



The Alabama Gazette

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As owners of The Alabama Gazette, we are proud of the years of exceptional reporting and commentaries provided by the writers of this newspaper. We are a God Family, Country publication and strive to always print the truth. We are an independent newspaper serving the greater River Region area and are expanding into other counties. We now have an online complete version of our publications. You can also subscribe to home delivery. We are the "Peoples Paper" keeping our readers "thinking" about critical issues. Supporting our communities, youth, and the business community is a vital part of our commitment. Thanks to all our advertisers, writers, staff and readers that make this newspaper possible. We welcome editorials. *Let us hear from you!*

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with the Gazette*



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Education Station Thank You

Mrs. Bobbie Ames

She is one of the greatest patriots and historians in todays society. She has kept us grounded and informed for over 12 years. God Bless America and God Bless Ms. Bobbie.

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

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Tangled Webs and Telephone Cords

Continued from page 1
By Gazette Staff Writer

Upon superimposing these questions on the situation, it is clear that there is much to consider. In fact, this author’s initial impression after reading the transcript was not so much what the president might have done wrong, but what happened during the last administrations in Ukraine, both the Obama and Poroshenko, that would consume that much of President Trump’s conversational bandwidth with Ukrainian President Zelensky. Without having a full and unbiased understanding of those circumstances, how does one judge the appropriateness of anything that follows?

There are good reasons why the president and vice president are understood to be exempted from mixing political and official capacities in most cases. The president and vice president are generally not subject to conflict of interest laws simply by virtue of the broad nature of these offices and concurrently by being de facto heads of their respective political parties. U.S. Code, Title 18, §§ 202 & 208 apply here along with a 1974 U.S. Department of Justice memo that was drafted during the Nelson Rockefeller nomination to the office of Vice President by Nixon. At that time, Acting Attorney General Silberman advised the Senate that “The effect of applying section 208 to the President is certainly either to disable him from performing some of the functions prescribed by the Constitution or to establish a qualification for his serving as President (to wit, elimination of financial conflicts) beyond those contained in the Constitution.” (<https://fas.org/irp/agency/doj/olc/092074.pdf>) Congress clarified the exemptions in the Ethics Reform Act of 1989 for all Federal positions of authority ([https://www2.oge.gov/web/oge/nsf/0/6FED47DB4CB9B89585257F1C00752BC7/\\$FILE/PL101-194.pdf](https://www2.oge.gov/web/oge/nsf/0/6FED47DB4CB9B89585257F1C00752BC7/$FILE/PL101-194.pdf))

Also, several Congressional Research Service (CRS) reports have expounded on the issue, (<https://fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R43365.pdf>, <https://fas.org/sgp/crs/secrecy/R42670.pdf>, et. al.), but everything seems to be focused on two of the Emoluments Clauses (Art. I, § 9, cl. 8), (Art. II, § 1, cl. 7) of the U.S. Constitution regarding gaining undue wealth due to position, and not specifically about undue political influence, though it could be implied. “(The) president cannot receive gifts from foreign governments without the consent of Congress...the Emoluments Clause is broader than any bribery statute in that it does not require the president actually take any reciprocating action to trigger the clause.” (Emory Law Ghost writer from the article “Conflicts of Interest and the President: Reviewing the State of Law in the Face of a Trump Presidency”. See (<http://law.emory.edu/ecgar/content/volume-4/issue-special/essays-interviews/conflicts-president-law-trump-presidency.html>)

From that framework, the current issue seems to boil down to two questions. Is any information about any potential wrongdoing in Ukraine of potential value to the president, and does he have a right to conduct an investigation into wrongdoing that occurred in 2015 and 2016 that potentially could affect the electability of his assumed general election opponent in 2020? From the information released so far, it is reasonable to presume that a quid pro quo between Presidents Trump and Zelensky and their respective subordinates exist, but it is difficult to separate the individual interest of both presidents with the logical national interest of both countries, and it could be argued that their self-interest is appropriate here.

This author would also argue that just because Congress approved funding to provide military support to a foreign nation, ergo Ukraine with \$300 million in direct military aid and another \$100 million from the U.S. State Department that could also be allocated to military spending, (*Real Law Review* <https://youtu.be/BD3my03ioio>), it does not mean that the president and his officials must provide those funds, immediately or otherwise, with appropriate cause. Does and should the president have the right to establish additional conditions or requirements before funds or aids are provided? This author’s understanding is that official governmental actions and policy conducted outside of the United States short of declarations of war and the ratification of treaties are under direct presidential control.

But returning to the pertinent Emoluments Clause concerns, asking a foreign leader to investigate your principle political opponent is decidedly problematic, as it can be seen as something of value. Also, it could be seen as contradicting Executive Order 13848, which states: “I, DONALD J. TRUMP, President of the United States of America, find that the ability of persons located, in whole or in part, outside of the United States to interfere in or undermine public confidence in United States elections, including through the authorized accessing of election and campaign infrastructure or the covert distribution of propaganda and disinformation, constitutes an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States.”

To be fair, Trump and his campaign were previously investigated by potentially inappropriate means, and something similar probably happened. Although the appearance of impropriety exists, it must be remembered that a current investigation is being conducted by Attorney General Barr regarding

how the Trump Investigation began. Under that lens, the requested support can be viewed as reasonable. It is obvious either way that Trump wants to discover what happened during that time, wants to know everyone involved, and how the events that transpired are related to the instigation of his campaign’s surveillance and subsequent investigation, specifically where is the information regarding Former Vice President Biden and his purported intervention with the previous Ukrainian Administration and specifically what did it concern?

In the aftermath of the Church Committee, laws were enacted to restrict governmental surveillance, specifically surveillance conducted on political opponents by a reigning U.S. Government. The most junior intelligence analyst understands that the Intelligence Community and its assets cannot collect on U.S. Citizens except under very specific probable cause, and with a court ordered warrant. And to collect intelligence information on U.S. Citizens living working, or doing business abroad, that warrant must be from the United States Foreign Intelligence Surveillance or FISA Court. And even with FISA Court approval, what entities are collecting against a U.S. Citizen and by what means can be problematic, depending on what the allegations are and who are involved, and here foreign governments have a legitimate role in the conduct of an investigation. For example, it would be good to understand what parties investigated Hunter Biden, when, for what reasons, and why the investigation was concluded.

Having reviewed some general concepts of intelligence collection on U.S. persons, this author must point out that ALL electronic and telephonic actives of the president related to his official duties are recorded and/or documented for posterity (and to call out unlawful actions by the president) per the Presidential Records Act (PRA) of 1978, U.S.C. 44 §§ 2201–2207. Another restriction that could affect the president here per Executive Order 13354, Part 1, § 1.7 states “In no case shall information be classified, continue to be maintained as classified, or fail to be declassified in order to: (1) conceal violations of law, inefficiency, or administrative error [or] (2) prevent embarrassment to a person, organization, or agency.”

But the fact remains that this kind of information is normally not released to the public. The president and his officials must be able to privately and confidently discuss events and plans for past, present, and future operations in the conduct of their constitutionally and legally mandated duties. The consequences of releasing this conversation should not be downplayed or underestimated.

It must be pointed out that the president used one of his personal attorneys as a de facto official to coordinate with a foreign head of state and his government. This author does not think that Trump did this to intentionally avoid the “Treaty between the United States of America and Ukraine on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters” or MLAC procedure; I honestly believe that he did not know anything about it or how it was supposed to work. But it does spell out the approved procedures for requests for assistance and the officials involved. One can presume that he did this to avoid some aspect of the “normal channels,” the fact that he does not trust his intelligence apparatus, and wanted to keep “close hold” some aspects about this Ukrainian assistance.

It could be rightly debated that the president has the authority to charge anyone in his purview to conduct official business. But to put it plainly, using Giuliani in this capacity was ill advised, and created the appearance of impropriety as it can be assumed that, because Giuliani has no official capacity within the White House and receives no direct compensation from the Federal Government, his loyalties would be more toward Trump than the Federal Government in the event of a conflict of interest. That’s problematic...just like calling himself “the real whistleblower” last week in an interview with Politico regarding his knowledge of the events that have occurred in Ukraine. (SMDH)

To further prove that the president does not trust some within his intelligence community, the whistleblower was known to have previously worked in the White House, but was not there during the events of the complaint. Why? And why was the complaint released directly to the heads of the Senate and House intelligence committees prior to the initial review for Executive Privilege? One can only presume it was to politically arm the complaint before anybody of official capacity in the Executive Branch had the opportunity to appropriately respond.

There is too much here and too many facts to come to light with each passing day to provide an adequate overview of the situation in a monthly publication. But hopefully this article will served as a tool to help the reader understand some of the key items to consider as this story unfolds, as well as to help keep the reader’s political biases in check, and review whatever new facts come out with the understanding that impeachment is a political process as much a legal one, and involves many conflicting concepts. What principles the reader deems as more important will shape what he sees as appropriate or inappropriate action, or to put it another way whether the president’s actions are wrong or right, impeachable or not, and your choice has a lot more influence on your elected representatives’ decisions than you might imagine. Question everything you hear, and ultimately choose wisely on what and whom you believe.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **This phone call alone is not enough to remove the President Trump from office, but it does justify Congressional inquiry.**
- **It is illegal for Trump to use the U.S. Intelligence Community to discover information that may defame his current political opponent.**
- **Trump does not trust his own Intelligence apparatus, and that reservation can be objectively understood.**
- **The president’s personal attorney, with no capacity as a U.S. official, should not be used as an ambassador-at-large.**
- **Trump, the Federal Government as a whole, and the American people have a legitimate interest in learning what happened in Ukraine and how it might have affected the 2016 presidential election if new information exists. The U.S. Intelligence Community concluded that the Russian Government conducted cyber operations to influence and interfered with the 2016 election, but it is unknown how the Ukraine may be involved.**
- **American People have a significant lack of knowledge regarding their nation’s Intelligence apparatus, and what actions. It legally can perform.**
- **The value of the Whistleblower Program to exist to point out poor governance such as the discovery of the Veterans Affairs whistleblower who exposed poor care at the Phoenix VA hospital.**
- **Keeping valuable but not fully developed information secret is important, and releasing transcripts publically sets a very bad precedent for future communications with foreign leaders among others.**
- **As the world becomes more integrated, America becomes even more diverse, and the likelihood of potential American candidates for high office conducting business abroad grows, laws regarding appropriate surveillance of U.S. Citizens who are of political interest needs to be further clarified.**
- **That the intelligence from Ukraine provides clarifying information regarding the actions of Obama Administration officials and the approval process for the Trump campaign initiated by the dossier signed into evidence by Former Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigations James Comey is worth what we as Americans have lost in the process of getting it.**



Inside the Statehouse with Steve Flowers

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

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2020 Senate Race Right around the Corner. GOP Field is Probably Set.

Even though qualifying does not begin until October 8, 2019, the field is probably set for the GOP Primary in March to unseat the anomaly Democrat, **Doug Jones**, who is sitting in Alabama’s Republican U.S. Senate Seat.

First District **Congressman Bradley Bryne** and **Secretary of State John Merrill** may be the favorites to lead the field and square off in a runoff. Either of the two will probably win by a 60-40 margin over Jones in November.

The wild card in the race is the iconic character, **Roy Moore**. He should not be underestimated. He could upset the applecart. He is the only GOP candidate that could possibly lose to Jones. However, in the GOP Primary, Moore has a base of support that is very loyal, older, and will show up to vote in the primary. My guess is that his base has dwindled to 15 percent but if there is a low turnout that number becomes accentuated. Moore will not deviate from his message and he will again ride his horse Sassy to vote in Gallant in his native Etowah County.

One-time Auburn football coach, **Tommy Tuberville**, is hard to figure out. He has released polls showing that he is in the lead, but my guess is that he will implode. He has not lived in Alabama for over a decade and supposedly had a Florida driver’s license and was registered to vote in Florida when he decided to run. Although, Tuberville’s garnering of the ALFA/Farmer’s Federation endorsement last week is big. This endorsement gives his campaign tremendous credibility. It is a significant and helpful boost in a statewide Republican Primary. However, it is doubtful that he realizes the importance of the endorsement.

A well-known female office holder like **Twinkle Cavaughn** could have been a player in this race. However, Twinkle chose to run for reelection for PSC President.

The most astute politician in Alabama political history was one **George C. Wallace**. He was a political genius, especially when it came to Alabama politics. When I was a young legislator, he would invite me down to the Governor’s office to talk politics. The Legislature met in the Capitol in those days and I could just walk down a flight of steps to his suite of offices. He would be holed up back in the private office where I have met with a good many governors over the years. **Kay Ivey** sits in Wallace’s office today. He would greet me with the

same message each time as we sat down for a visit. He really liked to reminisce with his ever-present cigar. In later years, as I sat with other governors, I would often wonder how they got Wallace’s cigar smoke out of that room.

He really could not hear well in his later years, so he did most of the talking. He would cock his head in a certain way and it would signal to me that he was going to impart some sage bit of wisdom. On more than one occasion, he would instill this message. More people vote against someone than for someone. He would further elaborate, “To win you have got to have a boogeyman to run against.”

He ran against integration for a decade. However, when black Alabamians began voting he had to find a new boogeyman. He went back to the old tried and true path used by most populist southern demagogues, he ran against the Big Mules.

Big Jim Folsom was better than Wallace at this game. Big Jim never deviated from his message. It was about running against the Big Mules and Big Planters. Big Jim refused to race bait. He was always a true blue progressive.

Well, my advice to these Republican candidates for the 2020 U.S. Senate race is you have the perfect, ideal boogeyman to run against. He is actually your legitimate opponent sitting right in front of you. It’s Doug Jones, stupid. In the Heart of Dixie in one of, if not the most Republican states in America you have sitting in your Republican U.S. Senate seat a liberal national Democrat, who cozies up to and organizes with and votes with **Nancy Pelosi, Chuck Schumer, Bernie Sanders, Elizabeth Warren** and **Barack Obama**.

Wallace would have loved that boogeyman and he would not have had to conjure him up one. Man would he have loved to run against Doug Jones.

Therefore, the best course of action for the Republican frontrunners would be to not go negative against each other or any other GOP candidate in the Republican Primary. Consistently focus in and run against Doug Jones and do not talk about your GOP opposition. Take some advice from another pretty good national politician, **Ronald Reagan**. President Reagan’s advice to fellow Republicans was the 11th Commandment, “Speak no ill of a fellow Republican.”

October 2, 2019



Ronald A. Holtsford

Do I understand that there is a recent change in Alabama Medicaid that allows them to recover from probate?

Yes, that is correct. It is however conditioned on certain criteria and in my view will cause some changes in estate planning and in debt collection by creditors.

Whenever an estate is opened in an Alabama probate court, the named personal representative whether appointed for a testate (having a Will), intestate (no Will) estate or the person initiating the settlement of a Small Estate (with or without a Will where the probate assets are less than twenty-five thousand dollars), must file a specific document with Alabama Medicaid and file an affidavit of notice along with a copy of the Medicaid document with the Probate Court. This document must be filed regardless of whether the deceased person did or did not use Alabama Medicaid. Alabama Medicaid has thirty days in which to respond.

And it’s not just confined to Alabama Medicaid in general. The criteria is that the deceased must have received Medicaid at or after age fifty-five (55) and/or that the Medicaid assistance was in long term or nursing home care and/ or while receiving Medicaid assistance a special needs trust was used. The age constraint means that even though someone may require Alabama Medicaid for instance in a nursing home prior to age fifty-five (55), it’s only the Medicaid usage from age fifty-five and later (if used for that long) that is countable towards recovery.

If Alabama Medicaid finds the deceased in their files, then they will determine how much Medicaid paid for services at or after age 55. Medicaid waiver programs are not countable. It will be interesting as this fleshes out since it only became effective for estates filed after September 1st, 2019. For starters a Medicaid recipient can have no more than two thousand dollars in assets. However, at application and throughout the assistance there are exempt items such as an automobile and rented land worth no more than six thousand dollars. Certainly after death there is no need for those items and I would think they would be eligible assets that would have to be sold for recovery. When an institutionalized spouse leaves a spouse living in the marital home, it is an exempt asset as long as that spouse remains in the home. There is a cap on the value of the home of over a half million dollars. I would guess that after both spouses have died, assuming the last to die is in the marital home then half of the home value is probably available for recovery. A self settled special needs trust already has the requirement that Alabama Medicaid have a payback provision up to the amount expended on the person, but a third party settled special needs trust for the Medicaid recipient should not have a payback provision and instead has contingent beneficiaries. I have to wonder if there is any push to try and access those assets. There are some unknowns and Alabama State Bar members affected by this are working now to understand the exact implications of this program.

Though there are differing camps on estate planning, I generally favor a Will over a Trust because of the Trust cost to the client, the fact that assets such as vehicles, bank accounts, investments and the home must be placed in the Trust and that a Pour Over Will is done in case there are assets that need a legal transfer and are not a part of the Trust for some reason. The use of Trusts or other instruments that circumvent probate, I believe will become more important. I anticipate a certain segment of my estate planning clientele will need further discussion on what to do.

This new law also places Alabama Medicaid, sixth in the line of things that must be paid before creditors are paid. Some of the items that precede Medicaid recovery include the cost of burial, estate administration, taxes of employees, etc. The thing to consider is that some 75-80% of Alabama nursing home residents are

on Medicaid with an average stay of about two years. The cost rises each year, with Alabama Medicaid paying a part of the more than \$6,000 per month per resident. With Medicaid recovering whatever may be left, I would assume that creditors will have little recourse for those individuals since one assumes that whatever part of the estate may be available for debts (remember that family members have no personal responsibility for debts of a decedent) may be completely “taken” by Medicaid. This is not derogatory towards Medicaid and I understand that the program must be run as a tight ship and I also understand that individuals must bear personal responsibility in their care during life, but creditors may tighten up credit limits or whom they extend credit to if they feel there is a lesser chance of repayment.

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

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ROBSERVATIONS...

by Robert Tate

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

ONE TRICK PONY

I am sure most of us are familiar with this term. It means that someone has only one thing they are either good at or one issue that they feel strongly about. I don’t want to be that person. Many pro-death abortionists are exactly that. No matter what happens in the world, no matter what crazy laws the government tries to pass or how good or bad the economy is doing, they will fight for their right to kill babies by the millions. No other issue on planet Earth galvanizes them like abortion and the support of their murderous, racist heroine Margaret Sanger of Planned Parenthood fame.

As for me, there are a lot of issues out there that I feel strongly about but as it turns out, there is one that keeps raising its ugly head. And here I am, yet again, willing to spend time writing about it. For those of you who have read my columns over the last ten years, it should be clear that I am a very pro 2nd Amendment guy. Darn tootin’ I am. Although each of the Amendments written into our constitution are important, most, if not all of them hinge upon the maintenance of the 2nd. Yes, Virginia, it is that important. It states clearly, “A well-regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.” Without the 2nd Amendment the government could, one-by-one, take away our remaining rights and our entire Constitution will at some point go the way of the Dodo. Just ask those millions of people killed where countries have done exactly that. That’s right, you can’t because they are dead. Hmmm. And yes, Virginia, this is exactly why the founders, knowing the true hearts of too many men who have attained certain degrees of power, put this into our constitution.

