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### ANTI-SEMITISM

By now, everybody reading this Robservation is aware of the war that is raging in Israel. The Hamas attacks have been ruthless and bloody. Israel has responded and will continue to respond as necessary. Just to set the record straight, I believe Israel has EVERY right to defend itself. Period.  
*See commentary by Rob Tate - Page 3*

### WARS AND RUMORS OF WARS...

PICTURED BELOW are the men who represent lasting freedom and service to our country in WWII. They are still today our neighbors and friends in the River Region area. Take time to “thank “ them again for their dedications and service to our continued FREEDOMS!

## VETERANS DAY... NOVEMBER 11TH

				
Pete Bowdin	Joseph Collins	Romay Davis	James Dozier	Carl Edwards
				
Robert Harper	Harry Jackson	Robert Kohn	Charles Lynn	Cecil Prescott
				
Luther Rosser	Joseph Simon	Lamar Smith	Marvin Speigner	Gerald Thompson

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## INSIDE THE STATEHOUSE With Steve Flowers

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

### Dr. Furnie Johnston, Pioneer Doctor



In recent years, healthcare has eclipsed agriculture as Dothan's major industry. Dothan is the medical mecca for the entire Wiregrass, as well as rural northwest Florida and southwest Georgia. It has premier medical professionals only matched by Birmingham in the state of Alabama. Dothan doctors dominate the economy in the world's largest peanut producing locale.

One of the pioneers of this medical revolution was Dothan's Dr. Furnie Johnston, who passed away a few weeks ago at 94 years old. Dr. Johnston brought specialized medicine to Dothan. He had just finished his residency at UAB and was practicing in Birmingham when the legendary Dr. Paul Flowers called Furnie to come home to the Wiregrass and practice with him. Furnie came home and became the first orthopedic surgeon in Dothan.

Furnie Johnston was born and raised in Brundidge in Pike County a few miles north of Dothan. His father was the town pharmacist and a successful businessman. Coincidentally, in the neighboring Wiregrass City of Ozark, the most prominent pharmacist in the city had a beautiful daughter by the name of Jo Kirkland. Furnie of Brundidge and Jo of Ozark became sweethearts and married. They married and remained sweethearts for life. At the time of Furnie's death on October 9, they had been married for 75 years.

In September, Furnie knew he was close to passing away. He had gone to the hospital with terminal problems. He told the attending physician that he wanted to go home to be with his sweetheart.

Furnie and Jo Johnston had five children, two sons and three daughters. One of their sons, Jim, died in an automobile accident as a college student. His son, David Johnston, is a prominent attorney in Dothan. David is generally considered the premier tax attorney in South Alabama. David and his father, Furnie, were very close. They each considered the other to be their best friend besides being father and son. David, like his father, married an Ozark girl, Maurine Matthews.

The three daughters, Carole, Linda, and Laura, are all beautiful and successful with children and grandchildren. All three girls were with Furnie when he passed away peacefully at home. They all called him "Papa." His family affectionally referred to him as "the great white bear." He loved his family



fiercely and was a devout Christian father, grandfather, and great grandfather.

Little did his family in Brundidge know that when Furnie was born in their small town on June 17, 1929, in the heart of the Depression, that he would help transform medicine in their Wiregrass region. At that time, southeast Alabama was totally a peanut growing agricultural area.

Dr. Furnie Johnston, being a child of the Depression, was empathetic towards the life of rural Wiregrass folks. He began his practice before Medicare and Medicaid. Doctors were often not paid for their care and services. It was not unusual for Alabama doctors to be paid with vegetables from farmer's gardens or chickens. However, the Wiregrass people have always been known as hard working and very honest and believed in paying their debts. So Furnie might find vegetables left on his doorstep for years on end by a farm family paying off Furnie for fixing their broken arm.

He treated many a Wiregrass family without charge. He was especially generous and benevolent towards his native Pike County patients. Everyone from Ozark, Brundidge, and Troy, who had a fractured leg, arm, or hip, would journey down Highway 231 to Dothan to see Dr. Furnie Johnston. They would arrive with their broken limb and say, "I'm here to see Furnie Jr." Furnie's father was also named Furnie. So, the Brundidge patients would simply say, "I'm here to see Furnie Jr.," while the Dothan patients would say, "I'm here to see Dr. Johnston." Therefore, when the office manager heard, "Furnie, Jr.," they would say, "You are from Pike County, aren't you?" The patient would nod and they would go on back to see the regions bone specialist. Furnie would generally know their family and their roots. He instinctively knew whether they could pay and he would simply and quietly let his nurse know that they were not to be charged for their treatment. He treated all of his patients the same.

The passing of Dr. Furnie Johnston at age 94, marks the passing of an era. The days of two neighboring Wiregrass town pharmacists' son and daughter marrying and having a large and prosperous family may be of a past era. However, the legacy of Dr. Furnie Johnston, as the first orthopedic surgeon in Dothan, remains. He will be remembered as the pioneer, who transformed Dothan from a peanut city to a medical city.

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#### Justice Will Sellers

This month, Turkey will celebrate the 100th anniversary of its national Republic Day, which recognizes its transformation from a theocracy to an elected, representative democracy.

And, while the contours of Turkey have been around as part of any number of empires, it has only been in recent memory that the nation turned from only facing Mecca and began to look West to the political systems more representative of Europe and Western civilization.

Achieving this republic was not an easy task, but as with all countries, it never is. Each country celebrating a national holiday appropriately focuses on the sacrifice and the typically horrific cost it took to become a separate nation with its citizens determining for themselves not only the form of government, but the type of leadership they would sanction.

In the case of Turkey, the road was especially fraught. First, after World War I, Turkey and its German allies were defeated and subject to treaties that reduced national sovereignty and limited future prospects. Secondly, Turkey had been part of the Ottoman Empire, and its little experience with self government was more along Prussian lines, which allowed only a limited role for democratic institutions and popular elections.

But one thing Turkey did have was a gift for administration. While the Ottoman Empire was in decline, losing territory and population even before the Great War, Turkey had a bureaucracy with experience in administration.

So, as the former empire was carved and divided among conquerors after the war, the physical land boundaries of Anatolia that comprised what came to be Turkey were involved in a civil war, which encouraged invasion from Greece.

Even though Turkey was on the losing side, some nationalists refused to accept defeat. They argued that the Ottoman Empire may have lost and may have negotiated a surrender, but they were loyal to protecting their territory and were unwilling to lay down their arms to have no recourse against invading, opportunistic neighbors.

Initially, the governing Sultan dispatched his army to quell the rebellion, but the commander, one Mustafa Kemal, realized that the rebels had a point. So, rather than subdue them and essentially leave the territory vulnerable to foreign invasion, Kemal organized the rebels into a defense force to protect the country from foreign invasion.

But, in disobeying orders, he violated treaties implicated by the surrender of the Ottoman Empire and caused the allied nations to persist in their desire to occupy portions of Turkey. At this point, Kemal had to deal with both an internal threat with his own "government" opposing his actions and with an external threat focused on annexing portions of Anatolia by force of arms.

In a show of great leadership, Kemal dealt with both threats. First, he handled the internal civil war by deposing the Sultan and replacing him. He then formed a new government, which advocated for establishing a new nation with defined boundaries and a resistance to foreign occupation and influence.

These aims were not acceptable to the allied occupiers, and they resisted. They first compromised the new Sultan and had him essentially reject Kemal's proposals; then, they imprisoned or exiled his supporters.

## The Turkish Republic at 100



Mustafa Kemal

Kemal called for the election of a National Assembly to give him a legitimate political basis to deal with the occupation and the Sultan. When the National Assembly met, they declared that the Sultan was under the influence of infidels and imposed a religious sanction on the Sultanate, which ultimately abolished the Sultan as head of both the mosque and state.

Kemal now had a government with himself at the head, and though the National Assembly approved of him as the leader of an executive committee to run the country, he did not enjoy unqualified support. He would eventually ferret out disloyal members and gain a sufficient majority to govern.

Having established a legitimate basis to act, he defeated his internal enemies and won the quasi-civil war. Then, he further united his country and began working to defeat the Greeks militarily and force them to return conquered territory.

Diplomatically, he was able to reach agreements with neighboring countries to establish territorial integrity and further define the boundaries of Turkey. Treaties were reached with other countries that respected Kemal's military prowess, which earned Turkey the right to be recognized as a sovereign country.

But Turkey had never been a country, only a part of an empire. Any national identity was wrapped up in the Ottoman experience, which advocated loyalty to a Sultan as both a political and religious leader. Kemal's mission then was to reform this way of thinking and establish a new order that respected certain traditions but also developed new political institutions that would send Turkey down the road to embrace the success of Western governments.

Kemal advocated for a new secularism that respected the people's Muslim faith but removed religious influence over his government and civil order. He abolished religious courts, limited religious dress, and gave women the right to vote and to be members of the national assembly.

He saw the progress of Western nations not only in government but in the development of trade and industries. One way he sought to tether his country to this progress was to adopt the Latin Alphabet.

He reformed education and created an entire cultural curriculum to substitute Ottoman history with Turkish history. This course of study created a mythological Turkey of the past. But he believed Turkey needed a separate national identity to remove it from past defeats and create a new theory of greatness and unlimited potential.

A century ago, Turkey aligned its future with Western democracy and established a republic. By celebrating this achievement, we acknowledge the remarkable leadership of Mustafa Kemal, who would forever be known as Ataturk and see his example as worthy of emulation.

Even today, Turkey is a critical and necessary ally. Pausing to look back at their struggles to establish a republic gives us a basis for hope in their future.

**Will Sellers is a graduate of Hillsdale College and an Associate Justice on the Supreme Court of Alabama. He is best reached at [jws@willsellers.com](mailto:jws@willsellers.com)**

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# ROBSERVATIONS...

By: Rob Tate

## WHO WANTS IT MORE?

By now, everybody reading this Robservation is aware of the war that is raging in Israel. The Hamas attacks have been ruthless and bloody. Israel has responded and will continue to respond as necessary. Just to set the record straight, I believe Israel has EVERY right to defend itself. Period.

I was reading my Bible the other day and came across Proverbs 12:24. It says, *“The hand of the diligent will rule, but the slack will be put to forced labor.”* It is interesting that it doesn’t say something like the “righteous will rule” but it clearly claims the diligent will rule. Good or bad, righteous or evil. Who wants it more? Regarding today’s Israeli conflict, I must ask, “who wants it more?” Does Israel want their safety and security more than Hamas and the surrounding countries crave their destruction? It is really a very simple question.

Let’s not kid ourselves, folks. This war is merely another attempt at the destruction of Israel. Does anybody out there truly believe that Israel is a threat to its neighbors? Does anybody honestly believe Israel’s neighbors fear an unprovoked attack from them? Everybody knows Israel has nuclear weapons but does anybody fear an Israeli first strike using these weapons? Nobody fears this. Nobody. The only people losing any sleep over Israel’s limited nuclear arsenal are those who plot the destruction of the Jewish state and wonder how they can achieve this without Israel being able to strike first.

### LET’S LOOK AT SOME NUMBERS

*In the entire world, there are approximately 15 million Jews. They represent approximately .2% of the world population. By comparison, there are roughly 2 billion Muslims or 25% of the world population. In the Jewish state’s immediate neighborhood, these are the Muslim populations in millions of each country. Syria – 15; Lebanon – 3.56; Jordan – 10.1; Iraq – 39.6; Iran – 82.5; Egypt – 85.5; and Saudi Arabia – 31.5. Just in these countries alone, there are some 269 million Muslims as opposed to 7.18 million Jews. And get this, there are approximately 1.5 million Muslims living in Israel representing approximately 18% of the total population. Please tell me which Muslim country would allow a Jewish population of close to 20%.*

So, the argument that I continually hear is that Israel’s neighbors fear them and the Israeli state. This is patently absurd. There is no way almost 270 million people fear a miniscule 7 million. Oh they may fear Israeli knowledge, sophistication and military prowess but I do not believe they “fear” them coming across their borders unprovoked and waging war. If they would leave Israel alone, Israel would not be compelled to spank them into reality. What we see here, rather than fear is nothing more than pure hate. Hatred for the Jews, the Jewish state and everything the Jews stand for. And guess what? No amount of appeasement and compromise is ever going to change that. Love? Yes. Appeasement? No! There are those all around the world who will hate every Jew on the planet for the simple reason that they are Jews. Israel could concede every demand presented to them and yet many will continue to try and kill them all. This is not the first time in world history.

Therefore, when I look at the conflict as it is beginning to play itself out, the Israelis have no reason to appease anybody. Winston Churchill once said that appeasement is like feeding an alligator hoping that he will eat you last. Israel has business to attend to. And unfortunately for the innocent Palestinians, of which there are likely millions, thousands are going to die in this war. Civilians always die in war. That is a sad reality and we cannot escape it. But the truth is that history shows us that bad men (and women) often get good people killed. Military commanders and civilian leaders too often must face the inevitable question that too many in peacetime do not want to confront. How many of your people am I willing to kill if it means my people survive? Different wars have clearly witnessed different answers to this question.



### ANTI-SEMITISM

One thing this conflict has shown me is the disgusting and vile anti-Semitism that is running rampant around the world. This is even seen in American “elite universities” and even some despicable members of our government who stand behind Hamas and their actions while publicly sharing known propaganda lies. Perfect example, the bombing of the Al-Ahli Baptist hospital. It is known that it was an Islamic Jihad missile that went astray and hit the hospital parking lot killing about 50 people. It was not an Israeli missile attack that killed close to 500.

I for one have no time for anti-Semitism. Growing up I had way too many Jewish friends and am still friends with many of them today. There are so many inane reasons I hear people state why they hate the Jews so much. Each is more ridiculous than the next. But since the attacks, I have read several comments on blogs by so-called Christians (sadly) who hate the Jews because, “They killed Jesus.” What? Yeah, technically this is true but is this all these people get out of the Gospels? Do they know nothing of prophecy or why Jesus came to us? Why He had to die? That He willingly gave his life to save us? For starters, maybe these people should go read Mt 26:53, Jn 18:11, Mk 14:49, Mt 26:39, Mk 14:36, Lk 22:42, Heb 12:2, Jn 12:27 and Lk 24:34. Just start there. This virulent anti-Semitism is gaining traction but what do you expect when .2% of the world population must stand seemingly alone at times against the forces of evil dominating this world?

I believe things have to possibility to get ugly fast. If you believe the Bible, and I do, we should not be surprised. But Israel still has the right to defend itself against all odds. The insane calls for a ceasefire ring meaningless to me. Hamas attacks Israel and kills over a thousand of its people, Hamas continues to launch rockets and when Israel punches them square in the face and starts kicking their teeth in, they get uncomfortable and call for a ceasefire. No, I do not think so. Sometimes, bullies must be taught a lesson and Israel has its teaching clothes on.

All things being equal, I would love to see this war end tomorrow. But it is not going to. There are already too many wheels in motion and there is way too much hate involved. With each justified but bloody air attack, hatred against the Israeli state will continue to mount. The UN (United Nothings) is going to slobber and pontificate over their bloated self-importance, more people are going to call for an Israeli ceasefire while not securing guarantees by any other of the actors involved and condemning fingers are going to continually point at Israel. We have seen all of this before. There is nothing new under the sun here. But Israel, regardless of any international condemnation must stay its course. Not targeting civilians like their enemy continually does, but locating Hamas militants everywhere they find them and then doing the right thing. One of my primary prayers is for innocent Palestinians. I pray for them because there are certainly millions of good people there. However, many of them, like civilians throughout history, will unfortunately have to pay the ultimate price for the actions of the evil men they voted into office. But first and foremost, I pray for the state of Israel and its people. The world is a better place with them in it. Lord, let cooler heads prevail.

