



Honoring Those Who Died **REMEMBER...**

9/11

Casualties:

The attacks resulted in the deaths of 2,996 people, including the 19 hijackers.

The 2,977 victims included:

- 246 on the four planes. (from which there were no survivors),
- 2,606 in the World Trade Center and in the surrounding area. 31 reported Muslims perished not counting the 19 terrorists
- 125 at the Pentagon.

DoD photograph by Tech. Sgt. Cedric H. Rudisill. (Released)

This aerial photograph shot on Sept. 14, 2001, shows some of the destruction caused when the high-jacked American Airlines flight slammed into the Pentagon on Sept. 11. The terrorist attack caused extensive damage to the west face of the building and followed similar attacks on the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York City.

The OSS:

A Salute to America's First Intelligence Agency on the Anniversary of 9/11

As we recognize this 15th anniversary of 9/11 it is important to pay tribute to all of the agencies that work together to keep us secure as a nation, including the branch whose efforts we generally know least about-- the C.I.A. International intelligence agencies are absolutely vital in combating terrorism. As such, in the wake of September 11, 2001 many speculated as to whether the attacks on the World Trade Centers and Pentagon could have been thwarted had the C.I.A. merely fulfilled the bulk of its basic duties as an intelligence agency. Two years before the attacks a June of 1999 publication by NATO entitled *The Role of a Security Intelligence*

Service in a Democracy summarized the duties of modern, democratic intelligence agencies into 3 main areas: the broad functions of collection and analysis, and the more specific function of covert action. "Counterintelligence" is considered a function inherent to all 3 of the specific duties. The argument espoused by many, including many of our elected officials in the 9/11 Commission, was that while the C.I.A. had 'collected' and 'analyzed' information regarding the 9/11 attacks prior to the disaster, the failure to follow through to the third step and act on said intelligence was where the agency had potentially

missed a chance to save thousands of American lives. But regardless of one's feelings towards the C.I.A.'s handling of the 9/11 attacks, there is no question that at other times throughout history U.S. intelligence agencies have succeeded in saving countless innocent lives-- both American and foreign. The following is a brief overview of America's first intelligence agency and the immediate impact it had in paving the way for an Allied victory in WWII.

By Walt Johnson ~ Continued on page 3A



Our Alabama Guard Generals

The October 2013 column entitled, "Losing Our Alabama Defense Force" evoked reader comments about the traditional role of militia and how we've morphed into the modern nomenclature of "National Guard" further eroding State sovereignty. The dearth of Alabama generals (only about half are State residents) in the Alabama Guard has finally received enough attention to be addressed in Montgomery. Thankfully our State Senate is NOT asleep at the wheel.

It is difficult to pinpoint exactly when and where the National Guard becomes army instead of militia. Much like jettisoning the grammatically correct "United States are" for the politically correct "United States is" the verbal gymnastics speak volumes. The establishment of militia to deter tyranny of armies was largely understood by those who witnessed the use/misuse of armies in Europe as well as the British wanting to suppress militia in the colonies threatening to assert their independence. Those familiar with the "Shot Heard Round the World" understand the reference.

By John Sophocleus ~ Continued on page 6A

TOP 40 College Football Teams

Picking the top college football teams for the 2015 season was more difficult than in most years. The top four teams will of course qualify for the 2015 National Championship Play-Offs.

Ed Jones, Sports Editor ~ See picks on page 9A

Remembering Hank Williams - Story on page 9B

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UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE **MARTHA ROBY**
ALABAMA'S SECOND DISTRICT



ROBY, ROGERS VISIT MAXWELL FOR CYBER COLLEGE UPDATE



Lt. Gen. Steve Kwast, President and Commander of Air University, discusses his vision for the Air Force Cyber College with (left to right) Montgomery Mayor Todd Strange, U.S. Representative Mike Rogers, and U.S. Representative Martha Roby at Maxwell Air Force Base Friday.

Maxwell Air Force Base is taking its reputation as the "Intellectual and Leadership Center of the Air Force" to the next level as it expands into the realm of cyber warfare.

U.S. Representatives Martha Roby and Mike Rogers, whose districts include parts of Montgomery, visited Maxwell on Friday for a briefing from Lt. Gen. Steve Kwast, Commander and President of Air University, on plans to establish the Air Force Cyber College on campus.

Gen. Kwast's vision for the new college is bringing the best and brightest minds in cyber technology and strategy to Air University to offer instruction in this emerging front of global warfare. By connecting the region's existing data infrastructure and significant intellectual resources, the Air Force Cyber College could soon be a catalyst for major economic development opportunities as well.

Rep. Roby said this exciting new venture was critical for the future of the Air Force.

"The cyber war is here, and many believe we are already struggling to keep up," Rep. Roby said. "It seems like every day you hear about new attacks or breaches, and our adversaries are growing bolder. If Russia or China built a new fleet of bombers, we would absolutely make sure our military had the proper resources to deter that new threat. So why wouldn't we now do everything possible to combat the growing cyber threat?"

"I appreciate Gen. Kwast's vision and leadership on this issue. It is clear we have a tremendous asset for Maxwell in Gen. Kwast, and I look forward to supporting his efforts in Congress."

Congressman Rogers was impressed by the collaboration taking place to make this cyber initiative a reality.

"I was pleased to see the Cyber College collaborating with different entities across the state to allow the sharing of data and information at rapid speeds. It's a dangerous world and our war fighters need the best tools available. I am proud to see this cutting edge initiative taking place in Alabama."

For more information on Air University and the Air Force Cyber College, visit <http://www.au.af.mil>.

For more information contact Communications Director Todd Stacy 334-657-1356 or todd.stacy@mail.house.gov.

Don't Forget the Economy

I'm glad the Congressional calendar allows me time in the month of August to travel around the 2nd District and visit with constituents. Listening to the cares and concerns of those I represent is a critical part of my job because it allows me to be a better voice for you in Washington.

With all that is going on in the world, there is no shortage of issues to discuss. One important issue I don't want Americans to lose sight of is the economic challenges that we still face. I've talked a lot about the "squeeze" that hits hardworking taxpayers when incomes remain stagnant while the costs of goods and services rise.

That's why I've spent time over the last week meeting with those who are sometimes affected the most by economic uncertainty: those who operate or work at small businesses, including the construction industry. I've visited with the Alabama Associated

General Contractors in Dothan and Montgomery, met the Greater Montgomery Area Homebuilders in Millbrook, and held roundtable discussions with gatherings of small business operators in Headland and Prattville organized by the National Federation for Independent Businesses.

These groups each have unique issues. However, at every meeting and in each conversation, one common theme emerges: the burden unnecessary federal regulations place on their ability to operate, grow and create jobs.

Many times homebuilders are the "canaries in the coal mine" for economic conditions. General contractors and their employees face a great deal of uncertainty due to Washington's inability to enact a comprehensive infrastructure plan. Small business owners bear the brunt of the "regulatory state," with red tape from Washington tying them up at every turn.

I can't tell you how valuable it is for me to listen directly to those who sign the front of the paycheck

about how they are affected by federal policies. It allows me to bring real stories back to Washington and push for common sense solutions.

What are those solutions? For one, Congress has to aggressively push back on the "regulatory state" by exposing unnecessary regulations and limiting the Obama Administration's ability to implement them. Also, it's time to pass a comprehensive infrastructure plan that provides certainty for how our roads and bridges are going to be funded over the long term. And, we need to restore welfare-to-work policies that encourage citizens to join the workforce and then connect them with quality job training programs when they get there.

Homegrown Alabama businesses are the backbone of our economy. Sometimes it is an uphill battle, but I'm proud to advocate on behalf of those who operate or are employed at small businesses in Congress.

Martha Roby represents Alabama's 2nd Congressional District. She is currently serving her third term.

✓ IMMIGRATION - PRESIDENTIAL DEBATES... A NEED TO KNOW!



U.S. CONSTITUTION

The 14th Amendment

Section 1.

All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the state wherein they reside. No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

Section 2.

Representatives shall be apportioned among the several states according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each state, excluding Indians not taxed. But when the right to vote at any election for the choice of electors for President and Vice President of the United States, Representatives in Congress, the executive and judicial officers of a state, or the members of the legislature thereof, is denied to any of the male inhabitants of such state, being twenty-one years of age, and citizens of the United States, or in any way abridged, except for participation in rebellion, or other crime, the basis of representation therein shall be reduced in the proportion which the number of such male citizens shall bear to the whole number of male citizens twenty-one years of age in such state.

Section 3.

No person shall be a Senator or Representative in Congress, or elector of President and Vice President, or hold any office, civil or military, under the United States, or under any state, who, having previously taken an oath, as a member of Congress, or as an officer of the United States, or as a member of any state legislature, or as an executive or judicial officer of any state, to support the Constitution of the United States, shall have engaged in insurrection or rebellion against the same, or given aid or comfort to the enemies thereof. But Congress may by a vote of two-thirds of each House, remove such disability.

Section 4.

The validity of the public debt of the United States, authorized by law, including debts incurred for payment of pensions and bounties for services in suppressing insurrection or rebellion, shall not be questioned. But neither the United States nor any state shall assume or pay any debt or obligation incurred in aid of insurrection or rebellion against the United States, or any claim for the loss or emancipation of any slave; but all such debts, obligations and claims shall be held illegal and void.

Section 5.

The Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

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

ROBSERVATIONS...

by Robert Tate

I AM NOT IMPRESSED - - OKAY, MAYBE I AM



I have to admit, it takes a lot to impress me. I generally do not go all ga-ga over people or things, but every now and then I am taken by surprise. In my world, I have flown with all types of men and women. Good pilots and not-so good ones. I have met many athletes, celebrities, combat vets, you name it. Although many have been incredibly interesting, few have knocked my socks off. I have flown with Thunderbird pilots, a Canadian Snowbird pilot, a Blue Angel, an Italian Frecci Tricolori pilot, bush pilots, guys who have dropped hardware on Taliban nuggets, guys who have smoked column after column of enemy troops, numerous WWII Luftwaffe pilots, guys who dropped bombs on Khaddafi's tent back during Operation Elderado Canyon in 1986, you name it. I have met many lawyers, doctors, actors, evangelists and to be honest, although most of these men and women have incredibly fascinating stories, few made me sit back in amazement.

A few to make the grade? Look below.

- 1. Erich Hartmann** – The guy shot down 352 airplanes in WWII. German or not, I don't care who you are, that is amazing. And he was a nice, humble old man when I met him. Yeah, he pretty much tops the list.
- 2. I flew with a guy name Maurizio** when I was in NATO. He flew with the Italian demonstration team called the Frecci Tricolori. When they had their big mishap at Ramstein AFB back in 1988 (I think), he was flying next to the commander when all hell broke loose and the next thing he knows he's flying through the fireball as he is watching his commander and good friend's plane going down in flames. He always has story telling privileges with me.
- 3. A Delta pilot I flew with about two years ago** told me a story of how he had cancer and the day before his Chemo was to begin, his cancer was 100% cured. His mom prayed over him every night. He was doubled over at the waist and could barely move for several months so he slept in a lounge chair. His mom would crawl into the room where he slept, EVERY NIGHT, lay her hands on him and pray. The night before his Chemo, he woke up as his mom was praying and he asked her what she was doing. She stood up, told him not to worry because he was cured and walked out of the room. The very next day, his MRI, about his sixth, showed ZERO cancer. ZERO. Impressed? You better believe it. Here is a guy who has lived God's promise in dramatic fashion.

- 4. Okay, here is the fourth and final one** although there are others on this list. But two weeks ago I was flying with a young man whose name I don't want to use in this article. When you come into the presence of someone who has a special story, many times you can just feel it. He was incredibly sharp and has only been flying at Delta for just over one year. So as we begin our four-day adventure together, slowly things start coming out about him. People like this young man rarely just blurt out, "Hey look at me and what I have done." The ones who do are usually arrogant jerks, liars or both. This kid was neither. For starters, here is a website that I want you guys to go to. The video is approximately 22 minutes long but it is worth the watch. When it comes to internet videos, I normally shut down at 5-8 minutes, that is my limit. But this, this is interesting. Maybe in the internet form of this issue of the Gazette, they can make this a hyperlink. It is long to type out and a Google search of "Until the Whole World Hears!", the name of the video, only seems to bring up stuff with the Casting Crowns.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FkCCBPzG9A4&feature=youtu.be&desktop_uri=%2Fwatch%3Fv%3DFkCCBPzG9A4%26feature%3DYoutu.be

Quick and dirty, here is the skinny on this kid. (BTW, he is 33 years-old. Now that I am 53, I can call him "kid.") He was born in Indonesia to missionary parents. He lived his first 18 years with a tribe of people who were cannibals just a few years before he was born. His father, had to learn their language and since they had no written language he had to create a written language for them. Then, over the next 35 years, his father translated the entire Bible into two different languages. The guy I flew with himself speaks Indonesian, the tribal language he grew up speaking and I think a couple of other languages. His village was 120 miles away from the nearest town so the only way he and his family could get around was via small airplane. He has had malaria some 15 times and now flies at Delta. Please try to see this video. It is professionally done and you will be amazed.

So did this guy make an impression on me? You bet. He is married with a really cute son who looks just like he did when the same age. On the video, you will see a picture of him with his mom, newborn baby sister and several tribal members. But in all, and I told him this, that he was by far one of the most impressive people I have ever met.



A Salute to America's First Intelligence Agency on the Anniversary of 9/11

Continued from page 1A

While Great Britain, Germany, Russia and the other world powers of the time had intelligence agencies at least by WWI, America did not have an official intelligence office until June 13, 1942, when

the military elite and SS leaders retreat to mountain bunkers near Hitler's private fortress in northern Austria. Armed with enough weapons and food to make the war last at least another 2 years, Hitler planned to force the Allies into a type of guerrilla warfare in the unfamiliar, dangerous territory of the Alps, and although winning the war from this position was a virtual impossibility even to Hitler, the strategy would indeed lead to massive increase in the number of Allied casualties (some historians estimating that as many as 2 million more Americans could have been lost during the time it took to completely roust the Germans from their bunker, a figure which doesn't even account for the Russians, Brits, and others would also die during that time period). Thanks to the early recognition of this plan by the OSS, however, the Allied forces were able to thwart this strategy and take Berlin after Hitler's suicide, saving an unknown number of lives on all sides of the conflict.

After the Nazi's finally surrendered in May of 1945, the OSS was sent to Japan in order to subsequently put an end to the fighting that continued in the Pacific Theater by solely concentrating on intelligence operations that would end the aggression of the Empire of Japan for good. And indeed once the OSS arrived in Asia it was only a matter of months before Japan also surrendered, and by September the OSS-- after fulfilling its proscribed duties with remarkable efficacy-- was temporarily disbanded. In January of 1946 President Truman re-assembled the OSS under title of the Central Intelligence Group (C.I.G.). A year later the National Security Act of 1947 again changed the name and assumed more of the former OSS members and duties. This time though the agency was donned the Central Intelligence Agency, and accordingly the C.I.A. has been the penultimate intelligence agency of the U.S.A. ever since.

At the height of its influence during WWII, the OSS employed almost 24,000 people. The first leader of American intelligence, **William "Wild Bill" Donovan**, worked closely with the British early in the war to base the OSS on Great Britain's Secret Intelligence Service of MI6. On August 14, 2008 the previously secret names of all OSS personnel were made public and included a number of individuals who were either celebrities at the time or who would later go onto to become famous after their service in the OSS. The list of 24,000 names included **Julia Child, Ralph Bunche, Arthur Goldberg, Saul Padover, Arthur Schlesinger, Bruce Sundlun, Rene Joyeuse, John Ford and Moe Berg**. The bravery, patriotism, and self-sacrifice exhibited by the OSS in WWII clearly exemplifies the greatest of American virtues. It is truly frightening to consider the outcome of WWII had there not been an OSS, and 70 years later the same remains true for the security of America today. Though we hardly ever see



Julia Child

an executive order by President Roosevelt established the Office of Strategic Services (or OSS). The earliest pre-cursor to the CIA, the OSS, played an imperative role in defeating the Nazi and Axis powers. But for the first 2 years of its existence the primary duties of the OSS centered around supplying facts and estimates to policymakers. However, knowing that one day it would be called on for that imperative third step of "covert action", the OSS was in constant preparation for the day when there would be OSS boots on the ground behind the Axis walls of continental Europe. For instance, as hundreds of thousands of refugees from Europe entered the United States between 1942 and 1943, OSS operatives would not only contact them for information, but also for clothing and other possessions that an individual going undercover in Nazi Europe would need to successfully blend in.

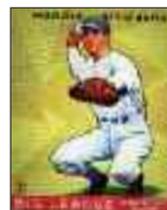
By late 1943 the OSS were attaining vital information regarding the Nazi war effort and otherwise aiding the work of the Allies by spying, sabotaging Nazi missions and equipment, spreading anti-Nazi propaganda, and organizing and coordinating anti-Nazi resistance groups in Spain, France and other parts of Europe. Specifically, OSS intelligence led to the decision of when and where to launch the D-Day invasion, based on intelligence regarding the positioning of Nazi troops at the time and the somewhat successful attempt by the OSS to have Nazi leaders believe the attack on mainland Europe would be coming from Calais or even as far north as Norway. Therefore, a widely held consensus of WWII scholars espouses that without the work of the OSS, D-Day would have claimed an even larger number of casualties, or could have possibly failed altogether. The horrendous prospect of a failed D-Day invasion in regards to the increase in casualties from the day as well the rest of the war, as well as the damage to the Allied war effort as a whole. Indeed had D-Day not been successful, there is no guarantee the Allies could have gone on to win the War at all, and, as Churchill noted in his diary, the prospective nightmare kept Churchill and Roosevelt awake for weeks prior to the established date for attack.