I saw a couple of memes the other day that made me laugh. One said, “I was going to turn in my guns to the government but they failed the background check.” Another said, “The fact that the government wants me to turn in my guns is exactly why I won’t.” I saw yet a third months ago and it was a photo of Native Americans from the late 1800s or so. It said, “Go ahead and turn in your guns, what could possibly go wrong?” Now we have socialist charlatans like Beto O’Rourke claiming, “Hell, yes, we’re going to take your AR-15, your AK-47,” to the resounding glee of liberal boneheads wetting their pants in some form of delusional approval. It looks like battle lines have finally been clearly drawn.

Several months ago, I wrote a column talking about the new “Red Flag” laws and their potential abuse. I even mentioned the murder of a civilian in his own home by thugs (a.k.a. Nazi cops) demanding he turn in his weapons because some loon, somewhere was triggered by something this man allegedly said or did. No proof, no due process, just knocks on the door at 0500 in the morning, Nazi-style demands (Ver are your paperz?) and then bullets hurled into his body followed up with the predictable head Nazi police chief justifying his and his men’s behavior. (Vee vere just following orders) Who didn’t see this coming? This brings me to today’s version of Amerika 2019.

A friend of mine sent me this article. You can find it at: <https://bearingarms.com/cam-el2019/09/16/new-jerseys-new-red-flag-law-used-daily-basis>. All quotes in this article come from this reference. It appears that since New Jersey’s (my home state) Red Flag laws went into effect on 1 September, there have been 14 successful gun confiscations made in the first 12 days of the month. You read that right, 14 in 12 days. What the article does not address is the total number of applications put forth. Were there 1,000? 500? Or knowing New Jersey (my brother and sister curiously still live there), there were 14 applications were put forth and 14 approved. Hopefully the true numbers will eventually come out.

Does anyone out there not see the inherent danger in these laws? Here’s a picture for you. Susie Busybody has her nose into everybody else’s business. Susie is a liberal, Birkenstock wearing, gun hating socialist and she hates the fact that her neighbor, Pastor Paul Perfect, has guns in his house. Feeling “triggered,” she makes an anonymous call to Gestapo Headquarters, I mean the local police, and says she “overheard” Paul Perfect say something “dangerous.” Not only that, she was cruising Facebook and saw his “offensive” post on Facebook with photographs of him shooting guns at the local range. Now unhinged, Susie feels completely threatened and unsafe even while in her own home.

The police, headed up by Captain Heinrich Brownshirt goes to judge Ilse Buchenwald with the complaint and the next thing you know, Brownshirt’s unleashed Gestapo is at Paul Perfect’s house, guns drawn with the Pastor faceplanted in his living room. No due process, no guilt and no chance to face his accuser. But in ten days Paul will have the opportunity to confront Judge Buchenwald in order to “prove his innocence” and try to get his illegally stolen weapons back. Good luck there, Sparky. She is the Nazi who had your guns stolen in the first place. Life in parts of Amerika today.

When reading some of the comments by New Jersey officials, I have to simply shake my head. New Jersey’s Attorney General, Obersturmfuehrer Gurbir Grewal, makes the ridiculous claim that there is no 2nd Amendment violations taking place when these Extreme Risk Protective Orders are granted.

He penned, “We are not violating Second Amendment rights. (What would you call taking someone’s guns without any due process? Just asking). We are just enabling reasonable measures to promote public safety and to make sure we are keeping firearms out of the hands of individuals who shouldn’t have them.”

Wow! Okay. When I was stationed at Maxwell AFB, I taught the Joint Air Operations Planning Course for almost a decade. In this course we discussed all facets of operational planning in time of war. In my opinion, the most important aspect of any plan is the objective. We taught our students that there were definitive criteria for any well-crafted and plausible objective. First of all, an objective is defined as simply “what” you want to accomplish. Nothing about “how” (a strategy) but very simply, what you want to do. Once that is decided, not always an easy task, the criteria for a good objective is that it must be 1)

Clearly defined, 2) Measurable and 3) Attainable. If an objective cannot meet each of these three standards, it is a failed objective and must be either withdrawn or modified. When I look at the Obersturmfuehrer Grewal’s comments, it is clear he has no concept of this.

After asking him to pull his finger out of his nose, I would ask him, “How in the hell do you define ‘reasonable measures’ and ‘how do you clearly define who should or should not have weapons?’” They have no definitive criteria or at least no criteria for us, their victims, to see. A phone call

from a triggered idiot? A post onFacebook with a picture taken at a gun range? The fact that someone actually owns an AK-47 or AR-15? What about a German WWII Mauser K-98 bolt rifle? A pissed off ex-spouse making baseless accusations? An ex-soldier who supposedly took pleasure in killing his enemies on the battlefield? How do you measure your success? All guns off the streets? Is that even attainable? No, bad people will always have guns and you are happily creating an entire class of victims.

The Democratic People’s Republic of New Jersey’s (DPRNJ) red flag law, actually termed the Extreme Risk Protective Order (ERPO) says that a judge can call for an emergency hearing if there is “reasonable, probable or good cause” that the subject of the petition is a danger to themselves or others. In other words, if he/she thinks so. And again, is this even clearly defined? In their own words, only a “preponderance of evidence” must be shown before a judge will make an order permanent. What exactly does preponderance mean in this situation? To make matters worse, the DPRNJ’s red flag law remains in effect until the subject can show, again by a “preponderance of evidence,” that they are not a danger to themselves or others. Again, in other words, the accused must prove their innocence in this new Gestapo run state in Amerika 2019 and beyond. So much for being innocent until “proven” guilty.

Here is another beauty of this law according to the article, the DPRNJ offers absolutely no mental health services to the so-called “dangerous” person nor is there any additional monitoring of the “offender” once his stuff has been stolen. This is beautiful in its stupidity. Here is the summed-up reality. With no due process, the Gestapo goes into someone’s house, steals their stuff at gunpoint and if they are in fact, a threat and/ or crazy, they are left alone to stew in their juices, almost guaranteeing they will seek some sort of retribution.

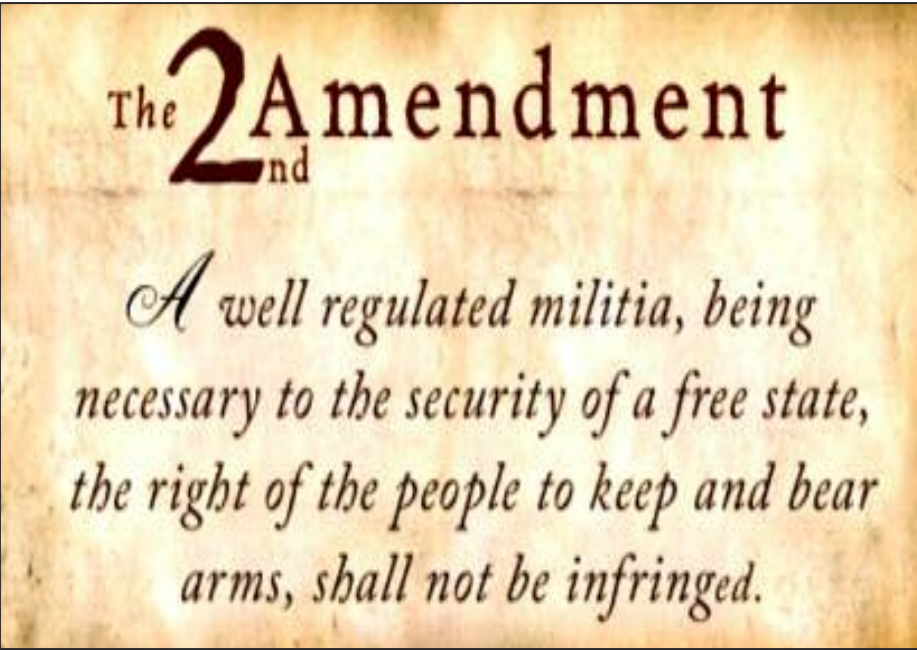
Yes, the founders are spinning in their graves. These actions are exactly why they put the Second Amendment in the Constitution. They saw what happened in England when the citizenry was unarmed. They were determined not to allow that to happen here and thank goodness it has not. But now, with all these anti-American socialists running amok, doing their best to create Amerika, they want to dismantle the one safeguard that will ensure they never have a chance to fulfill their dark desires. These red flag laws, coming to a theater near you are laws that should have all red-blooded Americans on our toes. At one point, the desires of these evil and misguided people like O’Rourke were hidden and couched in terms of “background checks” and other “seemingly harmless” ideas. Now their true desires are unashamedly out in the open for all to see. O’Rourke, the little boy with a man’s head, has just today triple downed on his claim and stated among other things that the Constitution itself does not protect against gun confiscation. Yes, this little commie is dangerous. Now I think we can all clearly see the results of getting beat up in school everyday and having your lunch money stolen.

What I cannot understand is when these officials take office, they swear to uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States from all enemies foreign and domestic. How can they in any way be allowed to stay in office when they are clearly proposing laws contrary to the Constitution they swore to defend? I am happy to see where several police jurisdictions are saying they will be refusing to obey such laws. It is all about not following illegal and immoral orders. I think law enforcement should take it one step further as. When a Governor, Mayor or even member of Congress passes or votes for a law or makes an executive order usurping the Constitution, I think they should be hoisted out of office in handcuffs, put on trial for treason and put away in prison until they are forever dead. There is no place for them in my America but only in their dark, communist Amerika. I am sure there will be more to come on this issue.

On March 23, 1775, Patrick Henry spoke the now famous, “Give me liberty or give me death!”

This aroused the Second Virginia Convention to arms against the tyranny of Great Britain, and he noted that “we have done everything that could be done to avert the storm which is now coming upon us.” During the critical years of 1765-1776, the American colonies had been forced to endure taxation without representation, searches and seizures without probable cause, the confiscation of firearms, and more. Though the colonial leaders had tried to remain loyal to the Crown and reconcile their differences, they were finally compelled to break away in revolt.

Is History Repeating Itself?





Euthanasia

By John Martin

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

Euthanasia is a painless and peaceful procedure of ending the persistent suffering and trauma of the terminally ill and others who have decided that death is a better option. In current usage, it is defined as the “painless inducement of a quick death.” People use this process on a regular basis when they see their beloved pets in distress from incurable diseases and/or unrecoverable injuries. But many are squeamish when it comes to applying the same mercy onto human beings. Some even support draconian laws and heavy penalties to prohibit such actions.

To settle this argument, we must start with the sanctity of a person’s body. Every person is the singular owner of his body—with no exceptions whatsoever. That means that every one of us has the right to do whatever he chooses with it—to use and maintain it as he wishes. That includes ending it if he is a victim of unbearable and incurable pain or other unacceptable trauma. It is his decision and his alone, regardless of the reason he makes it, and regardless of the desires of others, even if he has been diagnosed or claimed to be mentally ill. That includes hiring people to assist him.

There should never be any laws that violate any person’s use, or even misuse, of his own body. They would be violations of his person.

Euthanasia, assisted suicide, and mercy killing fall into this category, but they can be defined in different ways:

- **Voluntary:** With the outspoken consent of the patient.
- **Non-voluntary:** The patient is in a coma or other condition where he is unable to communicate. Consent is given by a living will and/or family members deciding his quality of life and suffering.
- **Involuntary:** The patient refuses to give his consent. Except for self-defense, accidents, or legitimate executions, killing a person against his will is murder.
- Two procedural classifications are passive and active.
- **Passive:** Withholding life support devices and treatments.
- **Active:** Using lethal substances or forces.

In many countries and in some of our states, euthanasia in some forms is “illegal.” Physicians who perform or assist in the final wishes of patients in this way can be sentenced to years in prison. Remember what happened to Jack Kevorkian. Forcing a person to endure pain he believes is unbearable or punishing one who helps to end it is a cruel thing to do to anybody.

Many people have religious, ethical, moral, and/or “compassionate” objections. But if one is really any of these, how could he support or impose needless suffering and hardship?

Some argue that euthanasia is a violation of the Hippocratic Oath, i.e. “First, do no harm.” But how is the consensual ending of a person’s suffering doing harm? It is the refusal to end the suffering that is causing harm.

Many physicians and many hospitals generate a great deal of income by maintaining what we call “human vegetables,” often for many years. Many of them are in favor of maintaining laws that restrict or prohibit avenues for their helpless victims to end their torment by their own choosing.

Other people go farther than that. They even support using force to prevent people from committing suicide, even if there is no one assisting. This is especially rampant in our jails and prisons, where extreme measures are often applied. We could be much kinder by letting a prisoner take himself out and save the taxpayers the cost of feeding and housing him.

HISTORY:

- In 1828, the first anti-euthanasia law in the U.S. was passed in New York State. Other states soon followed.
- In 1891, Felix Adler argued from an Ethical Culture framework that people suffering from overwhelming pain should have a right to commit suicide, and that doctors should be allowed to assist them.
- In 1894, Robert Ingersoll supported suicide for people afflicted with terminal illnesses.
- Circa 1913, Felix Adler proposed permitting suicide in cases of chronic illness.
- In 1938, a U.S. euthanasia society was established to lobby for assisted suicide.
- During the 1960s, a right-to-die approach to euthanasia grew.
- In 1977, living wills became legal in California. They are now commonplace around the world.
- In 1990 the Supreme Court approved non-active euthanasia.
- In 1994, Oregon approved the Death with Dignity Act, allowing physicians to assist patients who may not survive more than 6 months. Texas followed in 1999.
- In a 2017, U.S. Gallup poll, 73 percent of respondents favored euthanasia, and 67 percent favored doctor-assisted suicide.

CONCLUSION:

The prohibition of euthanasia and assisted suicide is an outdated and barbaric practice that is intolerable in any civilized nation. People have a right to die with dignity just like they do to live in dignity. The prosecution and incarceration of those who assist is a travesty. The application of technology to involuntarily prolong the hardships of anybody is unconscionable, cruel, and a waste of resources.

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By Daniel Sutter

History Comes to Troy

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

Troy University will host an exhibition from The Remnant Trust from September through the end of November. The artifacts and books included afford an opportunity for Alabamians to see some history. Founded in 1999, The Remnant Trust is a foundation dedicated to preserving items important to the history of individual freedom and human dignity. Partnered with Texas Tech University since 2014, the Trust has a collection of over 1,400 documents for research and exhibitions like the one coming to Troy University. The Troy exhibit will include items from ancient Greece and the Middle East, early editions of Shakespeare, Newton and Tocqueville, and documents like the Magna Carta, Declaration of Independence, and Emancipation Proclamation.

The exhibition also features some classic economics books. To help understand their significance and contemporary relevance, the Johnson Center is pleased to bring two nationally-renowned scholars to Troy.

Our first scholar, visiting on September 24, is Dr. James Otteson of Wake Forest University. Dr. Otteson is an expert on Adam Smith and author of *What Adam Smith Knew*. Adam Smith, the founder of economics, wrote *An Inquiry into the Nature and Causes of the Wealth of Nations* in 1776, expounding on (among other topics) the source of prosperity and the nature of the market economy.

When Smith wrote, the Mercantilists dominated policy in England and France. The Mercantilists viewed gold as wealth and colonial empires as the way to build national gold stocks. By exporting more than importing (running a trade surplus), a nation could accumulate gold. Europeans would pay for English goods with gold, increasing England’s gold holdings. Colonies allowed the mother country to avoid importing raw materials.

As Smith explained, a nation is prosperous because its citizens enjoy a high standard of living, not because it has the most gold. Ultimately production and consumption matter. President Trump seemingly holds Mercantilist ideas regarding a trade surplus.

Furthermore, Smith showed how market institutions are the products of human action but not human design, or spontaneous orders. Smith’s metaphor of an invisible hand guiding people’s actions describes this beautifully. People act in their self-interest in impossibly complicated ways.

Spontaneous order explains why economists or government officials cannot plan or control our economy. Politicians who think, mistakenly, that someone designed our entire financial system will think that they can restructure it with no adverse consequences.

On November 12, we will host Dr. Daniel Jacobson of the University of Michigan, a scholar of 19th Century British political economist John Stuart Mill. Mill’s *On Liberty* provides a classic case for freedom of speech and inquiry. The souring of so many political and intellectual figures on free speech makes Mill’s arguments important today.

Mill offered two arguments for free speech. The first was the importance of free inquiry as a means of learning the truth, or the idea of a marketplace of



Photo: <http://www.theremnanttrust.com>

ideas. The second was the potential for abuse of restrictions on speech. Free inquiry will always upset government leaders, who never like being told they are wrong. Furthermore, criticism can spark defiance of political authority.

Some commentators might dismiss The Remnant Trust project as Western cultural hegemony. I do not find the Trust’s mission to preserve our heritage of “individual liberty and human dignity” ethnocentric. The Troy University exhibit includes the Torah, the Quran, and the Morals of Confucius.

More significantly, I have met persons from across the globe in my years as a student and faculty member. People generally want better lives for themselves and their families; the dignity and value of individuals are human, not Western, values. Unfortunately, human history also abounds with oppression by rulers. Today’s freedom and prosperity did start in Western Europe with the Enlightenment and the Industrial Revolution. Yet I see this as more of an accident than a consequence of culture. Diffusion of these values shows the universal appeal of freedom and dignity.

The Remnant Trust exhibit will be on display at the Troy University library. Hopefully many of you will come out and see these items.

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



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**The AU Horror Picture Show:
Bride of Felonstein
meets YellaGrubbear**



Recent ‘rocky’ times at Auburn University display a cult horror picture show on how ‘warped’ private interests extract wealth from students and taxpayers. No surprise to frequent readers of this column how AU gave rise to felon Mike Hubbard, who perfected ‘The Art of the Steal’ of using governments for personal gain in Alabama. Bobby Lowder mentored Felon Hubbard in the dark arts when Hubbard began in AU Athletics having just ‘grifted’ in from the Georgia jock adulation scene. The ‘plot sickened’ when Patrick Nix (former Auburn Quarterback and father of current QB Bo Nix) introduced Felon Hubbard to the “Sith Lord” himself, public servant Bob Riley. Those who preferred the book instead of watching the AU Horror Picture Show read “Stealing the Statehouse” for ‘the rest of the story’ as Paul Harvey would assert upon closing.

Felon Hubbard’s long-time protector and wealthiest among underwriters of \$150,000 checks (along with other unindicted coconspirators who infamously added to Hubbard’s impressive rap sheet) public servant Jimmy Rane remains atop AU’s Board of Trustees. The affable, lovable YellaFella (YellaGrubber nomenclature in the horror show spoof script for clarity) continues his horrific activities unimpeded, despite the rash of convictions suffered by his ‘good friend’ Felon Hubbard. The Tony and Libba Rane Culinary Science Center, a 142,000 square foot monster monument to the YellaGrubber, is the latest student/taxpayer subsidized sinkhole to open up at Auburn University - happy Halloween! On April 12, 2019, the AU Newsroom reported the following on funding:

"Auburn’s plans for a culinary science center received significant encouragement in 2017 when James W. “Jimmy” Rane and the Rane family made a \$12 million commitment to the building’s construction.....Gifts to the College of Human Sciences, university general funds and revenue from the hotel, restaurant, a food hall and leased living units will cover the estimated project cost of \$95.4 million. The Rane Culinary Science Center will be the first revenue-generating academic building at Auburn. The university seeks to raise an additional \$13 million in philanthropic support through various naming opportunities within the building."

When deciphering ancient runes and incantations or figuring out exactly who is financially responsible for anything at AU, one must tread carefully. First, it is important to note the university intends to pursue only \$25 million in philanthropic contributions for a \$95.4 million project, some say already forecasted to exceed this dollar amount. This is unusual as most reputable universities (for example, the University of Michigan, Florida State, Mississippi State, etc...) typically require 50% of the funds required for construction up front before breaking ground on a new project.

