairs of another nation when that nation was unjustly condemning innocent persons to death. The Aztec holocaust of human sacrifice, involving up to 50,000 victims per year, was a sufficient basis for Spanish intervention.

Second, Fr. Vitoria said, God intends that all people have a right to hear the Gospel of Jesus Christ, citing the Great Commission of Matthew 28:19-20. No one may be forced to accept the Gospel or even hear the Gospel, but if a pagan government

refuses to allow its people to hear the Gospel, a Christian nation as a right and duty to intervene to make sure the people have the opportunity to hear the Gospel if they choose to do so.

A Jesuit theologian, Father Francisco Suarez of the Portuguese University of Coimbra, in his Treatise on Laws and God the Lawgiver and other writings, analyzed the relationship of natural law, the law of nations, human laws, and human customs. His conclusions were similar to those of Fr. Vitoria, but he added that, although a Christian nation may not interfere in the affairs of another nation because that nation's practices violate the laws of Christianity, it may intervene when that pagan nation violates the law of nature. He cited the widespread Aztec practices of human sacrifice, cannibalism, and sodomy as justification for Spanish intervention.



So how do the works of Frs. Vitoria and Suarez apply to our war with Iran? The United States is justified in preventing Iran's nuclear build-up as a threat to the peace, but may we intervene to prevent human rights violations within that nation?

Some say the Ayatolla is free to torture his own people as much as he wants, provided he leaves the rest of us alone. But do we ever reach a point at which we must say, "Enough is enough"?

Second, consider our own struggle in Alabama.

Some call it the Civil War, others the War Between the States, others the War for Southern Independence or the War of Northern Aggression. Many in the North saw it as a war to liberate slaves and preserve the Union; many Southrons believed their resistance was a justified defense of states' rights.

But after the war came "regime change;" some call it Reconstruction. As Lincoln envisioned it, it might have been time of healing. But as Southrons viewed it, Reconstruction became a reign of terror as a new system was forced upon them. The South reacted with Jim Crow, segregation, and more than a century of racial tension that is still not fully resolved. Forcing change upon people results in resistance, even change for their own good. Maybe especially change for their own good.

John Quincy Adams declared in 1821, "Wherever the standard of freedom and independence has been or shall be unfurled, there will her heart, her benedictions, and her prayers be. But she goes not abroad in search of monsters to destroy. She is the well-wisher to the freedom and independence of all. She is the champion and vindicator only of her own."

That sounds like good common sense. But are there exceptions? Is Iran an exception?

### Think about it.

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Located in historic downtown Montgomery at 468 S. Perry Street, the Alabama Historical Commission is the state historic preservation agency for Alabama. The agency was created by an act of the state legislature in 1966 with a mission to protect, preserve and interpret Alabama's historic places.

AHC works to accomplish its mission through two fields of endeavor: reservation and promotion of state-owned historic sites as public attractions; and statewide programs to assist people, groups, towns, and cities with local preservation activities. For a complete list of programs and properties owned and operated by the AHC, hours of operation, and admission fees please visit [ahc.alabama.gov](http://ahc.alabama.gov).



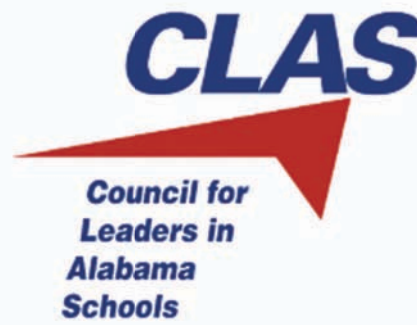
On Fridays, we'll be sharing a unique artifact from one of AHC's historic sites that tells a story, sparks curiosity, and connects us to history.

## Kohler & Liebich Company, the makers of "Liberty Chimes."



Kohler & Liebich Co. was a small American manufacturer that operated in the early 20th century, best known for producing "Liberty Chimes", a type of mechanical or electrically-driven chime instrument. The company was based in Chicago, Illinois, from the 1910s through the 1930s, though exact business dates vary by source. Liberty Chimes were designed as an affordable alternative to large bronze church bells. Instead of cast bells, they often used tuned metal rods, tubular bells, or similar resonant materials driven by a mechanical striker or small electric mechanism.

Kohler & Liebich competed with several other makers of electrically-actuated chimes and tower bells of the era, such as Schulmerich and Deagan. Surviving Liberty Chimes units are considered collectible historical instruments today. There is not much documentation about the company, which was relatively small. Most of what is known comes from vintage catalogs, period trade publications, antique instrument collectors, and occasional church archive references.



## Alabama Education Organizations Launch Interactive Tool Showing Cost of Tax Exemption Bills to Alabama's Education Trust Fund

*AASB, AEA, CLAS and SSA join forces on 'Defending the Trust' as proposed bills threaten hundreds of millions in public education revenue.*

**MONTGOMERY, Ala.** — The Alabama Association of School Boards (AASB), in partnership with the Alabama Education Association (AEA), the Council for Leaders in Alabama Schools (CLAS) and the School Superintendents of Alabama (SSA), today launched a new webpage and interactive tool focused on a wave of tax exemption bills threatening hundreds of millions of dollars in public education revenue. The site is designed to help lawmakers and the public understand what that money means for Alabama's schools.

The four organizations collectively represent school board members, classroom teachers, school administrators and superintendents across all 67 Alabama counties.

The centerpiece of the page is an interactive "What Does It Buy?" calculator, which allows users to select a proposed exemption bill and immediately see what that money could fund for Alabama's public schools. Results are expressed in concrete terms: school buses, first-year teachers, reading coaches, school counselors, campus security upgrades and per-pupil funding.

The tool is available now at <https://bit.ly/defendthetrust>.

"Big numbers alone don't move people — but a school bus does, a reading coach does, a counselor does," said AASB Executive Director Sally Smith. "We want lawmakers and the public to see these proposals not as an abstract number, but as real choices with real consequences for Alabama's classrooms."

Since the 2026 legislative session began, 57 bills have been filed that would create new tax exemptions, credits or abatement — each one reducing revenue that flows to public education. Of those, 39 have received official fiscal notes from the Legislative Services Agency totaling more than \$458 million in known FY2027 impact.

That fiscal pressure compounds a challenge Alabama's education community has long faced: record budget numbers that have come with new programs and new requirements, leaving core functions without adequate support.

"Of the \$380 million increase allocated for K-12, almost all of it is going toward pay raises and rising health insurance costs," said AEA Executive Director Amy Marlowe. "After those costs, only \$70 million remains for other core functions of K-12 education. At this rate, if every dollar continues to be absorbed by rising costs, educators will never see pay increases that keep up with inflation— let alone position Alabama to be a leader in the Southeast for educator pay."

Budget leaders have signaled revenue growth is slowing and cautioned leaner times may lie ahead for state finances. The Defending the Trust campaign aims to ensure lawmakers have a clear picture of the ETF implications before votes are cast.

