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Alabama's Primary

March 1, 2016

Primary Candidates – Which Team Do They Represent?

The rift between constitutional conservatives and corporatist conservatives is hardly new. Goldwater conservatives and Rockefeller Republicans have been at odds with each other for decades. But I'm alarmed by how we've reached a point in the political process of this nation where the differences in ideology and how it plays out in this election cycle are further dividing even those who identify as constitutional conservatives. By Marcis Chambliss See page 4A



In Remembrance **Challenger Disaster Marks 30th Anniversary**

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER EXPLODES 73 SECONDS INTO ITS FLIGHT ON JANUARY 28, 1986

In Remembrance of the astronauts who give their lives for America and NASA, the greatest space program in the world. The Challenger burst into pieces after taking off over Cape Canaveral for its tenth mission.



The Challenger astronauts: (front, from left) Michael Smith, Francis Scobee, Ronald McNair, (back, from left) Ellison Onizuka, Christa McAuliffe, Gregory Jarvis, Judith Resnick.

THE LAST HURRAH!

SUPER BOWL 50

Levi Stadium in San Francisco could be "Peyton's Place" on February 7, 2016.

Two months shy of his 40th birthday, Peyton Manning will start the 50th Super Bowl with a determination to end his remarkable career with a win for the Denver Broncos over Cam Newton and the Carolina Panthers.

By Ed Jones, Gazette Sports Editor See page 9A

I STILL THINK BRYANT EDGES SABAN ON "GREATEST COACH EVER" DEBATE

Regarding the on-going debate about who is the greatest coach of all time – Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant or Coach Nick Saban, I think one important point is perhaps being overlooked. With due respect to Coaches Frank Thomas and Wallace Wade, Coach Bryant built the tradition and the Alabama "brand" that has benefited every coach who followed him, including Coach Saban. By Bill Rice, Staff Writer

See Page 9A

The "kick-off" in Montgomery for the



Sweet Young'Uns 50th Anniversary will be at Down the Street Café on February 12th to Celebrate Valentine's Day. See page 10A

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

The Education Station...

By *Bobbie Ames*

TWO VISIONS OF GOVERNMENT TODAY IN AMERICA

*“When the righteous are in authority,
the people rejoice;
But when the wicked beareth rule,
the people mourn.” Proverbs 29:2*

Liberty is in dire peril today in America. What was birthed as a “land of the free and the home of the brave” has become a nation of ever increasing power taken from the local and state governments to the national government.

This is absolutely against the intent of the United States Constitution. The transfer of power has decreased our individual liberty and ability to be self-governed. The end result of such political power is always **TYRANNY.**

This article today is to appeal to God's people, His



Remnant, to take back the reigns of local and state government, to come against Socialism and Communism, which have advanced to the detriment of your and my liberty.

“The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.” The **Tenth Amendment** to the U.S. Constitution.

Our Founding Fathers had a transcendent (surpassing others) view of civil government, and how, under a Biblical concept of law and justice, mankind could live under Biblical law in a civil and just government. Our Constitution is the greatest example of a government document designed for that very purpose.

Our forefathers referred to our Creator as the *“supreme and just Ruler of the Universe.”* Our Declaration of Independence stresses it as well, that we are endowed by our Creator with *“inherent and inalienable rights; among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.”*

Additionally, governments are to obtain their rights from *“the consent of the governed.”* The **“governed”** were and are the citizens of 50 democratic republics, holding the power of the vote.

Understanding the sinful nature of mankind, the Founding Fathers warned about men with power desiring a government to destroy these ends of Life, Liberty, and Property. They warned that citizens must rise up to resist, alter, or abolish such efforts.

Because my life has been spent in Education, and Biblical Christianity, I have observed the dramatic changes in American Education, which have conditioned several generations to accept the *“New World Order.”*

For the early centuries, American school children were taught true History. They read and reread how people came to America to search for religious freedom. They read the tearful stories of the American Revolution when those patriots fought a war to escape tyranny.

It has been nearly a century since true History was put aside in public schools and replaced with Social Studies. John Dewey's dream of Industrial Education has been realized and that has served to further divide the population into two classes of people. To concentrate on preparing the *“socialized worker”* for his station in life, the richness of the Old Liberal Arts Education had to be sacrificed. But without that education, how can Johnny and Mary ever learn about their past, and about the greatest experiment in government in all of human History? America's Christian Constitutional Republic was crafted with the Biblical teaching of man, law, government, and above all, personal Salvation by Grace alone.

Socialists cannot bear to have a government based on individual rights, with checks and balances such as were providentially put into our Constitution. No, today, their marxist view is that the individuals must be **“absorbed”** with the group: the work force.

Common Core and other socialist intent is to re-educate people to accept the New World Order. Another detriment in this intent is to weaken the Armed Forces and every aspect of our national defense.

I recently read of a teacher who had taught 35 years, in both public and private schools, who found that nearly all of the students believed a Marxist concept of *“from each according to his abilities, to each according to his*

needs,” and which they generally accepted without question. They were thoroughly brainwashed in Socialism when they arrived at his class. That teacher took that as a challenge to inform and to awaken them.

2016 is a critical year in America. Every vote will count as never before. The percentage of Americans voting in recent elections is abysmal. We must take this seriously and become active.