The AU Development Office has policy guidelines for naming a new facility which aren’t supposed to be distributed externally; 50% of the promised financial gift, not 50% of the building cost, is required up front. Apparently at AU, the percentage of the cost for new construction which will be publicly provided varies and “depends on a number of factors that may not always result in a 50-50 split” between public and private. Policy guidelines also require the facility’s construction costs and features to be compared with similar projects at “peer or aspirant” institutions in the southeast. I’ve asked a local politician why similar construction in T-town is accomplished for 60% of expenditures in ‘Grubberland’ with no reply. Perhaps Hoar construction is simply a misspelling... those who understand how righteous business is transacted are surprised by policy not allowed to be distributed externally. At least it is consistent with Stephen “Crash” Leath parachute agreement transparency at this public institution. Seems we can now have non-disclosed



contractors bid on billion dollar prison contracts without any scrutiny on cronyism, conflicts of interest, etc.

Other curiosities abound in AU’s press release. Note how the remaining \$70.4 million will be raised. The Rane Center will generate revenue from the boutique

hotel, a 40-seat gourmet restaurant, brew pub, micro-distillery, spa and (surprise, surprise!) six apartments available for “long-term” lease. Undoubtedly all of these luxurious accommodations are meant to advance AU’s educational mission, not a student/state-subsidized kitchen for YellaGrubber within golf cart distance of his other highly subsidized hobby, football. This is an integral part of “The Grubber’s Creed” - get OTHERS to pay for your appetites and desires. Dollar for dollar Rane’s kitchen may rival the countless hours of subsidized entertainment from our recent AU scoreboard debacle.

Yours truly is certainly not the only one to notice the appalling misallocation of resources represented by this proposed monument to Rane’s appetite. Associate Professor of Theatre Dr. Robin Jaffe dared to exercise his First Amendment civil right at the August AU Senate meeting microphone to articulate a courageous screed w.r.t. the proposed monstrosity:

“How can we continue to move forward on the Rane Culinary Arts Building and 5 Diamond Hotel and Spa, that has six personal living condos at \$3,000,000 a piece, with a roof swimming pool for a price tag of over \$100,000,000.00? This is

a venue where more than likely most students and family, staff, faculty and administration will not visit, let alone be able to afford to stay at.” - Dr. Robin Jaffe excerpt from AU Senate meeting minutes.

One may expect immediate and severe retaliation levied upon Dr. Jaffe for engaging in such bold and dissenting speech given the recent academic environment proffered by upper administrators these past years. Observing the multitude of First Amendment lawsuits currently under litigation against the University, such retaliation appears to have been standard operating procedure during the reign of terror facilitated by former President Steven “Crash” Leath. Fortunately, Leath was removed (with transparency on par with how he was installed) at the ‘fire sale’ price tag of only \$4.5 million - i.e., 45 million dimes in case Messrs. Jay Jacobs or Sunny Golloway are reading. Return of a legitimate president, Prof. Jay Gogue, promises an academy tolerant of dissenting speech, providing shelter for this brave expression of revulsion at YellaGrubber’s culinary monument.

So, our next chapter of the horror picture show unfolds. Just what one of the fattest and poorest states in the nation is well served to produce toward promoting the greatest public use... a luxury kitchen for corrupt fat cats, a facility more aptly named Hell’s Kitchen rather than a culinary science center. The remaining millions of dollars will of course be generated from gifts to the College of Human Sciences, AU’s General Fund, etc. - another trough for YellaGrubber and other high Dixie plain grifters to sloop themselves.

Given AU’s Lowderesque history of money for building nomenclature, it is unclear if YellaGrubber has actually donated the promised \$12 million. Still waiting to see an ‘AUDacious’ photo op flaunting a giant check, tens of millions shy of the 50% for naming a building. We do have documentation of a fat check from YellaGrubber at Felon Hubbard’s trial, which brings up another shocking detail in this sordid gastronomical affair. What public servant reportedly is slated to administer Jimmy Rane’s fancy kitchen? None other than Susan (a.k.a. the Bride of Felonstein) Hubbard in our horror picture script!

Those who carefully followed the rise and fall of Felon Hubbard may understand the role Bride of Felonstein played in the AU Horror Picture Show and the amazing benefits ‘magically’ bestowed upon her on the Plains of Dixie. Bill Britt [Alabama Political Reporter] uncovered some important nuggets years ago with their classic article entitled, “Hubbard: Keeping it in the Family.” The Bride of Felonstein’s recent appointment as Dean of the College of Human Science is yet another example of “Auburn being Auburn” as ALL of her degrees and academic record occurred at AU, the home base and training ground of her fellow grifter public servant mate. Most real universities do not hire their own PhD students as tenure-track faculty and then magically make them lavishly overpaid and underworked public administrators. Sadly, Auburn is no longer a real university as it has horrifically morphed into a junior college (where culinary arts belong) sponsoring semi-pro football and basketball teams.

For those who’ve noticed similar Lowderesque building nomenclature results, don’t hold your breath awaiting 50% for any building emblazoned with Hubbard’s name or any other living individual(s) like Dr. Bill Hardgrave. Perhaps Senator “Cash-register” Shelby will donate the 50% from his campaign war chest when his political reign in the DC oligarchy finally comes to a close. Let’s check the Vegas odds on that one! Those who recall Shelby’s input among the shameful emails submitted to the Lee County Circuit Court for the Felon Hubbard trial may also remember Hubbard’s fat Southeast Gas Association checks keeping it “All in the Auburn Family” - but that’s more sitcom than horror show.

Some viewers trying to sort through this “Hell’s Kitchen” chapter of The AU Horror Picture Show are guessing the Bride of Felonstein is connecting with YellaGrubber to funnel student/taxpayer subsidized ‘hush money’ to keep Hubbard quiet given the rising probability he may in fact finally do some prison time. It will take a lot of ‘grease’ as I imagine Felon Hubbard will be very willing to sing some very beautiful, incriminating jailbird sonatas to avoid/reduce time in the prison system he helped evolve into the travesty it is today.

In closing, I’ve not yet heard any report on how the search for AU’s 20th president will be conducted. I pray it won’t be the same flawed, nontransparent process which proffered the Steven ‘Crash’ Leath result. Pres. Gogue is back on the job and reversing some of the harm done. AU’s Board of Trustees refusing Jay’s offer to remain given the last flawed search result was most revealing of this Board’s poor stewardship. Too bad our State didn’t elect someone like Alice Martin who would have kept good folks like Van Davis (sad to hear died last month) and Matt Hart employed in the AG’s office these past years to investigate matters of this sort. Imagine if we could’ve avoided Leath’s costly crash into Samford Hall to find another Gogue caliber president. It will take Jay years to really sort through all the damage, get investigations/lawsuits behind us to move forward again. Let’s NOT do the time warp again...

Postscript: congrats to the Alabama Gazette on their 20th Anniversary! May God grant the Gazette many more scores filled with blessings as the “Voice of Reason” in our State. What a joy and honour it has been to be a writer for half of those years. I have no doubt the Gazette’s courage to shine Truth and Light on many important issues when no other paper would dare has made a difference. Keep living up to this righteous Spirit and our State Motto!



John W. Giles

**Hypothetical –
Bernie or Elizabeth,
Was this your idea?**

Right thinking, fact driven Americans have hit their high water mark, frustrated with the liberal news media fabricating stories about conservatives. Every day, since the November 8, 2016 election (almost 3 years ago), liberal Democrats and members of the counterfeit media have worked around the clock fabricating, packaging and pounding this president with false claims, which have become hypotheticals

on steroids. Well, I have a hypothetical of my own, but I am up front, it is a hypothetical.

Serving in the public policy arena for about 20 years, you truly become jaded by the motivation of others in various political settings. Generally when you see something or someone acting a little out of character or bazar, you begin to ask yourself questions. Questions like, who is behind this, where is the money to fund this coming from, is this a coalition effort, who benefits the most, is this a bait and switch, what is really going on here and the like. Seldom do you have something purely thoroughbred in nature with heartfelt sincere motives; they do exist, but not often. As we watch this Russia Prank 2.0 unfold, it will be most interesting to follow the money and unravel all of the political strings.

In this case, you have a self-appointed whistleblower, whose lawyer worked for Hillary & Schumer, that received a nothing burger tip from an anti-Trump

insider, spying on a Presidential classified conversation with another head of state. One might ask the question, who might benefit the most from the fallout and residue derived from this synthetic scandal. First, you cast a potential dark cloud over the President, Score. You trigger wide spread questions and investigations into the life and family of 2020 Democrat Presidential frontrunner Joe Biden, Score. Heads of state are paranoid to talk to Trump fearing malicious wire taps, Score. You cause the stock market to sink a day or two making Trump’s economy look bad, Score. You empower AOC and company forcing Nancy to consider impeachment, Score. Fellow Democrats enthusiastically rally and love the idea of removing a sitting GOP President, Score. You know the U.S. Senate will never see the light of day of this notion, so a sitting Democrat U.S. Senator will not be scorched by this plot, Score. So, where is the benefactor?

In FULL DISCLOSURE, this is a Hypothetical Stretch, but it does make for some great conversation. I wrote an article recently (entitled, “Restoring Ethics In Journalism”) scolding the left for this kind of journalistic behavior. I may even be slightly guilty here of penning my speculations, but I am at least labeling this as hypothetical and speculative and it is an opinion piece not journalism.

On a side note, this Russia Prank 2.0 will miserably fail and will backfire like an antique T-Model Ford. By the way Nancy, thank you for this early gift. You just energized our base and our 2020 “Get Out The Vote Program” will yield a historic GOP House, Senate and Whitehouse landside. This sounds like an excellent book idea, “2020 GOP Landslide,” by Nancy Pelosi. Hope you like red maps!

Elizabeth or Bernie, was this your brilliant two-edged sword competition-elimination idea? Pretty smart, but you may need to borrow some chalk and return to the drawing board.



Ed Jones
Football Writer

slight favorite. Prior to the season, I wrote that Alabama would be favored in every game in 2019. I also wrote that Auburn would be underdogs in five games; Oregon, Florida, LSU, Georgia and Alabama. Auburn beat Oregon on a last second improbable pass from **Bo Nix** to **Seth Williams** in Nix’s first collegiate game. Oregon is gone. Florida is next. Then LSU, Georgia and Alabama is left, all undefeated. If Auburn can beat at least two of those teams, **Coach Gus Malzahn** may have earned his 49 million dollar contract. At press time, the SEC Championship is up for grabs between Alabama, Auburn, LSU, Georgia and Florida. Alabama is the odds on favorite.

Alabama is in this position because of four players; **Tua Tagovailoa**, **Jerry Jeudy**, **Henry Ruggs** and **Devonte Smith**. Auburn is in this position because of quarterback Bo Nix and wide receiver Seth Williams. Williams caught eight passes in subduing Mississippi State on September 28th. Alabama has two



Jerry Jeudy, JR. Alabama WR

pedestrian backs in **Najee Harris** and **Brian Robinson**. Auburn has one in **Boobee Whitlow**. Alabama’s backs must be turned loose if the Tide is to contend for the national championship. Auburn has to find another consistent back to relieve Whitlow. As far as coaching goes, **Nick Saban** is doing his normal excellent job of coaching his coaches, recruiting the best players in the country, getting his players in the right positions and in the correct formations in order to have success. What else is new? Gus Malzahn is doing a good job of calling the plays for the Auburn offense after delegating those duties to an assistant in 2016, 2017 and 2018. There is no questioning his ability to set up plays with motion, and formations that are problematic for opposing defenses. But, without the superb performance of **Kevin Steel**’s defense, all of Malzahn’s crazy plays would not be possible. When your defense is as good as Auburn’s, the offense can concentrate on just not losing the game. Malzahn has exceeded that and is probably doing the best coaching job of his tenure at Auburn. Auburn probably has fewer “five-star” players than most teams in the conference. Bo Nix is the exception. Auburn’s road to the SEC Championship is harder than any of the other contenders.

At this point, I will chastise Gus Malzahn, “again”, on some of his decisions. Number one is that he cannot make the decision to play multiple running backs. Whitlow is obviously the best all around back he has. But, he has proven that he cannot win every game with 20-30 carries each game. Neither can he last for an entire season with that load. **Kam Martin** is a very fast back who transferred to Auburn from Baylor as a sophomore. He is primarily used to replace Whitlow on the read option. Most of his carries are into the middle of the defense where his primary abilities are not utilized. He weighs only 190 lbs. at best. There must be some way to get Martin in space where his talents can be featured. He is also a good receiver coming out of the backfield. Martin has touched the ball less than 30 times this season. Also, junior running back **Malik Miller** is not a goal line back no matter what he weights. He weighs 240 lbs. But, he is not quick enough to “strike” the end zone. **Harold Joiner** is a 6-4, 210 lb. freshman back with good speed and excellent hands. Other than “mop up” duty, Joiner has not touched the ball twenty times. Whitlow needs help. Auburn needs help. Play them!



Devonta Smith, JR. Alabama WR



Tua Tagovailoa, Jr., Alabama QB

Remember the “orange fruit boots” he dressed Auburn in, in 2016. What a disaster. Look at the 2016 record. Now he has evidently decided to let the Auburn players wear black socks at home when they are in their navy blue jerseys. What a joke! Auburn has one of the best looking uniforms in the country whether they dress in blue or white. **Coach “Shug” Jordan** designed what has become the official uniform of the Auburn Tigers since 1956. Poor **Terry Bowden** tried to change it. Strange **Tommy Tuberville** tried to change it. Non-disciplined Gus Malzahn is falling into the same trap. No great football program in the United States changes their uniform from time to time. They just don’t. Why? Tradition, tradition, tradition. Without a consistent tradition, no football team will consistently succeed in college football. Forget about the NFL. That is strictly “show business”. The owners and coaches in the NFL are dealing with grown men who are being paid millions of dollars. If they want to wear green shoes, black socks, orange jerseys, purple pants and camouflage helmets, it is okay with the owners. The only thing they are really interested in is making money. Today’s NFL coaches demand no discipline any more, except for **Bill Belichick** of the New England Patriots. Who is perennially battling for the Super Bowl?

All over the country, the majority of football teams in college and in the NFL are predominately black. “Black is Beautiful” was the cry during the last century. It seems that black players are uncomfortable wearing the traditional white socks, so they talk “weak” coaches into changing to black socks instead. Tradition is threatened not by black players, but by weak coaches who are afraid of losing “five-star” black players in recruiting. They give in to the players demand for black socks. This is not only my theory, but the theory of other former coaches who I have discussed this with. This is not catastrophic in itself. But, if you give in on one part of the uniform, the next thing is another change and another and another! As a reader, look up the definition of “uniform.” Discarding tradition will eventually cost you games. Look at Oregon and Maryland.

Now, let me chastise Coach Nick Saban. There was a way to make **Jalen Hurts** and Tua Tagovailoa happy last year. They would still have been drafted well by the NFL. Alabama would have won the national championship. Either Tua or Jalen would have been the best alternate quarterback in the nation. Hurts would not have transferred. Tua would not have to face Hurts and Oklahoma in the 2019 NCAA National Championship Playoff. Of course, that is pure conjecture, but it could have happened. The worst criticism that I can lay at the feet of the best football coach in America is of his inattention to the kicking game. Saban knows how to recruit “five-star” players better than anybody ever has. Surely, he can put that same talent ability and effort into recruiting “five-star” kickers. In the thirteen years that Saban has been the head coach at Alabama, he has not won games because of the kicking game. He has won games in spite of the kicking game. Why? Beats Me!

The last half of the football season of 2019 will be much more exciting than the first half. Alabama will play LSU and Auburn. Auburn will play Florida, LSU, Georgia and Alabama. Army will play Navy. Florida will play Auburn, LSU and Georgia. Georgia will play Florida and Auburn. LSU will play Florida, Auburn, Alabama and Texas A& M. Michigan will play Penn State, Notre Dame, Michigan State and Ohio State. Michigan State will play Ohio State, Wisconsin, Penn State and Michigan. Notre Dame will play USC and Michigan. Ohio State will play Michigan State, Wisconsin, Penn State and Michigan. Oklahoma will play Texas. Oregon will play California, Washington, USC, Arizona State. Penn State will play Iowa, Michigan, Michigan State and Ohio State. Utah will play Arizona State, California, and Washington. Wisconsin will play Michigan State, Ohio State and Iowa.

TEE IT UP AGAIN BOYS!



Bo Nix, FR. Auburn QB



Seth Williams, SO. Auburn WR



Boobee Whitlow, SO. Auburn RB

NEED TO SELL
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Community Lifestyles



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Woods & Waters

Steve Long with Steve



9 Ways to Conceal Movement While Hunting

New research out of the University of Georgia Deer Lab is providing unique insight into the rate at which white-tailed deer process visual images and how they perceive their environment. It appears that deer actually receive visual information at a much faster rate than we do, making them more sensitive to movement. Any movement to them will appear to be in slow motion, which, of course, allows them to react more quickly. And, while this finding is true at all times of the day, it is at sunrise and sunset when the difference is greatest (four times greater than humans), the period when deer are most active and when hunters are most likely trying to outsmart them on their morning or evening hunts.

Now that you know deer see us through their own kind of slo-mo app, you’re likely thinking two things: 1) Well, that stinks; and 2) You’re vividly remembering that buck you shot at and missed last bow season because he jumped the string. Sorry to bring up bad memories.

Although you can’t do much about making your weapon of choice shoot faster, let’s discuss some ways that can help conceal your movement to, from and while on the stand in preparation for that “moment of truth.”

Traveling To/From the Stand:

1. Screening in process. Much has been written about this topic in the popular hunting press, but it works. Whether you plant a screen of trees, warm-season grasses or annual crops, hinge-cut to your heart’s content, or get really overzealous and use a large diameter corrugated drainage pipe to crawl hundreds of feet directly into your elevated blind, the act of using an object or screen to block a deer’s view can be extremely effective at concealing your movement to and from the stand.

2. The terrain chain. Topography is a wonderful thing. It influences our own land-use patterns, which impacts vegetation types, continuity and diversity, which directly affects deer and other wildlife utilization and travel. So, from a simple topographic map and aerial photo, you can begin to visualize broad patterns of deer movement. Although it takes a bit of experience analyzing these kinds of resources and ground-truthing each hunting property, over time you will build a sense of intuition and the ability to predict where deer will be, where they want to go, and how they will get there. Then you can use terrain in your favor, doing your best to avoid bumping deer and staying hidden as you enter and exit your hunting property. Since deer typically travel the path of least resistance, you should do the opposite. Walk across the grain and perpendicular to contour lines. Stay low, follow natural depressions to remain unseen. Also, use creek beds and other drainages when possible, which offer the added benefit of scent control by allowing you to walk in water as much as possible.

3. One-lane road ahead. If need be and existing cover blocks your path, clear yourself a way through it. Map out the best path based on your deer and topographical knowledge and take every effort to open it up well in advance of the season to minimize disturbance. I’ve even seen some folks go as far as raking leaves or using a leaf blower during the final approach to their stand to ensure each step they take is on soft, silent soil. But, a word of caution, over time deer may begin to use the same trails, so be prepared to abandon and re-create new access when that happens.

Realize that every time you scratch your nose, check Instagram, or scan the field in front of you hoping to see that giant buck you’ve been catching on trail-camera all month, you could be spotted.

