



2018 Alabama Remembers  
9/11 Memorial Stair Climb

Sunday, September 16, 2018  
RSA Tower ~ Montgomery, 201 Monroe Street.

Onsite Registration: 8:00 AM  
Opening Ceremony: 9:00 AM  
Climb Start Time: 10:00 AM  
Climb End Time: 2:00 PM







**2018 TOP 50 Picks**  
*Ed's Prediction Of Where They Could Finish Up!*

Ed Jones

Page 7A



**BCA Is Back, Bigger And Better Than Ever**

Steve Flowers

Page 3A



**Could Charter Schools Improve our Rural Communities?**

Marcia Chambliss

Page 6A



**A SPECIAL KIND OF STUPID**

Rob Tate

Page 2A

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## Revisiting an Economist's Perspective on the 1st Commandment



John Sophocleus

Prof. Thornton's recent book, *The Skyscraper Curse* offers sound perspective on booms and busts in our economy making business cycle theory accessible to the current, 21st-century audience. Long time readers will appreciate how this higher stationed colleague (I'm only an Instructor) is a kindred Spirit in efforts to educate up and coming generations. Seems most of the math/quant jocks on Wall Street, at the Fed, etc. barely remember the 2008 Crash and what triggered it, much less the 1987 Crash recently addressed in my 30th anniversary column. Given the widely touted 'We're all Keynesians Now!' assertion, our most remembered 1929 Crash provides little education for our modern 'main-stream' educated economists to curb the zeitgeist distortions of this past decade.


Thornton warns about distorted equity markets, hyper-inflated housing prices and clueless (or corrupt - does it matter?) central bankers. Some cite more volatile stock exchange results of late as a signal 2018 may be the year the Fed's latest bubble bursts... forecasting it will be even more painful than ten years ago. One of the more noteworthy facts from this well known expert on bubbles and Fed malfeasance (in outlets which include *Wall Street Journal*, *Bloomberg*, *Forbes*, *The Economist*, *Barron's* and *Investor's Business Daily*) US household and business debt is now one trillion dollars **higher** than 2008 only a decade ago. I've written on how inflation and artificially low interest rates disproportionately harms poor, those (usu. elderly) depending upon interest income, etc., but Prof. Thornton's most profound connection is his work on 'vanity construction projects.' Some may recall my nomenclature of modern day Towers of Babble constructed by modern day Nimrods with similar vanity.

Thornton's new book prompted me to revisit my third *Alabama Gazette* column penned February 2010 entitled, "*The First Commandment: An Economist's Perspective*" which received a good bit of positive response. The question asked more than any other was; what will my columns address? Comments suggested my most thought provoking text thus far was, "*I'm an Orthodox Christian and an academic - God takes all the belief I can muster, which may be the reason as an academic I want facts and evidence on other matters...*" shepherding me to the topic. Command and control (think Soviet-style) economies' failure to allocate resources toward a socially beneficial result or "*promote the general welfare*" has been a common thread in much of my text these past years.

*Continued on page 5A*



THINK



God assumed from the beginning that the wise of the world would view Christians as fools...and He has not been disappointed...If I have brought any message today, it is this: Have the courage to have your wisdom regarded as stupidity. Be fools for Christ. And have the courage to suffer the contempt of the sophisticated world.

Antonin Scalia





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Monday - Friday  
9 am - 5:30 pm  
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# ROBSERVATIONS...

by Robert Tate

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

## A SPECIAL KIND OF STUPID

Ah, yes. In the immortal words of Yoda, well not really Yoda but. . . , “The stupid is strong with this one.” And yes, it is on display in full regalia these days. Just a couple of examples for you today.

**1. Bettie Scott Cook:** Have any of you ever heard of this political hack? I had not. This Democrat (imagine that) happens to be a Black woman running for a state seat in Michigan when she recently referred to her Asian rival as a “Ching Chong.” No, you really cannot make this stuff up. According to the Detroit Metro Times, (<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2018/08/17/democrat-apologizes-after-hurling-anti-asian-slurs-at-her-opponent.html>) “Scott reportedly referred to her opponent as ‘ching-chang’ and ‘ching-chong’ to voters outside polling precincts. She also allegedly made other offensive comments, including telling one of Chang’s campaign volunteers ‘You don’t belong here’ and ‘I want you out of my country.’” Cook, with foot firmly planted in her mouth further danced down the path of wretched racial bigotry stated, “immigrants from China were ‘coming over and taking our community from us’ and that it ‘disgusts’ her to see ‘black people holding signs for these Asians and not supporting their own people.’” You would think the pollution spewing from her own mouth would “disgust” her.

But it doesn’t stop there. She is such a hate filled cretin, she denounced her opponent’s husband, who happens to be a Black man, for marrying an Asian woman. Wha-what?? Can any of us imagine if a Republican said such a thing? Yet this woman still has the support of many within Michigan although many are stepping away from her. I cannot imagine such hate while at the same time wanting to “serve the people.” I am sure she would be fair to all the Asians in her district if she wins. Oh, but she did apologize. I am not sure why because she clearly said what she thought and was simply displaying her racism for all to see. No, you really cannot walk back this kind of comment. In her apology, Scott said, “We live in a time of increasing divisiveness,” (Really??) she added. “As a state representative, I should never do anything to contribute to an atmosphere of divisiveness and for that, I am terribly sorry. I look forward to meeting with Rep. Chang to express my apologies directly to her as soon as she’s able to meet with me.” More to follow.

**2. New York Governor Andrew Cuomo:** Yes, the stupid is strong with this one. On the heels of increasingly stupid comments and politically inane positions, New York Governor Andrew Cuomo came up with this doozie. “We’re not going to make America great again, it was never that great.” (<https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/gov-andrew-cuomo-make-america-greatgreat/story?id=57202455>) In a futile effort to rally his disillusioned sycophants, Cuomo clearly showed all of us not only where he stands but what he is – an American hating loser. Whether it is his stance to continue support of federally funded abortions, further 9th month abortions, some of his 7-point agenda on gun control or oppressive taxation positions, Cuomo is not my favorite guy.

This one statement reminds me of Michelle Obama’s famous statement after her husband won the presidency. She said, “For the first time in my adult life, I am really proud of my country because it feels like hope is finally making a comeback.” (<https://www.newsweek.com/michelle-obamas-proud-remarks-83559>) With recent polls saying that some 57% of Democrats favor socialism over capitalism, I am not surprised.

**3. Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez:** The factually-challenged Wonder Woman of the Bronx. Oh yes, the stupid is really, really, really, really, really, really, really, really, really, really, really, really, really strong with this one. Wikipedia describes her as “An American politician, educator, community organizer, and political activist. Ocasio-Cortez is a member of the Democratic Socialists of America and has been endorsed by various politically progressive organizations and individuals.” Educator???? I cannot imagine this woman educating anybody on anything substantial. But I digress.

I mentioned her in a Robservation once before but this rising star of stupidity and ignorance just keeps on giving what we don’t want to hear or see. But it is like a train wreck, once in motion you simply cannot look away. Every time she opens her gob, something stupid spills out. Her latest? If any of you are familiar with Ben Shapiro, you know he is a very smart, very conservative, orthodox Jewish political pundit. I really like the guy. He is the one who the ANTIFA anti-fascist fascists protest whenever he comes to speak. You wanna get you butt kicked in a debate? Show up unprepared against Ben and you will go down in flames. Well, Ben offered Ms. Cortez \$10,000 dollars to debate him. (<http://www.foxnews.com/politics/2018/08/09/ben-shapiro-offers-alexandria-ocasio-cortez-10000-to-debate-her-democratic-socialist-beliefs.html>) Cortez, clearly afraid that she would get her butt handed to her turned Shapiro down. She tweeted, “Just like catcalling, I don’t owe a response to unsolicited requests from men with bad intentions. And also like catcalling, for some reason they feel entitled to one.” Catcalling? So when a man challenges her to a debate, it has now somehow become sexist and misogynistic?

Here is the good part. Conservative, Black female, Candace Owens offered \$100,000 for a debate and again, fearing a thorough butt-thumping, which it would be, Cortez ran away and denied the request. And lastly, when the Washington Post “fact-checked” Cortez’s statements and found most to be incorrect, instead of doing some basic homework, Cortez fired back calling the Washington Post “sexist” for having the nerve to fact-check her. The nerve of the WAPO proving she has no idea of anything other than what day it is and that actually has not yet been proven.

The point here is that in each of these three cases, “We the People” need to realize and understand that a lot of us are a heck of a lot smarter and better informed than those in politics who are here to serve us as opposed to us serving them. (Waters, Feinstein, Pelosi, Cummings, Flake; need I go on?) Many of these “leaders” have fatal flaws that we should not let go unchallenged. Racism, bigotry, socialism, ignorance; you name it. We have a responsibility to call each of these out when observed and to not let them get away with their wild positions. Yes, the stupid is strong with many of these.





## Commissioners Corner, PSC

Commissioner Chris “Chip” Beeker, Jr.

### Alabama The Beautiful

The beginning of summer is approaching and we are nearing my favorite time of the year. Summer in the south brings with it vacations, weekends spent outside, outdoor activities, and a multitude of other opportunities. It is a great chance to get out and enjoy our wonderful state parks. I am certainly biased to Alabama but some of the world’s most beautiful natural sites can be found within our state and many of those are at Alabama state parks.

Alabama is home to 22 state parks, each having an individual flavor. There are many things that you and your family can do at these parks. Those include golfing, fishing, hiking, bicycling, swimming, and many others. Quite often you will also find that a state park offers a great place to stay during your visit. Some parks have resorts while others feature cabins, cottages, or excellent campgrounds. In fact, Wind Creek State Park, located on Lake Martin, has one of the largest state-owned campgrounds in the entire country.

I urge you to find out about the different ranger-led events that many of our state parks regularly offer. These events present outstanding opportunities to

go on hikes, make crafts, listen to an educational presentation, or even watch a movie. A park employee is always on hand to make sure that everyone has a great and safe time. Most of these events will fit every budget because they are free. What a wonderful way to spend time with your family and create memories that will last a lifetime!

At the risk of causing you to not think about other parks, I would like to highlight a few of them. In northeastern Alabama you will find Cathedral State Park, an unbelievable natural phenomenon. Inside this mammoth cave you will find “Goliath”- one of the largest stalagmites in the world. It measures 45 feet tall and 243 feet in circumference. Those of you living in central Alabama should take advantage of Oak Mountain State Park, the largest of our state parks. There you can rent boats, hike, or ride your bicycle on one of the BMX courses. And, of course, in the southern part of our state you will find Gulf State Park in Gulf Shores. There you can enjoy the stunning white sand beach while you watch the surf and seagulls. Again, please don’t think that these are the only state parks you can visit. Contact the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources to find out more about the others.

I truly appreciate the great outdoors and realize how fortunate we are to live in a state that is home to these marvelous examples of God’s handiwork. I hope that you and others in our state take advantage of these parks by visiting them soon and often. Whether you’re on a day trip or a weekend getaway, there’s something for everyone at an Alabama state park. Get outdoors and enjoy Alabama the Beautiful!





# 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.*

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## BCA Is Back, Bigger And Better Than Ever

Alabama Power is and has always been a force in Alabama politics. Some entities may have influence in the Legislature, but the power company has the ear of folks in all three branches of State government: Legislative, Executive and Judicial.

If you sat down with all 35 state senators, especially the veterans who know the ropes and the system, and you had an extensive off-the-record private conversation with each of them, and you asked them if you had to have one special interest group in your corner and you were in a tough race to get reelected or wanted to get something accomplished, who would you call. In other words, to quote the great Dr. Paul Hubbert, who would you call if your ox got into a ditch? It would be an overwhelming vote for Alabama Power. Alabama Power is the friend, and confidant that both Democratic and Republican senators and representatives would name. The company is known for listening to legislators and treating them fairly and honestly, and it is truly nonpartisan in its approach.

