



**Thursday
Oct. 26th**

Open House Celebrating the 24th Anniversary of *The Alabama Gazette*

**11:00 am
~ 1 pm**

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Montgomery, Autauga, Elmore, Crenshaw, Tallapoosa, Pike and Surrounding Counties



Thursday, October 26th

~ Make Plans to Join Us ~

We look forward to seeing you October 26th!

12 E. Jefferson Street • Montgomery, AL

Come & Celebrate with us! Join the festivities!



Refreshments

11:00 am - 1:00 pm

THE WALL



The Replica of the Vietnam Wall traveled through Montgomery September 6, 2023 with a stopover at the intersection of U.S. Highway 80 and U.S. Highway 31 in the parking lot of the Winn Dixie grocery store. Representatives from Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 607 dressed in their Vietnam veterans' hats, veterans on motorcycles and representatives of the Central-East AL Chapter of the American Red Cross lined up behind escorts from the Montgomery County Sheriff's Department and the Montgomery Police Department who led the procession as it traveled along the Eastern Boulevard to the Troy Highway. Many accompanied the special truck labeled "The Wall" to its destination for display of the Replica as the Escort added vehicles along the way and even had a fire truck with the large American Flag hanging from the ladder as it passed through Troy.

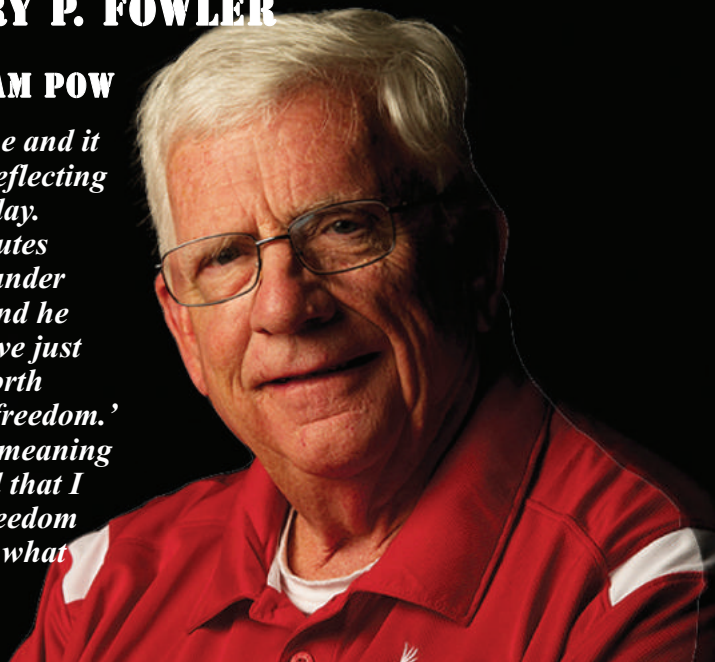
The convoy stopped briefly in Ozark to pick up a Huey Helicopter from the Friends of Army Aviation in Ozark to fly "Cover" for the procession as it travelled the last 30 miles of the 111 mile Escort and finished at the Festival Fairgrounds at Dothan, AL, where it was displayed for five days. The driver of the truck for The Wall, Jim Gilliland, a veteran from Texas who served 28 years in the U.S. Army including Desert Storm, has been driving the Replica's truck for three years throughout the nation. Gilliland states, *"I like to travel and to support and honor the Vietnam War veterans."*

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COLONEL HENRY P. FOWLER

FORMER VIETNAM POW

"We boarded the airplane and it took off," said Fowler, reflecting on the flight home that day. "Approximately 30 minutes later, the aircraft commander came on the intercom, and he said, 'Gentleman, we have just crossed the shores of North Vietnam ... welcome to freedom.' Freedom took on a new meaning to me, because I realized that I just didn't know what freedom meant, but I understood what freedom meant."



Lee Greenwood...



Performing Thursday, November 9th as part of his American Spirit Tour to honor our men and women in uniform just in time for Veterans Day. Greenwood will take the stage at 7:30pm at MPAC sharing his music and stories to celebrate the 40th anniversary of *God Bless the USA*.

When Lee Greenwood was asked about Alabama, he stated, *"I have traveled this country and I always love coming to Alabama. The people love America and love our Veterans. Everyone makes you feel at home and when you go out on stage you know you have fans that have truly supported you all these years in the audience. I have played Montgomery many times and, in my song, 'Dixie Road' when it says, 'She's Back There In Montgomery' the crowd loves it."*

This is truly a time for me to say "Thank You" for 40 great years to my fans!"

Friend of Lee Greenwood and Veterans Advocate, Perry O. Hooper Jr, made the following statement, *"My wife, Judy, My Family and Alabama are excited to have Lee Greenwood perform in concert in downtown Montgomery. Lee is truly a Great American Patriot and we love him! I can listen to him sing God Bless the USA a million times. Alabama is in for an amazing night!"*

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October

2023

**Contributing
Writers**

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Advertisers that made this
Anniversary Issue special!**

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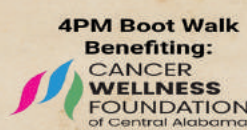
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INSIDE THE STATEHOUSE With Steve Flowers

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

It's Official – Alabama will have New Congressional Districts.



It's official and final, Alabama will elect our seven member congressional delegation under new lines next year. The federal court has spoken. The special master drawing the lines has acted and the final omnipotent power, the U.S. Supreme Court, has concurred and confirmed the decision. It is over.

The result that the plaintiffs desired has been decreed by the courts. There will be a new second majority Black Congressional district. This accomplishment has been sought for decades.

Now the question becomes, can the Democrats succeed in electing a Black Democrat to this new opportunity district. It is not a slam dunk. The new district is 50% Black and 50% White. It favors a Montgomery candidate. The bulk of the population and the geographic center of the new district is Montgomery county. Montgomerians are like the rest of the state, they adhere to the well-known predilection known as "friends and neighbors" politics. That means they prefer to vote for someone from their neck of the words, especially their county.

My early prediction is that Montgomery mayor, Steven Reed, will be the Democratic nominee and will be the favorite to win the new Seat.

The special master that drew the new lines attached an index to his maps that revealed that if there were a congressional race within this new district that this district would have voted for the Democrat in 15 out of 17 of the last 17 elections. Therefore, the court's desire to make a second minority Democratic district where a Democrat has a good opportunity to win has been accomplished.

The entire basis of this high profile federal case has been centered around the fact that Alabama has one Black Democratic Congressperson, Terri Sewell, and six White Republicans. One Black Democrat constitutes 14% of the state's population. The plaintiff's argument that the state's Black population is 27%. Therefore, there should be two Black Democratic congressional seats in the Heart of Dixie. The courts bought that argument and hung their hat on the 1965 Voting Rights Act and having one seat rather than two violates and dilutes Black voters in Alabama's voting rights.

The question now becomes, what are the down home political implications and results of these court mandated new congressional lines. All of you who live in middle and north Alabama, which is most of you, are unaffected. The majority of the people in Alabama, who live in Birmingham north are not affected. In fact, everyone north of Montgomery is unaffected. All of the commotion and

redrawing has occurred in Montgomery, the Black Belt, the Wiregrass, and Mobile.

Our three powerful Republican congressmen are left with basically their same districts. Republicans Robert Aderholt, Mike Rogers and Gary Palmer, who are our centers of power in the House, have their same if not enhanced GOP districts. Huntsville's freshman congressman, Dale Strong's district is unchanged.

Congresswoman Terri Sewell's Democratic district has been favored in the drawings. She has a perfectly drawn district that pretty much mirrors her current Birmingham based seat. She will probably be spared a Republican challenge. However, State Senator Bobby Singleton, who hails from the Black Belt, may challenge her in a Democratic primary out of spite. He wanted a district that favored him but lost to Sewell in the legislative battles over the drawing of the new Black district.

The real rubber meets the road within the Republican ranks in the Wiregrass, and Mobile and Baldwin counties. The five Wiregrass counties of Covington, Dale, Geneva, Houston, and Coffee are sent to Baldwin and Mobile. Therefore, new Congressmen Jerry Carl from Mobile and Barry Moore from Enterprise/Coffee are in the same district. Moore is the odd man out in this dilemma. The majority of votes in this new district are in Baldwin and Mobile counties. Carl will be the prohibitive favorite against Moore, or any other Republican. It will be a very conservative Republican district. Therefore, six of our seven seats will be in safe reelection journeys for our incumbent congressmen. Jerry Carl in the first, Mike Rogers in the third, Robert Aderholt in the fourth, Dale Strong in the fifth, Gary Palmer in the sixth, and Terri Sewell in the seventh are very safe bets for reelection in 2024. Therefore, all of the turmoil and court intervention only affects one area of the state.

All the brouhaha and action will be in the newly drawn second district. It is Montgomery Democratic Mayor Steven Reed's race to lose. He will be the favorite to win and change Alabama's delegation in Washington from six Republicans and one Democrat to five Republicans and two Democrats. However, I would handicap that race as a 50/50 toss-up. There will be a lot of Republican dollars from Washington showered upon the Republican nominee. It will be interesting.

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

DEMOCRATS INDICTMENT PLAN HAS MADE TRUMP GOP NOMINEE AND MAYBE NEXT PRESIDENT

In early April, I wrote that "Democrats give Trump a lifeline." It was at that time that a Democratic district attorney in an overwhelmingly Democratic New York venue had indicted Trump in a political ploy to disarm in some way, politically.

There is an old saying that you can indict a potato or a ham sandwich. The legal threshold for getting a grand jury to offer a writ of indictment only requires that there is a scintilla of evidence that there may be a crime or misdemeanor. Therefore, a prosecutor can orchestrate an indictment.

It looks like the Democrats plan is to replay the 2020 election in the courts, which is destroying Americans' trust in their judicial system. They are making the courts a theatrical comedy political show. It used to be off limits to use the courts to indict a person for political reasons. Make no mistake about it, all of these trumped up indictments are just that, orchestrated political ploys.

The Democrats have politically used the judicial system to indict Donald Trump

– unbelievably four times in four different Democratic venues with Democratic judges and Democratic juries. The last two plays are in slam dunk Democratic clubhouses. The third indictment is in Washington D.C., which is 96% Democratic. The fourth is in Fulton County, Atlanta, Georgia, which is 80% Democratic.

There will never be a conviction upheld by a superior unbiased appeals court. It would also take six years of appeals to get resolved and by that time Trump and Biden might not be here and if they are here, may not know they are here. The 2024 race will long be over and forgotten. These political indictments are designed and orchestrated to derail Trump in 2024.

Make no mistake about it, these charades are politically motivated but not for the reason you think. Most would assume that the Democrats wanted to bloody Trump in order to beat him in the General Election next November against Biden. Not so, they want him to be the Republican nominee because he will be easy to beat, and they know that. This courtroom ploy is playing out with the Republican base with such anger and outrage that it is making Trump a martyr.

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Ronald A. Holtsford

WHY DO EMPLOYERS SEEM TO FAVOR A 401(K)/ 403(B) OVER THE OLDER PENSION PLANS?

In 1978, Congress passed a new tax code which included a new provision in the Internal Revenue Code, being **section 401(k)**. The **401(k)** provision is used by employers in the private for-profit sector. The **403(b)** provisions are very similar but used by non-profits. Since the 1980's the **401(k)** and **403(b)** section retirement plans have become generally

favored over pension plans. Pension plans were entirely driven by the employer. Pension plans make the employer consider the length of service of the employee, the highest salary and the potential number of years that the employee may have in retirement.

One of my grandfathers, due to an single blinding eye disease in his youth could not serve in the armed forces during World War II. He eventually became a vice-President in an insulation firm that insulated many of the ships manufactured during World War II. He and my grandmother lived a good life as they went into retirement. While the occurrence was when I was a teen, I was told by my parents that the insulation firm went bankrupt when my grandfather was in his seventies and I was told that my grandfather lost his pension. He panicked because he lost one of the three parts of his retirement and I recall that he was applying to work at a gas station pumping gas. The **401(k)** places the individual in a position to take on the risk and to contribute most of the retirement funds. Generally, the worker can contribute pre-tax at a time when their taxes are highest to a standard plan and if desired they can contribute post tax to a Roth plan. The worker may have the flexibility to have their individual plan managed by the investment company based on their risk tolerance and age or to even manage their investments themselves which requires time and educating oneself on best investments.

While a smaller risk is placed on the employer for a sponsored plan, it is not entirely without legal exposure. I do not include securities and investments representation in my law practice, but I have been able to learn some about the process of an employer sponsored plan. Hiring an investment firm that will meet the retirement goals and flexibility is one part to consider. Additionally, employers should also hire professionals to work with their oversight committee to consider the plan direction with less chance of the employer being negligent in their fiduciary duty.

Another part are the investment goals. Two goals have arisen in recent years; whether following indices of performance or industrials or a newer goal found principally among a few of the investment firms are funds that invest in com-

panies that promote **ESG** (environmental, social and governance) consciousness. While investing in **ESG** promoting companies may give some investors a feel good about social consciousness, when intertwined with index funds there may be a conflict of interest and can result in misrepresentation by investment firms. Some of my recent reads have included comparison of **ESG** funds versus funds not committed to **ESG** values, showing the **ESG** funds being out performed. The reader should not take to heart this generalization in **ESG** investing and must do their own research or consider the research of professionals.

After the discussion about pensions and **401(k)/ 403(b)** comparisons, one issue I wanted to bring to light is the recent lawsuit against **Bed, Bath and Beyond** by its former employees following its bankruptcy and closure of its brick and mortar stores. According to the lawsuit, it is asserted by the plaintiffs that **Bed, Bath and Beyond** knew a few years before filing bankruptcy that their business model was not working. In that context, the committee overseeing the employee **401(k)** plan should have been aware that a particular account could lose if interest rates rose. Looking forward, **Bed, Bath and Beyond** breached their fiduciary duty by not moving the at risk funds to a more stable account and should have known that in case of bankruptcy and the closing of the **401(k)** plan that otherwise avoidable losses could be incurred. The plaintiffs assert that is what happened and that their plans lost about ten percent of their value which totaled about five million dollars for all employees in the plan. The outcome of that case is yet to be determined.

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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ROBSERVATIONS...

By: Rob Tate

ENOUGH IS ENOUGH

As I write this Robservation, I must admit that I am angry. I once got some words of wisdom from a writing mentor and he told me that you should never write when you are angry. Once your words have been set loose, they can never be recalled. It is much like the spoken word. That is exactly the reason I refuse to argue with my wife. We have been married for 38 years now and I cannot tell you the last time we had an argument about anything. 30 years? Probably. When I was young and dumb no doubt. This is **NOT** to say we never disagree about something because of course we do. But argue? No. I will not. I tell young couples who ask me about marriage that there is almost nothing worth "fighting" over. Almost nothing. I am not of course talking about you bringing your boyfriend/ girlfriend home to meet your spouse or any such craziness, but the color paint in the bedroom? Dinner? What movie to watch? Please. All I am saying is that most "arguments" can be settled through mature discussion. No name calling. No breaking of things and definitely no violence.

No matter how much you try to avoid "arguing" or "fighting," there comes a time when you must. Do you remember Kenny Rogers' song, "*Coward of the County*"? No, you don't have to fight to be a man but sometimes you must fight when you are a man. How many people out there reading this column love this great country of ours? I know I do. I served in the military for 25 years. Flew my missions during Desert Storm and other operations. I love this country. Do I think it is worth fighting for? You betcha. What sickens me is that there is a large group of people in this country who do not think so.

Anybody who has been watching or reading real and relevant news stories or programs this past week is certain to be disgusted with our border situation. Every now and then I will turn on the alphabet networks to see the news they are reporting. Just yesterday, amid all the turmoil at the border, throughout the day, many of their main news stories was about Rupert Murdoch stepping down at Fox. Then they gave only a cursory snapshot of the border crises. Sometimes their coverage was more but for the most part, it was lacking. How can that be?

