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THE ALABAMA
Gazette



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Thursday, October 20th

~ Make Plans to Join Us ~


We look forward to seeing you October 20th!

12 E. Jefferson Street ♦ Montgomery, AL

Come & Celebrate with us! Join the festivities!



Lunch
11:00 am – 1:00 pm





October
is all about
PiNK!
Breast
Cancer
Awareness Month



**OCTOBER IS
DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE
AWARENESS MONTH**

PRAY for those effected
by Hurricane Ian


Lives lost-billions in damage!



James Madison Mr.

was an American Statesman, diplomat, philosopher, who served as the fourth President of the United States from 1809 to 1817.

He is a Founding Father who is hailed as the Father of The Constitution for his pivotal role in drafting The Constitution of the United States and the United States Bill of Rights. He established the Democrat-Republican Party with President Thomas Jefferson.



"Oppressors can tyrannize only when they achieve a standing army, an enslaved press, and a disarmed populace."
James Madison
www.thefederalistpapers.org

Kick Back Ranch & Event Center's

Fall Festival

Saturday, October 29th 2022

12 PM - 7 PM Fall Festival

3 PM Registration - 4 PM Boot Walk

- Karaoke/Live Music
- Face Painting
- Decorations/Costume Contest
- Walk for Cancer Research

- Food Trucks
- Games
- Vendors
- Small Animals & More

414 Union Academy Ada Road
Ramer, AL
334-286-4140
KickBackRanch.net





Join the Kick Back Ranch & Event Center and give cancer the Boot on Saturday October 29th. Benefiting The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center's **BOOT Walk to End Cancer**. Gates open at 12 noon. Walk starts at 4:00. Walk, donate, and add your loved one's name to a ribbon of hope. There will be vendors, food trucks, games, costume contest and more.

Give cancer the **BOOT**, at Kick Back Ranch & Event Center October 29th!
For details go to Facebook, KickBackRanch.net or call 286-4140.

100% of your donation goes to MD Anderson's mission to end cancer.

BOOT WALK
to End Cancer

October 29, 2022

Gates open at 12pm
Registration: 3:00pm Walk Begins: 4:00pm

To Register or Donate online:
www.KickBackRanch.net

- Food
- Games
- Vendors
- & More

- Karaoke/Live Music
- Face Painting
- Decorations
- Costume Contest



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Inside the Statehouse with Steve Flowers

Steve Flowers is Alabama's leading political columnist. His weekly column on Alabama politics appears in over 60 Alabama newspapers. He served 16 years in the state legislature.

www.steveflowers.us



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

Alabama State Board of Education

School board members are some of the most selfless public servants in Alabama. This accolade goes to the Alabama State Board of Education, and more specifically local school board members. These members are tasked with a very important mission but receive very little compensation for their time and efforts. They are indeed public servants.

The Alabama State Board of Education is a nine member body that sets public education policy for K-12 schools. The governor is an ex-officio member of the board and the remaining eight members are elected to four-year terms from single member districts of approximately equal population. There is no limit to the number of terms a school board member may serve. The seats are partisan driven. Currently, our state school board has six Republican members and two Democratic members.

Given the fact that members are elected, rather than appointed, it is somewhat surprising that our current eight members are so well-qualified and suited to be state school board members.

Dr. Wayne Reynolds, who represents District 8, best exemplifies this statement. He has a doctorate in education and has spent over four decades as an education administrator. He is retired and brings his experience and wisdom to the table. In his early years, Wayne was a decorated Vietnam War Veteran. He and his wife Carol reside in the Limestone/Madison area. Wayne is a Republican and was re-elected to his second four-year term earlier this year.

Marie Manning has just been elected to District 6, which is a Republican district. She will begin her first term in January. Prior to her recent election to the state school board, Marie served as Vice President of the St. Clair County Board of Education. During her stellar career in education, Marie was as a classroom teacher, vice-principal, principal and superintendent.

Dr. Yvette Richardson represents District 4 and is a resident of Montgomery. Yvette is a Democrat and was re-elected to another four-year term in the Democratic Primary. She has a doctorate degree from the University of Alabama and has had a distinguished career in education.

Tracie West is a Republican member of the board from District 2. She was re-elected to a second four-year term in the Republican Primary. She hails from Auburn and, as would be expected from this area, is well-qualified and versed in education knowledge and policy. Prior to being elected to the

state school board, Tracie served as a member of the Auburn City Schools Board of Education, including serving as president of that board.

There are four members up for re-election in 2024, Jackie Ziegler, Stephanie Bell, Tonya Chestnut, and Belinda McRae, provided all four decide to seek another term.

Jackie Ziegler of Mobile is a Republican board member and represents District 1. She was first elected in 2016, and is an experienced and successful educator. She is a graduate of the University of South Alabama. She was a classroom teacher, then longtime principal in the Mobile County School System. She is married to State Auditor Jim Ziegler.

Stephanie Bell, who represents District 3, is by far the most veteran member of the board having first been elected in 1994 and re-elected to eight consecutive terms. At the end of her current term, she will have served over 30 years. She is a stellar member, an asset to the board, and hopefully will run again. Stephanie is a lifelong resident of Montgomery as is her husband.

Dr. Tonya Chestnut, a native of Selma, is a Democrat and represents District 5. She has a doctorate in education and is the former Dean of Alabama State University College of Visual and Performing Arts.

Belinda McRae of Hamilton is the Republican board member for District 7. She is in her first term. Belinda taught English and Art for 25 years in the Marion County School System and served on the Marion County Board of Education before being elected to the State School Board.

Choosing the State Superintendent is probably the most important task of the Alabama State School Board and the Board made an excellent choice when they selected Dr. Eric Mackey as Alabama State Superintendent of Education. Dr. Mackey is a former school superintendent and former Executive Director of the State School Superintendents Association.

Most of our former governors did not take their ex-officio role as seriously as Governor Kay Ivey. Governor Ivey has been a very active and dutiful member of the Alabama State School Board.

In closing, allow me to not only give accolades to the state school board, but also a tip of the hat to all local school board members.

Intelligence plus character – that is the goal of true education.

Martin Luther King Jr.



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WHAT ARE SOME OF THE RULES OF A DUI OFFENSE?

A driving under the influence (DUI) offense carries serious fines and jail time especially if the same individual is arrested multiple times for a DUI. In 2017, Alabama was 5th in drunk driving related deaths. There are some special rules that apply.



Ronald A. Holtsford

Interestingly the special rules apply to whether (1) the individual is driving a school bus/ day care vehicle, or (2) it is a commercial vehicle, or (3) the individual is under the age of 21, or (4) the individual does not fall into any of the above categories.

The blood alcohol content levels are as follows:

- (1) non-commercial or bus driver/ day care driver over the age of 21 is 0.08%
- (2) commercial drivers are considered drunk if the blood alcohol content is over 0.04%
- (3) school bus or day care drivers are legally drunk if the blood alcohol content is over 0.02%, and
- (4) those under the age of 21 are considered drunk if the content is over 0.02%.

Blood alcohol content greater than 0.15% carries double penalties and fines/ jail are harsher on those under age 21. License suspension is included for various levels of offense. The inability of one to drive can certainly affect someone's ability to remain employed if alternate transportation is not available and certainly if one is expected to be able to drive during their work day, continued employment may not be possible.

Of interest there was something that I learned in law school regarding control over a vehicle. If an intoxicated person is found in a car that is **not running** and the keys are in the ignition then that person will still be arrested for DUI. The reasoning is because that person still has control over the vehicle. Once law enforcement leaves the vehicle there is certainly no way to know whether the intoxicated person might exercise control over the vehicle and attempt to drive. This has been the general line of thinking in all of the states.

An interesting case comes from the Ohio Supreme Court which was just decided in September 2022. The facts are that Katherine Wilson was arrested in February 2018 while sleeping in her car along with three friends. The key was in the ignition and the car was running for warmth. Nothing was mentioned about intoxication but only that her license was revoked. Her license was revoked due to an earlier DUI. She was sleeping in the car because she and her friends had been kicked out of a home by her friends parents whom were hosting a party. She was fined \$250 and sentenced to three days in jail. This was stayed pending her appeal.

Her conviction was based on the Ohio Driving Under OVI Suspension law. The law defines "operate" as movement of the vehicle. The facts state there was no evidence of movement. One has to wonder where the vehicle was parked, how and by whom the car was parked in its location and whether she had no other means of shelter.. The Ohio Supreme Court also stated that someone with a suspended license may also require the use of their vehicle for shelter in case of hardship.

Though there is a difference between an arrest for a DUI and a suspended license one has to wonder as well whether there was intoxication involved since Ms. Wilson and her friends had been kicked out of a party for some unstated reason. I think for the same reasons that individuals may be arrested for DUI when they have control over the vehicle would be the same for one having a suspended license. Ms. Wilson could have simply traded places with another occupant that hopefully had a valid license and was not intoxicated so as to relinquish control.

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

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

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

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MISSION STATEMENT

Protect the American people, safeguard our borders, and enhance the nation's economic prosperity.

ENDURING MISSION PRIORITIES

Counter Terrorism – Anticipate, detect and disrupt the threat of terrorists, their weapons and actions to protect the people and economy of the United States.

Combat Transnational Crime – Detect, deter and disrupt transnational organized crime that threatens U.S. national and economic security interests at and beyond the border.

Secure the Border – Protect the Homeland through the air, land and maritime environments against illegal entry, illicit activity or other threats to uphold national sovereignty and promote national and economic security.

Facilitate Lawful Trade and Protect Revenue – Enable fair, competitive and compliant trade and enforce U.S. laws to ensure safety, prosperity and economic security for the American people.

Facilitate Lawful Travel – Enhance, enable and transform the travel experience by anticipating, detecting and intercepting threats prior to and at ports of entry.

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ROBSERVATIONS...

by Robert Tate

NIHILISM:

The rejection of all religious and moral principles, in the belief that life is meaningless.

A viewpoint that traditional values and beliefs are unfounded and that existence is senseless and useless. Extreme skepticism maintaining that nothing in the world has a real existence. A doctrine or belief that conditions in the social organization are so bad as to make destruction desirable for its own sake independent of any constructive program or possibility. It is also a political belief or action that advocates or commits violence or terrorism without discernable constructive goals.

Some common synonyms: negativity, cynicism, pessimism, rejection, repudiation, renunciation, denial, abnegation, disbelief, nonbelief, unbelief, absence of moral values, atheism, nontheism, agnosticism. FAITH: Strong's Concordance and the NASEC: G4102 – Pistis; Persuasion, that is credence; moral conviction (of religious truth, or the truthfulness of God or a religious teacher), especially reliance upon Christ for salvation; constancy in such profession, by extension the system of religious (Gospel) truth itself: - assurance, belief, believe, faith, fidelity, faithfulness.

It was the great 20th Century statesman Winston Churchill who once said, "You cannot stop and throw stones at every dog that barks at you or you will never get to where you are going." To this I agree. But there is a caveat to this. Every now and then, it is a stone that you must throw nonetheless. Early in my writing endeavors, I learned that you should never write when you are angry. Like the spoken word, the written word once let out of the bag, can never be retrieved. I am in minor violation of that right now but at the same time, what you will be reading today is nothing compared to what was first posited on my computer. Not even close.

The night that I sent in my last Robservation, my wife came across a disturbing article. She asked me, "What does Nihilism mean?" To be honest, I told her that I was not sure exactly but I knew it was not a good thing. So, like most mature humans, I looked it up for myself. If I am going to talk about something, I really want to know the definitions of what I am speaking about. Some of those definitions are listed at the top of this column. I asked her why she was curious about that word. She told me some guy, Edward Luce, a corporate journalist and chief commentator for U.S. political affairs at the Financial Times, had Tweeted, "I've covered extremism and violent ideologies around the world over my career. I have never come across a political force more nihilistic, dangerous and contemptable than today's Republicans. Nothing close."

I saw several short news clips discussing this but none seemed willing to directly confront the 800-pound lying gorilla throwing and eating his pooch in the corner. The pushing of this idea against the Right is direct affront to my Christian beliefs and an attack against the church. Sorry, but I have to speak up on this one. I have to say something even if it falls on deaf ears or persuades nobody. I don't care. Calling Christianity, Jesus in effect "nihilistic?" Fights on! BTW, if you think being a Christian means one has to sit back and take somebody's garbage and lick their boots without a fight, buy a Bible and do some reading for yourself.

I am not going to directly challenge this ridiculous idea with Luce. His words were foolish and damning enough. Hopefully he realized this when he first wrote them. Proverbs 26:5 says, "Answer a fool as his folly deserves, that he not be wise in his own eyes." But indirectly, his idiocy will be challenged through both an equally ridiculous man, former CIA director and retired Air Force 4-Star General Michael Hayden and the fallacious definition they both tried to paint me with. Why Hayden? Well, when this man, I guess we can call him this, read Luce's comments, he responded with, "I agree. And I was the CIA Director." As if he was somehow imbued with some extraordinary level of intelligence and insight. He is not. Just do a simple search of his time at the CIA and look at some of the inane ideas this man had.

Among the things that wound me up over this is the way that people continue to use these "big" words that in their mind sound insightful and intelligent but in reality, their contextual use is unfathomable and indefensible. They are disingenuous, false and quite plainly, outright lies. When Luce let loose (yes, that was intentional) with his words, he basically stated that the Republicans are the worst people in the world. Just look at the definitions of nihilism. To him we are contemptable, dangerous and violent. Hayden agrees. If anyone believes the average Republican is worse or more

AND YET WE ARE THE NIHILISTS!

dangerous than Nazis, Taliban, Communists, Khmer Rouge, ANTIFA, NFAC or dozens of other factions, you are clearly misguided. Simple.

The word "Nihilistic" is what really spun me up was. If you are going to place a "one size fits all" tag on Republicans, we must assume that part of that label is against the Christian right. Why? Because it is. That whole if A=B, B=C then A=C, thing again. We are lumped right over there with people who clearly are no part of what we are and what we stand for. Definitely not to the left and personally, I have modeled a third branch where the Christian right actually belongs but for now, we have to use the models thrust upon us. But Hayden thinks the Christian right is nihilistic. Remember what Churchill said about throwing rocks? Here they come.

By definition, nihilists are atheists. Read it for yourself. They believe in no God; they have no God. They often believe in violence for violence's sake. Life is meaningless. There is no point to it. The destruction of social constructs are not just acceptable but desirable. The list goes on. Let the definition speak for itself. Now compare that to just the definition of faith. With any intellectual honesty, how can someone look at the Republican Party, and in turn the Christian right and call us "nihilists?" You can't. Remember when Obama said that "we cling to guns or religion?" What, we were clinging to atheism? Really?