And although success at D-Day changed the tides of war in favor of the Allies, the Nazi's were by no means ready to give up and made it clear to U.S. and British forces to the west of Berlin, as they had to the Russian forces east of Berlin, that there would be no surrendering. For this reason OSS intelligence was still desperately needed up until the very end of WWII. In fact, on September 2, 1944 America's first intelligence agent parachuted directly into the central German Reich. The reason for this

what the C.I.A. is doing to protect our nation, and though there are times when legitimate criticism of the agency has been warranted, there is no question that we are a safer nation because of the brave men and women that serve our nation's intelligence service.

OSS Operatives of WWII turned American Heroes:

Major League Baseball player **Moe Berg** was recruited by the OSS in 1943 because of his language skills, assigned to the Secret Intelligence branch, and took part in missions in the Caribbean, South America, France, England, Norway, Italy, and the Balkans. Later, Berg was briefed in nuclear physics, and sent to Zürich, Switzerland posing as a Swiss physics student, with the mission of attending a lecture at the Technische Hochschule by Germany's top nuclear scientist, **Werner Heisenberg**. His orders were to kill the scientist if he determined that the Germans were far along in their efforts to build an atomic weapon; he found that the scientist was not a threat. Berg was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom, but declined to accept it as he was forbidden from saying what he had done to receive the award. He is the only former Major League baseball player whose baseball card is displayed at CIA headquarters. (Boxerman, Burton Alan and Boxerman Benita W. *Jews and Baseball: Entering the American mainstream, 1871-1948* Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland, 2006. p. 109)



Smith, R. Harris. *OSS: The Secret History of America's First Intelligence Agency.* Berkeley: University of California Press, 1972.

<https://www.cia.gov/library/center-for-the-study-of-intelligence/csi-publications/csistudies/studies/spring98/OSS.html>. Retrieved August 18, 2015.

This TIME Magazine Cover from September 22, 1961 portrays then-U.S. Supreme Court Justice Arthur J. Goldberg. During WWII, **Arthur Goldberg** (not yet Justice Goldberg) established a detailed and complex intelligence network comprised of anti-Nazi Europeans in his capacity as an extremely significant O.S.S. operative. Though he was already enrolled in Northwestern Law School and as such would have been exempt from the draft, when the U.S. entered WWII Goldberg volunteered for the U.S. Army, putting his law career aside for the time being and applying his remarkable intelligence to aid in the war effort.

(Edward B. Shils, "Arthur Goldberg: Proof of the American Dream" Monthly Labor Review, January 1997) Goldberg, Arthur J. 1961. "Labor: The Personal Touch." TIME Magazine. September 22.



Family Therapy

American Divorce Rates

Oswaldo Chavez,

MS, LMFT-S, LPC-S, NCC
Clinical Counselor CHIPS Center
Children's of Alabama

Hector Oswaldo Chavez, MS, is a Marriage and Family Therapist, Professional Counselor, and Substance Abuse Counselor. He serves on multiple boards and has worked in a variety of clinical settings such as with the Army, Navy, Hospital Inpatient and Outpatient, Community Mental Health, and Private Practice. His professional views may not necessarily reflect the views of other mental health or medical professionals. If you have any personal or family concerns about the topic discussed, please seek professional assistance.

Please feel free to email Oswaldo with any concern or questions you may have concerning your family or teen relationships. Att. Oswaldo e-mail: alabamagazette@gmail.com

First, let us discuss what the divorce rates are to get a better understanding of the need for counseling or marriage and family therapy. Did you know that fifty percent of all North American children will witness the divorce of their parents? Almost half of them will, unfortunately, also observe the breakup of a parent's second marriage (Furstenberg and others -Life Course-). Did you also know that 24 million children in America—one out of three—live without their biological dad in the home According to the U.S. Census Bureau, (Sanders, The Father Absence Crises in America, National Fatherhood Initiative, 2013)? Fifty percent of all the children born to married parents today will experience the divorce of their parents before they are 18-years-old (Fagan, Fitzgerald, Rector, -The Effects of Divorce On America). One final statistic-- did you know that couples without children divorce at a rate of sixty percent compared to forty percent of couples that have children? Some research on divorced couples and counseling shows couples waited typically six to seven years from the point of the marital issues before getting help. By then, in many cases, it is too late to reconcile the differences or one partner has filled for divorce before the other decides that there is a serious issue.

Seven Signs That May Indicate- We Need to Go to Marriage or Relationship Counseling!

1. Are you constantly quarreling? Negative communication includes anything that leaves one partner feeling judged, shamed, disregarded, insecure or wanting to withdraw from the conversation. Negative communication also includes, the tone

of conversation, because it is not always what you say, but how you say it. Non-verbal communication is also very important, such as rolling of the eyes, walking away during a conversation, or making disgusted faces as interpreted by the receiver. Often the arguments occur in front of children, which can have long term effects and make the relationship more difficult.

2. Couples frequently argue about finances. Couples who struggle with communication expenditure with spouses find happiness difficult at times. Successful marriages, on the other hand, have mastered the skill of financial harmony in their relationships. Marriage commitment and healthy communications are maintained when couples have set guidelines and boundaries for their financial decisions. Understanding the value that each partner places on money, and respecting that both partners will have equal rights and responsibilities with control of the finances, will strengthen the marriage bond.
3. When one partner begins to act out on negative feelings. What we feel on the inside more often than not shows on the outside. Even if we are able to mask these feelings for a period of time, they will surface eventually as most of us cannot live with harboring negative emotions. Negative feelings such as resentment or disappointment can turn into hurtful, sometimes harmful behaviors.
4. Affection withheld as punishment. For example, getting angry over small things and then withholding affection as a result. If one partner starts to act as a "parent" or "punisher," starving the other of actual love as a weapon, there is a lack of balance in the relationship. This includes giving the spouse the silent treatment as a method of punishment. We are models to our children and the model we show during arguments is the same the children will model back. This will eventually cause relational issues for children, if they are present in the marriage.
5. You see your partner as "the Enemyo." You and your partner are not adversaries; you're on the same team. If it begins to feel as if you're on different sides, then it's time to seek help. Children want their parents to be happy, and if the parents are on opposing teams, the children get stuck in the middle of the "Lucha Libre wrestling match."
6. You start keeping secrets. Each person in a relationship has a right to privacy, but when you keep secrets from each other, something isn't right. Go with your gut! Secrets create more problems than one realizes, and they get bigger and bigger with each lie. Eventually, the truth always comes out-- the sooner, the better.
7. When one or both partners consider having an affair, or one has had an affair. Recovering from an affair is not impossible, but it an uphill battle that takes years to work through, and it takes a lot of work. It takes commitment and a willingness

to forgive and move forward. There is no magic formula for recovering from an affair. But if both individuals are committed to their marriage and the therapeutic process and are being honest, the marriage can be salvaged. Although infidelity is not the number one reason for divorce, it is the one many claim is the most difficult to emotionally deal with as a family and as an individual.

Food For Thought

Most couples do their best to try to fix things in their marriage when things are not going well. The sad news, as you can tell from the divorce rates, that often does not work well. One partner may try to send the other partner who has the problem to counseling without joining in the sessions; this can be problematic because if only one person is working on changing, and the other person does not make any changes, then the long term transformation that is hoped for does not last long. It is very common for one person to be unhappy and the other seemingly clueless that there is any problem at all. They are relatively happy. The relatively happy partner tends to not want to go to counseling and will frequently say things like "If you are unhappy, you should probably get counseling for yourself." If one person is unhappy in the marriage or relationship, it is a relationship problem. Many times we tend to try to fix things in ways related to our own needs, desires, fears, patterns, past experiences, and those are usually the very things that drive one's spouse insane.

Everybody has individual issues and patterns, and those do play into any relationship including the martial relationship. So, while those need to be addressed, it is within the context of couple's counseling that you see how they accidentally get triggered on both sides and how each of you contributes to both the distress and the joy. When there is distress in the marriage, one or both will usually feel some emotional distance. Frequently, although not always, sexual passion diminishes as well. However, sometime one partner will try to increase frequency of sex in an effort to feel connected. No one wants to feel disconnected from the person they want to spend their life with and often, people will busy themselves with work or kids instead, or do other things to either try to feel connected or to avoid being alone with the person with whom they feel the pain of disconnection. It is important to nurture the relationship on a regular basis, which includes going on date nights and staying up later than usual to talk to your spouse about anything.

A common societal mantra is "love is the solution to all our problems." This is true to a certain extent. Love is essential; however, relationships require love coupled with a commitment to working on maintaining the relationship, and therapy is one method in which couples can work to preserve their relationships whatever the issues are.

Getting things accomplished isn't nearly as important as taking time for love.

Janette Oke

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Robert Tate
Ron VanHerwyn*

The Gazette, (now *The Alabama Gazette*) was created in year 2000 for the people of Central Alabama with the intent of being a thought-provoking, non-partisan publication reaching over 20,000 readers monthly. Written comments, stories, advertisements, social and church events, as well as classifieds are always welcome. The publisher is not responsible for error 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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Bench - Bar & Beyond

By Judge Dale Segrest

Judge Philip Dale Segrest

Want to know more about the author or to comment on the column:

<http://www.segrestlaw.com>
The Segrest Law Firm

301 King Street
P.O. Box 780791
Tallahassee, AL 36078
334-252-0036



THE DANGERS OF ARBITRATION

Arbitration amounts to privatization of dispute resolution. Many of the States, including Alabama, had a stated policy specifically excluding the possibility of contracting away the right to go to court before federal legislation preempted state law. In 1925, Congress enacted the Federal Arbitration Act to require dispute resolution through arbitration if the parties to a contract agree to binding arbitration for dispute resolution. In the 1980s, the Supreme Court upheld that legislation and after that, arbitration quickly expanded. Arbitration has now displaced the role of courts in most matters involving a contract, regardless of the nature of the dispute. The provisions of that Act are binding on both state and federal courts. Those who enter into an arbitration agreement must submit to arbitration rather than going to court. The Federal Arbitration Act applies to all transactions involving interstate commerce and overrides any state law to the contrary.

While the law seemingly went somewhat unnoticed in Alabama, and perhaps other states, until 20 or 30 years ago, during that period of time, arbitration has largely superseded the availability of court remedies in connection with any matter involving interstate commerce where anyone has entered into a contract with a corporation. Purchases of automobiles, disputes about employment, and other instances that pit corporate America against individuals are well within the coverage of the law.

Arbitration has become large business. Arbitrators are paid well for their services. With corporate America often pitted against consumers and private individuals, the economics of arbitration make the playing field very uneven. While the results of arbitration are often private and confidential, the corporations of America that engage in the process are likely to know the results. After all, they engage in arbitration far more frequently than the isolated individuals. Arbitrators who favor corporate America are much more likely to be successful than those who favor the individuals who use arbitration services

only one time. With regard to justice, the same fault exists that caused Judge Frank Johnson to find the work of Alabama justices of the peace who had a financial interest in the outcome of the cases they heard to be unconstitutional.

The United States Constitution has two clauses of interest in analyzing the soundness of arbitration as public policy. Article III, Section 1 provides that, "The judicial power of the United States shall be vested in one Supreme Court, and in such inferior courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish." The article goes on to provide for the financial security of judges so as to make certain that their impartiality is not threatened by the outcome of cases. In other clauses, the executive power is vested in the President, and legislative power is vested in Congress. State constitutions generally provide for a similar separation of powers. Separation of powers is generally considered a fundamental aspect of the liberty guaranteed by the United States Constitution. Access to courts is also a part of that freedom.

The second constitutional provision of interest is found in Article I, Section 10 of the Constitution which provides, "No State shall...pass any...law impairing the obligation of contract..." At the time the Constitution was written and adopted in 1789, the study of modern economics was a relatively new science. Adam Smith had published *The Wealth of Nations* in 1776, the same year that colonies declared their independence in the Declaration of Independence. Contract rights, the enforcement of contract rights, and property rights are a basic assumption of the economic theories posited by Smith. The importance of these elements for economic development did not escape the writers of the Constitution. Economic theory requires adequate provision for enforcement of contracts and property rights. An arbitration agreement is, in a sense, a contract; but it presents a conundrum. It is a contract to privatize the very right to enforce the contract in court.

The Federal Arbitration Act has been upheld as

being supported by the Constitutional provision related to freedom of contract and under the commerce clause. That finding seems to me to totally ignore the fact that in passing the Federal Arbitration Act, Congress passed a law vesting arbitrators selected by corporate America with the judicial power of federal and state governments. There is generally no appeal from a finding and award made by an arbitrator. One is reminded of the Islamic idea of justice in which there is no appeal from the local tribunal. If an arbitrator makes a mistake of law or fact *** well, ***too bad! So much for the old adage that everyone is entitled to his or her day in court.

Editors note: As an alternative to arbitration, Alabama provides parties to a lawsuit to settle their differences through mediation. ALA CODE § 6-6-2 states as follows:

- (a) For purposes of this section, "mediation" means a process in which a neutral third party assists the parties to a civil action in reaching their own settlement but does not have the authority to force the parties to accept a binding decision.
- (b) Mediation is mandatory for all parties in the following instances:
 - (1) At any time where all parties agree.
 - (2) Upon motion by any party. The party asking for mediation shall pay the costs of mediation, except attorney fees, unless otherwise agreed.
 - (3) In the event no party requests mediation, the trial court may, on its own motion, order mediation. The trial court may allocate the costs of mediation, except attorney fees, among the parties.

HISTORY NOTE...As Ben Franklin's publishing business grew, his competition with the town's other printer, Andrew Bradford, intensified. Throughout the early 1730s, they had poked fun at errors in each other's papers and sparred over such matters as the death of the aspiring young Freemason and the preachings of Samuel Hemphill. There was a political and social basis to the rivalry. The well-born Bradford and his *American Weekly Mercury* were aligned with Pennsylvania's "Proprietary faction," which supported the Penn family and their appointed governors. The leather-aproned Franklin and his *Pennsylvania Gazette* were more antiestablishment and tended to support the rights of the elected Assembly.

Benjamin Franklin: An American Life by Walter Isaacson



Marcia Chambliss



Social Engineering Slipping into Your Neighborhood

While many in America are still debating the aftermath of the first GOP presidential debate and others count the days to college football season kickoff, we continue down the path of transformation deemed necessary by the Obama administration with little to no attention from either the mainstream media or the citizenry.

Unless you pay very close attention to the barrage of executive orders and directives flowing from the White House, you have likely missed the finalization of the **Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Rule (AFFH)**, a rule consisting of 377 pages of governmental language guaranteed to cure the most chronic insomniac.

If you love big government and all that central planning entails, nothing in the directive will disappoint or alarm you. But if you love liberty, personal choice, and value local control of your neighborhood and communities, pay close attention and immediately start contacting your elected members of Congress.

Stanley Kurtz, senior fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center, has been writing extensively about this regulation at National Review's website (www.nationalreview.com) and equates this rule to be as radical as Obamacare when considering the potential ramifications.

In Kurtz' highly recommended series of articles on this issue*, he explains that **President Obama was trained during his community organizing days to view the suburbs as "instruments of bigotry and greed" and that those who choose the suburbs rather than urban areas are solely responsible for the decline of major cities.**

Through his series, Kurtz outlines the AFFH and how it closely correlates to the central planning long desired by Obama's community organizing mentors. One in particular, former Albuquerque mayor David Rusk, now advises the Obama administration and has long been an advocate for "regional tax-base sharing" that in essence annexes suburbs into single metropolitan regions with the redistribution of revenue to near-by cities.

Have you ever thought that "fighting City Hall" over land use and zoning issues was tough? Just wait until HUD pressures changes in zoning because your neighborhood has failed to provide the proper balance of affordable housing or racial distribution. This isn't an attempt to combat housing discrimination which has been illegal since the 1960s; rather, this is social engineering to impose federal housing quotas on neighborhoods across the country.

If your city accepts federally-subsidized community development block grants, as every large metropolitan area in Alabama does, you will be subject to the rule.

Not only will local communities receiving HUD funding be required to

analyze "housing occupancy by category such as race, ethnicity, national origin, English proficiency, and class," any imbalance in "living patterns" or "community assets" (i.e., transportation, parks, quality schools, and jobs) must be identified, explained, and remedied per HUD statistical standards, or face loss of federal grant money.

Haven't we all seen how government statistics can be manipulated to achieve a desired result or create a perceived injustice or crisis?

Legislation to defund the AFFH has been introduced in Congress by Rep. Paul Gosar (R-AZ), and Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT), with Alabama Sen. Jeff Sessions as one of the co-sponsors. After introducing the "Local Zoning Decisions Protection Act," Sen. Lee released the following statement:

"Every American should be free to choose where to live, and every community should be free to zone its neighborhoods and compete for new residents according to its distinct values," Lee said. "The diversity of America's neighborhoods – from dense cities to wide-open rural communities to suburbs in between – is a treasure that we need to preserve. We don't need a National Zoning Board. **Washington should let Americans 'govern local.'**"

So much demands our attention these days, especially as it relates to the assault on our freedom and liberty, and our members of Congress need to hear from us now on this issue. If we're not willing to educate ourselves and others of the dangers of government overreach, and then require action from those we elect, we simply don't deserve the freedom or liberty that so many have sacrificed their very lives to provide.