I will be honest. In my opinion, there is no other issue in this country more important and more critical than our borders. Nothing. Certainly not abortion, not Iran, not China, not North Korea, not the economy; nothing. Not a darn thing. Why? Without a border and with the continued influx of illegal immigrants, we will not have a country as we now know it within several years. Those other issues listed above will be null and void. The term "*dereliction of duty*" once again raises its ugly overplayed head but what else do we call what our elected officials in Washington are doing? It is maddening to watch on the news every morning. Someone once said, "*If Biden was intentionally trying to destroy this country, what would he be doing differently?*"

Can someone please tell me how we can continue

to allow 9,000 – 10,000 illegal immigrants to cross our border EVERY day? Every day people. That is where we stand today. That equates to 3.2-3.6 million people per year. Do you remember when Bill Clinton capped immigration to 675,000 per year back in 1990? And yet, so many of our worthless politicians sit on their overinflated rear ends and do nothing. They argue and chant the same empty mantra of "*comprehensive immigration reform*" while they do nothing to enforce the laws we already have in place. The insanity of their stupidity is much like telling a person who just found out they have lung cancer that they need to stop smoking and they will be enrolled in a smoking cessation class. How about you first cut the cancer out, heal the body and then embark on a longer-term preventative solution. Their call for comprehensive reform does **ABSOLUTELY NOTHING** to address the problem we face at the border today. The bleeding has to stop, **NOW!**

Many call for the removing of the term "*illegal alien*" and replacing it with the nicer terms like "*undocumented*," "*unauthorized*," "*non-citizens*," "*unlawfully present*" or "*without status*." All this while ignoring the fact that they are still in fact illegal immigrants. It is like no longer wanting to call "*pedophiles*" by this term but rather calling them "*minor attracted individuals*." You know what? They are still pedophiles. Deal with it.

So many in Washington are afraid of offending the illegals that they will go to extreme lengths to avoid the truth. But do you want some truth? The TRAC/DHS database says that since Biden has come into office, a total of 3.8 million people have crossed our border. In 2023 thus far, that number, legal and illegal is 1.8 million. The number of getaways? Those who just bolted across the border and disappear into the great beyond of America? Over 530,000. In August of this year alone, over 180,000 migrants were admitted. What about the great sanctuary city of New York? This year, the city has witnessed the arrival of 94,892 migrants. Although Mayor Adams blames Texas, only about ten percent of the migrants have been sent from Texas. The federal government is responsible for the rest. Oh yeah, on the first day of school this year in New York alone, 20,000 immigrant children went to public schools. What are the chances that most if any of these kids speak fluent English? Do you think this might put a strain on the education of American children?

I find it "*funny, not funny*" how so many blue states and cities are now crying foul. I will be honest. There was not one red state or red city that I can think of that was in favor of this stupid ideology of sanctuary status. Now that these cities and states are being overrun, they are beginning to wet their pants. It was all fun and games while the problems remained in the desert southwest. Letting Texas, Arizona and New Mexico get swamped was okay. These liberals could sit in their closeted and sheltered states and not deal with the reality of what every intelligent person knew was going to happen. Just look at how the people in Martha's Vineyard responded. After the first busload showed up, within several days they were all gone. Their attitude was clear. "*Not here!*" I was watching "*Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*" last night for the

millionth time and when Spencer Tracy is talking with Monsignor Ryan, the priest said something along the lines of, "*I love it when a long-term liberal comes face to face with their beliefs. I always believed there was a reactionary bigot in there always trying to get out.*" This is what we are seeing within these areas.

It is unbelievable the way the current administration simply ignores the truth about the borders. It was like when White House spokesperson Karine Jean-Pierre answered a question by Fox News' Peter Doocy last year. When he questioned why people who come into the country via airplane must be vaccinated, but people who just come into the country don't. Doocy asked how is that different? After a terse exchange, Pierre said, "*But that's not, it's not like somebody walks over and . . .*" Denial. Hey, just watch the news. That is exactly what is happening every single day in this country. They are walking and sometimes swimming over the border. And yet, our elected officials continue to do nothing.

I did see this morning where President Biden is predictably blaming the Republicans for the border crises. This is the man, who just like Hitler refused to see the bombed-out cities that resulted from his policies (yes, I used an accurate Hitler analogy again), Biden still refuses to visit the hardest hit and most affected cities that are being decimated by his ineptness. Sergeant Schultz of Hogan's Heroes; "*I know nothing. Nothing!*"

No, people. This great country of ours cannot support this. We can't. Our national debt is a staggering \$33 trillion and now we are expected to help millions of illegals, many who will never contribute significantly to this country. The other day, the president of Columbia said he plans on sending 1 million of his citizens to the U.S. in 2024. Just two days ago, Biden granted temporary status to 472,000 immigrants most of whom are from Venezuela. These people are coming from almost every country on the planet yet we are to believe it is strictly because of some humanitarian crises. Yes, let's destroy this country so it can become like the place they came from.

So, I ask. When will it be enough? At what point do we fight for this country? It cannot possibly end well with years of unfettered illegal immigration numbering in the millions. Terrorists coming in, criminals that their countries are more than happy to send here, people who will have to be cared for through our tax money while Americans who need help find it ever increasingly difficult to do so. Yes, we have a mess but inaction is not an action. Do nothing is never a valid strategy. Once these people are here, good luck getting them out. We may have no choice to suck up this huge mistake. I personally think we can do something about them. I heard one person ask how you can deport millions of people? I say, find a way. At a minimum, an unmistakable wall must be dropped on ALL future illegal immigrants. To do nothing is shameful and every politician who does not work toward securing our border should be hauled out of office.

No more pay, no retirement, you have disgraced your oath.

We Must Reclaim Our Global Leadership

America is falling far behind in the global arms race – specifically in the realm of hypersonic missile technology. With China and Russia making leaps and bounds, boasting speeds of Mach 10 and Mach 27 respectively, the United States finds itself in an unfamiliar, even precarious, position: playing catch-up.

To truly grasp the magnitude of the challenge we face, it's essential to understand the sheer speed of these hypersonic missiles. Mach 10 is an astounding 7,672 mph, while Mach 27 is an almost unimaginable 20,715 mph. In comparison, a U.S. cruise missile, like the Tomahawk, has a speed of about 550 mph. This means that China's DF-ZIRCON, traveling at Mach 10, is roughly 14 times faster than a Tomahawk missile. Russia's hypersonic missile, which can reach Mach 27, is a staggering 38 times faster. It's not just a matter of a few extra miles per hour, it's an entirely different league of speed. This gap isn't merely a technical discrepancy, it's a chasm that highlights the urgency of our need to innovate and advance our defense capabilities.

How has the country that, under Ronald Reagan, championed the doctrine of "*peace through strength*" found itself in such a dire state? China, as many reports indicate, has already undertaken a staggering 270 hypersonic weapons tests since 2014, mastering a technology that many consider to be the future of warfare. Their missiles like the DF-17 and DF-ZIRCON are not mere prototypes or ideas on a drawing board, they're realities that could now pierce through our defenses with unnerving speed and agility.

Russia, not to be outdone, has displayed its hypersonic prowess with the Kinzhal and Avangard. Disturbingly, they've used the Kinzhal in Ukraine, sending a clear message to the world about their military capabilities and intentions.

And where does the United States stand in this high-stakes race? Unfortunately, we're still in the development phase, with our Hypersonic Glide Body and Long-



Perry O. Hooper Jr.

Founder Let the People Speak
Founder Patriots First
Former Alabama State Representative
Alabama State Republican Executive Committee



Range Hypersonic Weapon scheduled for deployment in the mid-to-late 2020s. It's almost as if we've been caught flat-footed, unaware of the rapid technological advancements of our competitors.

This is not just about maintaining an edge or having the most advanced toys in the sandbox, this is about global security. The terrifying reality is that these hypersonic missiles can potentially deliver nuclear payloads. Their agility and speed make them nearly impossible to intercept, presenting a real and present danger of nuclear escalation in any conflict.

In our quest to be the world's policeman intervening in countless conflicts without clear endgames, no matter how noble the cause, America spreads herself very thin. While we were entangled in the quagmires of Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere, our global competitors stayed focused on the next frontier of warfare. It's an age-old lesson in strategy: While we played checkers, they were mastering 3D chess. These distractions siphoned not only our precious resources but also our attention from groundbreaking technological advancements. We took our eyes off the ball, prioritizing the battles of today without sufficiently preparing for the challenges of tomorrow. It's a misstep that has cost us dearly, and now more than ever, we need to refocus and reclaim our leadership in global defense innovation. What's especially galling is the basic research, that they built their hypersonic missiles on, is American.

Our path forward is clear and uncompromising. The U.S. must double down on its efforts, channeling resources into hypersonic missile development to ensure we remain a formidable deterrent against the growing might of China and Russia. Further, collaboration with our allies in creating defenses against these missiles is paramount. We must, as a nation, strive for nothing less than leadership in this pivotal technology. In the face of hypersonic threats, second place simply isn't good enough.



Justice Will Sellers

Remembering the Life and Legacy of Lee Kuan Yew

Imagine a country in the 20th century that in a matter of 30 years went from a per capita income of \$500 to one of \$50,000. Imagine further that the country had no natural resources and was roughly 150 times smaller than Alabama.

And what would we think about a leader who achieved such spectacular results?

Meet Lee Kuan Yew, who, had he lived, would be 100 years old this month. From 1959 to 1990 he served as prime minister of Singapore and was largely responsible bringing a third world country into the first world.

In short, he was a visionary leader who contemplated a greatness for his country that few could imagine. He refused to accept the low expectations of his peoples' capabilities and embarked on a mission of almost unachievable goals.

When Lee (in Singapore last names come before given names) accepted the mantle of political leadership, the world bequeathed to him was neither stable nor secure or certain. Singapore was a city state with a strategically located port where ships from all over the world docked, but that seemed to be its only natural asset.

Far from homogeneous, Singapore's people were ethnically diverse with a stratified community of various faiths and cultures, with little historical memory. Other than the business of trade, the country had no unifying or organizing principle for political cohesion.

But, Lee, who trained as a lawyer in Cambridge with a smattering of additional education from the London School of Economics, created a political party that focused on a peaceful transition to home rule within the British Empire. Politically, he never sought independence, but saw Singapore as part of a larger state, merged with other, smaller countries that were former colonies in his region.

Initially, this concept worked, and for at least a few years, Singapore was part of Malaysia. But, with boundaries artificially defined and few commonalities between the people, Singapore was not a great fit as part of an emerging country.

Within the combined territories that comprised Malaysia, there were many factions based on ethnic issues and fueled in many ways by competing cold war ideologies. Singapore became infected with racial strife leading to riots stirred up by Malaysian ethnic rivalries.

To stop the bloodshed, Malaysia decided to expel Singapore at which point Singapore became the first country to inadvertently achieve independence. Thus, against its will, Singapore was foisted, kicking and screaming, into nationhood.

At this time, no one was sure how a large city could maintain a separate independent state in a rough neighborhood. Were it not for Lee's leadership, Singapore could easily have become a pawn in the larger cold war or a satellite in the Chinese sphere of influence.

But Lee had a different vision. While he was devastated by Singapore's expulsion, he embraced the opportunity and created a vision for Singapore that would set in motion a prosperity unimaginable to anyone-except for Lee Kuan Yew.

Realizing the vulnerabilities of the new country, Lee sought Singapore's diplomatic recognition. He applied for entrance and was accepted into the United

Nations. Largely dependent on other countries and with no minerals or other resources, he entered into treaties with surrounding nations. He also imposed conscription to rapidly built up a defense force.

Within his government, he removed all communist elements and supported President Johnson's policies in Vietnam. Thus, within a few years of independence, Lee had placed his small city state on the world stage.

Economically, Lee realized he must create employment opportunities for his citizens. Knowing that work and a high standard of living were a key to his independent country's growth and development, he created an economic policy that provided incentives for foreign investments.

He built factories and provided job training. Critically, he embraced the British legal system, adopting the common law so that foreign investors would know with certainty their rights would be protected against any nationalization. This stability, along with a low tax base and a highly skilled, but cheap labor force, expanded Singapore's economy to new heights.

As prime minister, Lee ran a squeaky-clean government with zero tolerance for corruption. One means to prevent corruption was to pay government employees a high wage so there was no incentive to supplement a government salary with bribes.

But the economic growth came at a cost. Even while embracing a market economy to efficiently allocate resources, the people of Singapore were not given the rights Lee observed from his time in Britain. The press was not especially free as censorship was practiced to prevent criticism of government policies.

Under Lee, Singapore strictly enforced its criminal laws with public corporal punishment for littering and executing anyone found guilty of trafficking in narcotics. When questioned about the severity of these laws, Lee's supporters pointed to the cleanliness of the city and the lack of serious crime.

Even though several human rights groups objected to Singapore's human rights violations, that did not stop foreign investment in the manufacturing sector, financial services, and international trade. Businesses liked the stability of the government but were also drawn to the work ethic of the people.

When asked why Singapore experienced such dynamic growth, Lee said that the most critical factor to achieve national competitiveness is *"manpower resources,"* which he believed is exhibited in creativity, innovation, entrepreneurship and good management.

As Lee retired from government in 1990, he continued to serve in an advisory role and became a commentator about leadership, economic development, and the power of ideas.

Even after his death in 2015, his legacy as a visionary leader has grown, and his accomplishments are studied and cited as authority for creating a dynamic economy from scratch.

Remembering Lee Kwan Yew on his birthday, one quote is worth highlighting:

"A nation is great not by its size alone. It is the will, the cohesion, the stamina, the discipline of its people, and the quality of their leaders which ensure an honorable place in history"

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



John W. Giles
Former
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Chairman
Choose Life
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Seven Pillars of Conservatism

If you have read any of my previous work, we talk a lot about economic, social, moral and constitutional conservatism. This level of conservatism does not happen by accident. It takes years to develop a depth in conservatism; this is why you do not want a novice Republican running for office, they will always disappoint you. One cannot wake up one day and say Republicans are winning, decide to qualify, color in the conservative squares and off

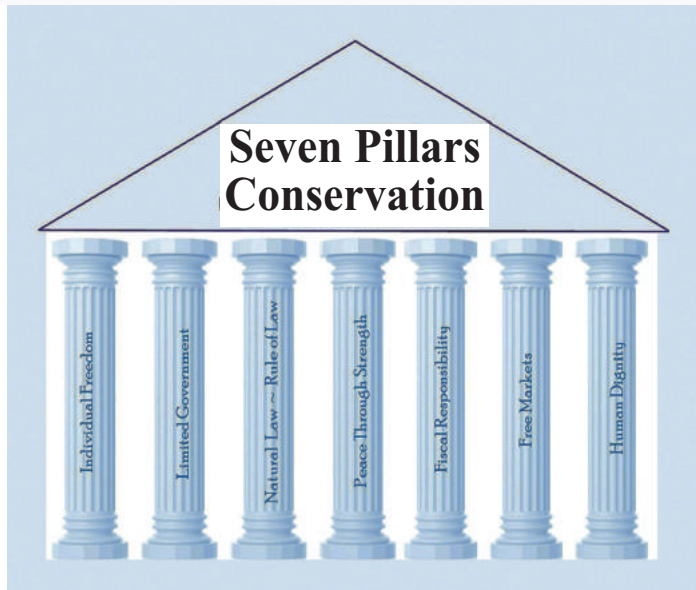
you go. Very Shallow Thinking!! Let's discuss the Seven Pillars of Conservatism.

The strength of our great nation depends on individual freedom and religious liberties. In America, one has no limitations reaching their maximum potential in life. When you blend the ingredients of vision, determination, striving for excellence and hard work, there are no altitudes unreachable. Conservative governing, at all cost protects and preserves religious liberties and individual freedom by removing all boundaries, restrictions, precludes government overreach and intrusion. We must protect individual freedom.

Another key principle of conservative governing is limited government. Our brilliant founding fathers envisioned the potential for government overreach, so they adopted the Bill of Rights. These rights were given to us by God and government was created to protect, not infringe on these rights. There is a temptation from the powerful to control the governed. Conservative governing operates under the principle that a government that governs least, governs best.

Law and Order, Natural Law and the Rule of Law are foremost in keeping a Free Society. We must have enforced laws to keep peace in Main Street America. Ideally the notion of Natural Law is that all mankind possesses an intrinsic moral behavior of being self-governed. Unfortunately, mankind is seriously flawed and the utopia of being self-governed is beyond reach. Natural Law was imbedded in the Declaration of Independence citing the Laws of Nature and Natures God. The Ten Commandments are the moral foundation and cornerstone of western civilized law. The concept of *"The Rule of Law"* and *"Natural Law"* dates back to Aristotle and Plato in Greece. Knowing that mankind can be flawed, Aristotle raised the idea; is it better to be ruled by the best leaders or have the best laws. The Fifth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution promises that no person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property without the due process of the law. This is the reason we need strict constructionist and constitutional originalism on the bench, not judicial activist who make law from the bench. Judicial activism pierces the heart and pollutes the purity of the Rule of Law. We must elect at the state level judicial purest and presidential appointments to the federal bench need screening to insure judicial prudence.

Maintaining world peace through military strength. Did you ever notice coming up in grade school that the tall, well-built boy was never being bullied? I also



noticed this same boy was never bullying others. When you have a "Military Readiness Policy," it positions your Commander and Chief with the ability to maintain world peace, because of the size and strength of the US Military forces. Conservatives are not warmongers, but we do believe in being the strongest, most well equipped with the latest technology in our armaments. World Peace through Military Strength.