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**1. Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee: 2. And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing: 3. And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed. KJV**  
**Genesis 12:1-3**



### Don’t Use Israel as Leverage for More Ukraine Money

*“The United States has no strategic interest in the war in Ukraine or in Eastern Europe.”*

**COACH TOMMY TUBERVILLE**  
U.S. SENATOR FOR ALABAMA

[press\\_office@tuberville.senate.gov](mailto:press_office@tuberville.senate.gov)

WASHINGTON – Today, U.S. Senator Tommy Tuberville (R-AL) slammed the Biden administration’s attempt to exploit aid for Israel to get more aid for Ukraine in an op-ed in 1819 News. Instead, is supporting Israel in stand-alone legislation, the Israel Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2023.

Excerpts from the op-ed can be found below, or you can read the full op-ed here on 1819 News.

“Thirty Americans lost their lives in the attacks and an unknown number of other Americans have been taken hostage by Hamas. The United States ought to do everything in its power to rescue those Americans and get them to safety. I stand ready to do my part to assist Israel in the United States Senate.”

“Over the weekend, Joe Biden sent Congress a request for a supplemental funding bill. This request includes \$14 billion for Israel, but it also contains a grab bag of unrelated things that Joe Biden and the Democrats want, plus a few items that they think will win them some Republican votes in the narrowly divided Congress. I oppose this request. If a bill were written based on what the administration submitted, I would not vote for it.”

“The United States has no strategic interest in the war in Ukraine or in Eastern Europe in general. Meanwhile Israel is killing terrorists who also

want to kill us. The contrast couldn’t be clearer. The United States benefits from one and not the other. Further, the requested \$60 billion for Ukraine would be in addition to the more than \$100 billion that Congress has already agreed to give them—for everything from Ukraine’s farmers to Ukrainian bureaucrat pensions—at a time when our own farmers are struggling and too many American pension funds are in trouble. This is a staggering amount of funding, more than Russia’s entire annual defense budget.”

“Congress is not going to rubber stamp Joe Biden’s bill—nor should we. Congress has a constitutional responsibility to legislate—not take dictation from the White House.

***Rather than throwing a lot of unrelated ideas into one bill, we ought to vote on them separately and let the people work their will through their elected officials.”***

***If you have any questions, feel free to contact June Reeves-Weir via email: [Academy\\_Nominations@Tuberville.Senate.gov](mailto:Academy_Nominations@Tuberville.Senate.gov)***

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Israel Flag



Ukraine Flag

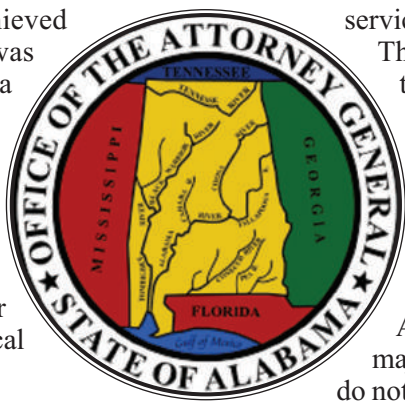




Ronald A. Holtsford

## What does the Alabama Attorney General do and is there an interesting recent opinion?

When the State of Alabama achieved statehood, an Attorney General was appointed by the legislature for a four-year period. In 1876 the Alabama Constitution was amended to provide that the Attorney General be elected by the voters of Alabama. While the term was changed to period of two years for a time it was changed back to four years. The Attorney General can serve two successive elected four-year terms. Eventually, the Attorney General was allowed to hire clerical help and then other Assistant Attorneys General were hired.



services to transgender patients. The State of Florida had determined that “the available scientific evidence did not support the use of puberty blockers and cross-sex hormones as safe and effective treatments for gender dysphoria” (Attorney General press release, 10/13/23).



Attorney General Marshall argued in his brief that some of the major nations including Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom do not recognize gender transition procedures as anything more than experimental. The District Court had hinged its opinion on a radical group called the World Professional Association for Transgender Health. Marshall went on to argue that WPATH and even the American Association of Pediatrics have not acted responsibly in advocating such measures for Florida’s citizens experiencing gender dysphoria. Marshall co-led with the states of Arkansas and Tennessee in submitting the brief. The brief was additionally signed by the Attorneys General of fifteen other states.

Looking at the website allows one to see that Attorney General Marshall and his staff truly seek to protect the State of Alabama and its citizens.

*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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Since 1939 when the Alabama Merit System was passed, the salaries have since that time come under the State Personnel Board and includes greater than one hundred fifty employees. The many employees are divided into specialties with appropriate skills in the areas of consumer affairs, law, investigation, utility regulation, public administration and other areas. The attorney general website includes consumer links even to make complaints about businesses that have wronged them.

The Attorney General’s office is the state’s law firm in that it may bring lawsuits or other actions, both civil and criminal on behalf of the State but also to defend the State whenever Alabama is named as a party defendant.

The current Attorney General is Steve Marshall, who is a graduate of the University of Alabama School of Law. He has extensive experience in private practice as well as serving the public as Marshall County District Attorney prior to his appointment by former Alabama Governor Robert Bentley. He was appointed as Attorney General when Luther Strange was appointed as Senator in 2017. He is now in his second elected term.

Attorney General Marshall submitted an amicus curiae brief earlier this month to the Eleventh Circuit Court of Appeals (Federal) in support of a Florida health-care regulation. The Latin term amicus curiae means a “friend of the court”. The State of Florida declined to use Medicaid funds to pay for gender transitioning procedures. A district court had held that the State of Florida had violated the Equal Protection Clause of the United States Constitution in not providing such



Col John Eidsmoe

## WHY THE PILGRIMS FORSOOK COMMUNISM AND EMBRACED FREE ENTERPRISE

We know the basic Pilgrim story: The Pilgrims crossed the Atlantic in the Mayflower to find the freedom to worship God as the Bible commands,

established a colony at Plymouth, faced great hardships that took the lives of half of them the first winter, but somehow managed to survive and held a feast to thank God for bringing them through these hardships to a land of blessing. All true.

But few realize that forced communal living was a major cause of the Pilgrims’ suffering. How did that happen?

To finance their passage to the New World, the Pilgrims contracted with a finance company, the Merchant Adventurers of London. The Merchant Adventurers would put up the venture capital to pay for their passage and initial supplies. In return, so the Merchant Adventurers would gain a profit on their investment, the colonists agreed that they would establish farms and other business ventures, and in each week the profits from four days’ work would go to the Adventurers and the other two days the Pilgrims would work for themselves (no work on the Sabbath).

But shortly before the Pilgrims’ departure, the Adventurers lost their exclusive fishing rights and therefore changed the terms. Under the new deal, the colonists would work entirely for the Adventurers for the first seven years, after which their debt would be paid. During those seven years, the colonists would hold all houses, land, fields, and gardens in common, probably to discourage them from seeking personal profit.

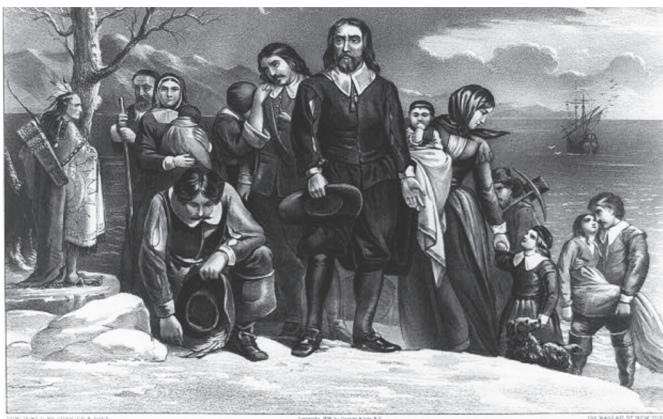
In his History of Plymouth Plantation, Governor William Bradford says the Pilgrims did not want this arrangement, but they reluctantly agreed to it, “seeing all as like to be dashed; and the opportunity lost.” But they inserted a clause in the agreement saying they would follow this communal living arrangement “except some unexpected impediment, do cause the whole company to agree otherwise.”

The result, as with socialism and communism everywhere, was disaster – crop failure, economic privation, starvation, and death. And so, they invoked the “unexpected impediment” clause and changed to private ownership and enterprise. As Bradford says,

“The experience that was had in this common course and condition, tried sundry years and that among godly and sober men, may well evince the vanity of that conceit of Plato’s and other ancients applauded by some of later times—that the taking away of property and bringing in community into a common-wealth would make them happy and flourishing, as if they were wiser than God. For this community (so far as it was) was found to breed much confusion and discontent and retard much employment that would have been to their benefit and comfort. For the young men that were most able and fit for labor and service did repine that they should spend their time and strength to work for other men’s wives and children without any recompense. The strong, or man of parts, had no more in division of victuals and clothes than he that was weak and not able to do a quarter the other could; this was thought injustice. The aged and graver men to be ranked and equalized in labors and victuals, clothes, etc., with the meaner and younger sort thought it some indignity and disrespect unto them. And for men’s wives to be commanded to do service for other men, as dressing their meat, washing their clothes, etc., they deemed it a kind of slavery; neither could many husbands well brook it. Upon the point all being to have alike, and all to do alike, they thought themselves in the like condition and one as good as another; and so, if it did not cut off those relations that God has set among men, yet it did at least much diminish and take off the mutual respects that should be preserved among them. And it would have been worse if they had been men of another condition. Let none object this is men’s corruption, and nothing to the course itself. I answer, seeing all men have this corruption in them, God in His wisdom saw another course fitter for them.”

Let’s summarize what Bradford is saying:

- 1 The Pilgrims were exceptionally honest, hard-working people.
- 2 But even among them, communal living did not work.



THE LANDING OF THE PILGRIMS AT PLYMOUTH, MASS. DEC. 22, 1620.

## Foundation for Moral Law

One Dexter Avenue, Montgomery, AL 36104.  
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3 If it fails among an industrious people like the Pilgrims, even more will it fail if tried with the general population.

4 It didn’t work, because without a profit motive, people don’t work industriously. Seeing that if they work hard, they profit no more than those who are lazy, people refuse to work hard. That is just human nature.

5 “Seeing all men have this corruption in them, God in His wisdom saw another course fitter for them.” God did not intend communal living, communism, or socialism.

Bradford’s words are very close to those of Paul in II Thessalonians 3:10-12:

“For even when we were with you, this we commanded you, that if any would not work, neither should he eat. For we hear that there are some which walk among you disorderly, working not at all, but are busybodies.

Now them that are such we command and exhort by our Lord Jesus Christ, that with quietness they work, and eat their own bread.”

Notice that neither Paul nor Bradford opposed help for those who need it. Paul didn’t say, “**he that cannot work, neither should he eat.**” Paul distinguished between deserving poor – those who cannot work – and undeserving poor – those who can work but refuse.

God’s Word endorses private property and free enterprise. The Commandment “**Thou shalt not steal**” (Exodus 20:15) implies private property, especially in conjunction with the last Commandment, “**Thou shalt not covet ... anything that is thy neighbor’s.**” (Exodus 20:17). Even in the Last Days, Isaiah tells us, “And they shall build houses, and inhabit them; and they shall plant vineyards, and eat the fruit of them. They shall not build and other inhabit; they shall not plant, and another eat: for as the days of a tree are the days of my people, and mine elect shall long enjoy the work of their hands.” (65:21-22)

Free enterprise is consistent with the Biblical view of property rights, and it is consistent with the Biblical view of human nature. People will work and produce if they and their loved ones will benefit from their work; if not, they will be lazy. The commissar can visit the commune and give a rousing oration about working for the socialist motherland, and that might fire up the workers for half an hour; but to get people to work and produce over the long run, we need the profit motive that free enterprise provides.

So the Pilgrims embraced free enterprise, and thereafter they prospered. As Bradford says,

“This had very good success, for it made all hands very industrious, so as much more corn was planted than otherwise would have been by any means the Governor or any other could use, and saved him a great deal of trouble, and gave far better content. The women now went willingly into the field, and took their little ones with them to set corn; which before would allege weakness and inability; whom to have compelled would have been thought great tyranny and oppression.”

Besides trading their locally-grown products with the Native Americans and with the Dutch, they also traded in lumber, fish, crops, and beaver pelts, founding a trading post in Kennebec, Maine, as early as 1625.

Then Pilgrims did not abandon their ideal of a Christian colony; they embraced it. They abandoned an imposed system that was contrary to the Laws of God and the nature of man, and they embraced a system that was consistent with Biblical principles and with human nature.

They paid off all their obligations to the Merchant Adventurers. More importantly, they kept their covenant with God. May future generations say the same of us.

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







John Martin

## Who Killed JFK?

This month marks the 60th Anniversary of the most controversial presidential assassination in American history—that of John F. Kennedy.

It stands supreme in suspicions of corruption and cover-ups. In spite of tons of evidence to prove otherwise, the official historical record still claims that it was planned and performed by a lone assassin—Lee Harvey Oswald.

Even today, there are still people who believe he acted alone.

Evidence clearly shows that Oswald was actually a patsy to divert attention away from the true assassin(s). We can all assume that he fired three shots at Kennedy, and one of them actually hit him, but not fatally. Oswald's real motives may never be known, since Jack Ruby hushed him up with a bullet.

At first, in 1960, Oswald did not hate JFK. He actually admired him and said that he was the only president that he truly liked and admired. But later, by 1963, Oswald realized that Kennedy was strongly anti-communist—opposite his own feelings. But was that disagreement really enough to persuade him to commit murder? Two plausible enticements might have been blackmail or a sizable sum of cash. Did someone—perhaps LBJ's hit man, Malcolm Wallace, do or say something to set him up? His fingerprint has recently been confirmed on one of the boxes in Oswald's "nest" in the book depository, suggesting he probably helped construct it.

Right from the beginning, the famous Zapruder film proves there was at least one additional shooter. It shows Kennedy's head being thrown backward and then Jackie Kennedy jumping onto the back of the limousine and retrieving the remains of his brain that had been blown out.

That is irrefutable evidence that the bullet that nailed Kennedy in the head came from the front—opposite from Oswald's position—absolute proof of at least one other assassin.

Who was that other shooter? We will probably never know. He is likely deceased by now. Where was his position? We don't know that either. He may have been on, under, or behind the viaduct ahead of the limousine. Ron Genung believes he shot from behind the stockade fence on the grassy knoll. There is a good likelihood that he was a well-trained military sniper.

Now who planned and ordered the assassination? Bit by bit, evidence is becoming clear. We are now close to proving the so-called "conspiracy."

Who would have wanted to kill JFK? In November, 1963, he was one of our best loved Presidents. But there were a few others who wanted him gone.

Who would have gained the most from Kennedy's death? Follow the reasons for wanting him dead. Follow the money. Who would have had the most to gain? The most likely suspect would be none other than Vice President Lyndon Baines Johnson. Somehow, in 1960, he had managed to con Kennedy into choosing him to be his running mate—a fatal mistake. By 1963, Kennedy realized it and made it abundantly clear he would not repeat it in 1964.