My studies with Francis Schaeffer in America and in Europe years ago, were life changing for me as an educator. He exposed the impact of the worldview shift taking place in Europe and America at a rapid pace. The new worldview shifted from a Christian worldview, to the idea that the final reality is impersonal matter, or energy shaped in its modern form by chance. No human being can even estimate the damage that Darwin's theory of Evolution has brought to the classrooms of America, and to generations living under such darkness.

The rejection of Biblical authority has been at the very basis of the worldview shift. **Carl F. Henry** wrote, *“If modern culture is to escape the oblivion that has engulfed the earlier civilizations of man, the recovery of the will of the self-revealed God in the realm of justice and law is crucially imperative.”* (**God, Revelation, and Authority. Vol 6**)

The obvious answer is to be informed, to research and understand the past history and the current dangers, while turning to the Bible for guidance in how to impact the culture today. Pray for revival and let it begin with the willingness to become involved. Christian Education is essential to American Liberty. It is essential to the propagation of The Christian religion. Without that true American foundation existing, we will succumb to tyranny.

“The time has come that Christians must vote for honest men and take consistent ground in politics, or the Lord will curse them...God cannot sustain this free and blessed country, which we love and pray for, unless the Church will take right ground. Politics are a part of religion in such a country as this, and Christians must do their duty to the country as a part of their duty to God.”

Charles Finney

“He therefore is the truest friend to the liberty of his country who tries most to promote its virtue, and who, so far as his power and influence extend, will not suffer a man to be chosen into any office of power and trust who is not a wise and virtuous man... The sum of all is, if we would most truly enjoy this gift of Heaven, let us become a virtuous people.”

Samuel Adams

“It is impossible to mentally or socially enslave a Bible-reading people. The principles of the Bible are the groundwork of human freedom.”

Horace Greeley

“The family has always been the cornerstone of American society. Our families nurture, preserve, and pass on to each succeeding generation the values we share and cherish, values that are the foundation for our freedoms. In the family we learn our first lessons of God and man, love and discipline, rights and responsibilities.... Families maintain the spiritual strength of religious commitment among our people.... It is essential... that each of us remembers that the strength of our families is vital to the strength of our nation.”

President Ronald Reagan



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Primary Candidates – Which Team Do They Represent?

Marcia Chambliss

An article appeared on *al.com* prior to the College Football Championship game that spoke to me on a level beyond football and rivalries, as a political analogy came wrapped up in a piece regarding the football team of my beloved alma mater's fight for a national championship title.

The article was written prior to the championship game and outlined the mission of this year's team while giving some insight as to how they overcame an early season loss to battle back for a shot at the title. One theme stood out: **"Either you're with us or you're against us."**

Sadly, that quote pretty much articulates how I view many of those currently holding elected office at the local, state, and federal levels, and particularly those in the political party claiming to be fighting for conservative principles. But on the flip side, I imagine that it might also reflect how those within the political class may well view the constituents they are elected to represent. Far too often, conservative campaign promises are abandoned in lieu of gaining favor with corporatist conservatives once elected office is attained. I can't help but think how far we've fallen from the representative government that our Founders envisioned, and yet I imagine they all anticipated that we would one day experience it.

The rift between constitutional conservatives and corporatist conservatives is hardly new. Goldwater conservatives and Rockefeller Republicans have been at odds with each other for decades. But I'm alarmed by how we've reached a point in the political process of this nation where the differences in ideology and how it plays out in this election cycle are further dividing even those who identify as constitutional conservatives.

Hardly a day goes by that my **Facebook** news feed isn't filled with various

friends engaging in rather nasty verbal battles with each other regarding their primary choices for president. Most arguments revolve around personality issues rather than substantive policy discussion, but what can we expect when televised "debates" – and we've certainly dumbed down that definition – are little more than reality show circuses as the intent appears to be to destroy any candidate deemed unworthy of the establishment class.

As we get closer to our own March 1st primary, the wagons will continue to circle more closely, and emotions will escalate even higher as the remaining primaries proceed to determine the GOP nominee. While I am completely solid in my choices for Congress (and those choices are based on research, what I personally know of the candidates, and my study of various congressional scorecards but not endorsements from within the incumbent club), I'm still undecided as to my presidential vote. But I do know that with each candidate I choose, it will be the person who best reflects my values, and the one I can confidently count on to vote for solid conservative principles without my constant calls begging that representative to hold firm to their campaign promises.

As Jonathan Allen, the player on Alabama's championship team quoted above, also stated prior to the big game, "you've got to be held responsible and do your job." If that was a winning strategy for a college football team, why should we expect any less from those we elect?

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

COMMON SENSE SOLUTIONS FOR IMPROVING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Most folks in Alabama agree on one thing. All schools should be operated by competent instructional leaders, all children should be entitled to the opportunity for learning at least on their grade level, students should be safe places and school environments should be conducive to creating high student learning expectations. Recent news releases from Alabama's State School Superintendent touted a new high graduation rate average for Alabama's schools. All too often such proclamations give school

leaders, educators, parents and citizens, in general, good feelings about the directions of our schools' progress. After all, we want to believe that our children are excelling academically.