Fiscal Responsibility, making one dollar do the work of three. When this article was being written, the annual income for America is about \$4 trillion. The Democrats budget on the table, proposes congress appropriating \$6 trillion beginning 10-1-2023. Our national debt right now is \$32.91 trillion. We always see Republicans running on the idea of a balanced budget, yet we have many in DC

willing to vote for a \$2 trillion deficit for 2023 - 2024, putting us \$34.91 trillion in debt. Conservative governing says, "Vote No" on this bloated budget and cut spending to reduce our national debt. The American people are starving for Fiscal Responsibility.

Free Markets and Free Enterprise is a conservative economic concept. Coming from a family business doing business internationally, we understood full well the meaning of free markets. We would ship a piece of equipment across the ocean only to be met with a large tariff on our equipment entering that country. It is wishful thinking that other countries will adopt the GOP philosophy of "Free Trade," without being forced. Trump had the right idea, hitting them hard with reciprocating tariffs forcing countries to push the reset button, bringing us back to par, and thus free trade.

Human Dignity is probably the most important pillar of conservatism. It is central to the biblical theme set forth by Jesus Christ, love thy neighbor as thyself. As conservatives, our GOP platform espouses we protect human life from conception to natural death. We oppose the abusive whims of a dictator and detest all forms of slavery. Tipping the exponential curve is the ever-explosive worldwide dark web of horrific child and human trafficking. God will judge harshly those involved in soliciting, enticing, capturing, transporting, marketing, abusing and the end users paying for these uncivilized inhumane services. Human life can not be substituted synthetically, conservatives must have the priority of preserving Human Dignity, everything else is secondary.

If you are thinking about running for office or wanting to broaden your knowledge base about conservative governing, be sure these words are etched into the mantle over your door: Individual Freedom, Limited Government, Rule of Law, Peace through Strength, Fiscal Responsibility, Free Markets and Human Dignity.

These Seven Pillars of Conservatism is not only a winning platform for elections, but a winning platform to govern. As we entered 2020, President Donald Trump was unstoppable because he daily governed employing these Seven Pillars.

God Bless and Save America!!!





John Sophocleus

The views of submitted editorials may not be the express views of The Alabama Gazette. / GazetteSophocleus@gmail.com

Appeal to Judges Manasco, Mooror & Marcus; Mapping Our Future

As expected, the three Judge panel in Birmingham rejected another disingenuous Congressional district voting map submitted by our Montgomery politburo. Much ink has spilled w.r.t. keeping 'communities of interest' intact... one manifestation of ever cascading collateral damage driven by addressing symptoms instead of repairing the problem as population continually increases. We've witnessed far too much rhetoric evoking the 14th Amendment's Equal Protection Clause and Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 instead of adherence to Constitutional [Article 1, Section 2] representation to address and resolve the problem.

I pray Judges Manasco, Mooror and Marcus give this specific [Article 1, Section 2] Constitutional design to the 'special master and cartographer' to complete their work. Start with one for 30,000 round-up districts and construct two districts to meet the guidelines for two black majority Congressional Districts. The political problem with more Constitutionally correct districts? ...decreased likelihood of reinstalling corrupt public servants like Congressperson Sewell to keep duopoly graft churning. Political gaming to protect this specific incumbent may proffer the result of no black congressperson from Alabama the first election cycle.

Imagine how many black, female and other diverse congresspersons would result if we had a Constitutionally correct result approaching 170 members (with an Alabama population of 5 million divided by 30,000) sent to DC each session where elections may again have competitive consequences. It would be interesting to determine how many of our 'magnificent seven' currently installed politburo members (under the currently rigged, hyper-gerrymandered districting) would retain their US House seat in Constitutionally correct, competitive districts instead of our current politically correct result to concentrate power in DC and protect the duopoly parties under the unconstitutional 435 limit. Some may find it difficult to retain their seat in their current address without the gerrymandered result where politicians pick their voters instead of voters picking their congressperson.

I've observed an incompetent probate judge crowing about drawing each district within a one to four person difference between the five districts he'd drawn instead of the much more difficult task of keeping neighborhoods and communities in the county intact as designed by the percentage tolerance allowed. Wouldn't it be refreshing to see someone map what our future would look like under a Constitutional (one for 30,000) districting result which indeed kept 'communities of interest' like counties and municipalities intact and then make clear why they must construct a meager seven districts out of the +/-170 design because we no longer have a representative US House under the 435 limit.

After witnessing Al Gore's failure to argue abolishing this unconstitutional result in 2000 (with big govt./modern Democrats like Clinton and Trump in the chorus to instead end the Electoral College) it is clear the duopoly wants this concentration of power. Trump's 'two-step' on the Electoral College shows it doesn't matter what jersey he's wearing at the moment like most of the Reaganesque flip-flopers ratcheting us ever more tightly down toward the leviathan result these past several score.

Little doubt why the Moscow on the Potomac wants the ever increasing concentration of power from an unrepresentative HoR. Following Article 1, Section 2 would make the US House representative again and little would make it through this body except what's representative of the people. Constitutional scholar James Hines describes it best as picture of the US designed to have THOUSANDS of pixels and growing stuck at 435 pixels and the picture getting less clear every census.

Judges Manasco, Marcus and Mooror have a wonderful opportunity to map our State and nation toward a clearer, brighter future. How they shepherd us toward a Constitutionally correct result will attenuate many other pressing problems beyond districting and hyper-gerrymandering. I further pray the federal courts will show more sagacity than when ending 49 years of wrongdoing under Roe. Sad the court didn't think to make clear Dobbs would restore the laws in place at the time of the flawed ruling for each State's legislature to revisit knowing all the pandering 'trigger laws' which evolved over half a century. Similarly, a wise undoing of the 435 limit would be to gradually return to the

Constitutionally correct result (e.g., increase 1,000 each census) until accomplishing the one for 30,000 result.

It took a century to get this far off course to witness the absurd Biden/Trump, et al results at the executive level and AOC/MTG results in Congress, it will take much time and wisdom to get back on course. SCotUS, we have a problem

Postscript: appreciated comments on Tuber-head as some dubbed our "Third Senator from Florida." Not sure my column triggered resurgence of those recognizing this potato-head hypocrisy and history, nonetheless hopeful to see more comprehending the Teletubby show. One disabled veteran (a victim of friendly-fire) wrote me of his sojourn to the Frank M. Johnson Jr Annex to speak with Senator Tuberville's office about investigating civil right and HIPAA violations experienced in Tuskegee Alabama Veterans Affairs Medical Center. Two federal police officers (seemingly unable to provide Official Bond or Public Oath of Office) appear to have impeded this disabled veteran [on camera] while seeking medical services to acquire insulin for his service-connected injuries.

Upon entering the Johnson Annex, our injured veteran proceeded to Sen. Tuberville's office [Suite 500-B] until stopped by the security desk to deny access to this U.S. Senator Office asserting those without an appointment were not allowed. An effective way to deny/impede a citizen(s) seeking redress of grievances to their elected federal officials in keeping with a tyrant's 'fatiguing into submission' Mr. Jefferson penned of when enumerating reasons to break from the 'divine' monarch.

Once through an over-zealous security check this veteran suffered more efforts toward demeaning citizens and further fatiguing. After restoring items into pockets, etc. and belt upon his pants, this undaunted veteran returned to his duty of attenuating civil right violations. Upon completing his tasks in a most authoritarian environment with employees one can only assert are acting in such a deleterious manner with the blessings of their employer (Mr. Tuberville, et al) this veteran left one of our 'flagship' [pun intended] federal court houses with clearer understanding his First Amendment civil right to redress the government for grievances as well as his fourth Amendment right to be secure in his persons, houses, papers and effects were systematically destroyed by those affirming an Oath to God to defend and uphold the Constitution.

Does Sen. Tuberville know (or care) how his staff treats citizens and veterans? This poor performance is little surprise where our uncompetitive elections have such similarly deleterious consequences to the productive citizen who pay their incomes and for the institutions which empower them. Some political parasites prefer inept Doug Jones to the incompetent replacement; the BCA prostitute replacement for Sen. Shelby will similarly accomplish wealth transfers to our political criminals (think Biden, Bush, Clinton, Trump crime families) at the expense of our decent hard-working productive citizens and veterans who've sacrificed and endure life-long injury. Some assert they 'need' Sen. Tuberville - this may be true for parasites who cannot survive without the political theft and largess sustaining them. It would be a pleasant change to see less "Teletubby" political circus and some adherence and deference to the Constitution. A lot to ask from an over-paid, under-performing football coach who couldn't state the three branches of our federal government.

A humble closing celebrating the Alabama Gazette's 24th Anniversary; I pray the Gazette sees fit to allow this poor wordsmith's contribution to their blessed endeavour. When Gazette pieces are submitted to federal court along with articles from the Wall St. Journal and Chronicle of Higher Education, it is undeniable this independent press outlet (not dependent upon revenue from governments) is making a difference. Hard to imagine any other press in Alabama having the courage to print a column like what this lowly citizen has penned above. Many thanks to all the wonderful souls who've made the Gazette what it has matured into these past 24 years... especially all the readers and those who purchased ads. As the Greeks say, "Chronia Pola!"- i.e., may God grant the Alabama Gazette many more years filled with blessings!

Continued from page 2

Steve Flowers

Democrats Indictment Plan Has Made Trump GOP Nominee and maybe next President

Indeed, as late as March, polls showed that Trump could not be elected president under any circumstances. He was probably not going to be the Republican nominee. He had dropped to 25% among Republicans with Florida Governor Ron DeSantis at 40% without DeSantis even being in the race.

After every indictment the sensationalism was met with glee by the liberal media. However, it was met by more glee by one, Donald Trump. It not only gave him a political lifeline, it essentially assured him the Republican nomination. The latest polls reveal Trump has a demanding lead in the GOP horse race. He is sitting on 54% vote to DeSantis's 15% and the rest of the dwarfs are at 5% or less.

Trump will more than likely carry Alabama, overwhelmingly in our March 5 GOP Primary. All six of our current Republican Congressmen have endorsed him as well as our Senior Senator Tommy Tuberville who by the way is probably Trump's closest and most loyal ally in the U.S. Senate. Trump was met by enthusiastic, energetic enthusiasm when he spoke to a record breaking crowd of Alabama Republicans at their summer dinner in Montgomery on August 4.

Folks, the Democratic plan to make Donald Trump the Republican nominee has

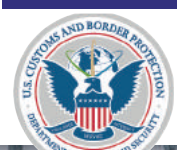
been successful. They have used Democratic courts to orchestrate his nomination. However, they may have overplayed their hand. There is such a thing as "piling on" to use a football analogy. Every time one of these indictments comes down, it makes it look more and more frivolous and political. It has become viewed by Republicans as over the top and hitting below the waist politics. They may be making some Independent voters reconsider their distaste for Donald Trump. In addition, every time one of these ploys comes down, Trump raises tons of money. The Democrats may have succeeded in making Trump the nominee they wanted. However, they may have gone too far. They may elect him President.

During Trump's visit to Montgomery when he spoke the GOP faithful following the third indictment out of Washington D.C., you could tell he was delighted with the latest pile on. He gleefully told the audience, "one more indictment and they will make me President." He may be right.

Then the fourth indictment came down, and his polls and fundraising took off again. He would like nothing better than to hold a rally outside each courtroom next year. If political prosecution is the Democrats game plan, they may have overplayed their hand.

We will see.

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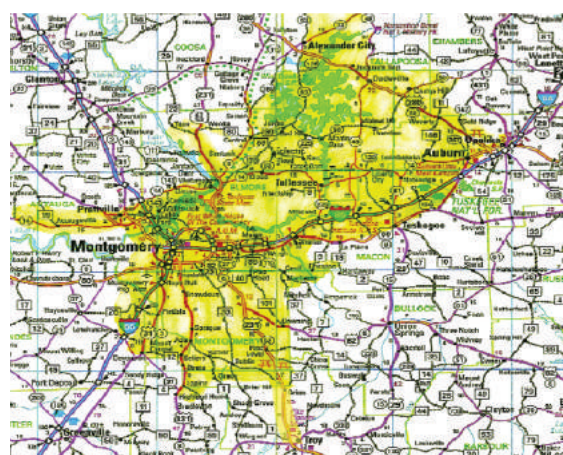


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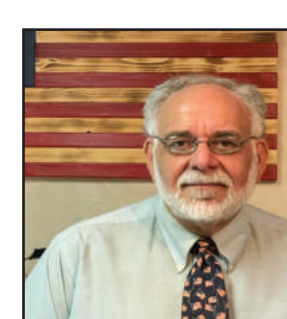
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The Alabama Gazette is proud to be located in downtown Montgomery, and we are excited to see the forward momentum of this great city!

*Thank you to all of the
Alabama Gazette Writers for
your continued contributions
over the many years to the Gazette!
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faithful writers who bring
thought-provoking and
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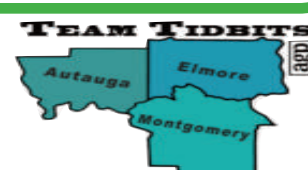
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Honoring Our Heroes



VETERAN NEWS

STATE OF ALABAMA GOVERNOR KAY IVEY SIGNS POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY PROCLAMATION

Monday, September 11th, 2023.

National POW/MIA Recognition Day was established in 1979 through a proclamation signed by President Jimmy Carter. Since then, each subsequent president has issued an annual proclamation commemorating the third Friday in September as National POW/MIA Recognition Day. A national-level ceremony is held on every National POW/MIA Recognition Day. Traditionally held at the Pentagon, it features members from each branch of military service and participation from high-ranking officials. In addition to the national-level ceremony, observances of National POW/MIA Recognition Day are held across the country on military installations, ships at sea, state capitols, schools, and veterans' facilities. No matter where they are held, these National POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremonies share the common purpose of honoring those who were held captive and returned, as well as those who remain missing.



Those present for the Proclamation Signing were:

(L-R) Brenda Carr - American Legion Auxiliary Unit 2, Robert Carr - Commander, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 96, Willie Rogers - Jr Vice Commander, Department of Alabama American Legion, Kay Ivey - Governor of the State of Alabama, Kent Davis - Commissioner, Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs (ADVA), Sissy Louise Moore - Veterans Well Being Program Manager (ADVA), Sandra Lucas - Assistant Commissioner of Outreach and Engagement (ADVA) and Wade Morrison - Executive Administrator (ADVA).

On September 15, 2023, 143 American flags were placed on the north lawn of the Alabama Department of Archives and History to remember Alabama veterans who lost their lives due to suicide during 2021-2022.

This was done because veterans have a very high rate of suicide. Operation Remember is part of the AL Department of Veterans Affairs which is passionate in bringing awareness of allowing others to get rid of the stigma to talk about it and to do something to help others.



(From left to right): Darryl Woods, Martha Poole Simmons, Sharon Mose, Candi Peagler, Brenda Carr and Robert Carr.

If you know of a Veteran who deserves to be honored, please email:

alabamagazette@gmail.com

The Alabama Gazette is so honored to pursue Honoring Our Heroes each month.



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

Call him at 334-233-8736

or visit:

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

Martha P. Simmons

The Alabama Gazette wants to honor Martha for the many years of service to our veterans.

She has spent countless hours interviewing, showing special attention, writing stories of the many great Veterans in our area that has served in so many of our American conflicts and wars.



1st SGT Sandra Lucas



CPT Jerry L. Gantt



Lt. Col Mark Barnett



American Red Cross



VETERANS STAND-DOWN

The Veterans Stand-Down was held September 13, 2023 at the Crampton Bowl Multiplex, Montgomery, AL.

Although the original Stand-Down for homeless veterans began after the Vietnam War in 1968, it continues to provide a wide range of support services at one location making them more accessible to homeless veterans.

The Central AL Veterans Health Care System of the U.S Department of Veterans Affairs sponsored the Stand Down.

Medical screenings, dental screenings, haircuts and community resources were provided to the veterans. Vendors from support organizations such as the American

Red Cross gave personal hygiene kits and information about available services.

A patriotic program included the posting of the Colors by the Sidney Lanier High School JROTC, the pledge of allegiance to the U.S. flag and the singing of the National Anthem by the veteran, FeLishia Franklin.

Amir Farooqi, Director and CEO, Central AL Health Care System, welcomed everyone.

The Keynote Address was given by Darrell L. Cakes, USAF Major (Ret.), D.M., and the Patriot Day and the National Day of Service Remembrance was led by Chaplain Tony L. Brown.