Superintendents across the state say the effects of underfunded mandates are felt long before any single bill passes — and that absorbing additional revenue reductions will force real choices in real districts.

"Every day, superintendents across this state are filling gaps the Legislature hasn't fully funded. Transportation costs, operational expenses, facilities that need to function — those don't go away when the budget doesn't cover them," said SSA Executive Director Ryan Hollingsworth. "Our school systems find a way. But there is a limit to how much we can absorb."

The partner organizations stress they are not opposed to thoughtful tax policy and recognize some of the bills under consideration serve legitimate purposes.

School administrators and board leaders also point to a pattern that has emerged in recent budgets: critical costs like school safety and technology being allocated with one-time funds rather than sustained ETF investment — a trend that is concerning.

"School administrators see every day what it costs to keep schools safe, functioning and staffed. Onetime money is not a long-term investment," said CLAS Executive Director Farrell Seymore. "When we reduce the revenues that flow into the ETF, we make it harder to ever fund these needs the right way."

Smith said the breadth of the coalition behind the campaign reflects the scope of what is at stake.

"Our concern has never been any single bill. It's the cumulative weight of all of them together, at a time when our state's own budget leaders are warning us to prepare for leaner days ahead," Smith said.

### About AASB

The Alabama Association of School Boards represents all of the state's public local school boards. Since 1949, AASB has served education leaders and the interests of local decision making in public education. The association's mission is to develop excellent school board leaders through quality training, advocacy and services. Visit [www.AlabamaSchoolBoards.org](http://www.AlabamaSchoolBoards.org).

### About AEA

The Alabama Education Association (AEA) is the state's largest professional association representing PreK-14 educators throughout Alabama. Dedicated to advancing public education, AEA advocates for policies that strengthen schools, support educators, and promote student success in every community.

### About CLAS

CLAS, the Council for Leaders in Alabama Schools, was founded in 1969 by a small group of school leaders to provide targeted professional learning and support for Alabama's public school administrators. CLAS now serves 13 affiliates representing each type of public school/school system leader. CLAS provides the framework to connect dedicated school administrators and other successful leaders with a network for professional growth and support. CLAS is the premier professional learning provider for administrators in public schools in the state of Alabama.

### About SSA

School Superintendents of Alabama (SSA) is the professional association for school system executives and their leadership teams.

### For more information, contact:

**Dana W. Vandiver**

[publicrelations@alabamaschoolboards.org](mailto:publicrelations@alabamaschoolboards.org) / 334-386-9436

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# Community Lifestyles



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# Honoring Our Heroes



## VETERANS EVENTS AND NEWS



### River Region Veterans Coalition Meeting

Monday, April 20th 6:00pm

#### Feast Buffet

5831 Atlanta Highway, Montgomery, AL 36117

Arrive no later than 5:30 pm for Buffet Meal at \$12.00 per person

RRVC was formed one year ago to bring together veteran service organizations, government agencies, and community partners into a collaborative, apolitical coalition serving the greater Montgomery area. Over the past year, the coalition has grown to include a broad cross-section of veteran and community organizations and has completed several notable projects supporting local service members and veterans.

Veteran events provided by River Region Veterans Coalition



H. Keith Rudolph  
TSGT, US Air Force (Ret.)  
President, River Region Veterans Coalition (RRVC)  
8174 Ansley Trace  
Montgomery, AL 36117  
E-mail: keithou2000@gmail.com  
Cell phone: (334) 303-4102

### The River Region Veterans Coalition will host a Candidate Forum for the 2026 General Election

Monday, July 27, 2026, at 6:00 PM at Feast Buffet  
5831 Atlanta Highway, Montgomery, Alabama.

This community-focused event will provide an opportunity for candidates seeking public office to present their platforms, share their priorities, and address issues important to residents of the River Region—particularly those impacting veterans, military families, and the broader community.

The forum will feature moderated discussion and give attendees the chance to hear directly from candidates in a respectful and informative setting. *“The River Region Veterans Coalition is committed to strengthening our community by connecting citizens with the information they need to make informed decisions,”* said Jason Hughes, Communications Director for RRVC. *“This forum is about providing a space for open dialogue and ensuring that the voices of veterans and our community are heard.”*

RRVC is a nonpartisan organization, and this event is intended to educate voters, not advocate for any specific candidate or political party. The event is open to the public, and all community members are encouraged to attend.

#### About the River Region Veterans Coalition:

The River Region Veterans Coalition is dedicated to supporting, connecting, and promoting veterans, veteran-owned businesses, and organizations that serve those who have worn the uniform. Through community engagement, outreach, and partnerships, RRVC works to strengthen the River Region and honor those who served.

For additional information, media inquiries, or candidate participation details, please contact:

**Jason R. Hughes**  
RRVC Communications Director  
(334) 669-4126. Email: rrvc.jason.hughes@gmail.com

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## Vets to cowboys connects military veterans with experienced cattlemen who provide mentorship and hands-on ranching opportunities.



#### Contact:

Jeremy Clark 251-375-4499

Heather Clark 251-753-4444

Vets to Cowboys@gmail.com

The program helps veterans transition from military service into meaningful agricultural careers while building community and purpose. Vets to Cowboys honors and empowers veterans by helping them embrace the cowboy way of life through hands-on ranching experiences and mentorship from experienced cattlemen. As ranchers retire, we train veterans to take over the reins and trade in their boots.

#### Program Benefits:

- Ranching skills
- Cattle industry mentorship
- Community and purpose
- Agricultural career opportunities

#### Our Mission

"Our mission is to honor and empower veterans by providing them with the opportunity to embrace the cowboy way of life. Through hands-on experiences in ranching and western culture, alongside mentorship from experienced cattlemen, we aim to help veterans heal, develop new skills, and build a sense of community and purpose. By blending the resilience of our nation's heroes with the timeless values of the cowboy spirit, we work to foster personal growth, mental well-being, and lasting connections that guide veterans toward a fulfilling, post-service life."

## Veterans April Birthdays

April 1st Lee Jamerson Stuckey  
April 2nd Frank Stovall  
April 4th Trent H. Edwards  
April 8th Antonio Renard Whetstone  
April 9th Harold Woodman

April 12th William Stephen Gunter  
April 15th John L. Cannady  
April 22nd Samuel Brown  
April 23rd Charles Bradford Stults  
April 25th Wanda Sue Mehlhoff  
April 29th Larry H. Stevenson



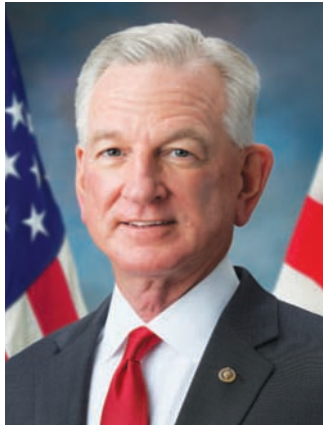
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# COACH TOMMY TUBERVILLE

U.S. SENATOR  FOR ALABAMA

## Senate Passes Tuberville, Britt Resolution Honoring Fallen U.S. Servicemembers

U.S. Senator Tommy Tuberville (R-AL) joined U.S. Senator Katie Britt (R-AL) in introducing a resolution honoring the sacrifice and service of six American heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice in the loss of a U.S. KC-135 refueling aircraft over western Iraq while supporting Operation Epic Fury. This resolution unanimously passed the Senate last night.