Johnson had a lifelong dream to be President. Kennedy's decision to throw him out meant the end of it. This made Johnson desperate—so desperate that he made the one decision that would guarantee that dream—eliminate the man who stood in his way.

Johnson had an intense hatred for both John and Robert Kennedy. The Kennedys were classy people and were never happy even being around the crude LBJ, who they sometimes called "Cornpone." They even refused to invite him to important meetings and listen to his advice.

From his beginning, Johnson was "power crazed" and undertook nefarious actions to get his way. Even in high school, he stuffed ballot boxes when he ran for office. He soon became one of the most corrupt politicians in history.

Many people believe that LBJ's hit man, Malcolm Wallace, knocked off as many as 11 of his enemies. LBJ paid Wallace and then did whatever he needed to get him off the hook. Wallace shot one victim in the back five times, and LBJ managed to get it ruled a suicide. Another victim was LBJ's own drug-addicted sister, Josephia, who had a big mouth and was likely to make trouble. Convicting Wallace was always a challenge. One time, a jury sentenced him to 15 years in prison, but a judge overruled it and let him off with five years' probation.

Johnson collected over 100 million dollars in bribes and kickbacks from big oil and others. JFK cracked down and attempted to cut the oil depletion allowance.

By 1963, LBJ's shenanigans with Bobby Baker and Billy Sol Estes began to unravel. In a few more weeks, LBJ would have likely been convicted and sent to prison. Colluding with J. Edgar Hoover and people in the military who also wanted JFK out of the way, he concocted this desperate act which stopped investigations in the nick of time.

Johnson had strong ties with the military industrial complex. He passionately wanted to escalate the minimalist Vietnam War, which JFK knew was futile and would cost the lives of thousands of our finest young men. He had already written an executive order for a withdrawal to get them all out in a year or two. But as soon as Kennedy died, LBJ immediately reversed it and got his way with the mass murders of tens of thousands of innocent people at a cost of billions of dollars.

Life Magazine sent over 40 reporters to Texas to investigate LBJ and prepared an expose for its December 1st, 1963, edition. Bobby Kennedy provided much of the information. After the assassination, all of the investigating stopped, and everything that had been recorded was secretly and quickly destroyed. Not even a single copy survived for historians.

According to his mistress, Madeleine Duncan Brown, LBJ whispered in her ear the day before the assassination: "After tomorrow, those Kennedys will never embarrass me again. That's no threat. That's a promise." She also said that he ducked down in the limo about 30 seconds before the shooting, was heavily involved in the cover-up, and had ordered all records to be sealed for the next 75 years.

Russia's KGB agents also investigated the assassination, and they said that LBJ did it and asked for as much information on him as possible. The French Secret Service's findings agreed that LBJ was behind it. When Richard Nixon was asked how he compared to LBJ, he replied, "We both wanted to be president, but I was not willing to kill to get it." Barr McClelland's book, Blood, Money, & Power: How LBJ Killed JFK, said when LBJ talked to his minister, people in the room who heard it said he pretty much admitted his involvement.

Even though Texas law required it, the Secret Service forbade a proper autopsy. At Parkland Hospital, twelve doctors clearly noted that he was shot from the front, but were ordered to keep quiet. Military doctors attempted a hasty, slipshod alteration of the forensic evidence to make it appear that he was shot from behind, even to using body parts other than Kennedy's. Armed Secret Service agents guarded the doors to prevent Dallas County Medical Examiner, Dr. Earl Rose, from even witnessing, much less performing any of the autopsy.



President John F. Kennedy

in the way of his war games and preaching world peace to millions of Americans.

LBJ hated Robert Kennedy even more than JFK. He was next in line and had to go. There is little doubt that LBJ had a part in that one too. Jacob Hornberger concluded:

"Thus, in my opinion, those who cry 'Conspiracy theory!' when one focuses on what happened in Dealey Plaza are essentially saying, 'You don't have enough evidence to convict the national-security establishment of this offense beyond a reasonable doubt.'"

"Not so, however, with the autopsy. Once I came to the realization that the military establishment had conducted a fraudulent autopsy, it was 'game over' and "case closed" for the national-security establishment. The fraudulent autopsy is the 'back door' that establishes beyond a reasonable doubt criminal culpability of the national-security establishment in the Kennedy assassination."

LBJ was clearly one of the most wicked men in American history. Did he ever have any regrets about the carnage and devastation that he had wrought? On Quora, Ray Badger commented:

"I do believe he finally developed a conscience. I think the war weighed on him as well as both the dead from the war and those enemies he had disposed of on his climb to power. He was always driven for more money and more power, and now those things were behind him. I think he felt he had little to live for. He did get psychiatric help, but it seemed to have little effect. If he were not such an evil person, I could feel sorry for him."

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The military later "classified" the autopsy and forced all enlisted witnesses to sign secrecy oaths. Violators would have faced courts martial and criminal prosecution. Many people may not realize this, but Martin Luther King was also a thorn in LBJ's side. He stood solidly against the Vietnam war and preached for peace. He even won a Nobel Peace Prize. The American people were already riled up, and many young men primed for conscription fled to Canada. Anti-war demonstrators rallied nationwide to end the carnage and wasting of our tax money. Although LBJ was a racist, his compelling reason to wipe out MLK was that he was standing





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## 25th Anniversary: Bulldozer v. M-14 (A 2nd Amendment Civil Right)



**John Sophocleus**

Alabama Gazette's 24th Anniversary evoked recalling a 25th anniversary. My first column submitted at the end of last century addressed Kelo type unconstitutional takings via eminent domain abuse. I'm a victim of armed robbery and one who's exercised his 2nd Amendment civil right as intended by 'intelligent designers' of the 1787-9 ratified Constitution. I hold more respect for the criminal who attempted pistol whipping me with a nickel plated revolver while robbing this former Shell Station 'petroleum transfer engineer.' The armed robber didn't abuse the colour of authority like the gleeful government contractor terrorizing our home with a bulldozer. Identifying National Socialists (German, Israeli, et al) sick with delight taking others' life, liberty and property became clearer these past 25 years.

This episode of eminent domain abuse began February 1998. Two federal bureaucrats knocked on our door (me and my bride) to take our home we paid off in 1995 asserting we'd be ecstatic with the compensation and so-called 'Merry Christmas bonus' about when the time to vacate fell with a handsome 'relocation allowance.' For the record, we only submitted claims for \$11k of the approximately \$25k allowed. We've STILL not received that check which didn't include compensation for being made homeless 11 months awaiting payment for our property taken. Words can't convey driving by a home you hold legal title to and paying taxes on to see OTHERS living in it, using your shop, etc. Shameful how it still evokes despair as a husband and provider who should be able to ensure a secure place for his family; how 'back-up beeps' heard some mornings still trigger panic so badly I have to actually hold/see my M-14 is at the ready. A 2019 column explaining corrupt politburo members who seem to enjoy taking 'other peoples' property' (from Butts to Sewell) can be found at: <https://www.alabamagazette.com/story/2019/11/01/opinion/a-coward-dies-a-thousand-deaths-i-wish-it-were-so-few/1770.html>

The unlawful eviction from our home by federal and State government bureaucrats for US Highway 280 was located at the end of College Street many long-time Auburn folks referred to as "The Bottle." The best home and years of my life were spent there. Bureaucrats couldn't explain rerouting as originally determined by engineers more interested in traveling public safety and cost constraints, instead of decisions/placement were designed to generate desired wealth transfers for ACCA, BCA, et al type parasites. The corrupt (some say incompetent - really matter which?) probate judge didn't follow bonding requirements so we suffered ALDoT workers and their crony contractors coming onto our property without permission, destroying essential lines - e.g., sewer, drainage culverts, etc. with impunity. This probate judge assigned 3 commissioners to determine the value of our 3 bedroom/2 bath home, 2.5 car workshop, etc. on just over an acre of land at \$59,800. Not one commissioner inspected our property to justify their 'comparables' or possibly determine replacement/reproduction, but each did receive \$400 checks for their malpractice and couldn't provide one similar 3 bedroom/2 bath property with a large workshop on an acre of land in Farmville for \$59,800. The only similar property (with no shop) available and later sold, exchanged for just under \$170,000.

According to Alabama code [18-1A- et seq.] didn't matter if these corrupt politburo members asserted our home was worth \$1 or \$1 million; the taker must provide a replacement or reproduction of what's taken. We even offered to relocate so our property may be razed immediately and be compensated/provided similar living arrangements until all their stalling was exhausted in Jake Walker's Court. Once the Circuit Court determined the result (250% higher than the corrupt commissioners determination) government(s) would pay to move us a second time to our permanently replaced/reproduced land/home/property due to their lying and/or poor planning. Little surprise our politburo found this unreasonable just as German, Israeli, et al National Socialists found this unreasonable expectation from property owners.

After several episodes of pushing back despicable players increasingly more times in October [usually armed with a .44 magnum Ruger Blackhawk some found intimidating on my person] it was clear the politburo wanted to be living in our home by Thanksgiving. Already had to come up with another way to drain sewage away from our home after the government contractor's Bulldozer purposefully crushed our sewer line. Mr. Pot-bellied Bulldozer driver was coming at our home once again. Feeling more threatened I came to our porch with my M-14 [7.62 NATO APC] fully loaded with 21 rounds. Full magazine and one in the pipe... and yes, there's a reason to have 20+ capacity magazines for instances of this sort 2nd Amendment civil right haters. Can't stress enough it was not a piece of old parchment which carried that November day. It was an armament with a steel tube and formidable projectile which stopped this smug grubber. Needless to say, the look on Mr. Bulldozer's face quickly changed as I prepared to aim and count my rounds. Reasonably confident I could stop the large dozer with 20 rounds, but if not... the 21st was for Mr. Bulldozer.

Given the picture shown holding my M-14 (with the flag flown when under siege in 1998) I'm no longer the 36 year old man formidable with my pen and sword. Mr. Bulldozer lost his grubbier smile and nerve it seemed to proceed. A cherished Japanese maple was my mark to open fire; one of several items the politburo claimed we stole, which they did not pay for... can't make this stuff up my dear readers. Upon leaving our home, unpaid and with the

help of several truly dear friends, I ejected that 7.62 round placed next to my bible kept in the nightstand by our bed. I did not go the way of Barabbas. As one struggling to follow Jesus path, I left it on God's battlefield.

It was the beginning of my understanding all combat is Spiritual. Many have expressed opinions I should have justifiably opened fire that November day; others (like German, Israeli, et al National Socialists) think it is fine for the government to take without compensation, making people homeless to feed political parasites. Most are themselves political parasites and perhaps in their heart know they'll not do well having to compete with those who live their lives righteously. A cautionary tale to parasites who can't understand; their hosts are growing increasingly more willing to engage in violence against politburo members destroying their lives.



After the M-14 incident, our corrupt politburo went outside the eminent domain code to evict us from our home we held legal title to and paying taxes on via Lee County's District Court. Perhaps Judge Nix knew our corrupt politicians decided against following the Uniform Eminent Domain Code (UEDC) since 1995, but I guess this sort of knowledge really doesn't matter if you're a sound jurist who knows right from wrong and respects civil rights as shown by Judge Nix's ruling.

We were the only case in Judge Nix's courtroom, which included a 'hostile' witness (who appeared to be one of the highway workers cleaned up for court who relished coming at us with bulldozers, crushing our sewer line, burning fires over us) mad at us for defending our home and rights. It was clear the bureaucrats and contractor were unhappy we were still in our home during the holidays after delivering the trumped-up (pun intended) eviction notice two weeks before Christmas. Our actions kept them out of the nice home and shop they wanted to live in and use, not to immediately raise as stated in open court.

In short, bureaucrats and their crony contractor wanted to railroad us into homelessness quickly and quietly, but Judge Nix wouldn't yield. He made it clear he didn't understand going outside the eminent domain code to evict us - i.e., consciously and maliciously doing wrong. He invited them into his chambers with all the attorneys to give the bureaucrats one last chance to 'do right' before making his ruling. Once again, hard to know Judge Nix's level of certainty about the lies and their desire to make us homeless so they could live in our house, use my shop, etc... wearing us down as we waited for our day in Judge Walker's Court.

Little surprise bureaucrats refused Judge Nix's last noble effort to stop the fraud they were orchestrating - so all returned to his courtroom. Bureaucrats willing to abuse eminent domain understand they're no longer obliged by the UEDC to provide victims a 'decent, safe and sanitary' place to live. With his delightful, almost impish grin Judge Nix looked toward the tables where the bureaucrats and attorneys sat as he spoke through his decision. First he made it clear he thought something was amiss with these 'public servants' going outside the eminent domain code to use some other, obscure statute to evict us from our home. He then said the unusual process used by the bureaucrats required him to come up with a dollar amount to allow us to stay in our home on appeal.

With a kinder face, Judge Nix turned to us (me and my bride) sitting in the middle seats of his courtroom to pose his half statement/half query, "Y'all live in the nice brick house at the end of College - don't you?" We nodded affirmatively. Then he again asserted/queried, "Well with all the trucks, earth moving, fires burning and dust being kicked up out there (I don't know if he was aware of them cutting our sewer line) it must not be as pleasant to live in that nice home - would \$300/month be OK as you appeal?" Obviously, we were delighted at this sage District Judge's decision, which made it so easy to stay in our house as we awaited our trial in Circuit Court to determine what we'd be paid for our home. Our hope was to be able to obtain another nice place near Auburn and only move once.

The facades of our pathetic political grubbers appeared absolutely incredulous with what this wise Judge's righteous decision had just accomplished... indescribable for this poor wordsmith. After a huddle, they threatened us with a \$10,000/day fine if we stayed in our home under Judge Nix's decision, knowing we only had 24 hours to turn in our paperwork to the court. Our attorney at that time, claiming fear of this threat, said she "refused to do that with our money," seeming most certain we couldn't get another officer of the court to do so on such short notice, nor would she consider asking for an extension so we may obtain one. Seemed completely unconcerned she wasn't doing what we asked. We indeed have good and courageous judges in our nation, as well as very poor judges; there's little doubt a similar dichotomy exists between appraisers, attorneys, clerks, commissioners, engineers and officers.

This was the final decision to make a stand with arms or leave for combat in the courts. My bride's

name translates to 'Salvation' and is the greatest blessing God has bestowed upon me... if it were not for her - I would've chosen the sword. By far the darkest time of my life; I wrote the note to take my life and was going to do so in my shop I held dear and still foolishly miss along with our nice home. God has worked hard upon me to stop wanting nice material things of this world. I couldn't justify the relief of taking my life any more than justifying wanting to kill the grubber on the bulldozer physically destroying our lives. I pray that note has been destroyed by our attorneys after the Roberts court (unlike the 2005 unanimous US Supreme Court victory) shown his typical National Socialism and disregard for civil rights in 2010.

The fundamental issue was lying about the public purpose/use in this case, and Judge Nix knew one can NOT prove someone is lying about what they WILL do until they do NOT do it. After being made homeless for almost a year, we know as fact they were lying. We weren't being put out of our home for it to be razed immediately as stated in Judge Nix's Court; instead we were made homeless so others could live in our home/use my shop while we held title, paying taxes on it, etc... Obvious tactic is to 'fatigue citizens into submission' as the Declaration of Independence penned. Most do not have the resources to fight for their civil rights, if they were ever taught them.