4. Go around, fool! This should probably go without saying, but avoid the places deer want to be at the times they want to be there! For goodness sake, don’t walk straight across your highly attractive food plot, where you know they’re likely feeding, and hope to put an arrow in a deer in that same spot on a morning sit. It may take some extra planning and time to get in and out of your sets, but it will be worth the extra 10 minutes of walking or parking in an unusual spot when you can text your buddies that coveted hero shot.

On Stand:

5. Box yourself in. Don’t use a stand. Ground or elevated blinds have walls. Just be sure that it’s installed well ahead of the time you plan to hunt so deer become accustomed to its presence. Deer aren’t dumb. They are designed to survive, and seeing a new feature on the landscape like a hunting blind pop up out of nowhere will at best cause a reaction of curiosity (and, you can potentially kill some deer that way) but, at worst, it could cause a significant shift in deer

behavior and overall use of the area, which will reduce deer sightings and harvest opportunities.

6. Baby got natural backing. Whenever I’m scouting trees to hang a new set, I always look for opportunities to use natural backing to break up my silhouette against the skyline. Key features to pinpoint include multi-trunked trees, large diameter trees, tight groupings of coniferous trees, tall hardwood trees with mid-sized coniferous trees like hemlock or spruce right next to them, hardwood trees with a lot of branch structure that have persistent leaves (trees like oak, beech and others will hold their leaves well into the late-season), and others. The point is try to visualize what the stand may look like during hunting season and make sure you’re not going to be sticking out like a sore thumb.



Try to position tree stands in trees that offer natural backing of limbs, leaves or other trees to break up your silhouette.

Try to position stands in trees that offer natural backing of limbs, leaves or other trees to break up your silhouette.

7. Baby got fake backing. Of course, you can use some good old-fashioned human ingenuity to outwit those slow-motion-seeing critters if you find the perfect ambush site but it lacks trees with good concealment cover, or if you only have access to larger stands like a two-man ladder set-up. Simply purchase some high-quality camouflage netting to enclose the sitting area of the stand, in Mossy Oak Break-Up Country of course, or put your handyman skills to the test and create a backdrop with some plywood and spray paint.

8. Brush it in. This option is like ordering a combo of numbers 6 and 7 (no fries, I’m on a diet. Well, how about a small fries, thanks), wherein you cut some limbs of live branches with persistent leaves or needles and weave them in and out of the platform, side rails and next to your seat. Again, the objective is to not be silhouetted against the sky. One pretty innovative technique used by Dean Partridge of Canadian Whitetail television is to pile up several dozen branches with the cut ends lined-up and tie them together. Dean then hoists the bunch up to the backside of the tree, well above sitting height, and secures it to the trunk with a heavy rope, fanning out the bunch like an upside-down turkey tail. It’s quite effective!

9. JUST move slowly! Finally — and this may be the best advice of all — move slowly, like you’re navigating a minefield. Be hyper aware of your surroundings and simply realize that every time you scratch your nose, check out who posted on Instagram, or scan the field in front of you hoping to see that giant buck you’ve been catching on trail-camera all month, you could be spotted. Each motion must be purposeful, and they must be at least five times slower than you normally move to do the same activity. This is especially true when getting into position to shoot, such as grabbing your firearm or drawing a bow back.

Remember, you are a predator. Act like one.

Kritter Korner

Aardvark

Aardvarks are small pig-like mammals that are found inhabiting a wide range of different habitats throughout Africa, south of the Sahara. They are mostly solitary and spend their days sleeping in underground burrows to protect them from the heat of the African sun, emerging in the cooler evening to search for food. Their name originates from the Afrikaans language in South Africa and means Earth Pig, due to their long snout and pig-like body.

Aardvarks are unique among animals as they are the only surviving species in their animal family. Until recently it was widely believed that they were most closely related to other insectivores such as armadillos and



Ron VanHerwyn



Continued on page 7C

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Halloween Spooktacular

HALLOWEEN is just around the corner, and it is time to begin preparation for our community-safe Trick or Treat Halloween Spooktacular event for children between the ages of 1 and 13 years. We are seeking help from businesses, public services agencies, fraternities, sororities, churches, and Neighborhood Associations to make this event a success.

We want to prevent kids from going door-to-door in the communities by providing a one-stop, safe place. We are inviting agencies to take part in this event! The event will be at the Garrett Coliseum, 1555 Federal Drive on Thursday, October 31st from 5:30-8:00 p.m.

We will provide a table for you inside that you can set up and distribute candy as well as any other treats or items that you wish to hand out to the children. The only thing I ask is that each agency provides candy for the children. As you can imagine, we are expecting as large of a crowd, if not larger, than last year. For this reason, I am requesting that every agency bring enough candy for 3,000-5,000 children. Let's make this Trick or Treat Halloween event as safe as possible. You can assist us in doing this by participating in this event. We are encouraging all vendors to come in their

best Halloween costumes and to have the best-decorated table.

If you're interested in becoming a vendor at our Halloween Spooktacular, please email lisacrenshaw@mc-ala.org or contact the Administrative Office of the Sheriff, 832-1339.



Alabama National Fair

The Alabama National Fair will end on Monday, October 14th, if you haven't visited our booth inside the Garrett Coliseum, please stop by and meet Sheriff Cunningham and Staff!

Firearms Familiarization Course

Register NOW for any of our 2019 Firearms Familiarization Courses!

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Southern Cuisine



Fall has not arrived so any mention of warm soups and stews, fruit pies just out of the oven and canning the fruits and vegetables I have in the freezer would be premature. I'm staying with the theme of preparing meals and dishes that are served cold or at least room temperature. And meals that do not require heating up the kitchen. The air conditioner for my kitchen is overwhelmed with heat from the dishwasher. I stand in front of the opened refrigerator not to get ideas for meals but to get cool.

The two freezers in the kitchen are stocked with meats, vegetables and fruits so I should find something to write about. But no, I went to the store to stock up on fresh items. I ended up making a dish for dinner with friends. I decided to prepare a dish similar to the Rustic Bread Bowl Salad I included in my August article. I went from a pasta salad to a chicken salad and instead of a bread bowl, I stuffed some very large tomatoes.

The idea for the stuffed tomatoes came to me as I was strolling through the produce section of a local grocery store. I came upon a bin full of very large and very fresh tomatoes. I remembered a lunch my co-workers and I had during a conference in Montgomery. One of the entree choices was a chicken salad stuffed tomato. Nothing earth shattering new but it was a tasty, filling and inexpensive meal. And the presentation of the dish made it even more appealing. These tomatoes were perfect for that dish.

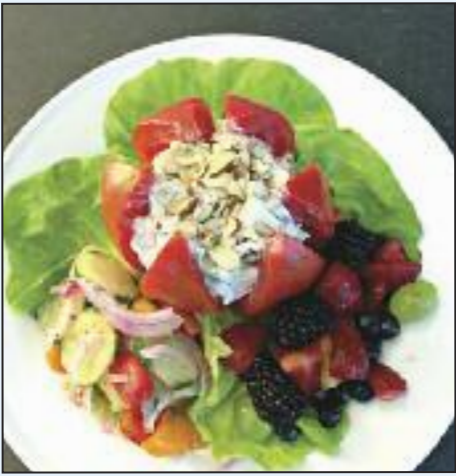
I knew I could develop a good recipe for the chicken salad, but I was not sure how to stuff the tomatoes. First was to remove the core. A logical step when prepping tomatoes. After removing the core I had to remove the insides. That was difficult with the small hole I made when removing the core. If I cut more off the top to remove the insides and to stuff the chicken salad inside, the presentation was lacking. This is where PINTEREST and a YOU TUBE video came to the rescue. I left the core in the tomato and opened the bottom. The tomato would look like a flower with red petals. After only messing up one tomato, I had the technique. I had to be careful not to cut too deep or remove too much of the insides of the tomato. The weight of the filling actually helped close the tomato around the chicken salad.

Next was the chicken salad. If you ask someone who makes the best tuna salad, the answer will be their mother. They will want the same ingredients their mother included, be it apples, pecans, mustard or relish. I decided to make a simple, few ingredient chicken salad to please a wide range of tastes. You can have a field day doctoring up this chicken salad. But everyone I served liked that it was a simple light chicken salad. For a hot day in September it was perfect. The sides I had with the tomato made it a complete entree.

Chicken Salad Stuffed Tomatoes with Fresh Berries and Marinated Garden Vegetables

INGREDIENTS FOR CHICKEN SALAD

- 1 package Costco Rotisserie Chicken Breast Meat, 2.62 pounds
- 6 extra large firm tomatoes
- 2 cups chopped celery
- 2 cups mayonnaise
- 1 teaspoon celery salt
- 3/4 cup almond slivers for salad
- 1/4 cup almond slivers for garnish
- 2 teaspoons tarragon
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- Note: Start with one cup mayonnaise and add until desired consistency.



The chicken from Costco needs to be chopped into smaller pieces. I chopped mine into pieces no smaller than ½ inch chunks. It's a chicken salad not a chicken sandwich spread.

Mix ingredients in bowl. Scoop into cored tomatoes.

INGREDIENTS FOR MARINATED VEGETABLES

- 1 cucumber peeled, seeded and sliced
- 2 bell peppers any color seeded and chopped into ½ inch pieces
- 1 small red onion, thinly sliced in half rings
- 1/2 cup olive oil
- 1/2 cup white wine vinegar
- 1 teaspoon Italian seasoning
- salt and pepper to taste

Mix everything together. Make ahead to give time for the vegetables to marinate.

INGREDIENTS FOR FRESH BERRIES

- 1 cup fresh blackberries left whole
- 1 cup fresh strawberries cored and halved
- 1 cup fresh blueberries
- 1 cup whole grapes
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice

Mix together and serve cold.

PRESENTATION OF CHICKEN SALAD.

- Have everything cold before plating dish. Even the plate.
- Cover large plate with Bibb or other quality lettuce.
- Using an ice cream scoop, gently open the tomato and fill to the point where there is enough salad to hold the “petals” open.
- Place stuffed tomato off-centered on lettuce.
- Place a scoop of drained vegetables on one side of tomato.
- Place a scoop of fruit on other side.
- One twist of fresh ground pepper and a sprinkle of almond slivers on top.

I have been experimenting with ways to extend the shelf life of some foods. I have had success with saving avocados from going bad without just eating them all before they have a chance to go bad. I have a vacuum food storage machine used for sous vide cooking. It is mostly used to freeze foods either cooked or raw to keep them from freezer burn. I remember that my H.E.B. grocery store in Texas always had avocado halves sealed in a plastic bag with a shelf life of a week to 10 days, maybe more. I had several avocados that were pushing their prime so I decided to run some tests. I first cut an avocado in half. One half I promptly ate. Experimenting makes you hungry. With the other half, I tried the old trick of leaving the pit in and coating the half with lemon

juice and putting it in the icebox, uncovered. The remaining avocados I peeled and pitted. I placed each one in a separate vacuum bag with a dribble of lemon juice and sealed them. One bag went to the freezer and one bag went to the refrigerator.

After two days, I took the uncovered half out of the refrigerator and removed the pit. The color was great, like I just peeled it. So I sliced it and ate it. Still firm and tasty. After one week, I took the sealed avocado from the icebox and sliced it and put it in two hot dogs. What else? It was slightly softer than the one left uncovered in the icebox but I think that was because the icebox dried the open avocado. It was still a tasty avocado! The one in the freezer is still in the freezer. I took it out long enough for a photograph. It still has all the color of a fresh one. Comments I have read about freezing avocados is they will be somewhat mushy after defrosting and only good for guacamole. That is not a problem because I make guacamole out of most of the avocados I buy. So I am going to peel, dribble with lemon juice and seal avocados when they are on sale. Some will go to the freezer and some will go to the produce drawer. I will have avocados for everyday eating and when need be, I can make a batch of guacamole for us and guests.

Remember the lists of items you need to keep in your pantry? After reading an article about food storage here are a few items to add. These are canned and packaged items that are, as Alton Brown would say “Good Eats”. Items that have a long shelf life and are safe to eat.

Canned or boxed tomatoes: The jury is still out but if you find BPA and BPS free containers, and are preparing anything but a BLT or a stuffed tomato, canned or boxed tomatoes have the greatest tomato taste. Also look for any other added ingredient, like salt.

Canned salmon: Look for wild caught.

Prepared pesto: Long shelf life and pick your favorite.

Precooked packaged grains: Look for sodium content. Since these are cooked faster than you can at home, they usually contain more of the healthy nutrients.

Frozen legumes: Canned beans are usually packed with too much salt.

Nut butters: Check for sugar and salt content. There are butters for every nut you can think of.

Frozen fruit: Freshly picked and then frozen, no preservatives.

There seems to be an abundant crop of zucchini this summer. After eating it baked, fried, spiralized and stewed, my wife decided to do a cold dish with zucchini. A refreshing cold soup. The one drawback is you have to cook the zucchini first. It does not take long to cook diced zucchini and chopped green onions in chicken broth. The heat index for the kitchen is still low.

Zucchini Soup

Serves 8-10

Recipe from Dot Dickson

INGREDIENTS

- 4 cups sliced zucchini, ends and blemishes removed
- 4 cups chicken broth
- 1 bunch green onions, white and green parts chopped
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon pepper
- 2 (8 ounce) packages cream cheese softened
- 1 tablespoon dill

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Cook first five ingredients until zucchini is tender. Add softened cream cheese and dill.
2. Puree in blender until smooth.

Serve cold.



I have been an advocate for buying local. Now there is an organization to designate locally farmed products. It is called **SWEET GROWN ALABAMA**. As Rick Pate, commissioner of the Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries, stated in an interview “We want residents of Alabama to walk into a grocery store or farmers market and easily identify products grown in Alabama.” He added “The Sweet Grown Alabama brand logo will allow them to do so and ensure the product they purchase is grown to the highest standards of quality and food safety.”

This is a new program, so go online to SweetGrownAlabama.com for more information. Remember, if it is from your home, it is from your heart.



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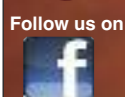
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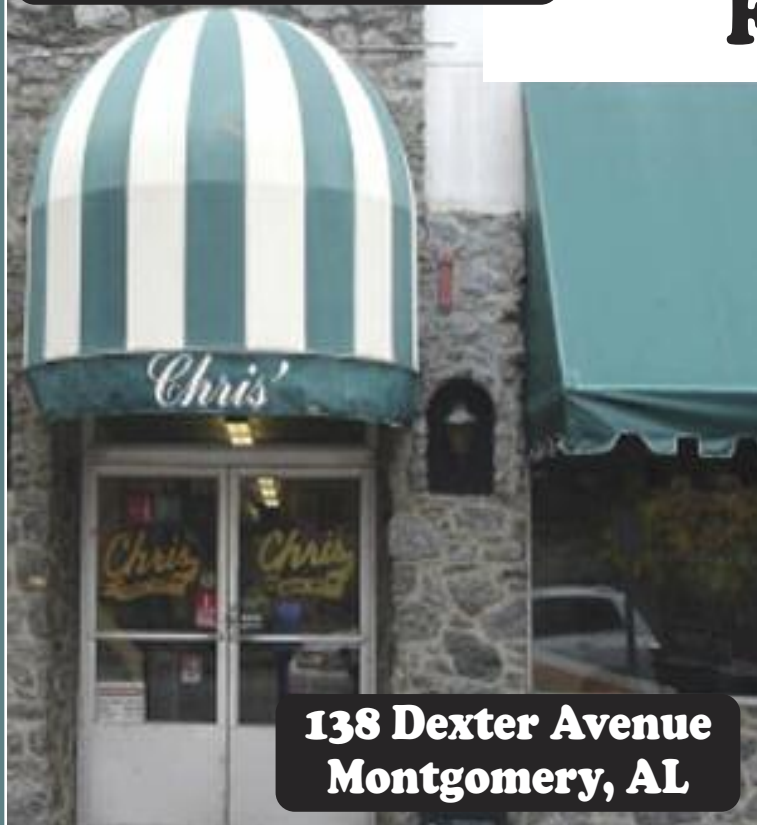
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Southern Gardening

Potpourri for October

by Peggy Givhan



**Judge
Peggy Givhan**

When I was young, growing up in South Alabama, when October came around, our thoughts turned to all the fun things that would be happening. The county fair was always a big attraction, not only for all of the rides, but for funnel cakes, cotton candy, caramel popcorn, boiled peanuts, and the prize bulls. Of course, just walking around and people watching brought smiles to our faces. Usually, around that time rodeo events would have entertained us. Those were simpler times, but very nostalgic.

Our gardens in the fall can be spectacular with bursts of bright colors such as the yellows and oranges of mums and marigolds, I do not waste my garden space planting mums in the spring, cutting them back in June so they will not bloom then, and waiting for their fall bloom. Just go out and purchase the finished product and plug them in at will. A swath of mums in the beds, or in pots may be all your garden needs to transition to winter. If you see small plants in 4" pots, do not purchase thinking they will "spread" or fill in. These would have to be planted very close together for a good effect. I have used these smaller mums indoors with several per contained. Because they are planted and not cut flowers, they should last for at least a month. The great thing about fully grown mums is that they give your the instant garden effect. There is only one variety which I have found to die back earlier than others and that variety is called "yellow jacket". Mums do give the garden the perfect fall flavor.

I believe we have experienced the hottest and driest summer that I can remember. Tomatoes languished, and were poor producers, even though they had plenty of water. I had to pull them out in August, which in normal times, I could just cut back severely, fertilize and have tomatoes all fall. These were all heirlooms, so I did save the seed and hope for more clement weather next year. I did notice when I was purchasing tomato plants this spring that the newer varieties boasted "heat tolerant". I probably will try a few of these plants next year. And I may plant tomatoes in an area some shade.

I love using perennials whether we are starting new beds, or whether we add them to already established beds. These are long lived, sometimes living 5 years or longer. Now we can not grow peonies in Montgomery, but they have been known to live up to 75 years. It does take perennials about 2 or more years to completely mature. When planting them in the beds, they need to be about 15 to 18 inches and in drifts. So we need to use fillers around the perennials in order to avoid one of the most dreaded looks for a flower bed--large swatches

of bare ground. Annuals serve this purpose admirably, and there are no shortage of these plants. For the fall/winter beds, some good choices would be dianthus, pansies, snap dragons (the rocket variety or the dwarf variety), and alyssum to name a few. Next spring, try seeding your beds with cleome, zinnias, and larkspur amongst your perennials.

PLANT OF THE MONTH--CROCUS



mckeonsgarden.wordpress.com

These bulbs are some of the best loved of all spring bulbs. These are many species, all in the Iris family and many species bloom fall, winter spring and summer. Their bulbs are small button like corms, which are easy to grow. With a height of about 4 to 6 inches, they make great ground covers. These are some of the earliest of bulb bloomers, and grow well in full sun to partial shade. In our area, the plants go dormant in the heat, and reappear in cooler temps. Their colors include bright yellow, blue, purple, white with hints of blue, All varieties do well in our Zone 8, so if you have not tried them, now is the time.

GOOD GARDENING.

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Soul Searching

Just A Few of My Favorite Quotes

We all need to be encouraged, inspired and challenged, right?

One of the ways I do that is by reading quotes. So, I often search for and screenshot quotes I like and keep them on my iPhone for future reference.