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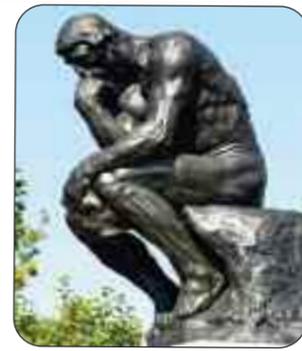
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Marcia Chambliss serves on the leadership team of Smart Girl Politics, www.smart-girlpolitics.com, an online community for conservative women. She can be reached at: Marcia@sgpaction.com. Her views do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Smart Girl Politics.



John Sophocleus

THINK



Our Alabama Guard Generals

Continued from page 1A

My October 2013 column entitled, "Losing Our Alabama Defense Force" evoked reader comments about the traditional role of militia and how we've morphed into the modern nomenclature of "National Guard" further eroding State sovereignty. The dearth of Alabama generals (only about half are State residents) in the Alabama Guard has finally received enough attention to be addressed in Montgomery. Thankfully our State Senate is NOT asleep at the wheel.

It is difficult to pinpoint exactly when and where the National Guard becomes army instead of militia. Much like jettisoning the grammatically correct "United States **are**" for the politically correct "United States is" the verbal gymnastics speak volumes. The establishment of militia to deter tyranny of armies was largely understood by those who witnessed the use/misuse of armies in Europe as well as the British wanting to suppress militia in the colonies threatening to assert their independence. Those familiar with the "Shot Heard Round the World" understand the reference.

Many insisted militia was "failing their mission" - not satisfied with an institution which was never meant to be used for anything more than **DEFENSIVE** purposes. Some members of the Guard, being recruited for a disproportionately larger amount of service had to be lured with PAY to do more above and beyond their duty/desire of defending lives, liberty, property, family, community, etc. in their State. The historical notion is pay is derived from taxes taken from the people but the loyalty, fidelity or submission of those paid is generally to those who actually cut the check. The traditional distinction is a member of "the militia" becomes a soldier in an "army" when he accepts **payment** in some currency for his service(s).

Obviously there's nothing **WRONG** with payment of this sort, it is to help distinguish/illuminate the difference between an army soldier versus a militiaman. This is of greater import in consideration of militia which the founders regarded as being necessary to the security of a Free State discussed in the federalist papers and incorporated into the US Constitution.

The situation we've 'progressed' into (aided & abetted by federal gun control extremists) insist on the idea a "well regulated militia" means a "select" militia (limited in extent and enlistment) on the one hand; then mocks the idea such an organization could be capable of defending the nation or the more specific necessity to the security of a free State.

In order to defend a State(s) in the coalition you can have an army composed of a limited number of paid professional soldiers whose JOB is to train for battle OR a defense force comprised of citizen soldiers - i.e., militia. If militias are to be effective in the specific defense of a State(s) in the coalition (not the common defense of the nation) it must be an organization which includes the body of citizens capable of bearing arms. The greater part of them will not have anything more than modest training and will NOT be able to train 5 days a week for 8 hours a day. Doing so would be a huge reallocation of resources in the economy of any State and often duplicate the federal effort in addressing the COMMON defense the central govt. is designed and authorized to address. In short, a force composed of a very limited group of citizen soldiers not extensively trained will never be adequate for the common defense of the nation as a whole. Consider Hamilton's text from Federalist 29:

"By a curious refinement upon the spirit of republican jealousy, we are even taught to apprehend danger from the militia itself, in the hands of the federal government. It is observed that select corps may be formed, composed of the young and ardent, who may be rendered subservient to the views of arbitrary power. What plan for the regulation of the militia may be pursued by the national government, is impossible to be foreseen. But so far from viewing the matter in the same light with those who object to select corps as dangerous, were the Constitution ratified, and were I to deliver my sentiments to a member of the federal legislature from this State on the subject of a militia establishment, I should hold to him, in substance, the following discourse: "The project of disciplining all the militia of the United States is as futile as it would be injurious, if it were capable of being carried into execution. A tolerable expertness in military movements is a business that requires time and practice. It is not a day, or even a week, that will suffice for the attainment of it. To oblige the great body of the yeomanry, and of the other classes of the citizens, to be under arms for the purpose of going through military exercises and evolutions, as often as might be necessary to acquire the degree of perfection which would entitle them to the character of a well-regulated militia, would be a real grievance to the people, and a serious public inconvenience and loss. It would form an annual deduction from the productive labor of the country, to an amount which, calculating upon the present numbers of the people, would not fall far short of the whole expense of the civil establishments of all the States. To attempt a thing which would abridge the mass of labor and industry to so considerable an extent, would be unwise: and the experiment, if made, could not succeed, because it would not long be endured. Little more can reasonably be aimed at, with respect to the people at large, than to have them properly armed and equipped; and in order to see that this be not neglected, it will be necessary to assemble them once or twice in the course of a year."

Hamilton acknowledged his opinion differs with others on the matter. Furthermore Hamilton did not advocate a select well trained militia above the rest over arming the WHOLE of the citizenry. In fact Hamilton's conception of the militia (perhaps even of a WELL REGULATED MILITIA) asserts all apropos citizens will be armed and calls for them to be assembled once or twice a year to VERIFY they're armed! This very tangible assertion of State sovereignty had to be broken by the champions of central power beyond the authority conferred upon the federal government by States. "The Militia proved inadequate and had to be altered into the National Guard" rhetoric must carry the day to accomplish their ends. Militias did not fail in their well defined role but were impediments to be removed. Militias were considered (even in England) as "The Peace Establishment" precisely because the militia could NOT be used for foreign wars nor used to commit treason - i.e., acts of war against a State(s) as observed in 1861.

The militia morphed into the "National Guard" to render it something more suitable for use in OFFENSIVE warfare via the Dick Act(s) which redefined and divided into TWO classes. One being the "Organized Militia" (which became the "National Guard") federal gun control advocates like to assert as the "Well Regulated Militia" yet there's no connection. The Dick Act acknowledged the remaining population of able bodied males constitutes the "Unorganized Militia" as the other class. This meant the WHOLE of the militia was bifurcated into an "organized" part and an "unorganized part" - more an effort in obfuscation to justify the nomenclature of "National Guard" which is a contradictory term blurring the issue of the specific defense of a State and providing the common defense of the coalition.

The 3 purposes for which the militia may be called forth provides no justification for using militia OUTSIDE the coalition of States. SCotUS decision in Perpich v. the Department of Defense applies here. They explicitly ac-

knowledge Governor Perpich CORRECT in pointing out MILITIA may NOT be used for any FOREIGN purpose; deciding to IGNORE the truth/observation on the lengthy history of the manner in which the definitions and "regulation" of the militia has changed over time. Furthermore, Gov. Perpich did NOT object to the "Dual Enlistment Form."

Pointing out every applicant to the National Guard signs this Form agreeing (s)he may be moved into the ARMY at a moment's notice whensoever Congress decides to move them from their "National Guard" unit (called a "State Militia" unit by SCotUS) if they're inside their State and have NOT been called up by Congress. But, as soon as Congress decides to do so - the members of the Guard are no longer MILITIA when Congress calls them up and decides to deploy them.

Text in Art. 1, Sec. 8, Cl. 15 makes it clear militia may only be called forth for any one of the 3 distinct and defined purposes: to repel invasions, suppress insurrections and/or enforce the laws of the Union. Long standing readers of my column require little explanation to precisely how this is conducive to the security of a Free State. There is obviously a huge conflict of interest involved in Congress raising armies which could be used to commit treason (acts of war) against a State(s) in the Union as we observed in Maryland, April 1861. Although one would be foolish to assert this was included solely for the purpose of enforcing laws for the collection of revenue; certainly collection of revenue was foremost on the minds of the authors.

Recall Shay's Rebellion brought about by Massachusetts' attempt to collect taxes in gold and/or silver (or foreclosures on land for those in arrears) to pay the Congress established by the Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union. Specifically gold/silver would be useful in repaying debts owed to soldiers who fought in the Revolutionary War. Indeed the attempt to foreclose on the property of Daniel Shays (unable to pay his taxes as one of those soldiers waiting to be paid) triggers the rebellion. There is no better way to assure tax laws more closely represent the will of the people than to make the people themselves, as the militia, responsible for enforcing collection of those taxes.

All this applies to our 2nd Amendment Civil Right; the key distinctions between the words "MILITIA" as written by the authors of the Constitution and an "ARMY" as understood by them is crucial. It is absurd to suggest they are the same things or were understood as such when the authors of our Constitution and Bill of Rights insisted well regulated militia necessary to the security of a free state and standing armies are dangerous to liberty. This is why the different words (militia v. army) are used in the document. A citizen soldier fights to protect his own life, liberty, property, family, community etc., thus may be relied upon to defend a king or government which (s)he perceives as defending those things.

Blackstone (Chapter 13 of the Military & Maritime States) wrote the following about armies:

"The military state includes the whole of the soldiery; or, such persons as are peculiarly appointed among the rest of the people, for the safeguard and defence of the realm."

IN a land of liberty it is extremely dangerous to make a distinct order of the profession of arms. In absolute monarchies this is necessary for the safety of the prince, and arises from the main principle of their constitutions, which is that of governing by fear: but in free states the profession of a soldier, taken singly and merely as a profession, is justly an object of jealousy. In these no man should take up arms, but with a view to defend his country and it's laws: he puts not off the citizen when he enters the camp; but it is because he is a citizen, and would wish to continue so, that he makes himself for a while a soldier. The laws therefore and constitution of these kingdoms know no such state as that of a perpetual standing soldier, bred up to no other profession than that of war: and it was not till the reign of Henry VII, that the kings of England had so much as a guard about their persons."

It is worthy of note our Constitution proscribed:

- 1) Armies can be "raised and supported" where appropriations limited to two years; and that it is evident.
- 2) Militia need only be "called forth" it is NOT regarded as something which needs to be "raised" or "supported" so there is no text on appropriations for that purpose.

Debate on what became the **2nd Amendment** in Congress acknowledged guaranteeing the PEOPLES' (NOT the States') right to keep and bear arms would prove convenient for Congress in determining how to go about arming the militia. In fact the Militia Act of 1792 required every able bodied white male citizen to purchase a weapon for use in the militia within 6 months of his 18th birthday.

To have a well regulated Militia which is composed of the whole body of able bodied males capable of bearing arms implies general agreement service in the militia is the obligation or duty of all able bodied male citizens. Prof. William Anderson has written on how progressives used gun laws to impede non-whites ability to exercise their 2nd Amendment Civil Right to decrease their ability to defend themselves. Blackstone considered the "Cornerstone of English Law" was founded upon understanding "Allegiance and Protection are Reciprocal Considerations." This idea runs throughout the first chapter of Blackstone's first volume entitled "Of the Absolute Rights of Individuals". In Chapter 13 Blackstone wrote the following on armies:

"To prevent the executive power from being able to oppress, says Baron Montesquieu, it is requisite that the armies with which it is entrusted should consist of the people, and have the same spirit with the people; as was the case at Rome, til Marius new-modeled the legions by eliciting the rabble of Italy, and laid the foundation of all the military tyranny that ensued. Nothing, then, according to these principles, ought to be more guarded against in a free state, than making the military power, when such a one is necessary to be kept on foot, a body too distinct from the people. Like ours, therefore, it should wholly be composed of natural subjects; it ought only to be enlisted for a short and limited time, the soldiers also should live intermixed with the people; no separate camp, no barracks, no inland fortresses should be allowed. And perhaps it might be still better, if, by dismissing a stated number and enlisting others at every renewal of their term, a circulation could be kept up between the army and the people, and the citizen and the soldier be more intimately connected together."

Sound observations and recommendations for soldiers in the ARMY and provides protections against the dangers of maintaining standing armies - however imperfect the resulting protection may be. Some argue Hamilton seems bent on obfuscating the distinctions between an army and a well regulated militia in the hopes of construing a well regulated militia as a Blackstone army. One can also acknowledge Hamilton's concerns about the danger of a militia not sufficiently trained. I find the argument Hamilton wished to give us an army under the nomenclature of a "well regulated militia" which he desired to be a "select" militia more compelling in Hamilton's references to the security afforded by intermingling MILITIA with the general population echoing of language which Blackstone ascribed to SOLDIERS - and NOT to Militia.

Continued on page 7A

By John Sophocleus ~ Continued from page 6A

More from Hamilton in Federalist 29 on the subject of the appointment of militia officers by the States as I finally get to point of my column:

“There is something so far-fetched and so extravagant in the idea of danger to liberty from the militia that one is at a loss whether to treat it with gravity or with raillery; whether to consider it as a mere trial of skill, like the paradoxes of rhetoricians; as a disingenuous article to instill prejudices at any price; or as the serious offspring of political fanaticism. Where in the name of common sense, are our fears to end if we may not trust our sons, our brothers, our neighbors, our fellow-citizens? What shadows of danger can there be from men who are daily mingling with the rest of their countrymen and who participate with them in the same feelings, sentiments, habits and interests? What reasonable cause of apprehension can be inferred from a power in the Union to prescribe regulations for the militia, and to command its services when necessary, while the particular States are to have the SOLE AND EXCLUSIVE APPOINTMENT OF THE OFFICERS? (emphasis my own) If it were possible seriously to indulge a jealousy of the militia upon any conceivable establishment under the federal government, the circumstances of the officers being in the appointment of the States ought at once to extinguish it. There can be no doubt that this circumstance will always secure to them a preponderating influence over the militia.”

I have no doubt it was inferred legislatures of the respective States would appoint citizens of their own States as officers of their respective militias; the fact is that there was nothing explicit in the law which REQUIRED them to limit the pool of potential choices to citizens of their own states.

From the Militia Act of 1792:

“Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, That each and every free able-bodied white male citizen of the respective States, resident therein, who is or shall be of age of eighteen years, and under the age of forty-five years (except as is herein after excepted) shall severally and respectively be enrolled in the militia, by the Captain or Commanding Officer of the company, within whose bounds such citizen shall reside, and that within twelve months after the passing of this Act. And it shall at all time hereafter be the duty of every such Captain or Commanding Officer of a company, to enroll every such citizen as aforesaid, and also those who shall, from time to time, arrive at the age of 18 years, or being at the age of 18 years, and under the age of 45 years (except as before excepted) shall come to reside within his bounds; and shall without delay notify such citizen of the said enrollment, by the proper non-commissioned Officer of the company, by whom such notice may be proved. That every citizen, so enrolled and notified, shall, within six months thereafter, provide himself with a good musket or firelock, a sufficient bayonet and belt, two spare flints, and a knapsack, a pouch, with a box therein, to contain not less than twenty four cartridges, suited to the bore of his musket or firelock, each cartridge to contain a proper quantity of powder and ball; or with a good rifle, knapsack, shot-pouch, and powder-horn, twenty balls suited to the bore of his rifle, and a quarter of a pound of powder; and shall appear so armed, accoutred and provided, when called out to exercise or into service, except, that when called out on company days to exercise only, he may appear without a knapsack. That the commissioned Officers shall severally be armed with a

sword or hanger, and esponton; and that from and after five years from the passing of this Act, all muskets from arming the militia as is herein required, shall be of bores sufficient for balls of the eighteenth part of a pound; and every citizen so enrolled, and providing himself with the arms, ammunition and accoutrements, required as aforesaid, shall hold the same exempted from all suits, distresses, executions or sales, for debt or for the payment of taxes.”

The August 23rd 1787 debate offers further insight on the matter:

"Mr. MADISON moved to amend the next part of the clause so as to read, “reserving to the States, respectively, the appointment of the officers, under the rank of general officers.”

Mr. SHERMAN considered this as absolutely inadmissible. He said that if the people should be so far asleep as to allow the most influential officers of the militia to be appointed by the General Government, every man of discernment would rouse them by sounding the alarm to them.

Mr. GERRY. Let us at once destroy the State Governments, have an Executive for life or hereditary, and a proper Senate; and then there would be some consistency in giving full powers to the General Government: but as the States are not to be abolished, he wondered at the attempts that were made to give powers inconsistent with their existence. He warned the Convention against pushing the experiment too far. Some people will support a plan of vigorous government at every risk. Others, of a more democratic cast, will oppose it with equal determination; and a civil war may be produced by the conflict.

Mr. MADISON. As the greatest danger is that of disunion of the States, it is necessary to guard against it by sufficient powers to the common government; and as the greatest danger to liberty is from large standing armies, it is best to prevent them by an effectual provision for a good militia.

On the question to agree to Mr. Madison’s motion, — New Hampshire, South Carolina, Georgia, 1 aye, — 3; Massachusetts, Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, no, — 8. On the question to agree to the “reserving to the states the appointment of the officers,” — it was agreed to, nem. con.”

In closing, I must type it is truly refreshing to see my State senators actually addressing something of substance and not ‘so far asleep’ as Mr. Sherman warned above to leave this unaddressed. Most will have no clue the significance of what our Senators are trying accomplish and I’m sure I’ll get plenty of unkind comments about yet another difficult to read “THINK” column. Too bad, keep up the good work Alabama Senators!