Shortly after lying in Judge Nix's Court complaining we were holding up 'progress' putting them behind schedule - these same bureaucrats boasted to the Auburn-Opelika News they were ahead of schedule. Words cannot convey what it was like to read that article, drive by our home to see others living in it and using my shop while we were homeless and living off the kindness of a friend. I've always hoped Judge Nix didn't think poorly of me and my bride - we wanted to stay in our home as he allowed until we were compensated for it or provided replacement. We didn't want to be so great a burden upon so many of our church fellows, family and friends as was the result of this wrongful taking. A thousand deaths? ...this coward wishes it seemed that few.

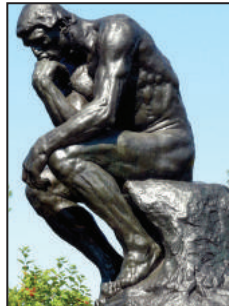
I further hoped Judges Denson, Nix, Jacob Walker and Susan Walker would write an Amicus after our unanimous win over Judge Myron Thompson's many rulings against citizens' civil rights to decrease the likelihood the US Supreme Court would let it slip through the cracks. Foolish I know - people are busy and civil rights of this sort are no longer 'in vogue.' Furthermore, it was nothing short of a miracle we unanimously won in the US Supreme Court [2005] making it all the way through the procedural minefields set up against a lowly civilian. Judge Thompson understood all he must do is keep delaying justice long enough to effectively remove our civil rights until people die, are ignored, miss one deadline etc... it took 13 years.

Nothing in this world can compensate one for the many lies and vulgar things done to us during this episode which include 11 months homeless. Nonetheless there were some satisfying moments in the dozen years of depositions and filings which followed as we fought for others' civil rights. One specific example comes from Judge Nix's courtroom. When asked what I wanted as compensation, I said \$10,000/day for each day we were made homeless. The crony contractor's attorney quipped back in a snotty tone asserting that was an absurdly large number, asking where I came up with it. My unequivocal reply was I didn't come up with this number, the highway bureaucrats did after Judge Nix allowed us to stay in our home! Little wonder my reply ended that line of questioning rather quickly. We never could get bureaucrats or their attorneys to show where politburo members were authorized to deliver such a draconian threat.

Suffering of this sort usually results when government extremists operating outside their authority are accepted as 'mainstream' aided and abetted by poor jurists. Judge Nix's decision allowing us to stay in our home drove these little despots mad in his courtroom, requiring them to spend so much more time and effort attempting to cover their tracks the following years in legal combat - esp. the unauthorized \$10,000/day threat and razing the structures immediately lie. Sadder still, after documenting so many lies of this sort, nothing will be done when Myron Thompson caliber judges will not act on the perjury we documented. Expect more poor behaviour of this sort out of despicable bureaucrats when there are little or no consequences. Many are proud of what they do, just as were the National Socialists of Europe and currently the Israeli National Socialist doing the same evil to others which they suffered from German National Socialists. Again, far too many political parasites take pleasure in the lives they take and destroy along with victims' dignity and property.

Greeks understand Pyrrhic victories better than most - even when you win battles it is impossible to beat the despotism of Rome without the teachings and Spirit of Christ in the majority of hearts and minds. After many legal battles, we finally 'won the war' against the contractor - the amount is unknown to us, as it is sealed and instructed attorneys one of our stipulations to sign the settlement was never telling us the amount nor receive a penny so that if anyone ever said we leaked the result it couldn't possibly be us. Furthermore, we never wanted to be seen as doing this for money - the hope always was to stop abusive politburo members from violating 5th Amendment civil rights.

Continued on page 7



# THINK



## Iran Played Biden and the World Lost...Again!

Let's not mince words: Joe Biden and his administration have been played like a Stradivarius by the Iranians and their proxy terrorists Hamas. Do you think the timing of the Hamas attacks on Israel was random? Think again. This attack was not only meticulously planned but also executed with the singular goal of causing maximum damage to Israeli society, timed perfectly to coincide with Simchat Torah—almost 50 years to the day after the Yom Kippur War began. How's that for Iranian planning?

Why did Hamas do this? Iran wants nothing more than to keep Israel and Sunni Arab nations at loggerheads and not negotiating peace. This isn't just speculation. Let's break down the inexplicable moves from Team Biden that set the stage for this.

Financial Folly: Secretary Blinken didn't just resume aid to the Palestinian Authority that President Trump withheld; he bragged about it. This is the same Palestinian Authority that publicly announces it will continue to pay families of terrorist suicide bombers. The Biden administration didn't stop there. To appease the antisemite Squad, they funneled millions into Gaza, effectively underwriting the Hamas attack on Israel. The Biden administration's initial reaction to the pure evil of Hamas murdering and kidnapping innocent civilians had the audacity to issue a statement urging "all sides to refrain from violence and retaliatory attacks" effectively giving moral equivalency to Hamas terrorists to the Israeli government.

Iran's Windfall: Not to be outdone by Obama airlifting pallets of cash to Iran, Biden greenlit a \$6 billion release of funds to Iran through a complicated prison swap deal. All this time Iran has been cranking up its hate speech against Israel. Could he not connect the dots? Iran's got fresh cash and a newfound bravado, and guess who benefits? Hamas and its terrorist activities, that's who.

Iran Deal Redux: Let's not forget, Biden couldn't wait to jump back into that disastrous Iran Nuclear Deal. And who's at the helm for the U.S.? Robert Malley, now under FBI investigation for potential security breaches as a puppet for the Mullahs of Iran. It's like the Keystone Cops, but with global consequences.

Depleting Israel's Arsenal: And let's not gloss over the fact that Biden siphoned



Perry O. Hooper Jr.

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



off key munitions from Israeli stockpiles for transfer to Ukraine. Now Biden is supporting Ukraine at the expense of our greatest Ally's immediate security.

You can see the pattern of Biden's adherence to Obama's foreign policy of leading from behind. Kabul was a disaster, Putin's bold invasion of Ukraine, China is flexing its muscles, and now the terrorist attacks on Israel. This was easy to predict; it's a pattern of failing to recognize the importance of strong borders and a strong military. Let's take a short trip down memory lane to when Donald Trump was in office. Whether you loved him or hated him, one thing was indisputable: peace through strength was the name of the game. Under Trump, Iran knew better than to act out, and Russia was in check. There was stability, not just in Europe, but also in the Middle East. Remember the Abraham Accords? That wasn't a fluke; it was the result of a foreign policy grounded in strength, not appeasement.

And let's not gloss over this egregious fact: Four days in, the Biden administration is still in hiding with egg all over its face. Not a single address to the American people concerning Americans murdered and kidnapped in Israel. Biden has been supporting a regime that is pure unadulterated evil. The terrorists murdered, raped and kidnapped innocent women and children. Their murders were captured on their cell phones and uploaded to their Facebook accounts. This is not just a black eye for the administration, it's an absolute failure for our entire country. Biden's reaction? a staff pool party, a BBQ with a live band.

Like all true Americans, I stand tall with Israel and my thoughts and prayers are with all the Jewish people inside and outside Israel.

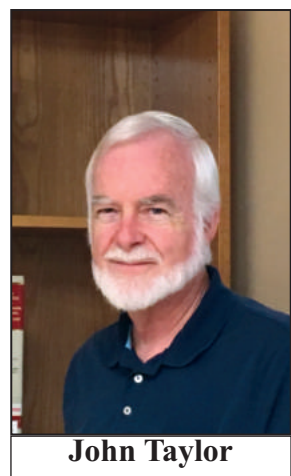
**There it is, America. The inconvenient truths you need to know. Don't say you weren't warned.**

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

## 2 Chronicles 7:14

**14. If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.**

King James Version



John Taylor

## That Devilish Battle Hymn

Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn stated: "To destroy a people, you must first sever their roots." An example of Southerner's historical ignorance is manifested in *The Battle Hymn of the Republic*, written by Unitarian "minister" Julia Ward Howe.

### Battle Hymn of the Republic

by Julia Ward Howe

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord:  
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;  
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword:

Julia Ward was born in New York City in 1819 but spent much of her youth in Boston, Massachusetts. She was related to the affluent Astors of New York and her brother, Sam Ward, was a Wall Street financier (sometimes called "War Street" due to the promotion and profitability of conflict). Henry Wadsworth Longfellow introduced the twenty-three year old Ward to Samuel Gridley Howe, a descendant of Plymouth Bay stock, and they eventually married. Samuel ran the Perkins Institution and was "known for his treatment of the blind, deaf, and mute." (Scott) He was overtly sympathetic to the unfortunate and somewhat antagonistic to the exceptionally prosperous and/or physically attractive. Within their marriage, he expressed jealousy and mentally dominated Julia, who characterized him as having "terrible faults of character...often unjust in his likes and dislikes, arbitrary, cruel, with little mastery over his passions..." (Renehan)

Julia Ward Howe was as strange as her husband (Perhaps they deserved each other?). They associated with the "misfits" of the day, e.g., "Utopians" Theodore Parker, William Ellery Channing, Ralph Waldo Emerson, etc. They were unfriendly toward Christianity and promoted transcendentalism, pantheism, Unitarianism, etc. Howe was interested in the so-called "elitists" and had little concern for the average person.

Howe was a supporter of the domestic terrorist John Brown (her husband was part of the Secret Six that funded Brown); however, her opinion of the Black race was stunning. Theodore Parker claimed "Blacks were inferior to Whites in 'general intellectual power'...and 'had for him a certain physical repulsion.'" Echoing Parker, Julia Ward Howe stated "the ideal negro" would be "refined by white culture, elevated by white blood" and that the "negro among negroes" is a "coarse, grinning, flat-footed, thick-skulled creature, ugly as Caliban, lazy as the laziest brutes, chiefly ambitious to be of no use to the world..." (Renehan) Her description of most Southern Whites was likely just as abhorrent. She expressed disgust over slavery in the Southern and Border States but essentially dismissed the often-cruel treatment of mill workers in New England. The Howes had a cordial relationship with a few Southerners, such as the Hamptons of South Carolina. Despite their friendship, Wade Hampton let them know the South would fight for its independence.

With the aforementioned backdrop of Julia Ward Howe, it is quite easy to visualize the type of person she was. This makes it quite peculiar that the Unitarian Howe's tune, *The Battle Hymn of the Republic* (aka *Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory* and set to an old Methodist melody), wound up in most Baptist and Methodist songbooks. The song was written in the fall of 1861 after Howe witnessed Vermont troops gathering outside Washington as they prepared to invade the South.

Mimicking the Englishman Sir Thomas Babington Macaulay (an admirer of Oliver Cromwell), Howe found "inspiration" in her equal misinterpretation of Isaiah. In Isaiah, it referenced God smiting the pagans who were arch enemies of the Israelites. This certainly would not have applied to the overwhelmingly Christian South.

In the song, Howe references the "fateful lightning", the "terrible swift sword" and the "grapes of wrath." She falsely demonizes the South as a hateful and wicked land deserving of God's punishment.

Another example of Howe's hatred for the South is as follows:

"I have read a fiery gospel writ in burnished rows of steel; As ye deal with my contemners, so with you my grace will deal; Let the hero born of woman, crush the serpent with his heel; Since God is marching on."

'The 'fiery gospel' is not that 'Christ died for our sins, according to the Scripture,' but that the Union soldier, 'the Hero, born of woman,' experiences the Grace of God by crushing Southern soldiers, 'serpent,' with his heel.' The "burnished rows of steel" were the Yankee bayonets. Howe's point is "God Almighty saying to the Northern troops in reference to the Southern barbarians they are on their way to smite: 'So with you my grace will deal.'" (AL Conf.)

Why would a Southerner (especially a Christian) want to sing such an abomination? This so-called hymn, written by a non-Christian, is filled with hatred for the South and is just one more example of how the "winners" have indoctrinated and demonized the South and its Christian heritage. Confederate Veteran, W.L. Jones of Williamsburg, Virginia, lamented: "The Northern people must laugh at us for singing their favorite song." (AL Conf.) Indeed, Jones would be further sickened by Southerners in this era that gleefully sing a hate-filled song that encourages the slaughter of their own ancestors.

**Sources:** From Godly Inspiration to Human Desecration: An Analysis of the Battle Hymn of the Republic, by Reverend Father Alister C. Anderson; Women in the Civil War, by Mary Elizabeth Massey; The Secret Six, by Otto Scott; The Secret Six, by Edward J. Renehan; the October 1991, issue of Alabama Confederate, edited by Perry Outlaw, and the Virginia Flaggers. "Confederate Veteran" Magazine also referenced a November 8, 1924 letter (author unknown) and a January 1925 letter by Daniel Grinnan of Richmond, Virginia. They were alarmed at the rewriting of the history of the South by Northern writers and their Southern lackeys. The Russian patriot Solzhenitsyn often noted how the communist "leaders" of the Soviet Union literally hated the Russian people.

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

## THINK

6Continued from page 6

John Sophecles

25th Anniversary: Bulldozer v. M-14

(A 2nd Amendment Civil Right

My advice to all eminent domain abuse victims is to sue the private companies if you're treated poorly, even if it only addresses the symptom. It seems there will be much of this forthcoming in Middle West Alabama. Crony contractors will simply be given more money by governments to cover the civil right abuses, often at the direction of the bureaucrats who are untouchable when it only takes one poor jurist like Myron Thompson to delay justice indefinitely. In this environment the most effective way to reduce abuse is by raising the cost to agencies which allow/engage in abuse. Hopefully you'll be fortunate enough to get outstanding jurists like Mike Nix at the outset; then Jacob Walker, the 2005 US Supreme Court or most notable Susan Russ Walker and attorneys who will also do right as combat unfolds in the courts. When government agencies must devote more of their budget indulging abusive behaviour it will afford them less opportunities to violate our civil rights.

In closing, God doesn't put one in situations to win in this world. Jesus rationally forecast what was about to happen given Annas, Caiaphas, Herod, Pilate et al history exercising their free will. Unlikely any of them would act righteously. Nonetheless our Saviour pressed on. I expect to lose going up against my corrupt Probate Judge and Commissioners all the way up to the Roberts Court. As I look forward to my end, I understand the blessing God has made the demons I've faced so easy to identify. As the Barron, Butts, Little, Riley, Sessions, Siegleman, Shelby, Sewell, et al types finally disappear. It doesn't seem their replacements are much different. Unlikely the US Supreme Court returns to the same attention as the 2005 Court to civil rights and Judges Anderson, Dubina, Thompson, et al also must disappear to no longer delay/deny justice. One can't help but fear the unlikelihood of good, courageous Judges like Mike Nix, Jake Walker, Susan Walker, et al being replaced with jurist of equal or greater character and integrity - thankfully my trust in God's Judgment overpowers fear of this sort. My growing fear is of those who've observed our failed efforts want to pull the trigger on their 2nd Amendment civil right in an increasingly less Godly world.









# Honoring Our Heroes



## Bugles Across America Needs Volunteer Buglers for Veterans' Internments



Musicians are needed to volunteer and to serve as buglers at internments of veterans in the central AL area. Bugles Across America, NFP was founded in 2000 by Tom Day when Congress passed legislation stating that Veterans have a right to at least two uniformed

military people to fold the flag and play Taps on a CD player. Bugles Across America was founded to take this a step further. In recognition of the service that these veterans have provided to their country, each veteran deserves a live rendition of Taps by a real bugler. To this end, volunteers are being sought to provide this valuable service to veterans and their families.