The resolution honors three members of the 99th Air Refueling Squadron part of the 6TH Air Refueling Wing (MacDill AFB) based at Sumpter Smith Joint National Guard Base in Birmingham, Alabama: Major Alex Klinner, Major Ariana G. Savino, and Technical Sergeant Ashley B. Pruitt, along with Captain Seth R. Koval, Captain Curtis J. Angst, and Master Sergeant Tyler H. Simmons, who were members of the 121st Air Refueling Wing at Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base based in Columbus, Ohio.



*“When you see flag-draped caskets carrying heroes who made the ultimate sacrifice, it’s a sobering reminder of the cost of America’s freedom. Each of these service members showed generational courage, and this resolution is just a small part of ensuring their stories are never forgotten. Our prayers continue to be with their brave families and loved ones as they navigate this horrific loss,”* said Sen. Tuberville.

*“Our nation will be forever grateful to these American heroes for their exemplary service and ultimate sacrifice. While their lives were tragically cut short in devoted service to our country, we will never forget their selflessness as*

*they bravely fought to protect and defend Americans. We are deeply proud to honor them in this resolution and continue to pray for their families and loved ones during this unthinkable time,”* said Sen. Britt.

*“We continue to mourn the loss of Hoosier Captain Seth Koval and the Airmen who perished while bravely answering the call to serve. We will never forget the ultimate sacrifice these American heroes made and will continue to pray for their loved ones,”* said Sen. Young.

*“Our nation is grateful for the men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. We will never forget their courage and selfless service. Please join Amanda and I in praying for Captain Seth Koval’s family and all the families impacted,”* said Sen. Banks.

*“America is indebted to Curtis Angst, Tyler Simmons, and Seth Koval for their service and sacrifice to protect our freedoms. Their loss is devastating for our country, and I join all Ohioans in praying for their loved ones,”* said Sen. Moreno

*“As our nation mourns these heroes, it is vital that we honor their legacy of service and sacrifice. This resolution is one way to do just that. The families and loved ones of Capt. Koval, Capt. Angst and Master Sgt. Simmons of the Ohio National Guard, as well as Maj. Klinner, Maj. Savino and Tech. Sgt. Pruitt, remain in Tina’s and my prayers. These brave servicemembers carried out dangerous and critical missions in defense of our country, and we will be forever grateful for their sacrifice,”* said Sen. Husted.

*“As somebody who lost friends in combat, it is always devastating to hear of the loss of a fellow servicemember who put their life on the line to fight for our nation. The brave Americans we are recognizing today were supporting a righteous mission and must be honored for their service and sacrifice. As we keep the families of the fallen in our prayers, let us also renew our commitment to supporting the men and women who protect America and our way of life,”* said Sen. Sheehy.

Joining Sens. Tuberville and Britt in introducing the legislation are Senators Jim Banks (R-IN), Jon Husted (R-OH), Bernie Moreno (R-OH), and Todd Young (R-IN).

Senator Tommy Tuberville represents Alabama in the United States Senate and is a member of the Senate Armed Services, Agriculture, Veterans’ Affairs, HELP and Aging Committees.

### River Region Veterans Coalition to Host Candidate Forum for 2026 General Election

**RIVER REGION VETERANS COALITION**  
**CANDIDATE FORUM**  
 FOR THE 2026 GENERAL ELECTION  
**MONDAY, JULY 27, 2026**  
**6:00 PM FEAST BUFFET**  
 5831 Atlanta Hwy, Montgomery, AL  
**ALL VETERANS & COMMUNITY MEMBERS INVITED!**  
 \* SUPPORT \* CONNECT \* PROMOTE \*

The River Region Veterans Coalition (RRVC) will host a Candidate Forum for the 2026 General Election on **Monday, July 27, 2026, at 6:00 PM** at **Feast Buffet, 5831 Atlanta Highway, Montgomery, Alabama.**

This community-focused event will provide an opportunity for candidates seeking public office to present their platforms, share their priorities, and address issues important to residents of the River Region—particularly those impacting veterans, military families, and the broader community.

The forum will feature moderated discussion and give attendees the chance to hear directly from candidates in a respectful and informative setting. *“The River*

*Region Veterans Coalition is committed to strengthening our community by connecting citizens with the information they need to make informed decisions,”* said Jason Hughes, Communications Director for RRVC. *“This forum is about providing a space for open dialogue and ensuring that the voices of veterans and our community are heard.”*

RRVC is a nonpartisan organization, and this event is intended to educate voters, not advocate for any specific candidate or political party. The event is open to the public, and all community members are encouraged to attend.

**About the River Region Veterans Coalition:**  
 The River Region Veterans Coalition is dedicated to supporting, connecting, and promoting veterans, veteran-owned businesses, and organizations that serve those who have worn the uniform. Through community engagement, outreach, and partnerships, RRVC works to strengthen the River Region and honor those who served.

For additional information, media inquiries, or candidate participation details, please contact:

**Jason R. Hughes**  
 RRVC Communications Director  
 (334) 669-4126  
 rrvcc.jason.hughes@gmail.com

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Derrick Cunningham



Chief Deputy  
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### MISSION STATEMENT

The priority of the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office is the welfare and protection of the citizens of Montgomery County. We work hard at putting our citizens and communities first. The Mission of the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office is to provide the best law enforcement protection and service for Montgomery County.

**CHARITY GOLF TOURNAMENT**

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The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Foundation will be hosting its Charity Golf Tournament on May 7th at the Arrowhead Country Club. You can sponsor a team or donate items for the tournament. You may pay online at <https://www.montgomerysheriff.com/public-interest/donate>. The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Foundation is a 501(C)(3) nonprofit organization.

The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Foundation helps support the following community events:

- Easter Egg Hunt
- Deputy in the Park
- Youth Fishing Rodeo
- Camp Show & Tell
- National Night Out
- Senior Fishing Rodeo
- Spooktacular
- Christmas for Kids
- Cadet Unit 2590
- And many other events

We look forward to you helping us make this event possible.