Postscript: Many thanks to James Hines’ (currently writing a book on these issues) input on this unusually long column with all the quotes he provided. I’d be remiss if I didn’t include one last Hamilton quote he thought apropos: *“In reading many of the publications against the Constitution, a man is apt to imagine that he is perusing some ill-written tale or romance, which, instead of natural and agreeable images, exhibits to the mind nothing but frightful and distorted shapes “Gorgons, hydras, and chimeras dire; discoloring whatever it represents and transforming everything it touches into a monster.”* I still make no apology for sounding this alarm given what we’ve observed unfold these past several score.

Appointment of General Officers in the Alabama National Guard

- By January 1, the Governor’s Office will receive a list of seven Army and three Air names to be nominated for eligibility for an appointment to general. This list will be selected based on the board-established Order of Merit List and will come from the Adjutant General.
- After the Governor’s approval, the list will then be sent to the State Senate for approval.
- The State Senate must consider up to seven for Army and must consider up to three for Air.
- The Army (7) and Air (3) names must be acted upon by or on:
 - the 4th legislative day in the first year of the quadrennium
 - the 8th legislative day in the second and third year of the quadrennium
 - the 14th legislative day in the fourth year of the quadrennium
- After approved by the State Senate, the list will be sent to the U.S. Senate for Certificates of Eligibility.
- Once approved by the State Senate and the U.S. Senate, any name from these lists is eligible for immediate appointment by the Governor, and will not be required to go through the confirmation process again.
- This process would begin January 1, 2016.

THE TRAGEDY OF A WELFARE STATE

By John Martin

In a free society, welfare of any description is never a legitimate function of government. It is in fact, an important element of communism—i. e. “From each according to his abilities and to each according to his needs.” It might seem like a great idea to some people, but Russia, North Korea, and several others have proven that it is both an economic and social disaster.

Our founding fathers would have never considered even one of the numerous welfare programs that currently consume trillions of our tax dollars, and have in fact, radically increased poverty instead of relieving it.

Up until the 1930’s, people who immigrated to America did so to escape the heavy hands of oppressive governments and be free to work for themselves and earn their livings. Nobody even dreamed of handouts from any level of government. However, they did enjoy the benefits of much lower taxes and nearly nonexistent regulations. But beginning with FDR’s “New Deal,” various “relief” programs became established, and over the years, they have expanded into the jungle of money-draining, morale-destroying abominations we have today.

Through ignorance, many people now believe it would be cruel if we eliminated our government-run welfare programs. They envision children starving, living in shacks, and never getting educated. Today, through government-run education and their own parents, children are actually being taught that public assistance is necessary for a civilized society.

Call it “tough love” if you wish, but the absence of all government-run public assistance is a crucial recipe for everybody’s prosperity. Free people are ex-



John Martin

pected to take care of their own affairs and earn their own livings, not be moochers and beggars, and certainly not robbers who use the force of government to extort resources from their fellows.

What about the truly needy—those who are disabled or otherwise unable to survive without help? That is why we have charities and churches in the private sector. They are far more efficient in managing their funds and sorting the truly needy from the mooching riffraff.

Today, we are swamped with millions of illegal aliens. Yes, some come to earn honest livings. But our huge and numerous public assistance programs attract endless hordes who come and receive massive quantities of “freebies.”

Here on the home front, we have another invasion—reckless child bearing. Many welfare programs, along with portions of our tax codes, offer endless incentives for people to bear excess children so they can receive more benefits. This creates an explosive surge in the welfare classes as future generations expand exponentially.

These wasted resources help nobody. They only provide a portal into slavery. The very existence of welfare gives people the attitude, “Why work for a living and pay taxes when I can get on relief and get it for free—food, housing, utilities, health care, child care, and just about anything else?”

People on welfare are parasites, pure and simple. Not only are they unproductive, they have little to keep them busy. But they do have ample time to make nuisances of themselves and perform demonstrations to demand even more and support political candidates who will do just that.

Life on welfare is undesirable in every respect. It is a life of destitution and dependency—unable to take care of oneself and unable to produce. Since FDR, and especially since the days of Lyndon Johnson’s “Great Society” in the mid-1960’s, the percentage of our population on public assistance has skyrocketed. Some sources say that it is now approaching 50%, a dangerous tipping point where the people who vote for their livings will out number and out vote the productive sector of our population. Should that ever happen, then American civilization is primed for a catastrophic collapse.

Woods & Waters with Steve



Steve Long

A BIG BOY AND HIS DOG

For far longer than we've been around, man and dog have been a team in hunting as well as life itself. The bond of loyalty and trust between the two is a privilege and a joy that only those who raise a dog can know. Dogs are beyond clever and loyal when brought up with good hand, and their skills are definitely on display when hunting.

For starters, there are a whole lot of ways to go hunting with dogs. Be it duck hunting, squirrel hunting, raccoon hunting, hog hunting, deer hunting, rabbit hunting, quail hunting, pheasant hunting, or any of the other varied ways to get out there and get after 'em, dogs always have a place by their master's side out in the woods or in the field. Retrievers, pointers, flushers, they all have their place. Sure, there's some training to do, but those loyal companions enjoy the hunt as much as we do. It's a great form of exercise, and they're all too happy to get out there and enjoy the world like we do.

For instance, I've got a Brittany Spaniel named Chipper, and every morning he gets in the car with me to go get some coffee. We head to the convenience store, grab the paper, the coffee, and head right on back home. He sits just like a person in the front passenger seat, just staring at anybody that pulls up next to us at the light. The look he gets in return is probably one of the highlights of my morning, as they weren't expecting to see a dog staring back at them, with just a slight grin on that dog face of his. Sure, we're not hunting birds or small game, but even if it's just hunting a biscuit, there's a great bond to be shared with our canine companions every day.

Now, there's a young fella out there named Ben Graham, and I got a chance to learn about him and his dog Delta, a black lab. He's had Delta since she was a pup, and he had to go up to Tennessee to get her. Since then, they've been together, day in, day out. Not just as a dog and owner, but as partners and best friends. During their first summer together, they focused on obedience training, improving their communication and teamwork. Delta was a natural, with a deep love for retrieving. At the South West Georgia Hunting Retriever's Club's fall hunt test of 2014, she earned her first two ribbons, followed by a hunt test in March for SOWEGA. Acing both of those tests, she earned her first UKC title. Now doing AKC tests, she's just one ribbon shy from her first AKC title, which is no small feat. She's gone from test fields to actually waiting behind the blind for some ducks to take a dive as they pass over, and Ben says he hunting season was incredibly smooth. Even just one year together, you can definitely see the bond that Ben and Delta have. They'll be spending every weekend together in Mississippi duck hunting, and will only miss Tuesdays and Thursdays from the duck hunts for his schooling at AUM.

Of course, this is just the beginning for Ben and Delta. Ben's dream is to become a full-fledged dog trainer, making a living doing what he loves. Given the success he's shown with Delta so far, it's not hard to imagine Ben making a great name for himself in the business, and I for one look forward to the day

when I can get him to work with me on some dogs.

That's right; this Big Boy is a dog lover. When I'm at Great Southern Outdoors, I spend a great deal of my time working with dogs. They've got a whole kennel of them, and each one has its own personality. In fact, there's a couple or more of them that don't want to run fields unless it's with me! I've got one dog down there named Jake, and he's a brilliant German Short Hair. If he's 10 yards out ahead of me, and I say back, he's immediately back to my side. If he's 200 yards out, and I say back, he's back to my side, quick as can be. He does everything you could want a dog to do out in the field; he points, he flushes, he retrieves. But, just for me, when he retrieves for me, he quickly leaps up and gives me a high five, then gets right back to the hunt. To me, that's something that you can't put a price on, as the trust and loyalty these dogs display is something amazing.

So, though Alabama isn't a premier duck hunting destination yet, we still get an early Canada Goose season, starting September 1st and running through the 15th. Dove Season starts on the 12th of September, and early teal hunting starts September 12th and runs through the 27th. There's plenty of opportunity to let the dogs out and do some bird hunting in Alabama, and you better believe Ben, Delta, and I are gonna be out in the thick of it. So grab your gear, your guns, and you dogs, and go get 'em!



Ben and Kenny Graham with Delta at a field trail.

Disabled Wildlife

Disabled animals don't realize that they are handicapped: "I want to tell you a little bit about special needs raccoons (wildlife) and our disabilities. I have several handicapped raccoons, some are blind, and some are amputees, deaf and



Bucky amputee (front paws) missing part of his bottom jaw, and half his right ear.

six with neurological (brain damage) from mild to severe.

While working with these animals all these years I have come to the conclusion that we are a lot like them except it's harder for a human to accept disabilities and overcome them. The difference I see is their uncanny ability to adapt to their disabilities so fast and not sit in a tree or den feeling sorry for them self's or holding a grudge against people places or things that caused their pain.

Over the years I have seen a raccoons in the wild living with eye's ripped out and legs missing or completely broken, but yet they adapted and con-



tinue their life. There are two kinds of pain we suffer mental pain that no one can see and physical pain when we loose a limb, or go blind or deaf.

Does an animal have the same pains, do they have PTSDs when a coon hunter chases them through the woods at night to try and kill them for sport. Do they have PTSDs when they almost get hit by a car or hit and survive? These are my questions because I suffer from wounds and PTSDs, and I finally found the secret that makes living with this not a burden.

I spent 27 years as a military man and not once in those years was I able to sleep a complete night, I never got more than a hours worth of sleep, my wife used to wake up finding me in a corner or under the bed, I found gun shots, cars back firing and popping balloons would make me drop grabbing my air weapon. But now its better I can sleep at least three hours and my pain doesn't hurt as bad now. These raccoons with special needs help me as much as I do them, or maybe just me, they have taught me to adapt to my disabilities. So to watch them as happy as they are even though they are missing something shows me I can do the same. There is a high rate of military suicides watch for new behaviors that are not normal for your loved one such as; Psychiatric problems 1. depression 2. dissociation 3. panic disorder. Self-destructive behavior. Clusters: avoiding reminders, reliving events, being on guard and Physical complaints.

To me the key is animal therapy. I have worked with animals on and off for the last 38 years, I have learned a lot for instances raccoons are like mini humans. Their socialize and behavior is extremely close to our own. As parents they are extremely maternal they teach their kits at a young age the same as we do, protect and survive these creatures have a lot of human tendencies. So the next time something happens to you check out the animals around you and see how they deal with life, it's a lot tougher than ours."



Lola totally blind.



Ron VanHerwyn

THE ALABAMA GAZETTE - BEST OF 2015



Sports Editor,
Ed Jones

Picking the top college football teams for the 2015 season was more difficult than in most years. The top four teams will of course qualify for the 2015 National Championship Play-Offs.

The obvious choice for number one is the national champion Ohio State Buckeyes from last year. They don't lose any key missing parts. Coach Urban Meyer is a proven commodity.

Title. All they have to do is win the "Desert Storm" with Arizona and Arizona State, and then win on the road against Stanford and the favorite USC. They can get in with one loss, maybe two. They are my third pick because of eighteen returning starters and more team speed than anybody west of the Mississippi. Will they start a freshman at quarterback? Yes, its 6-4, 205 lb. , **Josh Rosen**...It won't matter!,

The most complicated and fourth play-off spot will come from the SEC. Nobody should win a game in the SEC West. It is the toughest

Ed Jones

TOP 40

1. TCU.....12-0
2. Ohio State12-1
3. UCLA11-2
4. Auburn11-2
5. Alabama.....10-2
6. Georgia10-3
7. USC10-2
8. Baylor.....11-1
9. Stanford10-3
10. Michigan State11-1
11. Florida State11-2
12. Notre Dame10-2
13. Oregon9-3
14. Wisconsin11-2
15. Nebraska10-2
16. LSU9-3
17. Clemson9-3
18. Penn St.....9-3
19. Oklahoma9-3
20. Arizona State.....9-3



21. Michigan.....9-3
22. Ole Miss9-3
23. Missouri.....9-3
24. Boise State10-3
25. South Carolina9-3
26. Cincinnati10-3
27. Texas A&M.....9-3
28. Louisville9-3
29. Arkansas8-4
30. Virginia Tech9-4
31. Tennessee8-4
32. Arizona8-4
33. San Diego State9-4
34. Houston9-3
35. Navy9-3
36. UCF.....9-3
37. Kansas State8-4
38. Texas8-4
39. Mississippi State8-4
40. BYU8-4

He now has three national championship rings, two from Florida. He has built successful programs at every stop-Bowling Green, Utah, Florida and Ohio State. His Ohio State team this year plays a very weak schedule ranked at number 45, which should easily translate to an undefeated season and another berth in the championship play-offs. It is my belief that the Buckeyes will make the play-offs, but there has been just too much celebrating last year in the state of Ohio. Virginia Tech, Penn State, Minnesota, Michigan State or the "Harbough High" at Ann Arbor could catch the "Bucks" celebrating too long. Beware of the "Big House" in November.

Coach Gary Patterson played it real cool when his once beaten "Frogs" were conveniently "slud" out of the play-offs to make way for the popular Ohio State Buckeyes. The horns on Patterson's Frogs have grown a little bigger and sharper. TCU should run through a not so demanding schedule without a loss this year. Then they will be sure to be counted in December. The schedule ranks as the 49th toughest, with only Minnesota, Texas, Oklahoma State, Oklahoma and Baylor in the way. They also have the best play making quarterback and Heisman favorite in senior **Trevon Boykin**.

Jim Mora has been rebuilding UCLA for three years. This fourth season with the Bruins looks like his best. The schedule is tough, ranked 20th, but the Bruins should be tough enough to survive, win the PAC 12 South and beat Stanford or Oregon from the North to win the PAC 12

league – not just the toughest division. However, the East Division will provide stiff competition. Georgia will play the winner of the "Iron Bowl" for the conference title in December. Georgia has great players including the best running back in America, **Nick Chubb**. They just don't have enough overall depth to run the table. Just like Alabama, Georgia can start any of their quarterbacks. **Mark Richt** is an excellent QB coach. Really...it doesn't take a lot of talent to hand the ball to Chubb and get out of the way.

Alabama has the most dominant front seven in football. Their linebackers are good, their secondary will be better. The offense is good enough no matter who starts at quarterback. **Nick Saban** will make that choice this year. The schedule too tough. It is ranked number 1 in the nation. It will be difficult to go undefeated.

Auburn has the fewest question marks than anyone in the conference regarding who will start at all positions. Last year a 10 - 2 team went 8 - 5. **Malzahn** is a year wiser. Don't look for the same mistakes this year. Auburn plays the 6th toughest schedule in 2015. The reason my top four includes Auburn is because Georgia and Alabama come to Jordan-Hare Stadium this year. Malzahn has a 14 -1 record there. He gave *the one* away last year versus Texas A&M. Maybe a young dog can learn old tricks, especially on the goal line. The SEC champion will get in the top four even with two losses.

So, go ahead and buy your tickets!

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Ed Jones

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Inside the Statehouse with Steve Flowers

Steve Flowers is Alabama's leading political columnist.
His weekly column on Alabama politics appears in over 60 Alabama newspapers.
He may be reached at www.steveflowers.us.



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

September 2, 2015:

It is common knowledge that the Indian casinos in Alabama and throughout the country are granted federal sovereignty and are not subject to state intervention and authority. Several years ago state attorney general Luther Strange filed a hail Mary frivolous lawsuit against PCI Gaming Authority for political posturing purposes. The federal district court in Montgomery took about three weeks to rule against the state. It was ludicrous that it was filed. Federal District Judge Keith Watkins pretty much implied as much by ruling so quickly. It was a perfunctory decision that could be written by a first year law clerk in less than an hour. One of the puzzling questions is why in the world the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals has sat on their final ruling for over three years. Speculation in Montgomery is that there is an agreement between Luther Strange and former Alabama Attorney General and now 11th Circuit Jurist Bill Pryor to delay the ruling. They are close Mountain Brook buddies.

There was a very poignant and telling caricature of George Wallace during his heyday that very accurately depicts Alabama's long standing relationship with the federal government. In the picture Wallace has his hand out receiving federal money. In the other hand he has a dagger ready to vehemently attack Washington.

This same scenario of taking federal money while criticizing the federal programs that sustain Alabama continues today. We receive a lot of federal dollars folks. In fact, a recent government analysis revealed that Alabama is in the top three states when it comes to receiving funds from Washington.

Alabama's financial relationship with the federal government is very beneficial. According to an analysis from WalletHub, Alabama is ranked third in economic dependence on the federal government. WalletHub included three measures in their ranking. First they studied the number of federal employees per capita in a state. Secondly, they compared the amount of federal revenue received to total state revenues and third a comparison of federal revenue to federal taxes paid.

Alabama receives \$3.28 for every \$1 in federal income taxes paid by our residents. Amazingly 37 percent of Alabama's state spending is paid for with

federal money. The survey estimates that nearly 12 percent of Alabama's workforce are federal government employees.

This illustrates what a gigantic impact our federal military bases have on Alabama's economy. Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Maxwell and Gunter in Montgomery and Fort Rucker in the Wiregrass are extremely important to Alabama's economic wellbeing.

There is a glaring irony in the study. The states where the Republican Party dominates are more likely to be dependent on federal government dollars. Last year the Bureau of Economic Analysis did a detailed study of the 50 states and ranked them in order of per capita income. The analysis ranked Alabama 42nd in the nation in per capita income. Our per capita income is \$36,501. They came to that figure by taking all of the money earned by Alabamians and dividing it by the number of people living in the state. Alabama's per capita figure was 18 percent lower than the national number or, in other words, Alabamians earned 82 cents for every dollar earned throughout the country.