Bugler Volunteers can be male or female. Bugles Across America now has over 4000 bugler volunteers located in all 50 states and a growing number overseas. Since the Department of Veterans Affairs is expecting more than 1.5 million veterans to pass every year for the next seven years, Bugles Across America is always recruiting new volunteers. They can play a traditional bugle with no valves, or they can complete the ceremony on a Trumpet, Cornet, Flugelhorn, or a 1, 2 or 3 valved bugle. The buglers can be of any age as long as they can sound Taps with an ease and style that will do honor to both the veterans, their families and the burial detail performing the service. There are no fees or dues to participate as a volunteer although there are certain directives that must be followed.



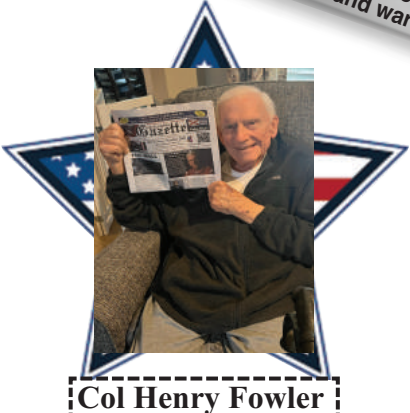
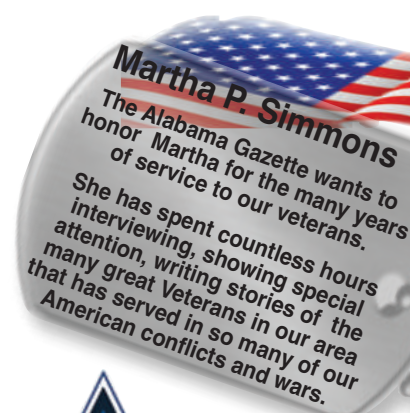
Bugles Across America is always looking for enthusiastic individuals to help serve the purpose of our organization. If you are interested in volunteering to play Taps for veterans, go online to the home page: [BuglesAcrossAmerica.org](https://www.buglesacrossamerica.org), click "Volunteer/Audition" and read Volunteer For Bugles Across America.

Please feel free to call the AL State Director for Bugles Across America, Raymond Keel, at 334-233-8736 or e-mail him at [rkphac@gmail.com](mailto:rkphac@gmail.com).

### New AL State Assistant Director Bugles Across America

**Jerry M. Brown** is the new AL State Assistant Director Bugles Across America. His duties will include playing Taps for veterans' funerals and other appropriate occasions assisting the State Director, Raymond Keel, by monitoring all bugle requests in the State of Alabama and recruiting new buglers. He can be contacted to arrange for a bugler to play Taps at veterans' internments and funerals by going to the website, <https://www.buglesacrossamerica.org>

Brown was born February 2, 1953 at Columbus, GA. He played the trumpet in high school, loved music and graduated from Central High School at Phenix City, AL. He then graduated from the Harrison School of Pharmacy of Auburn University in 1976. He spent 42 years in Hospital Pharmacy with the last 27 years at the East Alabama Medical Center. After retirement in 2019, he has been involved in Bugles Across America since January 2020. Although he had not played the trumpet for 40 years, he resumed playing it as a hobby. After finding out about Bugles Across America (BBA), he began practicing playing his trumpet. He auditioned and began playing for BBA. He states, "Being a member of BAA has been a blessing and an honor. I feel honored to be a part of an organization that provides a live bugler to honor the veterans and their families." Buglers who are interested in serving at veterans' internments can contact Jerry Brown at: Phone: 334-703-1191 or via e-mail at [Jerry.Brown1@hotmail.com](mailto:Jerry.Brown1@hotmail.com)



Col Henry Fowler

Hope you enjoy reading the Gazette as much as these guys.



Tech Sergeant Kenneth Jackson

## The Veterans Day Celebration

Don't miss this Veterans Celebration at the Riverwalk Stadium at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, November 11th.

Music will be provided by the Montgomery Capitol Sounds Band. Speakers will include Colonel Ryan E. Richardson, Commander of the 42nd Air Base Wing at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama. A reception will follow the program in which veterans eat free.



### November BIRTHDAYS



Fernandez Ponds	Nov. 1st	Sharanik D. McNeal	Nov. 14th
James Malcolm Levy	Nov. 9th	Harry Ural Jackson	Nov. 22nd
Walter E. Hines III	Nov. 11th	Milton Garnier.	Nov. 24th
Bryan D. Strickland	Nov. 12th	Carl F. Gulleddge	Nov. 25th
John A. Brantner	Nov. 12th	Timothy L. Tormey	Nov. 26th
Walter Woods	Nov. 13th	James Robert Philips	Nov. 27th

## IN MEMORY



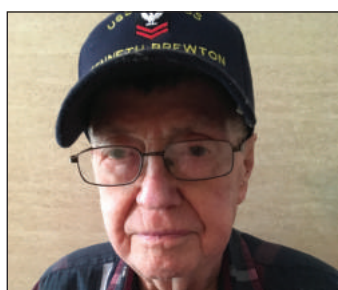
**Robert C. Carr**  
Local Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States  
Commander Appointed National Aid-de-Camp to the VFA National Commander-in-Chief

Robert C. Carr, Commander for VFW Smith-Wynn Post 96 at Montgomery, AL, has been appointed to be the National Aide-de-Camp to VFW National Commander-in-Chief Duane Sarmiento for the 2023-2024 term. Commander Carr has served as Commander of VFW Post 96 since July of 2018. A VFW National Aide-de-Camp serves as an assistant to the National Commander-in-Chief in administrative roles as needed for the benefit of the National Commander, leadership and members of the VFW. State Department of Alabama Commander Danny Sample recommended Commander Carr for the appointment due to his outstanding leadership and service to the Posts, District, and Department within the VFW organization.



**Master Sergeant Harold Neal**

Master Sergeant (MSG) Harold E. Neal served 21 years in the United States Air Force. His awards, decorations, citations and medals included: Bronze Star Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with six Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Force Commendation Meritorious Service Medal, Presidential Unit Citation.



**Kenneth O. Brewton**

Kenneth O. Brewton served in the United States Navy for two years and 10 months during World War II. His Military Occupational Specialty was radio operator. He received the Pacific Campaign bars with three battle stars.



**Marion L. Hornsby**

Master Chief Petty Officer (MCPO) Marion Lee Hornsby served 21 years in the US Navy. His Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) was Boiler Technician Chief Master. He received the following decorations, medals, badges, citations and campaign ribbons: Vietnam Service Medal, China Service Medal, National Defense Medal and five Good Conduct Medals.

## VETERANS DAY CELEBRATIONS! NOVEMBER 11

**PRATTVILLE** - The City of Prattville will be holding its joint Veterans Day Program sponsored by The City of Prattville, American Legion Post 122, and Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1349 on November 11, 2023, at the Autauga County Court House, 134 N Court Street, starting at 1130 AM. American Legion Post 122 located at 498 Doster Road, Prattville, AL will host a luncheon open to all immediately following the program.

*Deceased Veterans Honored in past issues of The Gazette:*

**Kenneth O. Brewton, Donald E. Hayhurst, Howard Howell, Helen Lattal, Charles E. Morris, Robert Douglas Pike, Frederick D. Roberts Sr. George C. Winn John L. Zent**





Col Win E. DePoorter served 28 years in the United States Air Force. He held the rank of Colonel for the last 10 years of his active duty service and was a Command Pilot with over 6500 hours of flying time. He flew a record of 657 combat missions in the A-1 Skyraider, of which 23 were in support of search and rescue operations in North Vietnam. His military decorations include two Silver Stars, the Legion of Merit, five Distinguished Flying Crosses, 29 Air Medals, two Vietnamese Gallantry Crosses, and several other decorations and citations.



Col DePoorter was born June 24, 1934, at Dodge City, KS, and spent the first 23 years of his life at Memphis, TN, which he considers his hometown. He attended and graduated from Treadwell High School in 1952. He graduated in

January 1957 from Memphis State University, which is now the University of Memphis where he received his Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and a commission as a 2nd Lt through the AFROTC program.

Col DePoorter entered active duty service on March 27, 1957. He accomplished his pilot training flying the T-34 and T-28 at Bartow, FL, and the T-33 at Greenville, MS. After receiving his pilot wings in 1958, he reported to Moody AFB near Valdosta, GA, where he attended the all-weather fighter interceptor training program, flying the T-33 instrument trainer and the F-86L fighter interceptor.

For the next six years, Col DePoorter was assigned to the 11th Fighter Interceptor Squadron at Duluth, MN, where he flew the F-102 and F-106 aircraft. The F-102 was a single-place, single engine, delta-wing all-weather jet fighter. The follow-on F-106 was also a single-place, single engine, delta-wing fighter, but it was much more advanced and capable of flying at more than twice the speed of sound (MACH 2 plus). On September 11, 1961, DePoorter in response to a complete engine failure became the first pilot to eject using the newly installed system referred to as the rocket propelled, rotational "B" ejection seat. Although his ejection was successful, the so-called "B" seat proved to be far too complex and basically unreliable. It was eventually removed from all F-106 aircraft and replaced with a less complicated and more dependable ejection seat.

Shortly after his ejection experience, Col DePoorter attended the USAF instrument Pilot Instructor School (IPIS) at James Connally AFB near Dallas, TX. After completing IPIS, he was upgraded to F-106 instructor status which he enjoyed for the remainder of his F-106 experience.

After Duluth, Col DePoorter was briefly assigned to the 498th Fighter Interceptor Squadron at McChord AFB at Tacoma, WA, where he continued flying the F-106 and T-33 aircraft. He recorded his 1000th hour in the F-106 while the 498th was deployed on temporary duty in Alaska.

In early 1965, Col DePoorter visited the Pentagon where he volunteered for duty in Vietnam flying the A-1 Skyraider. He was then sent to Panama where he attended the USAF Jungle Survival School and then to Stead AFB at Reno, NV, where he attended the USAF Survival and Escape and Evasion course and finally to Hurlburt AFB near Ft. Walton Beach, FL, to check out in the A-1 Skyraider.

Originally developed in the mid-40's by Douglas Aircraft Company, counting seven basic models and 28 sub-variants, over 3,000 Skyraiders had rolled off the assembly line by 1957. The ground-attack version of the Skyraider used by the U.S. Air Force and Vietnamese Air Force was capable of carrying a wide variety of munitions. The piston powered, single engine, single pilot Skyraider was said to carry as much bomb load as the four engine 10-man crew of a B-17 Flying Fortress at about the same speed and distance. In Korea and in Vietnam, the Skyraider was a combat proven ground-attack bomber.

In June 1965, after finishing the Skyraider checkout program at Hurlburt, Col DePoorter was sent to Bien Hoa Air Base at South Vietnam where he was assigned to the 602nd Fighter Squadron (Commando) and began flying combat missions. When the 602nd was relocated to Udorn, Thailand, in 1966, then at

the rank of Captain, DePoorter became involved in developing the tactics used by the Skyraiders flying in support of helicopter rescue operations. The infamous "Sandy" search and rescue (SAR) operations evolved during his tenure. Col DePoorter was credited with flying 23 such missions over North Vietnam during the last few days of his tour at Udorn.

During the time between tours in Vietnam, Col DePoorter served as an instructor at Hurlburt Field where he taught Vietnamese pilots and senior USAF officers who were in the pipeline for duty in Southeast Asia. In 1967 in recognition of his accomplishments as an instructor, he received the Tactical Air Command's Outstanding Aircrew Award.

Shortly thereafter, Col DePoorter volunteered for his second tour flying Skyraiders at Vietnam. In January 1968, he reported to England AFB, LA, where the 6th Special Operations Squadron was being organized. In January 1968, the Squadron was transported en masse to Pleiku Air Base at Vietnam where the pilots including Col DePoorter began flying combat missions.

After flying the Skyraider for the better part of four years, then Major DePoorter, completed his second Vietnam assignment and was happily transferred to the European theater. In February 1969, he was assigned to the 496th Tactical Fighter Squadron at Hahn, Germany, and checked out in the F-4 jet fighter. After holding down several supervisory positions in the 50th Fighter Wing at Hahn, Col DePoorter was selected for early promotions to Lt. Col and finally realized his lifelong ambition of becoming a fighter squadron commander.

In June 1972, following a very successful assignment as Commander of the 525th Tactical Fighter Squadron at Bitburg, Germany, he was selected to attend the prestigious National War College. After completing one year at the War College, he was promoted to the rank of Colonel and sent to Headquarters USAF at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, where he served for one year as Director of Operational Requirements. In September 1975, Col DePoorter was sent to Zaragoza, Spain, to be the Deputy Commander for Operations and was later promoted to Vice Wing Commander of the 406th Tactical Fighter Wing. In July 1977, Col DePoorter returned to the U.S. and was assigned to the USAF Tactical Air Warfare Center at Eglin AFB, FL. There he served as Deputy Chief of Staff for Air-to-Air Weapons and as Assistant Deputy Commander for Operations until January 1979 when he was assigned to Nellis AFB, NV, as Combat Support Group (Base) Commander. In November, 1979, he was sent to McGuire AFB, NJ, where he became Commander of the USAF-CAP Northeast Liaison Region. In 1981, Col DePoorter was assigned to Maxwell AFB, AL, where he served as Vice-Commander of the USAF-CAP National Headquarters until his retirement in April 1985.

After retirement, Col DePoorter worked for eight years as Chief Flight Instructor of the Maxwell AFB Aero Club. He is very proud of the fact that most of his students have attained great success as Air Force officers and, in civilian aviation, as airline pilots.

Col DePoorter and his wife, Janice, have been married 32 years and have four children between them, four grandchildren, two great-grandchildren, and one great-great grandchild. They are residents of Millbrook, AL. They have enjoyed traveling throughout the U.S., having visited every state, including Alaska and Hawaii. They rented a small RV in Dusseldorf, Germany and for six weeks toured throughout Europe. They've enjoyed cruising around South America, and visiting Russia, China, Ireland, Australia and New Zealand. Col DePoorter is a life member of the Military Officers Association of America, The Air Force Association, and The Order of Daedalians. He enjoys attending Sky Raider reunions and has made frequent trips to the Air Force Museum at Dayton, OH.

Col DePoorter's conclusions about his military service: "The highlight of my military service was flying in support of guys on the ground. I met some very brave men along the way some of whom became my lifelong friends. I was a "good" soldier and supported the Vietnam War with hard work and a positive attitude. Nevertheless, no matter the effort or how many lives lost... the sad fact remains that we lost the war. I had lots of friends and acquaintances that didn't make it. I was just plain lucky.



Specialist Henry Craig Jenkins: Age 69

Specialist (SPC) Henry Craig Jenkins served six years in the U.S. Military including three years of active duty in the U.S. Army and three years in the U.S. Army Reserve. His Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) was Law Enforcement and Corrections. He received the following medals, awards, decorations and citations: National Defense Medal, Expert Rifleman Marksman Badge, 45 Caliber Piston Badge and Good Conduct Medal.



SPC Jenkins was born 1954 at Montgomery, AL, to his parents, the Harrison and Autria Mae Jenkins. He was reared at Montgomery and graduated from Jefferson Davis High School. While growing up, he was a member of the Cub Scouts and the Boy Scouts of America, and he worked as a caddy at a golf course, as a forklift driver at a brick company and as a worker at concessions at ball games.