- Communism, socialism and Naziism all profess, in their truest sense to be atheist. Hitler, Stalin, Lennin, Marx; all atheists. This cannot be denied. "But I read where Hitler believed in God." Again, really? Just because the Germans had "God with Us" on their belt buckles did not make them Christian. Sorry. Hitler a Christian, uhhhh, No! Our progressive Left is moving daily, willingly toward full blown socialism whose ultimate goal is communism -- atheism. They are. Yet in the 20th Century, Communism is estimated to have killed 95-100 million people. Mao Zedong alone killed 45 million of his own people in his "Great Leap Forward"; the greatest mass murder in human history. The Nazis (National Socialists), 21-28 million killed total through genocide, murder and institutional practices such as slave labor. -- And yet we are called nihilists! (AYWACN!)

- Open borders in violation of our own immigration laws. No regard for rule of law. AYWACN!

- No cash bail for repeat criminal offenders. Even those guilty of rape, attempted murder, assault. Proverbs 21:5, "The exercise of justice is joy for the righteous, but is terror to the workers of iniquity." AYWACN!

- Smash and grab robberies prevalent in the US with authorities doing little to stop it. Ecclesiastes 8:11 comes to mind. "Because the sentence against an evil deed is not executed quickly, therefore the hearts of the sons of men among them are given fully to do evil." AYWACN!

- Transgender reading time in kindergarten classes. Nothing more than the intentional indoctrination of children away from traditional nuclear family values. AYWACN!

- In the summer of violence in 2020, where there were 8,700 protests in which 574 turned into full blown riots with mass looting and destruction, our government was slow to condemn or attempt to turn back the crime wave. More than 2,035 law enforcement officers were injured. Whether 78% identified as Alt-Left or 51% identified as Alt-Right, the deafening silence from the Left in our government said it all. AYWACN!

- Woke cancellation of conservative ideas. Systematic shutting down of opposing thought through our media. Josef Goebbels, looking up from hell, would be proud. AYWACN!

- Florida school takes a group of underage children to a gay bar for a field trip. AYWACN!

- President Biden to build a \$500,000 dollar wall around his vacation home in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware yet a wall along our southern border is somehow "racist." AYWACN!

- In a complete abrogation of adult responsibility, we are now going to spend another \$3.9 billion to payoff student loans because of student debt. People who may have never had the opportunity to go to college will be footing the bill for those who did. You got the loan, you knew the conditions and now you wet your pants and whine. We pay for your mistakes. AYWACN!

- Since Roe v. Wade, this country has murdered some 65 million babies. More than six times the level of the German Holocaust. AYWACN!

- Just today, U.C. Berkley has declared that white students are forbidden to enter common areas on some off campus student housing complexes unless they are first approved as a guest. Berkley is anything but a bastion conservative thought and once again, left up to their own devices, the tolerant Left has shown us what they are really made of. AYWACN!

- What about the National Archives slapping a "harmful content" warning on our Constitution and other founding documents. Yeah. In part they wrote, "NARA's records span the history of the United States, and it is our charge to preserve and make available these historical records. As a result, some of the materials presented here may reflect outdated, biased, offensive, and possibly violent views and opinions. In addition, some of the materials may relate to violent or graphic events and are preserved for their historical significance." They went on to say these historical documents could, "reflect racist, sexist, ableist, misogynistic/misogynoir, and xenophobic opinions and attitudes; be discriminatory towards or exclude diverse views on sexuality, gender, religion, and more," and "include graphic content of historical events such as violent death, medical procedures, crime, wars/terrorist acts, natural disasters and more." AYWACN!

THIS LIST GOES ON AND ON. People like the deceived Michael Hayden have shown all of us the level to which so many of our so-called leaders have devolved. Shallow, hollow politicians chasing political careers and the promise of big money and advancement at the end of their blackened, soulless rainbows. Many are absent of any moral compass whatsoever and are only driven by what they hope to gain for themselves and their families in this lifetime. Hunter Biden comes to mind. AYWACN!! Why not, there is no afterlife to consider. Nothing matters. There is nothing too wrong, nothing too selfish or evil. There is nothing too bad if you can benefit from it yourself. Sadly, they point their crooked, pooch covered fingers at us and accuse us of those things they themselves are doing daily. Reminds me of Romans 1:32, "and, although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them."

Shame on the shameless Hayden and all nihilists who think like him. Hey, if you are a nihilist, so be it. I would prefer if you were not one but at the end of the day, it is totally your decision what and who you wish to believe in. God alone has given us that choice. It is not my place to put any kind of constraint on you or your life. You leave me alone and I will leave you alone; life is good. But be a man. Put on your man pants. Take the pacifier out of your mouth, empty your diaper and admit what the heck you are. Don't hide behind these big words casting aspersions on others for what you yourself are and believe in. Man up. But people like Hayden are too morally corrupt to face the reality that it is they who are fully spiritually deprived with no true compass in their lives other than selfishness, pride, greed and hoped for personal gain regardless of the trail of filth they leave in their wake.

It is much of like King Leopold II of Belgium in the Congo in the 1890s, killing up to 10 million natives, amputating hands and feet for not making a quota on the rubber the Belgians were stealing. Then there were the mass rapes, kidnappings, you name it. Or the Germans in Namibia in the early 1900s ethnically cleansing 80% of the Herero and 50% of the Nama totaling some 85,000 people killed. While stealing, killing, raping and mutilating entire groups of people, the European invaders then had the nerve to turn around and call the natives, "Savages." Really. Them? Just like Hayden and Luce. Nihilists? Us? No, no I don't think so. You have that one finger pointing at us while you have three more pooch covered fingers pointing back at you.

THANKS ROB!

ROB SUBMITTED IS FIRST ARTICLE IN 2010.
HE HAS WRITTEN 151 ARTICLES FOR THE GAZETTE!

HE WAS RECENTLY ON TALK RADIO REPRESENTING THE
GAZETTE DISCUSSING OUR NEW IRS EXPLOSION....
THE UPCOMING 87,000 ARMED IRS AGENTS!

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Five Hundred Years of Global Trade

With supersonic air travel, it takes less than three days to travel around the world. Five hundred years ago, it took three years.

When Ferdinand Magellan left Spain in 1519, he embarked on an adventure that was rife with danger and uncertainty. His flagship, if you can call it that, was a mere 75 feet long and had room for just over 60 people. He had no map and would be guided primarily by a crude form of celestial navigation. In reality, his destination was undetermined.

But, his ultimate goal was to discover a better, faster, and shorter trade route.

Not content to accept his place in life, Magellan was ambitious and yearned to become important by achieving what many believed was impossible. He also wanted to confirm his own conviction that such a trade route existed. In many ways, he was akin to a test pilot who wanted to attempt something that couldn't be proven on paper. When his plan was rejected by his native Portugal, he sought financial backing from Spain, but accepting such largesse required him to renounce his citizenship.

Five hundred years ago, there were two spheres of influence in the world, Spain and Portugal. They vied with each other over any number of issues, but the most critical battle was over conquest, trade, and bringing wealth home to the mother country. So powerful were these two countries that to prevent conflict, the Pope intervened and divided the world outside of Europe between them.

The Treaty of Tordesillas created the famous Line of Demarcation. This line allowed Spain the lands to the west of it and Portugal the lands to the east. But, in addition to allocating land for colonies, the line also sanctioned trade routes. Even from its native ports, Spain would need to sail west toward the Americas and Portugal east.

Before the Spanish fully exploited Columbus' conquest and found the gold that animated further expeditions, the main commodities were spices. And the spices so much in demand were confined to an area in the South Pacific. But with Portugal controlling trade to the East, Spain could not sail around Africa and would need to find a western route.

Magellan understood this uncharted territory. When he proposed a voyage around the globe, the King of Spain jumped on the chance to support this mission. He would underwrite the cost, knowing that if Spain could find a shorter route, then it could dominate the spice trade.

Thus, a trade war began that focused not on prices, but on transportation.

Magellan was uniquely qualified for such an expedition. His prior service to Portugal had placed him in the very thick of naval warfare and foreign conquest. He was involved in a number of significant battles in both the Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean, and each of these battles involved trade and exploiting the wealth of other countries.

In short, Magellan knew how to sail, and he knew how to fight. Plus, he understood that the primary reason for sailing and fighting was to acquire

territory that contained natural resources, which could be traded with other nations. He also learned that trade was the key to personal financial success and to the growth of his country.

While others might be content with rural subsistence, Magellan and his ilk were motivated by more. His experience showed him there was a vast, unexplored world with countless riches, but the resources needed to find these new sources of wealth could only come from a sovereign. In this case, King Charles of Spain had not only the financial resources and ambition, but also a vision of colonized trade.

It was a risky endeavor to support Magellan's expedition. It is hard to imagine proposing a trip with no exact destination and no idea of the material requirements based simply upon the hunch that the reward was great enough to make the risk was acceptable. If there was a manual for best practices, this certainly was not it.

It is easy to take Magellan's work for granted and write him off in unflattering terms. Yes, he had an ego; sure, he was a ruthless leader; and, of course, his means of conquest were brutal. But, 500 years ago that was reality.

Sailing in the expanse of the ocean was not for the faint of heart, and not seeing land or familiar landmarks would stir fears in anyone. Every conceivable terror would be conjured by the darkness of night. Others would turn back, and some mutinied, but Magellan was unwavering. His belief in success was so strong that he pushed day after day, until finally he found what he was looking for – a westward path from the Atlantic to the Pacific Ocean.

In his little 75-foot ship, he managed to navigate around South America. Other ships that sailed with him were lost, and a number of his crew died from illness. A few days prior to his discovery of the route, some would even turn back. The route would carry his name as the Straits of Magellan, and a once uncertain passage would become a routine course of travel and trade. But he was the first, and with all his faults, his courage never failed nor his belief in himself and in a fundamental view of how earth was comprised of land and ocean convinced him that he was correct.

Regrettably, Magellan would not live to see his home again. He would die in a battle in the Philippines with natives interested in neither conquest nor trade. Eighteen of his crew would survive the ordeal, and 500 years ago this month, they arrived back in Spain.

But, with Magellan dead and with fame on the line, none of the survivors wanted to give him credit. They desired the wealth for themselves. But at least one survivor would remember Magellan. Antonio Pigafetta kept a diary of the entire journey, and the later publication of his eyewitness testimony rehabilitated Magellan's reputation while also crediting him with the leadership, motivation, and skill to circumnavigate the globe.

Five centuries ago, Magellan's discovery was a critical step in human exploration and one reason why the sixteenth century would become known as the "Golden Age of Spain."

Will Sellers is a graduate of Hillsdale College and an Associate Justice on the Supreme Court of Alabama. He is best reached at jws@willsellers.com

God Bless America, we are winning even if it looks like we are losing.

Where Did The List Come From?

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

On January 22, 1973, seven white men, sitting on the Supreme Court, created the idea of a penumbra of privacy as a basis to wipe out long established state laws regarding abortions in America. Injecting political views, political party positions and making law by legislating from the bench has been defined as judicial activism. Almost fifty years later on June 24, 2022, four

white men, one black man and a woman sitting on the Supreme Court overturned Roe vs. Wade. Almost immediately, the world focused on the three newest members to the court, appointed by Trump. One may recall there was a list of twenty three published during the 2016 presidential race by Trump. Where did that list come from?

Presidents do come and go, but **federal judges are appointed for life**. It has been often stated, that the real legacy of any President is their appointments to the federal bench. Trump in an unprecedented manner, published for the world to see, his top list of twenty three he promised to pick from, if a seat on the nation's highest court experienced a vacancy. This list was published during the 2016 general election cycle. The Democrat nominee, Hillary Clinton would not publically disclose her list for the high court. The 2016 election exit polling data confirmed that 60% of Trump's general election support was attributed to the promise of appointing from this list; my wife and I were in that 60%. Trump did keep his promise three times and picked from this list, which was essentially the reason he was elected in 2016. Let's talk about the list!

Trump descending the escalator announcing his candidacy was an iconic moment for the stardom billionaire. He had no issues; he was running on the idea if you elect him, everything will be beautiful. Reince Priebus, Kellyanne Conway, Steve Bannon and Senator Jeff Sessions helped Trump shape his platform issues to synchronize with the GOP base. Sessions also contributed to Trump his immigration reform and trade imbalance ideas he had championed in the senate. In addition, Sessions stressed to Trump his potential legacy as president, would be his appointments to the federal bench. Sessions being a member of the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, long had a front row seat to the judicial confirmation process.

Sessions played a key role in the Trump template for vetting Supreme Court nominees. Constitutional conservatives, like Sessions understand the role of the federal judiciary should be to employ judicial restraint and limit their actions to addressing constitutional questions. The ideal jurist is one who believes in strict construction and the notion of constitutional originalist. Sessions had the idea to enlist the Federalist Society and others to sift through the rulings of sitting district and circuit federal judges who had already been through the confirmation process. Among this collective effort, Trump was handed a list of twenty three vetted jurists suitable for consideration. Trump's three nominees in the last few days have given the American people a reset affirming the 2nd amendment, overturning Roe vs Wade and the important school prayer case that eliminated the "Lemon Test," used by activist courts to unjustifiably limit religious liberty. Importantly, Sessions with four other Attorneys General filed a brief supporting the coach in the prayer case. This is huge! You never know when you support someone for public office of their potential impact on the United States of America.

For over forty years there are so many people to thank for their tireless volunteer work, losing jobs, going to jail, working in prolife campaigns and so much more that were involved addressing Roe vs Wade. I would like to publicly thank two people. I am grateful for Bob Russell, past Chairman of the Christian Coalition of Alabama for going in 1996 to visit Alabama Attorney General Jeff Session and encouraging him to run for the U.S. Senate. I also want to thank Jeff Sessions for all of the years of great leadership and service, helping Donald Trump get elected, and of course the "List of Twenty Three," he helped champion.

On a personal note, my wife Deborah and I got involved forty two years ago because protecting the sanctity of human life was then and now our top priority. Helping Jeff Sessions get elected since 1993 has proven to be the most fruitful of my investments of time to change the course of America. I feel such a small part of such a huge victory.

One man with courage is a majority. The list of twenty three got Trump elected and reversed Roe Vs Wade.

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Justice Will Sellers



John W. Giles





John Sophocleus

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Electing Lobbyists: Streamlining Political Theft in Alabama

Bill Britt (4/18/18 Alabama Political Reporter) stated current and former BCA [Business Council of Alabama] members thought the board’s vote demanding Bill Canary’s resignation was good news for our State’s future.

Some were angry BCA Chairman Perry Hand wanted to keep Canary until fall. APR’s sources said Hand’s timing was designed for BCA to further influence election outcomes; control campaign donations and win enough races to rally a comeback. Hand seemed willing to risk everything protecting Canary. One source said other BCA board members saw no upside to challenging the seven most influential companies in the State (a.k.a., seven sisters) to continue Canary’s largess. Some of the ‘seven sisters’ in fact exited the corrupt organization.