Here are a few of my favorite quotes:

“Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.”
– **Mother Teresa**

“Stand for what is right even if you stand alone.” – **Martin Luther King, Jr.**

“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.”
– **Martin Luther King, Jr.**

“Complaints are prayers to the devil.” – **Bob Marley**

“Love the life you live. Live the life you love.” – **Bob Marley**

“It is better to be faithful than famous.” – **Theodore Roosevelt**

“It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat.” – **Theodore Roosevelt**

“never give in, never give in, never, never, never, never in nothing, great or small, large or petty never give in except to convictions of honour and good sense. Never yield to force; never yield to the apparently overwhelming might of the enemy” – **Winston Churchill**

“You will never reach your destination if you stop and throw stones at every dog that barks.” – **Winston Churchill**

“Life is hard; it’s harder if you’re stupid.” – **John Wayne**

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms. Therefore put on the full armor of God, so that when the day of evil comes, you may be able to stand your ground, and after you have done everything, to stand. Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord’s people.” – **Paul, Ephesians 6:10-18 NIV**

“The truth is like a lion. You don’t have to defend it. Let it loose. It will defend itself.” – **St. Augustine**

“The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me, is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, than

education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think, say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness or skill. It will make or break a company... a church... a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we embrace for that day. We cannot change our past... we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play the one string we have, and that is our attitude... I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. And so it is with you... we are in charge of our Attitudes.” – **Charles Swindoll**

“What doesn’t kill you makes you stronger. Except for bears, bears will kill you.”
– **Unknown**

“Never explain yourself. Your friends don’t need it and your enemies won’t believe it.” – **Ancient Chinese Proverb**

“What one generation tolerates, the next generation will embrace.”
– **John Wesley**

“Give me 100 preachers who fear nothing but sin and desire nothing but God; such alone will shake the gates of hell.” – **John Wesley**

“We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit.”
– **Aristotle**

“Before you act, listen. Before you react, think. Before you spend, earn. Before you criticize, wait. Before you pray, forgive. Before you quit, try.” – **Unknown**

“The pessimist complains about the wind; the optimist expects it to change; the realist adjusts the sails.” – **William Arthur Ward**

“Relying on God has to start all over everyday, as if nothing has yet been done.”
– **C.S. Lewis**

“When a toxic person can no longer control you, they will try to control how others see you. The misinformation will feel unfair, but stay above it, trusting that other people will eventually see the truth, just like you did.” – **Unknown**

“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.” – **Jesus, John 10:10 NIV**

“Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.” – **Jesus, Luke 6:38 NIV**

“I am no longer my own, but thine. Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed for thee or laid aside for thee. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thou art mine and I am thine. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.” – **John Wesley**

“My purpose for telling you these things is so that the joy that I experience will fill your hearts with overflowing gladness! So this is my command: Love each other deeply, as much as I have loved you.” – **Jesus, John 15:11-12 TPT**

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” – **Jesus, John 3:16 NIV**

Hope you were encouraged, inspired or challenged by a few of these quotes!

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By Dr. Martha Poole Simmons

John F. Morrow: Battle of the Bulge Hero

John F. Morrow is a 97 year-old WWII veteran who served as a U. S. Army tank driver in the liberation of Belgium, Holland, France and Germany. Lt. General George S. Patton was his commander during the Battle of the Bulge in the Ardennes, a region in southeast Belgium that extends into Luxembourg, Germany and France. The Battle of the Bulge was the major German offensive campaign on the Western Front during World War II taking place from December 16, 1944, to January 25, 1945, during the coldest months of the year in northern Europe. Not only was Morrow enduring



extremely hazardous combat, he was also responsible for maneuvering tanks in the Ardennes region in rugged terrain that encompasses rolling valleys, meandering rivers, extensive caves and dense forests. Despite heavy casualties, Lieutenant General George S. Patton’s successful maneuvering of the Third Army to Bastogne proved vital to the Allied defense, leading to the neutralization of the German counteroffensive. The Battle of the Bulge was the costliest action ever fought by the U.S.

Morrow was born February 2, 1922, in Big Flat, AK, to his parents, Calvin and Matilda Morrow where he was reared and graduated from Marshall

High School. At age 19, he volunteered to serve and joined the U. S. Army. He completed the Army Basic Training learning to drive Sherman tanks at Ft. Knox, KY. The M4 Sherman tank had a five-man crew including a commander, gunner, loader, driver and assistant driver/bow gunner. Further training to drive each of the Army’s vehicles was completed at Camp Polk, LA, followed by desert training at Death Valley, CA, paratrooper training at Ft. Benning, GA, and frigid training at Camp Shanks, New York. All of his military driving within the U.S. was done driving a half-track vehicle. He was deployed sailing on the

liner, the Queen Mary, to Scotland landing at Normandy after the Allies D-Day landing. His unit’s first mission with the 23rd Armor Division was to recapture Paris from the Nazis. He suffered burns to his eyes and was hospitalized for several weeks. While still driving the half-track, he was wounded three more times. He then joined the 7th Army Division as a tank driver and suffered a bullet wound to one ear escaping a serious injury to his head because he turned his head to the side just before he was shot. After the success in the Battle of the Bulge, he was the first tank driver to cross the Rhine River as the Army entered Germany. Morrow received the military award, the European Theater of Operations Medal with Four Clusters and also received citations from colonels. His unit participated in the liberation of concentration camps. His unit of tankers gave all of their food to liberated prisoners expecting to be replenished by the supply truck; however his unit was surrounded resulting in having no food or water for three days and nights. He had opportunities to shake hands with Generals Patton, Eisenhower and Bradley. Although it was planned for his unit to go to the Pacific Theater for battle, the Japanese surrendered in August, 1945. Morrow was discharged in October, 1945.

After discharge, Morrow returned to Arkansas where he did some review study at his high school followed by graduation with a B. S. Degree in Science at Northeastern Teachers College in Tahlequah, OK. He taught high school biology and chemistry and coached basketball at Timbo, Marshall and Leslie, AR, for 16 years. His next employment was at Hanford Works, a nuclear production complex, in Richland, WA, for seven years. He returned to AR and worked in dry wall construction in houses and commercial buildings retiring in 1988.

He was married to his first wife, Joyce for 54 years until she passed away, and they had two sons and nine grandchildren. Now he has been married to Carie Nell for 18 years. He and Carie enjoy playing cards and dominoes with friends weekly. Since 1957, Morrow has been serving in the ministry as a pastor. He serves as a pastor to senior adults to the New Home Baptist Church in Elmore County, AL, and the Clearview Baptist Church in Chilton County, AL.

Morrow concludes about his experiences as a tank driver in combat saying, “The thing that sticks most in my mind is how scared I was, and I was sitting there seeing German tanks shooting at me. I went in because I love this country, and I always want this country to be free. Don’t let anybody ever tell you that there wasn’t any praying going on out there.”



Willie Lee Maxwell

Willie Lee Maxwell is a 97 year-old WWII and Korean War veteran who received two Purple Hearts for arm and head wounds received in the Korean War. Maxwell also received the Good Conduct Medal, World War II Victory Medal, Philippine Liberation Ribbon with two bronze stars, the Combat Infantry Badge and the Asiatic-Pacific Ribbon with Bronze Star. On November 16, 2018, Maxwell was among 90 Korean War veterans presented with the Ambassador for Peace Medal by Young-jun Kim, Consul General of the Republic of Korea in Atlanta. His combat service record in Korea was July, 1950-May, 1951.



Maxwell was born February 22, 1922, in Coosa County, AL, to his parents, Les Maxwell and Mamie Belle McGhee-Maxwell. After his mother passed away, he was reared by his grandmother, Hattie McGhee. Maxwell attended the Keyno School in the small town of Kellyton in Coosa County, AL. He helped his grandmother on the farm raising cotton, corn, peas, tobacco and rice; as well as plowing fields with a mule. Later he worked at a local sawmill. In those days, children often did not complete high school because they were needed to work on the farms. Maxwell finished the sixth grade, and as a young boy, he joined the New Elam Baptist Church where over the years, he witnessed many changes there including walking a mile to church, riding to church in a

wagon pulled by a mule and later being transported in a car. In addition, he saw the installation of indoor bathrooms as well as central heating and air conditioning.

In 1943 at the age of 21, Maxwell enlisted in the U. S. Army beginning at Ft. Benning, GA. He served in the U. S. Army’s medical units receiving his Basic Training at Ft. Pickett, Blackstone, VA, followed by assignments to Camp Beale, CA and Hawaii. He was involved with inspecting cemeteries and spraying mosquitoes to prevent malaria. Maxwell was sent to the Philippines when General McArthur returned there and then to Korea. He served nine years and five months during WWII and the Korean War as a member of the 9th Infantry Second (Indianhead) Division. Maxwell’s duty stations included Camp Stewart, GA, Ft. Lee, VA, Camp Beale, CA, Ft. Jackson, SC, Oahu, HI, the Philippines, Pusan, Korea, and Sasebo, Japan. His various duties included infantry, construction laborer and veterinary technician. In Hawaii, he took care of animals that were in a clinic for quarantine or medical procedures. Special attention was given to horses because they played an important role in military parades, funeral processions and other ceremonies.

On July 9, 1952, Maxwell was honorably discharged at the rank of Private First Class. After his discharge, Maxwell returned to live in Coosa County with his wife Josie Mae Thomas-Maxwell. Their union produced one son, Willie Arthur, and one daughter, Mamie, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. After returning from military service, he worked at a local poultry farm, and Becthal Pipe Line performing equipment maintenance on vehicles for 10 years and with the Ray Water Company installing water lines in Coosa County. In addition to his church duties, his hobbies included fishing and gardening.

Reflecting upon his overseas assignments, Maxwell states that he found out about the poor living conditions of people outside of America, and he was grateful that he had survived. He remembers: Army life was hard, the work was hard, and the soldiers were always on the go, friends were hurt and killed, and Black soldiers suffered discrimination. An example of the discrimination which occurred was when white soldiers were issued medals in the fields, whereas Black soldiers were told that they would receive their medals later. Maxwell appreciates that he was able to travel, meet people from different places and see other countries. He concludes that he was able to experience things that he would not have seen or done if it had not been for his serving in the Army. Maxwell feels that being a soldier was his way of helping people because some of the places overseas were worse off than where he had lived in Alabama.



Guy Newell Vaughn

Guy Newell Vaughn is a 93 year-old veteran who served in the U. S. Army during WWII. He was born January 9, 1926, in Cherokee County in northeast AL. His parents were Tollie G. Vaughn and Minnie Floyd. After graduation from high school, he was drafted into military service at age 18.



Vaughn was sent to Ft. Benning, GA, where he was processed into service receiving his uniforms and weaponry. His Boot Camp training was at Camp

Blanding, FL. Vaughn sailed to Europe from New York City’s harbor, and as he sailed pass the Stature of Liberty, Vaughn recalls the feeling that he got when he saw that stature, and it made him proud to be serving his country. He also remembers that his ship encountered a severe storm during its Atlantic Ocean crossing that was very frightening to him.

Vaughn served in France and Germany, and he was on a troop train in France headed toward the front lines when WWII ended. However, he was required to stay on in Europe for the remainder of his service time. Vaughn served in Le Mans, France, as a telephone operator for about six months. He recalls that there was a prison there, and he witnessed several hangings. It was required that the American troops had to stand at attention during the execution. His next assignment was to supervise operations of a warehouse in Darmstadt, Germany, which had suffered a lot of destruction from the Allies’ bombing. During times of recreation, Vaughn taught Darmstadt youth how to play baseball. He recalls hearing Tony Bennett sing many times when Bennett performed with an Army band. His reflections about his participation in WWII are, “It was an adventure to travel to other countries because I had never been out of AL. The destruction that I witnessed was devastating.”

Vaughn was married to Annie Laura Bishop for 67 years, and they had three children, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. After discharge from the Army, he worked as a farmer in northeast AL raising cotton, soybeans, corn and wheat. He purchased a cat fish farm and allowed neighbors and friends to fish there. Later he worked helping his nephew with a heating and air conditioning business. He was a member of the Spring Valley Baptist Church, Springville, AL, and the Shady Grove Baptist Church at Cherokee County, AL.

Reverend Dr. Roy Thomas Sublette

The Reverend Dr. Roy Thomas Sublette is a 91 year-old U. S. Navy veteran who served as a Methodist minister for over 70 years. Sublette was born in Montgomery, AL, August 17, 1928, to his parents, Roy Newton and Effie Elizabeth Sublette. He was reared in Montgomery, graduated from Sidney Lanier High School on June 6, 1946, and volunteered to serve in the U. S. Navy one week later on June 13, 1946. Sublette completed Boot Camp at the U.S. Naval Training Center at Bainbridge, MD, where he learned the basic training of all personnel who join the Navy. He was trained at the Storekeeping School at Bainbridge as a Disbursing (Pay Unit) Storekeeper for the Navy.



Sublette was assigned to ships out of San Diego, CA, the USS *Prairie*, a supply ship followed by permanent assignment to the USS *Benner* DDR 807, a Radar-Pickett ship destroyer. Although WWII was over when he reached the Far East, Sublette served as a Commissary Storekeeper being responsible for food supply on this ship all over the Pacific Ocean. His rank began as a Seaman Second Class and rose to the rank of Seaman First Class and then to Storekeeper Third Class which is a Third-Class Petty Officer. His ship patrolled the shores of Far Eastern Asia as occupation duty took him to Pearl Harbor, Guam, China (Tsingtao, Shanghai & Hong Kong), Japan, Okinawa, Saipan, Korea (Pusan), etc. Sublette believes the dropping of the Atomic Bombs on Japan August 6, and 9, 1945, resulted in his life being saved because the invasion of mainland Japan by Allied forces was planned for the Spring of 1946. He would have been a part of that invasion and the battle for Japan which would have resulted in the loss of thousands of American lives. Sublette is grateful that it had not been necessary for him to serve in combat. After serving for almost two years, Sublette was discharged in March, 1948.

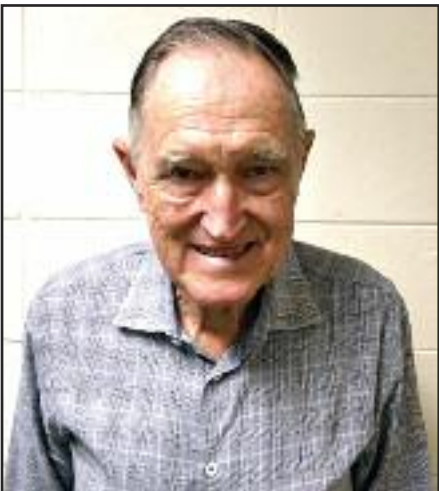
Sublette received the call to the Christian ministry while he was still in service. Sublette stated, “It was good that the Lord called me into the ministry while I was serving in the Navy though I did not recognize it at the time.” Whenever the ship was in harbor, sailors had to go on land to attend church on Sundays



Lt. Col. Leo M. Headley Jr.

Lt. Col. Leo M. Headley is a heroic U.S. Air Force veteran who served as a pilot and as an instructor of other such pilots for 20 years. Headley was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, Meritorious Service Medal which is awarded for single acts of heroism or meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight, Air Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Air Force Reservist Medal and the Joint Service Commendation Medal.

Headley was born in Chilton County to his parents, Leo M. Headley, Sr. and



Ethel Headley, September 17, 1931. He assisted his farther on a large farm, graduating from Verbena High School, completed training in R.O.T.C. and graduated from Auburn University formerly known as Alabama Polytechnic Institute with a B. S. Degree in Agricultural Science, and he was commissioned as a 2nd Lt. in the U. S. Air Force.

His 20 years of service as a military officer in the Air Force took him to many Air Force bases within the United States as well as to overseas assignments in Greece, Vietnam, Iran and Korea. His training as a pilot began with preflight at Lackland AFB, TX, followed by Graham AB, FL, flying the Piper Cub and T-6



John Sherrer

John Sherrer served in the U. S. Army in the Korean War, and although he was not involved in the fighting, he was assigned guard duty for the Demilitarized Zone which was created after a truce ended the “hot” war between North and South Korea. John stated, “I pulled guard duty during

my time there. We could see North Korean troops near us. They could see us, too, of course and would park a tank near the DMZ just to let us know they were watching.” He served 18 months in Korea and Japan totaling 23 months and 20 days.” Sherrer said, “Thousands of us answered out country’s call back then. We didn’t question what it was for. It’s what has made our country great.” Sherrer’s leadership abilities were noted as soon as he donned his Army uniform, and by the time he was discharged, he had been

promoted to Master Sergeant. Sherrer proudly wears his patriotism on his sleeves and takes a dim view of those who don’t feel the same way that he does.

After two years of active duty, Sherrer served six and one-half years in the Army National Guard, one of the first five enlisted men when the Army National



because there was no chaplain on the ship. Whenever there was opportunity, he was the only one who went. The Lord kept telling him, “Somebody should do something.” He told the Lord, “I am not qualified.” The Lord told him, “Get qualified.” He kept reading a Gideon Bible that he had on board so that he could talk to others about the Bible. After discharge, he returned to Montgomery. He was invited by his aunt to attend a Frazer United Methodist Church Sunday School Class Picnic hosted by Roy Cox, the teacher of the class that still today bears his name. Roy was a man who greatly influenced him into becoming a minister. Sublette was still single, and he met his wife-to-be, Jean, as a blind date on Roy and Elsie Cox’s front porch on June 3, 1948. They went to the picnic together. They then wed on January 8, 1949, and have been married 70 years. They have two children, seven grandchildren and 16 great-grandchildren.

Before entering the ministry full time, he worked in Montgomery as an accountant for the American Agricultural Chemical Company. Although he attended the University of AL’s Montgomery campus studying accounting, he accepted the call to ministry and graduated from Huntingdon College with a B. A. Degree in Religion in 1952 and graduated with a Master of Divinity Degree from the School of Divinity at Vanderbilt University in 1955. He received an Honorary Doctorate from Huntingdon College in 1985.

Sublette served many Methodist Churches beginning with the LaPlace Charge serving four circuit churches in Macon County and one in Montgomery County. He served five circuit churches in Sumner County, TN., plus the Greenbrier Methodist Church also in TN. After completion of his degree at Vanderbilt, he served as pastor at Curtis Memorial Methodist Church in Dothan, AL, for four years. Sublette returned to Montgomery to serve as pastor of Normandale Methodist Church for eight years and then to Ft. Walton Beach, FL, for four years as pastor of First United Methodist Church of that panhandle city. He was then selected as Superintendent of the Demopolis, AL, District supervising about 50 Methodist churches and pastors for six years. Afterward, Sublette returned to Montgomery to serve as the pastor of Aldersgate United Methodist Church for seven years followed by serving as the Council Director for the Alabama-West Florida Conference and program assistant to the Bishop of the AL/West FL Methodist Conference for four years. His next pastorate was at the Fairhope, AL, UMC for two years and then to Cokesbury United Methodist Church in Pensacola, FL, where he retired from 43 years of full-time ministry as pastor/administrator in 1993.

Sublette then served on the staff at Frazer Memorial United Methodist Church in evangelism and congregational care for 19 more years making a total of 62 years. While on staff at Frazer, he also served for two years as the pastor of Trinity UMC in Weoka, Alabama. Although Sublette has now retired from full time ministry as a Methodist pastor, he still serves and visits others. He is the author of the book, *Walking in the Light of the Eternal: A Pastor Called to Serve Christ During the Civil Rights Struggle in Alabama.* He served as the President of the Montgomery Ministerial Association during his pastorates in Montgomery. He is presently working on his second book, entitled “As for Me and My House” with the sub-title of “The Strength of the Nation Depends on the Strength of the Christian Family.”

and then to Greenville AFB, MS, flying the T-28 and the T-33 receiving his pilot’s wings pinned on by his wife. His first assignment was at Craig AFB, Selma, AL, as the Headquarters Squadron Commander and Assistant Wing Adjutant. He completed training at the Basic Instructor School at Craig where he then served as an instructor for pilots for one year followed by deployment to Athens, Greece, serving as a Classified Courier flying all over the Middle East carrying classified mail. Headley sailed on a ship within eight miles of the Russian border on the Black Sea carrying classified mail. His next assignment was to Laughlin AFB, Del Rio, TX, where he served as instructor of pilots in the Lockheed T-33 Shooting Star and the Northrop T-38 Talon. He was promoted to serve at Stand Board where he flew with instructors to make sure that students were trained correctly. When he returned from Vietnam, he learned that 22 of the former instructors had been killed in Vietnam.