There is an increasing number of concerned parents who question the ways and means by which "academic progress" and "graduation rates" are measured. Such questions and concerns are not without merit as every few years a new (usually federally initiated), comprehensive, guaranteed success program is introduced tailor-made to effectively improve learning for all students. However, to digress a bit, it is disheartening that we recently discarded what was sold to us, in part, by the US Department of Education (USDE) as the latest new and improved packaged curriculum/assessment program/standards ever created...Alabama Reading and Mathematics Test (ARMT) accompanied by Alabama Yearly Progress (AYP). ARMT was purported to be a criterion-referenced assessment aligned with Alabama's content standards mandated for all public schools in Alabama. It was perhaps one of Alabama's best attempts to move many students upward, except for two stumbling blocks. There were (and still are) incompetent teachers, who did not, for a variety of reasons, teach all of their students to read on grade level during the early years and other teachers who passed on struggling students without actual mastery of the particular subject. Also, top state education officials soon realized that too many students were not achieving at the required levels to "pass" the required goals. That seemed easy enough to fix...our State officials contacted our USDE representative (with whom I spoke) and requested a waiver of sorts which, in essence, lowered the measuring bar of assessment and placed tens of thousands of students from "non-achievers" to "achievers". As soon as the next year's assessment rates were released, the then State Superintendent sent a statement to news media outlets that Alabama's passing scores on the ARMT had increased dramatically. And now we find ourselves already abandoning the requirements to pass a comprehensive graduation exam and replace it with several "options" and "waivers" which result in raising the graduation "rate".

We cannot depend on the USDE along with their millions in funding to purchase effective, meaningful student academic success. While I am supportive of good teachers to be eligible for higher salaries, more pay will not fix struggling schools which do not have school cultures which are conducive for student learning. Far too many schools throughout Alabama are vestiges of violence, defiance and fear. However, our State Superintendent of Education and some district superintendents appear to ignore the underlying factors which clearly serve as barriers to thousands of students to achieve as do students in schools which insure and promote positive goals, motivation to learn, a respectful and violence-free school environment where all students can learn and excel. This apathetic approach by our educational leaders is unconscionable. Perhaps a few bus tours to address teachers and parents in communities where these dysfunctional schools exist.

A non-scientific review of selected data from the Alabama State Department

of Education (ALSDE) appears to highlight a correlation between school environment/culture and low graduation rates. The illustration below serves to indicate the numbers of five (5) incidents as reported by schools using ALSDE's Student Incident Report (SIR). These 2015 figures are from high schools and systems within the Alabama Gazette's distribution area with the exception of Bessemer High School (Bessemer City). There is no attempt that this information be interpreted as scientific or beyond the geographical scope of the basic data as shown. No race or ethnic variables were used in selecting schools. It should also be noted that there are schools in other areas of the state which have higher figures for these incidents. This topic is a problem which begs for attention throughout the state.

School	Assault (#)	Defiance (#)	Disobedience (#)	Disorderly Conduct (#)	Fighting (#)	Grad Rate
Ben Russell	2	143	165	7	16	81%
Jeff Davis	7	139	429	138	130	64%
Brantley (7 – 12)	1	3	3	5	22	95%
Elmore Co. (8 – 12)	0	22	0	3	20	83%
Bessemer	7	114	101	12	115	48%

It is important to reiterate that the schools selected and their reported data to the ALSDE is not to be used here in lieu of reliable, scientific research. Readers are encouraged to visit website ALSDE.edu and select the categories "Schools and Systems" and "Data Center" for a more thorough view of factors and variables which may affect student performance in many other schools. I believe readers will find the data above to be representative of other schools which report similar data. For years well-intentioned State education leaders have spent millions of tax dollars on purchasing and trying non-validated programs using our children as "lab rats" with no outrage over the unacceptable schools' cultures and learning environments which, at the very least, distract from student learning. It is unfair to any child to be placed in a school where disorder, defiance and violence is the norm. It is time to focus on these few schools and make each one a safe place for our students to attend and learn in peace. We have a dearth of strong leadership, classroom management and high-interest instruction with data supported outcomes and teacher accountability. ARMT, AYP, Common Core national and international aligned standards and the excessive amount of money spent will never legitimately raise student academic performance in all schools. One has to question the "why" these circumstances are allowed to exist and wonder if there is an unwritten and unspoken mindset which essentially considers acceptable that some schools will be unruly, failing schools and most students will not be high achievers.

Effective leadership at all levels is desperately needed now to establish order, demand respect and re-invent these "danger zone" schools by created learning cultures where academic achievement is reality.

David Nichols, ED. D., conducts research and publishes on vital issues facing our public schools. The Alabama Schools Boards Association awarded him the distinguished "Master Level" for his years of service and training. He served on two local school boards (city and county) in Alabama and as a teacher, leader and consultant at every level from k – 12 through universities. He served as the Associate Dean of Students for Samford University. His publications include four books, school safety response manuals, dozens of journal articles and opinion pieces in speaker, and security consultant to schools, municipalities and higher education institutions.

do essentially nothing to improve safety? Apparently not. But he obviously knows that they generate a great deal of revenue by legalized piracy. This is especially true when yellow lights are timed so short, it is impossible to either stop safely or make it through an intersection. In many cases, after receiving several unwarranted tickets, many motorists become paranoid and slam on the brakes at yellow lights. The result is an increase in accidents, more injuries, more property damage, more roads closed while accidents are cleared, and higher insurance rates—not to mention a great deal of ill will toward the local public officials.