The APR article made a compelling forecast; if mass exiting came to fruition, it would cripple BCA at a critical time when Alabama is rebuilding after the failed leadership of Canary and his minions. Exit by some demanding Canary’s resignation (most notable Alabama Power, Blue Cross Blue Shield and Regions - the only Fortune 500 Company headquartered in our State, last I checked) leaves a big ‘power vacuum.’ What would fill that vacuum was paramount to political insiders, swamp monsters and other big government redistributionists’ special interest at that critical moment.

Enter ‘Cash Register’ Shelby’s Chief of Staff to fill the vacuum and streamline political theft by simply electing lobbyists directly to DC brokering ‘Art of the Steal’ transfers with crony contractors and vendors. For the full text of what led to well orchestrated efforts toward streamlining political theft via installation of lobbyists into office accomplishing wealth transfers to our corporate welfare queens, please (re)read: Alabama Power finally 'zaps' the Canary in the Drummond Mine: time to 'dissolve' the BCA...

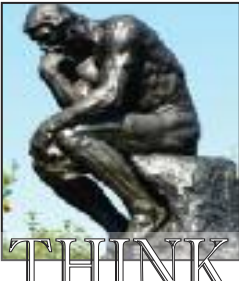
Establishment apparatchiks of Riley, Inc. and the BCA (BIG Business Council of Alabama as Sen. Rice dubbed them) have shown great acumen circumventing the will of members and general welfare of our citizens. Seems many individuals are BCA members for insurance purposes (think Speaker Hubbard getting well rewarded for mandating auto insurance) providing a significant BCA revenue stream from those not paying attention to the corruption they’re subsidizing. Most prominent in this mix of high-priced political prostitutes, US Sen. Richard “Cash-register” Shelby, who made his disdain for BCA’s leadership clear after being outed in emails submitted for Felon Hubbard’s trial in Lee County Circuit Court.

Shelby made it widely known within the politburo circle Canary was no longer welcome in his office; loss of access meant avenues to accomplish corporate welfare redistributions from DC [District of Corruption] less likely. “Sen. Shelby made calls letting folks know he was done with Canary,” said a close advisor in the APR report. As Senate Appropriations Committee Chair, Shelby’s touted as one of the most powerful in DC. Long overdue for this political broker, drunk with power to go... sadly, with Shelby’s store of cash to buy elections/install his minions, little will change in a State with the most restrictive ballot access laws, hyper-gerrymandering, one of only six remaining States with ‘straight-ticket’ voting and now further closing party primaries imposing greater impediments to political competition.

Little surprise a big government Democrat turned Republican ‘public servant’ like Shelby enjoyed colluding with the Canary, Hubbard, Riley, et al machine until Felon Hubbard emails embarrassingly showed the harm Shelby has aided and abetted in our State. Sad how many think the redistributions they champion to specific groups do not harm the general welfare of citizens being sheared to generate fat corporate-welfare checks these political hacks and so-called ‘economic developers’ receive.

Columnist Steve Flowers (7/25/17) wrote about his tenure in the 1980s and 1990s State Legislature where the duopoly result was not as pronounced and political identity was either a big govt. conservative pro-corporate welfare legislator or a big govt. social-welfare, pro-union/pro-trial lawyer legislator. Weak willed legislators picked one side or the other ‘progressing’ us into the extremist mess observed today. Flowers quickly decided on a leading role/sponsor of Tort Reform redistributive legislation. Readers can decide for themselves if reform has proffered improvement with less accountability/responsibility in the courts; nonetheless his tort reform activities (according to Flowers) led most to rate him an ‘arch pro-business’ conservative.

Flowers asserted torts evoked BCAs formation. Others offer more encompassing, important and compelling reasons - facilitating environments to keep commerce regular/promote the general welfare of citizens in our State instead of the specific interests of big business (corporate-welfare recipients) trial lawyers, etc. Morphing from a general welfare mission, the BCA became the most powerful organization in Alabama making a path for the ACCA [Association of County Commissions of Alabama] another broker of political theft. It



was surreal witnessing a political operative being outed as paid \$90,000/year by UA (in the same deleterious spirit of Joe Perkins destroying the lives of students who dare challenge University malfeasance) for his columns - guess Alabama Power will have to come up with another way to pay this \$90,000 of Flowers’ largess each year. Paying for high-end political betrayal of this sort requires more than 30 pieces of silver to do such ‘heavy-lifting’ dirty work for our most corrupt politburo members.

Failed businessmen like Felon Hubbard (unable to survive without corrupt wealth transfers) believe their own rhetoric; somehow getting government redistributions in their favour connotes outstanding business acumen/entrepreneurship - you know, “Art of the Steal” folklore - the book with several Chapter 11s. Flowers explained when Riley became governor in 2002, he orchestrated plans to control BCA. He succeeded and installed his boy, Washington political insider Billy Canary. An accomplished political hack, Canary would carry out dirty tricks and chicanery for George W. Bush and Karl Rove. The Riley/Hubbard machine controlled BCA through Billy Canary. Riley continued to pull the strings and make money until angering ‘Cash Register’ Shelby. To anyone paying attention it is easy to see/understand the streamlining and how Shelby is keeping his political theft brokerage house operating.

Canary boasted of his position on convicted Speaker Mike Hubbard’s “kitchen cabinet.” However, in the Hubbard trial, Canary was less than convincing on the stand as his memory faded on issues w.r.t. Hubbard. Some issues were ‘inextricably intertwined’ with the 12 felony convictions which finally removed Hubbard from Montgomery. Many expected Canary would be indicted with Hubbard along with many other co-conspirators. BCA and Canary were facing possible involvement in the north Birmingham corruption investigation that resulted in one House member’s criminal confession. The mix of anger/fear from Shelby, et al political thieves is none are safe from Hubbard’s willingness to sing in exchange for an early prison release, in spite of backdoor hush money AU students and taxpayers are supplying for Hubbard’s silence addressed in: <https://www.alabamagazette.com/story/2019/10/01/opinion/the-au-horror-picture-show-bride-of-felonstein-meets-yellagrubbear/1750.html>

The BCA Board and those genuinely concerned with Alabama’s future wondered why Canary captained a once proud and effective organization into such controversial issues having little to do with core business interests. The answer is simple... numerous conflicts of interest. During his tenure as BCA president, Canary continued to maintain outside consulting contracts in clear conflicts with his role at BCA. Obviously Canary (inserted by Boob Riley soon after his installation as Governor) and Felon Hubbard are kindred spirits in this regard.

Alabama Power withdrew from BCA, "effective immediately" (to make the point on election timing) according to a letter from CEO Mark Crosswhite, who is now up to his neck with questions about political hacks like Flowers, Perkins (Matrix), et al. Dennis Pillion (dpillion@al.com) cited the letter where Crosswhite wrote Alabama Power exited the powerful business group because the organization had "needlessly alienated federal and state officials, failed to communicate with its own members, squandered our collective corporate goodwill, allowed its financial health to decline, and become a divisive force in our State." The letter was addressed to BCA Chairman Hand, stating the power company had expressed concerns with BCA leadership since August 2017, with "no meaningful response," and "At this point, further discussions would be fruitless and a waste of everyone's time." Crosswhite further explained Alabama Power was a founding member of the BCA, but the company has become "concerned that membership in the BCA has become a liability rather than a benefit."

The exchange describes numerous conversations between Crosswhite and BCA leadership, in which the letter says Crosswhite "asked that the committee remove our President and CEO [William J. Canary] by May 1 or June 1." Political insiders intuit the importance of the dates with the election cycle. According to Pillion, the letter says the BCA Executive Committee was scheduled to meet for approval of a "transition plan" aimed at "having a new CEO installed no later than January 1, 2019." The timing was important - a fight to the death to get election results to bailout Felon Hubbard and protect his unindicted co-conspirators.

Then Sen. Ward offered a pressing question on the matter... where do the ‘seven sisters’ go? Decades ago Alabama Power/Southern Company were members of the Auburn Policy Research Center which was on its way to be advocate for the general welfare of our State until corrupt administrators captured by the Lowder/Felon Hubbard ‘public servant’ gang killed the Center and the successful Economics program increasingly attacked by less productive faculty and champions of big government. The deleterious spirit of not wanting to compete has grown strong roots on the Plains of Dixie. The two most notable in the fight to block “Billion Dollar Bob’s” Amendment One tax explosion and the ‘new and improved’ BIG Business Council of Alabama were John Rice in the traditional political arena and Libertarian Mark Bodenhause on the emerging internet scene. Mark is no longer with us and dearly missed by those who remember how well he championed liberty against big government extremists.

This leaves Sen. Rice/AFLG [Alabama Foundation for Limited Government] who’s been most effective at blocking and containing Big BCA extremism since the Riley/Felon Hubbard installation of co-conspirator Canary in 2003. Some readers may recall my March 2017 Alabama Gazette column [<https://www.alabamagazette.com/story/2017/03/01/opinion/consider-the-olive-branch/993.html>] toward this end of shepherding BCA back to their original mission of promoting our general welfare by keeping voluntary commerce regular in our State. In the Spirit of opening a dialog to facilitate a peaceful effort to move forward, Sen. Rice delivered a quote worthy of (re)reading from the link above. No civil dialogue between Rice and the BCA ever occurred; few have more sweat equity than Mr. Rice in the attempt to get the BCA he helped build back on course.

More failed Riley/Siegelman business incentives and command economy transfers impeding our State continue to proffer the usual deleterious result even with Canary removed. Foolish to think any of these political predators may change... If you’re looking for someone to shepherd the BCA toward promoting our general welfare over special interests again, allow Sen. Rice to explain the history which built BCA and noble beginnings before it morphed into the destructive redistributive entity we observe today. If the ‘seven sisters’ want to charter a new no nonsense, truly non-profit organization, getting a short list of participants from Sen. Rice is a sound starting place. Until then, expect more streamlining of political theft electing corporate welfare queen lobbyists to become legislators

Postscript: wishing the Alabama Gazette a joyful 23rd Anniversary celebration. As the Greeks say, “Chronia pola!” - i.e., wishing the Gazette many more years filled with God’s blessings! Indeed a blessing to be a columnist since 2009. I pray Loretta Grant (who named my column THINK) has found I’ve lived up to her assigned moniker and readers considered my often difficult to read/digest input worthy these past many years.

DID YOU KNOW?

In the history of these United States, no major political party or presidential candidate ever campaigned on abolishing slavery in the States where it existed.

This included the presidential election of 1860 in which Abraham Lincoln was elected president with less than 40% of the popular vote.

The Republican platform of 1860 consisted of 17 Declarations or planks, stating the position of the Party on the issues of the day. The platform did have a plank opposing the extension of slavery into the territories of these United States.

"We deny the authority of Congress, of a territorial legislature, or any individual to give legal existence to slavery in any territory of the United States." Declaration 8.

However, that same Republican Party platform affirmed the right of states to control their own internal affairs (state sovereignty) which would have included slavery in those states.

"That the maintenance inviolate of the rights of states and especially the right of each state to order and control its own domestic institutions according to its own judgement exclusively, is essential to the balance of powers on which the perfection and endurance of our political fabric rests." Declaration 4.



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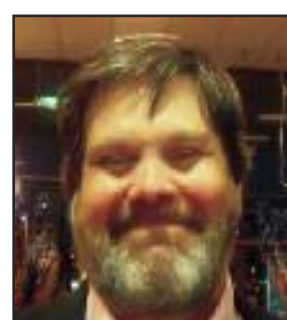
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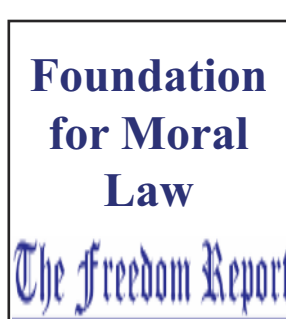
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Honoring Our Heroes

Dr. Martha Poole Simmons: A Journey of Service

Col Larry Patrick Cornwell: Age 76

Col Larry Patrick Cornwell served 28 years in the United States Air Force. His Air Force Specialty Code (AFSC) for 21 years was as a Security Police officer. He received the following decorations, medals, badges, citations and campaign ribbons: Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal with six oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Air Force Achievement Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with two oak leaf clusters, Organizational Excellence Award, Air Force Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal with Bronze Star, Vietnam Service Medal with Service Star, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (Thailand), Air Force Overseas Short Tour Ribbon, Air Force Overseas Long Tour Ribbon, Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon with five oak leaf clusters, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon with Service Star, Air Force Training Ribbon with one oak leaf cluster, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Device, and Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal. He wore the Master Security Police Qualification Badge.

Col Cornwell was born March 17, 1946 to Capt. Glen and Madelyn Cornwell, in Amarillo, TX, and was reared in Pender, Nebraska. He graduated from Pender Public High School in 1964, from Dana College with a double major in psychology and sociology/anthropology in 1968, from Michigan State University with a master’s degree in criminal justice in 1974 and from the Air War College in 1988. He completed in-residence graduate level courses at the University of Georgia, University of Southern California and Northwestern University.

Col Cornwell enlisted in the Air Force in 1968 and attended basic training at Lackland AFB, TX. From 1968-1969, he served as an Air Operations Specialist at a B-57 squadron at Stewart AFB, NY. In 1969, he attended Officer Training School and the Security Police Academy both at Lackland AFB. From 1969-1972, he served at Altus AFB, OK, in the Security Police Squadron. After graduating from the Army Intelligence School in 1972, he was assigned to the Takhli Royal Thai Air Force Base in Thailand during the Vietnam War as a Security Police officer and Wing Ground Combat Intelligence officer from 1972-1973.

After earning his Master’s Degree in 1974, he was assigned to the Headquarters Tactical Air Command Security Police staff at Langley AFB, VA, for two years (1975-1976) where he met his future wife. He then served there for another two years (1977-1978) with the Tactical Air Command Headquarters Inspector General.



From 1978-1980, Col Cornwell was assigned to McConnell AFB, KS, as a Security Police officer. From 1980-1982, he served at Wurtsmith AFB, MI, as the installation Chief, Security Police and Security Police Squadron commander. From 1982-1985, he served on the Strategic Air Command Headquarters Security Police staff at Offutt AFB, NE. From 1985-1987, he was assigned to Andersen AFB, Guam and served as the installation Chief, Security Police and Security Police Squadron commander. From 1987-1988, he attended and graduated from the Air War College at Maxwell AFB, AL. His next assignment was to Andrews AFB, MD, 1988-1990 as the installation Chief, Security Police and Security Police Squadron commander. From 1990-1991, he served as the Deputy Wing Commander for Ground Defense at Comiso Air Station, Sicily, Italy. He returned to the USA to serve as the Professor of Aerospace Studies and ROTC unit commander at the University of Minnesota from 1991-1993. From 1993-1996, he served at Maxwell AFB, AL, as the ROTC Chief of the Resource Management Division at ROTC Headquarters 1993-1995, and from 1995-1996, he served as the Director of Plans and Policy on the Headquarters, Air University staff.