Typically, the power company prefers anonymity. It certainly does not seek attention or accolades. However, legislators, judges, and governors have never been reluctant or ashamed of being aligned with the interests of the company or seeking contributions from its employee-operated political action committee. Over the years there has been a shell game of attempting to hide campaign contributions from some corners; not so with Alabama Power and its employees PAC. They do not play nefarious, clandestine, hiding-the-money shenanigans. They play by the rules. When you inquire of those 35 senators why they want and are proud of the power company's support, they will quote an old saying used among Goat Hill veterans, "What's good for Alabama Power is good for Alabama," because if Alabama grows and prospers, if the state is drawing new industry and existing businesses are expanding, and Alabamians are using more electricity, Alabama Power prospers.

During the 1960's, George Wallace had demagogued the race issue and had become the Emperor of Goat Hill. The issue of race was a powerful tool. Wallace was a brilliant politician and knew how to use power. When African Americans gained the right to vote Wallace had to find him another boogeyman. He took a page from Huey Long and started cussing the big utilities.

During this Wallace vendetta, Alabama Power had a president named Joe Farley, who was a great business leader, but not particularly enamored with Montgomery politics. Fortunately, he had a real pro representing the company

on Goat Hill in the form of Walter Johnsey. Walter stood toe-to-toe with Wallace.

After Wallace, a triumvirate of power made up of AEA/Labor and trial lawyers ruled the roost. The plaintiff trial lawyers became greedy and made Alabama the laughing stock of the Nation with outrageous, ludicrous judgements. We were called "Tort Hell" by "Time Magazine." No industry would come to Alabama when they were going to be routinely shaken down by litigants and their own workers for millions of dollars.

The power company had to come to the rescue. Under the leadership of President Elmer Harris, the Business Council of Alabama was created. The BCA ran the trial lawyers from the Temple and led Alabama into a pro-business environment.

Over the next 30 years the BCA became the leading business governmental group. In actuality, it remained closely aligned with the power company.

An arrogant, Yankee, named Billy Canary, had been the titular president of the BCA for close to 10 years. He had parlayed a friendship with Governor Bob Riley and Speaker Mike Hubbard, into garnering the job. It became apparent that he had run the organization into the ground about three years ago. He and the BCA had become a joke and toothless tiger.

About a year ago, the power company President, Mark Crosswhite, called Canary to Birmingham and suggested it was time to move on. Canary lied and procrastinated and refused to depart. Crosswhite ultimately lost patience. He brilliantly pulled the plug and left BCA along with some of the company's business allies Regions, Blue Cross, and Power South. Crosswhite had grown up in the power business, even at one point in his career he led the governmental affairs department and also did a stint as President of sister Gulf Power. He knew how to handle the situation. He employed the Teddy Roosevelt adage that also applies to the power company: "Walk softly and carry a big stick." Crosswhite and his allies reconstituted the Board of BCA and brought everybody back into the fold in one fell swoop. He earned himself a place in Alabama Power and Alabama political lore.

The BCA is back bigger and better than ever.

August 29, 2018



**Ronald A. Holtsford**

## Why is it important to change a deed after someone has died if taxes are still paid?

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One thing that happens at times, more so in rural areas is on the death of someone, their estate is not probated and their real property is inhabited by one or more heirs. The heir or heirs continue to pay real property taxes and even insurance when the property contains insurable structures. The problem is that as time goes on there may be a large number of heirs; people that have some legal claim to the property. Without a trail of title you end up with a lot of people that enjoy the property but cannot ever sell the property. This is referred to as "heir property".

For this reason I am adamant about resolving the title during probate before time slips away and there are problems.

Another thing that I might see is someone buying a home for a child (whether with or without financial support) but the deed does not include the child sometimes at the insistence of the mortgage company. When the parent dies the child is in a home without their name on the deed. Having both names with right of survivorship allows a transition under operation of law, without having to probate the estate for that reason alone. With that in mind the child can continue to enjoy the home without worry of having no legal right to ever sell the home or other issues including being the insured under an insurance policy.

While it may be a better choice to pass real property through a Will or a Trust, it may be the wording of a deed that makes that transition easier. A Life Estate Deed allows real property to be someone else's at your death. While the person or persons with the remainder interest have some legal rights during their life such as the fact that you cannot sell the property unless those with the remainder interest agree on the sale, for the most part your property is unhindered during life and the property may be excludable should you have the deed for at least five years and find that you have to apply for Medicaid should you find nursing home care necessary. Even a deed with a loved one or loved ones and a right of survivorship can provide for a smooth title transfer of real property.

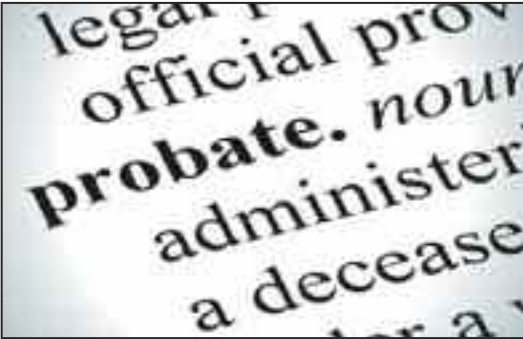
Each adult with assets, even with just a little bit of money in a bank should talk to their lawyer about how their assets can pass after death. Sometimes a Will or Trust may not be necessary and a Payable on Death (POD) for a bank account may do the trick. But anyone that has assets needs to have a safe and clear means to pass those assets to a loved one without creating a bigger issue. Any bank account over about five thousand dollars without any transactional provision would have to be probated; up to twenty-five thousand dollars can pass under a small estate process which is a slightly easier process. There is a process within banking law that may allow a relatively easy transition of less than five thousand dollars to heirs when certain standards are met.

I hope that this has helped with your question. If you need a lawyer you can contact the Alabama State Bar Lawyer Referral service or ask a trusted friend about a lawyer that they might recommend.

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

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

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The Alabama  
**Gazette**

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*Published by: Alabama Gazette Publishing, LLC  
Volume 18 - Issue 12 Copyright 2018  
The Alabama Gazette 16 pages- 2 Sections*

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

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# The Education Station... *By Bobbie Ames*

## PATRICK HENRY...

### “GIVE ME LIBERTY OR GIVE ME DEATH”

The name of Patrick Henry comes to mind when we think of the American Revolutionary period. Every American over 50 has heard of his memorable words, *"Is life so dear or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery?"* Recent generations in government schools have been deprived of true history and with that, we have lost much of the Liberty for which Patrick Henry gave his life.

There is no doubt that Patrick Henry was the most distinguished orator of the colonial South. He was born in Studley, Virginia, in 1736. He married at age 18, and tried several occupations before deciding on Law, where he practiced at Hanover. He was one of the first leaders to view the inevitable necessity of armed resistance to Great Britain. He was governor of his state for three terms, but turned down several offers by George Washington.

*“Here he seized the occasion to introduce the first resolution relative to the British imposition of stamp duties and thus initiated the American Revolution. He was one of the first to see the inevitable necessity of armed resistance to Great Britain, and to advocate war preparations. He was successively governor of his state for three years, and member of the House of Burgesses. He declined the offer of Washington to appointments as Secretary of State and of Chief Justice of the United States, but would have acceded to Washington's appeal to reenter the State Legislature had not death, which came to him June 8, 1799, put an end to his activities.”*

*Quoted from the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution.*

Speaking to the Convention of Delegates at the First Continental Congress at Philadelphia, in 1775, he realized that destiny hung in the balance of the moment.



Patrick Henry

*St. John's Church, Richmond, Virginia  
March 23, 1775*

**MR. PRESIDENT:** *No man thinks more highly than I do of the patriotism, as well as abilities, of the very worthy gentlemen who have just addressed the House. But different men often see the same subject in different lights; and, therefore, I hope it will not be thought disrespectful to those gentlemen if, entertaining as I do, opinions of a character very opposite to theirs, I shall speak forth my sentiments freely, and without reserve. This is no time for ceremony. The question before the House is one of awful moment to this country. For my own part, I consider it as nothing less than a question of freedom or slavery; and in proportion to the magnitude of the subject ought to be the freedom of the debate. It is only in this way that we can hope to arrive at truth, and fulfil the great responsibility which we hold to God and our country. Should I keep back my opinions at such a time, through fear of giving offence, I should consider myself as guilty of treason towards my country, and of an act of disloyalty toward the majesty of heaven, which I revere above all earthly kings.*

*Mr. President, it is natural to man to indulge in the illusions of hope. We are apt to shut our eyes against a painful truth, and listen to the song of that siren till she transforms us into beasts. Is this the part of wise men, engaged in a great and arduous struggle for liberty? Are we disposed to be of the number of those who, having eyes, see not, and, having ears, hear not, the things which so nearly concern their temporal salvation? For my part, whatever anguish of spirit it may cost, I am willing to know the whole truth; to know the worst, and to provide for it.*

*I have but one lamp by which my feet are guided; and that is the lamp of experience. I know of no way of judging of the future but by the past. And judging by the past, I wish to know what there has been in the conduct of the British ministry for the last ten years, to justify those hopes with which gentlemen have been pleased to solace themselves, and the House? Is it that insidious smile with which our petition has been lately received? Trust it not, sir; it will prove a snare to your feet. Suffer not yourselves to be betrayed with a kiss. Ask yourselves how this gracious reception of our petition comports with these war-like preparations which cover our waters and darken our land. Are fleets and armies necessary to a work of love and reconciliation? Have we shown ourselves so unwilling to be reconciled, that force must be called in to win back our love? Let us not deceive ourselves, sir. These are the implements of war and subjugation; the last arguments to which kings resort. I ask, gentlemen, sir, what means this martial array, if its purpose be not to force us to submission? Can gentlemen assign any other possible motive for it? Has Great Britain any enemy, in this quarter of the world, to call for all this accumulation of navies and armies?*

*No, sir, she has none. They are meant for us; they can be meant for no other. They are sent over to bind and rivet upon us those chains which the British ministry have been so long forging. And what have we to oppose to them? Shall we try argument? Sir, we have been trying that for the last ten years. Have we anything new to offer upon the subject? Nothing.*

*We have held the subject up in every light of which it is capable; but it has been all in vain. Shall we resort to entreaty and humble supplication? What terms shall we find which have not been already exhausted? Let us not, I beseech you, sir, deceive ourselves. Sir, we have done everything that could be done, to avert the storm which is now coming on. We have petitioned; we have remonstrated; we have supplicated; we have prostrated ourselves before the throne, and have implored its interposition to arrest the tyrannical hands of the ministry and Parliament. Our petitions have been slighted; our remonstrances have produced additional violence and insult; our supplications have been disregarded; and we have been spurned, with contempt, from the foot of the throne. In vain, after these things, may we indulge the fond hope of peace and reconciliation. There is no longer any room for hope. If we wish to be free - if we mean to preserve inviolate those inestimable privileges for which we have been so long contending - if we mean not basely to abandon the noble struggle in which we have been so long engaged, and which we have pledged ourselves never to abandon until the glorious object of our contest shall be obtained, we must fight! I repeat it, sir, we must fight! An appeal to arms and to the God of Hosts is all that is left us!*

*They tell us, sir, that we are weak; unable to cope with so formidable an adversary. But when shall we be stronger? Will it be the next week, or the next year? Will it be when we are totally disarmed, and when a British guard shall be stationed in every house? Shall we gather strength by irresolution and inaction? Shall we acquire the means of effectual resistance, by lying supinely on our backs, and hugging the delusive phantom of hope, until our enemies shall have bound us hand and foot?*