Numerous studies have proven that the most effective way to enhance safety is to increase the length of the yellow signal to a point where people don't have to panic when making the split-second decision to stop or go when a green light suddenly changes. Yellow lights can be as short as three seconds—ok only on narrow two lane roads. Highways should have at least four seconds, and four-lane highways should have at least five. But even here, making that instant decision can be a crap shoot.

Continued on page 5A



Dr. David Nichols

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

A SOLUTION TO RED LIGHT CAMERAS

A few months ago, on WACV Talk Radio, I asked Montgomery Mayor Todd Strange what he was

going to do about removing the obnoxious red light cameras from the city. His answer was very blunt, "Nothing." In fact, he even announced that he had plans to install some more.

Why? Does Mayor Strange understand that they





John Sophocleus

THINK



The Graftmaster Two-Step: Hubbard 'Doe-See-Does' with Rogers...

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

Recent reader comments suggest last year's columns were more 'watchdog-like' than opinin'. After assuring commenters my goal remains to evoke thought as established by the assigned "THINK" moniker, I'm asked who I consider the most effective watchdogs in our State. My 'big three from A to Z' dogs include **Bill Britt's** courageous reporting on ethics violations, **John Rice's** anti-corruption efforts via the Alabama Foundation for Limited Government (AFLG) and 'waste cutter' **Jim Ziegler's** accomplishments as State Auditor. Joint effort between two of these watchdogs (Britt & Rice) shepherded me toward this month's column.

In Nov. 2010, Beth Rogers (Congressman Mike Rogers' spouse) narrowly won a Calhoun Co. District judgeship election. Some assert 'Graftmaster moneychanging' made the difference in her margin of victory. According to Mr. Britt's 1/13/16 **Alabama Political Reporter** (APR) article, 2010 campaign finance records show Rep. Mike Hubbard's Network PAC received money from Congressman Rogers' federal campaign account. Hubbard's PAC then donated to State lawmakers who made contributions to Beth Rogers' campaign. Money transferred from Rogers to Hubbard (who then contributed to the State law-makers he picked) was followed by strikingly similar 'two-step' contributions to Beth Rogers' judicial campaign. One retired legislator, speaking on background for the APR article, alleges Hubbard approached him about a two-to-one swap where each lawmaker contributing to Mrs. Rogers' campaign would receive double the amount donated to her from Network PAC. Messrs. Britt and Rice note about 30 Republican lawmakers made donations to Mrs. Rogers' campaign, with many receiving double their donation from Hubbard's Network PAC. Mrs. Rogers served as treasurer of Congressman Rogers' federal campaign account; Rep. Hubbard closed Network PAC prior to his 23 felony count indictments of public corruption.

An example of what appears to be one of the two-for-one swaps, Rep. Jack Williams' campaign made a \$1,500 contribution to Mrs. Rogers on May 5, 2010; five days later Hubbard's Network PAC gave Williams a \$3,000 contribution. A smaller example provided was the April 27, 2010 Rep. Mike Ball \$250 donation to Mrs. Rogers then Ball receives \$500 from Network PAC two weeks later on May 10, 2010. This moneychanger pattern and practice is repeated with other State lawmaker's who donated to Mrs. Rogers campaign. An abbreviated list of other noteworthy NET PAC "Graftmaster Two-Step" type moneychanging from May 2010 entries include:

- April 26 **Owen Drake donated \$250 to Beth Rogers; May 10 NET PAC donates \$2,000 to Owen Drake**
- April 27 **Greg Canfield donated \$250 to Beth Rogers; May 10 NET PAC donates \$500 to Greg Canfield**
- May 3 **Blaine Galliher donated \$1,000 to Beth Rogers; May 10 NET PAC donates \$2,000 to Blaine Galliher**
- May 3 **Cam Ward donated \$1,000 to Beth Rogers; May 10 NET PAC donates \$2,000 to Cam Ward**
- May 3 **Elwyn Thomas donated \$100 to Beth Rogers; May 10 NET PAC donates \$250 to Elwyn Thomas**
- May 3 **Howard Sanderford donated \$100 to Beth Rogers; May 10 NET PAC donates \$500 to Howard Sanderford**
- May 3, **Jamie Ison donated \$250 to Beth Rogers; May 10 NET PAC donates \$1,000 to Jamie Ison**
- May 3 **Jim Barton donated \$1,000 to Beth Rogers; May 10 NET PAC donates \$3,500 to Jim Barton**
- May 3 **Jim McClendon donated \$ 250 to Beth Rogers; May 10 NET PAC donates \$500 to Jim McClendon**
- May 3 **Mike Hill donated \$1,000 to Beth Rogers; May 10 NET PAC donates \$2,000 to Mike Hill**
- May 3 **Pat Moore donated \$200 to Beth Rogers; May 10 NET PAC donates \$400 to Pat Moore**
- May 3 **Steve Claus donated \$1,000 to Beth Rogers; May 10 NET PAC donates \$2,500 to Steve Claus**
- May 3 **Todd Greeson donated \$1,500 to Beth Rogers; May 10 NET PAC donates \$3,000 to Todd Greeson**
- May 7 **Mac Gipson donated \$200 to Beth Rogers; May 10 NET PAC donates \$500 to Mac Gipson**
- May 8 **Chad Fincher donated \$1,000 to Beth Rogers; September 17 NET PAC donates \$2,000 to Chad Fincher**
- May 18 **Randy Wood donated \$1,000 to Beth Rogers; September 29 NET PAC donates \$2,000 to Randy Wood.**