Col Cornwell’s security experiences included close contact with international leaders such as President Ferdinand Marcos of the Philippines, Prince Phillip of Great Britain, USSR leader Gorbachev and US Presidents Ronald Reagan and George H. W. Bush. Col Cornwell retired from military service at Maxwell AFB, AL June 1, 1996.

Col Cornwell and his wife, Leanne, have been married 46 years, and they have two children and three grandchildren. He and his wife enjoy worldwide travel, and they are members of Christchurch Anglican of Montgomery, AL.

He is an active member of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) and with his wife, they have served as patriotic speakers in replica Revolutionary War uniforms at hundreds of classrooms and organizational meetings. For years, they led the Veterans Day parade in Montgomery. He served as a chapter, state, and national officer in the SAR. He has enjoyed life-long genealogical research for him and others in their quest to join the SAR. He enjoys playing golf and staying fit.

Col Cornwell’s reflections on his military service: “I saw it as a continuation of my family’s service. Two of my brothers served in the Navy and in the Army. My father served in WWII, my grandfather in WWI, two great-great-grandfathers in the War Between the States, six ancestors in the War of 1812, 31 ancestors in the American Revolution and numerous ancestors in the Colonial Wars in the 1600’s. I join a long line of patriotic veterans who are proud of our service to our country.”



Sergeant First Class

James Allen Campbell III

Sergeant First Class (SFG) James Allen Campbell service served seven years in the United States Army. His Military Occupational Specialty was Food Service Specialist. His awards, medals, decorations, badges and ribbons included : Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Marksman (Hand Grenade), Sharpshooter (M-16 Rifle) and Good Conduct Medal. Campbell was born July 27, 1953 to his parents, James and Mattie Campbell in Selma, AL in Dallas County where he graduated from Dallas County High School in Plantersville, AL in 1969. Campbell entered military service August 5 ,1975. He reported for military service at Fort Jackson, S.C., where he qualified to serve in meal preparations. He received training in food services for eight weeks at Ft. Sill, OK, and then served there for 18 months. He was transferred to Ft. Gordon, GA, for 2.5 years followed by deployment to Camp Castle in South Korea at the DMZ for one year. Next, he was assigned to the Headquarters of the 1st Infantry Division at Fort Riley, KS for 21 months until 1982. Unfortunately, he had suffered severe injuries from kitchen machines cutting both hands which resulted in a medical discharge November 11, 1982 resulting in complete disability.

Following miliary service, SGT Campbell worked as a supervisor of inmates in meal preparations with the AL Department of Corrections 1983-1986. He used the G.I. Bill to attend Wallace Community College, Trenholm State Community College and Alabama State University. He completed training in radio and television broadcasting and received a B.S. Degree from Alabama State University in May, 2003.

SGT Campbell and his wife, Carrie, were married for 40 years before she passed. They had four children, nine grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. He and his wife, Irene, have been married nine years.

SGT Campbell’s possesses deep Christian faith as demonstrated by his membership and service with churches. He has served as a deacon with the

Elyton Missionary Baptist Church in Plantersville, AL, as a deacon with the Potters Place Church in Selma, AL, and he has served in congregational care with Frazer Methodist Church in Montgomery, AL, visiting members in nursing homes. SGT Campbell has held membership in the Free Masons. He is a member of Disabled American Veterans and the American Legion.

SGT Campbell’s conclusions about his military service are, “It means that I was protecting the country as one individual along with other soldiers. It teaches how to conduct yourself as a soldier.” He would like future generations to remember him as trying to set goals and to his best and that they would want to be like him.



Veterans love reading

The Gazette!

These service members enjoy reading
The Alabama Gazette.
Their articles were published
in the September 2022 issue.



Col. John A. Eidsmoe
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(above)



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Lt. Carter Dean
Kanaiaupunks Papke
(above)

Petty Officer Third Class Danny Malcolm McDonald: Age 74



Petty Officer Third Class (PO3/E4) Danny Malcolm McDonald served four years in the United States Navy including tours in Vietnam. His naval enlistment classification (NEC) was quartermaster/navigator. His medals, citations, ribbons, decorations and badges included:

McDonald was born May 30, 1948 to his parents Eugene and Nan McDonald, in Montgomery, AL. He was primarily reared in Montgomery, and he graduated from Wetumpka High School, AL, in May 1967. He volunteered and joined the Navy two months before his graduation from high school so that he could choose the Navy as his branch of service.

McDonald completed 13 weeks of Navy boot camp at Great Lakes, IL. He was assigned to the USS Westchester County-LST-1167. This was a Terrebonne Parish-class tank landing ship build for the United States Navy at the end of the Korean War. The ship served in the Vietnam War and was used to carry supplies and personnel and was damaged by limpet mines set by Viet Cong frogmen. It was repaired and later sold to the Turkish Navy and finally sunk as a target in 2014. The Westchester County transported troops and supplies between Okinawa and Vietnam. The ship went into overhaul on March 15, 1967 at Yokosuka, followed by refresher training which lasted through August 5th. The Westchester County spent the remaining months of 1967 carrying Marines and equipment between Yokosuka, Okinawa, and Vietnam. The LST served as a Mobile Riverine Force support ship in the Mekong Delta from October 24th through December 31, 1967. Westchester County spent the early weeks of 1968 continuing service as a Mobile Riverine support ship. On January 26th, the ship began a series of lifts from Okinawa and the Philippines to Vietnam. She underwent repair availability and training exercises from July 16 through September 22nd. The ship resumed duty with the Mobile Riverine Forces on September 22nd. On November 1st, while Westchester County lay anchored in the vicinity of Mỹ Tho, Vietnam, two giant underwater explosions ripped through it, killing 26 men. Viet Cong divers had attached limpet mines to the hull about amidships on the starboard side causing ruptured berthing compartments and fuel and storage tanks. Command-detonated mines were used extensively on "The Long Tau" (Saigon—Vũng Tàu). U.S. minesweepers normally operated between Nha Be south to the ocean, and South Vietnamese operated from Nha Be to Newport. The day following the explosion, the entire Mobile Riverine Force moved from Mỹ Tho to Đồng Tâm. After beaching at Đồng Tâm for temporary repairs, she returned to Yokosuka, via Subic Bay, on November 26th. Westchester County went into drydock at the United States Naval Ship Repair Facility where it remained until February 5, 1969. Upon completion of refresher training and upkeep, the ship got under-

way on March 10, 1969 for "Operation Market Time" off the Vietnam coast. From July 5, 1969 through August 1969, the USS Westchester County joined in the first phase of following a restricted availability at Yokosuka which commenced on October 30th. The Westchester County made stops at Camranh Bay, Da Nang, Hong Kong and Okinawa.

McDonald worked with steering and keeping navigation charts. He went with the ship on the Mekong River, the 12th longest river in the world. He was aboard when the Viet Kong sabotaged the LST attaching C-4 explosive from a pontoon at 3:22 a.m. in November 1968. Although 27 lost their lives, he survived but suffered injuries to his head, clavicle and shoulder. He was medevaced to a nearby medical ship, to military hospitals at Lon Bie, to Cam Ranh Bay and then to Japan for medical treatments. McDonald had a strong desire to return to his ship, and he did return to it where it was being repaired in Yokosuka, Japan. He then went with the ship patrolling off the coast of Vietnam resupplying the Army, returned to Japan and then for his third tour on the ship to Vietnam. McDonald's last place of service was at the Naval Base Coronado, CA, for five months as a navigator on a small boat carrying supplies. He retired from military service there in 1971.

McDonald used the G.I. Bill to earn a B.A. Degree in Church Music with a minor in Voice from William Carey University in 1976. He also earned a Master's Degree in Religious Education with a minor in Church Music from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1983. Using his musical, religious training, he worked as a choir director in the Linden Baptist Church in Linden, AL 1976-1980, and he worked at a church in Columbia, AL (name of church?) with music and youth 1983-1986. He returned to Montgomery, AL, and worked with the Veterans Administration first starting out as a file clerk and becoming a Rating Specialist determining the eligibility of veterans for benefits for 22 years retiring in 2009.



McDonald and his wife, Cindy, have been married almost 50 years, and they have two children and three grandchildren. They are active members of Eastmont Baptist Church in Montgomery, AL. As a volunteer, he serves as the director of the senior adult choir, Forever Young, and as the director of the Handbell Choir. He has served at several churches in the music ministry in the Montgomery area. He enjoys pond fishing and also deep sea fishing. He belongs to the Disabled American Veterans. McDonald maintains that the main focus for him and his wife is Jesus Christ.

McDonald's conclusions about what his military service means to him are, "I wanted to serve my country. I like history, and I felt it was my duty to fill my place in the military just as my father did. I did my best for our country. I served with some great guys that did not make it home. I remember the guys in my compartment that were like my brothers. It is something that I won't forget."



Veterans are entitled to a patriotic ceremony at their funerals. Raymond Keel will provide this service for free!

Call him at 334-233-8736

or visit: <https://www.buglesacrossamerica.org>.

Dr. Martha Poole Simmons



The Alabama Gazette wants to honor Martha for the many years of service to our veterans. She has spent countless hours interviewing, showing special attention, writing up stories of our great Veterans in our area that has served in so many of our American conflicts and wars.

“THANK YOU”

She is amazing in all of her endeavors, especially with the American Red Cross and The Alabama Gazette. Her caring and tireless efforts have brought hope and recognition to hundreds. She is devoted to her God, her church and especially her country. What a pleasure to work with her over the years! She is our Hero!

Veterans Celebrating October Birthdays

Anthony Edward Sharpton:
Oct. 5th

George Brenton Smith:
Oct. 5th

David George Simonton:
Oct. 6th

Ronald Lewis:
Oct. 9th

Jeff Holland:
Oct. 12th

Carter Dean Papke:
Oct. 12th

Raymond Russell Martin:
Oct. 15th

Carl William Edwards:
Oct. 16th

Fredericks D. Roberts:
Oct. 16th

Nancy Burtron:
Oct. 18th

John A. Eidsmoe:
Oct. 18th

Sophie Ryan:
Oct. 18th

Ronald Lewis:
Oct. 19th

Edgar Leslie Smith:
Oct. 19th

Gary Dean Mehlhoff:
Oct. 26th

Judson L. Huett:
Oct. 26th

Mary LyBrand:
Oct. 27th

Mark Dierlam:
Oct. 26th

Dale Gamble:
Oct. 27th

Hugh David McCracken:
Oct. 27th

Romay Catherine Davis:
Oct. 29th

Deborah Marie Chambers:
Oct. 31st

Resources for Veterans



Veterans Crisis Line
www.veteranscrisisline.net



National Center for PTSD
855-948-2311 / ptsd.va.gov

Central Alabama Veterans Health Care System

2400 Hospital Road, Tuskegee AL 36083 / 334-727-0550

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/VACentralAlabama>



We Need to Remember!

When did you last quote this?

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."



By Kyle’ D. McKinney
kylle.mckinney@ssa.gov
(334) 479-1242 – Cell
(334) 272-7630 – Fax



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

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION (SSA) SERVICES IN MONTGOMERY

WHY IT’S IMPORTANT TO REPORT LIFE CHANGES TO US WHEN YOU RECEIVE SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME (SSI)

Did you know that certain life changes can affect your Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments? Sometimes your circumstances may change after you apply for or begin to receive SSI. When that happens, it’s important for you to tell us about these changes. This will ensure that you receive the benefits to which you’re eligible.

Here are some common changes you must report if you have applied for or receive SSI:

- Changes in income, wages, or self-employment income;
- Starting, stopping, or changing jobs;
- Changing your address or persons moving in or out of the household;
- Changes in marital status (including any same-sex relationships);
- Having more than \$2,000 if you are single or \$3,000 if you are married in resources that you can cash in, sell, or use to pay for food and shelter; and
- Changes in resources, including money in financial accounts and buying or selling extra vehicles, stocks, investments, or property.

For a complete list of reporting responsibilities for all our programs, please read our publication, *What You Need to Know When You Get Supplemental Security Income* at www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-11011.pdf.

How to Report Changes in Wages

You can conveniently report your wages using our:

- Free SSA Mobile Wage Reporting app for smartphones.
- Online Wage Reporting Tool using your personal my Social Security account. If you don’t have an account, create one today at www.ssa.gov/myaccount.

Be sure to sign up for monthly SSI wage reporting emails or text reminders, so you never forget.

Other options include speaking with a representative by calling toll free at 1-800-772-1213 (TTY 1-800-325-0778) or visiting or writing your local Social Security Office.

Report Changes in a Timely Manner

You must report a change within 10 days after the month it happens. You should report a change even if you’re late. Failure to report timely may cause you to:

- Receive less than you should and take longer to receive the correct amount;
- Receive more than you should and have to pay it back;
- Have a penalty deducted from your SSI payment; or
- Lose SSI for not reporting information that we use to determine whether you are still eligible for SSI.

Securing your today and tomorrow starts with being informed. Please share this information with your friends and family—and post it on social media.

PROTECTING OUR LOVED ONES FROM ELDER ABUSE

Are you concerned about protecting your older relatives and friends from elder abuse? The pandemic highlighted the disproportionate impact of tragedy on underserved communities, including older adults, who face high rates of elder abuse, fraud, and nursing homes deaths.

It’s important to remember that elder abuse can happen to anyone, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, or financial status. We are committed to helping and preventing further victimization – especially in underserved communities.

A recent Federal Bureau of Investigation report showed that elder fraud has increased. Older adults in the United States reported over \$1.6 billion in losses in 2021. This includes victims of COVID-related scams. Older adults in the U.S, also lose nearly 25 times more money to scammers than other groups –an estimated \$113.7 billion a year!

Reporting fraud can be difficult and older adults tend to underreport– especially when money is lost. Many older Americans are unsure about the reporting process or feel too embarrassed to report. Understaffed Adult Protective Services offices can also cause long processing times and under-reporting.

We work hard to protect beneficiaries from Social Security and government imposter scams. You can learn more about protecting your loved ones at blog.ssa.gov/slam-the-scam-how-to-spot-government-imposters and our Protect Yourself from Social Security Scams webpage at www.ssa.gov/scam

of the estimated benefits you and your family could receive, including potential retirement, disability, and survivors benefits.

Our Plan for Retirement tool in your personal my Social Security account allows you to check various benefit estimate scenarios. You can compare the effect different future earnings and retirement benefit start dates have on your future benefit amount.

Please let friends and family know they can take steps to improve their financial knowledge by signing in to their secure my Social Security account. If they don’t have an account, they can easily create one at www.ssa.gov/myaccount.

OCTOBER 12TH IS NATIONAL SAVINGS DAY!

This year, October 12th is National Savings Day. This day serves as an important reminder to plan for your financial future.

Social Security is a vital part of any financial plan. We have online tools to help you understand your potential Social Security benefits and how they fit into your financial future.

You should periodically review your Social Security Statement using your personal my Social Security account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. Your Statement is an easy-to-read summary

SOCIAL SECURITY SERVICES FOR THE HISPANIC COMMUNITY

Social Security strives to deliver great customer service and helpful information to everyone, including people who are more comfortable reading and speaking Spanish.