We are not only a low income state, we are also a low growth state. Alabamians personal income grew by only 1.8 percent, whereas most southeastern states saw growth of at least 2 percent or more. However, if you happen to be a teacher or state employee in Alabama your income decreased.

The states with the highest percentage of growth in 2013 were Texas, Oklahoma, Colorado, Utah, Idaho, Washington and Oregon. Therefore, it appears that if you live west of the Mississippi your income grew the most.

Over the years in Alabama we have had a large number of dry counties. That means they do not sell alcohol in these counties. Of Alabama's 67 counties, 25 do not allow alcohol sales countywide. Most of these counties are in north Alabama. This region is very conservative and very religious. Alabama is known as the Bible Belt and north Alabama is the buckle of the Bible Belt.

However, it is not a bad reflection of those counties that they are dry. Since we are discussing economic statistics, a cursory look at those 25 counties will indicate a direct correlation to prosperity and per capita income. These counties are also in the top tier of Alabama counties when it comes to per capita income.

Of Goats & Governors Six Decades of Colorful Alabama Political Stories

By Steve Flowers

Popular political columnist and commentator Steve Flowers Shares Alabama Political Stories and Legends in new memoir **Of Goats and Governors**, and *Six Decades of Alabama Political Stories*.

Few states have as fascinating a political history as Alabama, especially in the post-World War II era. Moving onto and off the state's electoral stage during this time period of remarkable transformation have been some of the most interesting figures in 20th-century American government and politics. Now, the backstage intrigue of Alabama politics receives a lively treatment in **Of Goats and Governors**, the high-spirited new memoir by former Alabama Representative Steve Flowers.

Steve Flowers is Alabama's most watched and read political columnist and commentator. His column on Alabama politics appears weekly in 66 Alabama newspapers.

In addition to his famous column, he serves as the political analyst for the University of Alabama radio and television network. His weekly radio commentary for the University is listened to statewide on Alabama Public Radio. He is also the political analyst for WAKA/the Alabama news network in Montgomery.

Steve has been an up close observer and participant in Alabama politics for more than 50 years. He is considered the utmost authority on Alabama politics.

Steve served in the Alabama House of Representatives

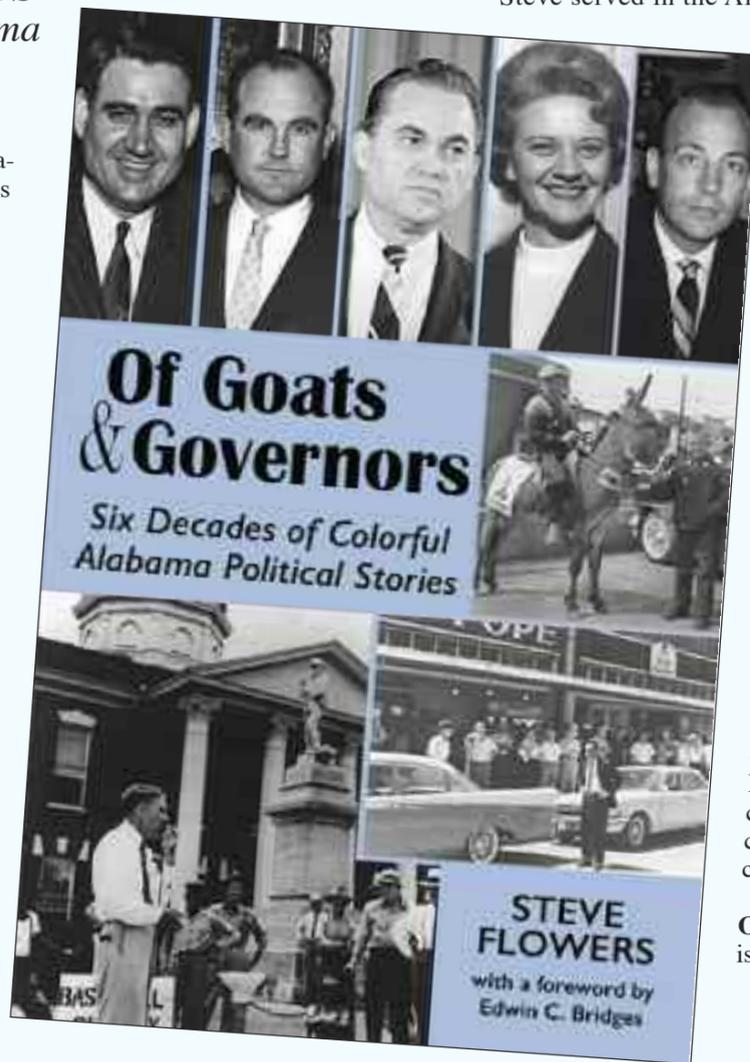
from 1982-1998. During his 16 year tenure he recorded a perfect attendance record. His House colleagues honored him as Outstanding Freshman member in 1982, Most Ethical member in 1988, and Most Outstanding member in 1992.

"Steve Flowers' ability to dive deep into Alabama's colorful political history makes **Of Goats and Governors** a must read." - U.S. Senator Richard Shelby.

"**Of Goats & Governor** offers a peephole through which readers can look back at three exuberant generations of Alabama politics." - Dr. Edwin Bridges, Director Emeritus, Alabama Department of Archives and History.

There could be no better guide to this colorful history than Steve Flowers. Former Alabama Attorney General and Lieutenant Governor Bill Baxley says, "Steve Flowers has become our state's leading political columnist and commentator.

Of Goats and Governors is delightful."



August 26, 2015:

Many would argue, and indeed numerous surveys indicate, that Alabama is one of, if not the most, conservative states in America. I would argue that if that is true then our Alabama legislature is reflective of their constituents.

A good many of the online and remaining large city daily newspapers castigate our super majority Republican legislature as ultra right wing uncaring crazies that pass ludicrous social issue fanatical bills that are blatantly unconstitutional. They also say that they have taken an ostrich approach to facing the state's financial crisis in favor of sticking to their no tax pledges. However, I would argue that they are representing their constituents' beliefs and concerns. These left-leaning modern day journalists have never run for nor could they get elected to any public office in Alabama.

During my 16-year tenure in the legislature my philosophy was that I should be a representative of and for my district. In other words, I believed that I should be a conduit for my county's philosophy, wants and needs. Therefore, I would argue that these legislators are simply representing their constituents and as a part of their constituency probably their own beliefs.

As a legislator I had a pretty conservative voting record. In my later years I earned a reputation as a leader when it came to pro business legislation. You might say that even though I voted conservatively on social and business issues my primary conservative interest leaned toward fiscal responsibility.

The primary problem facing our country now is the federal deficit. Fortunately Alabama has a constitutional provision that prohibits deficit spending. Unfortunately our U.S. Constitution does not have this same handcuff. Thus, our Congress continues to spend with no restraint like drunken sailors, while China buys up our debt.

The only advice I would offer to our current legislature is that if they are going to continue to pass social issue bills that are without question unconstitutional, that they do it in the form of resolutions and not legislation. When you actually pass laws, they have to be defended in court by lawyers. It costs a lot of money that the state does not have.

The legislature's actions have rightfully placed Alabama in the eyes of the nation as the most conservative socially and tax wise. That approach has also made us the most broke and least responsible state in America. No state can compare when it comes to cutting essential services of state government. No state has 25,000 prisoners with less than 13,000 prison beds. No state has 400 state troopers when the average state our size and population has 1,500.

As a fiscal conservative, I would urge the legislature to take the resolution approach when they want to politically posture on federal issues like abortion, immigration, gay marriage, and Obama Care. Everyone knows that these issues sell well to their constituents. However, everyone who was awake and passed ninth grade civics also knows they are unconstitutional and the Alabama legislature has nothing to do with these issues. They are systematically and routinely ruled against in Federal Court. They are good campaign fodder but the legislation costs money to defend. A resolution would serve the same purpose and save the state millions.

The legislature did continue to pass pro business legislation to enhance business development that is constitutional. Legislation creating reinvestment incentives in the form of tax abatements will help prevent Alabama companies from moving or closing their operations.

Sen. Trip Pittman, Baldwin County, passed legislation that would create a separate Board of Trustees for the state's community and technical colleges. It will be independent from the State Board of Education. The purpose of this legislative action is to refocus the system's mission on workforce training. This is a good idea.

Another Baldwin countian, Agriculture Commissioner John McMillan has taken the lead when it comes to promoting and regulating drones in the state. Farmers largely are poised to benefit from unmanned flying machines. In the future, they will be used in herding cattle, counting fish, taking an animal's temperature, applying pesticides, checking irrigation devices and alerting farmers of thieves rustling cattle, as well as monitoring growth of crops.

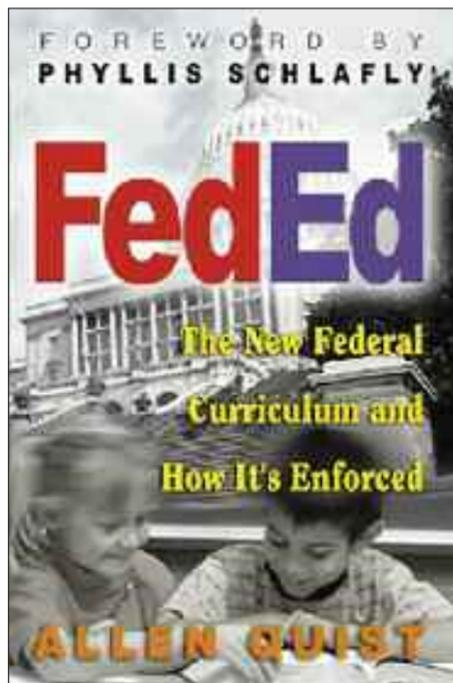
The Education Station...

By Bobbie Ames

Exposing The Dangers of International Agreements on Our Children, Our Families, and Our American Sovereignty

Many years ago, we had **Dr. Allen Quist** speak at a regional Eagle Forum meeting. He spoke about the changes in American Education and spent a great deal of the speech that evening on The "New Math" being developed, and the "International Baccalaureate", the brainchild of Unesco and the United Nations.

Dr. Quist, a highly respected professor of Political Science at Bethany Lutheran College in Mankato, Minn., a theologian, and a popular speaker throughout the United States, served three terms in the House of Representatives in the Minnesota Legislature from 1883-88. An author of numerous books, including a best seller, **FedEd: The New Federal Curriculum and How It Is Enforced**, he exposes the dangers of International Agreements on our children, our families, and our American Sovereignty. His passion for Self-Evident Truth, and Unalienable Rights in preserving Liberty for our children and grandchildren was most informative and inspirational, while still exposing serious dangers to that Liberty we have long enjoyed.



Recently, I discovered a brilliant review of the FedEd book by Steven Yates, whom I have heard speak at the von Mises Institute at Auburn. His review of the book is right on target and much more articulate than I could write, so I am taking the liberty of using much of his review, knowing that you will gain more understanding of what is taking place today in your community by thoughtfully reading this article, and then searching for the full review.

The review is titled: **FedEd: Education for Global Government**, by Steven Yates (Steven Yates Archives). And I am very grateful to draw from his review at this time.

Dr. Quist reviews the public education system for the last hundred years, when Horace Mann and the Harvard Unitarians studied the Prussian model in Europe. Bringing back to America the concept of the state raising the children, to meet the needs of the state, crept in even with the very young. The model gave us the term "kindergarten," raising children (kinder) and "growing them" in a garden (garten).

It is so evident that there has been a slow decline in American Education since Dewey's Progressive Education became the fad, as that is all documented. Dr Quist points to much evidence that the Progressives' intent is to dumb down the citizenry of this country and produce a "new serfdom," a global workforce totally subservient to the needs of omnipotent world government and its international corporate partners. To name them: Goals 2000, Educate America Act, The School To Work Opportunities Act, and a bill known as HR6, a funding appropriations bill for most federal education programs, was created to achieve the goal. Bill Clinton signed all three. George W. Bush signed the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. Together, all of these turned over the curricular content to the federal educrats, resulting in the new FedEd, which Allen Quist brilliantly exposes in detail.

He identifies seven themes running through the FedEd in his book (p.43, p.100, pp.131-132)

1. Undermining national sovereignty (moving us toward world government under the auspices of the United Nations).
2. Redefining natural rights (substituting for the American view a Marxist and international view, justifying a massive redistribution of wealth).
3. Minimizing natural law (essentially by neglect).
4. Promoting Environmentalism (emphasizing the global nature of environmental issues, including the pagan pseudo-religion of Gaia, Mother Earth).
5. Requiring multiculturalism (including acceptance of homosexuality).
6. Restructuring government (toward the idea that we live in a global village defining citizenship in global terms).
7. Redefining education as job skills (preparing "human resources" for the global workforce).

What will the future look like if these numerous multi-culturalist and environmentalist groups are teamed up with the Marxists educrats? Can we imagine a world in which the majority of people are Information Age serfs ruled over by a global elite, celebrating diversity, embracing tolerance, and worshipping Mother Earth. If they succeed, gone will be the grasp of Economics, Constitutional Principles, any knowledge of true Historical origins, or even much knowledge of basic math. They will have calculators, after all. How do these "world class standards" sound for your child and grandchild?

Steven Yates points to Professor Quist's explanation of "themes" in the curriculum. Traditional American education stressed academic subject content in Math, Science, Geography, Literature, History, and so on. The new concept of "themes" emphasizes attitudes, values, and beliefs in what educrats call the affective domain (cf.p.42). More important than communicating information and real cognitive skills, is inculcating the right attitudes and values...indoctrinating, in other words, instead of educating in the historical sense.

There is this discussion of sovereignty: "The world is divided into nation-states that claim sovereignty over a defined territory and jurisdiction over everyone within it." (quoted on p.47). This stresses a unified world of internationalism that is consistently viewed not just as desirable, but inevitable.

The changes in the Standardized Tests reflect the preoccupations and values of FedEd, the new Federal Education Curriculum. Students who have not adopted the desired attitudes will simply not do well on the tests. A federal funding bill, JR1 requires that all states administer the NAEP: National Assessment of Educational Progress. In the edition of the test Quist reviewed, there were 14 key terms relating to environmentalism, 18 terms relating to multiculturalism, 39 terms relating to vocationalism, and zero terms relating to Geography. Terms involving history (apart from the history of government designed victim groups), were zero. Terms referring to national

sovereignty, natural law, and natural rights, zero.

Among the chief goals of FedEd is to turn out "global villagers." Now education can be interpreted as "job skills." The goal is to impose a vocational model for every child, with career choices imparted via "career clusters" as early as eighth grade. Who knows in the eighth grade what career path one wants to pursue? Isn't it obvious that God's principle of Individuality will be cast aside? The article points toward the devaluation of the autonomous individual from person-hood to "human resource."

FedEd is sold in many places as "good for business." Both Quist and Yates take this on. Some Chambers of Commerce buy the idea that FedEd will turn out loyal, technology-savvy and business-savvy employees. The key phrase is "private-public partnership." Quist says that too close ties with government and business leads to corporatism not capitalism. Corporatism may sound good to some, but it leads to a Statist and Collectivist society. "The New Federal Curriculum sets out to indoctrinate and train individuals to meet the needs of the State and its Corporate partners."

Parents might ask, "How is this to be enforced?" While presented as "voluntary", the new Federal Curriculum, according to Professor Quist, is the law of the land. HR6 stipulates that the U.S. Dept. of Education can simply withhold federal money from any state not signing on to the new program (pp.92-93). All fifty states have signed on. Every federal dollar comes with strings attached.

How Professor Quist envisions that the FedEd program will be enforced.

We are drawing from his excellent article which is available on line. The three bills outlined above gave control of education to the government in 1994: Goals 2000, Educate America Act, the School To Work Opportunities Act, and ESEA Authorization Act (the infamous HR6).

Part of the overall package was put in one bill and another part in a second bill, and so on. Goals 2000 uses the word voluntary over and over again. But HR6 says that if a state doesn't comply, it will lose its federal education money. The bills and laws are deceptive.

While HR6 mentions the Constitution and Bill of Rights, it is now the authority of the feds to determine what they mean, not your local school board, not their teachers. Dr. Quist reminds us that you cannot have a free society if the federal government determines what is true.

The non-governmental organization CCE (Center for Civic Education) has been authorized by federal law to determine curriculum in civics and government. Dr. Quist states that not one of this unelected body ever faces the voters. They are self appointed.

Page two of the National Standards states that "Civic education instead should be considered central to the purposes of American Education." The standards state that civics and government will be taught in every academic subject. Dr. Quist believes that their desired change in our form of government can only be done, by teaching a new form of government.

Dr. Quist explained the use of "themes" in the curriculum. An example of further explanation, he cited theme 4, environmentalism. In a lesson, we read this in a textbook titled, **The People Who Hugged the Trees**: "Before she left the forest, Anita kissed her special tree. Then she whispered, 'Tree, if you are ever in trouble, I will protect you. The tree whispered back with a rustle of its leaves.'" This is obviously more pantheism.

The text, **We The People**, states: "The culture we live in is becoming cosmopolitan, that is, belonging to the whole world. National corporations have become international. Environmental concerns transcend national borders. Entertainment--music, sports, and film--- command worldwide markets. The achievements of modern technology are turning the world into a global village, with shared cultural, economic, and environmental concerns."