*Sir, we are not weak if we make a proper use of those means which the God of nature hath placed in our power. Three millions of people, armed in the holy cause of liberty, and in such a country as that which we possess, are invincible by any force which our enemy can send against us. Besides, sir, we shall not fight our battles alone. There is a just God who presides over the destinies of nations; and who will raise up friends to fight our battles for us. The battle, sir, is not to the strong alone; it is to the vigilant, the active, the brave. Besides, sir, we have no election. If we were base enough to desire it, it is now too late to retire from the contest. There is no retreat but in submission and slavery! Our chains are forged! Their clanking may be heard on the plains of Boston! The war is inevitable - and let it come! I repeat it, sir, let it come.*

*It is in vain, sir, to extenuate the matter. Gentlemen may cry, Peace, Peace - but there is no peace. The war is actually begun! The next gale that sweeps from the north will bring to our ears the clash of resounding arms! Our brethren are already in the field! Why stand we here idle? What is it that gentlemen wish? What would they have? Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!*



(Credit: MyLoupe/UIG via Getty Images)

*St. John's Church in Richmond, where Henry gave his speech.*

Let us close with a speech Patrick Henry made at St. John's Church in Richmond, on March 23rd, 1775. Present were many, including Washington and Jefferson, and many members of the Second Virginia Convention. In concluding his speech, we find the famous words:

*"An appeal to arms and to the God of Hosts is all that is left us... There is a just God who presides over the destinies of nations; and who will raise up friends to fight our battles for us. The battle, sir, is not to the strong alone, it is to the vigilant, the active, the brave. Is life so dear, or peace so sweet as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take, but as for me, give me liberty or give me death."*





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John Sophocleus  
THINK  
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Continued from page 1A

Some provisions of the Alabama Constitution are a sound attempt (too bad it is not followed any better than the US Constitution) toward trying to structure a legal/economic environment where government power is only used to define, defend, enforce and allow the peaceful exchange of property. If history is any guide, market forces are more likely to allocate resources toward their highest valued/ socially beneficial uses than allocations dictated by potentates and their bureaucrats. These dictates are often designed to promote redistribution of wealth to specific individuals or groups (*i.e.*, pick/create winners and losers) with little regard for the welfare of people in general.

Command economies usually begin this downward spiral with corporate welfare which is destined to fail - the most often observed in US economic history is protective tariffs instead of a uniform tariff as a user fee to keep commerce regular as designed in the Constitution. When the resulting failure/contraction is long and hard enough... it ushers in the hue and cry for social welfare. If these special interests are successful, they get voters (who actually participate) to keep buying into left and right, “change” from blue to red as the society ratchets ever closer toward new and more virulent big government leviathans increasingly more difficult to chain and restrain from tyranny. When the growing unchecked leviathan finally destroys itself many of those (innocent as well as those who aided and abetted it) caught in the devastation will not survive. Historically, what usually follows is even more years of death and suffering under the other extreme of anarchy, which man finally finds a way (usually by defining and adhering to some form of the decalogue) to work out of when some widespread ability to engage in voluntary exchange emerges again. The wealth and prosperity created over the years from increased exchange of this sort is what will make for a fertile environment for the next iteration of leviathan...and so the cycle unfolds. The bigger and more powerful the leviathan - the longer and harder swings of instability we observe with a notable absence of tranquility.

A world poll found only 11% agree markets work well. Most think command economies of various stripes are/would be an improvement over markets. This largely may be due to so many being told they live in a more market driven environment when in fact there are very few places (including the US) where this is true. I’m not a “free market” cheerleader... free markets are as big a myth as zero emissions vehicles - they can’t exist. Markets clearly have cost associated with their use as is true with any outcome -- perhaps it is time to start the adage, “There’s no such thing as a Free Market.” I’m one who gets “anarchists” angry at this along with the “capitalists” and “free market” evangelists when citing the cost associated with using markets. Those who want to learn more on this consider reading Prof. James M. Buchanan’s ***Limits of Liberty: Between Anarchy and Leviathan***. James is NOT to be confused with Pat Buchanan.

So, how did we get to this recent pro-command economy result? Why must this lesson, which goes back to the days of Nimrod, be relearned time and time again in the history of mankind? The Ten Commandments were, in this economist’s opinion, a sound effort to keep mankind out of the extremes of anarchy and leviathan where man’s suffering has shown itself to be most profound. Again, I’m only offering my economic perspective and will ask forgiveness from any and all theologians who may think poorly of my text on the matter.

More to the point, I think God put the First Commandment first with sound reason. While there is a little debate about what is included in each Commandment the general idea of what is the First is as follows:

***I am Yahweh your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourselves an idol, nor any image of anything that is in the heavens above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: you shall not bow yourself down to them, nor serve them, for I, Yahweh your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children, on the third and on the fourth generation of those who hate me, and showing loving kindness to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments. - Exodus 20:2-6 (WEB)***

There is much powerful (wisely written to help those at different stages of spiritual maturation to understand) text here to address, but I’m going to focus on what is most profound at this juncture. Stated plainly, many in the world today have made government(s) their god; those who do so doom their posterity.

For those who may prefer non-Biblical text, the historian Josephus wrote:



Nimrod

*Now it was Nimrod who excited them to such an affront and contempt of God. He was the grandson of Ham, the son of Noah, a bold man, and of great strength of hand. He persuaded them not to ascribe it to God, as if it were through his means they were happy, but to believe that it was their own courage which procured that happiness. He also gradually changed the government into tyranny, seeing no other way of turning men from the fear of God, but to bring them into a constant dependence on his power... Now the multitude were very ready to follow the determination of Nimrod, and to esteem it a piece of cowardice to submit to God; and they built a tower, neither sparing any pains, nor being in any degree negligent about the work: and, by reason of the multitude of hands employed in it, it grew very high, sooner than any one could expect; but the thickness of it*

*was so great, and it was so strongly built, that thereby its great height seemed, upon the view, to be less than it really was. It was built of burnt brick, cemented together with mortar, made of bitumen, that it might not be liable to admit water. When God saw that they acted so madly, he did not resolve to destroy them utterly, since they were not grown wiser by the destruction of the former sinners; but he caused a tumult among them, by producing in them diverse languages, and causing that, through the multitude of those languages, they should not be able to understand one another. The place wherein they built the tower is now called Babylon, because of the confusion of that language which they readily understood before; for the Hebrews mean by the word Babel, confusion...*

Think how profound the observations of Josephus are today as men physically rebuild “Towers of Babel” throughout the globe and verbally babble and confuse in our increasingly “politically correct”



# Revisiting an Economist’s Perspective on the 1st Commandment



speech which continues to destroy the factually/grammatically correct once held dear. Prof. Mark Thornton’s book on how skyscrapers’ curse are indicators of command and control distortions running amok is compelling. Expiation to the god of “Growth & Development” without regard for how sustainable, wise or deleterious to quality of life has been an easy sell these past decades - many a good man lost their soul and dignity in the housing bubble babble, exacerbated by govt. subsidized mortgage insurance scams, rating fraud, redevelopment corporate welfare and recruiting schemes. It is more easily seen (by those not blinded by avarice and corruption) at the micro-level in Auburn as the big govt. distortion of overpaid administrators, educrats, excessive redistribution by criminal speaker of the House, etc. on the ‘Plains of Dixie.’

Our nation embraces government mandated car insurance, health insurance, retirement, control over the auto, banking industries, determining the correct drugs, food and drink to consume... the list is endless from our 2008 “Christmas eve gift” of socialized medicine to the current Nimrod in the White House claiming trade wars are winnable instead of following the letter (Art. 1, Sec. 8, Clause 1) and Spirit of the Constitution. Think of how absurd it is some truly believe voting for Al Gore would impact climate; that the \$700 million ‘*drought action fund*’ established by the California government would somehow increase rainfall! Can you imagine any more inept group of individuals than our increasingly corrupt, unrepresentative Congress to determine our future or even worse, our moral code?

I remain humbled by my Greek/Southern heritage - and was blessed to witness this sort of wisdom and understanding of the First Commandment in my Spartan Grandmother (Yiayia) of Raleigh. One story I hold dear is when she received her first Social Security check. She told her son to please return it - she didn’t need it, God had provided for her well and she heard on the news her government was in debt! Her son told her no, that it couldn’t be done and I’m sure this sage woman who came out of a culture who suffered 400 years of slavery knew what this would hold for her posterity. Oh, and for those who think Yiayia had it easy - her husband died at a young age leaving her to successfully raise 11 youngins on her hard work, sound wit and mostly (by her account) faith in God, not governments which come and go.

Now to the more uncomfortable part... how often do we take the easy way out - simply pay lip service to our First Commandment? Worse still, how often is it twisted by modern-day Nimrods? To put “In God We Trust” on fiat currency is an abomination. Do you really think Eisenhower putting “Under God” in an already flawed pledge penned by a socialist makes us more like what God wants us to be in this world? Do you think having the Ten Commandments shown in the US Supreme Court matters if jurist do not have the knowledge of their wisdom nor the courage to apply them?

Alabama was on the front line of this long battle when two (perhaps well intentioned) jurists aided and abetted this recent slouching toward another Babel - *i.e.*, making government(s) their god. Contrary to popular belief, the text “*separation of church and state*” is **not** in the US Constitution and it seems neither jurist read, nor understood the wisdom in text of the First Amendment. It was put in place because some States in 1789 feared the central/federal government may move to tyranny and dictate a religion upon States. For example Maryland had their own State religion (Catholicism) which, as a well defined minority feared having another religion dictated upon them.

One could easily argue the framers understood competition between the States would do away with “State Religions” over time as Maryland finally did in 1857. To pen the painfully obvious, what could be any more revealing you have little faith in the power of your God/religious beliefs than using government force/subsidies to advance it? Does that mean Alabama could make Greek Orthodoxy their state religion if they so desire - yes, and nothing could make me more ashamed of my religion if they advanced or accepted doing so. There is absolutely nothing a State legislature, much less a federal or State judge can possibly do to change the power of my God one scintilla... I understand the power of Truth in the long run.

So what was the answer? If the State judge understood their oath and station, and truly wanted to advance “freedom of religion,” he would have argued there were already two remedies in place with respect to the Ten Commandments controversy. If the people of Alabama (remember it is the individuals who have rights, not governments) didn’t like his choice of décor: (1) change the State law which makes the Chief Justice the steward of the Rotunda; (2) vote the Chief out the next election. If an Atheist wins the next election, they can remove the Ten Commandments and put in their Atom Sign or plaque to negative proof, whatever (s)he wants, or if a Buddhist wins, a monument to their guy, or a Druid wins, a tree... you get the idea. Does the décor really matter more than freedom and principle?

Equally the poor jurist, if the federal judge understood their oath and station to defend the civil rights of Alabama citizens (which include State judges) he would have refused to take on the absurd position of being the arbiter of the interior décor of every courtroom in the East Middle District - an equal embarrassment. This may all seem absurd at first glance, but once you understand the objective - to advance the realm of a command and control government -- these minions of modern Nimrods are very effective.

Alas this is all too often the outcome following a duel of wits between two unarmed opponents as my earthy father taught me to identify at a young age - it makes everyone

## Revisiting an Economist’s Perspective on the 1st Commandment

in general worse off, but there are always those few who prosper as a result. C.S. Lewis wrote, “*He (the devil) always sends errors into the world in pairs -- pairs of opposites...He relies on your extra dislike of one to draw you gradually into the opposite one. But do not let us be fooled. We have to keep our eyes on the goal and go straight through between both errors. We have no other concern than that with either of them.*” One of the greater sources of despair is to watch how many good folks I held dear disappear into this bipolar vortex. Most of the 537 federally elected in DC are devout followers of their leviathan god and will protect it with all their being until it destroys them. So what’s a rational response? One to consider given the analysis compiled in Prof. Thornton’s *Skyscraper Curse* is to **get out of the way** when you know a Tower of Babel is being built to collapse and destroy the surrounding area!