Veterans Celebrating October Birthdays

Anthony Edward Sharpton:
Oct. 5th

George Brenton Smith:
Oct. 5th

David George Simonton:
Oct. 6th

Ronald Lewis:
Oct. 9th

Jeff Holland:
Oct. 12th

Carter Dean Papke:
Oct. 12th

Raymond Russell Martin:
Oct. 15th

Carl William Edwards:
Oct. 16th

Robert Neely Scruggs
Oct.

Nancy Burtron:
Oct. 18th

John A. Eidsmoe:
Oct. 18th

Sophie Ryan:
Oct. 18th

Ronald Lewis:
Oct. 19th

Edgar Leslie Smith:
Oct. 19th

Gary Dean Mehlhoff:
Oct. 26th

Judson L. Huett:
Oct. 26th

Mary LyBrand:
Oct. 27th

Mark Dierlam:
Oct. 26th

Dale Gamble:
Oct. 27th

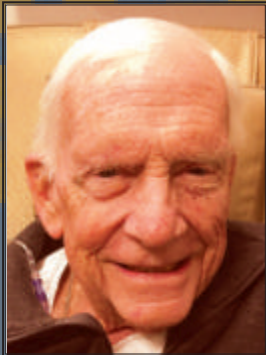
Hugh David McCracken:
Oct. 27th

Romay Catherine Davis:
Oct. 29th

Deborah Marie Chambers:
Oct. 31st



COLONEL HENRY P. FOWLER



The valiant veteran, Col Henry P. Fowler, served 26 years in the United States Air Force. As a fighter pilot during the Vietnam War, he was shot down, captured and survived six years as a POW in the infamous Hanoi Hilton. His Air Force Specialty Code (AFSC) was fighter pilot and Staff Judge Advocate. His 19 medals, decorations, ribbons and citations included: Silver Stars (two), the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star with Valor Device, Purple Hearts (two) and Air Medals (three).

He was selected as one of the outstanding young men of America in 1994, and he was chosen to be an "Eagle" by Air Command and Staff College's prestigious "Gathering of Eagles" which recognizes heroes past and present. In 2017, Maxwell Air Force Base honored him by dedicating its courtroom in his name.

Col Fowler was born at Washington., D.C. March 6, 1939 to his parents, Henry and Madeleine Fowler. He was reared at Bethesda and Chevy Chase, MD, and graduated from Bethesda-Chevy Chase High School. He enlisted and served in the U.S. Navy Reserve during 1964-1967. He graduated from George Washington University with a B. A Degree in Sociology and Psychology, and while attending college, he worked in apartment rentals and in construction.

Col Fowler's military career as an officer began when he received his commission February 10, 1965 as a distinguished graduate of the U. S. Air Force Officer Training School at Lackland Air Force Base, TX. He completed Undergraduate Training and was awarded his pilot's wings at Williams AFB, AZ, in May 1966. This was followed by Pilot Systems Operator Training and F-4 Phantom II Combat Crew Training from May to December 1966.

His first assignment was as an F-4 Pilot with the 433rd Tactical Squadron at Ubon Royal Thai Air Base, Thailand, from January 1967 until he was forced to eject over North Vietnam and was taken Prisoner of War on March 26, 1967. Col Fowler spent 2,157 days in captivity, and he was released during Operation Homecoming February 18, 1973.

POWs in Vietnam struggled to survive horrid conditions, physical pain and psychological deprivation often for years on end. Conditions were appalling. POWs were isolated often for years on end. POWs were isolated, beaten, tortured and paraded for propaganda. American POWs in North Vietnam were released in early 1973 as part of Operation Homecoming, the result of diplomatic negotiations concluding U.S. military involvement in Vietnam. On February 12, 1973, the first of 591 U.S. prisoners began to be repatriated, and return flights continued until late March. After Operation Homecoming, the U.S. still listed roughly 1,350 Americans as prisoners of war or missing in action but whose bodies were not recovered.

After his release, Col Fowler was briefly hospitalized to recover from his injuries, and then he completed C-141 Starlifter transition training before serving as a C-141 pilot with the 86th Military Airlift Squadron at Travis AFB, CA from February 1974 to October 1975.



8TH TFW F-4S IN REVETMENTS AT UBON, 1967



The 42nd Air Base Wing located at Maxwell, AFB, Montgomery AL, renamed its courtroom on Oct. 25, 2017 in honor of Col. Fowler. The "Fowler Courtroom", is located on the second floor of the 42nd ABW headquarters building.

"It is an honor I never expected," said Fowler. "I do not have the words to express my feelings on the honor of this award today. I can only say thank you for this honor."

He received an Air Force Institute of Technology assignment to complete his Juris Doctorate Law Degree from Cumberland University of Law from October 1975 to August 1978. Upon completion of his Law Degree, Col Fowler served in the Civil Law Division at Maxwell AFB, AL, from August 1978 to June 1980.

Upon completion of his Law Degree, Col Fowler served in the Civil Law Division at Maxwell AFB, AL, from August 1978 to June 1980. His next assignment was as Assistant Staff Judge Advocate at Maxwell AFB April to November 1979 and then as Chief of the Military Affairs Division at Maxwell AFB November 1979 to June 1980. Col Fowler then served as an Instructor at the Air Force Judge Advocate General's School (JAG) at Maxwell AFB June 1980 to 1983.

Col Fowler was then deployed to Ramstein AFB, Germany, to serve as Deputy Staff Judge Advocate July 1984 to July 1987. He returned for service in the U.S.A. and served as Staff Judge Advocate at Offutt AFB, NB.

Col Fowler's military career ended August 1, 1991 at Headquarters at Maxwell AFB where his final assignment was Staff Judge Advocate.

Since his military retirement, Col Fowler taught law at the Jones Law School at Faulkner University and at South University both located in Montgomery, AL.

He retired from all employment in 2023 completing exemplary military and law careers.

Col Fowler and his wife, Carol, have been married 10 years. He has two children and four grandchildren by a previous marriage. He has been a member of First Baptist Church, Eastmont Baptist Church and Vaughn Forest Baptist Church at Montgomery, AL. He enjoys reading as well as shooting his pistol at a shooting range.

Col Fowler's is quite modest about his heroic military service and survival. He states, "I am extra proud to have served my country. It was an honor to serve."

On Easter Sunday, March 26, 1967, Col Fowler and three other F-4 pilots were in pursuit of North Vietnamese aircraft at tree-top level when his aircraft was struck by surface-to-air missiles. Fowler ejected from his wounded aircraft at more than 250 miles per hour, suffering severe back injuries. He was captured 10 minutes after parachuting to the ground and taken to the Hanoi Hilton, where he remained in captivity for 2,157 days in a seven-by-nine-foot windowless cell. He was released on Feb. 18, 1973, during Operation Homecoming.



Small hall leading to even small cells in the POW prison, "Hanoi Hilton"



COLONEL FOWLERS 1ST (OF 2) SILVER STAR CITATION READS:

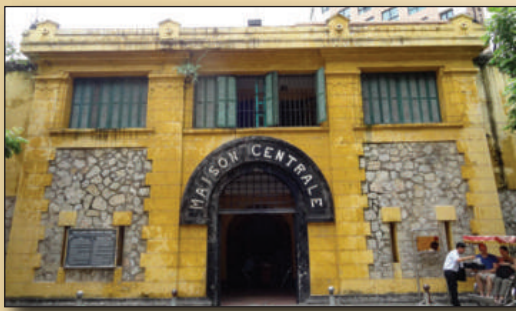
First Lieutenant Henry P. Fowler Jr. distinguished himself by gallantry in connection with military operations against an opposing armed force as an F4C Pilot in North Vietnam on 26 March 1967. On that date, Lieutenant Fowler's flight was on a day strike/combat air patrol mission against a target area with numerous defenses.

Lieutenant Fowler delivered his ordnance directly on target under withering fire from hostile forces.

After all ordnance was expended the strike was engaged by hostile aircraft. With complete disregard for his own personal safety, Lieutenant Fowler suppressed the hostile aircraft engagement subjecting himself to intense attack by numerous surface-to-air missiles.

By his gallantry and devotion to duty, Lieutenant Fowler has reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

POW Camp dubbed the "Hanoi Hilton" by American Soliders. Outside 2023. The former POW Camp now turned museum.



Bronze reliefs on statue depicting the gruesome torture techniques that were implemented during the Vietnam War at the POW Camp, now turned museum; "Hanoi Hilton"



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

COL MICHAEL VERNE CHURCH: AGE 74

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Col Michael Verne Church served 30 years in the United States Army. His Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) was Light Infantry. His medals, awards, citations, and decorations included: Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit (2nd award), Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Award (4th award), Army Commendation Medal (3rd award), Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal (2nd award), Humanitarian Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon (3rd award), Expert Infantryman Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Air Assault Badge, Ranger Tab and Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge.



Col Church was born November 3, 1948, to his parents, William Verne and Addie Church at Ft. Benning, GA, where his father was serving in the Army as part of his 30 years of Army service. He played football during high school and graduated from Ada High School at Ada, OK, in 1966. He completed one year of education on a football scholarship at Kansas State University, and then he transferred to Clemson University where he participated in Army R.O.T.C graduating as a Distinguished Military Graduate with a B.S. Degree in Economics and History in 1970.

Col Church began his military service August 8, 1970, completing the Infantry Officer Basic Course at Ft. Benning, GA, followed by three weeks of Jump School and nine weeks of Ranger School. His first assignment was at Ft. Bragg, N.C., where he served with the 82nd Airborne Division as a Platoon Leader and an S-3(air) for three years. His next assignment was at the Panama Canal Zone for three years, first at Ft. Davis serving with the 193-Infantry Brigade as a Company Executive Officer and then as a Company Commander in the 4th Battalion 10th Infantry Brigade. He then transferred and served at Ft. Sherman at the Jungle Operations Training Center.

After his overseas assignment, Col Church attended the Infantry Officers Advanced Course at Ft. Benning, GA, for six months followed by attendance at the Defense Language Institute at Presidio of Monterey, CA, where he studied German. He then attended the Foreign Area Officers Course at Ft. Bragg, N.C. He was deployed to Bonn, Germany, for one year where he traveled over western Europe as a Foreign Area officer for one year. Col Church then received a Master's Degree in International Security Affairs for western Europe and Russia from the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA, a one year program. He then attended the Armed Forces

Staff College in Norfolk, VA, for six months followed by serving with the Defense Intelligence Agency at the Pentagon for 2.5 years. He traveled to Vienna, Austria, four times annually serving as an adviser and meeting with the Mutual and Balanced Reduction of Forces in Europe talks. Next, he served as the Battalion Executive Officer and then as a Brigade Operations Officer (S3) with the 7th Infantry Division Schofield Barracks, HI, as the Commander of the 4th Battalion 22nd Infantry Regiment 2.5 years.

Returning to the mainland, COL Church attended the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, Boston, MA, on an Army War College Fellowship. He served 72 days at the Joint Readiness Training Center at Ft. Chaffee, AR, before being activated for Brigade command serving 2.5 years as the Commander of the Ranger Training Brigade at Ft. Benning, GA. Col Church was then assigned as the Deputy Commander and Chief of Staff at the Joint Operations Training Center at Ft. Polk, LA. His last assignment was Senior Regular Army Adviser of the AL National Guard retiring August 31, 2000.

Col Church and his wife, Sarah, have been married almost 52 years and they have two sons and two grandsons. They first met while still in elementary school at Ft. Benning, GA, when both of their fathers were serving in the military. He has enjoyed hunting, fishing, playing the guitar, and writing, singing, and recording country music. In 2010, he became an Anglican deacon, and in 2011, he was ordained a priest in the Anglican Church. He completed ministerial studies at St. Joseph of Arimathea Anglican Seminary in California. He has filled in as a priest at the Anglican Church of the Holy Comforter at Montevallo, AL, and at St. Andrews Anglican Church at West Point, GA. Since 2016, he has served as the rector at St. Thomas Aquinas Anglican Church at Montgomery, AL.

Col Church's conclusions about what serving in the military means to him are:

"Military service was a tradition in my family as my father served." His mother also served as a civilian employee of the Army Signal Corp during WWII. His goal throughout his Army career was to take care of soldiers. He would like to be remembered as a man of God and as a soldier's soldier.

Continued from page 1

The "Week of the Wall" started with an 111 mile Escort from the other side of Montgomery to the Peanut Festival Fairgrounds. Around 100 vehicles participated ranging from a Vietnam Era Jeep, to motorcycles, to the Alabama Football Team's 18 wheeler and to numerous decorated and flag waving cars and trucks. A smooth ride was the result of the State Troopers, Sheriff Departments over the four counties that it traveled through, half a dozen city police forces and even a fire truck with the large flag as the procession went through Troy.



A special "Thank You" to Captain Jim Ivey with the Houston County Sheriff Department who made it all work. The Wicksburg High School Band serenaded the motorcade upon the arrival at the Fairgrounds and as they started putting up the Wall. Due to the heat, the crowds were still steady. For those who came, there were many stories shared, contacts re-

newed, new friends made and many tears shed. The Wall helped many bring some type of closure to a lot of Veterans and families from the Vietnam War; therefore it definitely was worth the effort to bring it. Due to the many requests to bring it back, that option is being worked on now because this year is the 50th Anniversary Year of the end of the War. This was literally a once-in-a-lifetime special occasion.

"With the inclusion of the Revolutionary War Tent staffed by local DAR members, the Civil War Surgeon's tent with the Chief Surgeon giving demonstrations, the Vietnam Tent and vast display, the Huey Helicopter rides by the Friends of Army Aviation, and the many extra panels with information about other conflicts and special events, it was a living mini-history lesson."



TECH SERGEANT KENNETH ALLEN JACKSON

Tech Sergeant (TSgt) Kenneth Allen Jackson served four years on active duty with the United States Air Force and 20 years in the Alabama Air Force National Guard. His Air Force Specialty Code (AFSC) was Administrative Specialist. He received the following medals, decorations and awards: Air Force Good Conduct Award, Outstanding Unit Award, National Defense Service Award and Small Arms Expert Marksman Medal.



TSgt Jackson was born December 23, 1944 to his parents, James C. and Inez Jackson, at Muscadine, AL, was reared there and graduated from Cleburne County High School in 1963. After working at various jobs, he voluntarily joined the U.S. Air Force and began his active duty service September 26, 1965 and was sent to Lackland Air Force Base (AFB) at San Antonio, TX, for six weeks of Basic Training. His military service involved clerical duties.

He was sent to Luke AFB, AZ, for his entire time of active duty and was discharged January 31, 1969. Using the G.I. Bill, TSgt Jackson received at B.S. Degree in Business and Economics from Jacksonville State University in 1972. He then worked in the AL Industrial Relations Department 1973-2009 as a statistician, workman's compensation employee, as an examiner and as an ombudsman. He reenlisted for military service in the AL Air National Guard and deployed to Turkey and Korea.

TSgt Jackson and his wife, Betty T. Jackson, have been married 44 years, and they have two children. They are members of Frazer Free Methodist Church at Montgomery, AL. They have enjoyed traveling in England, Italy, Germany, Greece, Canada, Switzerland and the United States.

TSgt Jackson's conclusions about his active and reserve military service are: *"I enjoyed it. It was because of my love of country and my patriotic duty. I would like people to remember me as a Christian, patriotic and family person."*



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IN MEMORY OF: **EVERETT K. COLE**



March 7, 1949 - September 1, 2023

Lance Corporal (Ret.) Everett K. Cole left this world suddenly on Friday evening, 9/1/2023. He was 74 years old. He leaves behind his wife of 53 years, Alice Law Cole, daughters Tina Cole Campbell, Meloney (Eric) Gwin, and Helen Diboll as well as grandchildren, nieces, great nieces, nephews, uncle and cousins. He was a man who loved his family, friends and his country. He enjoyed being a Marine and loved God. A Celebration was held in his honor on October 7, 2023 at Vaughn Park Church of Christ on Vaughn Road. The celebration was as tribute not only to Everett, but to his Marine comrades who became such an important part of his life.

Taps and Reveille by Raymond Keel with Buglers of America, as well as prayers, bagpipes, songs and personal stories of commitments and friendships will last in memory forever.

“Go forth rejoicing in the knowledge that Everett is no longer in pain, is whole again and is resting in Paradise.”

Everett K. Cole was a U. S. Marine who served in combat in VietNam, stepped on a mine May 22, 1969 and immediately suffered the loss of the right leg at the ankle with multiple severe shrapnel injuries to the left lower leg, damage to the knee and severe muscle damage to the left thigh.

Heroic measures of doctors and nurses saved the left leg from amputation, at that time. The left leg was amputated above the knee in August, 2014, due to a series of infections following five failed knee replacements.