Quist concludes one article with this statement. **"We have come to grips with the fact that, in the core curriculum now required by federal law, there is one unifying theme, which is the disbanding of the United States of America as a sovereign, free people, and the creation of an international one-world government. This is the glue that holds it all together."**

Most of the public does not know what is taking place. Money is tight and most states are dependent on federal dollars. Steven Yates has done a fantastic (10 page print out) report on Allen Quist's FedEd book, which the reader can locate on the internet through the von Mises Institute, Steven Yates Archives, or through the old archives at www.edwatch.org.

This article has just touched the surface, and I am so grateful both to Professor Quist and Steven Yates to provide this excellent review. Please take time to go the archives and read it in full, for the sake of the children, who are the victims. Please go to the internet www.edwatch.org for articles by Allen Quist and the Maple River Education coalition. This one is titled **The New Federal Curriculum and How It Is Enforced** and/or for a Review of FedEd from LewRockwell.com.

Sincerely, Bobbie Ames.



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GOOD NEWS FOR MONTGOMERY REAL ESTATE

As most of us are aware, the great recession wreaked havoc on the housing market all over the country. Even areas which had tended to be "recession proof" in the past suffered large losses in real estate values during the recession. In fact, according to **CNNMoney.com**, prices fell in the 20-city S&P Case-Shiller index for twenty-seven consecutive months. In October 2008 alone prices fell a staggering 18% across the index!

But, today there is good news in the housing market in the River Region and I would like to share a few statistics with you. A quick review of the Montgomery Area Association of Realtors Facts and Figures Report as of May 31, 2015 makes a very strong case that the housing market is back. First, **sales of all homes in the area were up a whopping 14.2% over 2014 through the end of May**, according to the Multiple Listing Service. Though new homes sales remained constant, **sales of existing homes have trended up around 17.9%** compared to the previous year. The prices of these homes have also moved upward with an increase of around 4.3% so far this year, and a very respectable 10.2% rise over the same period in 2013! The marketing time for both existing and new homes is also down slightly over 2014.

So, if anyone one asks you how our economy is in the River Region, please give them the good news!

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Montgomery County

Montgomery

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Prattville

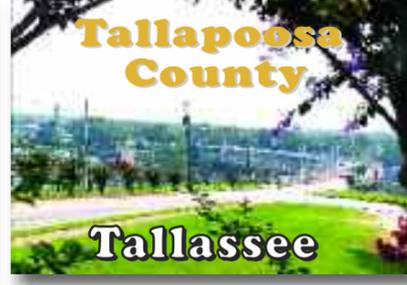
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Elmore County

Wetumpka

Surrounding Town and Communities:
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Tallapoosa County

Tallassee

Surrounding Town and Communities:
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BRAND NEW PRODUCT, MADE IN MONTGOMERY!
Tallassee band director Robby Glasscock displays "T-Pride" and "Tiger" "HardFlags" on his vehicle. HardFlags are also available for Auburn, Alabama, Troy and Tuskegee fans. If your school group would like to sell HardFlags as a fundraiser, please contact Bill Rice, Jr. at 315.2583. For more flag samples visit: www.hardflags.com



EXCITING NEWS FROM THAT'S MY CHILD
a Montgomery based community youth organization that teaches kids ages 10 to 18 performance arts and life skills

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Mayor Gordon Stone

Welcome to the Town of Pike Road on the web! We hope that this website will be a place where you can find the information you're looking for as you get to know the fastest growing town in Alabama. www.pikeroad.us.

According to U.S. Census figures, the Town of Pike Road grew by more than 1,600% during the first decade of the 21st century. With the motto "Welcome Home," it is no wonder so many new faces and families have chosen this place during the last ten years.

Pike Road School opened its doors...



Pike Road School Dedication Ceremony was held Sunday, August 30, 2015.

On August 13, 2015, Pike Road School System opened its doors. Leaders of the Town of Pike Road and the Pike Road School System were joined by dignitaries, community, friends, teachers and students. This is a historic journey and reflected the bright future of the Town of Pike Road.



Tallassee Trade Day

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Sheriff Derrick Cunningham

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It's time for our Annual Senior Citizen Fishing Rodeo! All Senior Citizens!

You are invited to fish at the Montgomery County ponds on
Tuesday, September 8th from 6:00 am—12:00 noon.

Bring your fishing pole, bait & tackle and enjoy fishing and fellowship with the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office. We will provide drinks and fun! This event is for Seniors only so please no children. The ponds are handicap accessible and there will be portable restrooms available. Directions: Take 231 South, go approximately 7 miles from the Southern Boulevard and look for vehicles with the flashing blue lights across from Meriwether Road.



Camp Show-n-Tell was a Huge Success!!

*Thank you for making camp a success again this year!
The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office provides 100 boys and girls a week long free camp for those students that have worked hard during the school year!*



Thanks again for making this year another success!

Keep our children safe!
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Thanks to all the Montgomery County citizens that have sent in appreciation letters regarding our Firearms Familiarization Course!

We know that learning how to protect yourself is very important in today's world. For this reason, we are continuing our monthly Firearms Familiarization Course with the following scheduled dates:

- Saturday, September 26th
- Saturday, October 10th
- Saturday, November 14th



The class is always held on a Saturday at our Firing Range and lasts all day and is **FREE** to Montgomery County citizens! The morning session is classroom instruction on firearm safety and firearm laws. The afternoon session allows citizens to practice shooting on our Firing Range for the remainder of the class. All classes are under the instruction of the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office Range Master.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

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

Pistol Permit Questions? 334.832.1335 or 334.832.1337

Course Questions or to Obtain an Application?
LisaCrenshaw@mc-ala.org 334.832.1339

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



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Ronald A. Holtsford

Q - I bought a new car last October; it's a brand that I have always had good luck with. I have had problems with it that the service department can't seem to always replicate and it has been in for repairs a total of twelve days. Because of all of the repairs I only have eight thousand miles on it. Does this car meet the definition of a lemon?

Truly you have a troublesome car, but at this point your car has not met the definition of a vehicle with a nonconforming condition under the Alabama Lemon Law.

I am assuming this car was purchased from a dealer whose manufacturer has dealers in Alabama.

Though not apparent in your case, if you ordered an obscure new vehicle you could have an additional problem in that it may not meet the definition of a Motor Vehicle Dealer under the definition of Alabama Code, 1975, §8-20A-1. which says "The person, firm, or corporation operating under a dealer agreement from a manufacturer, importer, or distributor and who is engaged regularly in the business of buying, selling or exchanging motor vehicles in this state and who has in this state an established place of business".

It is necessary that the problem that you are having is covered under an express warranty of the car and the problems that you are having are not a result of abuse to the vehicle; the vehicle being used in an ordinary manner. Assuming that you have used the vehicle in an ordinary way, lets look at where you are based on the Lemon Law.

First, according to §8-20A-2(a)(2) it says, "The motor vehicle is out of service and in the custody of the manufacturer, its agent, or an authorized dealer due to repair attempts (including the final repair attempt), one of which occurred during the lemon law rights period, for a cumulative total of 30 calendar days, unless such repair could not be performed because of conditions beyond the control of the manufacturer, its agents or authorized dealers, such as war, invasion, strike, fire, flood, or other natural disaster." Your cumulative time of having the vehicle unavailable is twelve days at this point and does not yet meet the thirty day requirement.

However, under §8-20A-1(8), the time period is tied to one year or twelve thousand miles since delivery, whichever occurs first. You have not met either condition and I would not expect you to hit the twelve thousand mile mark before you hit your twelve month mark in October. You are short on days in the shop though twelve days is a considerable amount of time, averaging a little over a day per month of ownership. If the difficulties persist you might still hit a cumulative thirty days before your twelve months run out. However, §8-20A-2(a) reads, "**§ 8-20A-2. Obligations of manufacturer**

(a) If a new motor vehicle does not conform to any applicable express warranty, and the consumer delivers the motor vehicle to the manufacturer, its agent, or its authorized dealer, and gives notice of the nonconforming condition during the lemon law rights period, the manufacturer of the motor vehicle shall be obligated to make such repairs to the motor vehicle as shall be necessary to remedy any nonconforming condition thereof. Such repairs shall be required even after the expiration of the lemon law rights period provided that notice of the nonconforming condition was first given during the lemon law rights period and provided further that the manufacturer's obligation to repair the nonconforming condition shall not extend beyond the period of 24 months following delivery of the vehicle or 24,000 miles, whichever occurs first."

Since you have put the manufacturer on notice via the dealer (you must do so in writing), then you may well have an extended time period of twenty-four months or twenty-four thousand miles, whichever occurs first.



If you eventually meet the definitions of the Lemon Law, the manufacturer has the following options and obligations under §8-20A-2(b), "

(b) If, after reasonable attempts, the manufacturer, its agent, or its authorized dealer is unable to conform the motor vehicle to any express warranty by repairing or correcting a nonconforming condition of the motor vehicle which first occurred during the lemon law rights period, the manufacturer shall, at the option of the consumer, replace the motor vehicle with a comparable new motor vehicle or shall accept return of the vehicle from the consumer and refund to the consumer the following:

- (1) The full contract price including, but not limited to, charges for undercoating, dealer preparation and transportation charges, and installed options, plus the non-refundable portions of extended warranties and service contracts;
- (2) All collateral charges, including but not limited to, sales tax, license and registration fees, and similar government charges;
- (3) All finance charges incurred by the consumer after he first reported the non-conformity to the manufacturer, its agent, or its authorized dealer; and
- (4) Any incidental damages which shall include the reasonable cost of alternative transportation during the period that the consumer is without the use of the motor vehicle because of the nonconforming condition."

The incidental damages are offset by a formula based on the number of miles that the consumer is able to enjoy (maybe enjoy is not the best word).

Finally, if the manufacturer or its agent is not resolving the ongoing vehicle problem, then you must send a letter to the manufacturer via United States Postal Service of your intent to bring an action under the Alabama Lemon Law. The manufacturer has seven days to respond and given an additional fourteen days to resolve the nonconforming condition.

I would certainly suggest if you reach the point where you have met the thirty days of having an inaccessible vehicle due to repair of the nonconforming condition, then you should contact an attorney knowledgeable in Lemon Law to make sure that you have met all conditions so that your attorney can proceed on your behalf for a final resolution.

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

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

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

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I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber. ...
Psalm 121

Gazette Seniors...

NEW DEMENTIA GUIDE AVAILABLE

YOU MAY BE OVER THE HILL
You may be over the hill if you were pushing 80 not long ago, and now you're pushing a walker.

A new publication most seniors would be wise to get their hands on is the 2015 Dementia Resource Guide that was put out by the Alabama Department of Senior Services, and was recently the subject of one of Eastdale Estates' weekly Who's Lookin' Out for You? Series held each Tuesday morning there.

Mrs. Susan Segrest, Executive Director of the Central Alabama Aging Consortium, spent a Tuesday morning last month at the senior retirement facility explaining

the various sections of the publication, which is "to point [seniors] in the right direction about [various elements] related to dementia," and to answer questions that may arise in the thoughts of senior citizens, and those with close association with seniors. The word itself, dementia, has a Latin origin relating to madness, and even relates to the French word d'emence, which had a similar association.

Numbers wise, "one in seven Americans 71 years of age or older has some form of dementia, according to the National Institute of Health, which seems to be just cause for publishing such a guide; and for that the Alabama Department of Senior Services should be commended.

The purpose of this guide, in its own words, "is to point you in the right direction about specific topics related to dementia," and this it does with a great degree of excellence.

Starting right off, it provides the reader with a variety of contact numbers from which the general public might glean more specifics on facts related to the subject.

Then it goes on to acquaint the reader with terms related to the subject, along with a definition of dementia, its various types, and a list of the types of healthcare providers one might wish to contact for further advice and information.

One could wax on with regard to the content of this cornucopia of useful information, but the best advice is to avail oneself with a copy.

And how, one may ask, might this be done?

One could contact the Central Alabama Aging Consortium at 818 South Perry Street in Montgomery, and ask for one; or one could go all the way to the top and visit Senior Services Commissioner Neal Morrison at the RSA Tower on 201 Monroe Street in Montgomery.

Or, one could call on Charlie Mulcahy, the amiable sales leader at Eastdale Estates, the salamander-shaped, three story senior retirement facility at 5801 Eastdale Drive in Montgomery. He might even be persuaded to provide a tour of the place.

In sum, if ever there was an all-inclusive publication on a specific subject of great concern to all of us, the Dementia Guide is it.

You'll not be sorry for having availed yourself of a copy.

INTERPRETATION OF A TEACHER

With another school year underway, one may wonder: How should one classify a teacher?

According to the famous 18th Century German author and statesman Johann Wolfgang von Goethe in his work: *Effective Affinities*, this is one way:

"A teacher who can arouse a feeling for one single good action, for one single poem, accomplishes more than he who fills our memory with rows and rows of natural objects classified with name and form." That's how the old folks think of a teacher.

4 Best Exercises for Older Adults

Improve strength, balance, flexibility and endurance

For older adults and seniors who want to stay healthy and independent, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) recommend four types of exercises:

1. Strength exercises build older adult muscles and increase your metabolism, which helps to keep your weight and blood sugar in check.
2. Balance exercises build leg muscles, and this helps to prevent falls. According to the NIH, U.S. hospitals have 300,000 admissions for broken hips each year, many of them seniors, and falling is often the cause of those fractures.

3. If you are an older adult, balance exercises will help you avoid problems AS you get older.

And if you are a senior, balance exercises can help you stay independent by helping you avoid the disabilities that could result from falling.

5. Stretching exercises can give you more freedom of movement, which will allow you to be more active during your senior years. Stretching exercises alone will not improve your endurance or strength.
6. Endurance exercises are any activity—walking, jogging, swimming, biking, even raking leaves—that increases your heart rate and breathing for an extended period of time. Build up your endurance gradually, starting with as little as 5 minutes of endurance activities at a time.

Senior Transportation

Too many public transportation systems are unable to handle the needs of older adults and the disabled.

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Janette Oke

By *Kylle' D. McKinney*
Alabama Public Affairs Specialist
Social Security Administration
4344 Carmichael Road, Suite 100
Montgomery, Alabama 36116



APPEALING A SOCIAL SECURITY DECISION?

CHECK OUT OUR IMPROVED ONLINE APPEAL PROCESS

Social Security listened to customer feedback and made the online appeals process even better. Now, people who disagree with our disability decision can complete their appeal using our improved online appeals process.

More than 90,000 people use our online appeals application each month. We've certainly come a long way since introducing the online appeal option in September 2007. Throughout the nation, applicants, their representatives, third parties, groups, and organizations use the online appeal process to request review of disability decisions.

Responding to feedback from our employees and the public, the new online appeals process is easier to use and improves the speed and quality of our disability and non-disability decisions. Users told us that the program needed to be streamlined for easier navigation and that it needed to ask for less duplicate information. They also told us that they wanted to be able to complete both the appeal form and the medical report together, and be able to submit supporting documents as part of the electronic appeal request.

Our enhanced online appeals application incorporates those suggestions and more. People can now submit both the appeal form and the medical report

in just one online session and electronically submit supporting documents with the appeal request. The screen messages are clear and concise, the navigation has been improved, and we've beefed up our on-screen help. Additionally, users who live outside of the United States are now able to file appeals online.

As a reminder, representatives who request, and are eligible for, direct fee payments must electronically file reconsiderations or request for hearings on medically denied Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability or blindness claims.

The next time you need to file an appeal, be sure to complete it online at www.socialsecurity.gov/disabilityssi/appeal.html.

Kylle' McKinney, SSA Public Affairs Specialist, can be reached by e-mail at kylle.mckinney@ssa.gov.

[Social Security 80 Years – Celebrating the Past and Building the Future](#)

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THE MARSHALL MOMENT

DR. RICK MARSHALL
Eastern Hills
Baptist Church
Montgomery, Alabama

Soul Searching

The Undercurrent of Loneliness

Just in the last few days we have heard again about a surfer on the beach who saw two girls in trouble in an undertow just down the beach. Immediately he went into the water and was able to save the girls who were almost out of strength from fighting the current and who would have certainly drowned.

We don't know if there were any red flags up on that beach to warn swimmers of the danger. We do know that swimmers who ignore such warnings are often in trouble and some of them lose their lives because of it.

However, a beach is not the only place one finds serious and dangerous undercurrents. They also come in life situations and often with the same element of surprise. As a Pastor, I often encounter people struggling against the undercurrent of loneliness. Sometimes it is an ongoing issue of life while for others it comes as a total surprise due to a sudden change of life circumstances. Either way, it can be menacing, frustrating and painful. Loneliness knows no boundaries. It happens to children and teens as well as adults. It has little to do with location. Most of us live close together yet many feel miles apart from anyone. It is particularly sad if people can be lost and lonely at church which should provide the most welcoming atmosphere of all.

Loneliness is experienced in many different ways. "Loneliness is being six years old and not knowing the name of another first grader. Loneliness is learning your parents are getting a divorce and not knowing who you will live with. Loneliness is saying 'no' when other people are saying 'yes' to things you know are not good for you. Loneliness is being at the top where the buck stops. Loneliness is coming home from your child's wedding or your mate's

funeral." "It is an empty place at the table, an empty bed or a broken heart."

It is like the words to the song popular years ago which said, "You've got to walk that lonesome valley, you've got to walk it by yourself." But maybe we need to question that logic. "Do you really?"