How many do you know who’ve clearly made government(s) their god? Has/will your child be taught to embrace and understand this religion as most powerful? If successful in doing so, their economic future is forecasted to be just as bleak as for the Soviet children in the final years and aftermath of that terrible 20th century leviathan until individuals (who do have the right over government authority) are allowed to make decisions on their own welfare and more directly feel the costs and benefits from what they decide. My forecast is traditional Christians (in this part of the globe - it will be similar for other anti-leviathan religions elsewhere) will be more explicitly under attack in the years to come. Sadly, understanding the importance of the Narthex in early Christian church survival when under siege has been lost and no longer taught in Sunday school, or worst still used by leviathan zealots allowed to embed in the church to block those (sensing the future) coming back to the traditional, long surviving churches to weather this next iteration proffered by nimrods.

Time to close this recycled memory triggered by Prof. Thornton’s book. How the Narthex was used in the early orthodox church to survive the worst Rome could muster is fodder for another column. Much has been written recently on prepping the mind and body for the dark days to come. I sincerely believe no one can forecast when, esp. under such an overpowering leviathan allowed and revered able to bailout and subsidize distorted, deleterious behaviour for many years. Seems less has been devoted to prepping our churches, Spirit and souls which only aids and abets the tyrant’s ease in destroying them. The lesson of the Narthex itself was a deterrent, designed to remind us each time we entered what was suffered to keep the Holy Spirit and the lessons of Jesus Christ alive in my life. As always, I’ll respond to reader interest on writing more on the topic...

***Postscript:*** thanks for the all the positive response to last month’s ***Write on Voter; Right ON!*** column. On August 13th, Lee County Commissioner John Andrew Harris announced his write-in campaign (as the Dist. 5 incumbent) for the November general election. Still no word from Alice Martin, Becky Gerritson, John Taylor...



# The Chambliss Commentary

Marcia Chambliss

Marcia Chambliss has been involved in grassroots conservative politics since 2009 and has contributed opinion articles pertaining to politics and cultural issues to The Alabama Gazette since 2010.

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

## Could Charter Schools Improve our Rural Communities?

A little over five years ago, prior to the Alabama charter school bill passing out of the State Legislature and becoming law, I wrote about the choices that exist everywhere in our culture except in public education. Not only do abundant choices exist in almost every realm of consumerism, Americans demand those choices.

But when it comes to public education, for some reason we tend to accept the status quo, and I think that some of that acceptance is the result of the difficulty and hard work that arises in making necessary change.

I consider myself fortunate to live in a peaceful, rural setting in South Montgomery County, far from the daily annoyances of traffic snarls and city noise. While it’s a slice of heaven on earth for me at this stage in my life, the downside to our locale for young families is the absence of educational choices for their children. We have one public school for grades K-8 (our public high school was shut down years ago) so students entering 9th grade are now bused a minimum of 25 miles to attend high school. While that might not seem significant, consider that a majority of those students who depend on the bus for transportation due to limited family resources are unable to participate in extra-curricular activities, scholastic or athletic, because they have no alternative means to return home. Worse, because these children have grown up in a relatively quiet, rural environment, traveling miles into Montgomery to be immersed in an unfamiliar urban setting for their high school years is akin to “a fish out of water” experience, and the potential drop-out rate for these students increases. The concept of a neighborhood school that fosters community has all but disappeared for those high school years.

So what does this situation have to do with charter schools?

While I still have serious concerns regarding some proposed charter schools and the risk of unknown, for-profit corporations draining resources from our education budget, the charter school conversion of an existing public school is a component of the charter bill legislation that can perhaps provide a viable alternative for some schools in Montgomery, particularly those outside the city limits. Remember, charter schools are still public schools and are bound by federal laws against any discrimination on the basis of race, creed, color, sex, disability, or national origin, in the same manner as any non-charter public school.

For the moment, put aside any conception you may have about charter

schools, and imagine a neighborhood school comprised of children from varied socioeconomic backgrounds and race attending a school easily accessible with short bus rides or carpooling, from kindergarten through 12th grade. Continue to imagine that same local school providing educational opportunities across a spectrum of traditional studies, advanced studies for college prep, and vocational training for students choosing that path upon graduation. Finally, consider that same school having a governing non-profit board of neighborhood community leaders to include parents of the children actually attending the school, a board with an ability and authority to staff and fund the school, determine curriculum, and handle disciplinary issues without the layers of bureaucratic oversight of a system miles removed from the school itself.


Can you now imagine the positive impact of such a school on a community? The younger population base would once again have a reason to remain in our rural community where their parents and grandparents still reside, allowing those young families to maintain strong family relationships, and more easily care for aging family members. Additionally, a strong local school would also encourage and likely result in small business opportunities for those who desire residing in a rural setting, thereby increasing the tax base for the county.

For years we’ve heard, “so go the schools, so goes Montgomery,” and the same adage applies to communities outside the city limits, as those lacking quality educational opportunities for their residents do not grow and prosper. So why wouldn’t those of us who actually live in these rural areas want to explore options available that would allow greater local control over a school that can determine the future of our community?

**One of my husband’s favorite axioms is as follows:**

“Oftentimes there are no simple solutions - only intelligent choices.”

We can either continue placing Band-Aids on our problems with our local schools, or we can embrace the options provided to find solutions. Many believe a new school board is the answer, but I’m of the opinion that the problems are more deeply rooted. The path for a locally-controlled public school will not be easy or swift, as it would require the long-term commitment and hard work from parents and residents as well as the cooperation from Montgomery Board of Education, but ultimately, we do have a choice – whether or not we decide to utilize it remains the question.



### Profiteering Prisons

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

**By John Martin**

Just about every American will agree that our country is the greatest in the world. In many ways, it is just that. But in others, we have grave shortcomings.

One of these is the way we operate our correctional facilities. Law enforcement that is intended to keep dangerous people off the streets and rehabilitate them has in many ways done just the opposite and has actually exacerbated criminal activities.

America has 330 million people—less than 5 percent of the world’s population. But we have nearly 25 percent of the world’s prisoners. That comes to more than two million inmates—the highest per capita and more than in any other civilized country.

Why? Is our crime rate really that terrible? Statistics prove otherwise. Close examination shows that 50 percent or more American prisoners were convicted of “crimes” that had no victims, just violations of various statutes. Many were for the possession, use, or selling of “illegal” drugs. Others have been sentenced for lack of licenses or permits, letting grass grow too tall, littering, loitering, jaywalking, traffic violations, indebtedness to the state, arriving a few minutes late to court; you name it.

Life in prison can be horribly cruel, especially for the meek and innocent. Prisons are largely run by the strongest and often the most violent inmates. They pretty much “rule” the other, weaker ones. Homosexual rape is so prevalent that it is almost never mentioned in the news. Violence, brawls, stabbings, and sometimes homicide are commonplace. Inmates who work to earn money are paid as little as 12 cents per hour—a miniscule percentage of the legal minimum wage. Yet they are charged several times the normal rates for phone calls and other needs.

Genuine crimes are limited to deliberately committed tangible harm done to other people—either bodily harm or the theft, destruction or damage to their property. These include murder, terrorism, rape, kidnapping, hijacking, arson, looting, rioting, robbery, burglary, home invasion, theft, extortion, and embezzlement. On the other hand, victimless “crimes” would include drugs, gambling, prostitution, price “gouging,” ticket “scalping,” and any other voluntary, consensual, peaceful activities.

Retired detective John Baeza witnessed our justice system and the futility of victimless crime enforcement. Unsolved criminal cases languished while hundreds of officers pursued no-win drug arrests. Crime victims were neglected. But Amish farmers who sold raw milk were arrested and subjected to violence.

Debtors’ prisons were banned way back in 1833. But by the 1970’s and ‘80’s, courts began prosecuting more people for lesser crimes. In the late 1980’s and early 90’s, they enacted incarceration statutes for “failure to repay criminal-

justice debt.” Since 2000, they have used this threat of jail time “to squeeze cash out of small-time debtors.” Once locked up and as the debts balloon, they remain behind bars while plunging deeper into debt. Meanwhile, thieves and thugs who should be locked up remain at large.

Unlike the repeal of alcohol prohibition, ending the drug war does not seem promising. Our police state is just too profitable. Wilton Alston says that it is probably our country’s largest economy. Beneficiaries include “politicians, judges, lawyers, police officers, deputy sheriffs, jailers, prison guards, social workers, probation and parole officers, a third of the military, Customs, FBI, DEA, IRS, U.S. Marshals.... The drug war is about continuing to expend resources on an issue that will not go away. They’ll never legalize it. There’s too much money to be made fighting it and too many jobs at stake to make it legal.”

We now have a fully developed, overcrowded, despotic, profit-driven prison industrial complex, complete with probation companies that extort millions of dollars for various “services.” While the deep state reaps insane profits and places unbearable burdens onto the backs of millions of innocent citizens, few people understand—much less criticize the cruelty of our current corrections empire. It is mass punishment—a system of slavery not one bit more humane than the antebellum plantations.

Could we ever fix this problem? Believe it or not, a single man could do it right now. Who? President Donald Trump. He could gather up a team of libertarian volunteers and others interested in social justice to investigate our federal and state prisoners. Those who had never committed anything but victimless crimes would be pardoned and each given the opportunity to live a normal, peaceful life.

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## WHITE CANE DAY

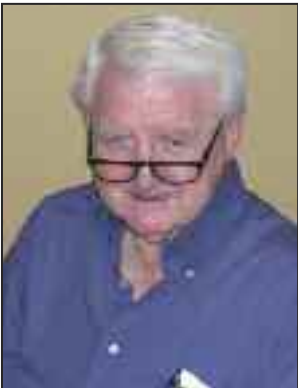
# 2018

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*Ed Jones*  
*Staff Sports Editor*

Never in my forty years of doing pre-season projections on how the top college football teams will finish their regular season, have I seen how the scene looks this year. Seven teams have a good chance to finish undefeated. As far as I can remember this has never happened and it is not really expected in 2018. Some of these teams will have a bad game and drop out of the undefeated category.

Clemson has the best avenue to an undefeated season because of their schedule. The Tigers play at Texas A&M, Florida State and Boston College. The biggest game on their schedule is the last one on November 24 in Clemson against state rival South Carolina. They will be heavily favored in all the rest.

Alabama, Georgia, Washington, USC, Oklahoma and Miami can also go undefeated. The Tide will have to really have a bad game with LSU in Baton Rouge, or lose to Auburn. It is possible. Georgia plays at South Carolina and at LSU. The big “Tea Party” in Jacksonville with Florida is a possible stumbling block as well as a home game with Auburn.

Speaking of Auburn, their first game with Washington in Atlanta is the key to the success of both teams. It looks like Auburn may be the only team that can beat Washington. If they do, the Tigers will be headed for a great season and Washington will have to win out if they have any hopes of a play-off berth.

Oklahoma is well positioned if they beat Texas in Dallas. Their other big tests will come at TCU and at West Virginia. Coach Mark Richt at Miami is a reach to play for the national championship. That is something that alluded him when

he was coaching at Georgia. It would be bad news for Georgia fans if he gets in and Georgia does not.

Southern Cal has a legendary history of greatness in college football, but of late they have been just mediocre. That can change this year. Former Auburn quarterback Clay Helton has the talent and schedule luck going for him. He is in his fourth year as head coach, replacing Lane Kiffin in 2014. He has a chance to bring back some glory. It is doable, but with their schedule it will not allow much rest for the Trojans. They play at Stanford, Texas, Arizona, Utah and UCLA. The last game is at home with the always overrated Notre Dame. Winning that gauntlet will put the Trojans in the play-offs.