Our Spanish-language website, www.segurosocial.gov, provides information about our programs and services. You can learn how to get a Social Security card, plan for retirement, apply for and manage benefits, and much more.

You can also learn more about why Social Security is important to the Hispanic community at www.ssa.gov/espanol/personas/hispanos. And, you can follow us on our Spanish-language Facebook and Twitter at www.facebook.com/segurosocial and twitter.com/segurosocial.

We also provide many publications in Spanish at www.ssa.gov/espanol/publicaciones on popular topics such as:

- Retirement, Disability, and Survivors benefits.
- Medicare.
- Supplemental Security Income.

Spanish-speaking customers who need to speak with a representative can call us at **1-800-772-1213 and press 7**. Please share these resources with friends and family who may need them.



MACOA continues to serve seniors!
The Montgomery Area Council On Aging (MACOA)
SERVING SENIORS FOR 48 YEARS!

The Montgomery Area Council On Aging assists senior citizens by providing services to promote independent living, by offering opportunities to enhance quality of life, and by increasing community awareness of senior issues. You can help! MACOA needs volunteers once a week to deliver meals. *If you can help, please call 334-263-0532.*

115 East Jefferson Street / Montgomery, AL 36104 / <https://www.macoa.org>

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REMEMBER!

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AND YOUR PRIVILEGE!

Tuesday November 8, 2022

Charlotte Meadows The Best Choice for District 74

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✓ Standing Up
For Our Kids
✓ Record of
Accomplishment
✓ Best Choice
for Us!

 **CHARLOTTE
MEADOWS**
STATE HOUSE 74

PAID FOR BY MEADOWS FOR DISTRICT 74
P.O. BOX 230158, MONTGOMERY, AL 36123

Important Dates to Remember When Voting!

The absentee voting period for the November 8th General Election began on September 14, 2022.

Absentee ballot applications can be downloaded online or requested by visiting or calling the local Absentee Election Manager's office. Voters may also contact the Secretary of State's Elections Division at (334) 242-7210 to request an absentee ballot application.

Important absentee voting deadlines are listed below:

November 1, 2022: The last day that absentee ballot applications returned by mail can be received by the Absentee Election Manager.

November 3, 2022: The last day that absentee ballot applications returned by hand can be received by the Absentee Election Manager.

November 7, 2022: The last day an absentee ballot returned by hand can be received by the Absentee Election Manager.

November 8, 2022: Absentee ballots returned by mail must be received by the Absentee Election Manager no later than noon today.

Voters who are eligible to vote pursuant to the Uniformed and Overseas Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA) will have until November 8, 2022 to postmark an absentee ballot.

VISION

Fight to end the grocery tax.

Focus on education reform.

Increase health care access to rural communities.

Lower the costs of prescription drugs.

Protect our Alabama farmers.

Create programs to aid crisis pregnancies.

Promote Pro-Life.

Increase programs to aid our veterans.

Pd. for by Friends and Family to Elect Karla Knight Maddox for State House.



VOTE 
**Karla Knight
Maddox**
STATE HOUSE 69

VOTE

VOTE

VOTE

PAMELA CLOUD

**MONTGOMERY
BOARD OF EDUCATION
DISTRICT 5**



**BUILDING HOPE
BUILDING FUTURES
in Montgomery Public Schools**



Pd. for by Campaign for Pamela Cloud
pamelacloud55@gmail.com



**Don't let the
Poarch Creek
Indians**

**STEAL
ALABAMA**

**SAY NO TO
THEIR GAMBLING**

CASINO

Tell your Local Legislator to support HB-72 and HB-73. House of Representatives at 334.261.0500 and the Alabama Senate at 334.261.0800

PAID FOR BY MCGREEN INVESTMENTS, LLC

429 Green Springs Highway
Birmingham, AL 35209

The Foundation for Moral Law

The Freedom Report

Announcements!
New column in the
Alabama Gazette

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

Amid the COVID mania, we took up an issue important to many Americans: unconstitutional vaccine mandates. Particularly, we took on a case that could impact future threats against our American soldiers!

We enjoy our liberty because they have earned it for us. No one deserves the liberties guaranteed by the Constitution more than them!

American Soldiers' Religious Liberty is Under Attack!

We have no quarrel with those who choose to be vaccinated for COVID-19. But we strongly oppose forcing the vaccine upon soldiers and sailors in violation of their religious objections. The Supreme Court has repeatedly affirmed that military personnel are protected by the Constitution: Greer v. Spock (1976), Chappell v. Wallace (1983), and other cases.

Just one prime example: A U.S. Marine Lt. Colonel had served 17 years in uniform with an exemplary unblemished record, including several combat tours. According to his Christian faith, he respectfully refused to receive a mandatory vaccine, by facing a Board of officers regarding a plea for a religious exemption. He consulted with the Foundation for Moral Law and we advised him and his military counsel of his constitutional rights. The board honorably discharged him! But, he was determined to fight on.

Eventually, the District Court for the Middle District of Florida issued a preliminary injunction forbidding

the Marines from discharging or otherwise disciplining their soldiers for refusing the vaccine on religious grounds! This was a major victory for the Colonel, though, the Marine Corps will likely appeal the order.

A Few Other Soldiers We Have Assisted This Year:

Midshipmen at the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy who were threatened with dismissal, some within a few months of graduation. The Academy finally backed off and allowed them to graduate, but whether they will be allowed to serve in the Merchant Marine is still uncertain.

Cadets at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point facing similar threats.

Our Victories in Court

In January 2022, Judge O'Connor of the Northern District of Texas issued a temporary injunction prohibiting the Navy from discharging or disciplining a group of Navy SEALs and other Navy personnel, partially in response to an amicus brief filed by the Foundation.

In February 2022, the Middle District of Georgia issued a temporary injunction prohibiting the Air Force from discharging or disciplining an officer. Like the other services, the Air Force claimed that "military necessity" required that all members be vaccinated. But our amicus brief argued that, by granting numerous exemptions for medical or administrative reasons, the Air Force had forfeited its

argument that all members must be vaccinated. Judge Self said in his order,

"No matter whether one service member is unvaccinated for a medical reason and another unvaccinated for a religious reason, one thing remains the same for both of these service members — they're both unvaccinated."

Judge Self concluded that because the Air Force already had at least 3,300 personnel who were unvaccinated for other reasons, they could grant exemptions to those with religious exemptions as well.

- * A senior instructor at the U.S. Naval Academy whose superiors even told him they would not allow him to retire in lieu of getting the vaccine.
- * A senior noncommissioned officer with the Pennsylvania National Guard who was less than a year from retirement.
- * Members of the Alabama National Guard whose commanders were under pressure from higher authorities to force vaccination upon them.
- * Pilots who are concerned that the vaccine may cause blood clots in their legs when they fly at high altitudes (many pilots call the vaccine the "clot shot").

The new version of our website is available at www.morallaw.org. We will continue to update you of News & Events there.

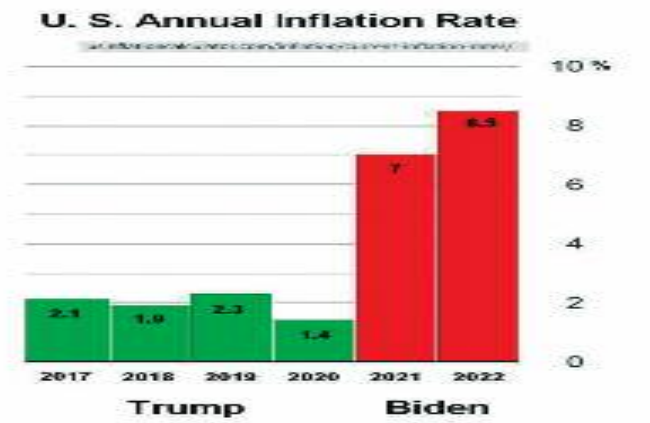


John Martin

Biden's Amazing Inflation Machine

From 2017 through 2021, under the Donald Trump administration, America's inflation rate remained steady at about two percent annually, a rate that will underwrite a strong, robust economy. But after the beginning of Joe Biden's regime, reckless government spending and meddling cranked it up to 7% in 2021 and 8.5% so far into 2022.

Responding to the anger of the American people, Joe and those same traitors decided to "fix" it. In a short



time, this despotic clique created a 700+ page Inflation Reduction Act, the most devastating piece of legislation to come onto the floor since Obama's infamous "Affordable Care Act" in 2010. Joe signed this pipe dream on August 16, 2022, claiming that it might be effective in abating the runaway inflation that his reckless actions had recently created.

Our two senators—Richard Shelby and Tommy Tuberville, of course, voted against it along with six of our representatives. District 7's Terri Sewell, as expected from an authoritarian Democrat, voted for it.

Even a novice economist can instantly realize that this piece of dog poo is actually going to exacerbate inflation—just like any other massive tax and spend action. Only the most brain-dead Democrats could possibly believe that it will help our economy.

Of course, it won't. The act contains the very elements that create **MORE** inflation—ramped up spending combined with new and increased taxes. It just makes our government bigger and more oppressive. **It is the precise opposite of what we need—much less spending and lower taxes.** Biden is **NOT** motivated to save our country; he is doing everything he can to **SABOTAGE** it.

More inflation is not the only consequence. Spending \$80 billion to hire 87,000 more IRS agents to harass us and eat out our substance is not going to bode well with honest taxpayers. Is Biden planning SWAT teams to invade and loot our bank accounts, homes, and businesses—like they did at Mar-A-Lago? That is infinitely more dangerous than a few tax cheats slipping through the cracks. We could have tax riots all over the country. We might even end up with another Whiskey Rebellion.

On Facebook (August 20), Katherine Morris Higginbotham listed some of the poison contained in this monster:

1. \$6.5 Billion Natural Gas Tax Which Will Increase Household Energy Bills
2. \$12 Billion Crude Oil Tax Which Will Increase Household Costs
3. \$1.2 Billion Coal Tax Which Will Increase Household Energy Bills
4. Corporate Income Tax Hike on U.S. Businesses Which Will Be Passed on to Households
5. \$124 Billion Stock Tax Which Will Hit Your Nest Egg — 401(k)s, IRAs and Pension Plans
6. 95% Federal Excise Tax on American Pharmaceutical Manufacturers
7. \$52 Billion Income Tax Hike on Mid-Sized & Family Businesses
8. Supersizing the IRS to Increase Audits – \$124 Billion
9. In fine print, it states that our hard earned tax \$\$ will also go to support BLM, which we all know by now, is a terrorist organization.

Former congressman and three time presidential candidate **RON PAUL** had this to say:

"The so-called Inflation Reduction Act... authorizes spending hundreds of billions of dollars on energy and fighting climate change... in other words, green corporate welfare. Government programs... take resources out of the hands of investors and entrepreneurs... and give [them]... to increased cronyism and waste.

"If Congress was serious about ending inflation, it would cut spending — starting with overseas militarism and corporate welfare. A Congress that took inflation seriously would also take the first step toward restoring a free-market monetary system by passing Audit the Fed and legalizing competition in currency."

But Biden has no motive to cut spending. He wants more of it, not less. And he is desperate to gouge us even more with his 87,000 new tax collectors—some of them armed.

Biden claims that this enhanced enforcement is to target rich tax cheaters who earn more than \$400,000 per annum. But Randy Kolosso (see comments in source 2) has researched IRS tax collections and discovered that there are not enough \$400,000 earners to justify even a fraction of the agents we already have.

In the IRS fact book for 2019 (the most recent year of available records), the IRS audited about 343,000 individual tax returns, but only 8200 were incomes above \$500,000. The IRS audited **LOWER** incomes **OVER 4,400% MORE** than higher incomes. The increased tax yield was \$28 million from 4350 \$1 million earners. But 184,000 audits of **low incomes of \$1 to \$25,000** yielded an extra **\$707 million**.

There is no question that if Biden's act is fully implemented, we could suffer greater economic trauma than any we have ever had since the great depression.

What should we do to address inflation? The correct answer is precisely the opposite of what Biden and the Democrats had been cooking up. **We MUST implement massive cuts in both taxes and spending.** We need **LESS** government, not more.

What should we cut? There is no question that we have numerous unconstitutional government programs and non-essential personnel that we would be better off without, even if they didn't cost any money. What most people don't realize is that about 90% of all programs, regulations, mandates, acts and legislation created since about 1963 are undesirable and counterproductive. Scrap them, and our economy will flourish far beyond most people's wildest imaginations.

What shall we put on the chopping block? The entire Inflation Reduction Act would be a great start; every bit of it is undesirable, counterproductive, and largely unconstitutional. This one repeal by itself would boost our economy significantly.

But we can go much farther than that. Although it might take years to complete, chopping away at the 90% of the bureaucratic oppression we already have can deliver our nation into greater prosperity than ever before.

A short list of these abominations includes federal meddling (both here and abroad), climate change follies, corporate welfare, excessive and abusive enforcement tactics, affirmative action and other racial and ethnic impositions, OSHA, EEOC, DEA, ATF, FEMA, most of the EPA, numerous safety mandates, the Departments of Energy and Education, Homeland Security, the Patriot Act, TSA, all that remains of Obamacare, membership in WHO and the Paris Climate Accord, and most of our military meddling overseas. Of course there are many others.

The tax savings would be huge. Instead of going deeper into debt, we could begin paying it off. At the same time, we could work to massively cut our taxes. One thing we must never do is leave money on the table for bureaucrats to violate our liberty and natural rights.

What about the several million who will be losing their jobs? They won't like it at first, but as our economy blossoms, multitudes of new careers will be created as a new era of freedom emerges. Like everybody else, the bureaucrats will discover unimagined opportunities, benefits, higher salaries, and greater satisfaction performing productive services and creating useful products instead of oppressing people and making their lives miserable.

SOURCES

1. Paul, Ron, **The "Inflation Reduction Act" Is Another DC Lie**, August 9, 2022. <https://schiffgold.com/guest-commentaries/ron-paul-the-inflation-reduction-act-is-another-dc-lie/>
2. Downey, Renzo, **Ron DeSantis: IRS expansion is 'middle finger' to Americans**, August 17, 2022. <https://floridapolitics.com/archives/548092-ron-desantis-irs-expansion-is-middle-finger-to-americans/>



Sheriff Cunningham



Montgomery County Sheriff's Office

(334) 832-4980 ♦ www.montgomerysheriff.com



Chief Deputy Murphy

Halloween Spooktacular

Monday, October 31, 2022
5:30pm to 8:30pm.
Garrett Coliseum
155 Federal Drive

(enter at the rear of the Coliseum off Coliseum Blvd.).

Last year, due to the pandemic, we changed the manner in which we and our vendors passed out candy to the children during the event. As the saying goes, "Necessity is the mother of invention" –Plato. We decided to conduct a drive-thru for the event to lessen the spread of germs due to COVID. The event was a success. Based on the large amount of positive feedback we received from parents, we decided to continue the drive-through trick-or-treating again this year.