Headley’s hazardous service in Vietnam included 186 combat missions with 26 of them flying over North Vietnam in the McDonnell Douglas F-4C. When North Korea took possession of the ship, the USS *Pueblo*, from four squadrons at Cam Ranh Bay, he was picked among those who still had six months of service in Vietnam to go to Korea. His family did not know where he was when he was deployed to Korea. His next assignment was at Reese AFB, Lubbock, TX, as a pilot instructor in the T-37 and as the Administrative Officer. Headley was next sent to Tehran, Iran, to serve as the Executive Officer for an Air Force general for two years. He returned to Craig AFB to serve as the Base Operations Officer inspecting the airfield runways, lights, pilots’ flight forms, etc.

Headley concludes describing his military service saying, “By the time that I retired in 1975, I ended up with almost 5,800 flying hours. I enjoyed my time in the Air Force. Every time that I rotated back from overseas, I was sent to a training command base.”

Headley and his wife, Betty, have been married 65 years, and they have four children, five grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. He enjoys hunting mule deer in Colorado and going to his family’s farm. After retirement from the military, he received a Master’s Degree in Agricultural Economics from Auburn University in 1981, and then he began full time Christian service. He is an active member of Frazer Memorial Methodist Church in Montgomery where he served on the staff as the Buildings and Grounds Supervisor for 17 years.

Guard organized in Dallas County, AL. He then worked at a cattle ranch at Marion Junction, moved to Flint, Michigan, where he worked in management for a firm that hauled automobiles for one and one-half years, to Atlanta for one year and to Los Angeles for one year. He attended the University of Alabama. Sherrer worked as the manager for Houston Truck for six and one-half years and moved to Ocala, FL, where he started a brick supply business for one year. He moved back to Selma and worked at Henry Brick Co. for 31 years retiring in 2002.

Sherrer has devoted many years of service as a lay-person to the United Methodist Church. From age 15, he has served as a lay-speaker. Not only has he served as a District lay-leader for the Selma-Prattville, AL District, he has also served as a Conference lay-leader for the Alabama-West Florida Methodist Conference. Sherer has served six times as a delegate to the General Methodist Conference representing Alabama and seven times as a delegate to the Jurisdictional Conference. At his local church, he serves as a volunteer for the Church Street United Methodist Church at Selma, AL, where he has taught Sunday School, sung in the choir and served as a lay-speaker.

John Sherrer was born, May 3, 1932, at Plantersville, AL, where he lived until he was 12 years old. His family moved to Massillon, AL, where he lived until he was 26. John and his wife, Sherie, have been married 60 years. They have four children, 11 grandchildren and one great-grand child.

In reflecting upon his guard duty for the Korean DMZ, Sherrer stated, “It made me appreciate home, the U.S.A. and the freedoms that we enjoy. These freedoms are certainly worth the price that we paid for it and whatever it takes to maintain it.”



Halloween has become an issue among Christians !



BY RUSSELL K. TARDO

Long considered harmless fun, many are now questioning its history, nature, influence and fruit. The revitalization of Satanism and Witchcraft and their obvious association with Halloween has caused Christians to wonder whether they should participate in it at all. There is no denying the bizarre and occultic nature of Halloween decorum (certainly witches, devils, ghouls, monsters, vampires and ghosts are not Christian in character!). But in spite of that, some Christians defend their participation in the holiday asserting their "liberty" in Christ from the bondages of "legalism", or shrugging it off as innocent fun. Many churches see the whole thing as evil and will have nothing to do with the celebration whatsoever. Others see no harm in it and participate fully, with costume parties, Halloween decorations and trick-or-treat. Still others try to find a "middle-of-the-road" approach, allowing trick-or-treat and masquerades, but as "Bible characters" instead of demonic and occult figures.

What's wrong with Halloween? And, what should be the attitude of the conscientious Christian towards it? Is it harmless, or is it sinister? The facts we present below should help you to answer that question once for all.

1. THE HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION IS THOROUGHLY ROOTED IN PAGANISM AND THE OCCULT.

History traces it back to the ancient religion of the Druids, a religion so evil that Rome forbad its practice. The AMERICAN PEOPLES ENCYCLOPEDIA explains: "The origin of Halloween customs antedate Christianity. The Druids, members of pagan orders in Britain, Ireland and Gaul, held a celebration on October 31st, the eve of the Festival of Samhain. It was a night of ghosts and fairies, in which bonfires were built and futures were foretold and witches rode through the sky."

Superstitions linking cats with reincarnation made them special objects of notice on Halloween. Unquestionably, the holiday had its origin with the pagan Druids, only they called it the "Festival of Samhain – lord of the dead". Samhain was nothing more or less than a demon (a demon spirit of death at that, or perhaps he may have been Satan himself!) who was given special homage on Halloween. This is where the emphasis on death comes from on that night. Death symbols such as coffins, tombstones, skeletons, skulls and crossbones, ghosts, mummies and graveyards are common Halloween decorations.

Numerous legends surrounded the holiday, but two significant things supposedly occurred on that night:

First, It was believed that the dead would rise out of their graves and wander the countryside, trying to return to the homes where they formerly lived. Frightened villagers tried to appease these wandering spirits by offering them gifts of fruits and nuts. If not placated, villagers feared that the spirits would kill their flocks or destroy their property. This is the origin of our present day "trick-or-treat"! It's a custom born out of superstition, and pagan superstition at that!

Furthermore, its a blasphemous perversion of the Christian belief in the Resurrection. In Christianity, the righteous dead are resurrected in a glorified, immortal body. In Druidism, the dead are raised as horrifying creatures of the night, hideous monsters, decaying skeletons, vampires, etc. They received not glorified bodies, but grotesque ones; not immortal bodies, but inhuman ones.

Second, Samhain was the supreme night of Demonic jubilation. This was a celebration of the beginning of Winter and darkness, as daylight grew noticeably shorter, and nights lengthier. The hoardes of hell would roam the earth in a wild celebration of darkness and death, all in honor of Samhain! Pity the poor mortal forced to travel on such a night! The only thing the superstitious people knew to do to protect themselves on such an occasion was to masquerade as one of the demonic hoarde, and hopefully blend in unnoticed among them! This is the origin of Halloween masquerading as devils, imps, ogres, and other demonic creatures.

The question is, should Christians adopt such practices? Can we borrow 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."**

2. HALLOWEEN GLORIFIES SATAN.

When America and the world celebrates the powers of darkness by masquerading as evil creatures or decorating our homes, schools, businesses and churches with occult symbols, Satanic power is glorified. While you may have participated "all in fun", be assured, Halloween is serious business for Satanists and Witches.

Anyone familiar with witchcraft would tell you that there are certain rituals and spells that can only be cast on Halloween night. That is the night when the "veil" believed to separate the living from the dead is thought to be the thinnest, and futures are easier and more accurately foretold by diviners.

Those who oppose Christ are known to organize on Halloween to observe Satanic rituals, to cast spells, to oppose churches and families, to perform sacrilegious acts, and to even offer blood sacrifices to Satan. Last year, Newscasters in numerous cities warned their viewers to guard their animals on Halloween night. Dogs and cats are thought to be the most often sacrificed animals on Halloween, and many S. P. C. A. centers will not allow black cats to be adopted until after Halloween. In rural communities, it is not uncommon for farmers to awake to find the mutilated remains of their farm animals (cows, calves, chickens, even horses) that were ritually slaughtered in Satanic sacrifices. The practices that accompany such sacrificial rites are almost too revolting to believe-the drinking of animal (or human) blood and urine, the digestion of entrails and organs, orgiastic rituals, substance abuse, and something becoming more frighteningly common across the U.S.-human sacrifice. The 700 CLUB interviewed several people last Halloween (several of which were teenagers) who actually participated in or witnessed human sacrifices while involved in Satanism. No one scoffs at such stories anymore, as police departments around the country have had to scurry to develop a whole new field of investigation dealing with the gruesome reality of Satanic sacrifices.

Isn't it sad that while Satanist, Witches, Occultists and Police are taking Halloween very seriously, many in the church protest our "spoiling all of the fun for the children," by urging Christians not to participate in it.

3. HALLOWEEN TREATS OCCULTISM AS "HARMLESS".

When Christians participate in Halloween, it sends a message to children that Witchcraft, Demonism, Satanism, and the Occult is something fun, entertaining and harmless. It gives the false impression that what is actually lethal, is innocuous! It's the spiritual equivalent of painting a loaded gun to look like a toy and giving it to a child to play with!

On another recent 700 Club testimony, one man said that it was while he was out trick-or-treating on Halloween night as a boy that he had a profound psychic experience that led him on an occult odyssey that kept him bound and oppressed for dozens of years! Halloween participation led him into deeper forms of occultism, until he was swallowed by it.

Christians, we betray others and deceive ourselves if we consider this celebration a harmless or innocent one. It is more deadly than a rattlesnake, and God says **such things are an abomination (cf. Deut. 18: 9-12; Lev. 18: 24-30).**

4. IT IS 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."

HALLOWEEN DESTRUCTION

Vandalism and wanton disregard for the property of others is common on Halloween night, as even normally well behaved children are driven by unseen forces to destructive behavior. Police officials everywhere report great increases in such activities at Halloween. Worse yet are the horrifying accounts of poisoned candy and fruits booby trapped with razor blades and needles. Such threats are so real that many hospitals offer free X-Rays of Halloween treats in order to prevent children from being harmed. Who but Satan could inspire such monstrous actions?

5. 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; Mai. 3:5; Acts 8:9, 16:16; 19:19; Gal. 5:16-21; 2 Tim. 3:8; Rev. 21:8, 22:15.**

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!

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

"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).

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

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

"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).

WHAT SHOULD OUR POSITION BE?

Clearly, we should have nothing to do with the Halloween celebration whatsoever. If Christians assemble on Halloween it should be to worship, sing, praise, pray, intercede, wage Spiritual warfare and pull down demonic strong-holds. Under no circumstance should we compromise with this celebration or attempt to imitate the world in any manner. It should not be observed as any kind of a festival or "party" (masquerades, apple-bobbing, games, treats, etc.), but rather as a time to wage holy warfare and be separate from the world.

The Christian should not fear Halloween or 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).

FOOTNOTE

Halloween and other common festivals which people observe in the Christian professing world have no Biblical basis. Nowhere in the Bible (which, by the way, should be the foundation of our beliefs) does our Lord tell us to participate in pagan festivals, in fact, God clearly tells us that we should have no part in them. We as Christians cannot (according to God) change the name of a holiday and then participate in it. "During the early Middle Ages, the Roman Catholic Church often incorporated modified versions of older religious traditions in order to win converts." Pope Gregory IV wanted to substitute Samhain with All Saints' Day in 835, but All Souls' Day (Nov. 2nd) which is closer in resemblance to Samhain and Halloween today, was "first instituted at a French monastery in 998 and quickly spread throughout Europe." If the so called "Christian" holy days of the Roman Catholic church were in fact solidly based on the Christian Bible, then why do so many non-Christians observe them? Have you ever really reflected on your motives for celebrating so called "Christian" holidays? Or by nature do you tend to follow the crowd, whether they are right or wrong? Changing the name while playing according to the same rules changes nothing. If this offends you, then why don't you really find out for yourself.

The following secular dictionaries and encyclopedia confirm the Pagan origins of Halloween.

Online Etymology Dictionary says of Halloween:

c.1745, Scottish shortening of Allhallow-even "Eve of All Saints, last night of October" (1556), the last night of the year in the old Celtic calendar, where it was Old Year's Night, a night for witches. Another pagan holiday given a cursory baptism and sent on its way. Hollowmas "All-saints" is first attested 1389. (Online Etymology Dictionary, © 2001 Douglas Harper)

Webster's New Millennium™ Dictionary of English says of Samhain:

October 31, Halloween; a day of celebration for Wic-cans and other pagans; also called November Eve, Halloween, Feast of Souls, Feast of the Dead. (Webster's New Millennium™ Dictionary of English, Preview Edition (v 0.9.7) © 2003-2007 Lexico Publishing Group, LLC)



The Education Station... *By Bobbie Ames*

Bobbie Ames writes from The Hoffman Education Center for the Family, where the ministry promotes Christian Education that is foundational to the Historic Biblical Principle Approach. Consulting services are available through the Hoffman Research Library. She can be reached at P. O. Box 241405, Montgomery, AL 36124, or at *bobbiehames@gmail.com*.

ALERT!

Postmodernism

ALERT!

The Attack on Biblical Christianity

Last month “the Education Page” article highlighted socialism as the downfall of America. But it made it clear that American Constitutionalism is the path for healing of our nation.

This month, we wish to dig deeper into our problems, as postmodernism is the greatest threat to Biblical Christianity in our nation.

- How many American citizens are knowledgeable about the prevailing secular postmodern philosophy across our nation?
- How many pastors have equipped their congregations to oppose it?

As a teacher for many decades, this writer is very aware that postmodernism reigns in politics, and in the majority of universities, in most institutions of learning, and even in high schools. This includes journalists, judges, lawyers, political leaders, too many who are indoctrinated in postmodernism.

Why would we not expect Satan to continue what he has done for ages, to mislead in every way to destroy souls. We know that the truth of the Bible is unchanged. God’s Word is unchanged. We must ask, how effective are the evangelical churches today in opposing the increased acceptance of postmodernism?

- Today, what we face as a choice is obvious:
- to believe God’s Word and the revelation of God’s providence or
 - the humanistic view in science, evolution, and what is viewed as “progress.”

The postmodern view denies the claim of absolute truth, with no fixed absolutes!

When this writer studied with **Dr. Francis Schaeffer**, he used the term “Post Christian Culture,” but postmodernism is what we call it today. To define this to children it helps to explain that post-modernist say that right and wrong is a matter of your opinion, your choice. To realize the damage to our culture, just observe the divorce rate in families, the over-crowding of jails, etc.



Dr. Francis Schaeffer

Think of the damage to our young people who believe there are no absolutes. Consequently, as a result, no moral absolutes would apply to any people at any time. Tolerance can be a virtue sometimes, but tolerance taken to the extreme is postmodernism.

To defend pluralism as the postmodernist does, they mean that one religion is not better, or more acceptable than another. Religion to them is a matter of a person’s choice. Their attack on America’s history is an example of deconstruction. Our Declaration of Independence states, **“We hold these truths to be self evident that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.”**

The postmodernist can try to deconstruct the Declaration by commenting that Thomas Jefferson (author of the Declaration) owned slaves, or they claim that the Declaration excluded women. These people find some kind of pleasure in deconstructing the truth of our history. Public education has long resisted propositional truth, which is the faithful preaching of the gospel.

The challenge to preachers today is to preach the Bible as written, inspired, revealing the Triune God. Government schools, in recent generations, have

taught biology from the evolutionary point of view as a fact, when in truth, it is only a theory!

Hitler and Marxism fueled the evolutionary philosophy, and this resulted in more human misery.

The Bible makes it clear in **Matthew 25:31-46** that there will come a day of judgment and every nation will be judged. Every individual will be judged. **“When the Son of man shall come in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then shall He sit upon the throne of His glory. And before Him shall be gathered all nations and He shall separate them one from another as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats.”**

Acts 4:12 states, **“ Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.”**

Television and various other forms of social media are no doubt the most effective tools used to promote postmodernism. Those who promote postmodernism target the family and invade the very sanctity of our homes.

Philippians 4:8 tells us, **“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report: if there be any virtue and if there be any praise, think on these things.”**

TV and social media are image driven. They make impressions and affect and stimulate emotions. This is different from the written word. By reading great books, we have a choice of learning from great spiritual leaders and teachers. The habit of reading Christian material is very necessary for Christians meditating on His Word. This discipline builds up our faith and our Christian world view.

To protect ourselves and our families, we can develop stronger faith daily. Our devotional life is essential. Pastors should know their members so well that they can minister to their “heart needs.” A healthy local church is one faithful to the scriptures, in and out of the pulpit.



Dr. Francis Schaeffer is recognized as one of the most influential Christian teachers and authors of a century.

He and his wife Edith, founded L’Abri Fellowship, an international study center located in Switzerland.

His books, more than twenty two, have been translated in at least 25 foreign languages. Some books lead to film series. All are easily available online at Christianbook.com and in Christian bookstores.

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Alabama Public Affairs Specialist, Social Security Administration
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UNDERSTANDING SOCIAL SECURITY SPOUSES' BENEFITS

Marriage is a tradition that exists on every continent and in nearly every country. Having a partner not only means creating a family unit, it means sharing things like a home and other property. Understanding how your future retirement might affect your spouse is important. When you're planning for your retirement, here are a few things to remember:

Your spouse's benefit amount could be up to 50 percent of your spouse's full retirement age amount, if you are full retirement age when you take it. If you qualify for a benefit from your own work history and a spouse's record, we always pay your own benefit first. You cannot receive spouse's benefits unless your spouse is receiving his or her retirement benefits (except for divorced spouses). If you took your reduced retirement first while waiting for your spouse to reach retirement age, when you add spouse's benefits later, your own retirement portion remains reduced, which causes the total retirement and spouses benefit together to total less than 50 percent of the worker's amount. You can find out more about this at www.socialsecurity.gov/OACT/quickcalc/spouse.html.

On the other hand, if your spouse's retirement benefit is higher than your retirement benefit, and he or she chooses to take reduced benefits and dies first, your survivor benefit will be reduced, but may be higher than what your spouse received.

If the deceased worker started receiving reduced retirement benefits before their full retirement age, a special rule called the retirement insurance benefit limit may apply to the surviving spouse. The retirement insurance benefit limit is the maximum survivor benefit you may receive. Generally, the limit is the higher of:

- The reduced monthly retirement benefit to which the deceased spouse would have been entitled if they had lived, or



- 82.5 percent of the unreduced deceased spouse's monthly benefit if they had started receiving benefits at their full retirement age (rather than choosing to receive a reduced retirement benefit early).

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A DoDEA Americas School Selected as a 2019 Blue Ribbon School

PEACHTREE CITY, GEORGIA - A Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) Americas School was recognized recently by U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos as a 2019 National Blue Ribbon School.

Maxwell AFB Elementary/Middle School at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama is one of the 362 National Blue Ribbon Schools recognized across the nation, and one of the three DoDEA schools recognized. The award is based on the school's overall academic excellence or their progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups.

"I am extremely proud of the hard work and dedication to student achievement shown at Maxwell AFB Elementary Middle School to earn the National Blue Ribbon Award recognition," said Dr. Judith Minor, DoDEA Americas Director for Student Achievement. "The efforts of the leadership, teachers, and staff to exemplify the DoDEA mission of excellence in education for every student, every day, everywhere."

National Blue Ribbon Schools are recognized in one of two performance categories, based on all student scores, subgroup student scores, and graduation rates:

- * Exemplary High Performing Schools are among their state's highest performing schools as measured by state assessments or nationally normed tests.
- * Exemplary Achievement Gap Closing Schools are among their state's highest performing schools in closing achievement gaps between a school's subgroups and all students over the past five years.