There are things people can do. Some fill their lives with activities, hobbies or recreation. Others fill their lives with things or join organizations. While there can be some benefit, many of these do not speak to the deepest issues or solve the real problems brought on by loneliness. Solving loneliness is more than activity; it is finding a new way to look at life.

As I encounter people struggling to find a place in life the place to turn is Jesus. If anyone understood loneliness, it was Jesus. On one occasion we got a glimpse into His world when He said, "Foxes have hold, and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head." It was a realistic assessment of His situation. Furthermore, consider the loneliness of His calling and the misunderstanding of His mission even by those closest to Him. In the worst moment of His life on the cross he cried out, "My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?"

Because of what He faced and as an example of how God sees us, Jesus treated people differently. When he saw someone in sin or sickness, He sought to make them whole and forgiven. He didn't look down on the harassed and helpless or find reason to criticize their condition. Instead, He referred to them as sheep without a shepherd. Over and over the Bible emphasized that "He had compassion on

them." In our world people without standing or lost in difficulty become patients to doctors, clients to professionals or prospects for churches without any real care for their emotional or spiritual condition. Jesus saw them as person's made in God's image.

What is our response to loneliness? Some who read this might find themselves in that situation while others know people who are struggling with identity and happiness. We can all do a couple of things. One, we can determine to be the friend to someone who needs it. That's Christ-like. We can also help ourselves by helping others. A friend who had almost become a hermit discovered the joy of helping someone less able to move about than she. Soon the ministry to her new friend had transformed her own loneliness into a new sense of worth.

Second, when loneliness strikes us or those close to us, it is a critical time to learn to rely on the Lord. The Bible is rich in the promises of God to the lonely. "I will not leave you comfortless; I will come to you" (John 14:18). "Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me, thy rod and thy staff they comfort me" (Psalms 23:4).

I love the old story of the Scottish preacher who was expounding on the 23rd Psalm. He said, "The Lord is my shepherd, aye, and more than that, he has two fine collie dogs, Mercy and Grace, and they will see me safely home."

Perhaps the clearest answer to loneliness was expressed long ago by Augustine who said, "Thou has made us for Thyself, and our souls are restless until they rest in Thee."

Reflections

By Michael J. Brooks

Reflections is a weekly devotional column by Michael Brooks, pastor of the Siluria Baptist Church in Alabaster, Ala. and adjunct instructor of speech at Jefferson State Community College, Hoover. Permission is given to use this material with attribution.

Our scripture yesterday was **Revelation 9**. John wrote about scorpions who torment the ungodly in the days of God's wrath. It's scary stuff.

Manson had a unique interpretation according to Bugliosi. Manson believed the scorpions were none other than the Beatles from Liverpool. After all, John said they had "hair like a woman" and shining breastplates that were obviously electric guitars (**Revelation 9: 8-9**). Manson believed the Beatles spoke to him through their songs, and one song, "Helter Skelter" had special meaning. He saw it as a race war that would eliminate all of humanity.

Manson was Abaddon (v. 11) who would take his followers to a secret place in the desert for safety, from which they'd emerge as world rulers when the war was over.

For two terrible nights in August, 1969, Manson sent followers to commit murder, instructing them to leave "helter skelter" in blood on the walls of the houses.

Manson believed black Americans would be blamed for the murders and the race war would commence.

The Manson murders that year marked the end of American innocence. We've had worse tragedies since but that awful month was a time of uncertainty and fear. Many of us who didn't live in California were perplexed

and wondered, indeed, if we were entering a new era of terror.

The Manson saga had two interesting repercussions. Two of the murderers, Susan Atkins and Charles Watson, found faith in prison and published books about their lives. Atkins wrote "Child of Satan, Child of God" about her conversion. She requested immersion baptism and was baptized in a cattle dipping tank brought into the prison. She was once a guest, via telephone, on the PTL Club with Jim and Tammy Bakker. Atkins died of brain cancer in 2009.

Charles "Tex" Watson, author of "Will You Die for Me?", found Christ in a Texas prison where he serves as assistant chaplain.

It's hard to believe how a single individual, Charles Manson, could incite such carnage. Revelation also tells of a man in the last days who will delude many and, like Manson, claim to be God. This declaration will usher in the return of Christ.

I've taught in a number of jails and prisons over the years. It's an awful place, but it's common to find many followers of Christ. After all, sometimes we must be in the lowest pit before God gets our attention.

Michael J. Brooks
10696 Highway 119 S., Alabaster, AL 35007
Office - 205.663.7904

Charles Manson and the Bible

I was probably the only one sitting in Sunday School yesterday thinking of Charles Manson.

Manson was the crazed cult leader who directed two terrible mass murders in 1969. I read Vincent Bugliosi's "Helter Skelter" years ago, and the author explained how Manson used the Bible to brainwash his followers.

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Psalm 67

- 1 God be merciful unto us, and bless us; and cause his face to shine upon us; Selah.
- 2 That thy way may be known upon earth, thy saving health among all nations.
- 3 Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee.
- 4 O let the nations be glad and sing for joy: for thou shalt judge the people righteously, and govern the nations upon earth. Selah.
- 5 Let the people praise thee, O God; let all the people praise thee.
- 6 Then shall the earth yield her increase; and God, even our own God, shall bless us.
- 7 God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear him.

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Southern Cuisine

It was August and I was hot, so I decided to do something about it. I couldn't change the humidity, the temperature or the dew point here in Alabama, so I decided to change my location.

I wanted to go somewhere dry, cooler and where I could try new menu items at some new restaurants. Since I am writing about food, I have to keep up my research. Tough job!

So I am in Ruidoso, New Mexico. Cooler, with the mornings in the 50's, and drier days with the dew point below 60 most days.

New Mexico is not considered the bastion of Southern Cuisine. Some food writers say that New Mexico Cuisine is similar to Southwestern Cuisine. The basic ingredients of New Mexico cooking are chilies, beans and corn but they don't use sour cream or avocados. New Mexican cuisine does have corn and pork like Southern cuisine.

Trying to describe Southwestern cuisine is like trying to describe Southern Cuisine, which has to be broken down to regions like the Gulf Coast, Cajun, and the Low Country. And part of the make up of Southwestern Cuisine is New Mexican cuisine. New Mexico is the home of the hatch pepper, and as we in the South ask, "Sweet or Unsweet Tea?" here in New Mexico, they ask "Red or Green Pepper? But don't ask for sweet tea.

I told you I was here doing "food research", so the first place I went when I got off the plane in Roswell, N.M. was to a food truck that I knew was going to be downtown for lunch. Chef Toddzilla, famous from the Cooking Channel, was at the town square. Having looked up his menu on the Internet, there was no hesitation when I was asked for my order, "Chorizo Burger with fries, please." The patty was made with beef, ground pork tenderloin and bacon mixed with red chile. There was lettuce, Pico de Gallo, roasted garlic mayo, topped with a fried egg. How could you go wrong?

When I get home, I'm going to make his Grizilla Cheese sandwich, with flat fried chile rellenos, Muenster cheese on sour dough bread, yum! No wonder McDonalds is having such a hard time.

We later ate at a Mexican restaurant and pork was an ingredient in many of the menu items and pulled pork was listed in 3 or 4 items. A non-pork entrée on the menu could be served at the Blue Moon Café in Montgomery as a substitute for Chicken Pot Pie. Instead of a dough piecrust, they used puffed pastry shaped as a square container with a lid. Filled with chicken, green chilies and vegetables in a cream sauce and topped with a green chili sauce. It is somewhat spicier than the normal chicken potpie, but it is just a different recipe for basically a standard in Southern cooking.

There are not many national fast food franchises in Ruidoso but there are restaurants that are family owned or locally owned. That means they can change their menus with the change of seasons and the abundance of local ingredients.

But is it really any different from other places. We ate mostly what was abundant in our location. But now we have the ability to transport products over great distances and the population is more mobile, meaning when we move or visit other places we tend to prefer to eat something with familiar ingredients. Besides the locals, there are more people from Texas here than anywhere else.

So Tex-Mex is blended in with the local favorite fare.

So there is a fusion of foods from different cultures here and across the country and Southern Cuisine is in the mix. Bobby Flay has a recipe for Indonesian Fried chicken and Nuevo Latino Shrimp and Grits. Paula Deen has Mexican Shrimp and Grits. I am in favor of adding different flavors from around the world but you can "fix" dishes with different flavors from different regions of the South.

Case in point. Here is a recipe that has ingredients from the Gulf Coast, South Carolina, Alabama and Texas. This is an adaption of a recipe from the restaurant Slightly North of Broad, in Charleston.

I call it:

SOUTHERN FUSION SHRIMP AND GRITS

INGREDIENTS

FOR THE GRITS

4 cups water
½ teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons unsalted butter
1-cup old fashion stone ground grits (McEwen & Sons from Alabama)
¼ cup heavy cream
About a 2-inch piece of a goat cheese log (Belle Chevre, Elkmont Alabama)

FOR THE TOPPING

1 ½ links of Spanish style chorizo

cut into ¼ inch pieces (see note)
4 oz. country ham cut in julienned strips (Carolinas)
2 tablespoons unsalted butter
8 medium sea scallops
12 medium shrimp, peeled, deveined (Gulf Coast)
2 tomatoes, peeled seeded, and chopped
¼ cup sliced scallion
¼ teaspoon minced garlic Cajun seasoning to taste, a pinch or two is enough
¼ cup water

YIELD: 4 servings

DIRECTIONS

- Bring water, salt and butter to boil in 3 qt. saucepan.
- Follow instructions on grits package until done and then add cream and goat cheese and stir until mixed.
- Make the topping 10 to 15 minutes before grits are done.
- Cook chorizo and ham in ½ tablespoon butter in heavy skillet until chorizo and ham is cooked. About 3 min.
- Remove with slotted spoon to a plate. Add another ½ tablespoon of butter to pan and cook scallops until golden and just cooked through. 3 min. Add to plate.
- Do the same with shrimp. About 3 min.
- When shrimp is done, add chorizo, ham and scallops and all remaining ingredients and cook until heated through.
- Put grits in bowl and ladle toppings over grits and serve.

(note-Spanish style chorizo is a drier hard sausage and is usually packaged with two small links. Mexican style chorizo is a ground sausage that can be formed into patties or cooked as bulk. You can use it [about a third cup] in this recipe, just cook through and drain fat off before adding to other ingredients).

I think that there are under-used foodstuffs sitting in your pantry. Items that you can incorporate into your favorite recipes. Peanut butter is a good example. Most people use peanut butter to make sandwiches (like my favorite, Peanut Butter and Mayonnaise) or to add to some sickening sweet gooey dessert. My favorite way to use peanut butter is to use it in savory dishes instead of



sweet. I have a board on Pinterest called Peanut Butter with several tasty recipes. Most peanut butter boards on Pinterest are full of cookie, cupcake and pie recipes for peanut butter.

If you want to spice up your pork or chicken, use a peanut sauce instead of cream or stock based gravy. This recipe can also be used as a sauce for green beans, and take the boring out of the usual steamed or boiled beans. I also like using crunchy peanut butter just to add a new texture to the dishes. Also I do not use sugar loaded goo and any peanut butter that has more than 3 ingredients: peanuts, oil and salt.

PEANUT SAUCE

INGREDIENTS

½ cup smooth or crunchy peanut butter	2 tablespoons apple cider vinegar
¾ cup coconut milk	1 tablespoon sugar or as much or as little you want
2 tablespoons of Siracha sauce, more or less to taste (source of heat)	1 teaspoon soy sauce

Makes 1 cup

DIRECTIONS

Place all of the ingredients in a saucepan and whisk together. Then put on low heat and whisk until heated. Watch not to scorch the sauce with too much heat.

There is not much to this recipe. You can tweak it to your taste; change the Siracha with red curry paste, or add Mirin instead of apple cider vinegar and sugar. With the Mirin, you won't get the acid taste like from the vinegar. Mirin is sweet rice wine. Or use rice wine vinegar instead of the apple cider vinegar.

Use it on chicken, shrimp, pork or anything you want.

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Southern Gardening Potpourri for September

by Peggy Givhan



Judge Peggy Givhan

September, the transition month between summer and fall, is the month for lots of celebration from Labor day to football victories, and back to school rallies. Also, I suggest it is a great month to travel the region in search of beautiful gardens. These gardens have reached the zenith of growth and beauty. One that

comes to mind is the **Birmingham Botanical Garden** which is only 1 1/2 -2 hours from Montgomery. Birmingham and the State should salute this elegant, well-maintained garden with many venues, plus a wonderful gift shop which includes plants. Also, if your quest includes purchasing herbs, heirloom roses, and other annuals and perennials, drop by Petals from the Past, a nursery, off I-65 for a real treat. Many Saturdays they host lecturer on topics such as how to grow and maintain fruit trees. Just go to their web site for more information.

Let's look at some of the garden chores facing us in the garden in the month of September. Vinca will start to decline as the night time temperatures get cooler and needs to be replaced. Many of us had planted Vinca back in late May and June, so this is about the bloom life of this annual. (Some of the older varieties will reseed.) We can fill in any holes in the beds when the Vinca or other annuals die back with pansies, dianthus, dusty miller, lamb's ears, or herbs such as parsley, oregano, fennel, chives and others. If you are not ready to plant the winter annuals, impatiens and begonias can be planted and will last through a hard freeze. These could be transition plants to keep the garden going until you want to add winter annuals which may not be readily available now. We can also plant some perennials and biennials such as holy hock, fox glove, and delphinium for beautiful spring show stoppers. These plants are not fillers, but the divas which set a dazzling stage in April and May. Other perennials such as all types of salvias, Shasta daisy, scabiosa,, monarda, Asian lilies, pentas, lilies of the Nile, and phlox, would be a great addition to the beds.

I mentioned **Fennel** for the garden because the common fennel is a prolific, valuable addition to the garden in providing nectar and pollen to beneficial insects. The good insects this herb sustains include hover flies, lacewings, lady-bird beetles, paper wasps and soldier bugs. It also is an important source of food for the butterfly larvae.

PLANT OF THE MONTH--ALLIUM or ORNAMENTAL ALLIUM (Liliaceae)

There are about **500 species of Allium** which are native to the Northern Hemisphere and are grown from bulbs. They require full sun or partial shade, need regular water, and some are more cold hardy than others. In our area, we can grow almost all without having to dig the bulbs. They are kin to the edible onion, have arresting bloom heads which make great cut flowers. Some varieties have very fragrant blooms. The onion scent is not evident unless the stem is pierced or bruised, plus blooms of the different varieties can also be dried. Some grow 5-6 feet tall, and some so short they make a great border.



Chives come from this family of plants. *The range of colors are from white, yellow, purple, blue, pink and shades in between.* A. christophii, called **The Star of Persia** is very distinctive with bloom heads 6-12 inches across. Most flower catalogs would carry these. Try a Google search for the most choices.

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from local vendors and farm market dealers they have dealt with for years and know that they provide excellent produce. He also grows some of the produce himself.

Betty and daughter Karen have homemade jelly, jams, preserves and pickles of many varieties. Chilton County peaches is a staple at his market.

The market provides peas and butter beans already shelled and in the bag for freezing by the bushel or singles. He has a pea sheller for his customers who bring their own produce in.

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The new Cottage Food Law went into effect June 1, 2014. This law will allow anyone to prepare nonhazardous foods at their home and sell directly to consumers. Nonhazardous foods specified by the new law include cakes, cookies, dried herbs, jams and jellies.

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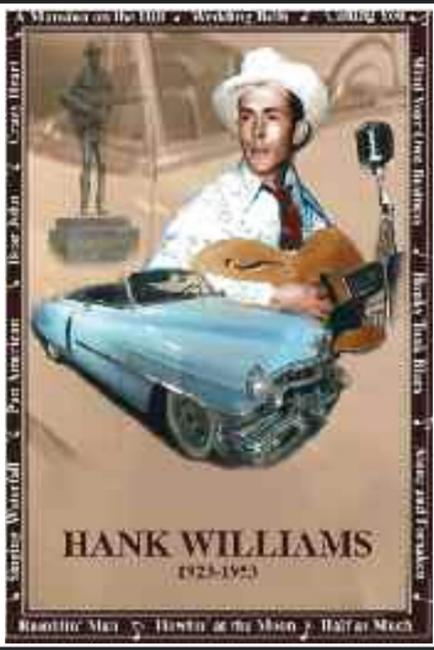
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Remembering when...

Known by many as the *FATHER OF CONTEMPORARY COUNTRY MUSIC*, Hank Williams was born on September 17, 1923 in the rural community of Mount Olive, AL. His birth certificate says "near Garland", Butler County. This is located 50 miles south of Montgomery. His mother gave him a guitar when he was eight years old, but his musical influence came from a local blues street singer, Rufus 'Tee Tot' Payne. From Tee Tot, Hank learned how to play the guitar and sing the blues, which became the basis for his songwriting. His mother moved the family to Montgomery, AL, in 1937, where she opened a boarding house. Hank sold peanuts and shined shoes on the streets around the downtown area to help his mother make ends meet. He also won his first talent show at the Empire Theater on Montgomery street.



Hank formed a band called the Drifting Cowboys and landed a regular spot on a local radio station, WSFA, in 1941.