For more information, please call 334-850-8688 or 334-320-9939

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Hosted by Sheriff Derrick Cunningham

SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 2026 at 2:00 P.M.  
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Sheriff  
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Sheriff  
Chris West

**BULLOCK COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

(334) 738-2670  
217 North Prarie Street  
Union Springs, AL 36089  
[bullockcountysheriff@ustconline.net](mailto:bullockcountysheriff@ustconline.net)

Sheriff  
Raymond Rodgers

## Today's Woman Trisston's Tidbits:

By: *Trisston Wright Burrows*

*Ms. Wheelchair America/Alabama 2005*  
*site.trisstonwrightburrows.com*

### "The Bummer Lamb"

Every now and again a ewe (a female sheep) will give birth to a baby lamb and immediately reject that lamb. In fact, she'll kick it away. Many times, the shepherd will try to reintroduce the lamb to her. If she continues to reject the little lamb, then the shepherd has to intervene. They call these baby lambs "bummer lambs".

If the shepherd doesn't intervene, that little one will die...not of hunger, but of a broken spirit. So the shepherd takes the lamb into his home. He'll keep it warm by the fire and feed it with a bottle. At some point during every day, he'll pick that little lamb up, hold it close to his chest, and talk to it. Once the lamb is strong enough, he will place it back with the flock.



**Isaiah 40:11** "He tends His flock like a shepherd: He gathers the lambs in His arms and carries them close to His heart; He gently leads those that have young."

Here's the most touching part...In the mornings, when the shepherd comes to the edge of the field and calls out to the sheep, the very first ones to run to him are those rejected lambs, because they know his voice, they've experienced his love, and they trust him.

**John 10: 14-15** "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep."

This got me to thinking...Does that mean that our Lord, the Great Shepherd, loves His rejected lambs more than the rest? Not at all. At the hardest moments of our lives, when we were broken and hopeless, He came to us, picked us up, and held us close. We heard His voice, we felt safe, and we will never, ever leave His side.

It turns out being a rejected lamb isn't bad news. It's the best news of all! Friend, always remember that Jesus loves you! You are precious to Him. He longs to gather you close to His heart so you can experience His love.

*Happy Easter & Many Blessings!*



Sarah Ross

## Seasonal Allergies

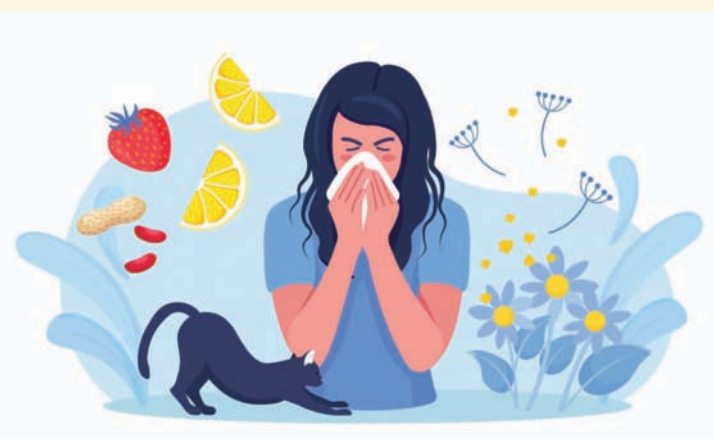
Allergies are a common concern, especially during the spring when pollen levels rise and outdoor exposure increases. For many people, symptoms such as sneezing, nasal congestion, itchy eyes, and throat irritation can interfere with daily life. Understanding how to manage these symptoms with over-the-counter treatments (and knowing when to seek specialized care) can make a significant difference in comfort and overall health.

Seasonal allergies, also known as **allergic rhinitis**, are typically triggered by pollen from trees, grasses, and weeds. The immune system mistakenly identifies these particles as harmful, leading to inflammation in the nasal passages and eyes. While avoidance of triggers is helpful, it is not always practical, making medications an important part of symptom control.

Several effective over-the-counter options are widely available. Oral antihistamines such as loratadine, cetirizine, and fexofenadine work by blocking histamine, the chemical responsible for many allergy symptoms. These medications are typically taken once daily and are less likely to cause drowsiness compared to older antihistamines, such as Benadryl. They are a good first-line option for mild to moderate symptoms.

For more persistent or severe nasal symptoms, intranasal corticosteroid sprays such as Fluticasone or Triamcinolone are often the most effective treatment. These sprays reduce inflammation directly in the nasal passages and can significantly improve congestion, sneezing, and runny nose. It is important to use them consistently, as they may take several days to reach full effect.

Decongestants, such as Pseudoephedrine, can provide temporary relief from nasal congestion. However, they should be used cautiously and only for short periods, as they may increase blood pressure or cause side effects like jitteriness or insomnia. Similarly, decongestant nasal sprays should not be used for more than a few days to avoid rebound congestion.



In addition to medications, simple measures like saline nasal rinses can help clear allergens from the nasal passages and improve symptoms. Limiting outdoor exposure during high pollen counts, keeping windows closed, and showering after being outside can also reduce allergen exposure.

While many people find relief with over-the-counter treatments, there are times when it is appropriate to see an allergist. If symptoms are severe, persistent, or not adequately controlled despite consistent medication use, further evaluation may be needed. An allergist can perform testing to identify specific triggers and develop a personalized treatment plan. This may include prescription medications or immunotherapy, such as allergy shots, which can reduce sensitivity over time.

You should also consider seeing a specialist if allergies are interfering with sleep, work, or daily activities, or if you experience frequent sinus infections or complications like asthma symptoms. Early intervention can improve quality of life and prevent symptoms from worsening. Managing allergies effectively often requires a combination of strategies. With the right use of over-the-counter medications and an understanding of when to seek expert care, most people can achieve good symptom control and enjoy the changing seasons with fewer disruptions.

### Deuteronomy 32:2

*Let my teaching fall like rain and my words descend like dew,  
like showers on new grass, like abundant rain on tender plants.*



## KATIE BRITT

U.S. SENATOR FOR ALABAMA



**U.S. Senators Katie Britt,  
Joni Ernst,  
Senate Colleagues  
Honor  
Women in Agriculture.**

U.S. Senator Katie Britt (R-Ala.) recently joined Senator Joni Ernst (R-Iowa) and several of their Senate colleagues in introducing a bipartisan resolution to designate March 21, 2026, as "National Women in Agriculture Day" to honor the critical contributions of women in agriculture.

"Across Alabama and our nation, women in agriculture are the backbone of our communities, working tirelessly to feed and clothe America's families," said Senator Britt. "On National Women in Agriculture Day, I'm proud to join my colleagues in honoring their grit, dedication, and lasting legacy they will leave on the next generation of farmers. I remain committed to supporting and empowering these leaders whose voices strengthen their industry and help shape the future of agriculture."

The Senate unanimously passed the resolution, which highlights the more than 1.2 million women producers across the United States and recognizes their essential roles as farmers, educators, innovators, and leaders throughout the agriculture industry.

"Women have always been at the heart of American agriculture," said Senator Ernst. "Growing up on a family farm, I saw firsthand the vital role women like my mother played, and today my sister continues that legacy. From family farms to cutting-edge agribusiness, women are leading, innovating, and helping feed and fuel the world. I'm proud to lead this resolution to recognize and support the women who are breaking barriers and shaping the future of agriculture."