SPC Jenkins attended Alabama State University of one year and then enlisted in the U.S. Army August 17, 1973. He completed six weeks of Basic Training at Fort Polk, LA, and then he completed eight weeks of Advanced Infantry Training which included training in military law enforcement for Military Police (MP) at Fort Gordon, GA. His first assignment was at Fort Bliss, TX, for nine months followed by assignment at Fort Bragg, N.C, with the 58th MP Infantry Regiment. He retired from active duty there August 28, 1976 and then went into the Army Reserve attached at St. Louis, Mo, for three years until 1979.

After his military service, SPC Jenkins attended AL State University and transferred to the University of Illinois where in 1978 he graduated with a B.S. Degree in Business Management with a minor in Accounting and Marketing. His successful business career began as General Manager with Best Products, a retail company with clothing, jewelry, etc. at North Carolina for three years. Next, he worked as Union Representative with Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company at Fayette, NC, for six years. He then started his own company, Capital

City Finance, and then worked as a partner with Presidential Mortgage. He owned A Plus Mortgage 2000-2017. He retired from full time employment in 2017, but he still serves as a financial consultant for businesses. He assists others who have been treated unfairly in their employment.

SPC Jenkins and his wife, Marcella, have been married 20 years, and he has six children. They enjoy travel to beaches in FL and SC. He is a member of Mt. Sinai Baptist Church at Montgomery, AL, and he is a member of One Hundred Black Men, an organization committed to its ongoing efforts of pursuing meaningful gains for the Black Community building upon those efforts to bring solace to the displaced and confused. He is currently serving as the Commander of the American Legion Post 2019 at Pike Road, AL. He participates with this Post in the Bats for Boys Project in which they collect used baseball bats and refurbish them to provide to youth who need them. Lilly's Cleaners of Montgomery is the drop off and pick up locations for bats at: (1) 50 Dalraida Road, Montgomery, AL 36109, (2) 4224 Davenport Road, Montgomery, AL 36105 and (3) 11125 Chantilly Parkway, Montgomery, AL 36117.

SPC Jenkins' conclusion about his military service are: "I was the first of 10 children of my parents to serve in the military. It was a proud moment because no one in my family had served in the military. I was continuing my service from being a Cub Scout and a Boy Scout as it was a natural shoo-in for me to keep serving and to keep giving back to honor the country and the veterans who had served. I felt that it was my duty to serve my country during a time of chaos of racial tension and the time immediately after the Vietnam War." He would like people to remember him as a guy that cared, pushed forward and tried to make a difference.







## Lt Col Stephen Montgomery Davis: Age 57



**Lt Col Stephen M. Davis** served 20 years in the **United States Air Force**. His Air Force Specialty Codes (AFSC) were engineer and program manager throughout his military career. He worked as Acquisition Manager for 11 years, as Executive Officer above Wing Level for one year and Development Engineer for eight years. Lt Col Davis received the following medals, decorations, citations, and awards: Meritorious Service Medal with five oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with two oak leaf clusters, Air Force Organizational Excellence Award with one oak leaf cluster, National Defense Medal with one service star, Global War on Terrorism Medal, Air Force Longevity Service with four oak leaf clusters, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon (pistol) and Air Force Training Ribbon.



Lt. Col Davis was born February 21, 1966, to his parents, Michael and Colette Davis in Houston, TX. He was reared in Decatur, AL, and there he graduated from Austin High School in 1984. He then graduated from Auburn University with a B.S. Degree in Aerospace Engineering and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force in December 1988.

His extensive military assignments began with service at Vandenberg, Air Force Base (AFB) for four years working first as a launch systems engineer and satellite controller with the Atlas E Rocket. He tested rockets and satellites before launching them to make sure they would be successful. While at Vandenberg, he was selected to be on a team of critical technology monitors for launches of satellites in China where in 1992 he served two months at a Chinese Red Army base in the Gobi Desert. His second assignment was at Kirtland AFB, Albuquerque, NM, as a researcher and then Branch Chief in Phillips Laboratory, the Air Force research laboratory for materials and systems used in space. While there, he was working on a Master's Degree in Material Engineering from Auburn University by correspondence and completed the degree in 1998. His third assignment during 1996-1999 was at Robins AFB, GA, working with C-130 aircraft as a Systems Program Officer. He monitored the health and operational readiness of the C-130 fleet, and he also was responsible for converting C-130 cargo haulers to combat search and rescue aircraft

(CSAR). The converted C-130s would fly over areas looking for missing airmen or soldiers and refuel CSAR helicopters in mid-air. He next went to Wright-Patterson AFB, OH, for four years where he had four different assignments, namely, (1) Program Manager responsible for F-22 test aircraft, (2) Commander's Action Group project officer for technology transfer, (3) Executive Officer at Air Force Materials Command (AFMC) and (4) Fighter/Bomber Support Lead for AFMC. Lt Col Davis then served at Eglin AFB, FL, 2003-2006, as Joint Air-to-Surface Stand-Off Missile, Extended Range (JASSM-ER) flight commander. In that role, he was responsible for increasing the operational range of the JASSM stealth cruise missile. Lt. Col Davis's final assignment was at Maxwell AFB-Gunter Annex, AL, 2006-2009 in various management positions including Deputy Director over all of the Air Force's purchasing, programming, and installation of network-ready computers, printers, and cell phones.



Lt. Col Davis retired from military service on August 31, 2009, but continued working at Gunter Annex as a civil servant in various management positions until taking a deferred retirement in June 2021 in the equivalent grade of GS-15. During this time, he helped the Air Force to modernize its software by creating and awarding the Air Force's largest suite of contracts for acquiring technology products and services. He also served as Branch Chief for base infrastructure, medical, and wartime readiness software systems for the entire Air Force.

Lt Col Davis and his wife, Robyn, have been married 33 years, and they have three children and one grandchild. He is a member of First Methodist Church in Prattville, AL, where he has chaired and continues to serve on several committees. He enjoys outdoor activities including hunting, hiking, and camping as well as watching Auburn University's football games. Since 2010, he and his wife have owned Home Helpers, a business that provides long-term and recuperative care for adults of all ages, as well as care for new moms.

Lt Col Davis's conclusions about his military service are: "I had an easy job as I never went into combat. As a youngster, I was always patriotic so service gave me an opportunity to give back. I was able to help our military to have the systems to protect our country and to contribute to the effort that makes us free and keeps us free."

## Who puts the Air in Aerospace?

Well, the Otto Lilienthal made the first well-documented, successful glider flights and the Wright Brothers were successful in pioneering powered flight. And there are scores more. Chuck Yeager for supersonic flight, Sir Frank Whittle for turbine engines, Kelly Johnson for the SR-71, and Joseph Sutterland for the Boeing 747 are others. But who reaches out to today's youth to inspire them to aerospace? Hint: it's not an app – it takes dedication and expertise from an life-long and accomplished teacher to take the sometimes difficult concepts involved in aerospace operations and shape them to grab the attention of the next generation of aerospace enthusiasts.

Answer: Susan Mallett. Let's go through the who, what, when, where and why that ranks Susan with the best in aerospace leaders and teachers, especially when it comes to inspiring the next generation of aerospace leaders. She currently serves and the Air Force Civil Air Patrol's (CAP) aerospace/Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education outreach coordinator, and has been recognized with the National Aeronautic Association's 2022 Frank G. Brewer Trophy. This award was established in 1943 to honor significant contributions of enduring value to aerospace education in the U.S.

Why is STEM education so important? STEM education is a powerful concept that integrates science, technology, engineering, and mathematics into a cohesive, interdisciplinary, and applied learning approach. Susan brings it to life by including real-world application and teaching methods, making it beneficial for students not only with aerospace interests, but in any subject. STEM education is vital for building critical thinking to support problem-solving and creative thinking to build innovation skills.

Why is Susan such great fit for this mission? Susan's journey in promoting aerospace education began in 1986, when the Alabama Department of Aeronautics asked her to initiate an aviation program. At that time, she was a Montgomery elementary school reading teacher and had little knowledge of or experience in aviation. Undeterred, she did what any passionate teacher does, learned everything she could and then integrated this aviation education into her curriculum. By the end of the first year, she was organizing orientation flights for not only her students, but also fellow teachers. As Susan took on leadership positions in the school, her entire school became involved in aerospace education, ultimately gaining recognition nationally and internationally. She also conducted aerospace programs at her alma mater, Auburn University Montgomery, and throughout Montgomery Public Schools and the state.

In 2004, she worked with the national STARBASE program director at the Pentagon to bring a STARBASE Academy to Maxwell Air Force Base. STARBASE is a Department of Defense (DoD) sponsored educational program focused on providing 5th grade students with 25 hours of "hands-on, minds-on" STEM-related activities and, since STARBASES are hosted at military facilities, the chance to interact with military personnel to explore careers and observe STEM applications in the "real world." Currently there are 81 STARBASES, including the one at our own Maxwell Air Force Base.

Two years after creating the STARBASE program at Maxwell, Susan retired from public education and accepted a newly created aerospace education position at the Civil Air Patrol's (CAP) National Headquarters, and created STEM programs for use across the nation. Within a year, she created and launched CAP's Aerospace Connections in Education (ACE) program for grades K-6. ACE provides 22 national academic standards-based lessons per grade level that cover academics, good character, and physical fitness. ACE is a free, interactive, online resource for CAP's educator members. It aims to build an early interest in aviation-related STEM careers. Over a half-millions students have benefitted from ACE.

In 2009, Susan was selected as an Air Force Association (AFA) Aerospace Education Council member and has led its national AFA/Rolls-Royce Aerospace/STEM Teacher of the Year program since 2012. She has coordinated national STEM programs between the AFA (now the Air & Space Forces Association) and CAP for 15 years, promoting the AFA's CyberPatriot and StellarXplorers programs. She's now working with the AFA



Recognition of the NAA Brewer Trophy award at Montgomery AFA Chapter Luncheon with (left to right): Col (ret) Scott Key AFA Chapter 108 President, BG (ret) Bernie Skoch, AFA National Chairman of the Board, Ms Susan Mallett, and MG (ret) Bowen Ballard, AFA President Emeritus.

team to explore initiating a national aviation program. Also in 2012, Mallett started work with the Air Force's STEM Outreach Coordination Office to create CAP's national K-12 STEM Kit program. Since 2013, over 40,000 kits have been provided at no cost to teachers, youth organizations, museums, libraries, aviation organizations, CAP squadrons, and Air Force Junior ROTC units across the nation. Impacting over 2 million youth, this program includes over 20 free kits covering aviation, space, and cyber.

Ok, that's Susan's national impact; let's go back 37 years one more time to see how it started and look at what's available today to the River Region, the place we all call home. In addition to the numerous programs already mentioned above, Susan also leveraged Christa McAuliffe Fellowship funds in those years to create a Mobile Aerospace Classroom (MAC) out of a refurbished school bus and "hit the road" to share aviation experiences with students across the MPS. From then to now, Susan has an unbroken chain of service. She continues to directly support River Region schools with numerous CAP and AFA programs. Daily, she coordinates CAP's aerospace and STEM education outreach. She has made the CAP an online repository of aviation-related educational resources as well as building the ACE+ program, where CAP squadrons adopt fifth- through eighth-grade classrooms for virtual and in-person instructional and aviation demonstrations and career exploration support, as well as the High-Altitude Balloon Challenge for cadets. The list of support to the local area schools grows every day – and she is always eager to get more schools involved in these unique, exciting, and very motivational programs.

What's the back story on this High-altitude Balloon Challenge? The balloon challenge's national ambassador and award benefactor is retired Air Force Col. Joe Kittinger, a test pilot and high-altitude balloonist. He nominated Mallett for the Brewer award. He attributes his participation in the balloon competition to "the professional expertise I knew Susan would bring to a new national STEM program. As a high-altitude balloonist and scientist, I see this program as another avenue to build student interest in science and a huge success for CAP."

Col Kittinger pretty much summed up her lifelong impact with: "Susan has left her mark in so many ways and has a legacy that will live forever through the lives of those she has taught and inspired. She is so deserving of this prestigious award, and it is our honor to present it to her."

Want to find out more on these fantastic programs? The CAP is ready to help. Contact email for Susan is: [afa@capnhq.gov](mailto:afa@capnhq.gov) The web site: [www.GoCivilAirPatrol.com](http://www.GoCivilAirPatrol.com)

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**Dr. Lester Spencer**  
President Pro Tem



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In the world of sports, G.O.A.T. Stands for the “Greatest Of All Time”. In the sports world there are several people who come to mind: Tom Brady in the NFL has won 7 Super Bowls; Michael Phelps, the swimmer, has won 28 Olympic Medals of which 23 were Gold; Michael Jordan is arguably the best NBA player who ever lived; Roger Federer won 8 Wimbledon and 20 Grand-slams; Lionel Messi is the most decorated soccer player ever and is the king of the soccer world with 44 titles and 42 trophies.

While the world has its own perceptions about who is truly the greatest of all time in any given field, it makes me wonder who Jesus would say is the G.O.A.T. When it comes to following the Lord and living a God honoring life. In Matthew 11:11 we can see you Jesus believes was the greatest. “I tell you the truth, of all those who have ever lived, none is greater than John the Baptist.”

So, John the Baptist is the G.O.A.T. Of the Bible. Of all the people who ever lived, he is the greatest. But what made him the greatest in Jesus’ eyes?

I believe there are several reasons for this.

#### 1. John the Baptist was confident in his identity

Now this was John’s testimony when the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him who he was. He did not fail to confess, but confessed freely, **“I am not the Messiah.”** They asked him, “Then who are you? Are you Elijah?” He said, **“I am not.”** “Are you the Prophet?” He answered, **“No.”** Finally they said, “Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, **“I am the voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way for the Lord.’”** John 1:19-23

John the Baptist knew what he believed and knew what he stood for. He was sure of his calling and confident in his identity yet never compared himself and quickly stated when asked that he was not the messiah nor Elijah or a prophet.

If you want to live and leave a legacy, being confident in who you are is critical. Remembering that it is not about you is the first step. Refusing to compare yourself to others is an important trap to avoid as well. Finding your voice is key to walking confidently in your identity.

## Soul Searching...

**Legacy: Outlive Your Life**  
**Part Three**  
**The G.O.A.T.**

LEGACY

#### 2. John the Baptist had a Posture of Humility

**“I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”** Matthew 3:11  
**“He must become greater; I must become less.”** John 3:30

John the Baptist was humble and never sought position, fame or glory. He always and only promoted Jesus and pointed people to him. He stated that he must decrease, and Jesus must increase. His humility was apparent in all of the scriptures where he was mentioned.

The kind of humility we see in John the Baptist is refreshing and inspiring especially in our self-centered culture where everything is about “ME”. People who want to live and lead a legacy must learn to be humble and put others above themselves. Humility means that we have a teachable spirit and are willing to listen, learn and grow.

#### 3. John the Baptist Clung to the Word of God

In those days John the Baptist came, preaching in the wilderness of Judea and saying, **“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”** Matthew 3:1-2

John the Baptist was undaunted in preaching God’s word and unafraid to proclaim the truth no matter what. He called everyone to repentance and took a lot of heat for being so bold. In fact, it cost him his head. But he never compromised the message to appease the culture.

We can learn from John the Baptist as he held fast to the truth of God’s word. If we want to live and leave a legacy then we must share the truth and always speak it out even when it is unpopular. The single greatest tool that we have in our grasp is the truth found in the Bible itself.