One can find similar 'two-step moneychanges' outside NET PAC, for instance Nov. 12 Stephen Hurst donates \$1,000 to Beth Rogers; Nov. 15 Mike Rogers for Congress donates \$2,000 to Stephen Hurst. Don't expect any legislator to have the courage or integrity to expel this sort moneychanger obfuscation on Goat Hill. The rational forecast is more 'ethics law reforms' to grandstand on the issue and make it even more difficult to discipline in the courts. The most pathetic sycophants claim these laundering amounts are small but it only requires one felony conviction on the smallest amount to remove each participant. Little wonder former State Senator Rice is the one who connected the dots and first reported this 'two-step' hide the ball activity on WACV's News & Views radio show. It was disheartening how few covered

(much less understood) Rice's 'Double Dark Money' fight during the AFLG's anti-corruption campaign last election cycle. It is dizzying to watch the money go back and forth - esp. with DSA PAC (managed by Mr. Swatek) in the mix. In April, Congressman Rogers transferred \$20,000 from his federal account to Hubbard's Network PAC. About a week later donations from legislators began to flow into Mrs. Rogers' campaign account. In May, Rogers contributed \$20,000 Network PAC; in July he contributed \$35,000; and in October he made two contributions of \$5000 and \$10,000. Congressman Rogers' federal campaign account transferred approx. \$90,000 to Hubbard's Network PAC; Hubbard's PAC gave around \$50,000 in contributions to State lawmakers. For a more detailed list and links to more campaign transfer data go to Capitol Hotline's Jan. 17th FB link: <https://www.facebook.com/CapitolHotline-51116412268940/>

Those who've read past columns understand the many shortcomings with Congressman Rogers long before his moneychanger laundering with Hubbard was revealed. He was one of the most notable sycophants on the "I Believe in Mike Hubbard" stage as they circled the wagons around Speaker Hubbard following his 23 felony indictments. Hard to imagine Rogers doesn't know the character and integrity of Mr. Hubbard to realize how deleterious he's been to our State and the general welfare of his district. Doesn't really matter if the Congressman is too incompetent to identify corruption or the more likely truth he aids, privately benefits from and abets Hubbard - the harm is nonetheless profound. According to Govtrack.us (InsideGov and OpenSecrets.org - **Center for Responsive Politics**) Rogers ranked among the 35 least effective of our 435 House of Representative members based on voting record, introduction and passing of bills. Given what he's likely to champion, I consider his ineffectiveness a blessing with only one piece of legislation passed he's sponsored during 13 years of Congressional 'service.' **VoteSmart** documents Mike Rogers consistently voting for Continuing Resolutions instead of standing firm for a budget as one of the few tasks assigned him in the Constitution. The last budget passed was in 1997 under Clinton/Gingrich; seems Congress has become increasingly more comfortable not adhering to their oath of office these past decades. Of **twelve** transparency bills introduced, Rogers didn't sponsor or co-sponsor ANY of them.

Even more illustrative, Rogers is a member of the sub-committee on Border Security - almost as effective as his 'standing up against Obama with our incompetent Senators - long on rhetoric, short on accomplishment. Beginning his 14th year in the House of Representatives, Rogers is adamantly opposed to term limits, but is too ignorant or complicit (does it matter?) to address the problem of the unconstitutional 435 limit which exacerbates hyper-gerry mandering, removing restrictive ballot access laws, etc. Rogers voted for the 2008 bailout/first TARP which has prolonged the economic downturn and further impedes recovery; voted to raise the debt ceiling 4 times to discourage fiscal discipline. Given my time in the real world at FoMoCo a pet peeve is his yes vote on *Cash for Clunkers* harming the environment by removing durable/recyclable used vehicles and raising transportation costs for lower income drivers. More recently (June 18, 2015) Rogers helped approve the Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) bill to further empower presidents' unconstitutional "fast-track" trade agreements including the upcoming Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). October 28, 2015, Mike Rogers was one of 79 Republicans who just voted to raise the debt ceiling yet again, which further sabotages small government conservatives' efforts to curb the Bush/Obama reckless spending we've observed these past decades. Nov. 4, 2015, Mike Rogers again voted with big government Republicrats to reject an amendment to prohibit the Export-Import Bank from providing loans/guarantees distorting world markets with more cronyism. The Lee County Patriots of Liberty T.E.A. party made a strong effort to get Rogers to 'do right' on this one - it was met with the usual disdainful disregard we've come to expect from this 'public servant.' Don't expect Rogers (or Sessions, Sewell, Shelby) to be there for you when a federal agency abuses their authority to make you homeless in Alabama - they've made it clear they do not care about their constituent's civil rights, esp. when it gets in the way of empowering their master and the wealth transfers they promote for special interests over the general welfare.