Senator Britt is a strong advocate for farmers across the state of Alabama and nationwide. Recently, she secured over \$6 million for Alabama's farmers and agricultural communities through the FY26 Agriculture Appropriations Act. She was also honored as the 2025 Outstanding New Member of Congress Award by the American Farm Bureau Federation and Alabama Farmers Federation.



JUDGE PEGGY GIVHAN

# Southern Gardening Potpourri for April



On April 5th we celebrate Easter Sunday which culminated in the resurrection of Jesus Christ over 2000 years ago. It is proclaimed as one of the most holy days in the Christian religion. But where did the tradition of the Easter Bunny with colorful eggs come from? In Germany there is some 16th century text about the "Oschter Haws" or Easter Hare, who lay eggs for good boys and girls. This German tradition came over to America with immigration. So if you would like to go down a rabbit hole, then doing a study on the Easter Bunny is sure to please.

The tasks before us in April can be summed up in 3 categories:  
1. Dividing 2. Planting 3. Weeding.

**Dividing** includes separating overgrown roots of perennials, replanting them or sharing with neighbors and friends. This increases the vitality of the plants, which enhances blooms.

**Planting** not only covers new plants, but also the sowing of seed directly into the garden. By April we should be past any hard freezes and well on our way to sunnier days.

**Weeding** which some dread, but realize the necessity. Weeds choke out the desirable plants' roots, which deprives them from proper uptake of nutrients necessary for full potential. The good thing about spring weeds is that they have wide tops, but tiny root systems which make them easy to yank out.

I would say that the single most misunderstood garden task is that of proper watering. First of all, one must be informed of the amount of water a particular plant needs. Some are listed as drought resistant, and others which need moist soil. The rule of thumb is really quite simple. Use your index finger and push it into the soil to the top of the main middle knuckle. If the soil is moist, you do not need to water. Many times the top layer of the soil dries out, but the plant does not need water. Also, if the plant is in a pot, fill the pot up to the rim for proper watering. When planting in pots, always keep the soil 2-3 inches below the top lip of the pot.



**Zephyranthes Atamasca** commonly known as the atamasco lily, occasionally as the Easter lily or more generally a rain-lily, is native to the Southern United States. It grows in swampy forests and coastal prairies, preferring acid boggy soils rich with leaf mold. Following the appearance of broad, grassy leaves in early winter, it blooms in March or April. It has several narrow, linear basal leaves about 0.5 in wide and 10-15 in long. Its native range extends from Florida north to Maryland and west to Mississippi.

**PLANT OF THE MONTH-- ATAMASCO LILY(Zephyranthes atamasca)**

These are also known as rain lilies, are native to North America, and are in the Amaryllis family. These perennial bulbs bloom in the spring, usually around Easter. They like wet feet and one finds them in ditches on the side of the road, and in moist open meadows. When dormant, they can withstand drought conditions. But be careful, all parts of this lily is poisonous-- the leaves, the seeds and bulbs are poisonous to humans.

## Happy Easter and Good Gardening



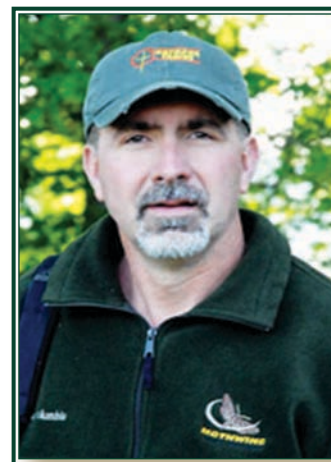
### MONO-TASKING

The last couple of months have only had a few nice days and hardly any nice ones in a row. This week has been different. March has started off warm and sunny even though a long period of rain is in the forecast. My intentions of perusing the woods to determine last year's deer activity never came about. That will change almost

forcibly. Why? Because turkey season opens in April and for the first few weeks the leaves will not be in full bloom. I will be able to gain deer information while I'm turkey hunting. And there's also a third layer. This will also be a good time to look for antler sheds. Not only are these neat finds, but they also give me great hunting information for next deer season. This all means I need to be a multi-tasker when turkey season opens. I often tell people that I'm not a very good multi-tasker. I'm more of a mono-tasker. And while that isn't totally true, I do function better when there are only two or three things I'm doing at the same time. I compare this to a friend and former colleague of mine. He is a true multi-tasker and great administrator. He shines by getting so many things done simultaneously. We worked well together. I knew what I wanted to accomplish, and he knew how to accomplish it, down to the sickening details. I always noticed the words that the Apostle Paul said. "But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead." And there you go. He says he does one thing

and then lists two things. And that's how I feel. I do one thing – everything on my to-do list. See?

The truth is that the Christian life is exactly this way. It's one thing done in many different ways. Jesus was once asked what the most important commandment was. Out of all the commandments, laws, and expectations that people debated endlessly, He boiled it all down to one thing: love. **Love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength. And love your neighbor as yourself.** Everything else flows out of that. I know it sounds simple and too emotional or (for a man) too feminine. But I didn't make up the rules. Love is my mini legal pad. And on that pad are a lot of to-dos. If you're a mono-tasking Christian like me, don't let yourself get overwhelmed by all the religious minutiae. Just find ways to love people. Because in doing that, you are loving God.



Gary Miller  
gary@outdoortruths.org

Gary Miller has written Outdoor Truths articles for 21 years. He has also written five books which include compilations of his articles and a father/son devotional. He also speaks at wild-game dinners and men's events for churches and associations. gary@outdoortruths.org



**Humane Society of Elmore County News**  
255 Central Plank Road (Hwy 9) Wetumpka, Alabama 36092  
PHONE: (334) 567-3377

Hours:  
Mon-Fri: 8am - 5pm  
Sat: 8am - 4pm



### Fosters Needed for Kittens & Puppies It is Kitten and Puppy Season

We are in need of foster families to keep Kittens and Puppies too young to be in the Shelter, for Moms with litters, for dogs recovering from bigger surgeries and heartworm treatments.

For more information on Fostering a kitten or puppy, please contact HSEC at:  
Email: heslco@bellsouth.net  
Website: www.elmorehumane.org  
https://www.elmorehumane.org/foster-information--forms.html

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

is  
*He Risen*

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# Soul Searching...



**Dr. Lester Spencer**  
 Conference Superintendent  
 Alabama Emerald Coast Conference  
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 Email: [Lester@aecgmc.org](mailto:Lester@aecgmc.org)  
 Tel: (334) 245-0260 Web: [www.aecgmc.org](http://www.aecgmc.org)



**GLOBAL  
 METHODIST CHURCH**  
 ALABAMA EMERALD COAST CONFERENCE

## What Are You Betting Your Life On This Easter?

Everyone is betting their life on something! What are you betting your life on?

I am betting my life on the fact that Jesus is who he said he is!