The drive-thru makes for a safer experience. Children do not have to walk through the parking lot to enter the Coliseum and stand in line for long periods of time. The drive-through is more orderly and allows a faster distribution of candy. The parents appeared to enjoy it as they had their children inside the safety of their vehicles where they could be closely monitored. We look forward to seeing you there.

Questions or if you're interested in becoming a vendor at the event, please call 334.832.2515.

Please tag MCSO in your photos by using the hashtag #MCSOHalloween, if you have any photos to share from the event!



Social Media

Social Media Search

Facebook

Sheriff of Montgomery
Alabama

Instagram Mcsoal



What is Smart911 ?

I strongly encourage all citizens to download the Smart911 free app to your cellphone OR register your landline number at w.Smart911.com to assist first responders in the event of an emergency. There's a misconception that law enforcement can pinpoint your location when you call 911 from a phone; however, first responders can only pinpoint the "vicinity" of your location which is why Smart911 is so important. Smart911 will allow pertinent information to be stored into a profile database so that in the event of an emergency, vital information is readily available to first responders or EMS which could mean life or death!

Again, Smart911 is available through your app store OR by simply registering at www.Smart911.com. I hope you will all take advantage of this beneficial tool!

Why Should You Sign Up For Smart911



Sheriff's Office App

If you haven't already heard, the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office has a phone app called "Montgomery County AL Sheriff" that can be accessed through your phone's app store. Once you have added this app to your phone, you can easily set your phone up to receive important push notifications. Push notifications are quick, important messages that can notify you of road closure(s), blocked road(s), anything pertinent to your travel, escapee, etc. While our app can help you with many things including checking to see if someone is in the county jail, it is most helpful to receive push notifications. After you have downloaded the app, go through the follow steps to make sure your phone is set up to receive the push notifications:

- Go to your Phone's setting icon.
- Scroll Down and click "Applications".
- Scroll down to "MCSO" or "Montgomery County AL Sheriff" ... OR
- Click "Application Manager", if it doesn't take you directly to the location.
- Click "Notifications".
- Turn on "Allow Notifications" & "Previews in pop-ups".

You should be all set to receive the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office push notifications!



Firearms Familiarization Course

Register NOW for our Firearms Familiarization Course!

We know that learning how to protect yourself is very important in today's world. The class is held at our Sheriff D.T. Marshall Firearms Training Center and is FREE to Montgomery County residents! The morning session is classroom instruction on firearm safety and firearm laws. The afternoon session allows citizens to practice shooting on our Firing Range for the remainder of the class (if you would like). All classes are under the instruction of the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Range Master.



For more information, please call 334.832.1339.

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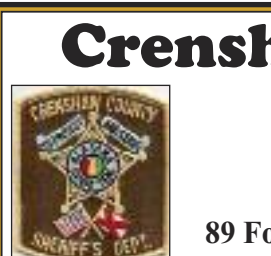


Sheriff Bill Franklin

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Sheriff Chris West



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Sheriff Terry L. Mears

THE ALABAMA Gazette



Sam Adams

Loretta Grant

**Don't Miss the 57th Annual
Pike Road Arts & Crafts Fair!
Bring the family!
November 5th!**



A GREAT FAMILY
EVENT WHERE YOU'LL
FIND SPECIAL GIFTS,
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HANDS ON CRAFTS
FOR CHILDREN!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH, 2022

AT THE HISTORIC MARKS HOUSE

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DECORATIVE CRAFTS

homemade home decor, wall hangings, stained glass, garden art, garden and house plants, etc.

FUNCTIONAL CRAFTS

quilts, musical instruments, baskets, clothing, leather, crockware, spa & skin care, homemade candles, sauces, grains, etc.

JEWELRY

(only category that's allowed to display/sell jewelry)

MIXED MEDIA

works combining two or more mediums

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oil, acrylics, watercolor, etc.

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It is that time of year! Harvesting your garden and picking fruit from your orchard and trading some of your excess with your neighbors for their excess vegetables and fruit. And do not forget the farmers markets. What clued me in to what I was going to write about was the bushel of pears my wife brought home from her sister's farm. We are canning pear preserves and are up to 32 jars and should finish with about 50 plus. Tomatoes are plentiful and any dish that needs a tomato sauce in the recipe is on our menus for the winter. And as usual the freezer is still packed with hot peppers, jalapenos, ghost, habaneras, and Carolina reapers. A little jar of ghost pepper jelly goes a long way.

A bushel of misshapen, off color and hard as a rock pears makes for a smooth enjoyable pear preserves. It just takes a good peeler, a sharp paring knife and about two to three days of work cooking down the sliced pears over a large pot for about two hours a batch. The pears maintain their pale color and the flavor of the pears is intensified. The pears are delicious over ice cream, in cereal, hot or cold, and in a peanut butter sandwich.

I have always had luck with the produce from Limbaugh's Farm. My favorite produce has been the corn and potatoes. My new favorite is the pears. This recipe proves that you can have ugly fruit that is as hard as a rock and if you prepare it correctly the finished product will be superb.

Pat's Pear Preserve

INGREDIENTS:

16 cups pears peeled and sliced
4 cups sugar
2 cups water
4 tablespoons lemon juice

PREPARATION:

Peel and core the pears and then slice.

In a large boiler, mix together the pears, sugar, water and lemon juice.

Bring to a boil and then reduce heat and cook for 2 hours until the mixture thickens.

Remove from heat.

Ladle the hot mixture into the sterilized ½ pint jars. Leave a ¼ inch space from the top of the jar.

Wipe around the top of the jars to clean and seal tightly with sterilized lids. Process the jars in a canner for 10 minutes. Make sure the jars are submerged in the canner water.

Yield: From a bushel of pears we filled about 50 half pint jars. It all depends on the shape and ripe-ness of your pears.

After a breakfast of SPAM and eggs with toast and Pear Preserves, I need something that is a bit spicier. Even after eating Jalapeno SPAM, I want a spicy and filling appetizer. A recipe from the PIONEER WOMAN seemed to fit the need.



No meal is complete without a dessert.

And a common dessert at my house is some recipe of pound cake. And nothing goes together better than chocolate and Kahlua.

CHOCOLATE KAHLUA CAKE

INGREDIENTS:

1 box yellow cake mix
1 (5.9 oz.) box instant chocolate pudding
1 cup vegetable oil
¼ cup water
½ cup sugar
4 large eggs
6 Tablespoons Kahlua

DIRECTIONS

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Grease and flour a 10 inch Bundt cake pan.

Mix together cake mix, pudding mix, oil, water, sugar, eggs Kahlua with a hand mixer for about 2 minutes.

Pour batter into the prepared, (Coated with Crisco and flour), cake pan. Bake for One hour or until a wooden skewer comes out clean. Remove cake pan from oven and let cake in pan cool for 10 minutes. Remove from pan and let cool on a wire rack. (While baking, whisk together ½ cup powdered sugar and ¼ cup Kahlua. Pour over finished cake.)



Stuffed Mushrooms

INGREDIENTS:

24 oz. weight White Button Mushrooms
1 lb. Hot Pork Sausage
1/2 whole Medium Onion, Finely Diced
4 cloves Garlic, Finely Minced
1/3 c. Dry White Wine
8 oz. weight Cream Cheese
1 whole Egg Yolk
3/4 c. Parmesan Cheese, Grated
Salt And Pepper, to taste
Add extra hot sauce to your taste.
Note: this is a lot of sausage

DIRECTIONS

Wipe off or wash mushrooms in cold water. Pop out stems, reserving both parts.

Chop mushroom stems finely and set aside.

Brown, drain and crumble sausage. Set aside on a plate to cool. Add onions and garlic to the same skillet; cook for 2 minutes over medium low heat.

Pour in wine to deglaze pan, allow liquid to evaporate.

Add in chopped mushroom stems; stir to cook for 2 minutes. Add salt and pepper to taste. Set mixture aside on a plate to cool.

In a bowl, combine cream cheese and egg yolk. Stir together with Parmesan cheese.

Add cooled sausage and cooled mushroom stems. Stir mixture together and refrigerate for a short time to firm up.

Smear mixture into the cavity of each mushroom, creating a sizable mound over the top.

Bake at 350 degrees for 20 to 25 minutes, or until golden brown. Allow cooling at least ten minutes before serving; the stuffed mushrooms taste better when not piping hot.



“When you wake up in the morning, Pooh,” said Piglet at last, “what’s the first thing you say to yourself?”
“What’s for breakfast?” said Pooh.

I watched the BBC Funeral for Queen Elizabeth II. I remembered seeing her while living in Europe and my many trips to England. I have always liked traveling around England. So be forewarned. The next article I submit will be some of my favorite Southern English recipes.

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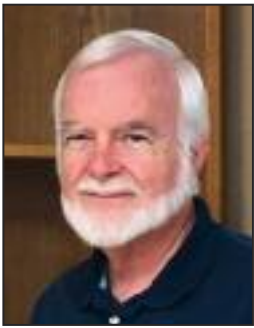
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John M. Taylor

“The Informed Southerner”

The False Demonization of Nathan Bedford Forrest

Just mentioning the name Nathan Bedford Forrest stirs many emotions. As Abe Lincoln has been falsely deified, Forrest has been falsely demonized. Remember, the winner writes the history and they have done a massive disservice to the legacy of Forrest.

Nathan Bedford Forrest was born in Chapel Hill, Tennessee, and moved with his family to Salem, Mississippi, in 1834. Often characterized as “Scots-Irish”, Forrest had a Norman French surname and considerable English lineage (his Mother was a Beck, which could be English or German). Forrest’s lineage, so common in the South, is often linked to fierce individualism. His father died when he was young, making Forrest the family’s chief provider. After his Mother remarried, Forrest ventured into real estate, live-stock, planting, and slave trading.

Forrest built a successful personal business, eventually becoming a million-aire. Along the way, he developed a deep appreciation for the skill level of many of his Black workers. His belief in Jeffersonian agrarianism, decentralized government, and State sovereignty made him a natural enemy of many Republicans, the party of strong centralized government since inception. Modern ideological descendants of these Republicans carry on this legacy of hatred for Forrest and other Jeffersonians.

At the outset of the War for Southern Independence, Forrest had forty-four Blacks who served with him. He offered them freedom in return for their loyalty during the war. Many were part of Forrest’s escort and they carried firearms. During four years of war, one left and the other forty-three remained with him until war’s end. Forrest actually freed them midway through the war, realizing the slave labor system was extinct regardless of the war’s outcome. Forrest praised the Blacks who served with him, stating: “Finer Confederates never fought.” (One writer contends Forrest had 65 Blacks with him at war’s end.) Post-war, Forrest understood the original voluntary republic had been destroyed and everyone had to adapt to the new forced union. This required working with all people, regardless of race or ethnicity.

Of the staggering number of false claims about Forrest, perhaps the most ridiculous one is that he started the Klan. It requires little research to find the Klan was started in Pulaski, Tennessee, in 1866 as something of a social club, incorporating the term “klan” ostensibly due to the large number of Southerners with Scottish and Scots-Irish ancestry. It morphed into a force to counter the post-war Federally inspired/subsidized radical groups that terrorized and robbed Southerners as “Reconstruction” established DC hegemony. There are many contradictory stories about whether or not Forrest was actually even in the Klan (based on his own 1871 testimony); however, it is beyond dispute that Forrest was instrumental in pushing for the shutdown of the first Klan in 1869.

Modern court historians criticize Forrest’s relationship with Black South-erners. However, reality paints a different picture. Blacks and Whites were both victimized by the similarly hideous carpetbaggers and scalawags during the post-war Soviet-styled military occupation of the South. In reality, Forrest supported the employment and education of Blacks. Not only did he recognize

those with excellent work skills and expertise in various trades, he actively lobbied businesses to hire them and pay them fair wages. Going beyond lip service, when Forrest was President of the Selma, Marion, & Memphis Rail-road, he hired several ex-slaves as laborers and managers. He later helped a group of Blacks engaged in legal disputes with the rail-roads.

As part of the reconciliation efforts, the Independent Order of Pole Bearers, an early group advocating for the rights of Black citizens, invited Forrest to speak to their organization on July 5, 1875. Some of his contemporaries urged against it and some of Forrest’s modern detractors insist the meeting has been mythologized. As Forrest was being introduced, Miss Lou Lewis, a Black lady, stated, “Mr. Forrest, allow me to present you this bouquet as a token of reconciliation and an offering of peace and good will.” It is said he kissed her on the cheek. Forrest then delivered a speech offering friendship, coopera-tion, and unity; the response was overwhelmingly positive. A summary of the event was written in the July 6, 1875, Memphis Daily Appeal. The link is here: https://www.newspapers.com/image/164122428/?clipping_id=26364631&f_cfToken=eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9.eyJmcmVILXZpZXctaWQiOiJlE2NDEyMjQyOCwiaWF0IjoxNjYzNTA3MDA4LCJleHAiOiJlE2NjM1OTM0MDh9.NCmtSVF77mAUFu0s0U873d8vElnvnPyULuN282yxx3s

Forrest never denied his early role in the legal institution of slavery. As a fierce individualist and one of the greatest warriors in American history, Forrest will have natural enemies. Some view Forrest negatively because they have been told to and they are unwilling to do their own research. Indeed, a deeper look finds Nathan Bedford Forrest became a Christian man who reached out to every-one in an effort to restore civility to his native Southland. Forrest died in 1877 and it was recorded that approximately 10,000 people were part of his funeral procession, 3,000 of whom were Black.

Sources: “Remembering Rutherford: Forrest was postwar activist for black civil rights,” People Places and Stories, Greg Tucker, Daily News Journal, July 13, 2015; “Confederate General Nathan Bedford Forrest,” Kathy Weiser-Alexander from Legends of America; “Nathan Bedford Forrest and Racial Reconciliation: Part II,” Donald R. McClarey, The American Catholic, October 11, 2015; The Bright Side of Memphis, Review by Green Polonius Hamilton; “General Nathan Bedford Forrest versus the Ku Klux Klan,” John A. Tures, HuffPost Blog; and the July 6, 1875, Memphis Daily Appeal. NOTE: Forrest was cleared of wrongdoing in the Ft. Pillow incident with notorious South-hater William T. Sherman even acknowledging the fact. Also, Nathan Bedford Forrest III was an American pilot killed in World War II while fighting against the Nazis (Na-tional Socialists).

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Daniel Sutter

Labor Day Reflections on Quiet Quitting

Labor Day was estab-lished in 1894 to honor America’s workers. “Quiet Quitting” refers to working no more than necessary to keep your job and then brag-ging about it on Tik Tok. Does quiet quitting disre-spect Labor Day?

Each Labor Day we should celebrate the labor market. The labor market is part of the market economy, an economic system based entirely on voluntary participation and the freely given consent of all parties. The labor market is a foundation of personal freedom.