Other teams who are capable of being play-off contenders are four teams from the Big 10. Ohio State, Michigan, Penn State and Wisconsin will be very good. However, this year they will beat up on each other and probably miss the “big dance”.

Auburn is a dark horse this year. But, I see them losing to Washington, Georgia and Alabama. The Tigers could surprise if their defense is as good as advertised. We will see very early when the Huskies from Washington come to Atlanta, which has not been a good venue for Gus Malzahn’s Tigers.

Well, once it starts, the season controls me for five months. Maybe you will be smart enough to avoid this addiction.

*Tee it up boys. I need a fix!*

1.	Clemson	12-0	26.	Louisville	9-3
2.	Alabama	11-1	27.	LSU	8-4
3.	Miami	11-1	28.	Oregon	8-4
4.	Georgia	11-1	29.	West Virginia	8-4
5.	Oklahoma	11-1	30.	Western Michigan	9-3
6.	Washington	11-1	31.	Florida State	8-4
7.	USC	11-1	32.	Texas A&M	7-5
8.	Ohio State	10-2	33.	Kansas State	8-4
9.	Michigan	10-2	34.	Oklahoma State	8-4
10.	South Carolina	10-2	35.	Minnesota	8-4
11.	Wisconsin	10-2	36.	Northwestern	8-4
12.	Penn State	10-2	37.	Nebraska	8-4
13.	Auburn	9-3	38.	Utah	8-4
14.	Stanford	10-2	39.	Virginia Tech	8-4
15.	Notre Dame	9-3	40.	Arizona	8-4
16.	Michigan State	9-3	41.	Army	9-3
17.	Florida	9-3	42.	Appalachian State	10-2
18.	Iowa	9-3	43.	Troy	9-3
19.	Texas	9-3	44.	Ohio	10-2
20.	Boise State	10-2	45.	Florida Atlantic	9-3
21.	TCU	9-3	46.	Navy	8-4
22.	Mississippi State	9-3	47.	South Florida	8-4
23.	Central of Florida	10-2	48.	Northern Illinois	8-4
24.	Memphis	9-3	49.	Wyoming	8-4
25.	North Carolina	9-3	50.	Washington State	7-5



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Steve Long

# Woods & Waters

## with Steve



### Field to Fork - Introducing New Hunters to the Outdoors

Plenty of rain, plenty of heat, plenty of humidity, and plenty of reasons to love the other seasons in Alabama; Summer is here and in full swing. Aside from endless grass cutting and edging, there’s some good fishing to be had this time of year, as well as the usual road trips and beach stays. That’s fine and all, but I’m still ready for the cooler months to get here, because that’s when hunting starts to really kick back into gear.

*And maybe football. A lot of football.*

Of course, Deer Season is the highlight of most hunters’ year in the woods, and I can about guarantee that most of you are ready to get back out there and get some venison for the fridge. It may come as something of a surprise to deer hunters, but a lot of folks out there aren’t familiar with the tastier side of deer hunting. Personally, I’ll take some good old summer sausage any day. As it turns out, some folks out there are trying to fix that lack of awareness, one hunt at a time.

In an article posted on QDMA’s website, Hank Forester and Charles Evans took a cue from a program in Kentucky last year, and worked on a concept called **Field to Fork**. As it turns out, most folks have more than a passing interest in where their grub is grown. The last few years have seen an especially large surge in interest involving where food is grown, what conditions it experiences, and whether or not it’s natural. We’ve all wondered what’s in that burger we just ate at some point or another, after all.

Field to Fork is a program designed to get folks involved in learning about venison, from start to finish. Not only does it let folks take some serious ownership of their protein procurement, but it gets more folks involved in deer hunting and the outdoors in general. A serious win-win, I’d say. The first round of their program saw all sorts of folks from Athens, GA, get some serious education in deer hunting. In fact, there was such a huge response that they couldn’t take everybody onboard. They received an educational program with a holistic view on deer hunting was given, involving both training and some field time. A few deer got harvested, and some venison was brought home. I bet more than a few folks became lifelong hunters as a result, too.

The second round of Field to Fork was the real deal. Filled up with volunteers from the Athens Branch of QDMA, there were plenty of experienced hunters to assist this time. Heading back to the Farmer’s Market in Athens, armed with a spread of venison tasty enough to bring a man to his knees, all free chase, the response was again overwhelming. In fact, there seemed to be a few vegetarians who were interested in the venison, as it was free chase. There was no suffering, cages, nor antibiotics; just venison from wild and free deer.

Ten fine folks got the opportunity to go this time, from all walks of life. They all had wanted to learn to harvest their own venison, but never had the opportunity to learn deer hunting. With some weekday classes in the afternoon, the participants learned about not just the nuts and bolts of bagging a buck, but also about how deer hunting plays a huge role in deer conservation. The weapon of choice for

this particular bout of hunting was the crossbow. While firearms are the usual choice, bow hunting is initially seen by some as a cleaner method for meat hunting. There’s also the plus side that you can access local urban properties where firearms wouldn’t necessarily be welcome.

With plenty of training and practice, the hunters and guides went out, and some came back with the good stuff. Capping off the event with a potluck, everybody got to chow down on some excellent venison. While the official program had ended, the true goal of this endeavor had only just begun. The participants had become hunters, and wished to continue doing so. Backed by the QDMA Athens Branch, there were multiple harvests as the season went by.

I’d call the Field to Forks program a great success, and one of the many ways we can bring more folks into the fold. Hunting is still facing a decline, and programs like this are a great way to get the word out to more folks. Without hunting, both conservation efforts and local economies would suffer, not to mention the animals. It’s a large part of our hunting heritage, and I aim to keep deer hunting a valuable past time for everyone long after I’m gone. If you’re interested in starting a Field to Forks program for your area, feel free to contact Hank Forester at [hforester@qdma.com](mailto:hforester@qdma.com).

It’s the middle of July, so the yard work is still a callin’. Make sure all of y’all get plenty of shade, drink plenty of water, and go get ’em!



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# Community Lifestyles

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## Gazette Seniors...

*Dr. John Bitter, Editor  
Senior Section*

**YOU MAY BE  
OVER THE HILL**  
...if you remember  
getting free road maps at  
the filling station

## Easy Living for Senior Citizens

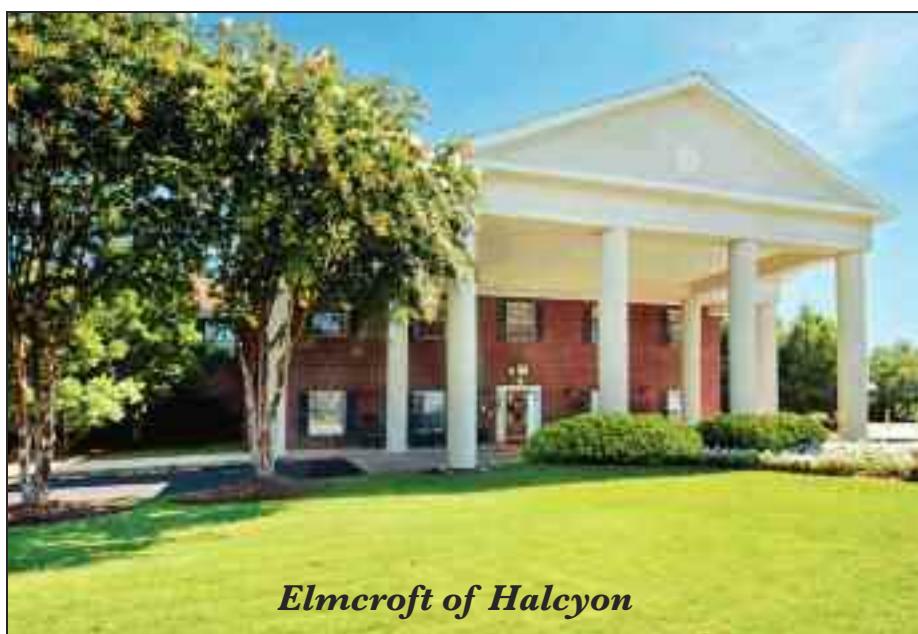
During his lifetime your humble scribe has traveled throughout most of the United States, Europe, and into the South Pacific.

Residence has been in a variety of setting, many more than once, but none have been as satisfactory as the present abode: "Elmcroft of Halcyon," an assisted living facility located next to the ballpark off Taylor Hill Road. It is a splendid facility that accommodates a variety of senior living needs.

The staff at Elmcroft is headed by Executive Director Tammy Grant, who is assisted by Miss Terry Shaw, office coordinator. A staff of eager workers at Elmcroft strive diligently to insure that none of the residents' requirements are overlooked.

Residents' health needs are scrupulously supervised by Dr. Donald Marshall, MD, who spends each Friday personally addressing their health issues. On a daily basis, RN Katherine Jackson, Resident Services Director, remains in constant contact with residents, insuring that their individual health needs are satisfied. These requirements are also scrutinized on a daily basis by a cadre of LPNs.

Stephanie Murphy looks after the needs of residents with special requirements, who live in the Heartland Village section of the facility, insuring that few, if any, apartments stand vacant is Charley Mulcahy of Elmore County, who



*Elmcroft of Halcyon*

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bears the title of "Community Relations Director," but who your writer refers to as the "Headhunter." Mr. Mulcahy also has an attractive spouse, Melanie, who heads up the popular singing group "Heart 2 Heart." They always pack the activity room whenever they appear at Elmcroft.

Ms. Gloria Crews oversees the dining needs of the residents, none of whom can complain of being underfed. Her talents were previously praised in an earlier edition of the Gazette.

Speaking of the dining room, Jerry Free stands in as breakfast maitre d' hotel, insuring that residents are served promptly and efficiently. His task is to see that none of their dining needs are overlooked. His major job; however, is as maintenance director, a task he attends to with unprecedented vigor and alacrity. Residents' needs are promptly and efficiently met. Your writer can vigorously attest to his efficiency.

Ms. Shijuana Moore has the title of Healthy Lifestyles Director, which means that she shuttles residents to the local Walmart each Monday to satisfy their shopping requirements, carries residents to hospitals and doctor's offices on a bi-weekly basis, and provides them with a variety of mind-challenging activities, such as Bingo, artistic challenges, and other endeavors.

Finally, beautician Connie Gibson show up twice a week to see to residents' tonsorial and beautification needs.

These are the people whose efforts help to insure that most of the apartments are filled with happy residents who will probably remain at Elmcroft as long as possible.

Your writers' life, from the day he entered the Army at the age of 17, has been one of a gypsy, never staying in one place for more than four years, tops: and this included, later on, the many independent living facilities that have been home: often for a relatively short time.

The accommodations at Elmcroft are excellent, as is the food, and the various wants of the residents are more than adequately tended to.

It's little wonder that the population at Elmcroft remains high.

During his lifetime your writer has lived in a host of venues after the old homestead was left. The delightful days of marriage ended sadly by the demise of his beloved spouse. But nothing has more adequately satisfied his needs better than the days spent at Elmcroft at Halcyon.

For a senior citizen looking for a place to live that will more than adequately meet his or her needs, Elmcroft of Halcyon is the place to go. Give it a look. You will be glad you did!

## Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

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I have some observations, tips, and recipes to help make your life in the kitchen rewarding and easier. First, some buying tips. Buy honey in glass jars not cute bear shaped plastic. After a year in plastic, the honey will change color and taste. Look at the label of the honey in the big box stores and make sure that just because it says honey on the front of the jar does it say that honey is the only ingredient on the back of the jar. Buy your honey at a farmer’s market and talk to the seller about the honey, where does it come from, is it processed, what flowers are the main source of the honey. Like different grapes have a different taste when made into wine, the honey tastes different from different flowering plants. Clover, lavender, rosemary, and dandelion honey will have subtle taste differences.