**"I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."** -Jesus, John 14:6

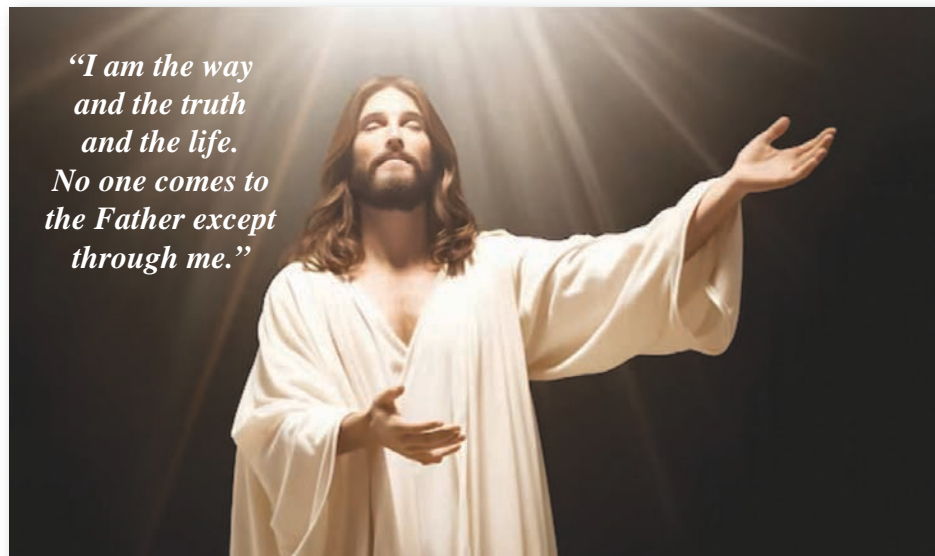
### I am the way.

Jesus said this in a conversation with the disciples at the last supper. He had just told the disciples that he must go away. And that they knew the way to where he was going. He was speaking about his arrest later that night and his subsequent trial, torture, crucifixion and death. And his resurrection and ascension back to heaven and to the right hand of the Father.

But the disciples didn't understand what he meant. So, Thomas, speaking perhaps for all of the disciples, says to Jesus, "Lord, we do not know where you are going so how can we know the way? I am the way, the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." -John 8:6-7

Jesus doesn't say "I know the way" or "I will show you the way" or "I will point you to the way." No, he says "I am the way." Therefore, the way is a person. Jesus doesn't say we will know every twist and turn in life. Or that we can discern a definite route through life predicting all the good times and bad. He says "I am the way." In other words, follow me and I will show you the way, and I will guide you every step of the way. We must trust him and follow him.

A couple of years ago, my wife, Janeese, and I lead 48 people on a pilgrimage and tour to the Holy Land. We had an excellent Israeli guide named Rafi. Everyday, Rafi led our group. When we were in Jerusalem we visited the "Old City" in the heart of ancient Jerusalem. It is a maze of winding small streets and alleys. You could easily get lost if you didn't follow our guide Rafi. Fortunately, Rafi used an ear phone system called the Whisper. Each person on the tour had an ear piece they could wear in one ear each day and hear Rafi speak as he guided us. So, we could follow Rafi himself through the Old City, and we could also hear his voice as he lead us. Rafi became the way for us in those crowded markets, alleyways and streets.



Jesus can be the way for us if we will follow him and listen to his voice!

### I am the truth.

Jesus doesn't say truth is a religion, a ritual or a list of rules or regulations. He said, **"I am the truth."**

Jesus separates himself from all the other founders of all the other religions in the

world when he says this. Other religious leaders claim .... "I have the truth." Or "I will point you to the truth." Or "I am teaching you the truth." Or "I am a prophet of the truth." But Jesus claims to be the truth!

Some people say, "Jesus was a great teacher but nothing more." But a great teacher would not claim to be the God if it were not so. A great teacher would not claim to be the way, the truth and the life if it were not so. A great teacher would not claim to be the only way to the Father if it were not so.

Our culture and the entire world is in a battle for the truth. Many sides claim to have the truth. But Jesus says I am the truth. He calls us to the truth... to himself. He calls us to believe the truth. To do the truth. To stand for the truth. To spread the truth. To speak the truth.

I am betting my life on the fact that Jesus is the truth. In the midst of a very confused culture where truth is relative and misunderstood, it is refreshing and life giving to know that there is unchanging truth and that truth is a person, Jesus Christ!

You can trust Jesus because he is the truth. And I am betting my life on that fact.

Jesus also said, **"the truth will set you free."** (John 8:32) There is freedom in Christ when we follow the truth!

### I am the life.

**"I am the way, the truth and the life."** -Jesus, John 14:6

**"The thief comes only to steal, kill and destroy. But I have come so that you might have life and to live it abundantly."** -Jesus, John 10:10

Jesus is the life because he came to give us abundant life in this world and eternal life in the next.

Did you know that Jesus wants us to live a full and satisfying life in this world? He created us and loves us and wants us to experience all the good things that he has for us. Jesus offers us forgiveness, restoration, freedom, grace, love, joy, and peace in this life. Even in the midst of sorrows and let downs, hurts and pains, Jesus wants to offer us a rich life. An abundant life. A restored life.

In 2 Corinthians 5:7, Paul tells us we can be new creatures in Christ. We can have a new life in Jesus.

In **Revelations 21:1**, Jesus says **"Behold, I make all things new."** Through Christ we can experience new life.

Jesus also offers us eternal life. **"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that whoever believes in him will not perish but have eternal life.."** -Jesus, John 3:16

Yes, through Jesus Christ, the only way to the Father, we can inherit eternal life. Through Jesus we can enter into a relationship with God the Father, and we can experience life eternal in the very presence of the Father our creator! 2.3 billion people who call themselves Christ followers are betting their lives on that!

What are you betting your life on?

This Easter why not bet your life on the fact that Jesus is who he says he is?

Janeese and I are praying for each of you as you prepare to celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ!

He is who he says He is! You can bet your life on it!

**Blessings and Happy Easter**



Worried about privacy?  
**CONFIDENTIALITY  
 IS OUR PRIORITY.**

Website: [firstchoicemontgomery.com](http://firstchoicemontgomery.com)

Phone: (334) 260-8010

Mon. - Thurs. 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM

Fri. - 8:30 - Noon

380 Mendel Pkwy E Montgomery, AL 36117



**Elmore County  
 Pregnancy Center**

104 Company St., Wetumpka, Alabama

@[elmorecountypregnancycenter](https://www.facebook.com/elmorecountypregnancycenter)

Call (334) 567-1955



**LIFE ON  
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Check our schedule tab to see our location or call us on the mobile unit at 334-202-4994.

[www.lifeonwheelsalabama.com](http://www.lifeonwheelsalabama.com)



**Support Group Meeting**

April 14 @ 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm

**Frazer Church**

6000 Atlanta Highway, Montgomery  
 Room 8114

Join our free support group meetings at 5:30pm every 2nd Tuesday of the month. Our meetings are open to breast cancer patients, survivors, caregivers, family members, and friends. These meetings feature inspiring talks from survivors, doctors, and other experts. It's also a wonderful opportunity to connect with others who understand your journey.