He remained steadfastly loyal to the Marine Corps and the United States. This remarkable man’s life personifies courage and determination to survive and to achieve in spite of extreme circumstances. He received the following medals and awards for his military service: **Purple Heart, Bronze Star Medal with ‘V’, Combat Action Ribbon, National Defense Service Medal, VietNam Service Medal, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry and Vietnam Campaign Medal with 60 devices.**

Everett was born March 7, 1949, in Moss Point, MS, to his parents, C.W. Cole and Helen R. Cole. He was reared in Century, FL, Cantonment, FL, and Pensacola, FL, and he attended Tate High School through the 10th grade and attended Escambia High School until March, 1967. In May, 1968, he was notified to report for a physical for the military draft and then joined the U. S. Marine Corps May 20, 1968, at age 19. He completed Marine Corps Boot Camp at Parris Island, SC, October 21, 1968, and he was sent to the Marine Corps Camp LeJeune, NC, for infantry training for eight weeks. After reporting to the Marine Corps Camp Pendleton, CA, he received two more weeks of training followed by five days in Okinawa arriving for combat in VietNam February 6, 1969.



Everett’s four months tour of duty in VietNam ended when he triggered a landmine resulting in catastrophic injuries to his legs. Everett concluded that because his injuries occurred about 10:15 a.m. instead of p.m., he was quickly medevaced by helicopter to a Naval hospital in Vietnam by 10:30 a.m. which prevented his becoming a casualty. He also credited God’s hand in saving his life. One hour before he was wounded, the lieutenant leading his unit had the patrol element practice drills to know what to do if someone might be wounded. Everett’s best friend was assigned to carry the radio for the squad, and this was his first patrol as radio man. When the explosion went off,

Everett could hear the transmission for a chopper. As it turned out, a chopper with the call sign “Lady Ace” intercepted the message and stated that he was in the air with another wounded Marine and could take a couple more Marines. This Lady Ace became Everett’s rescue angel. The records show total rescue time was 12 minutes! After triage in Vietnam, he was sent to the 106th U. S. General Army Hospital in Yokohama, Japan, for three weeks where more of his right leg was amputated followed by treatment at the Philadelphia Naval Hospital in Philadelphia, PA, for four months. Everett was then sent to the VA Hospital in Montgomery, AL, where he met his future wife, Alice, who was employed there. After one year of treatment in military and VA hospitals, he was discharged May 30, 1970. Everett was medically retired from military service and in 1974 given permanent medical disability retirement from the Marine Corps.

Everett stated, **“I have lived my life to the fullest and the best that I could. Vietnam stole my youth. I never had a chance to grow up.”** He married in 1970, and using the Chapter 31, Vocational Rehab benefits from the VA, he attended Alabama Christian College (Faulkner University) for two years receiving an Associate Degree transferring to Huntingdon College graduating with a B.A. in Secondary Education in May, 1975. Instead of teaching, Everett was offered a job with the VA, where he worked at the VA Regional Office in Montgomery reaching the level of GS-13. He helped veterans by reviewing decisions made about veterans including processing education awards for G.I. Bill requests, reviewing disability ratings and serving as an adjudicator on legal documents retiring April 4, 2004, at the end of 30 years of service.



Since retirement, Everett enjoyed playing guitar, fishing, hunting, bush hogging, cutting trails and preparing roads on his farm in rural Montgomery County, AL, traveling with his wife to visit all 50 States for which he had given his legs and being with his three daughters and eight grandchildren. He and his wife attended the Liberty Church of Christ in Hope Hull, AL. Everett served as the Commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 2205 whose members have all answered America’s call, and now as combat wounded veterans, they continue to serve America by helping active duty military, veterans, their families and those who have borne the burden of the battle.

Everett was also a Life-time member of the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) and a member of the America Legion. He was active in Veteran non-profit support organizations such as AHEROUSA, diers Freedom Outdoors, The Independence Fund, Independence Corps, and Purple Heart Cruise couraging and being encouraged



Everett and Doc TROWBRIDGE who saved his life in VietNam



Although Everett suffered traumatic injuries at age 19, he retained his loyalty to the U. S. Marine Corps saying, **“It gave me the ability to overcome saying, ‘I can’t.’ It gave me the drive to be the kind man that I should be. I believe in courage, commitment and honor. I’ve tried to live my life by that including God, family and the Corps. My wife of 49 years deserves the title of Marine as much as I do because of what she has gone through with me. I have always had a wife who listens.”**



Col. John Eidsmoe



COLUMBUS: EVANGELIST OR WAR CRIMINAL

During a recent speaking engagement in Columbus, Ohio, I asked to see the Columbus statue near City Hall.

My hosts sadly informed me that, after a protest that claimed Columbus had engaged in violence and enslaved Native Americas, in 2020 the statue had been placed in storage and will be replaced by “a work of art that better represents the people of Columbus.”

Why, we should ask, did Columbus come to America? It wasn’t to prove the world is round; every educated person in 1492 knew that. Isaiah 40:22 speaks of the “circle of the earth,” and the Hebrew word means “sphere.”

So did Columbus say to Queen Isabella, “Send me west so I can brutalize and enslave natives”?

Hardly. The voyage to the west was to reach the Orient, preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the Great Kahn, and form a Christian alliance that could stand against the Islamic powers that posed a formidable barrier between Europe and East Asia.

In his *Book of Prophecies* Columbus wrote:

“It was the Lord (I could feel His hand upon me) who put into my mind to sail to the Indies. ... There is no question that the inspiration was from the Holy Spirit, because He comforted me with rays of marvelous illumination from the Holy Scriptures...”

When Columbus first landed on October 12, 1492, he named the newfound island San Salvador (Holy Savior), he found friendly people known as the Taino or Arawaks. He wrote of them in his October 12 *Journal* entry,

“They remained so much our [friends] that it was a marvel...I believe that they would easily be made Christians, because it seemed to me that they belonged to no religion.”

Four days later, on October 16 he wrote, “I don’t recognize in them any religion, and I believe that very promptly they would turn Christians, for they are of very good understanding.”

But not all relations with Native Americans were friendly. A warlike tribe was moving northward from the southern islands, called the Caribs (Caribbean) or Canibs (cannibal). The Canibs were literally eating the Arawaks alive, and they made war on the Spaniards as well. As he and his men defended themselves and the Arawaks against the Canibs, he reluctantly decided that enslavement was the only way to subdue them. Unfortunately, those who came after Columbus did not differentiate between the Arawaks and the Caribs and

indiscriminately enslaved both. This was indefensible, but it was not what Columbus had intended. As Admiral of the Ocean Sea, Columbus was a great explorer and discoverer; as Governor of the Indies he was less effective in restraining the impulses of those who came after him.

In the Spanish conquest that followed, millions lost their lives, but mostly to disease, primarily smallpox, against which Native Americans had not built up immunities. This is tragic beyond proportion, but can moral blame be attached to it? No one at that time knew how disease was spread. Contact between the two worlds was inevitable, whether by Spaniards discovering America or Aztecs discovering Spain.

So the question remains: Should Columbus Day be celebrated or mourned?

To answer that question, we need to look at the facts, going back to the original sources such as the diaries, journals, and letters of the explorers and those who came with them. Columbus’s *Journal* and *Book of Prophecies* deserve our attention, as does *The Conquest of New Spain* by Bernal Diaz del Castillo, *One of Its Conquerors* (5 vols). I have cited these and other works extensively in my own 1992 book, *Columbus and Cortez, Conquerors for Christ*.

But we interpret facts through our world view. To a cultural relativist, the Spanish Conquest is often condemned as one culture displacing and destroying another. If there are no absolutes, if cannibalism just a matter of dietary preference, and if human sacrifice might be either good or bad depending on which end of the knife you are facing, then the Canibs should have been allowed to continue eating the Arawaks and the Aztecs should have been permitted to continue sacrificing Toltecs and those of other tribes upon the pyramid altars to their gods. (But if there are no absolutes, then what is wrong with that? The relativist world view always ends up shooting itself in the foot.)

But what if you believe absolute truth does exist, and it is found in the Bible, the Word of God? What if you believe Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of God who died for the sins of the world, and eternal salvation is found in Him and only in Him?

If you believe this, then the significance of Columbus Day must be judged based upon the millions of souls that are in heaven as a result of the way God used flawed instruments like Columbus, Cortez, and the rest of us, to bring the Good News of Jesus Christ to this western world.

Colonel Eidsmoe is Professor of Constitutional Law for the Oak Brook College of Law & Government Policy (www.obcl.edu) and Senior Counsel for the Foundation for Moral Law (www.morallaw.org). He may be reached for speaking engagements at eidsmoeja@juno.com. Those with constitutional concerns may contact the Foundation at 334/262-1245.

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Tascalusa’s Burial Ground

This month marks the 483rd anniversary of Hernando de Soto’s great battle at Mauvila, a location that so far has not been found and examined. But one thing that has been discovered is a small mound complex that yielded the graves of important natives who had fought there, possibly including the great chief, Tascalusa.

The Pine Log Creek site (1Ba462), in the Alabama-Tombigbee Confluence Basin, might have seemed to be a routine native-American burial at first, but it has turned out to be a spectacular discovery.

The site was first mentioned in 1969 by Dr Herbert H. Holmes, who commented, “A skeleton unearthed by my father and uncle on the banks of Pine Log Creek, together with the copper buttons and insignia on the casket was identified as that of a soldier of De Soto.”

The claim of a casket and “a soldier of De Soto” is utterly false. The Spaniards would have never buried their dead among Indian graves, and they would have never made caskets while traveling through a wilderness. The copper buttons and insignia were probably real, but they were not what made this place special. In 1981, an archaeology team from the University of South Alabama investigated this site and found five holes dug by pothunters. Scattered around them were human bones and large pottery sherds. The University made a “sketch map” and collected the bones and debris remaining on the surface. Later they recovered the looted artifacts from the pothunters and obtained some “general provenance data.” Unfortunately, the landowners did not allow any further excavation and study of the site.

The graves yielded 4265 shell-tempered sherds, 46 shell-tempered vessels—some whole—some partial, six copper headdress pieces, 58 stone items, 72 shell beads and pins, and “38 European artifacts, likely all 16th century Spanish.” The latter included sword fragments, a lance or pike head, a bridle and cheek plate, a mule shoe, iron spikes, and 4 faceted seven layer chevron beads.

But the really extraordinary objects were two brass Spanish religious items—a capstan-style candlestick and a holy water container—objects that the Hernando de Soto expedition had specifically documented being stolen during the battle at Mauvila. The Spaniards would have never traded or given away their personal utensils for saying Mass. These were none other than items that the Indians had pilfered from the Spaniards’ stash during the battle. They were not items from Tristan de Luna or any other Spanish expeditions.

Without any doubt, these graves were related to Mauvila. And they were not just any random burials. Considering the huge quantity of precious (to the Indians) metal objects that were buried there, the skeletons were undoubtedly very important high-ranking people—Tascalusa’s “principals,” and very likely including his son.

Tascalusa’s son had been documented as “lanced” by Soto’s men. The probability of him being buried at this site is very high. He was recorded being as tall as Tascalusa himself, but more slender. Tascalusa’s own death was never documented. Some Indians claimed he had escaped. Others said he was probably killed, but his body was never found. If Tascalusa had been killed and recovered by his warriors, he also would have been buried here.

One of the big questions that has never been answered is how big and how tall was Tascalusa? Soto’s men described him as a “giant,” but what was his actual

size? There is no realistic documentation, except one likely false claim that his feet dragged on the ground while he sat on a horse.

If Tascalusa or his son were buried here, examination of the bones could verify their true sizes. Has anybody ever bothered to examine the recovered bones to see if any came from a very large or tall individual? Have any DNA tests been done to prove or disprove any family relationships to other tribes in the area? What about relationships to today’s natives? How many of the bones have been saved, and how many were just left behind? Finally, are there any intact skeletons remaining that the looters had missed?

The site’s position is something of an enigma. It is several miles south of the likely location of Mauvila (at or near Stolls Point, next to Hals Lake). Why were these important warriors buried there? One plausibility could be that the Indians had feared the Spaniards might later return to the battle site and desecrate their graves. So they buried their important “war heroes” beyond the areas the Spaniards had ravaged and in the opposite direction of where they proceeded.

Since 1981, the Pine Log Creek site has been neglected. For a long time, the property owners have rejected studies by archaeologists. This was a very selfish decision. It was also a very foolish one; it left the site as a target for looters instead of allowing experts to save, study, and protect the contents.

What about today? The property has likely changed hands since then. Perhaps the current owners understand the precious information that can be gained from a serious study, as well as needed protection. Has anybody even bothered to contact the owners recently? If they are still refusing, WHY?

Considering the site’s great importance, an archaeological “*eminent domain*” might be proposed to study it. It would allow qualified people to dig and study the site and contents, but at the end, in all fairness, after studies and documentation have been done, recovered artifacts would be returned to the property owners.

Right now, archaeologists need to get off of their duffs and get to work. The 500th anniversary of the Battle of Mauvila is only 17 years away. Very little work has been done to search for it, and the few who have made any attempts have very wrongfully concluded that it was somewhere at or near the lower portion of the Cahaba - far beyond the documented 30 leagues from Ochuse (Pensacola, Florida), and in spite of the burned daub and other evidence that had previously been discovered by Caleb Curren just west of Choctaw Lake. And of course, the Pine Log Creek site itself proves that Mauvila was only a short distance away.

In the future, perhaps some years from now, after the site has been fully explored and all artifacts and skeletons have been extracted and secured, local natives might want to erect a monument there to honor the brave warriors who gave their lives at the Battle of Mauvila.

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Lord I ask for courage
Courage to face and
Conquer my own fears...
Courage to take me where
Others will not go...
I ask for strength
Strength of a body to protect
others and strength of spirit to
lead others...
I ask for dedication.

Dedication to my job to do it
well.
Dedication to my community,
to keep it safe...
Give me Lord, concern for
others who trust me and
Compassion for those who
need me...
and please Lord through it all
Be at my side.

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7emsBZqvohY&t=22s>**ACROSS**

- Certain Wednesday
- Carried out
- Hooter
- Schuss, e.g.
- ___ management
- Pizza
- Joke with
- Clear to all
- Move stealthily
- Aroma
- Set the level or character of
- Methods
- Fruit that provides milk
- A drink with jam and bread
- Hang on a clothesline
- Most recondite
- Story outline
- Not filled with activity
- A few
- Video store category
- Answer
- Massage
- Metal in rocks
- Badge of battle
- ...and justice for ___
- Rancid
- Make a seam
- Class competition

Down

- Sets a price
- It softens, with care
- Get behind something, say
- Quick swim
- Not domestic
- Not working
- Perform surgery
- Victory
- Give leave
- Spoken for
- Seating arrangement
- Way back when
- Spectators
- "Absolutely!"
- Convened
- Beanie
- Refined or crude
- Got over
- One sought for advice
- The "p" of m.p.h.
- Outdo
- Model Kate
- Kuwaiti or Qatari
- Stubborn beast
- Skillful
- Filch from
- Roaring Twenties, say
- Cutting tool with teeth

Answers on page 5C



Sam Adams

Loretta Grant

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COACH TOMMY TUBERVILLE
U.S. SENATOR FOR ALABAMA

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Tuberville Sponsors Legislation to Protect Alabama's Shrimp Industry

WASHINGTON, D.C – This week, U.S. Senator Tommy Tuberville (R-AL) joined Senators Bill Cassidy (R-LA), Joni Ernst (R-IA), John Boozman (R-AR), Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS), and Roger Wicker (R-MS) in introducing the Prioritizing Offensive Agricultural Disputes and Enforcement Act to protect U.S. agriculture while ensuring that the food which appears on U.S. store shelves meets U.S. health standards.

The Prioritizing Offensive Agricultural Disputes and Enforcement Act establishes a joint task force on agricultural trade enforcement led by the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The task force will proactively monitor upcoming foreign subsidies, rather than waiting to react after subsidies are in place and bring them to the attention of the World Trade Organization (WTO). Additionally, the bill will direct actions on countries that unfairly subsidize their producers and then flood the market with their products, such as India.

"Alabama's shrimp industry can out-compete anyone in the world—as long as the rules are fair," Coach Tuberville said. "But right now, the rules aren't fair, and our fisherman are suffering because of other countries who cheat at their trade obligations. We can't let that continue. This legislation would put a watchdog on agricultural trade to ensure that other countries play by the rules. That will let our fishermen thrive more than ever."

BACKGROUND:

During recent Farm Bill listening sessions throughout Alabama and the Southeast, Coach Tuberville heard the concerns of farmers and producers who are struggling in Joe Biden's economy. One of the concerns he heard was regarding Indian shrimp and rice being dumped on the U.S. market, driving down prices, and driving down income for American fishermen.