By contrast, throughout most of human history commanding others to work as slaves, serfs, or sub-jects under the pain of beatings, imprisonment, and death was seen as the path to prosperity. Liberalism (in the classic sense) limited governments by mak-ing leaders serve the people and in time ended other forms of servitude, ushering in freedom, dignity, and prosperity.

Karl Marx, oblivious to the transformation of the market economy (that he disparagingly labeled cap-italism), called employment wage slavery. The rich-est Americans cannot force anyone to work for them, although they can afford to pay others to do many things. Paying people to cook or clean or shop for you is not slavery.

Freedom for all means that typically you must pay someone to do something for you. But paid work can be done by either hiring employees or contract-ing with a firm. A company can clean their offices

by hiring janitors or paying a cleaning company. Nobel prize winning economist Ronald Coase iden-tified this choice between the firm (employees) and the market (contracts with another company) as fun-damental in markets; it also offers perspective on quiet quitting.

A distinguishing element of an employee is con-trol, or what economists call decision rights. A boss can assign employees tasks not detailed in advance. An employee-janitor can be directed to unload a de-livery truck; employees of a janitorial service will move on to their next job when finished cleaning.

The production of goods and services depends not just on the hours of labor but how hard people work, or effort. In principle, employers should spell out a job’s hours, effort, and pay. Yet effort can be diffi-cult to detail and measure.

This creates a tension, labeled the wage-effort bar-gain in industrial relations. Exactly how hard are employees supposed to work, and are they working this hard? From the assembly line to Amazon track-ing warehouse workers’ steps, employers have tried to ensure employees work hard. But because work-ing hard is hard work, employees will want to slack off.

The radically different perspectives of owners and workers explain this tension. The businesses entre-preneurs start matter enormously to them; owners want employees to care as much as they do. Yet em-ployees have other job options and might easily tell an overbearing boss to, “Take this job and shove it!”

What does this mean for quiet quitting? First, it is perfectly acceptable. Freedom includes the free-

dom to not work if one is either independently wealthy or okay living meagerly. Freedom to quit one’s current job implies they freedom to not work hard. Quiet quitting is not wrong, in contrast with, say, employee theft.

Quiet quitters should know that market compen-sation depends on productivity, which depends on effort. Slackers tend not to get raises or promotions. And because employment is voluntary, quiet quit-ting may get one fired.

Writing at Forbes, Neil Hare attributes much quiet quitting to poor management. As bosses demand more of workers (e.g., responding to emails while off the job), workers will push back. It’s today’s wage-effort bargaining.

Not working hard might produce poor earnings prospects, but effort affects work-life balance. Is hard work and careerism the path to happiness in life? Time spent working at the office is not spent with family or friends.

And here is the importance of labor market free-dom: people can pursue different life goals. We should celebrate an economy which accommodates quiet quitters and workaholics and accept when oth-ers make choices with their freedom which differ from ours.

Daniel Sutter is the Charles G. Koch Professor of Economics with the Manuel H. Johnson Center for Political Economy at Troy University and host of Econversations on TrojanVision. The opinions ex-pressed in this column are the author’s and do not necessarily reflect the views of Troy University.

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Soul Searching

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Attitudes and Opportunities

In my life journey, I have discovered that attitudes and opportunities go hand in hand! We must seek to keep a good attitude in the midst of life's ups and downs so that we can actually recognize opportunities when they appear.

I like the attitude of the young lieutenant in this story:

After World War II, a general and his young lieutenant boarded a train in England. The only seats left were across from a beautiful young lady and her grandmother. The general and the lieutenant sat facing the women. As the train pulled out, it went through a long tunnel. For about ten seconds there was total darkness. In the silence of the moment those on the train heard two things – a kiss and a slap. Everyone on the train had his or her own perception of what happened.

The young lady thought to herself, "I'm flattered that the lieutenant kissed me, but I'm terribly embarrassed that Grandmother hit him!"

The grandmother thought, "I'm aggravated that the young man kissed my granddaughter, but I'm proud she had the courage to retaliate!"

The general sat there, thinking to himself, "My lieutenant showed a lot of guts in kissing that girl, but why did she slap me by mistake?"

The lieutenant was the only one on the train who really knew what happened. In that brief moment of darkness he had the opportunity to kiss a pretty girl and slap his general.

The young lieutenant recognized an opportunity and took advantage of it. No doubt he was laughing deep inside. I believe his positive attitude enabled him to see and seize the opportunity to kiss the beautiful young lady. If he had had a negative attitude, he would have probably just felt sorry for himself and been angry that his Commanding Officer and her grandmother were sitting there preventing him from action. Attitude definitely impacts our ability to visualize opportunities.

One of my favorite quotes about attitude and how it affects our lives is Chuck Swindoll's famous statement about attitude:

"The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness, or skill. It will make or break a company, a church, or a home. The remarkable thing is that we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past. Nor can we change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We also cannot change the inevitable. The only thing that we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude. I am convinced that life is 10 percent what happens to me and 90 percent how I react to it. And so it is with you – we are in charge of our attitudes."

Wow! Now that is a sobering thought, isn't it? Life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it? I think Dr. Swindoll is correct...we are in charge of our attitudes!

Dr John Maxwell in his awesome book on leadership, *Developing the Leader within You*, quotes a study done by the Carnegie Institute that analyzed the records of ten thousand persons and concluded that 15% of success is due to technical training. The other 85% is due to personality, and the primary personality trait identified by the research is attitude.

Yes, our attitude determines the opportunities we see and how we handle our feelings towards those opportunities. These two factors, attitudes and opportunities, greatly determine our success!

I think the Apostle Paul had this whole attitude thing figured out a long time ago when he advised us, "Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too... You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had." - Paul, *Philippians 2:3-5*

I would encourage all of us to spend some time reflecting on the attitude of Jesus...towards God the Father, towards others and towards himself. His humble and joyful attitude was and is no doubt attractive and compelling to countless millions who call themselves his followers. Because of his attitude towards his purpose, Jesus seized the opportunity when it came to offer himself so that everyone else might be rescued!

Attitudes and opportunities go hand in hand! Therefore, have the attitude of Christ and look for the opportunities God puts before you!



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Judge Peggy Givhan

Southern Gardening

Potpourri for October

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One of my favorite times of the year, fall, has it all. Great temperatures, bright blue clear skies, and football. In fact everyone has a desire to go outside to walk the neighborhood or to just sit on the porch and watch the world go by. From the mountains to the beach, fall weather can not be beat. Gardening in the fall surely beats the heat and heavy humidity of the summer. A few flowers that have survived the summer, really shine in the fall. These flowers love the cooler nights and take on a new lease on life. Petunias and geraniums really perk up from their summer doldrums and gain a new flush of blooms. Trim back these plants now, and fertilize for the fall show. I have not seen another time when my geraniums were not troubled with the budworm. This summer marks a first where I was not sprinkling Dipel to these plants to kill these pests. Perhaps these bud worms have gotten the message over the years, to stay far away from my geraniums or else.

To prune or not to prune, that is the question this time of year. I can not begin to tell you how many questions I get in the spring of the year when gardeners ask, "why are my hydrangeas not blooming" or "why are my azaleas only blooming at the base of the shrubs?" And I can sum up the problem with the question, "did you shape or prune the shrubs last fall"? And invariably, the answer is yes. Therein lies the problem. Spring is the only time flowering shrubs can be trimmed or shaped because about 6 weeks from the last bloom, they start to form next spring's flower buds. So the rule of thumb for this pruning task would be no more than 5-6 weeks after the blooming period. For some reason, only known to God, that men rev up the chain saws, and hedge clippers in September and October to attack the yard. Suddenly hedges and other green woody stemmed plant material are cut down to size. If wives cannot control this behavior through dire warnings, then they must take matters into their own hands. Take all cutting and sharp edged machinery into repair shops for check ups. Then when the inevitable question is posed, like where is my...,then say these tools are in the shop. Shortly he will get out of the mood for his annual hit job, and quietly come inside and watch a football game. I believe there was a horror movie made about a chainsaw massacre.

Let me add that pruning the other trees, bushes and shrubs which are not grown for their ornamental blooms would be appropriate. If one wants to be completely correct, look up the plant or shrub and seek the answer from Google.

One flowering shrub which can be pruned in the early fall is the rose, such as the Knock-out variety. Different varieties may have more specific pruning techniques, but topping off these roses will make for a stronger plant in the spring. Hollies, which produce berries, would be another plant that may require one to wait until the berries are spent. As for Hollies with no berries, then just prune away with abandon.



- Container gardening has become one of my favorite types of gardening. There are many advantages that make this preferable to the in-ground garden.
1. Large pots of different heights have the same advantages as a raised bed of more than 2 feet high. No kneeling or too much bending to tend to the pots.
 2. Weeding is a cinch as the weeds pull right out of the loose soil with ease.
 3. Controlling the soil pH in pots is much easier than in the heavy clay alkaline soil in the Montgomery area.
 4. Gardening in pots is tailored made for children. They can learn the need for the right sun exposure, the right amount of water and fertilizer. And if they make a mistake, pull everything out and start over.
 5. Older gardeners and those with disabilities will find that container gardening extends their gardening careers.
 6. Comparing both container gardening and regular gardening, the pot garden has another advantage. Many plants have different fertilizer and watering requirements which are so much easier to control in the pots.

Plants which lend themselves to pot gardening include annuals, perennials and herbs. Any type of begonias, geraniums, ageratum, daisies, plumbago, all tropicals such as hibiscus, persian palms, pentas, pansies, dianthus, dusty miller, lambs ears,dill weed, mint, and basil. Bulbs such as daffodils, tulips, caladiums, and crocus also do well in pots.

If you have not tried pot gardening, start with buying a few very large pots and filling in with smaller ones. These are usually on sale this time of the year and then grow your pot garden by adding more pots all along.

Happy Columbus Day and GOOD GARDENING.



Gary Miller

Years ago, when I first started hunting, as soon as I saw those deer, my heart would have kicked into a beat just below hyperventilation. I would have been so excited for the opportunity I was certainly about to get. This time, not so much. This time I noticed how their initial appearance did very little to my emo-

OUTDOOR TRUTHS

I made my way to the tree stand on opening day of Tennessee’s deer season. The weather was perfect, including a chance of light rain. I had prepared for this hunt by being meticulous about being scent-free as much as possible. I should have arrived a few minutes earlier, but all in all, everything was good. I was sitting on the edge of a field where deer normally skirt. If they came out, they would do so about 125 yards away and then hopefully make their way below me and maybe within the range of my bow. Sure enough, a few minutes after daylight, three doe show up just where I expected them to be. They lingered and picked around before easing to my left and out of view. I was not concerned, but instead thought they would show back up shortly. I was wrong. I never saw them again. I saw other deer, slightly out of range, but never saw my original three again. My hopes were not dashed because any hope had not appeared yet. Here’s what I mean.

tional make-up. There was just too much room between me and them. There was too much time for anything to draw or distract them from the path I hoped they would take. When I realized they were gone for good, I simply turned my attention to other areas and possibilities.

I used to do the same as I watched the lives of so many people. I used to, not only see the possibilities of individuals, but also the clear and certain direction I thought they were going. My heart would beat with excitement as I thought about their potential. Much of the time, if not most of the time, the path I assumed they would take, they didn’t. Something else distracted them and drew them to another place. I was disappointed thinking how they missed their bright and successful future. Many times, I was wrong. As I made my way out of my tree stand that morning, I eased up in the direction where my deer made a change in pattern. There, I discovered an oak tree that was full of those tasty morsels that deer love. There’s no doubt, this is where my doe ended up. Somewhere better. And many of those individuals I had great expectation for, did the same thing. They may not have taken the path I thought was their best, but they ended up somewhere better. It may have not even been the path they desired. It may have been one that was forced on them. But nevertheless, better. Why? Because God has promised all things would work out for the good to those who love him. And he is doing the same in your life.

gary@outdoortruths.org
Gary has written the Outdoor Truths article for 20 years. He has also writtenfour books and he also speaks at wild-game dinners and men’s events for churches and associations.



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Patricia Killough
Community Editor



Mary Beth Hughes
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Rev. and Mrs. Nick Hughes
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Her cake was made by Tiers of Sweetness and
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every effort to include your
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OCTOBER
BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 David Hite (80th) | John Lithgrow |
| Karen Hollingshead | Jeff Ludwick |
| Wallis Litchfield | Nell Nesbit |
| 2 Allie Dibole | Evelyn Roger |
| Jerry Hollingshead | 21 Pam Anderson |
| Donna Karen | Ken Guthrie |
| Janice Vaughn Majors (73rd) | Cheryl Horp |
| Bob Morris | Paula Huett |
| 3 Ladon Boyd (62nd) | Spears Rhodes |
| Monica Mills | 22 Judith Lamar |
| Ben Sawada | Tony Nemunaitis |
| Stevie Ray Vaughn | Alicia Smith |
| 4 Hazel Campbell | 23 Earl Henderson |
| 5 Chester Alan Arthur | Mollie Ester Isacson |
| Nikki Smith Womack | Mike Kirk |
| Lynn Moore | Betty Jo Richie |
| 6 Frances Grant | Mitzi Woodall |
| Jimmy Pugh | 24 Thomas Norman |
| Matthew Sweet | Connie Thompson |
| 7 Ashley James | Norma Stockett |
| David Price (73rd) | 25 Glenn Chesnutt |
| 8 Jim Fleming | David Alexander Dean |
| Beck Tucker | Hannah Grace Johnson |
| 9 Vance Cordle | Dot Pouncey (72nd) |
| Arbin McCathern (85th) | 26 Alice Cole (72nd) |
| Bob Persons | Carol Fowler |
| Asia Patron | Judd Huett (84th) |
| Clifton Renfro | Mike Horsley |
| Linda Stringer | Natalie Merchant |
| 10 Sherry McCulley | Brynlee Ashmore (12th) |
| Ron Selvaggio | 27 BoBo Boyd |
| Mason Williams (12th) | Terry Boyd (62nd) |
| 11 Bonnie Ashcraft | Amy Moore (48th) |
| Susan Guevara | Glen Raley (68th) |
| Debbie Moore | Stephanie Selvage (48th) |
| Anna Marie Sessions | Louise Lareson |
| Christie Vazquez | 28 Roger Bryant (70th) |
| 12 Kirstin Boyd | James Cantrell (95th) |
| Kim Moore | Heavenly Fanning (7th) |
| 13 Fred Cole (100th) | Patti Moseley Higgins |
| Loretta Grant | Josh Hudson |
| Danny Ott (61st) | Parker Lynch |
| Jettie Rawls (92nd) | Johnny Miles |
| Mary Wimpee | Joakin Phoenix |
| 14 Margaret Batley | Matt Schall |
| Brian Burrows | 29 Marge Crockett (79th) |
| Elizabeth Miller | Adam Dupree |
| Sarah Margaret Poundstone | Lisa Etheridge |
| 15 Bob Crowe | Amber (Sally) Heitsenrether |
| Noah Edwards | Elizabeth Mills |
| Dolores Kavanagh | Caylyn Oswald |
| Charlie Lamar Jr. | 30 Nellie Cole (98th) |
| Ray Martin (83rd) | Felicity Edwards |
| Linda Stembridge Chandler | Lee Sellars |
| Gaston Wallace | Grace Slick |
| 17 Jane Braswell | Josie Stanton |
| Chris Floyd | 31 Carey Cauthen (68th) |
| 16 Jessie Watt | Annabelle Henderson (8th) |
| 18 Charles Andrew Campbell | Ron Johnson |
| Marcia Chambliss | Elizabeth Kirk |
| Ryan Sellars | Johnny Marr |
| 19 Joann Hassey | |

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friends.