John the Baptist understood the power of truth. **“Truth is like a lion. You don’t have to defend it. Let it loose. It will defend itself.”** - Saint Augustine

If you want to live and leave a legacy, remember the G.O.A.T. John the Baptist is a great example for us. Jesus believed he was the best example ever!

*Blessings*

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Judge  
Peggy Givhan

# SOUTHERN GARDENING

## Potpourri for NOVEMBER



November has sneaked up on many of us and it proves to be a busy month. First of all there is Veteran's Day on the 11th and Thanksgiving on the 23rd. As far as getting into the fall mood, I will leave the artificial pumpkins, fake fall leaves and other fall looking decorations in place while adding some pilgrim figures etc. for Thanksgiving. Another great plant you can use in fall decorations is pyracantha berries which should be plentiful in November. Sumac with its crimson long flower heads are now seen everywhere, even on the side of the road. In fact a flower arrangement of the sumac, goldenrod, and purple ironweed makes a stunning bouquet. Also to add more color, we could add pots of Chrysanthemums and Crotons. Then do not forget placing your American flags and bunting out for Veterans Day, which Canada calls "Remembrance Day".

November is also a great time to re-pot household and outdoor plants. Sometimes we forget that the soil in these pots just loses its macho plus the plants become root bound. Even though we fertilize and water, it is not enough when what we need to do is just take out the soil, cut back matted roots, and then re-pot. Re-potting can be time intensive so this task just needs to be scheduled. Make sure you have everything needed when you set out to accomplish this work. I make sure I have sterile soil, plenty of fertilizer, garden clippers, rubber gloves, and extra pots if I divide the plants. If you have a large pot garden with huge two feet in diameter pots or bigger, no need to empty the whole pot out unless the drainage is bad and the soil smells sour. Take out the top foot of dirt, break up the bottom dirt, and then add more good soil. Next water in, add fertilizer and replant. If you are working with smaller pots, I would empty out all of the soil and start over. Make sure that you place some gravel at the bottom for good drainage. Some of the easier plants to re-pot are asparagus fern, foxtail fern, Chinese Evergreen, and any perennial. Remember, if you wind up with more plants than you want, heel them in with some good soil and share with neighbors and friends.

In our location, we usually do not have a hard freeze until after late December

or a little later. This means that begonias, geraniums, petunias, dusty miller, and pentas will be fine. Just prune where necessary, fertilize with liquid Miracle Gro and keep watering when needed. Some people have decided that once we have temperatures in the 70's and 80's in the fall, no need to water. Wrong. I severely cut back the begonias, pentas and geraniums when I know a hard freeze is in the forecast and bring them in. Dusty Miller will not mind the freeze. As an experiment last year, I had a pot of petunias which I mulched heavily, cut them back, and they came back in the spring. We think of petunias as annuals, but these petunias lived on to see another season.

### PLANT OF THE MONTH---CROTON (Codiaeum variegatum)

There are some people who have a prejudice against this plant. I myself in the past could take it or leave it. But for fall foliage, this one needs a standing ovation. There does not seem to be a shortage of Crotons in Montgomery and the surrounding area. Although they are more costly now, the cost has not increased that much when you figure in the long life of this plant. Crotons hail from Africa and thrive in the hottest, driest and sunniest part of your yard. It may need an occasional pruning to thicken up the leaves. The glossy leaves with a color combination of green, yellow, burnt orange, and red labels Croton a showy plant. It mixes well with pots of colorful Chrysanthemums. And the more sun it is exposed to, the brighter the colors. This plant is perfect for our river region area as it loves high humidity. Although it has few pests, mealy bugs can be a problem, so just mist with a weak alcohol and water solution a few days apart.



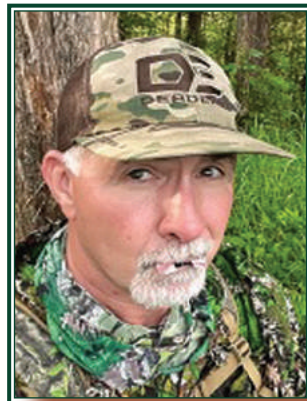
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**HAPPY THANKSGIVING AND GOOD GARDENING!**



## It's time to hunt!

Gary Miller has written Outdoor Truths articles for 20 years. He has also written five books which include compilations of his articles and a father/son devotional. He also speaks at wild-game dinners and men's events for churches and associations.  
[gary@outdoortruths.org](mailto:gary@outdoortruths.org)



Gary Miller

I've been waiting for this week for some time. I've only hunted 2 times because I wanted to save all my energy and all my wifey-points for these next 2 months. I plan on spending several hours each week looking for the biggest bucks my area offers. Plus, I've got a couple of away trips planned as well. There's no doubt this is the best time of year to see the biggest bucks. But while I have not been hunting, I have been making all the preparations for the hunt. My heart has been in the tree stand, but my head has been in getting everything together, and getting everything ready for these next 2 months that will bring some of the coldest and most unpredictable conditions. But now, I'm ready. Well, I cannot predict every circumstance that I'll run into, but I'm as ready as I can be. It's time to hunt.

While the Apostle Paul doesn't compare our spiritual preparedness to hunting, he does compare it to getting ready for a battle. He talks about putting on the whole armor of God. And before he encourages us for the battle, he speaks about being ready before it. He says, "And having done all to stand." That is, the time of preparation is to be as complete as possible, and it always comes before a battle. But there is also a time to stand. Now many people take this as some attack position. They seem to think that standing is a position of assault. But the armor is mostly for protection, except for the "Sword of the Spirit." Our standing means that we are ready to go into the world with the protection of our faith. It is being as ready as possible for the conditions we will face and facing them with the actions and reactions of Christ. The armor is our part in God's protection plan for us. So, I don't know when it's your time to face some unpredictable spiritual conditions, but when they come, stand, and be assured that your spiritual armor will protect you in the battle.

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Patricia Boyd Killough

# Home Town Community News

**NOTICE!** Please send Patricia your family and friends:  
**BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, WEDDINGS AND EVENTS to:**

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## 104th BIRTHDAY ...

### A CELEBRATION FOR ROMAY DAVIS..

A woman to be honored!



*Romay is a woman of character and commitment. A commitment to God, commitment to her country and to others. Romay said, "I say any time in life you get a hunch you really want to do it, I say go for it."*

*Romay Catherine Davis, received a Congressional Gold Medal July 26, 2022 at Montgomery City Hall. This 102 WWII WAC served in England with the with 855 female African-Americans in the 6888th Unit sorting mail so it could be delivered to the G.I.'s. Davis' article was published in the January 2022 issue of the Alabama Gazette.*  
[www.alabamagazette.com](http://www.alabamagazette.com)



*Romay stated, "Race has nothing to do with abilities."*



## IN REMEMBRANCE ...

### Sue Boyd Drake

Aug. 5, 1921 - Oct. 12, 2003



Mamie Sue was born in Montgomery County in Sprague, Al. on August 5, 1921 to Dempsey David and Ruth Rebecca Armstrong Boyd. She grew up on a farm through the Great Depression, worked as a secretary through WWII and then moved to Maimi Beach, Fl. in 1949 to work and live with her sister, Ann.

In early 1950's she married Robert (Bob) Drake. They had two sons, Ros and Ken. In 1966 the Drake family moved to Miami Lakes. After her husband, Bob died in 1997, Sue continued to live in the house they built in Miami Lakes until she died at the age of 102 on October 12, 2023. She is survived by Ros, Ken (Robbie), grandchildren Robert, Russell, Candice (Parker) and great granddaughter, Alexis. She was pre-deceased by her parents and siblings, Minnie Lou Boyd Berrey, David Armstrong Boyd, Annie Kate Boyd Shaw, Frankie Ruth Boyd Preble, Dempsey Clower Boyd and Robert Warner Boyd. She is survived by her baby sister, Ethleen Cowles Boyd Bazzell, a sister-in-law Margaret Motes Boyd and numerous nieces, nephews and cousins.  
**Sue will be missed by her family and friends.**

## Happy November Anniversaries

- |                                   |                                 |                                   |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 5 Brad & Julie Echols             | 12 Sonny & Linda Turner (57th)  | 18 Burks & Charlotte Crane (28th) |
| 7 Brian & Jennifer Rushing (14th) | Todd & Sandy Rogers (20th)      | 21 Doug & Cindy Young             |
| Bill & Peggy Struthers (69th)     | 14 Jim & Frances Ard            | Gary & Martha French (49th)       |
| 8 Arthur & Sandra Millard         | George & Elaine Landry (69th)   | 24 Gary & Debbie Partridge        |
| 9 Don & Tanya Cooley              | 16 Alan & Debra Moore           | 27 Mike & Wanda Horsley           |
| James "Hotshot" & Joyce McGinty   | Stephen & Joyce Turnipseed      | 28 Andre & Beverly Stephens       |
| 10 Tanner & Shannon Grant         | 17 Clyde & Audrey Alison (44th) |                                   |
| Manly & Kris Swearingen           | Chip & Tricia Norris            |                                   |

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

Bailey, Wynona Ann Jones - 99 yrs. 11 mos.....	Sept. 22
Buttke, Brandley David - 47.....	Sept. 23
Kessler, Robert David - 47.....	Sept. 23
Ross, Barbara Ann Garrett - 83.....	Sept. 23
Wright, Thomas Larry - 87.....	Sept. 23
Lilly, Gwendolyn "Gwen" Cecilia McGehee - 88.....	Sept. 25
Jarman, Alice Irean - 90.....	Sept. 25
Royal, Howell David - 84.....	Sept. 25
Lovelette Jr., Malcolm Paul "Pete" - 64.....	Sept. 26
Phillips, Patricia Ann - 77.....	Sept. 26
Stone, Charles Mercer - 96.....	Sept. 26
Davis, Edna Webb - 96.....	Sept. 27
Langley, Kevin Eugene - 33.....	Sept. 27
Richardson, Linda Faye Ogles - 79.....	Sept. 27
Wall, Lenora Ann Martin - 96.....	Sept. 27
Brents, Robert "Bob" Earl - 80.....	Sept. 28
Pyle, Rosemarie "Rosie" Koselka - 81.....	Sept. 28
Parker, Forrest Wayne - 92.....	Sept. 29
Thompson, Harriett Sylvia Langston - 87.....	Sept. 30
Burford, Dorothy Jo - 89.....	Oct. 2
Vance, Betty Floyd - 80.....	Oct. 2
Age, Mary Frances - 65.....	Oct. 3
Starr Jr., John Carroll - 82.....	Oct. 3
Willison, Dean Edward - 86.....	Oct. 3
<b>Beringer, Shirley Brownstein - 100.....</b>	<b>Oct. 4</b>
Roten, Sheila - 75.....	Oct. 5
Helms, Edward Harold - 82.....	Oct. 7
Martin, Susan Eady - 81.....	Oct. 7
Cotten, Carl Wayman "C.W." / PawPaw.....	Oct. 8
Odle, Arthur James - 82.....	Oct. 8
Saliba Jr., Charles Shaheed - 72.....	Oct. 9
Smilie, Loyd DeVaughn - 94.....	Oct. 9
Gray Sr., William David - 85.....	Oct. 10
Padgett, Shirley Louise McLeod - 84.....	Oct. 10
<b>Sabbia, Sylvia Katherine "Dickie" - 100.....</b>	<b>Oct. 10</b>
Wood Jr., William "Bill" Joseph - 76.....	Oct. 10
Benn, Marine Cpl. Alvin "Al" - 83.....	Oct. 11
Milton, Betsy - 75.....	Oct. 12
Mitchell, Juanita Strickland - 98.....	Oct. 12
Shill, Nancy Delayne "Layne" Gleaton - 73.....	Oct. 12
Wilder, June Carol - 84.....	Oct. 14
Staley, Boyd "Buddy" Edward - 73.....	Oct. 15
Pruitt, Charles Wayne - 82.....	Oct. 18
Beck, Kathy Ann Avinger - 68.....	Oct. 19
Blackmon, Barbara Ann - 87.....	Oct. 19
Coffin, Maureen Rae - 60.....	Oct. 19
Sloan, Wiley Edward "Ed" - 89.....	Oct. 20
Wood, Dewey Edward "Pete" - 84.....	Oct. 20
Tompkins, John Lewis - 80.....	Oct. 21
Wrape, Michael Clayton - 57.....	Oct. 22
Edmonds, Walter Earl - 89.....	Oct. 24
Granberry, William Wayne - 85.....	Oct. 24
Maihan, Patricia "Patti" Lynn Logan - 75.....	Oct. 24
Gross, Jason Lynn - 46.....	Oct. 25
Jones Jr., Demoville Pendleton - 95.....	Oct. 25
Mapp, Shirley Catherine - 87.....	Oct. 26
McFarland, Velita - 95.....	Oct. 26
Prescott, Jessie "Nell" Custred - 97.....	Oct. 26
Tarvin, Theresa Marie - 87.....	Oct. 27
Compton, Margaret Mason - 92.....	Oct. 28
Sumait, Julian Raymond - 54.....	Oct. 30

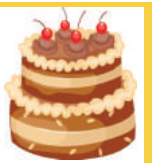
## HAPPY 49th ANNIVERSARY

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OCTOBER 4, 2023



## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS



- |                            |                            |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Katherine Hall (94th)    | Houston Harris             |
| Kelei Lewis                | Walker Meadows             |
| Jimmie Mims                | 14 Ken Franklin McKenzie   |
| Barbie O'Neal              | Xan Morrow                 |
| Bobbie Parker              | Spears Rhodes              |
| 2 Al Flanary               | 15 Larry Browder           |
| Bill Grubs                 | Mary Elizabeth Dean        |
| Mary Ellis Killough (15th) | Mae H. Poole               |
| Mike Lane                  | Katherine Huro             |
| Charles Meredith           | Debbie Johnson             |
| 3 Larry Chambers           | Heather Killough           |
| Jack Hornady (95th)        | 16 Thomas Joseph Boyd      |
| Doug Sellers               | Alton Haraway              |
| 4 Patrick Sikes (13th)     | Patricia M. Lee            |
| 5 Jeremy Brown             | 17 Dan Fowler              |
| Mike Davis                 | Bill Harper                |
| Margaret Ann Morgan        | 18 Billy Jack Beck         |
| 6 Bella Boyd               | Doug Cole                  |
| Faye Deal                  | Joyce McGinty              |
| Scarlett Jones (6th)       | 19 Laird Bone              |
| Teresa Seevers Johnson     | 20 Sandy Garner            |
| 7 Carol Harrison           | Sharon Harper              |
| Debbie Green               | Rich Takacs                |
| Jane Camille Robinson      | 21 James Miller            |
| Helen Struthers (98th)     | 22 Annette Banks           |
| Paula Barker               | Amy Grubbs                 |
| Jordan Ratliff (27th)      | Lee Hartley                |
| 8 Trey Mainor              | Tommy Jones                |
| Klem Paulk, Jr. (83rd)     | Virginia Shearin           |
| David Strange              | Locke White                |
| Gerry Williams             | Charles Wilkerson          |
| 9 Kristen Butler           | Charles Winsett            |
| Carl McDevitt              | 23 Joyce Mims              |
| John Porterfield           | Peggy Cole                 |
| Jamalyn Smith              | Brittany Hord              |
| Patrice Wasden             | 24 Helen Cain              |
| 10 Frances Dover           | Howard Duncan              |
| Gayle Harper               | Donald McClain             |
| Myra Mills                 | Pearl McClain              |
| Harlan Ratliff (85th)      | Patricia Potts             |
| Manly Swearingen           | Jerry Shadrick             |
| Frances Smith              | Debbie Whitehouse          |
| 11 Amanda Anderson         | 25 Colonel Durden          |
| Robert Sandifer            | Bonnie Morris              |
| 12 Clyde Alison            | 26 Faye Spivey             |
| Faye Best                  | 27 Annabelle O'Neal (13th) |
| Jo Hurley                  | Vaughn Lowery              |
| John Messick               | Jessika Wallace            |
| Warren Miller              | 28 Marilyn Oliver          |
| Mary Talley                | Andy Strange               |
| Tom Vocino                 | 29 Weston Browder          |
| LeeAnn Willams (43rd)      | Mavis Kratzer              |
| 13 Sarah Bone              | 30 Brittany Abbott         |
| Bannie Burt (104th)        | Kaitlin Castleberry        |
| Jenelle Jones              | Drew Meadows (14th)        |
| Norman Rahn                | Jackie Moseley             |
| 14 Shawn Adams             | Boyd Partridge             |
| Kenneth Banks              | Earle Williams             |





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

By: Amanda Walker

By: Trisston Wright Burrows



Ms. Wheelchair  
America/Alabama  
2005

Tears & LAUGHTER  
Silhouettes in Dixon Mills

I drove by Fannie's old house last week. I don't know what even made me take the long way home that way from Thomasville, but I did. I haven't driven that direction in years, and for years...it used to be my way home.