# Home Town Community News

## Events - Local Celebrations

### PIKE ROAD

#### Alchemy of Change Art Show

Mar 22nd - Apr 26th Art Show Viewing:  
Saturdays 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
Pike Road Arts Center  
944 Wallahatchie Road, Pike Road, AL  
Experience the mesmerizing presence of "ALCHEMY OF CHANGE" through nature, life and thought at Pike Road Art Council. Together with a talented group of local artists, Pike Road's Water House Gallery presents works that embody the transformation processes around us, from shifting seasons and evolving landscapes to the subtle shifts in mindset and practice.

#### 2026 Spring Chicken Festival

Saturday May 2nd 10:00 AM  
Sweet Creek Farm Market  
85 Meriwether Road, Pike Road, AL 36064  
Vendors, Food, Music and Fun for the whole family.

### MONTGOMERY

#### Easter Bunny at EastChase

March 14th through April 11th  
Saturdays 11AM - 7PM Sundays 12PM - 6PM  
The Easter Bunny is coming to East Chase! Schedule your photo appointment today!  
<https://www.theshoppesateastchase.com/events/easter-bunny>

#### Zelda's Muses The Women of Montgomery

February 10 through April 30, 2026  
WEEKLY: Tuesday and Thursday 10AM to 2:30 PM  
512 South Court Street, Montgomery AL  
Exhibit Progressive Opening:  
Start at the Figh-Pickett House (512 South Court Street)  
10:00-11:00: Gallery talk on Anne Goldthwaite with Mark Harris, Director, Dixie Art Colony Foundation  
11:15-12:15: Gallery talk on Sarah Mayfield's Journey with Alaina Doten, Executive Director, The Scott & Zelda Fitzgerald Museum  
Then travel to the Fitzgerald Museum (919 Felder Ave)  
1:00-2:00: Tea and talk on Zelda at 40 with Maire Martello, Author and President of The Fitzgerald Museum and Alaina Doten, Executive Director, The Fitzgerald Museum  
2:00-2:30: Tour of the Fitzgerald Museum  
Free and open to the public.  
•You will need to provide your own transportation from the Figh-Pickett House to the Fitzgerald Museum.

### WETUMPKA

#### Elmore County Celebrates America250

Revolution Rarities with Jim Griffith  
Sunday April 12th 2:30PM  
The River Room - City of Wetumpka Administration Building  
408 S. Main Street, Wetumpka, AL 36092  
Phone: 334-567-5097  
Jim Griffith, podcaster and member of the Alabama Society's Sons of the American Revolution, will present Revolution Rarities in this Elmore County 250 program. Griffith will share unique stories, artifacts, and little-known aspects of the Revolutionary War, offering audiences a rare glimpse into the extraordinary history of America's struggle for independence.

### PRATTVILLE

#### Easter Ornament Hunt 2026

Saturday April 4th. 7:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Downtown Historic District  
160 W Main St, Prattville, AL 36067  
Please come and enjoy the fun!  
It's FREE  
and sponsored 100% by Julianne Hansen Fine Art & Pottery.  
•We will ONLY hide cards that will be redeemed at our store. This will make sure the fragile ornaments are intact when received and that we maintain the one ornament per person policy. When you find a card, bring it to our store to exchange for a one free ornament  
THIS IS A FREE EVENT WITH ORNAMENTS MADE AND PROVIDED FREE OF CHARGE by Julianne Hansen Fine Art & Pottery. Please be kind and respectful.

#### Motorcycle Swap Meet #5

Saturday April 25th. 8:00 AM  
Downtown Historic District  
1077 S Memorial Dr, Alabama 36067  
All makes & models of motorcycle parts, pieces, accessories, gear, and memorabilia vendors are welcome and encouraged to sign up early. Prior Vendors be on the lookout in your email for this year's registration! New vendors interested, we will have registration forms at the post, or you can request them by sending us a message with your email address. This event is open to the public, admission is free. Updates will be posted to this event so be sure and let us know you're interested.

#### Prattville City Fest

Friday May 1st & 2nd 6:00 PM  
Downtown Historic District  
160 W Main St, Prattville, AL 36067-3034  
Every year since 1986, the Prattville Area Chamber of Commerce proudly hosts the Prattville CityFest in Historic Downtown Prattville. 2026 marks our 38th annual event. Prattville CityFest displays our pride and we invite you to join us in celebration. On the banks of the Autauga Creek, the weekend will be filled with live entertainment, children's activities, exhibits, arts and crafts, good food, and you! We are expecting this year's event to be the best one yet, so make sure you do not miss out.  
To learn more, please visit:  
<https://www.prattvillecityfest.com/>  
or call the Prattville Chamber team at 334-365-7392

### MILLBROOK

#### Millbrook Mayfest

Saturday May 16, 2026. 9AM - 2PM  
Village Green Park  
3199 Main Street, Millbrook, AL 36054  
FREE, FUN, FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENT  
Festivities include entertainment, children's activities, arts & craft vendors, and lots of food!

#### "Thank YOU"

#### Gazette Advertisers!

*You help us continue to publish the "Best Little Newspaper" in the Central & Tri-County area.  
The Gazette represents God, Family and Country, which is our Golden Standard for life.*

#### Gazette Readers!

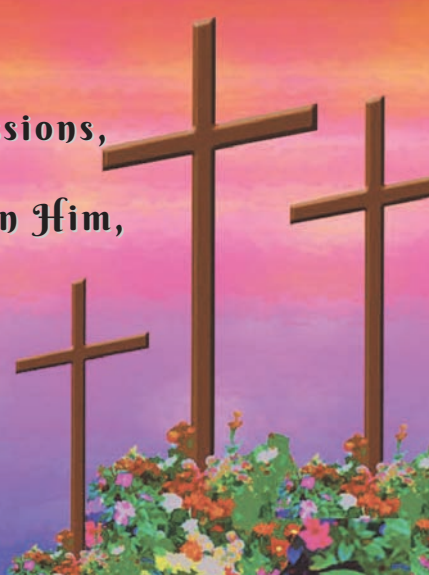
*When possible give these businesses a "Thank You" just to let them know you enjoy and appreciate the great contributing writers, community news, events, etc. that the Gazette continues to share each month both in print and online.*



**MEALS ON WHEELS**  
MONTGOMERY AL METRO AREA

Isaiah 53:5

"But He was wounded for our transgressions,  
He was bruised for our iniquities;  
the chastisement for our peace was upon Him,  
and by His stripes we are healed."



Articles submitted and shared from The Montgomery Rotary Club.



# The COGnition

The Official Publication of the Montgomery Rotary Club  
Glenn Halbrooks.

## Rotary Program March 9, 2026



L to R: Pres. Elect Henry Davis, Pres. Kimberly Baker, Jud Blount and Program Chair William Bloom.