Maxwell qualified in the high performing category.

Maxwell AFB Elementary/Middle School was established in 1963 in Montgomery, Alabama. Since its inception, the school has provided a superior education for pre-Kindergarten through fifth-grade children of United States military personnel living on Maxwell Air Force Base. The middle school, sixth through eighth grade, was added in July 2011.

The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private elementary, middle and high schools where students achieve very high learning standards or are making notable improvements in closing the achievement gap. This coveted award affirms the hard work of educators, families and communities in creating safe and welcoming schools where students master challenging and engaging content. The National Blue Ribbon Schools flag gracing a school's building is a widely recognized symbol of exemplary teaching and learning. National Blue Ribbon Schools are an inspiration and a model for schools still striving for excellence. A total of 362 schools were recognized this year.

Now in its 37th year, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program has bestowed this coveted award on more than 9,000 schools. On Nov. 14 and 15, 2019, the Secretary and the Department of Education will celebrate with these honorees at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C.

DoDEA plans, directs, coordinates, and manages pre-kindergarten through 12th grade education programs for school-age children of Department of Defense personnel who would otherwise not have access to high-quality public education. DoDEA schools are located in Europe, the Pacific, Western Asia, the Middle East, Cuba, the United States, Guam, and Puerto Rico. DoDEA



also provides support and resources to Local Educational Agencies throughout the United States that serve children of military families.



Aardvark

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Continued from page 2B

pangolins, but this is not the case with their closest living relatives thought to be elephants. Aardvarks have a unique appearance amongst mammals as they display physical characteristics of several different animal species. They have medium-sized, almost hairless bodies and long snouts that make them look distinctly pig-like at first, with thick skin that both protects them from the hot sun and from being harmed by insect bites. They can close their nostrils to stop dust and insects from entering their nose. They have tubular, rabbit-like ears that can stand on end but can also be folded flat to prevent dirt from entering them when they are underground.

Aardvarks have strong, claws on each of their spade-like feet that along with the fact that their hind legs are longer than their front legs, makes them strong and capable diggers able to excavate vast amounts of earth at an alarming rate. Since they spend most of their lives underground or out hunting in the dark at night, they have poor eyesight but can easily navigate their surrounding using their excellent sense of smell to both find prey and to sense potential danger.

Aardvarks are found in a wide variety of different habitats throughout sub-Saharan Africa from dry deserts to the moist rainforest regions. The only stipulation is having access to plenty of food, water and good soil in which they can dig their extensive burrows. Despite being highly skilled at digging in sandy or clay soil types, rockier regions prove more of a challenge to create their underground homes so the aardvark will move to another area where soil conditions are better suited to digging. Their burrows can be up to 33 ft long. Their burrows often having multiple entrances and are always left headfirst, so they can identify potential predators easily using their keen sense of smell. Aardvarks are mainly solitary animals that come together only to mate and are never found in large groups. They live in underground burrows to protect them both from the hot daytime sun and from predators. Aardvarks are nocturnal mammals, only leaving the safety of the burrow under the cover of night when they go in search of food and water, often travelling several miles in order to find the biggest termite mounds guided by their excellent hearing and sense of smell. Despite often having a large burrow comprised of an extensive network of tunnels, aardvarks are also known to be able to quickly excavate small temporary burrows where they can protect themselves quickly rather than having to return to their original dwelling.

Aardvarks have specific mating seasons that occur every year. Depending on the region in which the aardvark lives young can be born either in October to November, or May to June in other areas they are known to have babies most years,

female aardvarks give birth to a single offspring after a gestation period that usually lasts for around 7 months. Newborn aardvarks are born with hairless, pink skin in the safety of their mother's burrow. Baby aardvarks spend the first two weeks of their lives in the safety of the underground burrow before beginning to venture out with their mother under the cover of night. However, despite accompanying their mother in search of food they aren't weaned until they are around three months old. Young aardvarks live with their mother in her burrow until they are around six months old when they move out to dig a burrow of their own. Although their lifespan in the wild is not entirely clear, aardvarks tend to live for more than 20 years in captivity. The diet of aardvarks is mainly comprised of ants and termites, with termites being their preferred food source. Despite this though, they are known to also eat other insects such as beetles and insect larvae.

Aardvarks are built to be insectivores, with strong limbs and claws that can break into the harder outer shell of termite mounds very efficiently. Once they have broken into the mound, they then use their long, sticky tongue to harvest the insects inside and eat them whole without chewing as they are then ground down in their muscular stomachs. One of the aardvarks most distinctive features is the fact that they have columnar cheek-teeth that serve no functional purpose at all. With some larger ant species that need to be chewed they use the incisors that are located towards the back of their mouths. Aardvarks are also able to use the same techniques to break into underground ant nests.

Even though aardvarks are nocturnal animals that live in the safety of underground burrows, they are threatened by several different predators throughout their natural environment. Lions, leopards, hyenas and large snakes (mostly pythons) are the main predators of aardvarks but this does vary depending on where the aardvark lives. Their main form of defense is to escape very quickly underground however, they are also known to be quite aggressive when threatened by these larger animals. Aardvarks use their strong, sharp claws to try and injure their attacker along with kicking the threatening animal with their powerful back legs. Aardvarks are also threatened by humans who hunt them and destroy their natural habitats.

Aardvarks use their long, sticky tongue to lap up to 50,000 insects a night from inside termite mounds or underground ant nests. Their worm-like tongues can grow up to 30 cm in length meaning they can reach more termites further into the mound. Their love of insects has led aardvarks also being known as Ant bears! Aardvarks are also thought to get almost all the moisture they need from their prey meaning that they must physically drink very little water. Aardvarks are thought to be one of the world's most prolific diggers with their strong limbs and claws and shovel-like feet helping them to be able to shift 2ft of soil in just 15 seconds! Another interesting fact is from 1969-1971 a cartoon was aired about an Aardvark; throughout the series the Aardvark desperately tries to catch a clever ant for food but just can't seem too.

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Martha Roby represents Alabama's Second Congressional District. She lives in Montgomery, Alabama, with her husband Riley and their two children.

White House Honors Army Aviation, Fort Rucker

Every year since 1981, the White House Historical Association has designed the official White House Christmas ornament. It is always interesting to learn about the history of each year’s design, and this year’s ornament is particularly special for Alabamians – and especially for those of us who live in the Second District.

This year’s White House Christmas ornament features a helicopter to honor President Dwight Eisenhower, the 34th president of the United States, who was the first U.S. president to fly in a helicopter while in office. According to the White House Historical Association, the 2019 ornament is meant to symbolize Eisenhower’s commitment to innovation.

After Eisenhower first traveled by helicopter in July of 1957, the helicopter became a feature of White House life. Through the years, the helicopter has



often been used for short distance commutes. As the first president to regularly use a helicopter, Eisenhower had two Executive Flight Detachments for his transport, which were provided by flight crews of the Army and the Marine Corps.

Since 1957, Sikorsky, a Lockheed Martin company that also has an extensive operation in Pike County, has built the presidential helicopter. The 2019 White House ornament honors that special legacy, but it also pays tribute to Army Aviation and Fort Rucker, as Fort Rucker is the location site of the original Army One used by Eisenhower.

The White House Historical Society recently held an event at Fort Rucker to celebrate this historic honor, and I was glad to participate alongside Governor Kay Ivey and other leaders. As Alabamians, we know how special and critically important Fort Rucker and Army Aviation are – not only to the Wiregrass and our state – but to the safety and defense of our nation. It is wonderful and appropriate that the White House has chosen to honor Army Aviation and Fort Rucker in this way. I know my family will certainly display the ornament proudly and treasure it for years to come.

Throughout my time in Congress, I have considered it a privilege and responsibility to represent a district that is home to Fort Rucker, home of the United States Center of Aviation Excellence. I will continue to use the platform I have been given to ensure that Fort Rucker remains a strong component in our national defense infrastructure.

We all should be incredibly proud that President Eisenhower first began using Army helicopters as a mode of presidential transportation. This historic honor by the White House is a true testament to the legacy and continued success of Army Aviation in our country. You can read more about the White House Historical Association and year’s ornament by visiting www.shop.whitehousehistory.org/holidays/ornaments.

Central Alabama VA Announces No-Cost Veteran Influenza Vaccinations



MONTGOMERY, AL — Epidemics of influenza typically occur in the United States between October and April. As part of our commitment to serve and support our Veterans, Central Alabama VA Health Care System is beginning the annual Flu Vaccination Campaign and is offering free vaccinations to all enrolled Veterans.

Veterans interested in receiving the Flu Vaccine can stop by their local VA clinics during office business hour. No appointment needed, walk-ins welcome, for Veterans enrolled within the VA system. Additionally, we are also offering vaccination through our mobile Bus Clinic which will offer services in the following areas:

8105 Veterans Way, Montgomery, AL
Friday-Sept. 13, 2019 at 12:30 & 1500

215 Perry Hill Rd, Montgomery, AL
Saturday-Oct. 5 & 19, 2019 from 0800-1500
Wednesday-Nov. 6 & 21, 2019 from 0600-1800

Thursday-Nov. 21, 2019 Flu Classic Tailgate Party Bus
(Refreshments offered/Music)
Wednesday-Dec. 11, 2019 Jingle Bell Rock Flu Party Bus
(Refreshments offered)

2400 Hospital Rd, Tuskegee, AL
Saturday-Oct. 12 & 26, 2019 from 0800-1500
Wednesday- Nov. 13, 2019 from 0600-1800
Friday-Nov. 22, 2019 Flu Classic Tailgate Party Bus
(Refreshments offered/Music)
Wednesday-Dec. 18, 2019 Jingle Bell Rock Flu Party
(Refreshments offered)

Media interested in covering the Influenza Vaccination Campaign please contact the Public Affairs Office at 334-272-4670, extension 4559 or 4921.

About Central Alabama Veterans Health Care System
Central Alabama Veterans Health Care System exists to provide excellent services to Veterans across the continuum of healthcare. We take pride in providing delivery of timely quality care by staff members who demonstrate outstanding customer service; the advancement of health care through research; and the education of tomorrow's health care providers. Achieving the best possible outcomes for Veterans is our top priority. Stay connected with us on Facebook.

Maria Vinson
Public Affairs Specialist

It’s A “Right” – BEWARE!!!



John W. Giles

I will begin this article with a simple question: Is Public Education a Right? One may be reluctant to respond, after reading the title of this article. Let me recast this; I encourage you to ask a co-worker, neighbor or friend this question without any preface. My guess is they would quickly respond with a resounding yes, Public Education is a “Right.” Wrong answer, let me explain.

In my view, our founding fathers were brilliant, deep thinkers and devout countrymen, who shaped our country on Judeo Christian concepts. In tune and sensitive to the idea of government potentially overstepping its boundaries, James Madison penned the first 10 Amendments to the Constitution, which make up the Bill of Rights. 12 Amendments

were sent to the states and 10 of them survived and were finally ratified by all of the states as of December 15, 1791. These were rights protected by the United States to every citizen; guarantying government could not intrude or overstep its authority.

The Bill Of Rights (Ten Amendments) can be summarized as: Freedom of religion, speech and press, Right to own and bear arms, the Housing of soldiers, Protection from unreasonable searches and seizures, Protection of Rights to Life, Liberty, and Property, Rights of accused persons in criminal cases, Rights in civil cases, Excessive bail, fines, and punishments forbidden, other Rights kept by the people and the undelegated powers kept by the states and the people.

Then, there is our God given rights, recognized by the federal government, found in the Declaration of Independence and embodied in the Bill of Rights. “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness.” The state recognized our creator, God gave us these rights. The word inalienable comes from the root word alien or the Latin word alienus, meaning belonging to another. The purest meaning: unable to be taken away from or given away by the possessor. One has to wonder, if the state recognizes Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness, how then could the courts, remove the right to life of an unborn child through abortion and or the elderly with euthanasia.

The modern day concept of “Rights” is being irrationally exploited by this urgent move toward Socialism energized by the media and 2020 Democrat Presidential candidates. They say Americans should have the “Right” to free

education from K-12 through higher learning, free housing, free healthcare, free transportation, reparation, just to name a few and I recently heard Beto say we should have a “Right” to live close to our workplace. The left has been pushing these liberal and radical rights for decades. The birthplace for this leftward thinking was born at the United Nations in 1948, entitled the “Universal Declaration of Human Rights.” Eleanor Roosevelt was the chair of the UN Human Rights Commission that marshaled through the passage of this resolution. While there were some great ideas to protect the global abuse of humanity embodied in this document, this stage was misused for espousing liberal radical views born out of Socialism.

Let’s hit the refresh button and go back to a “Right to Public Education.” Public education is not a right; it is a gift from the state, paid for by taxpayers. The moment you codify a right, it then becomes the responsibility of the state to protect and fund that right. See where this is going? Rights = Protection and Funding.

The intent of this discourse is for us all to be alert to the word, “Right.” Let’s remember the core reasoning behind the Bill of Rights; it was designed by our founding fathers as a tool, etched in stone to protect the citizenry from an overreaching government into the affairs of mankind. The modern-day prophets of socialism are suggesting an eruption of new rights – entitlements, allowing citizens to tap into the U.S. Treasury and become entrapped serfs of the state. These rights to entitlements are essentially the legal purchase of votes by the Socialist Democratic Party, ensuring the entitled are enslaved to them in perpetuity.

I leave you with these two thoughts: Woe to any government leadership (all three branches) who penetrate that sacred veil and overreach. On a more important note, woe to any man who is self-appointed and attempts to divinely ascend and tamper with those Rights given to man by God: Life Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness, which can only be given or taken away by God (U.S. Supreme Court, Roe vs. Wade, 1973). Rights endowed by our Creator, Almighty God, or taken away by man?

As we reacquaint ourselves with the profound logic of our founding fathers, we can wholeheartedly rejoice in the gift of Almighty God granting us the blessing to call America home. Let us recall the sound of the Liberty Bell ringing and envision our great symbol of freedom, Lady Liberty speaking in the New York harbor without talking. God, thank you for blessing America!

So, when you hear the words: It should be a Right, BEWARE!



ALABAMA

Farmers and Consumers' Bulletin

The Alabama Gazette is pleased to announce it is now publishing The Department of Agriculture and Industries periodical, the Alabama Farmers and Consumers' Bulletin! Celebrating 20 years of publishing in October, The Alabama Gazette is locally owned and operated in Montgomery, Ala. As our loyal Gazette readers are aware, this company has an outstanding reputation and is dedicated to enhancing this established publication and bringing a quality product to our Alabama farmers and consumers.

Our staff is excited about this new partnership and the changes that will be coming soon. Two of the biggest differences that will be seen by those we serve are the updated layout that includes a full-color publication in a magazine-slick format, along with an expanded distribution list. Not only will Alabamians have the opportunity to continue to subscribe and have the Bulletin delivered to their homes, but others in the agricultural industry will have an opportunity to view this great publication.

What does this mean to current subscribers? Your classified listings will reach more people! The opportunities for individuals and businesses to advertise their companies, products and events is also expanding!

The Agricultural Department is always working to promote Alabama's agriculture and industries not just within the State, but outside as well. This revitalized media outlet is an excellent tool and resource to accomplish that goal. We ask that you continue to support The Gazette and consider advertising in or subscribing to the Alabama Farmers and Consumers' Bulletin as we advance our agriculture and industries.

For more information about obtaining a subscription, renewing your current one or to take advantage of advertising space while available, please contact the Alabama Gazette using the information included.

Again, we look forward to what the future holds for our agriculture and industries in Alabama and the new direction forthcoming with the Alabama Farmers and Consumers' Bulletin.

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(subscription cost is shipping/handling)



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Alabama Farmers and Consumer's Bulletin Advertising Opportunities

Ad Size*	3 Months	6 Months	12 Months
Full Page	\$1,350	\$1,175	\$875
Half Page	\$750	\$650	\$575
Third Page	\$425	\$375	\$325
Quarter Page	\$325	\$275	\$225

* Size per ad per month; NOTE: PREMIUM spaces (inside Front Cover, Center Pages, Inside Back Cover) are available first-come, first-served for an additional charge. Please inquire about other available packages, including Special Events.

Contact the Gazette at 334-567-6700 for more information about advertising or a rate sheet!

Alabama Farmers and Consumers' Bulletin (ISSN 1055-954X) (USPS 011-380) is published monthly by the *State of Alabama of Agriculture and Industries*, 1445 Federal Dr., Montgomery, AL 36107. An annual subscription fee for shipping and handling is charged to residents (\$18.00) and non-residents (\$22.00). Periodicals postage paid in Montgomery, AL.

Phone 334-356-6700 / Fax: 334-240-7169

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Patricia Killough
Community Editor

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

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



Happy 20th Anniversary
Alabama Gazette
from Sarah Kate



Happy 80th Birthday

Ethleen Bazzell celebrated her **80th birthday on September 6, 2019**. A birthday party was held on Sunday, September 8th in the home of Patricia (niece) and John Killough.

A good time was enjoyed by many family and friends.

WELCOME CHELESE BECK

Chelese Beck has been a part of the publishing industry since her first job as a proof reader shortly after graduating high school. Although she obtained a degree in sociology, Chelese found herself in the world of publishing from editor to author to graphic designer to Web site developer. For almost a decade she left the industry and worked for the State, mostly in broadband and then community development. In God's own time, Chelese has been led back to the Alabama Gazette after having worked with Loretta in the early years of the Gazette. A mother of three and grandmother of four, Chelese enjoys spending time with her family on her farm in south Montgomery County, along with numerous horses, dogs, cats and other creatures. We are excited to have Chelese back as a full-time employee!