Granny lived on Clayhill Road, and I guess it is her absence that has kept me away so long. But time has a way of distancing us from sadness enough to remember the joy.

The hillside where she lived was central to my life when I was young. It is where my mother grew up. It is where she and my father lived when they were first married. It is where were lived when I was born.

It is where we are gathered. It's where we had Sunday dinner, every Sunday. It is where the family would celebrate Christmas. It is where we would celebrate birthdays. It is where...we would celebrate.

I was still very young when we moved to Sandflat, which was only about 15 miles away, so we were still in and out there every week, but in my young mind I thought there was always a celebration going on at Granny's house. The lights were always on. The whole hillside would be lit, and cars would be lining the driveway.

My dad's family lived through the woods, across Highway 43. A dirt road connected from his house to directly in front Granny's. That's how they met he always said. Said he drove by and she was out in the front yard washing the family sedan for Sunday school the next day.

Both sides of my family are from that one community. They settled in the area around the same time Alabama became a state. All the names in the cemetery on the left are all familiar. Growing up I loved to hear my dad tell stories about our old family on "the old place." Some of the stories were the same stories they told him. He could tell them so descriptive I would feel as if I had been in the very room with them - huddled around the fireplace, cracking pecans, listening to the Grand Ole Opry on the radio.

The first cool spurts of fall tend to take me back. Maybe that is what prompted my decision to go that way.

Fannie lived down the road from Granny. I'm not sure the divide between Clayhill and Dixon Mills. I take that it is somewhere between Ms. Ezell's old place and Roosevelt's house. It's hardly more than a mile. It's not marked. But Fannie lived in Dixon Mills.

There was Mama and Granny, and then there was Fannie. Mama would take me to Fannie's house before she would go to work. She was a Black woman who said she was Indian. Her mother was Creek Indian. She lived diagonally across from Fannie and Pat, in a dogtrot house.

The dogtrot isn't there anymore. But Fannie's house is, and in the glow of the pole light I could see the silhouette of a man on the porch. He was leaned back against the house in a metal lawn chair like Pat used to do. I drove by slowly. The tree in the side yard is gone. The bank out front doesn't seem as steep as it used to be. The man on the porch lifted his hand - the way we wave around here.

If had been the middle of the day or earlier in the afternoon, maybe I would have stopped and explained. But I don't know what for. If I walk around the house and through their old garden...I still won't find her. The brush with her memory was visit enough.

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

Trisston's Tidbits:  
"Grace"

Did you know that God has already forgiven you? You just need to forgive yourself. I do know what weigh that you are holding onto right now. It may be from something that happened a day ago, a month ago, a week ago, a year ago. But it does not matter because God has forgiven you! It's out of His mind. It's clear.

Psalm 103 - "God has separated us from our sins as far as the east is from the west."

It's gone. It's erased! God has given you grace. And if it's out of God's mind...if He has forgotten about it, then you can forget about it. Everybody makes mistakes.

Friend, give yourself some grace today and know that God loves you.

Many Blessings!

[site.trisstonwrightburrows.com](http://site.trisstonwrightburrows.com)



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For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. Jeremiah 29:11



John W. Giles  
Former  
President &  
Chairman  
Choose Life  
Alabama

Vs. Wade, the pressure at these centers has intensified. This good news is traffic has increased, yielding in saving more lives, but the interchange is soaring operating cost.

Phone calls, office visits, counseling sessions, expanding office hours and demands on staff are being felt in these centers. Rising cost of maternity items, bought by these centers to give away to young women deciding to keep their baby has been impacted by spiraling inflation. A need that has re-emerged as a pressing essential is housing for unwed mothers; in some cases, these young ladies have other children. Generally speaking, these are one-year programs to help the unwed mother through maternity, child birth and getting back on her feet. Critics of the prolife agenda often spew false notions that we do not care about the women, you decide. You and I can help these women in need!

One of the many ways to help these pregnancy resource centers is to purchase a Choose Life auto tag every year. It cost an additional \$50.00 to purchase the tag, \$41.25 goes to the pregnancy resource centers and the rest goes to the state. Since 2003, this tag has produced \$4.4 million, which has been distributed to these centers over the past 19 years. Every year, we sell about 6000 tags and distribute about \$250,000.00 annually. Our goal is the double that to 12,000 tags, now we are talking about \$500,000.00 annually. Think about this, \$1.00 a week enables us to write checks for \$500,000.00 every year.

Many have no clue what takes place in one of these centers. A scared abortion minded young girl walks in wanting a free pregnancy test. Life and death hang

Economic ~ Social ~ Moral ~ Constitutional Conservatism

The "Gift" That Keeps on Giving ~  
20th Anniversary



in the balance, one wrong mis-read body language or misunderstood word and that girl storms out intending to take the life of her unborn child. Little does she know, this abortion may seem to fix a short-term problem, but the trade off is a life time of mental torment from this one decision. The emotions of those volunteers and staff is a roller coaster all day dealing with these volatile young women experiencing an unwanted pregnancy. These centers are like having missionaries sprinkled geographically all over the state. They offer free

pregnancy test, most have access to ultra sounds so the expecting moms can see their baby's image and hear the heartbeat, counseling them and helping navigate all available resources. In many cases, they host baby showers for these women and give them maternity supplies to set up a nursery. In addition to their full-service deployment of life changing assistance, they give these women unconditional love.

Choose Life Alabama is a low overhead, high impact nonprofit (Alabama Prolife Coalition Education Fund, Inc). We do not even have an office, everything we do is virtual. Our board of directors and everyone associated with this work are volunteers. We have a part-time executive director, who also works full time as Director of a pregnancy resource center.

On our 20th Anniversary, help us to support these women, your \$1.00 can help us write a check for \$500,000.00.

Leave a legacy, buy your tag today @ [chooselifealabama.org](http://chooselifealabama.org)!

Choose Life Tags, the "Gift that Keeps on Giving." The U.S. Supreme Court has left a legacy, you can leave a legacy as well!





# Southern Cuisine

**Chef David Spooner, Retired Chef**

Volunteer Fireman, Lowndesboro V.F.D., St. Paul's Episcopal Church,  
Lowndesboro Board of Registrars, Lowndes County



*I was scanning through some of my past articles searching for topics that I had mentioned in the past. The most obvious topic appears in the articles in the last two months of the year. What I had called the FOOD Months. The topic was Guests and Food. The time when your house has the most guests, friends and family. And the time when the largest meals are usually prepared and served.*

## HAVE A BLESSED THANKSGIVING!



**AMERICA IS THE MOST BLESSED COUNTRY IN THE WORLD!**

I have had a lot of pushback about trying new dishes and alternative cooking methods for Thanksgiving. This is one of the holidays where the meal menu is set in stone. "This is the way we always served it, and nobody will eat it if it is not the way "Aunt Hettie" fixed it."

The one side dish that I always try to change is the sweet potatoes. I am not fond of canned or over-cooked sweet potatoes drowning in butter and brown sugar and with crispy browned marshmallows floating on top of the liquid sea of syrup and then with pecans that are so water logged, they sink to the bottom of the dish and have lost their natural crunch.

My contribution to an alternative side dish for Thanksgiving has some brown sugar, but no marshmallows, no pecans and no sea of sugar syrup. I found many recipes for different ways to roast sweet potatoes. I seem to be getting more popular to not raise your blood sugar when you eat sweet potatoes and to add some zip to the dish.

I have mentioned in previous articles of prepping a meal with the intention of using the leftovers as a base for another meal. I just finished eating what I think was my greatest repurposing of a meal so far. It started with making Chicken Pozole, a tra-

ditional soup from Mexico, and ended as a flavorful chicken potpie. Thickening the leftover soup and adding peas and carrots made the base for the potpie. In addition, I checked how much chicken was still in the soup and added more. The hominy in the soup substituted for the potato in the chicken potpie. I lined the bottom, and sides of a casserole dish with pie shell pastry. You can use either, store bought or homemade. Added the filling and topped with more piecrust. The only changes I would make for later potpies would be to par bake the shell and top the casserole dish with puff pastry. I still have leftover soup frozen in Mason jars to make individual potpies in the future.

You know how to distinguish difference between a Southerner and a Northerner? Southerners have dressing with their turkey, Northerners have stuffing. Southerners also have a recipe for their dressing that has been handed down from generation to generation. And to keep up the tradition I am posting our family's recipe for our dressing, handed down for at least 5 generations. This weekend was the "make the dressing for the family's day at our house." Besides just making the dressing for our family my wife, Anne, has two friends joining her to make enough dressing for their families.

## Grandmother Tucker's Dressing:



*(Notes about the recipe are from Anne learning from her grandmother.) My notes from watching her cook!*

- 1. Make cornbread** – I use buttermilk and lots of bacon grease (You can also use saved and frozen cornbread from other meals.) Crumble cornbread in a large bowl.
- 2. Cut 6 stalks of celery** and 3 medium onions salt and pepper to taste, cover amply with chicken broth; cook until tender; set aside. The other thing I do is I cook the onions and celery in chicken broth and butter rather than water and adding melted butter later.)
- 3. Add to crumbled cornbread:** 8 slices of toasted or dry bread, 1 sleeve of Ritz crackers, 8-10 biscuits or dinner rolls and 1 sleeve saltine crackers. Crumble and mix together.
- 4. Add:** 1 can cream of chicken soup (I add 2 or 3 cans.)  
1 can cream of celery soup  
1 can chicken broth (I use the boxes.)

**3-4 eggs add by the spoonful**, including the broth, celery and onion to taste salt and pepper to taste sprinkle of sage onion powder and celery salt to taste...you might not need this poultry seasoning if needed to taste.

(You will need more broth than this... You mix all of this with a big spoon or your hands until all of the crumbles of the breads are broken up...it's the feel and texture of a thick cornbread mixture with onions and celery. You do not want to be able to see parts of a piece of bread or a biscuit. I use a hand mixer to mix everything completely. I also add about a half a stick of melted butter.)

**TASTE**...even though it has raw eggs in it! I would be dead by now if it were dangerous! You want to check the salt pepper and sage flavors. Some broths are very salty and I don't like a lot of sage. Bake in a greased baking pan at 350 degrees for 45 minutes – check often to be sure it does not burn.

I keep a baggie in the freezer and save those extra pieces of bread at the end of a loaf and the slice of cornbread that might be left over or biscuits so when it is time to make dressing..I have the breads ready. Originally dressing was a way to use all the stale breads. This is also a good time to use all of those frozen baggies of left over broth or the broth you put in ice cube trays over the year! Grandmother Fuller used to keep a large mason jar in the freezer and she would add to it when she had any left over broth. This recipe is exactly like my Grandmother Fuller's except she loved sage (and I think she used too much)

I make dressing on Veterans Day since I am usually off from work. It "freezes beautifully"! On Thanksgiving morning, I defrost and bake.

Serves 20

**Grandmother Fuller also taught me to keep a jar of left over vegetables in the freezer. When you are cleaning up after a meal and you have a spoonful of beans or corn or whatever, just add it to the jar rather than throwing it away. When the jar is full, it is time to make vegetable soup!**

**Note:**  
**Some of the left overs can be used to make Anne's Gravy. It has become a hand me down that goes well with the dressing.**

## ANNE'S GRAVY

- 1 can cream of chicken soup**
- 1 can cream of celery soup**
- 1 can chicken broth or more to make the gravy as thin or thick as you like.**
- You can also use the broth from the turkey 2 or 3 boiled eggs diced – this will thicken the gravy some. Cooked onions and celery to taste chopped liver from the turkey or small pieces of dark turkey.**

**While in the kitchen trying to prepare dinner, have lots of dip to keep everyone busy and if you put it in the living room it will keep too many people from crowding the kitchen.**

**Remember to always monitor your blood sugar levels and speak with your healthcare provider about any dietary changes.**



## Pumpkin Roll-Up

*"No Thanksgiving meal is complete without a dessert that has pumpkin in it. The problem is that after a heavy meal, no one has room for a pumpkin pie or any calorie laden pie. This dessert may take awhile to make but your guest will love it."*

### INGREDIENTS:

- 3/4 cup all-purpose flour**
- 1/4 teaspoon salt**
- 1 teaspoon baking soda**
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon**
- 1 teaspoon pumpkin pie spice**
- 1 cup granulated sugar**
- 3 large eggs**
- 2/3 cup canned pumpkin (or homemade pumpkin puree)**
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract**

### FILLING:

- 8 ounces cream cheese , softened**
- 2 Tablespoons butter , softened**
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract**
- 1 cup powdered sugar , plus more for dusting.**



### DIRECTIONS:

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F. Line a jelly roll pan (15 x 10") with parchment paper, leaving an extra inch of parchment sticking up on both long sides of the pan so that you can easily lift the cake out after baking. (You can VERY lightly grease the parchment paper, if you want to, but you don't need to!)

In a large bowl, whisk together the flour, salt, baking soda, cinnamon and pumpkin pie spice. In a separate bowl mix the eggs, sugar, vanilla and pumpkin until smooth. Add dry ingredients to the bowl and stir just until combined and no dry streaks remain. Spread the batter evenly in the prepared pan.

Bake for 14-15 minutes until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. Immediately lift the parchment paper and hot cake out of the pan and onto a flat surface. While the cake is hot, starting at one of the short ends, use your hands to gently and slowly roll the cake (and parchment paper!) all the way up. Allow it to cool completely, on top of a wire cooling rack. (This allows it to cool underneath the roll, and keeps the cake from sweating).

While the cake roll is cooling, mix the cream cheese, butter, vanilla, and powdered sugar together with an electric mixer until it is fluffy and smooth.

Once the cake roll is cooled completely, unroll it very carefully. Gently smooth the filling in an even layer over the cake.Roll up the cake without the parchment paper. Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least 1 hour, before serving. Dust the top with powdered sugar, if desired. Cut into slices and serve. Store in the fridge, covered, for up to three days.