In closing, the Jan. 10th resolution of the Alabama Republican Party steering committee, "**request Mike Hubbard to suspend his role as Speaker until his trial is complete, and the indictments against him are resolved,**" provides some hope this sort of unethical 'Graftmaster two-step' will not be sanctioned by ALL in this party allowed back into our State to reaffirm they're the same "Ole Party of Grand Theft" and hegemony. It would be revealing to see if this small majority would hold if the **entire** Alabama Republican Party Executive Committee had the courage to address and vote on this matter. Many are simply relabeled modern Democrats (think Dial, Shelby, et al) who have no party loyalty beyond it being the vehicle of opportunity to accomplish their grand theft from the public; no different than the bank robber's loyalty to his get-away car until a better one comes along...

Postscript: given comments about SCV Commander Carlyle's photo inserted in last month's column and my August 15th column on the murder of Mr. Anthony Hervey, I was delighted to see one of my favorite positive economists, Prof. Walter Williams, revisit this tragic loss:

<https://www.lewrockwell.com/2016/01/walter-e-williams/blacks-confederacy/> I can still see/hear Mr. Hervey in my mind speaking before the Birmingham crowd, "Tell the truth; shame the devil!" Seems there's still no shortage of those willing to kill to advance their hatred - we'll see if those responsible are brought to justice for ending a life which indeed mattered. Hervey authored a book entitled "**Why I wave the Confederate Flag: Written by a Black Man.**" Well-known for donning a Confederate uniform and waving a Battle flag on the Oxford square, he'd often attract a crowd as he spoke about the history and his views on the subject. The South lost one of her native sons who exemplified the best Spirit in the Heart of Dixie.

A SOLUTION TO RED LIGHT CAMERAS

Continued from page 4A

However, there is a scientific solution that was developed several years ago that solves this dilemma. Successful initial experimentation has proved its workability, but most politicians refused to adopt it. It worked great for improving safety and eliminating the guesswork, but it didn't generate any enforcement revenue.

The solution is very simple, and it costs next to nothing to put into practice. Its name is FinnLine, and it involves little more than timing the lights properly and painting the right kinds of lines onto the streets.

The **FinnLine** is a solid line between traffic lanes that extends from the intersection back to the maximum distance a motorist can safely proceed when the signal turns yellow. It is designed so that even the heaviest vehicles can stop safely at the speed limit and that they also have time to make it through at 10 mph below the speed limit.

With the FinnLine method, all a motorist must do is note whether his front wheels have passed the end of the FinnLine when the light turns yellow. If so, he is in the "go zone" and he can instantly know that it is safe to proceed through the signal without having to rush it. If his front wheels have not reached the end of the FinnLine, he knows that he is in the "stop zone" and can easily stop safely.

To make a FinnLine more visible, I suggest that a highly visible large red or yellow spot be painted on the end of each one. A reflector could also be added for visibility at night.

**Drive Safe and Buckle Up...
and watch out for the cameras!**

Inside the Statehouse with Steve Flowers

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

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



February 3, 2016:

There are a good many stories about elections of the 1940's and 50's where vote were bought and elections stolen. The most brazen and blatant stealing of an election occurred in the 1948 race for the U.S. Senate in Texas. The players were Coke Stevenson versus Lyndon B. Johnson. Therefore, it can also be classified as one of the most relevant robberies in American history because if Johnson had lost, as he was supposed to, it would have dramatically impacted U.S. history.

Coke Stevenson was a legendary Texas icon. He was the epitome of a Texas gentleman and revered. He was Texas' Horatio Alger and Davy Crockett combined. He raised himself from age 12, built a ranching empire, was Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives, and a very popular Governor of Texas. Stevenson was above reproach. He would not lie, steal or cheat and Texans knew that about old Coke.

On the other hand, Lyndon Johnson had already earned the reputation in Texas that he would continue to earn in Washington, that is that he would do whatever it took to win. He was totally corrupt and ruthless, without any semblance of a conscience.

Johnson had been a congressman from East Texas for six years. When the U.S. Senate seat came open in 1948, he made the decision to roll the dice and go for broke. Lyndon did not know that the legendary former governor, Coke Stevenson, would enter the race.

The initial poll had Stevenson about 68% to Johnson's 18%. However, Stevenson had no idea to what limits Johnson would go to be a U.S. Senator. Johnson applied modern day politics to that era. He introduced polling and what it meant in detail. He even used a helicopter to fly from town to town and land on court squares to speak and shake hands, but mostly he used negative and false campaign mailings to destroy the stellar Stevenson's reputation. Stevenson

was from a different era. He refused to go negative and would not reply to any negative accusations no matter how maliciously false.

Johnson was able to utilize this massive media blitz because he had more campaign funds than any candidate in Texas history. He had unlimited financial backing from the giant Brown and Root Company of Texas. They are now the Halliburton Corporation. They were then as now the recipients of gigantic government construction contracts. Johnson was their boy and would do their bidding as their senator so they poured money into the race like water.

Johnson outspent Stevenson 10 to 1, but it was not enough. When the votes were counted on election night, Stevenson had won by a narrow margin. However, the election was not over. Stevenson was about to be counted out.