Establishing a USDA-USTR task force urges USTR to hold bad actors, like India, accountable for agricultural WTO violations and requires regular reporting to Congress and industry on those efforts.

Since 2005, the U.S. has imposed antidumping duties and conducted reviews of those duties on shrimp. These antidumping duties were placed on foreign shrimp suppliers as a result of unfair trade practices. These practices flooded the U.S. shrimp market with foreign frozen warm water shrimp, deteriorating the per-pound price from \$6.50 in 1980 to under \$1.00 today. The decline in shrimp prices has driven domestic harvesters out of business and allowed foreign entities to control this U.S. market. India is the world's top shrimp exporter, accounting for roughly 40 percent of U.S. shrimp imports, largely due to massive subsidies from the Indian government.

Alabama shrimp farmers produce approximately 200,000 to 300,000 pounds of shrimp annually. In 2020, Commercial Fishing Operations landed approximately 25.3 million pounds of wild shrimp in Alabama. In 2021, Commercial Shrimp Landings in Alabama totaled \$69.6 million in value.

As Alabama's voice on the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, Coach Tuberville is committed to supporting Alabama's farmers and producers.

Two weeks ago, Senator Tuberville introduced the Farmers' Market Expansion Act to add tree nuts, including pecans, to USDA's Seniors' Farmers' Market Nutrition Program. This would provide a new market for pecan producers and allow seniors increased access to nutritious, locally-sourced pecan products.

In July 2023, Senator Tuberville introduced two pieces of legislation—the Farm Board Act and the Mid-South Oilseed Double Cropping Study Act of 2023—to improve opportunities and representation for Alabama's agriculture community.

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

THE COMMERCIAL SHRIMP INDUSTRY IS ONE OF THE MOST VALUABLE FISHING INDUSTRIES ON THE GULF COAST.



Whether shrimp are wild caught or farm raised, success requires an understanding of shrimp biology, habitat requirements, and management approaches.

Shrimp are among approximately 8,500 species of invertebrates called decapods (10 feet) in the class Crustacea. The Alabama shrimp industry consists of wild-caught and farm-raised species, with wild caught having a far bigger harvest. The waters of Alabama contain fifteen to twenty-two species of shrimp, but only three are eaten and found in commercial quantities in the Gulf of Mexico (figure 1): brown (*Farfantepenaeus aztecus*), white (*Litopenaeus setiferus*), and pink (*Farfantepenaeus duorarum*).

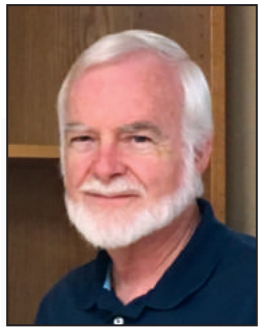
In 2021, commercial shrimp landings in Alabama totaled 10.4 million pounds (\$34.3 million) of white shrimp, 10.8 million pounds (\$27.7 million) of brown shrimp, and 2.9 million (\$7.6 million) of pink shrimp, making this a valuable industry to the coastal economy (www.fisheries.noaa.gov).

For those in Alabama's shrimp industry, many factors go into a successful harvest. Chief among them is cultivating and preserving the habitats needed by shrimp to thrive.

ALABAMA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

November 28, 2022 Posted by: Alexis Weldon, D. Allen Davis, and Luke A. Roy in Coastal Programs

Confederate Indians



John M. Taylor

Recently, the Native American Guardians Association (NAGA) lobbied the Washington Commanders football team to bring back the Redskins name. Billy Dieckman, Kiowa Tribe member and NAGA adviser, described Redskins as "a status symbol for elite warriors." (Fox News) A poll was cited showing 90% of American Indians see it as a positive term. It is also likely that some American Indians do not appreciate being canceled, such as the way Land O Lakes terminated the

"Mia" image (some Indians supported this change). Sports nicknames and brand images are generally considered honorary, not derogatory. Who do you think is behind this agenda? Could it be the group Malcom X detested? --"The White liberal is the worst enemy to America and the worst enemy to the Black man..." (Goodreads) This description could certainly encompass other groups these Jacobins want to lord over.

Despite the multiple battles between White settlers and American Indians, there was a degree of regional and cultural commonality that transcended much of the historical acrimony. This is found in the fact that the only "official" allies of the Confederate States were the Indian tribes of the South. Treaties were signed between the Confederate States and the Choctaw, Chickasaw, Cherokee, Creek, Seminole, Comanche, Caddo, and others. These tribes were promised representation in the Confederate Congress. Anti-secessionist Confederate General Albert Pike arranged many of these agreements. Pike, born in Massachusetts, left that State in 1831 and became involved with fur trapping and trading. "He settled in Arkansas and became a noted poet, author, and teacher. He bought a plantation and operated a newspaper, the Arkansas Advocate." (History) Pike developed cordial relations with the Indian population and often provided legal representation for those who had disputes with the federal government.

Although many Indians likely felt the South's quest for independence was not necessarily their fight, the enormity of the event led many to pick a side. Should they align with the Union that had rarely, if ever, honored a treaty or should they side with the Confederacy, which offered recognition of their sovereignty and pledged to respect it? The vast majority sided with the Confederacy despite the fact some Southerners had been part of the 1830-1847 federal removal. Not only had experience shown the dishonesty of the U.S. government, there were other red flags, e.g., William Seward and other Republicans encouraging the distribution of land in Indian Territory to White settlers.

Each Indian Nation provided military support for the Confederacy. Units included the following:

- **Cherokee**--the 1st Cherokee Mounted Rifles, the 1st Regiment of Cherokee Mounted Volunteers, Cherokee Special Services Battalion, and several more. **Plus, the last Confederate General to surrender was Stand Watie, a Cherokee Indian.**

- **Creek (Muscogee)**--the 1st and 2nd Regiment of Creek Volunteers and the 1st Battalion Creek Confederate Cavalry.

- **Seminole**--the 1st Regiment Seminole Mounted Volunteers and the 1st Battalion Seminole Mounted Volunteers.

- **Chickasaw**--the 1st Regiment of both Chickasaw Infantry and Cavalry, the 1st Battalion of Chickasaw Cavalry and Shecoe's Chickasaw Battalion of Mounted Volunteers.

- **Choctaw**--the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Regiments of Choctaw Mounted Rifles, Deneale's Regiment of Choctaw Warriors, and others.

- **The Northwest Frontier Command of Indian Territory**--the 1st Osage Battalion, Major George Washington's Frontier Battalion, and Major James W. Cooper's Battalion.

Although there were "Native Americans" in Union service, some Yankees did not shy from their disdain for American Indians. For example, William T. Sherman said: "The more Indians we can kill this year the fewer we will need to kill the next, because the more I see of the Indians the more convinced I become that they must either all be killed or be maintained as a species of pauper. Their attempts at civilization is ridiculous..." (Pt. Lookout) Not to be outdone, Union General Phil Sheridan proclaimed: "the only good Indian I ever saw were dead, as spoken to Tosawi of the Comanches." (Kibby) Furthermore, seemingly an early advocate of the "replacement" agenda, Sherman said: "To the petulant and persistent secessionists, why death is mercy, and the quicker he or she is disposed of the better. Until we can repopulate Georgia, it is useless to occupy it..." Is there a lower form of humanity than someone who wishes to exterminate a racial or ethnic group?

Slightly under two years into the war, Lincoln exhibited a similarly callous attitude when, on December 26, 1862, he ordered the mass execution of 303 Indians in Mankato, Minnesota, after their questionable convictions by military trials. Concerned about negative European perception, Lincoln reduced the execution number to thirty-eight.

Of course, American Indians were punished during the post-war "Reconstruction" similar to others who fought for Southern Independence.

Do not expect any of this information to show up in any educational institution. It is not part of the "government-approved script."

Sources: "Quotes from Generals William T. Sherman & Phil Sheridan," Descendants of Point Lookout POW Organization, October 27, 2008; Larry Kibby, "The Only Good Indian," Indigenous People's Literature, June 8, 2004, <http://www.indigenouspeople.net/gooddead.htm>; "Confederacy Signs Treaties with Native Americans," History.net at: <https://www.history.com/this-day-in-history/confederacy-signs-treaties-with-native-americans>; Choctaw Indians As Confederate Soldiers By Maj. S. G. Spann, Commander, Dabney H. Maury Camp, No. 1312, U.C.V., Meridian Miss., Conflicts & War, at: <https://web.archive.org/web/20071025034356/http://www.choctaw.org/history/confederate.htm>; "Native American group touts 'overwhelming' support to return Redskins name to NFL," Fox News, August 15, 2023 at: <https://www.foxnews.com/media/native-american-group-touts-overwhelming-support-return-redskins-name-to-nfl>; "Malcom X Quotes," Goodreads, at: <https://www.goodreads.com/quotes/1115124-the-white-liberal-is-the-worst-enemy-to-america-and>. Although it is difficult to ascertain exact numbers, there have been estimates that somewhere around 10,000 American Indians served the Confederacy. Many tribes also designed and carried their own Confederate flags.

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



By **Kyle D. McKinney**
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SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION (SSA) SERVICES IN MONTGOMERY

HOW SSA.GOV HELPS YOU

We're excited to announce the addition of two helpful screening tools on [SSA.gov](https://www.ssa.gov)! These tools are the Benefits Screener and the Card Replacement Screener. The Benefit Screener helps you determine your eligibility for benefits and the Card Replacement Screener helps you request a replacement Social Security card. Let's go over how you can use these tools.

Benefits Screener

You can access the Benefits Screener tool at:

<https://www.ssa.gov/prepare/check-eligibility-for-benefits>

to determine which benefits you may be eligible for, typically in 10 minutes or less! Whether you're considering retirement, disability, survivor, or other types of benefits, this tool will guide you in the right direction.

To use the screener, select the "Start" button and answer a few questions about what's going on in your life. You will immediately get a response that tells you which benefits you may be eligible for based on your answers.

Card Replacement Screener

You can access the Card Replacement Screener at: <https://www.ssa.gov/number-card/replace-card> If you need a physical Social Security card, you can use this screener to determine the best way to replace it.

Depending on your situation, you may be able to request a replacement Social Security card without visiting a local office. Select "Answer a few questions" on the Replacement Card page to get started. If you can't complete the process online and have to visit an office, you can save yourself time by starting with the online application.

Requesting a replacement Social Security card is free. In most situations, you do not need to present a physical card – just knowing your Social Security number is usually enough. But if you do need the physical card, you can use this online screener to get started.

[SSA.gov](https://www.ssa.gov) continues to be a safe and secure way to conduct your business with us online. The redesigned website—with its online tools—is the quickest, easiest, and most convenient way to begin.

Please share this information with those who need it.

MINIMIZING THE RISK OF FINANCIAL ABUSE FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH DEMENTIA

Financial crime against older Americans is a growing problem. People living with dementia are at an especially high risk of becoming victims. That's why we're committed to combatting fraud.

As their memory and other thinking skills decline, people with dementia may struggle to make financial decisions. They may not remember or report the abuse – or understand that someone is taking advantage of them. This abuse can occur anywhere – including at home or in care settings.

Victims of fraud who are 80 years and older lose an average of \$39,200 every year. Studies show that financial exploitation is the most common form of elder abuse. However, only a small fraction of these incidents are reported.

You can help protect others by learning to recognize common signs of financial exploitation and abuse, including:

- Unopened bills.
- Unusual or large purchases.
- Utilities being shut off due to unpaid bills.
- Money given to telemarketers or soliciting companies.
- Unexplained withdrawals from the person's bank account.

There are also many simple things that caregivers can do to reduce the risk of financial abuse for people with dementia and similar conditions, like Alzheimer's. Do your best to make sure they're involved in deciding which safety measures to put into place. Some options include:

- Agreeing to spending limits on credit cards.
- Signing up for the "Do Not Call" list at [DoNotCall.gov](https://www.donotcall.gov).
- Setting up auto-pay for bills instead of paying them by check.
- Signing up to receive automatic notifications for withdrawals from bank accounts or large charges to credit cards.
- Requesting electronic bank and credit card statements and watching for unusual purchases or changes in how the person typically spends money.
- Asking credit card companies to stop sending balance transfer checks and opting out of future solicitations.
- Creating a separate account where you can keep a small, agreed-upon amount of money that the person can use for recreational activities, meals with friends, etc.

To learn more about combating elder abuse, visit our blog at <https://blog.ssa.gov/world-elder-abuse-awareness-day-combating-injustice/> Please share this with those who may need it.

CELEBRATING 88 YEARS OF SOCIAL SECURITY

For 88 years, Social Security has provided income protection to millions of retirees, people with disabilities, dependents, and families that lose a wage earner. This year, we will administer more than \$1.3 trillion in benefits and payments to more than 70 million beneficiaries. In addition, we issue millions of Social Security numbers each year, maintain wage records, and more. We are proud to serve the American people every day.

To better serve you, we have prioritized our online customer experience. Our website [SSA.gov](https://www.ssa.gov) makes it easier for you to find what you need. More than 180 million people visit our website every year. Whether providing service in person or online, our goal is help you understand what you may qualify for and transition you to an application process.

We have also worked to make sure our programs, particularly Supplemental Security Income (SSI), remains accessible to the people who need it most. Last year, we launched an online tool that allows you or your representative to request an appointment to file for SSI and protect your filing date. A Social Security employee will then schedule a full interview. Find more information about SSI at <https://www.ssa.gov/ssi>

We remain committed to helping maintain the well-being and protection of the people we serve. We strive to ensure that every person who is eligible for or receives benefits gets them timely and accurately. That is how we help you secure today and tomorrow.

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SOCIAL SECURITY SERVICES FOR THE HISPANIC COMMUNITY

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

Our Spanish-language website, <https://www.ssa.gov/es>, provides information about our programs and services. You can learn how to get a Social Security card, plan for retirement, apply for benefits, and much more.

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DISABILITY: PART OF THE EQUITY EQUATION

People with disabilities play an important role in a diverse and inclusive workforce. We would like to tell you about Amy and her path to financial independence through work.

Meet Amy

Amy has a developmental disability that affects her speech, learning, and social interactions. When she was ready to find a path to financial independence through work, Amy turned to her **State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)** agency for help. Amy's VR counselor told her about **Social Security's Ticket to Work (Ticket) Program**.

The Ticket Program supports career development for people with disabilities who want to work. Adults ages 18 through 64 who receive Social Security disability benefits or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) qualify for this free and voluntary program. Through the Ticket Program, service providers offer free employment support services.

Amy had questions about how employment could affect her benefits. Her State VR counselor connected her with Full Circle Employment Solutions. **Full Circle is an Employment Network (EN)** with benefits counselors on staff who explained how working might affect her disability benefits.

Amy's benefits counselor also told her about Work Incentives. Work Incentives make it easier for adults with disabilities to enhance their job skills and gain work experience. They do so while receiving Medicaid or Medicare and Social Security benefits or SSI payments.

With a better understanding of these supports, Amy was ready to explore her employment options. She pursued an internship with **Project SEARCH**, a training program for young adults with developmental disabilities. Through **Project SEARCH**, Amy landed an internship that led to a permanent position with her local government.

Amy earned her way to financial independence and no longer receives SSI. Now, she's a union member, receives benefits through her job, and enjoys the security and stability that come with full-time employment. She's grateful for the support she received through the Ticket Program and looks forward to building the future she always hoped for.

"This job makes me feel needed and welcomed," she says. "I have learned about what motivates me and how to keep going, even when things get hard."

Learn More

To learn more about the **Ticket Program**, visit <https://choosework.ssa.gov/> where you also can see a list of service providers. Or you can **call the Ticket to Work Help Line at 1-866-968-7842 or 1-866-833-2967 (TTY), Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. ET**, and ask for a list of service providers.

You can also learn more by registering for a free, online Work Incentives Seminar Event webinar at <https://choosework.ssa.gov/wise> Or you can text **TICKET to 474747** to receive Ticket Program texts. Standard messaging rates may apply, and you can opt out at any time.

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Remember that this is the ending of summer and the starting of Fall. One of the joys of Fall is enjoying the delicious and comforting meals that are typical of the season. In the South, there are many dishes that celebrate the bounty and flavor of autumn, such as fried okra, sweet potato casserole, collard greens, apple pie, tomato pie, and pecan pie. These are some of the most popular meals in the South and they can be made with fresh, local ingredients that are harvested this time of year.

A hearty, endlessly customizable stew, traditional burgoo often contains game meat, pork, root vegetables like potatoes and cabbage, and beans. Give yourself an afternoon to let this dish simmer on the stove (or in the slow cooker) to allow the flavors to develop. Often made in large quantities, the original was said to serve Frankfort's Buffalo Trace distillery, so be ready to freeze extras or bring this main dish over to your next church function.