Hank met **Audrey Mae Sheppard** in 1943 while he was playing a medicine show and married in 1944. In 1946, Hank and Audrey visited Nashville to meet Fred Rose, one of the heads of Acuff-Rose Publishing. Rose liked Williams' songs and asked him to record two sessions for Sterling Records, which resulted in two singles. Both of the singles, "Never Again" and "Honky Tonkin", were successful and Williams signed a contract with MGM Records in 1947. Rose became the singer's manager and record producer.

Released in 1947, "Move It on Over", became Hank's first single for MGM and was an immediate hit, climbing into the country Top Five. In 1948, he had joined the Louisiana Hayride. "Honky Tonkin" was released in 1948, followed by "I'm a Long Gone Daddy" which peaked in the Top Ten. In 1949, he recorded "Lovesick Blues", initially recorded by Emmett Miller. The single became a huge hit staying at number one for 16 weeks and crossing over into the pop Top 25. Williams sang the song at the Grand Ole Opry, where he performed an unprecedented six encores.

Hank and Audrey Williams had their first child, Randall Hank, in the spring of 1949. Also in the spring, Hank assembled the most famous edition of the Drifting Cowboys, featuring Bob McNett, Hillous Butrum, Jerry Rivers, and Don Helms. Soon, he and the band were earning 1,000 dollars per concert. Williams had no fewer than seven hits in 1949 after "Lovesick Blues", including the Top Fives "Wedding Bells", "Mind Your Own Business", "You're Gonna Change (Or I'm Gonna Leave)", and "My Bucket's Got a Hole in It". The next year saw another string of hit singles, including the number ones "Long Gone Lonesome Blues", "Why Don't You Love Me", and "Moanin' the Blues"; as well as the Top Tens "I Just Don't Like This Kind of Livin'", "My Son Calls Another Man Daddy", "They'll Never Take Her Love From Me", "Why Should We Try" and "Nobody's Lonesome for Me". Also in 1950 under the name Luke the Drifter, Hank recorded a series of spiritual records.



In June 1951, the Garrett Coliseum opened before it was completed and Hank Williams, Hank Snow and the Carter Sisters were the first performers.

Hank racked up hits in 1951, beginning with the Top Ten hit "Dear John" and its number one flip side, "Cold, Cold Heart". Hank had several other hits in 1951, including the number one "Hey, Good Lookin'" and "Howlin' at the Moon", "I Can't Help It (If I'm Still in Love With You)", "Crazy Heart", "Lonesome Whistle" and "Baby, We're Really in Love", which all charted in the Top Ten.



In 1952, Hank was still cranking out the hits... "Honky Tonk Blues" hitting number two in the spring. Hank released five more singles in 1952, "Half as Much", "Jambalaya", "Settin' the Woods on Fire", "You Win Again", and "I'll Never Get Out of This World Alive", which all went Top Ten.

As Hank's musical career rocketed beyond precedent, the demands on his time became unrelenting. Hank was the superstar of the day, and all the pressures that go with that, were on his shoulders alone to bear. The music inside Hank was his to give, whether by the words of one of his standards, or by his performances of someone else's work.

Hank had a wide variety of musical ideas. From sacred hymn's to tales of broken hearts and troubled love, to rousing dance tunes. Hank always had a song to sing. We all know his songs that have become the standards of the industry. But, Hank also recorded novelty songs and blues-laments, country hymns and "story ballads".

Hank made 225 recordings; had 11 number 1 hits in 3 years; he wrote 128 of those recordings.

The world knows Hank Williams. Hank's songs and performances were legendary even before his death at the early age of 29. Hank has become the standard against which all country music is measured.

Hank was scheduled to play a concert in Canton, OH, on January 1, 1953. Charles Carr, a young 18 year old friend of Hank's was driving. Just before sun-up on New Year's morning in Oakhill, West Virginia, Hank was taken to a hospital where he was officially declared dead at 7:00 a.m. on January 1, 1953. He was 29.

Three days later on Sunday, January 4, 1953, Hank was buried in Montgomery, AL, with a record crowd in attendance. More than 25,000 mourners came out to pay their respects to the most famous hillbilly singer/songwriter in history of American music.



Dozens of country music stars attended, as did Audrey Williams, Billie Jean Jones, and Bobbie Jett, who happened to give birth to a daughter two days later. "I'll Never Get Out of This World Alive" reached number one immediately after his death, and it was followed by a number of hit records throughout 1953, including the number ones "Your Cheatin' Heart", "Kaw-Liga" and "Take These Chains From My Heart".

In 1961, Hank was one of the first three to be inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame. Hank's music has not only stood the test of time, but his music continues to influence countless numbers of recording artists.

Founder of The Hank Williams Museum
 Beth Petty became the museum manager in 1999 because of her father's influence and love for this great legend. The late Cecil Jackson and Betty are her parents and it was her father's dream that finally came true on February 8, 1999 with the opening of the Museum in Montgomery where he served as president of the Hank Williams Memorial Foundation Montgomery until his passing on March 15, 2010. In 1952, one week before Hank Williams passed away, Cecil rotated and balanced the tires on Hank's 1952 baby blue Cadillac. From then on, his love for Hank's music grew into a dream of what is now the Hank Williams Museum.

Celebration Itinerary...September 19th

**9 am - Oakwood Cemetery
 10 am - 4 pm- Hank Williams Museum - Music, Collectors Faire
 Great bands from Alabama, Florida, Oklahoma, Georgia, Florida, (featured artists from Hanks band.
 Concessions will be open all day with sandwich deals, drinks, snacks and a Chris' Hotdog.)**



Birthday celebration begins at 9 am, Oakwood Cemetery Annex at the resting place of Hank and Audrey for the wreath laying.

Patricia Killough

Home Town Community News

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

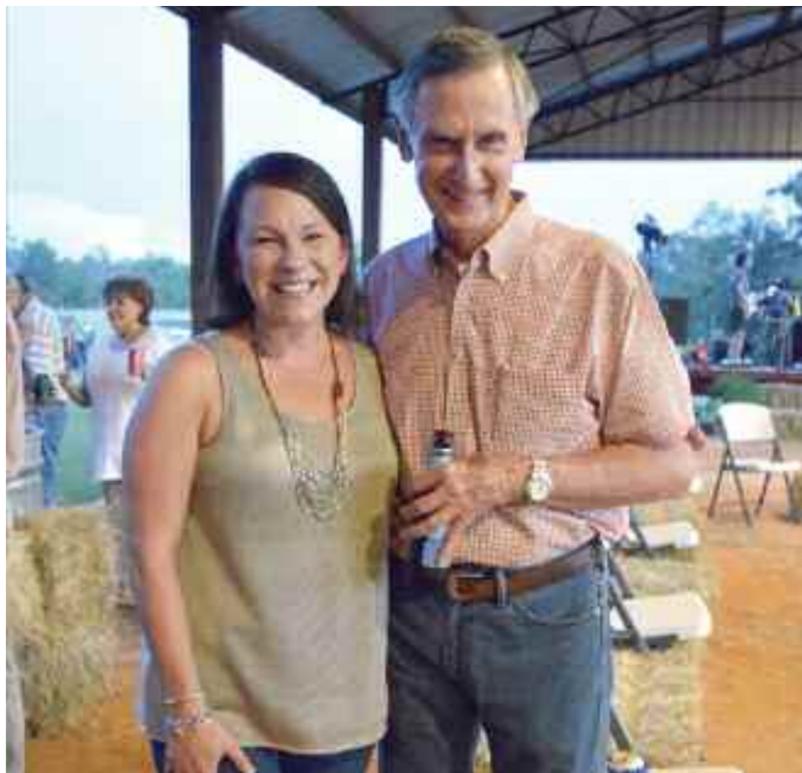
The Alabama Gazette will make every effort to include your submissions as space permits.

September Birthdays



- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Joe Boyd (76th) | Eddie Spivey |
| 2 John Hannon | 19 Beth Cline |
| 3 Dian Majors | Bobby Hudson |
| Leslie Riley | 20 Lynn Davis |
| 4 Jimmy Dick | Carol Hudson |
| Gary French | 21 Hank Henderson (93rd) |
| Tim Riley | Marlee Day Smith (6th) |
| Britney Williams | Kristen Taylor |
| 5 Joyce Moore | Sarah Kate Taylor |
| 6 Ethleen Bazzell (76th) | 22 Bertha Reagan Bell |
| Bonnie Edwards | Tom Garlington |
| Diana Elliott | David Webb |
| C. J. Faulk (81st) | Tracey Woodall |
| 7 Tanner Grant | 23 Era Hall |
| Ruby Law | 24 Barbara Berg |
| 8 Adam Broadway | Ava Catherine Crowe (7th) |
| 9 Kendra Devon Lamar | Lynda Maddox |
| Marietta Russell | Catherine Preston |
| Jesse Southern (91st) | Chrystal Rahn |
| 10 Terry Dotherow | R. J. Seevers |
| 11 Traci Weafer | 25 Brenda Abrams |
| 12 Warner Boyd (79th) | Linda Abrams |
| Catherine Jane Grubbs (9th) | Sonny Cauthen (66th) |
| Brian Hudson | Rocene Fowler |
| 13 Donna Mulcahy | Betty Gafford |
| Debbie Partridge (58th) | Baxter Moseley (20th) |
| 14 Elaine Webb | 26 Emily Lamar (93rd) |
| 15 Shannon Flores (43rd) | Barbara Mitchell |
| 16 Phyllis McCalman | 27 Roy Stephens (86th) |
| Dick Payson (81st) | 29 Elvin Stanton |
| 17 Lorenzo Duncan | 30 Scott Borders (53rd) |
| Mike (Pete) Moore | Kim Butler |
| Mandy Stringer (12th) | Susan Feaga |
| 18 Don Dawkins | Hunter O'Neal (11th) |
| Jace McClelland (2nd) | Mike Smith |
| Betty Russell | |

Ada Pasture Party



The 15th Annual Ada Pasture Party was held on August 22, 2015 at Earl Russell's barn on Smiley Ferry Road in Ada. The party was hosted by Earl Russell, Weldon Payne and Carl Boyd. Earl's 65th birthday was on the 15th of August. He was surprised with a birthday cookie cake that looked like a Medicare card. Many friends attended including U.S. District 7 Rep. Martha Roby. The event was catered by The Old Barn Restaurant from Goshen, AL. Charlie C & The Cuzamatics provided live entertainment.



Happy Anniversary

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2 Joe & Jean Douglas | 18 James & Sarah Glass (5th) |
| 3 Howard & Martha Stripling | 20 Jason & Stephanie Selvage (12th) |
| 4 Don & Barbara White | 21 Tony & Janie Drake |
| 6 Thomas & Louise Light | 22 Hank & Geneva Henderson (73rd) |
| 7 Gary & Lyda Crowe | James & Sherry Tucker |
| Ralph & Brenda Davis | 24 Larry & Linda Browder |
| Steve & Paige Stringer | 25 Chuck & Betty Gentry Holmes |
| 10 Mike & Linda Reynolds | 26 Jose' & Susan Guevara |
| 12 Warner & Margaret Boyd (59th) | 28 Morgan & Ashley James |
| 16 Skip & Connie Mainor (2nd) | Chris & Kelley Grantham |
| 17 Hugh & Helen Gordon (67th) | |
| Andy & Lori Meadows | |

Sympathy to the families of...

- Stephens, Helga Hager (84)died July 27, 2015
 Crum, Dr. William Barton "Bill" (93)died July 30, 2015
 Gibson, Clevy Thomas, Sr. (66).....died August 2, 2015
 Newell, Harold Jacks "Jack" (66).....died August 7, 2015
 Stephens, Wanda Campbell (79)died August 12, 2015
 Jones, Nancy Caroline Calenderdied August 15, 2015
 Freeman, Annette Perdue (79)died August 18, 2015
 Moseley, William "Bill" Graham (92).....died August 18, 2015
 Ross, Ms. Beverly (65)died August 19, 2015
 Webb, Jeffrey Todd, Jr. (26).....died August 19, 2015

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SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILY OF HAROLD JACKS NEWELL

Harold Jacks Newell, of Pintlala, Alabama went to be the his Lord and Savior, on Friday, August 7th, 2015, at the age of 66 years old.

Jack was President of Newell Roadbuilders, Inc. He was also an avid outdoorsman, loved Auburn football, and was an active member of Iron Men Outdoors Ministries.

PERSONAL APOLOGY...

Please allow me to apologize for what I did and said this past January. My behavior was extremely inappropriate, immature, and lacked the respect that you deserve. Therefore, by way of this letter, I am going public as this is an apology letter written to The Passineau family and their friends. I should have written this about 8 months ago but it is never too late to make amends.

The purpose of this letter is to sincerely apologize in public and say I am sorry. That I Candace Lackey cannot take back what was done but I can pray that Jennifer Klepac Passineau and Michael Passineau will accept my apology and forgive me.

I want to ask that you pray for me as we all make mistakes, haven't we? I would try and offer an explanation for what I did, but there are no excuses. I understand that you may not forgive me I can only ask in good faith.

I hereby acknowledge and sign this on the 28th day of August, 2015.
 Candace Lackey

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

TODAY'S WOMAN

Trisston's Tidbits...

By: *Trisston Wright Burrows*
www.trisstonwrightburrows.com

"Happy Labor Day!"

Did you know that the Labor Day holiday originally started in the late 1800's? I can only imagine how excited the people were to take a day off from working. Some may have thought, "What a wonderful and new idea!" Created and implemented as a day of rest by those hard working blue collar laborers in New York City, this day continues to be

one, that we as a nation, look forward to every September. To put it rather loosely, Labor Day has become a man-made American Sabbath day. A yearly day of rest from our labor, to say goodbye to Summer, to go camping, to gather family for a barbecue, and boy howdy, do us Americans look forward to our Labor Day weekend!

If you think about it, God has already created a special day for those of us who labor. As Christians our very own Labor Day doesn't come only once a

year, and it doesn't only come on the first Monday of each September, that special day for us comes every seventh day of the week. If we are smart, we try very hard to honor it. We take that seventh day to stop from our labor and relax a bit. Our bodies weren't created to run full steam ahead each and every day. We were created in His image, and if our God and creator, the great I Am himself rested from His labor on the seventh day, how much more so do we need that rest?!

Exodus 20: 8-10 tells us, "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord your God. In it you shall do no work."

My friends, our bodies were made with Sabbath DNA. God placed this spiritual genetic matter within each cell that makes up our miraculous body. So today while you are enjoying your Labor Day by traveling, painting your house, or doing yard work, remember that God had something even better for His children in mind... a weekly rest, a weekly time-out from our hard work. A time-out from our labor, we all need it.

Remember, God didn't make rest on the Sabbath day a gentle suggestion, He made it a command.

Happy Labor Day & Many Blessings!



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Jeff Nursey - "Doing More Than Expected..."

Teaching about the dangers of drinking and driving!



Victims Impact Panel

Jeff (Center) teaching a Victims impact panel on the dangers of drinking and driving.



We often see Jeff with Richard and that is what this world needs. Richard has turned out to be a good friend.



Virgie Nolan

Last Month we wrote about giving back and the more we tried to dig we discovered a guy with a big heart. In an interview with Jeff he said it's about helping others. He has been behind the scenes doing all the good he can. Here is another story we found.

This past year it was Jeff who gave Virgie the gift of hearing. Virgie says, "I honestly believe that Jeff and Glenda are angels sent from God. I could never afford hearing aids and they gave me a gift that I can never repay. May God continue to bless them richly."



MY MOTTO...

*"Do all the good you can.
By all the means you can.
In all the ways you can.
In all the places you can.
At all the times you can.
To all the people you can.
As long as ever you can."*

by John Wesley

I had the opportunity to meet Jeff Nursey back in 2009. As a chef, teacher and inspirator he was teaching kids to cook healthy. Cool Kids Cook spearheaded the obesity problems and health issues that are now affecting our kids. In 2001 he had an Idea and that was to focus on faith family and teaching kids to cook healthy. It was not just about teaching healthy cooking but to get families to sit down and eat together again.

Another recipient of Hearing aids that Jeff took it upon himself to help is Paul Neal.

Paul stated "that when I met Jeff Nursey he inspired me to be a better person."

His Motto was to always act as if the camera is rolling and the mike is on. He also taught me that the difference between being successful versus unsuccessful is that successful people do what unsuccessful people don't want to do. He also taught me that a Setback is a Setup for a Comeback and don't look in the rearview mirror as you tend to go that way.

His mother said that he always wanted to help other people. I have seen Jeff give his last dollar to someone in need that he didn't even know.



Kate Satterwhite, another recipient of hearing aids, and Jeff Nursey

I also want to say thank you to these people who have also inspired me:

JESUS

Zig Ziglar
Laurie Magers - assistant to Zig Ziglar.
Sam Masdon.
Robin Litchfield - she brought me a fabulous lasagna dinner when I was bedridden.
Si Mathison and John Ed the encouraged me in the word.
Armstead Hayes.
Loretta Grant.
Tom Stahl.
Pastor Mike Northcutt at Eastmont Baptist Church.

Ken Carrick and all of my friends at The Good Morning Montgomery Kiwanis club.
Mitch and Eric at Eastside Grille.
Rich Thomas.
Brother Paul Hubbard and his wife Sharon and the members of Lakewood Baptist Church.
Charles Wise at Frazier church.
Dr. Roland Hester and the staff at Southern Orthopedic surgeons.
Dr. John Vermillion.
The staff and Nurses at Baptist Hospital.
Riversedge Church and Pastor Eddie Mitchell.
Melissa and Ken Williams.

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