Our speaker was Jud Blount, graduate of Montgomery Academy in 2017, and Birmingham Southern in 2021 where he played football and was a member of Sigma Alpha Epsilon. While in HS and College. Jud waited tables and washed dishes at his father's growing Vintage Year in Montgomery, which opened in 2015 with 17 employees and has since grown to include five other sites and several private venues and now has 127 employees.

Jud continues to take on more responsibility and is currently General Manager for Ravello's and Frenchie's and is Director of Operations for Vintage Hospitality Group. (L to R: Pres. Elect Henry Davis, Pres. Kimberly Baker, Jud Blount and Program Chair William Bloom.)

In 2019 Vintage opened MGM GREENS—a Hydroponic Freight farm that holds 4,000 plants and produces lettuce and other greens to supply the restaurants.

While he has many responsibilities, including financial performance, Jud says it all comes down to building relationships, hospitality and service. Jud says anyone can cook a good meal, but good memories bring customers back through the door. He gave examples of men who meet at one of their cafes for breakfast each morning and a woman who eats every night. There are many more.

Vintage wants to continue the tradition of Southern hospitality and raise the level of service across the city. They want to join with other organizations and businesses—including competitors—to make Montgomery a great place for dining and entertainment.

We left Rotary today believing this vibrant young man, Jud Blount, has a bright future and will have a very positive impact on Montgomery and the River Region

## Rotary Program March 2, 2026



Pictured L to R: President Elect Henry Davis and Fred Clark.

Our speaker was fellow Rotarian Fred Clark, the President and CEO of Energy Southeast, which provides wholesale electric power to 11 cities in the State of Alabama. Energy Southeast's Member Cities serve approximately 350,000 customers.

Clark reviewed the AI (Artificial Intelligence) revolution and the development of data centers around the country. He then described the development and growth of Data Centers expected over the next six years described the size and energy requirements.

Next, Clark discussed the demand on electric generation as a requirement for AI Data Center growth and said, the AI Data Center race must be won by our country. He discussed the types of electric generation and the planned growth of natural gas generation to meet this challenge.

Although there was much technical information presented, Fred Clark's straightforward speaking style and clarity of expression along with a very helpful handout on Projected Peak Growth greatly aided audience understanding.

Following his prepared speech, Clark took questions on nuclear power development and discussed the Meta development in South Montgomery County.

## Paul Harris Fellow Award

On Monday, March 9th, PP Hal Bloom recognized PP Rick Pate with a PHF+9 award. Congratulations Rick and thank you for your dedication to Rotary!



L to R: PP Hal Bloom, PP Rick Pate and President Kimberly Baker.

## Returning Rotarian

On Monday, March 2nd, we welcomed returning Rotarian Don Rickard. Don is the Vice President of Brewbaker Motors. We are excited to have you back Don & look forward to your fellowship & service in the club!



L to R: PDG Sam Adams and Don Rickard.

## New Member

On Monday, March 9th we welcomed our newest member, Morgan Robison. Morgan is the Director of Outreach & Public Engagement for the US House of Representatives. Her sponsor is Lora McClendon. We are excited to welcome you, Morgan and look forward to your fellowship & service in the club!



L to R: Lora McClendon, Morgan Robison and President Kimberly Baker.

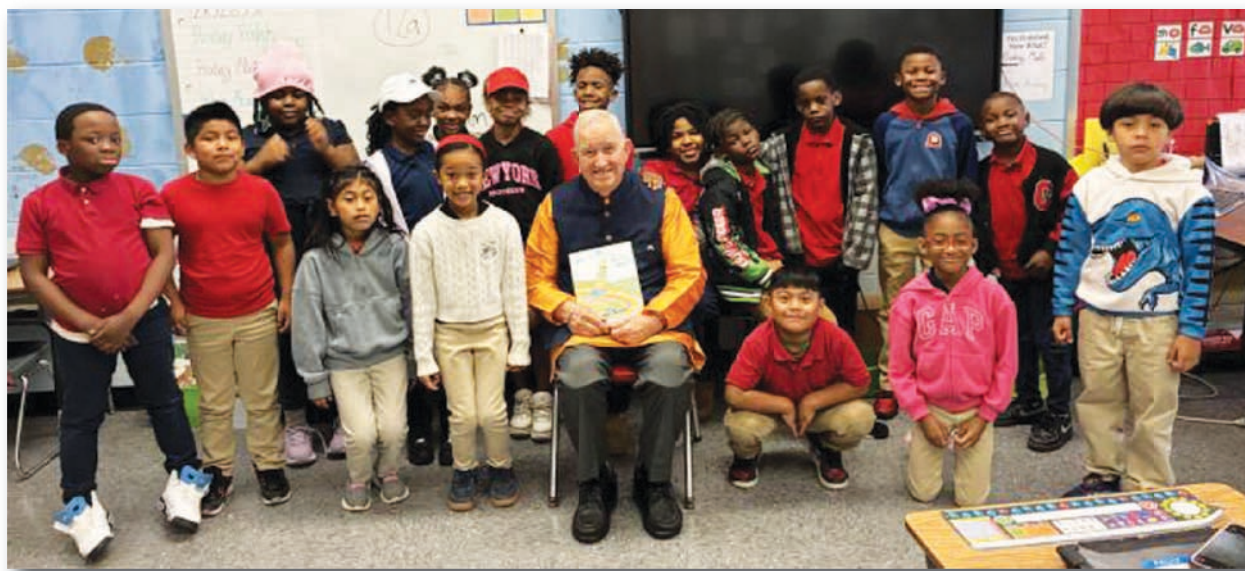
## Perfect Attendance



We honored Rotarians for their perfect attendance on Monday, February 23rd. Even if these Rotarians were not able to attend a regular Monday meeting, they would make-up a missed meeting by attending another Rotary club, rotary event, online make-up or any other Rotary function or meeting.

## Read Across America

Rotarian Robert Prater read to Dannelly on March 3, 2026 for his third year in a row.



## JOIN A ROTARY CLUB NEAR YOU!

- **Prattville-Millbrook Sunrise**  
3050 Lanark Road,  
Millbrook, AL 36054  
334-313-3160  
<http://www.prattville-millbrook-sunriserotary.com>

- **RSA Alabama Activity Center**  
201 Dexter Ave,  
Montgomery, AL 36104  
Meets Monday, 12:00  
Two blocks west of State Capitol.

- **Senior Connection**  
304 Park Plaza, Clanton,  
AL 35045  
Meets Wednesday, 12:00  
205-755-7105  
[www.rotaryclubofchilton-county.org](http://www.rotaryclubofchilton-county.org)

- **Montgomery Capital Wynlakes Golf & Country Club**  
7900 Wynlakes Blvd,  
Montgomery, AL 36117  
Meets Thursday, 12:00

- **Greenville Area Chamber of Commerce**  
1 Depot Square  
Greenville, AL 36037  
334-382-4201  
Meets Thursday, 12:00