"It's the Kentucky version of gumbo," Landry said. "It has been made with all kinds of meats over the years but was often a communal endeavor where the bounty from the hunt was shared. Many suggest it is from the French ragout (pronounced ra-GOO), meaning stew."

Gumbo

While slimy okra gives many modern eaters the yuck, the veggie serves an essential purpose in this Louisiana stew: as a thickener. "The name gumbo comes from a West African word for okra, Ki Negombo, as okra was often used in the stew as a thickening agent. This demonstrates how African culinary practices were incorporated into the New World."

While there are two schools of thought when preparing gumbo, the well-spiced stew typically contains a protein, the Holy Trinity of vegetables (onions, bell peppers, and celery), a roux to thicken, and is served over rice.

Whether you prefer a Creole version with shellfish or a Cajun version with andouille and chicken, there's no wrong answer when it comes to gumbo. With influences and ingredients from many cultures, including African, French, Spanish, German, and Indigenous peoples, gumbo reflects the many people who made Louisiana their home.

This tuna noodle casserole is the best with a classic creamy taste from my childhood. The sauce is rich and creamy but not overwhelmingly heavy. The crunch from the topping and fresh bite from the parsley create the perfect balance. Let's not forget that this is a great budget-friendly meal to feed a crowd!



TUNA NOODLE CASSEROLE

Ingredients

- 1 (12 ounce) package egg noodles
- 2 (10.5 ounce) cans condensed cream of mushroom soup
- 2 cups shredded Cheddar cheese, divided
- 2 (5 ounce) cans tuna, drained
- 1 cup frozen green peas
- ½ (4.5 ounce) can sliced mushrooms
- ¼ cup chopped onion
- 1 cup crushed potato chips or panko

Directions

The panko gives the casserole a crunchy crust.

Step 1

Gather all ingredients. Bring a large pot of water to a boil.

Add egg noodles and 3 teaspoons salt to the boiling water; cook until tender yet firm to the bite, about 6 minutes.

Drain noodles. Return to pot and set aside.

Heat 2 tablespoons butter and 1 tablespoon oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add mushrooms and onion and cook until mushrooms are softened, and onions are translucent, about 4 minutes.

Add remaining butter; stir constantly until melted. Sprinkle flour over vegetable mixture and cook, stirring constantly, for 1 minute.

Stir in milk and stock and bring to a simmer, stirring often.

Simmer for 5 minutes. Stir in lemon juice, Dijon mustard, 1 teaspoon salt, and pepper. Add sauce mixture to reserved noodles. Stir in 1 cup Cheddar cheese, peas, and tuna. Pour mixture into the prepared baking dish and sprinkle remaining Cheddar cheese over the top.

Stir together panko, remaining 2 teaspoons oil, remaining 1/4 teaspoon salt, and paprika in a small bowl. Sprinkle bread crumb mixture evenly over the casserole. Bake in the preheated oven until golden and bubbly, 25 to 30 minutes.

Sprinkle with parsley and serve.

Chow Chow

Also known as Piccalilli and Indian Pickle, the sweet and briny relish is made of the summer's bounty of veggies, often including green tomatoes, cabbage, onions, bell peppers, and spices like mustard and celery seeds. Open a Southern Grandma's pantry, and you'll likely find a few jars of the condiment put up and ready to be served with barbecue, hot dogs, or more traditionally, soup beans.

The origin of the name likely comes from one of the main ingredients, cabbage. In Louisiana, many of our recipes come from the Acadian people from Nova Scotia who were expelled from Canada and later settled in Louisiana. While the origin of the word is debated, we believe in Louisiana that the term came from the French word for cabbage, "chou".

Unusual names are common place in Southern cooking as much as uncommon combination of ingredients. One good example of uncommon combinations of ingredients in this next cake. Tomato soup is not something that you will commonly find in a spice cake.

But it is in this cake.

Tomato Soup Spice Cake with Cream Cheese Frosting

Ingredients for cake

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 1/3 cups sugar
- 4 teaspoons baking powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 1/2 teaspoons ground allspice
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1 (10 3/4 oz) can condensed tomato soup
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter melted
- 2 eggs
- 1/4 cup water
- 1 cup raisins



CREAM CHEESE FROSTING

- 8 oz cream cheese, at room temperature
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, at room temperature
- 2 to 3 cups sifted confectioners' sugar
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon

Instructions

Preheat the oven to 350°F. Grease a 9×13-inch baking dish.

In a large bowl, whisk together the flour, sugar, baking powder, baking soda, allspice, cinnamon and cloves. Add the soup, butter, eggs, and water and, using an electric mixer, beat until smooth.

Fold in the raisins. Pour the batter into the prepared pan.

Bake the cake until a tester inserted in the center comes out clean, 30-35 minutes. Let the cake cool completely.

To make the frosting, beat the cream cheese until smooth and light. Add the butter and beat into the cream cheese. Add 2 cups of the confectioners' sugar and beat until combined. Continue to add confectioners' sugar until you have your desired consistency. Beat in the cinnamon. Spread the frosting on top of the cooled cake. Cut into slices to serve.

Hush Puppies

Deep-fried spoonfuls of a cornmeal-based batter, hush puppies are golden brown fritters often served as a side dish. Crunchy on the outside and fluffy on the inside, you'll see both sweet (made with a bit of sugar) and savory (with some grated onion) versions of this dish.

Enjoyed as a starter, sometimes for free at seafood places and barbecue joints, don't hesitate to order a few if you see them on a menu.

While we savor the snack today, a century ago, this dish might have been table scraps to keep the pups quiet. "They were the little morsels that were fed to begging pups to keep them quiet. We say that hush puppy got used because shut the #\$%@ up was too crass."

A food historian Robin Caldwell argues that the dish can be traced to Indigenous cuisine. She said, "The recipe itself is really old, and the derivations of the recipe can go back to Native people cooking balls of ground maize in Texas and Mexico."

APPLE PIE is another iconic dessert that is perfect for Fall. It is made with sliced apples that spiced with cinnamon, nutmeg and cloves and baked in a flaky pastry crust. some people like to add cheese on top.



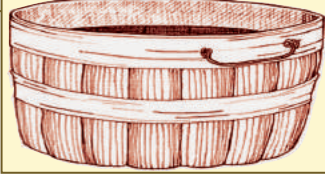
COLLARD GREENS are a staple of southern cuisine and a good source of vitamins and minerals. They are cooked slowly with bacon, onion, garlic, vinegar and sugar until tender and flavorful.



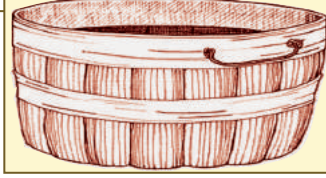
FRIED OKRA is a crispy and savory snack that can be served as a side dish or an appetizer. It is made by coating okra pods with a cornmeal batter and frying them until golden.



TOMATO PIE is a savory pie that is filled with ripe tomatoes, cheese, mayonnaise, basil, and other herbs. It has a buttery crust that can be homemade or store-bought. It is a great way to use up the last tomatoes of the season.



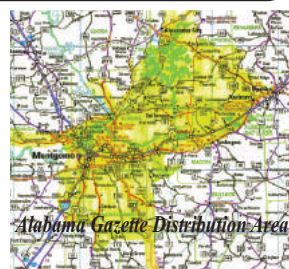
PECAN PIE is a decadent dessert that has a gooey filling of eggs, butter, sugar, corn syrup and pecans. It has a nutty and caramel-like flavor that goes well with coffee or bourbon.





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Judge
Peggy Givhan

SOUTHERN GARDENING

OCTOBER POTPOURRI



Americas before Columbus, but he was the first to initiate permanent colonization of the New World. Let's give credit where credit is due. So let's raise our flags in a salute to Christopher Columbus this month.

Besides the Lantana which I speak to later, the absolute work horses in my gardens are: dianthus, dusty miller, and Mexican heather. All are drought resistant and with some mulching, are perennials. Just before a hard freeze, cut them back, water and mulch with pine straw. Next spring, up pops the shoots from under the mulch. Amazing. All of these plants are available on the open market, Home Depot, Lowes, and other box stores. Of course, nurseries are another great source. Once these plants are established, add in the reseeding of the Pacific Giant Zinnias, and voila, the beds are practically filled with flowers. If you have bought any plants recently, the old "six packs" are hard to find. And the pots, which may have only 2 plants, are about \$4.50. Inflation has hit the flower and plant market too. What is a gardener to do? Root plants taken from cuttings in the spring, and get up flower seed now and in the spring.

Seeding the flower beds is an easy task but one has to be mindful of timing. As the Bible states, there is a time and season for all things and I might add sowing seed. If you desire poppies in the spring, one must throw out the seed now and no later than November.

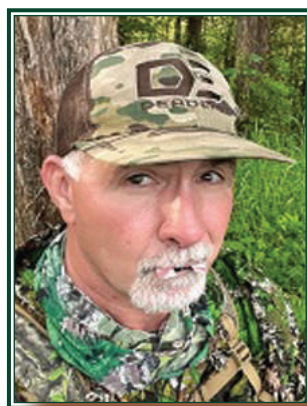
Just clear away any mulch in the area, scratch the dirt, and deposit the seed. Do not cover with mulch, and do water the area. I would place this area on a plan of the bed so you do not over plant. Zinnias, Cosmos, Cleome may be planted in late March or after any late freeze date.

PLANT OF THE MONTH- LANTANA (*lantana camara*)

I know this sounds silly, but I have always had a prejudice against lantana. However, this last year I planted a few clumps in my garden at the farm because I could not find anything better to fill in some holes in the sunniest part of the flower bed. Well after the 100 degrees endless days of this summer, my prejudice turned into admiration for this perennial. Although I do have a sprinkler system, some begonias and vinca did not get sufficient mounts of water. However, the lantana thrived, filled in and did yeoman's work in carrying the beds through the heat. Plus the butterflies were all over the bright yellow blooms. I do prefer the solid colors rather than the variegated. It is a spreading, shrubby woody stemmed plant with masses of yellow, pink, purple or orange flowers. I have found that the purple colored lantana are beautiful, they are spotty bloomers. Thankfully the plant is very low maintenance and drought resistant. I have used stems of Lantana in flower arrangements and find that they will last for days. Most times they are the last blooms to fade. Another attribute which I can tout is that the plant can easily be rooted.



GOOD GARDENING!



Gary Miller



Bow Season for Deer.

By now, just about every state has opened their bow season for deer. These weeks are always some of the most exciting times for those

of us who are anxious to get back into the tree stand after several months off. It is also the part of the season where many hunters' goal is to add meat to the freezer. The doe are fair game and it's good to get that first shot under your belt knowing that in a few more weeks the waiting may be longer as you look for that big buck.

Taking doe from the herd is also important for deer management. Since a tract of land can only hold so many deer, one needs to make sure the doe-to-buck ratio is healthy. And one way you can tell it's not, is if you see doe that have no fawns. This means they are either unable to have a fawn or they have not been bred. Either way, they are simply taking up room which could be used for a more productive doe or for a buck. The comparison to cattle farmers would be like having a cow on your farm that never has a calf. It wouldn't take long to figure out that that cow is eating grass and is not helping the farmer make money. The principle is the same and these types of doe are prime candidates for early bow season. I hope to not only put one in my freezer but also in some other folks as well.

Gary Miller has written Outdoor Truths articles for 20 years. He has also written five books which include compilations of his articles and a father/son devotional. He also speaks at wild-game dinners and men's events for churches and associations.

Perhaps more than I should, I look at my own Christian life in terms like these. I simply ask myself if I am productive or just taking up space. Am I just feeding on God's goodness and grace without ever producing something besides my spiritual fatness? Is there something to show, outside of myself, for what God has placed into my life? Am I making a positive, fruitful, and spiritual impact in the lives of others? I think all these questions are important, but I also know that, many times, they cannot be answered by me, but only by God. Only He sees the full picture and only He knows what is fully transpiring in my life right now. This means while sometimes I may feel I am not making an impact, I actually am. Or while I may think I am not going anywhere, God is actually working all around me, getting things ready for the time when He sets me down into my perfect place. So how do I know which is right? Well, one way I can know I am being all God wants me to be is by getting up each morning and simply presenting myself to Him for His will and work. After that, my responsibility is over until I receive His orders.

Today it might be I simply write an article. Tomorrow it may be that I speak to thousands – the next day to 12, or just one. But the contentment for me will be knowing I am a fruitful member of the herd and not just feasting from the field of His blessings.

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Several years ago I read about a survey that was taken of 100 people over the age of 90. They were ask this simple question: If you had your life to live all over again, what would you do different? The top three responses were:

1. I would reflect more.
2. I would risk more.
3. I would invest more in things that outlast me.

These three responses served as a catalyst to me and caused me to start thinking about the impact I wanted to make with my life. I want to live a life that outlasts me. What kind of impact do you want to make? Here are three of the most important impact questions you can ask yourself:

One.

Will I Reflect More?

The Psalmist writes: *“I will study your commands and I will reflect on your ways.” -Psalms 119:15*

And Luke tells us that *“Jesus often withdrew (alone) to the wilderness to pray.”* (Reflect, meditate) - **Luke 5:16**

And Socrates it was who observed, *“The unexamined life is not worth living.”*

Your soul is the most important thing about you. You have a body, but you are a soul. Your soul is the essence of who you are. Is your will, mind, body and spirit all rolled into one. It is the part of you that is eternal.

Therefore, we need to create soul space. Space to slow down and reflect upon and examine our lives, our pace, our motives, our hearts. We need soul detox. An intentional effort to detox from the hurry, the worry, the stress, the schedule, the constant stimulation, the technology, the demands, the kids, the work, the division, the anger.

Yes, we need to detox our souls so that we can reflect deeply on our lives and our direction.

In other words, we need to reflect more. Create margin in your day to reflect. Turn off the TV, the laptop, the cell phone. Detach from the busyness of the world for a little while each day.

My top suggestion for one way to do this if you need help and guidance....read the book *Resilient* by John Eldredge. And along with reading that book download the *One Minute Pause* app by John Eldredge. Once you have downloaded the *One Minute Pause* app start the *30 Days to Resilient* reflections each day. This will change your life. Guaranteed. Why? Because reading this book and doing the Pause app reflections each morning and evening will empower you to reflect on your life like never before.

What do you have to lose? Try it.

Two

Will I Risk More?

“Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses (risks) their life for me will save it.” - Jesus, Luke 9:23-24

When was the last time you took a risk?

Some people don't like taking risks. They are risk adverse. I get that. Some folks like to play it conservatively. But I must admit I like taking risks. I like to sail. I like to SCUBA Dive. I like to hunt. I like to do whitewater canoeing. I grew up riding motorcycles.

Maybe the better question is, when was the last time you risk anything for Christ's sake? Jesus said we must take up our crosses daily. I think that means risking daily.

What does that look like for you? Maybe it is taking a stand at work or school

Soul Searching...

Legacy, Outlive Your Life:
Part Two
The Big Three Life/
Legacy Questions



for what you believe is right. Maybe it is befriending the person that everyone else is avoiding or ostracizing. Maybe it is forgiving someone who hurt you even though they didn't ask for your forgiveness. Maybe it is loving someone else unconditionally. Maybe it is taking time to listen to someone who is hurting. Maybe it is sending an encouraging text. Maybe it is inviting them to church with you. Maybe it is asking someone, *“how can I pray for you?”*

If we want to have a greater impact, we need to risk more. Put our faith in Christ on the line and step into more risky waters with other people as we seek to have an impact for Christ!

Three

Will I Invest More?

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”

- Jesus, Matthew 6:21

“The greatest use of a life is to spend it on something that will outlast it.”
William James (The Father of American Psychology)

Who are you investing in?

What are you investing in?

Are you investing in things that will outlast and outlive you?

Arguably, Jesus had the greatest impact on the world than anyone in history. Why? Because he invested himself in the work of God, and he invested himself in other people.

We invest in what we truly love. Jesus said the two greatest commandments were to love God and love others.

Jesus loved God and invested himself in the work of God the Father. He spread the good news. He offered redemption and salvation.

“For God so love the world that He gave His only son so that whomever believed in him should not perish but have everlasting life.” - Jesus, John 3 :16

Jesus also loved the church and gave his life for her.(**Ephesians 5:25**) If Jesus loved the church and gave his life for it, shouldn't we also commit ourselves to the work of Christ through the church... Even if she is imperfect?

Jesus loved others and invested in them. He loved us and others unconditionally. *“While we were yet sinners Christ died for us,” Paul states (Romans 5:8).* Jesus also said, *“There is no greater love than for a man to lay down his life for his friends.” (John 15:13)*

Jesus invested everything in his 12 disciples and the men ad women who followed him. Invest in people the way Jesus invested in Peter, James and John. Invest in people the way Jesus invested in the woman caught in the act of adultery.