The Rio Grande Valley along the Texas and Mexican border was known as the region where votes could be bought. Most close elections were decided in these counties, which would come in days after the original count with just the right number of votes needed to win the election. This is how Johnson won by only 87 votes in a race where over one million votes were cast.

Johnson became known as Landslide Lyndon in Washington because of this 87 vote victory. It was also an allusion to how he had stolen the seat. Some people think that Johnson's title, Landslide Lyndon, stemmed from his landslide victory over Barry Goldwater in the 1964 Presidential Race, but it was actually from the 1948 Texas Senate Race.

A legendary tale that is attributed to Johnson in this infamous race claims that in the days following the election, while garnering enough votes for victory, Johnson and the political bosses of the Valley counties were going through cemeteries and taking names of dead Mexicans off of tombstones to register as voters. They could not decipher one of the names and asked Lyndon what to do. Johnson quickly replied, give him a name, he's got as much right to vote as the rest of them in this cemetery do.

WHAT LEGAL REASON DID THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT GIVE FOR TAKING ARLINGTON, THE HOME OF ROBERT E. LEE DURING THE WAR BETWEEN THE STATES?

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What legal reason did the United States government give for taking Arlington, the home of Robert E. Lee during the War Between the States?

This is an appropriate question considering the State of Alabama just celebrated General Lee's birthday as a State holiday in January. Since the introduction of Martin Luther King's birthday as a

Federal holiday it has been conjoined with General Lee's birthday holiday.

The construction of Arlington House began in 1802, by George Washington Parke Custis. When he died in 1857, a life estate was left to his daughter, Mary Custis Lee. A life estate of course is a deed giving a person a deed for their life with a remainder interest to another person or persons (remiandermen). Mary just happened to be the wife of then United States Colonel, Robert E. Lee. The Will of Mr. Custis left the remainder interest to a son of the Lee's, George Washington Custis Lee. The Lee's had lived there for thirty years when the War Between the States erupted. The Arlington estate, of course, lies just on the outskirts of Washington D.C.

In 1862, Congress passed the law entitled, "An Act for the Collection of Taxes in Insurrectionary Districts." The assessed tax included a tax on Arlington House located in the insurrection state of Virginia; that amount was \$92.07. While Mrs. Lee sent a representative to pay the tax, the law according to the commissioners required that the tax be paid in person by the landowner. Because Mrs. Lee was certainly not going to present in person to pay the tax, she was considered in default and the estate placed for tax sale by the United States government in February 1863. The United States was the high bidder. While Mrs. Lee had sent many of the family valuables away, she could not remove all items. The Union officers supervising the defense of Washington D.C. occupied the home and sent many of the items left behind to the United States Patent Office for safekeeping. Some heirlooms, even from Mount Vernon escaped with the less scrupulous soldiers and never returned.

The Union officers wanted to make sure that the Lee family never returned, and in 1864 began to bury dead Union soldiers near Mrs. Lee's rose garden. Mrs. Lee returned to see the home in 1873 and was very distraught by what she had seen. After returning to her Lexington, Virginia home, she died five months later.

George Washington Custis Lee sued for the return of the Arlington estate, finding favor in the lower courts. The United States appealed as found in the U.S. Supreme Court case, U S v. LEE, 106 U.S. 196 (1882). The burden of proof was of on Lee, establishing his right in ownership and whether the United States government and its appointed commissioners had acted properly in the acquisition of the estate. The long standing possession by the Custis/ Lee family was prima facie evidence of the possessory rights. The Supreme Court had to consider whether the sale was valid and if so then Lee would have been rightfully divested of his possessory rights and title. In looking at the actions of the tax commissioners the Court considered whether the decision of in person payment was made after advertisement was made to the landowners of the impending tax and whether a majority of the tax commissioners had acted in the same manner in requiring payment or had concurred with the requirements. It was found by the lower court that the tax commissioners required the personal payment of tax on properties later acquired by the United States as opposed to those not acquired at tax sale by the United States. In the majority opinion, the Court said,

"Shall it be said, in the face of all this, and of the acknowledged right of the judiciary to decide in proper cases, statutes which have been passed by both branches of congress and approved by the president to be unconstitutional, that the courts cannot give remedy when the citizen has been deprived of his property by force, his estate seized and converted to the use of the government without any lawful authority, without any process of law, and without any compensation, because the president has ordered it and his officers are in possession? If such be the law of this country, it sanctions a tyranny which has no existence in the monarchies of Europe, nor in any other government which has a just claim to well-regulated liberty and the protection of personal rights."

The minority opinion of the Court was held by four justices; clearly a closely divided court. The Supreme Court majority upheld the possessory and title right of Mr. Lee. By the time the case was over, there were about ten thousand United States soldiers buried there and would have to be removed. Mr. Lee sold the estate

to the United States government for \$150,000.

Ms. Vanzetta Penn McPherson in the 21 January 2010 edition of the **Montgomery Advertiser** submitted an editorial. Ms. McPherson propagates the perpetual untruths of the Civil War to reinforce to those that neither seek nor desire the truth of the causes of that War. Her statements regarding the celebration of Lee and King's birthdays on the same day are very offensive to this grandson of nine great-great and great-great-great grandfathers that fought for the Confederacy. Does she really believe that these poor farmers fought for slavery rather than against an invader that burned, pillaged and sometimes raped even slaves? Ms. McPherson wrote, "But juxtaposing Martin Luther King Jr. and Robert E. Lee on the same holiday raises implausibility to unprecedented heights. First, by definition, had Lee succeeded in his grandest undertaking, King would not have been free to learn to read, marry his chosen partner, travel, vote, or to live, work or be buried where he wished. The frequent revisionist claims regarding Lee's mission have been repeatedly debunked."