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- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 3 Mr. & Mrs. Theo Katechis (43nd) | 12 James & Jean Hicks (64th) |
| Tom & Mary Lion (69th) | Glenn & Susan Yost |
| 5 Jack & Kim Golson | 15 Lance & Amy Brown |
| Lance & Sylvia Smith (64th) | Travis & Nicole McGough (6th) |
| 6 Jimmy & Donna Grant | 16 George & Marilyn Evans |
| 7 Jimmy & Judy Grubbs | 19 Brett & Barbie O'Neal (20th) |
| Tracey & Britt Betts (9th) | 20 Tim & Amanda Anderson (10th) |
| 8 Eric & Casey Fleming (17th) | 21 Jimmy & Ann Hale |
| Bob & Lynda Maddox | 22 Brad & Lee Ann Williams (16th) |
| David & Jan Morrow | 27 Chuck & Janice Cole (30th) |
| 9 Ian & Caty Xane Turnipseed (13th) | Kathryn & Andrew Hilton |
| Gus & Greta Nicole Katechis (6th) | |
| 12 Mike & Lynn Davis | |

Alabama Gazette's Sympathy to the
families of...

- | | |
|--|----------|
| McKenna, Major Morris Morton - 89..... | July 30 |
| Planta, Theresa Maxwell..... | Aug. 27 |
| McAnnally, Sr. Donald Wayne | Aug.. 27 |
| Mills, Gladys - 87 | Aug. 27 |
| Owens, Betty Linn - 91 | Aug. 27 |
| Barnes, Terri Lynn Martin | Aug. 28 |
| Golson, Walter Keith - 70 | Aug. 28 |
| Oswald, Jo Ann Galloway - 73 | Aug. 28 |
| Honeycutt, William "Bill" D. - 69..... | Aug. 30 |
| Williams, Diane Southwell -74 | Aug. 31 |

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| Brewer, Joe Gregory "Greg" - 66..... | Sept. 2 |
| Speigner, Ollie "Haze" Croley - 94 | Sept. 2 |
| Dyer, Sr. Douglas Bruce - 79 | Septe. 3 |
| Goss,Jr., USAF Ret., Capt. Walter Wayne - 71..... | Sept. 4 |
| Ashcraft, Audrey "Louise" - 83 | Sept. 7 |
| Huffstickler, Sandra Louise - 67 | Sept. 8 |
| Jenkins, Kent Calloway..... | Sept. 8 |
| Cox, Tyler "TG" - 88 | Septe 13 |
| McComas, Sylvia Mills - 83 | Sept. 13 |
| Morton, Brends Cheatham - 78..... | Sept. 13 |
| Hilliman, Mary Louise - 75..... | Sept. 14 |
| Williams, Barbara Anne Hanke -86 | Sept. 14 |
| Hood, Phd, Susan Bell | Sept. 16 |
| Smith, Alice Vivian "Aunt Alice" - 85 | Septe. 16 |
| Tanaka M.D., Dr. Paul - 75 | Sept. 18 |

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| Tommy Joe McGinty..... | September 29 |
| Margaret C. O'Dell..... | September 28 |
| Justin Cade Jones..... | September 25 |
| William Damon Webb..... | September 24 |
| Bobby Clyde Clark..... | September 21 |
| Samuel Clifton "Sam" Turner..... | September 21 |
| Linda Jean (Smith) Duke..... | September 20 |
| Louise (Herndon) Lambert | September 18 |
| Donald Joe "Duck" Biggers..... | September 16 |
| Byron Holley..... | September 16 |
| Roy Gene Arnold..... | September 13 |
| Eunice Keala "Ms. Kay" Thompson..... | September 13 |
| Fred David Solomon..... | September 12 |
| James Donald Adair..... | September 12 |
| Dorothy Genell Hudson..... | September 11 |
| Mr. Donnie Jean Maddox..... | September 10 |
| James Edmond Snider..... | September 6 |
| Jimmy Odell Jackson..... | September 4 |
| Thomas P. Boone..... | September 2 |
| Leonard Raymond Hall..... | August 30 |
| Raymond Preston Butler..... | August 30 |
| Yvette Cyr Funderburk..... | August 29 |

TODAY'S WOMAN

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



By Amanda Walker

Tears & LAUGHTER:

Rx: Laughter – take as needed, endless refills, no expiration!

Remember how legendary columnist Lewis Grizzard used to write about how he could hardly wait for Cathy Rigby to go through menopause so she wouldn't be in commercials advertising feminine care products anymore? He said he didn't care if it absorbed the entire Atlantic Ocean, he didn't want to sit in his den and hear about it on television.

There wasn't much that was off limits for Lewis. He wrote unapologetically from his perspective as a man who had been raised in a small Georgia town. He continued throughout his career to write about the distinctiveness of the South, a changing South – so as it was – against the backdrop of the old South. He pulled much of his material from what he knew and observed. That is all any artist can do, and with that Lewis honed his own brand of wit and humor.

He was the best. From the time his column moved from sports to news in 1979, his fan base grew until his early death at age 47 in 1994, due to a faulty heart valve. People dearly loved him. He didn't invent newspapers, but for a couple of decades, he made them worth reading.

Some may say it was the internet that hurt the popularity of print newspapers, but it wasn't. Lewis died. That's what happened. There wasn't much reason to buy one after he was gone. The laughter had stopped.

There are rumors that Saturday Night Live may call it quits this year. The rumors are in response to cast member Kenan Thompson's comments during an interview suggesting this may be a good time to stop the show since it is turning 50.

Plus the show's creator, Lorne Michaels, is 77 and considering saying a final goodnight. Saturday nights evidently aren't all that lively to him anymore, not to mention politicization has all but smothered out most of the humor.

There was a time though.

Back in the late 80's, it didn't matter where I was or what I was doing on Saturday night, I wanted to be home by 10:30 so I could watch Saturday Night Live. And I didn't want to be late. I didn't want to chance missing the opening. It was always the best.

It has been a long time since the show held that kind of viewership.

It is a little sad to me. I turned 50 this year too, and I don't want to call it quits. I was kind of thinking I could maybe catch another gear. I was hoping I would maybe have more time to invite in creative energy.

But to be honest...the current climate is never going to allow for much genuine creative artistry. Anybody with any kind of platform on any level is very aware of what they allow themselves to write or say or create. All creative minds are editing themselves out of fear of an invisible overlord that could cancel them with complaints concerning their delicate sensitivities.

Freedom now has boundaries it seems. It is squelched. But the entire point of any genre of art is to create something that evokes the full spectrum of emotion. Reaction was never the artists concern. The art was the focus. Not all works of art are masterpieces, but they need to be genuine. They has to be complete abandon allowed in order to release and capture true creativity.

If the artist's first thought is what will others think or react...then we will soon cease to have creative geniuses. There will never be other great talents like Lewis Grizzard or Lorne Michaels.

That would be unfortunate...especially if it turns out laughter really is the best medicine.

Amanda Walker is a contributor with *AL.com*, *The Selma Times Journal*, *Thomasville Times*, *West Alabama Watchman*, and *Alabama Gazette*. Contact her at Walkerworld77@msn.com or at <https://www.facebook.com/AmandaWalker.Columnist>.



Trisston Wright Burrows
Ms.Wheelchair Americal
Alabama 2005

Trisston's Tidbits ...

By Trisston Wright Burrows
www.trisstonwrightburrows.com

“Let Go & Let God”

I love fall!! The color change, the weather change, the smell change...it's about change. I see it happening right now. Leaves falling. What was once a tree deep in rich



green, then a tree with vibrant shades of red and orange, now is soon becoming a tree that will be empty. Nothing left but the branches. We wish the color stayed. We think the only thing that makes the tree beautiful is the colorful leaves. We may ask, “why does it have to be so bare?”

Isaiah 43:18-19 “Remember not the former things, nor consider the things of old. Behold I am doing a new thing: now it springs forth, do not perceive it? It will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the dessert.”

For every beginning there is an end and for every ending there is a new beginning. What I find amazing is that those trees still stand. Those branches still reach out and upward. Not like my plants in my yard that have to be cut back and will re-grow from their roots next spring. Those trees still stand. There is beauty in the strength of those branches.

This is what Jesus does in our lives. We go through all kinds of seasons. Some are seasons of hard times, some loneliness, seasons of loss or other things such as financial hardships. And those seasons change us. We have seasons that are bright and beautiful and rich in life. Then, we have seasons that He allows things in our life to enter so that we don't remain the same. But through all those seasons He is telling us let go and let Me. Let go and let me show you what I can do. Let go and let me show you what I can teach you. There is strength in your branches with Me! We have to let go in order to grow a new perspective.

God wants all of us. God wants us to let go of the things that are holding us. When we do and those things fall... and new life comes from it. Change happens in us and through us. He reminds us that He is still there standing strong and He still holding us up, much like the tree and the branches. He says let go of it and I will hold you.

Isaiah 41: 10 “Fear not, for I am with you, be not dismayed, for I am your God: I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous hand.”

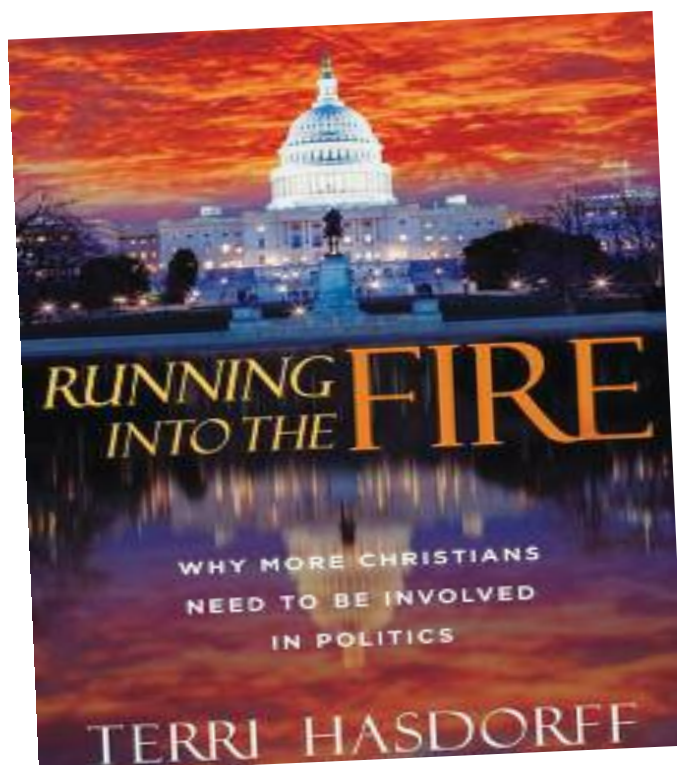
We cannot accept the gift of salvation and then do it our way with our limits, holding on to the parts of our life we don't want to let go. Our relationship with Jesus is worth more than just a part of us...let go and let God! And remember letting go is much like the leaves that will fall this autumn....it is a sign of all of the wonderful blessings God has in store for you. So today ...whatever part your still holding on to surrender it...and allow God to bring newness of life.

Many blessings!

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ALWAYS FIND THE TRUTH!



Halloween has become an issue among Christians !



by Russell Ki Tara (excerpts)

The question is, should Christians adopt the pagan customs and superstitions of ancient peoples and "Christianize" them? The Bible is not silent on the subject:

"Learn not the way of the heathen....for the customs of the people are vain." (Jeremiah 10: 2-3), and,

"When thou art come into the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations" (Deut. 18:9).

Ephesians 5:11 declares, "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them."

THE APPEARANCE OF EVIL.

The Bible says, *"Abstain from all appearance of evil."* (1 Thess. 5:22).

Who can deny that virtually all of the symbols of Halloween are evil? Witches, monsters, ogres, vampires, ghosts, ghouls, goblins, devils and demons all portray evil! On the other hand, Christians are called to be "followers of God" (Eph.5:1), and "lights" to a sin darkened world. How can we justify our masquerading as creatures of darkness in the light of the Scriptures? And if our houses and churches are dedicated to God and are to glorify Christ, how do we justify decorating them with demonic and occult symbols?

Virtually all of the *common* Halloween decorations represent something Demonic or Occult. For instance:

The "Jack-o-lantern" is the ancient symbol of a damned soul.

The "black cat" has long been associated with Witchcraft and numerous superstitions are still connected to it.

Witches and Witchcraft are a dominant theme of the holiday, but are an abomination to God (**Exodus 22:18; Deuteronomy 18: 8-14; Leviticus 18: 24-30**).

Even the "trick-or-treat" is a threat! It's nothing less than extortion! "You either give me a treat or I'll play a trick on you."

A careful examination of these Scriptures reveals God's unreserved condemnation of all who participate in any occult activity.

What's wrong with Halloween? Everything about it is wrong! It does not have even one single redeeming virtue. It is a demon inspired, devil glorifying occult festival! Those who love the Lord Jesus Christ should have nothing to do with it!

"Let us cast out the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light." (Rom. 13:12)

"Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness." (1 Thess.5:5)

"For what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing..." (2 Cor. 6:14-17).

The Christian should not fear any of the powers of darkness, for we have authority over them (**Mk. 16:15; Lu. 10:19**), and *"God has not given us the spirit of fear..." (2 Tim. 1:7)*. But at the same time, *"We are not ignorant of Satan's devices" (2 Cor.2:11)*

Some may call me "legalistic" for doing so, but I have forsaken this pagan celebration altogether. Perhaps its time you considered doing the same.

"For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light." (Eph. 5:8).

IT IS DISOBEDIENCE TO GOD!

God repeatedly forbids his Children's participation in such demonic activities, as the following passages attest: **Deut. 18:14; Ex. 7:11-12, 22:18; Lev. 19:26, 31; 20: 6, 27; 1 Chron. 10:13-14; 2 Ki. 21:5-6; Isa. 2:6; Jer. 27: 9-10; Zech. 10:2; Mal. 3:5; Acts 8:9, 16:16; 19:19; Gal. 5:16-21; 2 Tim. 3:8; Rev. 21:8, 22:15.**

***JUST GO TO THE BIBLE AND
READ FOR YOUSELF! YOU DECIDE!***



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