In conclusion:

What church are you investing in to advance the work of Christ right now?

Who are you investing in right now? Who are you mentoring? Anyone?

Two take always for you regarding investing:

Make a decision today that you will find a church to invest in for the work of Christ. Attend that church regularly. Volunteer to serve in that church. Invest financially in that church.

Make a decision today to identify **5** people that you are going to invest in and mentor over the next two years. Meet with them regularly. Pray for them. Listen to them. Encourage them.

I am praying that you will have a huge impact as you reflect more, risk more and invest more in things that outlive you!

Blessings

Woodland Methodist Church

Pike Road alabama, wants to congratulate their pastor
Rev. Nick Hughes on being ordained “To the order of the
Deacon” Sept. 9th, 2023. at the first Global Methodist
Church, Alabama Emerald Coast Conference. It was
held at St. James church, Pike Road, Al



From L-R. Nick, Leah, Susan, Lynn, Chuck, Paula, Mike Rhonda, Pat, Stacy and Rebecca with little Mary-Beth

He was surprised upon seeing a group of his fellow church members there to support him on this special occasion.



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Licensed Contractor & Certified Home Inspector (combined experience of 48 years). Bible Study teacher. Married forty six years. Two married daughters and five grandchildren.



Sales with Kraft Foods 25 years, Financial Counselor Troy University 14 years. Married 38 years. Father of 2 married sons & grandfather of 4 with another one on the way!



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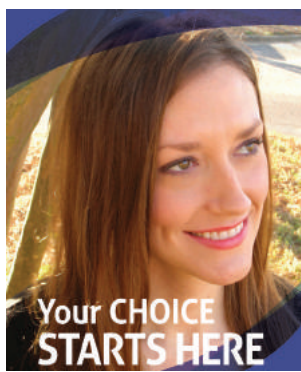


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REFLECTIONS! BY MICHAEL BROOKS

We'll Work 'Til Jesus Comes, And Then Some

Every generation has slang or shorthand spoken to members of that generation. It's been a while since anyone said, "Hey bro, that's groovy. Far out!" I'm not really sure we boomers said this anyway, though we were accused of it. But our language is constantly changing with new words and new phrases and new definitions. In the 60s we "surfed" with the Beach Boys, whereas today we "surf" on the Internet. In those days we didn't talk about RAM and megabytes and storing things "in the cloud."

I learned some new phrases lately from radio broadcaster Kim Komando. She told about "quiet quitting" which means not doing one's best on the job. According to a Gallup survey, only about one-quarter of the U.S. workforce is actively engaged in working hard every day. Hard work built our country and produced American exceptionalism, so it's sad to read these projections, if true.

The broadcaster shared another term popularized on social media: "lazy girl job." In the days of remote work, the phrase means little or no supervision, no schedule and no overtime. Ms. Komando suggested we shouldn't be upset with lazy people since "they didn't do anything!"

Scripture teaches labor is a gift from God. In the book of Genesis God said "it was good" a number of times but said "not good" a time or two as well. One "not good" was that it wasn't good for man to be alone, so he designed a mate to complement him.

But God also said it wasn't good for man to be idle. Thus, he made Adam the first gardener whose responsibility was to take care of Eden. The responsibility to work is outlined in chapter two, before chapter three when work took on added drudgery.

And scripture implies that work is eternal. Isaiah described the "new Jerusalem" including the building of houses, agriculture and the drudgery or vanity of Genesis 3 removed.

Isaiah's most well-known word about eternity is of warriors who beat swords into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks (Isaiah 59:2). Whereas the primary meaning of this prophecy is world peace, it's also true that both plowshares and pruning hooks are agricultural tools.

Scripture exhorts Christians to look beyond human supervisors and recognize that we work to please God. Twice in Colossians 3 the Apostle Paul wrote that we "serve the Lord Christ" in whatever we do; thus, we bring honor to him in our work. As Ted Key said, we strive to "autograph our work with excellence."

Being good employees means that we earn the right to tell others about the hope we have in Christ and how he motivates us with a new ethic in work and character.

"Reflections" is a weekly faith column written by Michael J. Brooks, pastor of the Siluria Baptist Church, Abolter, Alabama. The church's website is siluriabaptist.com.

Become an INFORMED CHRISTIAN

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**ALWAYS FIND THE
TRUTH!**



Halloween has become an issue among Christians !



by Russell Ki Tara (excerpts)

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

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

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

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

THE APPEARANCE OF EVIL.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Leviticus 18: 24-30).

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

IT IS DISOBEDIENCE TO GOD!

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

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



Patricia Killough



Home Town Community News

NOTICE! Please send Patricia your family and friends:
BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, WEDDINGS AND EVENTS to:
alabamagazette@gmail.com

See homegrown pumpkins at Country Side Gardens located in Rutledge Alabama. They grow all varieties!
Check their website for hours of operation.
Open for the fall season!
Owners: Christopher and Dusty Bagents



Happy Anniversary

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 3 Mr. & Mrs. Theo Katechis (44th) | 12 James & Jean Hicks (65th) |
| Tom & Mary Lion (70th) | Glenn & Susan Yost |
| 5 Jack & Kim Golson | 15 Lance & Amy Brown |
| Lance & Sylvia Smith (65th) | Travis & Nicole McGough (7th) |
| 6 Jimmy & Donna Grant | 16 George & Marilyn Evans |
| 7 Jimmy & Judy Grubbs | 19 Brett & Barbie O'Neal (21st) |
| Tracey & Britt Betts (10th) | 20 Tim & Amanda Anderson (11th) |
| 8 Eric & Casey Fleming (18th) | 21 Jimmy & Ann Hale |
| Bob & Lynda Maddox | 22 Brad & Lee Ann Williams (17th) |
| David & Xan Morrow | 27 Chuck & Janice Cole (31st) |
| 9 Ian & Caty Jane Turnipseed (14th) | Kathryn & Andrew Hilton |
| Gus & Greta Nicole Katechis (7th) | |
| 12 Mike & Lynn Davis | |

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

Mohr, Peter "Pete." Chapmon (86)	Aug. 24
Gilliam, Kimberly Marie (40)	Aug. 25
Henderson, Jewel Elizabeth (87)	Aug. 26
Cruce, Evie Colleen (89)	Aug. 27
Boland, Nancy Lynn (72)	Aug. 28
Proctor, Robert Tyson (73)	Aug. 29
Vickery, Bonnie Carol Carnathon McEnery (74)	Aug. 29
Hicks, Nancy Louise (74)	Aug. 30
Renfroe, Annie Ruth Gidley (84)	Aug. 30
Garnier, June Cox (80)	Aug. 31
Richardson, Teresa Elisabeth (62)	Aug. 31
Buffett, Jimmy (76)	Sept. 1
Cole, Everett Knight (74)	Sept. 1
Rambo, William Timothy (56)	Sept. 1
Sheppard, Jacqueline B. (92)	Sept. 1
Spear, Sarah Ann (84)	Sept. 1
Messick, John William "JW" (80)	Sept. 2
Calloway, Harry D. (91)	Sept. 3
Addison, William "Billy" Floyd (72)	Sept. 4
Hawk, Richard Alan (69)	Sept. 4
Till, Jr., John Glenn "Sonny" (81)	Sept. 4
Harris, Mark Braswell (68)	Sept. 5
Knight, III, James William "Bill" (88)	Sept. 5
Smith, Jr., James "Jimmy" Alexander (67)	Sept. 5
Vincent, James "Jimmy" Alexander (67)	Sept. 5
Wilson, Samuel Thomas (92)	Sept. 5
Gagner, Jan Romey (63)	Sept. 6
Culpepper, Woodrow Herman (85)	Sept. 8
Davis, Pearl (77)	Sept. 8
Barnard, Joseph Trenton (52)	Sept. 9
Wampold, Babette Levy (89)	Sept. 9
Weaver, Sadie Pearl Moore (85)	Sept. 9
Smith, Rickie Lamar (73)	Sept. 11
Donahue, Regina Gay (91)	Sept. 12
Wise, Joey C. (63)	Sept. 12
Shaver, Frances Holland (89)	Sept. 14
Harper, Frances Lyles (92)	Sept. 15
Egelston, Jack Elsworth (90)	Sept. 16
Miller, Sr., Dr. Samuel Lamar (73)	Sept. 16
Barom, Nellis Jeanette Weeks (82)	Sept. 17
Guier, Pearl Arnett (97)	Sept. 18
Williams, Frances Bishop (79)	Sept. 19
Wood, David Lamar (82)	Sept. 19
Payne, Kim (78)	Sept. 22
Hubbard, Breck (63)	Sept. 23

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! OCTOBER

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 David Hite (81st) | John Lithgrow |
| Karen Hollingshead | Jeff Ludwick |
| Wallis Litchfield | Nell Nesbit |
| 2 Allie Dibole | Evelyn Roger |
| Jerry Hollingshead | 21 Pam Anderson |
| Donna Karen | Ken Guthrie |
| Janice Vaughn Majors (74th) | Cheryl Horp |
| Bob Morris | Paula Huett |
| 3 Ladon Boyd (63rd) | Spears Rhodes |
| Monica Mills | Judith Lamar |
| Ben Sawada | 22 Tony Nemunaitis |
| Stevie Ray Vaughn | Alicia Smith |
| 4 Hazel Campbell | 23 Earl Henderson |
| 5 Chester Alan Arthur | Brynlee Ashmore |
| Nikki Smith Womack | Mike Kirk |
| Lynn Moore | Betty Jo Richie |
| 6 Frances Grant | Mitzi Woodall |
| Jimmy Pugh | 24 Thomas Norman |
| Matthew Sweet | Connie Thompson |
| 7 Ashley James | Norma Stockett |
| David Price (74th) | 25 Glenn Chesnutt |
| 8 Jim Fleming | David Alexander Dean |
| Beck Tucker | Hannah Grace Johnson |
| 9 Vance Cordle | 26 Alice Cole (73rd) |
| Arbin McCathern (86th) | Carol Fowler |
| Bob Persons | Judd Huett (85th) |
| Asia Patron | Mike Horsley |
| Clifton Renfro | Natailie Merchant |
| Linda Stringer | Brynlee Ashmore (13th) |
| 10 Sherry McCulley | 27 BoBo Boyd |
| Ron Selvaggio | Terry Boyd (63rd) |
| Mason Williams (13th) | Amy Moone (49th) |
| 11 Bonnie Ashcraft | Glen Raley (67th) |
| Susan Guevara | Stephanie Selvage (49th) |
| Debbie Moore | Louise Lareson |
| Anna Marie Sessions | 28 Roger Bryant (71st) |
| Christie Vazquez | James Cantrell (96th) |
| 12 Kirstin Boyd | Heavenly Fanning (8th) |
| Kim Moore | Patti Moseley Higgins |
| 13 Loretta Grant | Josh Hudson |
| Danny Ott (61st) | Parker Lynch |
| Jettie Rawls (93rd) | Johnny Miles |
| Mary Wimpee | Joakin Phoenix |
| 14 Brian Burrows | Matt Schall |
| Elizabeth Miller | 29 Marge Crockett (80th) |
| Sarah Margaret Poundstone | Adam Dupree |
| 15 Bob Crowe | Lisa Etheridge |
| Noah Edwards | Amber (Sally) Heitsenrether |
| Dolores Kavanagh | Elizabeth Mills |
| Charlie Lamar Jr. | Caylyn Oswald |
| Ray Martin (84th) | 30 Nellie Cole (99th) |
| Linda Stenbridge Chandler | Felicity Edwards |
| Gaston Wallace | Lee Sellars |
| 17 Jane Braswell | Grace Slick |
| Chris Floyd | Josie Stanton |
| 16 Jessie Watt | 31 Carey Cauthen (67th) |
| 18 Charles Andrew Campbell | Annabelle Henderson (9th) |
| Marcia Chambliss | Ron Johnson |
| Ryan Sellars | Elizabeth Kirk |
| 19 Joann Hassey | Johnny Marr |

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.



Jeremiah 29:11

John Martin "Jack" Campbell

December 12, 1955 – September 24, 2023



John Martin (Jack) Campbell, an emblematic figure in Alabama and Texas politics and a trusted influential voice on Montgomery airwaves, passed away unexpectedly at the age of 67. Known for his keen wit, kind heart, and a profound understanding of the political landscape, Campbell left an indelible mark on the southern political ecosystem, including a pivotal election that reshaped Alabama's judicial system and political landscape.

Jack was the Chairman of my Dad's campaign for Chief Justice of the Alabama Supreme Court. His brilliant political mind is the reason Dad got elected. I know that Jack and Dad are together with Jesus laughing again. God Bless 'em.

Perry Ol. Hooper, Jr.

Everyone who met Jack loved him within seconds. He was a friend to all. Jack was a one man rolling Party.

John W. Giles

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COME AND SEE



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

Today's Woman

By: Amanda Walker

Tears & LAUGHTER

Don't be RUDE!

Did you see the report – “Parenting priorities: international attitudes towards raising children” – conducted by King's College London that found American parents are the least likely to think good manners matter for children?

The survey included participants from 24 countries asking them to choose five qualities they thought were essential for children to learn at home. Those choices were good manners, tolerance, independent, hard work, and respect for others.

In Egypt, parents evidently feel very strongly that manners matter. Egypt claimed first place in this survey with 96% of participants reporting that teaching children good manners at home is important.

Second place went to Nigeria with 89% of respondents indicating that teaching their children excellent manners is a priority.

Let's repeat that because the eye may need to hit on that twice. Nigeria – a third world country, which by definition means it has low human development – took second place in a survey about the importance of manners.

Third went to yet another third world country, Morocco, at 88%. The United Kingdom was only slightly behind them, coming in sixth at 85% - and yet, they still ranked lowest internationally. But the United States, the world's superpower, was dead last. Not near the bottom, no, rock bottom at 52%. I take it that a lot of us here in America don't give a damn. We seem to have completely given up and surrendered to our children. And frankly, it may be beginning to show a little in our society.

Another part of this same parenting survey studied attitudes toward obedience.

One aspect of children's behavior is the degree to which they listen to and obey their parents and other trusted adults in positions of authority.

Nigeria was first in this category with 58% of participating parents marking obedience as important. Nigerian parents seem to mean business with their kids, but again, the United States was way down in the lower half of the table with only 21% of placing any importance on obedience.

It didn't just start. There has been a decline in the value placed on obedience in the United States, as well as other Western nations, since 1990 – way back when 76% of American parents felt manners and obedience were important.

Today, the qualities parents in America value most are tolerance of others, independence, and diligence.

I'm not convinced frustrated employers hiring the young adults coming of age after being raised with the more relaxed attitude would agree with the diligence part. Maybe...but I doubt it.

There may be a bit of work left to do with the tolerance and independence parts too. Tolerance doesn't involve being judgmental and cherry picking, and independence means moving out from mom and dad's – both physically and financially – before turning 36.

As we strive to diligently tolerate one another's independence...can't we still teach manners? They are easy. All you need to do to teach them is to have them.

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

By: Trisston Wright Burrows

Trisston's Tidbits: “God's Plans are Perfect”

Hi friends!

Thought of the day...

Can we please stop doing two things? Adding “and” and “but” to the end of God's plans.

Here's what I mean by that. We have a tendency to want to put our own spin on things. So often when God shares His plans with us, we say “Yes, I will do that AND I'm also going to do this other thing that I want to do.” Or God will tell us to do something and we'll say, “I will follow the plan, BUT maybe not this one part of it because I don't want to do it.”

God's plans are perfect. There's not fill in the blank in the end. Proverbs 3:5-6 tells us, “*Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight*”

The key wording in this bible verse is **trust in Lord with ALL your heart and lean NOT own your own understanding.**

Friends, God's plans are perfect. So, next time God gives you a word or gives you a plan, trust the plan. It will lead to your prosperity.

Many Blessings!

site.trisstonwrightburrows.com

*Thanks Trisston for all the years of faithful encouraging and inspiring words for our thousands of readers.
 May God continue to bless you!*

Staff of the Alabama Gazette



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VIOLENCE
 AWARENESS MONTH



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 pink breast cancer ribbon is symbolic of
 strength, courage, friendship and the
 bond of HOPE for those coping with
 breast cancer.

<http://www.thewomenofhope.org/>

WOMEN OF HOPE is a non-profit Foundation for Breast
 Cancer Support and is classified by the U. S. Department
 of the Treasury as a 501 (c)(3) organization under the code
 of the Internal Revenue Service.

City of Wetumpka

PINK WALK

Thursday, October 12th 2023
Wetumpka Civic Center (410 S. Main St)
For more info: 334-567-5147

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