Home Town Community News

October Birthdays



- | | |
|--|---|
| Oct 1 David Hite (77th)
Karen Hollingshead
Wallis Litchfield | Oct. 19 Joann Hassey
John Lithgrow
Jeff Ludwick
Nell Nesbit
Evelyn Roger |
| Oct. 2 Allie Dibole
Jerry Hollingshead
Donna Karen
Janice Vaughn Majors (70th)
Bob Morris | Oct. 21 Pam Anderson
Ken Guthrie
Cheryl Horp
Spears Rhodes |
| Oct. 3 Ladon Boyd (59th)
Monica Mills
Ben Sawada
Stevie Ray Vaughn | Oct. 22 Judith Lamar
Joyce Browning Mills
Tony Nemunaitis
Alicia Smith |
| Oct. 4 Hazel Campbell | Oct. 23 Earl Henderson
Mollie Ester Isacson
Mike Kirk
Elfie Meredith
Betty Jo Richie
Mitzi Woodall |
| Oct. 5 Chester Alan Arthur
Thomas Chesnutt (98th)
Nikki Smith Womack
Lynn Moore | Oct. 24 Thomas Norman
Connie Thompson
Norma Stockett |
| Oct. 6 Frances Grant
Jimmy Pugh
Matthew Sweet | Oct. 25 Glenn Chesnutt
David Alexander Dean
Hannah Grace Johnson
Dot Pouncey (69th) |
| Oct. 7 Ashley James
David Price (70th) | Oct. 26 Alice Cole (69th)
Carol Fowler
Judd Huett (82nd)
Mike Horsley
Natailie Merchant
Brynlee Ashmore (9th) |
| Oct. 8 Jim Fleming
Beck Tucker
Madera Spencer | Oct. 27 BoBo Boyd
Terry Boyd (59th)
Amy Moone (45th)
Glen Raley (65th)
Stephanie Selvage (45th)
Louise Lareson |
| Oct. 9 Vance Cordle
Arbin McCathern (82nd)
Bob Persons
Asia Patron
Clifton Renfro
Linda Stringer | Oct. 28 Roger Bryant (67th)
James Cantrell (92nd)
Heavenly Fanning (4th)
Patti Moseley Higgins
Josh Hudson
Parker Lynch
Johnny Miles
Joakin Phoenix
Matt Schall |
| Oct. 10 Sherry McCulley
Ron Selvaggio
Mason Williams (9th) | Oct. 29 Marge Crockett (76th)
Adam Dupree
Lisa Etheridge
Amber (Sally) Heitsenrether
Elizabeth Mills
Caylyn Oswald |
| Oct. 11 Bonnie Ashcraft
Susan Guevara
Debbie Moore
Anna Marie Sessions
Christie Vazquez | Oct. 30 Nellie Cole (94th)
Felicity Edwards
Lee Sellars
Grace Slick
Josie Stanton |
| Oct. 12 Kirstin Boyd
Kim Moore | Oct. 31 Carey Cauthen (65th)
Annabelle Henderson (5th)
Ron Johnson
Elizabeth Kirk
Johnny Marr |
| Oct. 13 Fred Cole (97th)
Loretta Grant
Danny Ott (58th)
Mary Wimpee | |
| Oct. 14 Margaret Batley
Brian Burrows
Elizabeth Miller
Sarah Margaret Poundstone | |
| Oct. 15 Bob Crowe
Noah Edwards
Dolores Kavanagh
Charlie Lamar Jr.
Ray Martin (80th)
Linda Stembridge Chandler
Gaston Wallace | |
| Oct. 17 Jane Braswell
Chris Floyd | |
| Oct. 16 Louise Light
Jessie Watt | |
| Oct. 18 Charles Andrew Campbell
Ryan Sellars | |

Gazette's Sympathy to the families of...

Mathews III, Frank Meriwether (84).....died September 4, 2019
Martin, Rex Allen (73).....died September 5, 2019
Torbert, Gene Hurtdied September 7, 2019
Westgate, Margaret Eleanordied September 7, 2019
Salter, Sr., Glenn French (93).....died September 8, 2019
Norton, Charles Andrew (76).....died September 9, 2019
Waldo, Sr., Rev. Mark Edward (92).....died September 9, 2019
Clayton, Helen Alcot (83).....died September 10, 2019
Harris, Vera McGill (96).....died September 10, 2019
Carner, John William "Bill" (88).....died September 11, 2019

Noble, Ann Ogletree (95).....died September 13, 2019
Pigg, Col. Charles A. (87).....died September 13, 2019
Gay, Beverly H. (89).....died September 15, 2019
Pierce, Hazel Pearl (90).....died September 16, 2019
Boothe, Kevin Allen (52).....died September 17, 2019
Seale, Katherine Litchfield "Miss Kitty" (71).....died September 17, 2019
Sullins, Christopher Daniel (32).....died September 20, 2019
Free, MSgt Doyle Wayne, U.S. Air Force ret. (69).....died September 21, 2019
Smith, Malcolm Dunkin "Major" (79).....died September 21, 2019
Curtis, Jack Milton (91).....died September 22, 2019
Davis, Robert Earl (65).....died September 22, 2019
Saffles, Sr., G. Windell (88).....died September 23, 2019

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In Memory Of

Emily Carol Fletcher – September 2, 2019
Craig Damon Riddle – September 4, 2019
Carl Eugene Calloway - September 4, 2019
James Raymond Lee – September 6, 2019
Margaret Elizabeth Thrift – September 6, 2019
Janice Davis – September 9, 2019
Bobbie Jean Burge – September 9, 2019
Infant Billy David Michael Price – September 10, 2019
Patsy Irene Stewart – September 11, 2019
John Henry Stilwell – September 11, 2019
Dorothy Franklin – September 12, 2019
Mary Dean Griffith – September 12, 2019
Edward Paul Schroeder – September 13, 2019
Muriel Olive Belmont – September 14, 2019
Evelyn Lucille Ross – September 17, 2019
Sandra Dee Strickland – September 18, 2019
John David MacLaren – September 19, 201
Micah Daniel Walker – September 20, 2019
Curtis Alan Fruzzetti – September 20, 2019
Infant Hilton Walker Lane Price – September 22, 2019
Shirley Sahlie – September 22, 2019
Cecil Orie Wilder – September 22, 2019
Avis Jewel Finch – September 23, 2019
Vander Ishmeal Ingram – September 25, 2019
Infant Kingston Nicholas Sowell – September 26, 2019
Infant Khloe Nicole Sowell – September 26, 2019
Archie Mann – September 29, 2019

Home Town Community News

70th Anniversary Rudolph & Lamerle Helms Johnson

Mr. & Mrs. Rudolph Johnson celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary on August 6, 2019. To this union was born three sons: David Rudolph, Steven Rudolph and Andrew Maurice Johnson.

A dinner was held at the home of Steven and Teresa Johnson on August 3, 2019. Four generations of family attended.

On Sunday, August 4, 2019, a special time was allocated at the Capital City Nazarene Church for recogitation of the event.

Each son shared their childhood memories of spirit filled, comical and corrective measures.



Happy 57th Anniversary William & Loretta Grant October 13, 2019



William retired from Coca Cola after 38 years and now enjoys his family, grandchildren and working with his cattle.

Loretta is the founder and Co-Owner of The Alabama Gazette.

They serve God in ministry together at Snowdown Baptist Church.

Their love for each other and for their family and friends are their greatest earthly blessings.

Happy Anniversary

Oct. 2 Brady & Amy Crowe (15th)	Oct. 12 Mike & Lynn Davis
Oct. 3 Mr. & Mrs. Theo Katechis (40th)	James & Jean Hicks (61st)
Tom & Mary Lion (66th)	Glenn & Susan Yost
Oct. 5 Jack & Kim Golson	Oct. 15 Lance & Amy Brown
Lance & Sylvia Smith (61st)	Gaston & Doris Wallace
Oct. 6 Jimmy & Donna Grant	Travis & Nicole McGough (3rd)
Oct. 7 Jimmy & Judy Grubbs	Oct. 16 George & Marilyn Evans
Tracey & Britt Betts (6th)	Oct. 19 Brett & Barbie O'Neal (17th)
Oct. 8 Eric & Casey Fleming (14th)	Oct. 20 Tim & Amanda Anderson (7th)
Bob & Lynda Maddox	Oct. 21 Jimmy & Ann Hale
David & Xan Morrow	Oct. 22 Brad & Lee Ann Williams (13th)
Oct. 9 Ian & Caty Jane Turnipseed (9th)	Oct. 27 Chuck & Janice Cole (27th)

Happy 50th Anniversary Jimmy and Linda Perdue



*Jimmy and Linda
celebrated their 50th Anniversary
on September 24, 2019.*

*A reception was held for them on
Sunday, September 22 in the fellowship hall
of Woodland United Methodist Church,
Pike Road, AL*

*The couple enjoyed a
second honeymoon trip to Hawaii.*



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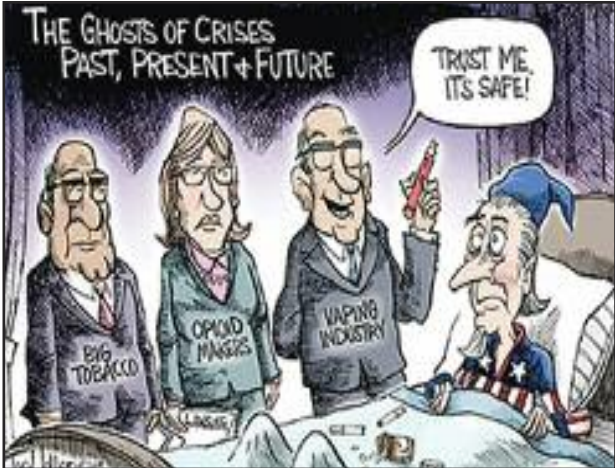
Elk Hunting in Montana

Terry Boyd of Montgomery, enjoyed a week of guided hunting in Gardiner, Montana. On the third day of the hunting, Terry got his first elk. His brother-in-law, John Killough, joined him on the trip along with many other hunters at the Hell's A-Roar'n' Outfitters near the north entrance of Yellowstone National Park.

German Exchange Students

Students from LAMP High School in Montgomery and 19 students from the Gymnasium Grossburgwedel (school) in Grossburgwedel, Germany are participating in the German American Partners Program (GAPP) for two weeks. GAPP is a student exchange program between the US and Germany. Visiting German Students and their US host families gathered at the home of Michael & Amy Belcher for a welcome dinner on September 18, 2019.





UNCLE ZEB

Redneck Dictionary

BARD - verb. Past tense of the infinitive "to borrow."
Usage: "My brother bard my pickup truck."

JAWJUH - noun. A highly flammable state just north of Florida.
Usage: "My brother from Jawjah bard my pickup truck."

MUNTS - noun. A calendar division.
Usage: "My brother from Jawjuh bard my pickup truck, and I aint herd from him in munts."

IGNERT - adjective. Not smart. See "Auburn Alumni."
Usage: "Them N-C-TWO-A boys sure are ignert!"

RANCH - noun. A fool.
Usage: "I think I left my ranch in the back of that pickup truck my brother from Jawjuh bard a few munts ago."

ALL - noun. A petroleum-based lubricant.
Usage: "I sure hope my brother from Jawjuh puts all in my pickup truck."

From CountryHumor.com



Pet of the Week – Dobbie

Dobbie is a four-year old male, 40 lb Heeler/Shepherd mix that is as smart as he is cute. He is very playful with other dogs though might be a bit too intense for a small dog. He loves attention and is good with children and cats as well.

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

To meet all the great pets at our shelter come to 255 Central Plank Road, Wetumpka, AL, 36092, go to our website at www.elmorehumane.org for more information, email us at hseco@bellsouth.net or give us a call at 334-567-3377. We are open for adoptions Mon–Fri 10-5 & Sat 9-4.



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RELAX! JUST FOR FUN!

STATEPOINT CROSSWORD

THEME: SCARY MOVIES

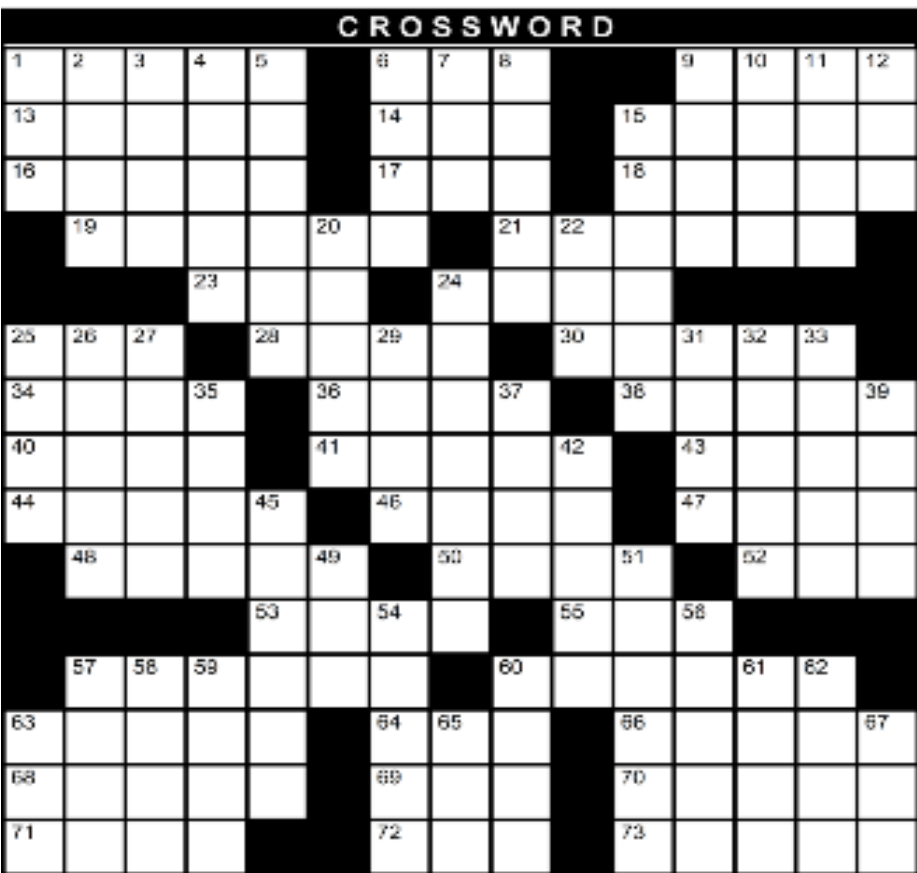
ACROSS

- Will alternative
- Put into service
- Ball on a string
- Conversation starter
- “Platoon” setting
- “Four” prefix
- Macaroni shape
- Dunk value
- ***The Dark Knight** star
- *Marion Crane stops at a motel
- *Eccentric scientist teleports himself
- Sonny and Cher, e.g.
- *What “The Swarm” attackers do
- Hot tub feature
- Think, archaic
- Kentucky Derby sound
34. ***American Psycho** weapon, pl.
36. Andy’s radio partner
38. Dished out
40. Drunkard
41. Type of turn, pl.
43. Spare in a trunk
44. Pore in a leaf
46. Straight out of bottle, as in whiskey
47. Port of Yemen
48. Angry growl
50. Whiskey grain, pl.
52. Is in Paris
53. “What a ____!”
55. Car nut
57. *Chris Washington meets his girlfriend’s family
60. *Girl bullied at school
63. Type of renewable energy
64. Caviar

66. Abstains from food
68. Opposite of binary
69. Barley bristle
70. Web mag
71. Department store department
72. *Sematary resident
73. Saw again

DOWN

1. *”____-Wolf of London”
2. Counseling, e.g.
3. Priestly vestments
4. Frank Wright’s middle name
5. Showing cleavage
6. “Do ____ others...”
7. *Photographer and oncologist trapped by Jigsaw
8. Bring character to life
9. Bone to pick
10. And others
11. Pretentiously artistic
12. Morse Code dash
15. Like Murder Mystery Party
20. Pertaining to hours
22. Type of farm house
24. Two for the price of one deals
25. *It terrorized Amity
26. Highway departures
27. Part of mortise joint
29. *Boy brings grief to adoptive parents, with The
31. 9th letter of Greek alphabet
32. Move like on ice
33. *Jack Torrance’s catchphrase “____ Johnny!”
35. “Brave New World” drug
37. Don’t go
39. Fender-bender damage
42. Funerary art form
45. Weapon storage
49. Romanian money
51. The Beach Boys’ “____ Girl”
54. Seatbelt, e.g.
56. Feed in a meadow



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57. *” ____ Girl”
58. Panache
59. Before feathers
60. One tenth of a dime
61. a.k.a. The Islamic State

62. Tallest volcano in Europe
63. Math class total
65. Be in the red
67. Do needlework

BOX SCRABBLE WORDS

lbiyert 3A	tenibiixho 4A	lgneliinetec 5A
nrctnee 1B	gtebevalse 4B	crolntuna 7C
marsref 1D	ruednubn 5D	mnlopeteyd 3C

All Box Scrambled words appear in this issue of the Gazette.

Unscramble the words above.

Email your answers to us! Your name will be in a drawing near the end of the month to receive the \$25.

Please include your contact information.

Winner will be announced in the next issue.

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\$25

Last Winner
of \$25.00
Tommy Ratliff
Pike Road, AL

Crossword Answers



TODAY'S WOMAN

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



Years and Laughter:

Why I sound Southern

By Amanda Walker

I was recently a guest on a podcast and some of my readers – specifically my mother and daughters – listened to it. A couple of their friends who were trapped in the car with them at the time had no choice but to listen too.

The main thing we were supposed to talk about was a column I had written on the difference between being Southern and being country, but ended up we talked mostly about the wastewater situation in parts of Lowndes and Wilcox counties that were headlining the news that week.

Yep. There I was, finally asked to discuss something I had written...and it turned into a discussion about the leading septic systems choices in rural Alabama.

But, as I mentioned, Mama and the girls and some of their friends were all nice enough to listen. One of them, wanting to be polite but not sure of what to say said, “Ms. Amanda, you sure did sound Southern.”

That is a problem of mine. I have been sounding Southern most all of my life.

I think it is due mainly to the fact that I am Southern. Not just Southern, but also country. I was raised in the country. Most of my friends are country. My people are country. My family has been in Alabama since before it was Alabama. I have made it about thirty miles from where they first put down roots. I still live on a farm. What am I supposed to speak?

When I was younger I went through a phase where I tried to not speak like I was not from the country. I moved to Montgomery as soon as I graduated high school. I bought a Montgomery Advertiser and spread it out in front of me on a table at Kentucky Fried Chicken. I was looking for a job. Any job. I was about to start college. I needed flexible hours.

The classified ads of course were in alphabetical order. I started at the top circling the maybes. The first place I called was the first circle on the page, a restaurant called Country's Barbecue was hiring on the Southern Bypass. The sign out front said they had the prettiest waitresses in town. And they did.

I was hired immediately. Not for my looks though. My boss never once called me by my name. He called me Country, because I sounded like Alabama.

Nowadays, I would have been a server. But for six months in 1990, I was a waitress and personally, I still like the way that sounds better. I try and keep a servants heart, but who the hell wants to be called a server. It may be politically correct, but I don't care for the term myself.

I mastered carrying a tray, but it wasn't for me. I soon took a new job with a bank and began to tame the accent. I toned it down and took a mandatory customer service course that helped employees maintain a professional demeanor at all times. The class taught us to answer the phone without sounding...country. We would pronounce words properly, sounding out each syllable.

Typically in Southwest Alabama let that last syllable remain optional. We like to let it kind of hang loose, but for a while I got fair at not sounding Southern.

I could at least fake it if I had to.

Those days are over.

I don't know what happened.

I moved back to the country and committed myself to being authentic.

So yeah...I guess I do sound a little Southern. Where better to speak it though?

Amanda Walker is a contributor with AL.com The Selma Times Journal, Thomasville Times, West Alabama Watchman, and Alabama Gazette. Contact her at Walker-world77@msn.com or at <https://www.facebook.com/AmandaWalker.Columnist>.



Trisston Wright Burrows
Ms.Wheelchair America/
Alabama 2005

Trisston's Tidbits...

“Letting Go”

By: Trisston Wright Burrows
www.trisstonwrightburrows.com

I once heard a wise person say that “Forgiveness is letting go of the hope that the past could have been any different than it was.” This definition of forgiveness really spoke to me...and maybe it will speak to you as well.

“Forgiveness is not an occasional act. It is a constant attitude.” Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Think about it... Those words can absolutely set you free in your life and in your relationships, if you allow them too, because letting go is a choice. You limit yourself from being open to other people when you hold on to pain and hold on to resentment. That hurt feeling that you have been feeling for so long...it is nothing more than your ego's response to a person or situation. You are choosing to allow that feeling to hold power over you.

“So, if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.” John 8:36

To find forgiveness is to find freedom. The moment you come to this realization you liberate yourself as well as make more room inside for more compassion for everybody else around you.

So today, unburden your mind and release your spirit to find the courage to let go. Let it all go! It's time to stop blaming yourself for making poor choices. It's time to let go of the past that you thought you wanted. Let it all go! And then, allow God's love, compassion, and acceptance to flow through you every day in every way.

Many blessings!



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