Once you have decided on the honey to purchase, the next thing to do is to make it spicy, right? Well, if you like spicy foods, why not. Adding hot peppers to the honey gives it uses that you would never think of. Drizzle hot (spicy) honey over your sweet potatoes or use it as a glaze for vegetables. First, make your hot honey.

### HOT HONEY

***Ingredients***

- 1 cup honey**
- 3 teaspoons crushed red pepper flakes**

***Instructions***

- Put honey and pepper flakes in a 2-cup Pyrex measuring cup. Then place it in a small saucepan of boiling water.
- Stir the honey and pepper flakes for several minutes until the honey loosens up and easier to stir. Do not heat it too long because you do not want to destroy the beneficial enzymes that are found in honey. Turn off the heat and let steep for about ten minutes.
- While the honey is still warm, strain it into a large clean jar.

Makes one cup



The first dish to try your hot honey can be a vegetable side dish using some green beans and radishes from the same farmer’s market you purchased your honey.

### HOT HONEY GLAZED GREEN BEANS and RADISHES

***Ingredients***

- 1 pound green beans, trimmed**
- ¼ cup olive oil**
- ½ pound radishes, trimmed and quartered**
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped**
- 1 tablespoon chile honey**
- Salt and freshly ground pepper to taste**

***Instructions***

- Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Blanch green beans until crisp-tender, 3-4 minutes.
- Scoop green beans from hot water and quickly drop into a large bowl of ice water. Once cooled, drain.
- Heat oil in a large skillet over medium heat. Add green beans, radishes, and garlic and cook until the veggies are just soft, about 5 minutes.
- Add honey, season with salt and pepper and continue cooking until the veggies are beginning to caramelize, about another 2 minutes.
- Transfer everything to a large bowl. Set aside and let cool. Serve at room temperature. Serves Four



After you succeeded in the preparation of the last dish, reflect on what you accomplished. I read an article at [Bustle.com](#) that there are emotional benefits of cooking. Programs around the world help people with mood disorders and other issues and the kitchen is part of the treatment. It is called, therapeutic cooking. In the kitchen, you can be creative and channel energy, master a skill and cooking for others enhances the therapeutic effects.

In New Mexico, it is Hatch chile season. Besides the obvious reason to eat Hatch chile peppers, one fresh medium size green chili pod has as much vitamin C as six oranges, one teaspoon of dried red chili powder has the daily requirement of vitamin A, and the color extracted from very red chile pepper pods, oleoresin, is used in everything from lipstick to processed meats. There are Hatch chili gas fired roasters in the parking lots of grocery stores, restaurants, and every other business that wants to attract customers. Stores will have strings of dried red peppers hanging everywhere. People buy them fresh by the bushel. A fresh picked Hatch chile only lasts a couple of days unless kept very cool and wet while in transit. You can find them canned and you can find them frozen in a few stores in central Alabama,. If you would like to expand your pepper recipes, from the common jalapeno, try Hatch peppers.

School has started and the added activities for the children include weekday practices and meetings. This affects the usual eating times for evening meals. This means less time afforded for the preparation of the meals. Which also means you need to have a larger than usual pantry and that means that what you do have in the pantry, cold and dry, has to stay fresh.

We begin with your fresh pantry items. The vegetables, dairy, and fresh herbs needed for your menu of the week. You do plan and have a weekly menu? Yes, and you just came home with the fresh herbs needed for the week’s meals. First, remember the grocery sprays and mists the produce. Once they are in the produce bags and placed in your icebox, the produce with start to rot. To help them last for

# Southern Cuisine



I just read an article where a food writer discovered the Peanut Butter and Mayonnaise Sandwich! This writer must not read my article nor get around much. Even Garden and Gun has featured this sandwich, with the history of the sandwich dating back to the 1930’s. The writer had a picture showing the ingredients: organic peanut butter and Hellmann’s mayonnaise. Then commented, “To my surprise---it wasn’t awful”. If the sandwich is made with Duke’s mayonnaise and Smucker’s Natural Creamy peanut butter, the sandwich would be great. The writer probably puts their groceries in a cart and not a buggy, thinks that “Bless your heart” is a compliment, and asks if “you guys” want some sugar and gives them a 5-pound bag of sugar instead of a kiss. So much for my rant of the day.

the week, dry the produce, cut off the bad spots, and wrap them in paper towels and then place in plastic bags. They stay cold, dry, and fresh.

It has not happened to me with much frequency, but there is at least one egg that does not look right, smell right and I do not want it in my omelet, cake, or waffle (yes, you can have waffles for dinner). You have cracked three eggs into a bowl and the fourth one has seen better days. Now it is in the bowl with the other good eggs. Solution, crack each egg separately into a small bowl and then add to the mixing bowl. Takes longer but you only have to experience it once and you will always check your eggs this way.

Do you know that not all measuring cups are for measuring everything? Flat-rimmed measuring cups are for dry ingredients. Baking depends on correct measurements, using the wrong cups will give you the wrong results. When using a hand-held box grater, hold the ingredient lengthwise or at a slight angle, so more of the surface is grated with each swipe. This technique helps you grate more at once making the chore go faster, besides making longer and prettier shavings.

Slicing soft cheeses or meats will be easier if they are placed in the freezer for about 20 minutes to firm up the edges.

Salt as you go. While cooking, taste the food. You can always add salt but if you just add once, it could be too much.

Cook a few batches of whole grains, such as brown rice or quinoa, cool it in the fridge, and then divide the grains into meal-size portions to freeze. When ready to reheat, you have your own healthy "minute" rice!

Many fresh herbs love the refrigerator, but basil is not one of them. It turns black and wilts quickly at low temperatures, which is why it is best stored on the countertop. Keep the stems intact and place the bunch in a cup of water or wrapped in a wet paper towel.

Next is a simple quick dinner that goes well with the green bean and radish side you are going to prepare.

### HONEY PECAN PORK CHOPS

Just cook the cutlets in butter, and then heat honey and pecans in the drippings to make the sauce.

***Ingredients***

- 1 1/4 pounds boneless pork loin chops (3-4 chops)**
- 1/2 cup all-purpose flour for coating**
- Salt and pepper to taste**
- 2 tablespoons butter**
- 1/4 cup honey (chili honey if desired)**
- 1/4 cup chopped pecans**

***Instructions***

- In a shallow dish, mix together flour, salt, and pepper. Dredge pork cutlets in the flour mixture.
- In a large skillet, melt butter over medium-high heat.
- Add chops, cook until medium well and both sides are browned.
- Transfer to a warm plate.
- Mix honey and pecans into the pan drippings.
- Heat through, stirring constantly. Pour sauce over cutlets.



Remember to get your children involved to the menu planning and even the preparation of the meals. Since you should be eating together, why not cook together. Depending on the ages, pick the proper utensils and cooking vessel for the kids. For additional information, I recommend the web site [cookingwithkids.org](#). It has videos, recipes, tips for families and tools for teachers. And of course to help reach money for their endeavor, they sell a cookbook.

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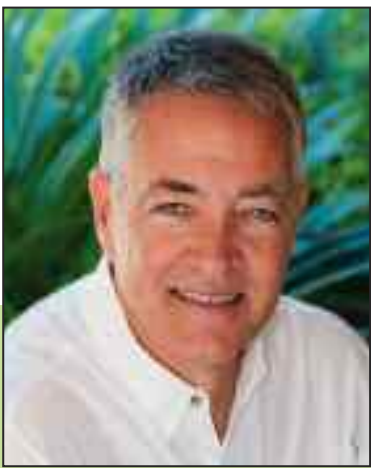
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# Soul Searching

## Forgiveness: We Must Forgive! But How?

### Jesus talked a lot about forgiveness!

As I mentioned last month in the Alabama Gazette, forgiveness isn’t optional.

If you know anything about Jesus’ teachings, you will know that he ties our forgiveness to how we forgive others.

In the Lord’s Prayer, Jesus taught us to pray, *“forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.”*

*“For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your Heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Heavenly Father will not forgive your sins.”* - Jesus, **Matthew 6:14-15**

So, Jesus says forgiveness isn’t optional. We must forgive! Last month, I talked about why we must forgive in the August edition of Soul Searching. But today I want to talk about ....

### How to forgive?

#### First, Recognize that no one is perfect!

*“Indeed, there is no one on earth who is righteous, no one who does what is right and never sins.”* - Solomon, **Ecclesiastes 7:20**

*“For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard.”* - Paul, **Romans 3:23**

It’s very natural to harbor unforgiveness towards those who have wronged or hurt us. But when we hate another person or carry bitterness, resentment and anger towards someone, we tend to lose our perspective. We can then easily dehumanize the other person. When we dehumanize someone, we are unable to see them through the eyes of Jesus... the way he sees them. We must surrender our opinions to the opinion of Christ. We need to ask God by his grace to help us see them as an imperfect sinner that Jesus loved so much that he died for them on a cross in order that they might be forgiven of their sins! We must remember that we too are also sinners saved by God’s grace!

#### Second, Relinquish your right to get even!

This is the heart for forgiveness!

*“Never avenge yourselves. Leave that to God.”* - Paul, **Romans 12:19**

You may deserve to retaliate. They may be totally at fault. You may be right, and they may be wrong. But you must commit to not get even!

You may say, “that does not seem fair!” It may not be fair! But who sold you the lie that life should be fair? It may not be fair, but it is the right and healthy things to do!

And the Bible tells us over and over not to get even. *“Bless those who curse you.”...“forgive those who sin against you”... “Vengeance is mine saith the Lord.”*

This is not a one time decision by the way. It will often be a day by day decision. Sometimes moment by moment. But keep reminding yourself to relinquish your right to get even.

#### Third, respond to evil with good!

*“Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult. On the contrary, repay evil with good....”* - Peter, **1 Peter 3:9**

How do you know you have fully released someone who has wronged you? You can repay evil with good. Humanly speaking, this is almost impossible. But all things are possible with God’s help and by the power of the Holy Spirit. Ask God to help you with this. You may have to ask the Lord 100 times a day to help you. But when you can respond kindly and lovingly to someone who has done evil or wrong against you, you know you are making progress in the journey of forgiveness!

#### Forth, refocus on God’s plan for you!

When you continue to focus on the person that hurt you, you give them control over you. You must forgive them so you can move on with your life! God does have a great plan for your life. The scriptures are full of constant reminders of this fact.

*“I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for good not for evil, plans to give you a hope and a future.”* - **Jeremiah 29:11**

*“You are his masterpiece, created for good works prepared in advance for you to do.”* - Paul, **Ephesians 2:10**

The most important thing to remember about forgiveness is that you will need God’s help, and it is a daily decision! Remember these four things about how to forgive and pray them over and over again! And you will find that by God’s grace you can experience the power of forgiveness!



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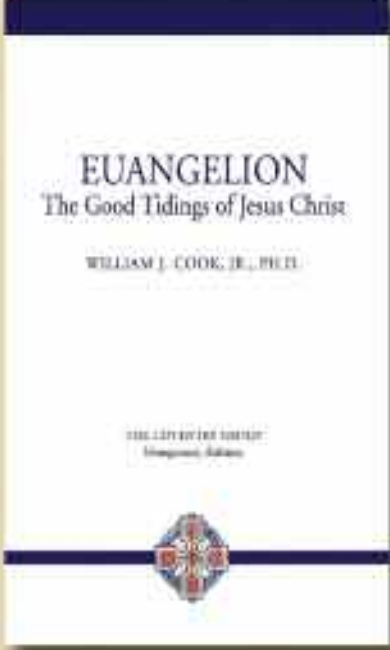


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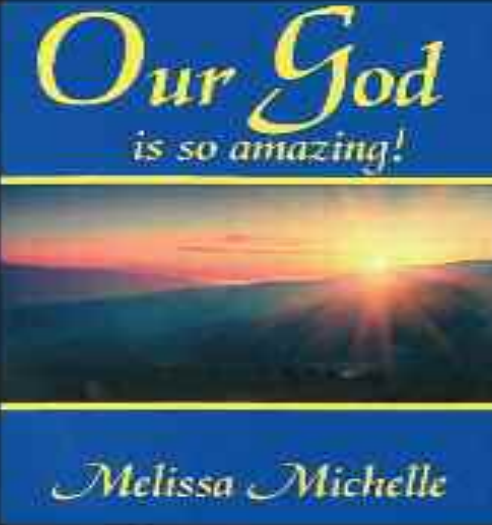
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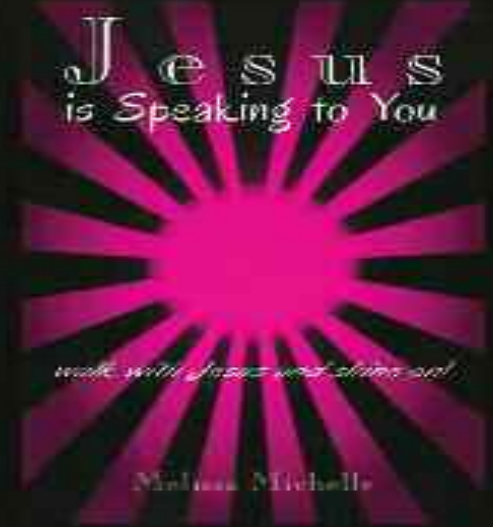
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## Senior Fishing Rodeo

Sheriff Derrick Cunningham and the staff of the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office will host our annual Senior Citizen's fishing rodeo on Tuesday, September 11th from 6:00 a.m.-12:00 noon. We invite you to share this flier with Senior Citizen's in your family, church, community and other seniors residing in Montgomery County. This free event provides a good social outing for our seniors, who give so much of themselves to help others. For more information, please contact Lisa Crenshaw 832.1339.

**Tuesday, September 11, 2018**

**6:00 a.m.-12:00 noon**

**Montgomery County Ponds, Highway 231 South  
(Troy highway)  
Across from Meriwether Road**



## Citizens Academy

It is time to register for our Citizens Academy of 2018, which begins on September 10th. This is a free course and it meets every Monday from 6:00-7:00pm for six weeks. Instructors from each department within the Sheriff's Office will teach the course. While our goal is to make you aware of what is going on in your community, how to report suspicious activities/crimes as well as how things are handled from a law enforcement perspective, Sheriff Cunningham would like to ensure you that fun will be had by all who are in attendance. If you'd like to register for the course, you may do so by one of the following means:

- Contact Lisa or Christie at 832.1339
- Request via email [lisacrenshaw@mc-ala.org](mailto:lisacrenshaw@mc-ala.org) or [christievazquez@mc-ala.org](mailto:christievazquez@mc-ala.org)
- Request via fax 832.7113
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## Firearms Familiarization Course

You can register for any of our 2018 course dates  
(listed below):

**October 13**

**December 8**

We know that learning how to protect yourself  
is very important in today's world.

The class is held at our newly dedicated Sheriff D.T. Marshall Firearms Training Center and lasts most of the day and is FREE to Montgomery County citizens! The morning session is classroom instruction on firearm safety and firearm laws. The afternoon session allows citizens to practice shooting on our Firing Range for the remainder of the class (if you would like). All classes are under the instruction of the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Range Master.

### Course Requirements:

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

Pistol Permit Questions?  
**334.832.1335 or 334.832.1337**  
Course Questions or to Obtain an Application?  
[Lisa.Crenshaw@mc-ala.org](mailto:Lisa.Crenshaw@mc-ala.org)

**334.832.1339**

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



## Sheriff's Office APP

The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office has a new 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 Sheriff" OR
- Click "Application Manager", if it doesn't take you directly to the location
- Click "Notifications"
- Turn 'on' "Allow Notifications" and "Previews in pop-ups"

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



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## AUTAUGA COUNTY



# Autauga County Alabama SHERIFF'S OFFICE

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE:**  
***www.autaugasheriff.org***

162 W 4th St, Prattville, AL  
**(334) 361-2500**



**Sheriff Joe Sedinger**



*Pine Level Elementary with Principal Harry*



*Autaugaville School with Principal Butts*



*Marbury High School with Principal Woodfin*



*Marbury Middle School with Principal Barrington*



*Billingsley School with Principal Pittman*



*School Supplies*

## “Fill the Patrol Car”

The Autauga County Sheriff's Office held a “Fill the Patrol Car” with school supplies campaign during the month of July.

They set up at participating Dollar Generals in Autauga County collecting supplies and donations.

All the supplies were divided between the rural schools and the donations were used to purchase missing items and additional supplies to make each delivery equal.

After school started the Sheriff visited each school and delivered the school supplies. Each school was very pleased to have the additional supplies and said they would be given to the children in need.

It takes a community to raise our children and the Sheriff's Office is just doing their part. We would like to thank everyone who came out and donated supplies and money to this campaign.

We would have been successful without your assistance and support of the Autauga County Sheriff's Office.

P.S. All the supplies given would have filled the patrol car and a whole lot more!

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**740 MEMORIAL DR.**  
**PRATTVILLE, AL 36067**

### In Memory of Carol Ann Roy Lemon 1944 ~ 2018

Carol Ann Roy Lemon, 74,  
of Prattville, Alabama, passed away  
Monday, August 27, 2018.

Carol's life was rooted in hard work and strong character. She grew up learning that faith, grit and ironclad strength would carry her through this life. She was known as someone on whom you knew you could depend.

People throughout Autauga County and the surrounding area knew Carol for her real estate prowess and her unrelenting dedication to building her own dreams just like her parents. She started humbly, selling real estate for Aronov Realty in Prattville. She loved helping people find the place where they would raise their families and enjoy as a refuge. She opened Carol Lemon Realty 30 years ago. Carol always took pleasure in working hard and earning what she had.

Her children remember that when she fell back, it was on her faith and on her knees. The community rallied around her when she fought and beat kidney cancer. That experience inspired her to support the fight against cancer by being a Relay for Life Survivors' Dinner supporter for more than two decades.

“She had a pattern of sacrificing herself for those she loved even until her last days on Earth with us. We hold comfort in knowing that she is now dancing with Jesus and the stress of life has been left behind...Farwell Mom, you were so, so loved and you will be so, so missed.”

*To express online condolences, please visit [prattvillememorial.com](http://prattvillememorial.com)*

Excerpts of expressed love as written by her children and published in the Montgomery Advertiser, August 29, 2018.

As a Realtor of over 30 years, I can personally say that she upheld the standards set for our profession. She was friendly, helpful and knowledgeable in all real estate matters. She exemplified what a Realtor should be.

Loretta Grant, Owner, The Alabama Gazette



*Have a Blessed  
and Happy Labor Day!*

## Prattauga Art Guild

## Artist's Market

The Third Saturday of September, October, and November

**Sept. 15, Oct. 20, Nov. 17**  
**10 am-2 pm**

On the lawn next to the Creative Arts Center  
(342 South Chestnut Street)

**Demonstrations and Children's Activities**

(334) 595-0854  
[artguild.prattvilleal.gov](http://artguild.prattvilleal.gov)



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REALTY**

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**1-800-862-1335**  
**Cell - 334-315-2715**  
**744 S. Memorial Drive**



**Patricia Killough**

*Please send me your family birthdays, anniversaries and weddings to  
alabamagazette@gmail.com*

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



# Home Town Community News

## September Birthdays



- |                              |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Joe Boyd (79th)            | 19 Beth Cline              |
| 2 John Hannon                | Bobby Hudson               |
| 3 Dian Majors                | 20 Lynn Davis              |
| Leslie Riley                 | Carol Hudson               |
| 4 Jimmy Dick                 | 21 Hank Henderson (96th)   |
| Gary French                  | Marlee Day Smith (9th)     |
| Tim Riley                    | Kristen Taylor             |
| Britney Williams             | Sarah Kate Taylor          |
| 5 Joyce Moore (78th)         | 22 Bertha Reagan Bell      |
| 6 Ethleen Bazzell (79th)     | Tom Garlington             |
| Bonnie Edwards               | David Webb                 |
| Diana Elliott                | 23 Era Hall                |
| C. J. Faulk (84th)           | Kirksey Jones              |
| 7 Tanner Grant               | 24 Barbara Berg            |
| Richard Kirksey              | Ava Catherine Crowe (10th) |
| Ruby Law                     | Lynda Maddox               |
| 8 Adam Broadway              | Catherine Preston          |
| 9 Kendra Devon Lamar         | Chrystal Rahn              |
| Jesse Southern (94th)        | R. J. Seevers              |
| 10 Terry Dotherow            | 25 Brenda Abrams           |
| 11 Traci Weafer              | Linda Abrams               |
| 12 Warner Boyd (82nd)        | Marilyn Blair (96th)       |
| Catherine Jane Grubbs (12th) | Sonny Cauthen (69th)       |
| Brian Hudson                 | Rocene Fowler              |
| 13 Donna Mulcahy             | Betty Gafford              |
| Debbie Partridge (61st)      | Baxter Moseley (23rd)      |
| 14 Elaine Webb               | 26 Emily Lamar (96th)      |
| 15 Shannon Flores (46th)     | Barbara Mitchell           |
| 16 Phyllis McCalman          | Frances Smith (102nd)      |
| Dick Payson (84th)           | 27 Roy Stephens (89th)     |
| 17 Mike (Pete) Moore         | 29 Elvin Stanton           |
| Mandy Stringer (15th)        | 30 Scott Borders (56th)    |
| 18 Don Dawkins               | Lydia Brown                |
| Dale Jones                   | Kim Butler                 |
| Jace McClelland (5th)        | Susan Feaga                |
| Betty Russell                | Hunter O'Neal (14th)       |
| Eddie Spivey                 | Mike Smith                 |

## Happy Anniversary

- |                                  |                                     |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2 Joe & Jean Douglas             | 18 James & Sarah Glass (8th)        |
| 3 Howard & Martha Stripling      | 20 Jason & Stephanie Selvage (15th) |
| 4 Don & Barbara White            | 21 Tony & Janie Drake               |
| 6 Thomas & Louise Light          | 22 Hank & Geneva Henderson (76th)   |
| 7 Gary & Lyda Crowe              | James & Sherry Tucker               |
| Ralph & Brenda Davis             | 24 Larry & Linda Browder            |
| Steve & Paige Stringer           | 25 Chuck & Betty Holmes (36th)      |
| 10 Mike & Linda Reynolds         | 26 Jose' & Susan Guevara            |
| 12 Warner & Margaret Boyd (62nd) | 28 Morgan & Ashley James            |
| 16 Skip & Connie Mainor (5th)    | Chris & Kelley Grantham             |
| 17 Andy & Lori Meadows           |                                     |

## Sympathy to the families of...

- |                                |                      |
|--------------------------------|----------------------|
| Hogan, Joseph Daniel (70)      | died July 15, 2018   |
| Scrushy, Sr., Jack Mansel (84) | died August 3, 2018  |
| Rich, David (69)               | died August 4, 2018  |
| Hughes, Sr., David C. (82)     | died August 6, 2018  |
| Money, Roy Isaac (77)          | died August 6, 2018  |
| Wallace, Nettie Mae (95)       | died August 7, 2018  |
| Capell, III, John Lowery       | died August 8, 2018  |
| Golden, Harold Edison (87)     | died August 11, 2018 |
| Bowden, Love Jeanette Daniel   | died August 12, 2018 |
| Jinright, Laura (86)           | died August 14, 2018 |
| Barrs, James D. (87)           | died August 14, 2018 |
| Beale, Elizabeth (Betsy)       | died August 16, 2018 |
| Speed, Betty Russell (86)      | died August 20, 2018 |
| Lemon, Carol Ann Roy (74)      | died August 27, 2018 |

## 18th Annual Ada Pasture Party Held August 11, 2018



**HOSTS; Carl Boyd, Earl Russell and Weldon Payne**



**Lanell Crowe celebrated her 90th birthday**

*...on August 4, 2018 in the fellowship hall of Ramer United Methodist Church. The Tea was hosted by her family.*

*Seated: Faye Boyd and Lanell Back row: Gary Crowe, Sandra Herrington, Barbara Strickland and Fred Crowe.*



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# TODAY'S WOMAN

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



## *Years and Laughter:*

### *We Build Houses Like We Will Be Here Forever*

*By Amanda Walker*

We build houses like we will be here forever, but it is all very temporary. “Fleeting,” I think is what the Bible says, “The twinkling of an eye.” We are given, on average – if we are lucky – about 78 years. This average of course is not always accurate. You can’t depend on it. It is more unpredictable than Alabama weather or hormonal women.

Nobody gets promised any tomorrows. There will come a day for each of us when there will be no next week.

It is all a balance between the uncertainty of time and the certainty of death. So regardless of age, we only have a few good summers left. We only get so many Friday nights and Sunday mornings. I suggest we enjoy them. Learn to enjoy typical Tuesdays too. Seize the day. Make the call, take the chance, pursue your passions, ask the questions and make the first move.

Simplify life enough to live it. Book the trip. Wear the snow boots or the bikini and post the picture. Not the popular manicured toes overlooking the Gulf of Mexico, but you...full-on authentic you. Claim your place, fill your space, and show your face, because when you are gone, people who love you will want to see pictures, and best I can tell we get one spin through.

There is not a whole lot of time to waste wondering. Don’t sacrifice memories over insecurities. Don’t squander days with second guessing yourself. The quickest and easiest way to find out what it is you really want to do is to do whatever it is you want to do.

And don’t complicate that.

You don’t have to seek advice or call your mama to figure out what soup you want to order with lunch. You know what you like. It is not an unsolvable equation. It’s not a Rubik’s Cube. Give yourself the permission and freedom to live your life the same way. Live it your way. Don’t live it based on what you think someone else expects. Life is equal opportunity.

Be careful with regret. You don’t want regrets holding you back from being content and happy. You don’t want invasive thoughts from the past keeping you from living fully today. Come to terms with it if you can. Make amends. Apologize if you need to. Forgive if you need to. Forgive yourself if you need to.

And be kind.

More than ever, in a time when we seem to hate one another over nothing, try and just be kind when you can.

Be sweet, be nice...lend a hand. Depression and hopelessness wear a deceiving expression. Offer a smile. Hold a door. Be a friend. Listen. Notice. Encourage. We can’t control certain diseases, and a certain amount of accidents may always exist. We can’t stop a hurricane or hold back a flood, but homicide and suicide are preventable. The smallest acts of kindness can completely change the course of someone’s day and mindset.

Make the most of every moment.

And make every moment count.

Because we only build houses like we will be here forever.



*Trisston Wright Burrows  
Ms.Wheelchair Americal  
Alabama 2005*

## *Trisston’s Tidbits...*

### *“Rest & Wait”*

*By: Trisston Wright Burrows  
[www.trisstonwrightburrows.com](http://www.trisstonwrightburrows.com)*

God has put dreams and desires in your heart.. things that you are hoping for, praying about, and believing in.

**Habakkuk 2:3** says, *“The vision is for an appointed time. Though it tarry, wait earnestly for it, for it will surely come.”*

When you have a dream from God in your heart, you don’t have to struggle and try to force it to happen. You don’t have to be worried or frustrated....wondering if it will ever come to pass. When you have God’s promises deep in your heart, you will enter in to a place of total trust. A place where you know beyond a shadow of doubt that God is going to see you through. It is a place of faith... knowing that God is in complete control. And, at exactly the right time, He will bring your dream to pass!

So, choose to trust and rest in our Heavenly Father and wait for His plans to come to pass. May God lead, guide, direct, and protect you every step of the way.

**Happy Labor Day & Many Blessings!**

## 2018 Meeting Schedule



### Breast Cancer Support Group Meetings

**Tuesday, September 11th**  
**How My Life's Purpose Changed**  
*Presented by Nadean Upshaw, Breast Cancer Survivor*

**CONTACT US! (334) 220-4599**  
[womenofhope@charter.net](mailto:womenofhope@charter.net) • [www.thewomenofhope.org](http://www.thewomenofhope.org)



**Judge  
Peggy Givhan**

## *Southern Gardening Potpourri for September by Peggy Givhan*

Where has the summer gone. Seem like it was just yesterday that we were getting ready for Memorial Day, flying flags, putting up red, white and blue bunting and watching parades on television. Now it is Labor Day with the summer days winding down to fall. I will have to note that this summer is the wettest one in recent history. Surely the drought is over, and our ground water filled to the brim.

Garden chores are not as intense this time of year as in the early spring, especially if you have kept up with some weeding all along. If the perennials are still blooming, such as salvia, plumbago, begonias, geraniums, cannas lilies, we can prune these back for a new flush of bloom until a freeze. If these perennials have turned brown, then just cut them back to the ground and you can plant other flowers around them. Later in the fall the geraniums, any tropicals and begonias can be potted and brought indoors during winter. These will be bigger plants when replanted in the garden setting in the spring. Besides weeding, this is a good time to fertilize which will give new life to the flowers. The end of this month is a great time to sow old fashioned poppy seeds on to the bare ground in the flower beds. I usually clear an area and show its placement on a plan so I won't forget why I have these vacant spots in the beds. Then you just sow the seed on to the bare ground which has been mixed with sand at a ratio of 1/4 teaspoon to a quart of sand. Otherwise, with normal germination, you will be forever thinning the seedlings and telling yourself you will never just cast the seed out without these sand ratios. Been there done that. Another chore tor September is to mulch any plant either in pots or in the ground to winter over outside. Plumbago will take a good amount of cold in the ground with mulch, and for that matter, the Dragon Wing begonias not potted up bu,t mulched heavily with leave or pine straw, came back most of the time.

Shrubs and trees do well planted this time of year. When digging the hole, made sure it is at least a fourth to one half larger than the root ball. After planting, tamp the ground really good to take out any air pockets near the roots. Water this tree or shrub well and wait another week to lightly fertilizer. With the cooler days and nights, blueberries, raspberries, and all fruit bearing trees especially do well planted now. Beauty berry shrub with bright fuchsia berries which bare in the fall and winter is a great way to feed the birds in the winter. Asian lilies such as the 'star gazer' variety, must be planted now until 1st of November. When you go through nurseries and garden centers, search for petunias, dianthus, pansies, and any perennial so you can get a head start for colorful beds in the winter and spring.

### PLANT OF THE MONTH--*Kerria japonic*

If you can find this shrub buy it, plant it, and enjoy if for years to come. It was introduced to America in the early 1800's and was termed back then, "the yellow rose of Texas", but not a typical rose at all. However it falls into the rose family. It is an arching shrub which sometimes gets to heights of 10 feet with light green serrated leaves which stay green all year long. To have survived through two hundred years, they are mainly pest resistant. Kerria has solitary

buttery yellow blossoms one to two inches across. It thrives in full sun to light shade, and will even grow under trees where many plants do not withstand the root competition. One nice fact is that this shrub is not invasive, and that the suckers appearing around the base of the plant can be transplanted. I have seen a hedge of Kerria banked against a black privacy fence which was in full bloom one bright February day and it look spectacular. There are many varieties, so be on the look out for: ' Pleniflora' which is the most common form and has large double blooms; 'Kin Kan' has a single blossom with yellow striped stems; 'Alisa' and 'Albiflora" have all white flowers. Incidentally, I have used the greenery and the blooms in flower arrangements with great success.

**HAPPY LABOR DAY AND GOOD GARDENING.**



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*4344 Carmichael Road, Suite 100*  
*Montgomery, Alabama 36116*



## MEDICARE, EXPLAINED

Social Security and Medicare have a few things in common. Both programs help safeguard millions of Americans as well as improve the quality of life for our family and friends. Although both programs are household names, many people may not be familiar with the details of Medicare.

Medicare is our country’s health insurance program for people age 65 or older. The program helps with the cost of health care, but it doesn’t cover all medical expenses or the cost of most long-term care. You have choices for how you get Medicare coverage. If you choose to have original Medicare coverage, you can buy a Medicare supplement policy (called Medigap) from a private insurance company to cover some of the costs that Medicare does not.

### Medicare has four parts:

- ❖ Medicare Part A (hospital insurance) helps pay for inpatient care in a hospital or skilled nursing facility (following a hospital stay). Part A also pays for some home health care and hospice care.
- ❖ Medicare Part B (medical insurance) helps pay for services from doctors and other health care providers, outpatient care, home health care, durable medical equipment, and some preventive services.
- ❖ Medicare Part C (Medicare Advantage) includes all benefits and services covered under Part A and Part B. Some plans include Medicare prescription drug coverage (Medicare Part D) and other extra benefits and services.
- ❖ Medicare Part D (Medicare prescription drug coverage) helps cover the cost

of prescription drugs. Some people with limited resources and income may also be able to get Extra Help with the costs—monthly premiums, annual deductibles, and prescription co-payments—related to a Medicare prescription drug plan. The Extra Help is estimated to be worth about \$4,900 per year. You must meet the resources and income requirement.



Medicare’s different parts are further explained in our publication at [www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/EN-05-10043.pdf](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/EN-05-10043.pdf).

If you can’t afford to pay your Medicare premiums and other medical costs, you may be able to get help from your state. States offer programs for people eligible for or entitled to Medicare who have low income. Some programs may pay for Medicare premiums and some pay Medicare deductibles and coinsurance. To qualify, you must have Medicare Part A and have limited income and resources.

You can learn more about Medicare, including how to apply for Medicare and get a replacement Medicare card, at [www.socialsecurity.gov/benefits/medicare](http://www.socialsecurity.gov/benefits/medicare).

## Have a Blessed and Wonderful Labor Day!

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*Glenda Gassett-Terrill, Michele Gassett  
Henderson, Felecia Gassett Shuckley,  
Eddie Taylor, Mike Colquitt, Dan Shuckley  
and Alex Shuckley.*

.....

# Life IS NOT

**ABOUT WAITING FOR  
THE STORM TO PASS  
BUT LEARNING TO  
DANCE IN THE RAIN**

.....




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## Humane Society of Elmore County

**Website:** [www.elmorehumane.org](http://www.elmorehumane.org)

### Pet of the Week – Miss Pink

Miss Pink is a just too cute, five-month old female mix pup, only about 20 lbs now so should be in the 35 lb range when fully grown – perfect size for most any family. She is a very playful, sweet and loving pup, good with dogs and cats and loves children.



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

To meet all the great pets at our shelter come to 255 Central Plank Road, Wetumpka, AL, 36092, go to our website at [www.elmorehumane.org](http://www.elmorehumane.org) for more information, email us at [hselco@bell-south.net](mailto:hselco@bell-south.net) or give us a call at 334-567-3377.



**We are open for adoptions  
Monday – Friday 10-5 & Saturday 9-3.**