The fact is that Robert E. Lee wrote in a letter in December 1856, "There are few, I believe, in this enlightened age, who will not acknowledge that slavery as an institution is a moral and political evil. It is idle to expatiate on its disadvantages. I think it is a greater evil to the white than to the colored race. While my feelings are strongly enlisted in behalf of the latter, my sympathies are more deeply engaged for the former. The blacks are immeasurably better off here than in Africa, morally, physically, and socially. The painful discipline they are undergoing is necessary for their further instruction as a race, and will prepare them, I hope, for better things. How long their servitude may be necessary is known and ordered by a merciful Providence. Their emancipation will sooner result from the mild and melting influences of Christianity than from the storm and tempest of fiery controversy. This influence, though slow, is sure. The doctrines and miracles of our Savior have required nearly two thousand years to convert but a small portion of the human race, and even among Christian nations what gross errors still exist! While we see the course of the final abolition of human slavery is still onward, and give it the aid of our prayers, let us leave the progress as well as the results in the hands of Him who, chooses to work by slow influences, and with whom a thousand years are but as a single day. Although the abolitionist must know this, must know that he has neither the right not the power of operating, except by moral means; that to benefit the slave he must not excite angry feelings in the master; that, although he may not approve the mode by which Providence accomplishes its purpose, the results will be the same; and that the reason he gives for interference in matters he has no concern with, holds good for every kind of interference with our neighbor, -still, I fear he will persevere in his evil course. . . . Is it not strange that the descendants of those Pilgrim Fathers who crossed the Atlantic to preserve their own freedom have always proved the most intolerant of the spiritual liberty of others?"

I respect my African American friends and clients for who they are, for what they have achieved in their lives through their own hard work and sweat and for the decisions that they have made to better their own lives. I am not sure why two years after America elected an African American President and later reelected him that Ms. McPherson would propagate divisive language and not seek the truth about General Lee. Lee once told the mother of a young boy to teach him to deny himself. What an excellent Christian or even secular principle. Lee's life is most worthy of celebration.

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

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Bench - Bar & Beyond

By Judge Dale Segrest

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

Judge Philip Dale Segrest

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1. 29 OPINION POLLS

It seems like every time I answer the phone these days it is a new opinion poll. The pollsters have even gotten into cell phones. I probably receive at least twelve or fifteen such calls each week. The calls are intrusive and excessive. The benefits arising from the overburden of surveys is highly questionable. The problems facing government these days are highly complex, to say the least. Most of us have our hands full simply dealing with the problems that confront us in daily life. So what is the wisdom of politicians seeking opinions from people who, prior to hearing the question, have not given any critical thought to the issue that is raised. Compiling all of the ignorance in the United States is not likely to create wisdom. The solutions to complex problems requires critical thinking.

In many instances the solutions to the problems confronting the United States will require new and imaginative creative thinking. Unfortunately, there is a well-recognized tendency amongst us human beings to reject or attempt to destroy anything that we do not understand. Thus creative solutions to problems are not likely to fare well in public opinion polls. Opinion polls are likely to appeal to the very worst in human nature, invoking prejudice and knee-jerk reactions.

I suspect that a large number of people, among them some of the most intelligent people, find the opinion polls objectionable. Therefore, they probably hang up the phone without responding. If this is the case, then certainly the practice would call into question the statistical validity of the huge number of public opinion polls conducted by telephone. The prejudices of the pollsters are likely to be reinforced by the opinionated people who are anxious to respond to the pollster's questions.

The impression is that many of the polls are actually instigated by political candidates. If the results of the poll are not beneficial to the candidate, what is the likelihood that the results will be published? What is the likelihood that a political candidate paying for a poll during the political season simply to inform himself or herself as to how the public feels, in order to make informed political decisions? But if the results turn out to be favorable what is the likelihood that the candidate will publish the results? What is the likelihood that the publication of such polls will adversely affect the wisdom of public opinion?

All of this is not intended to suggest that the well-considered opinion of the public is unimportant. It is to suggest that the polls as conducted are not likely to elicit wise public opinion. In order to be valuable, public opinion needs to be well informed public opinion. It does not need to be opinion expressed after hard day's work during which no thought whatsoever was given to the issues raised in the poll.

This discussion suggests important issues. First it is clear that opinion polls as presently conducted are not a desirable way to deal with the determination of public opinion. One of the underlying problems is that most members of the general public do not have enough information at their disposal to formulate decisions on many of the most important public issues. Or, stated differently, most members of the general public are not inclined to avail themselves of the information that is available on important public issues. Sports events are more entertaining than political debates. Political debates are interesting only when they project the prejudices and engage in the demagogic rhetoric that the public enjoys. Unfortunately, the solutions to our problems are not usually found in the debates that we find entertaining.

This article is, itself, an appeal to public opinion. It is a suggestion that the public should voice its opposition to unsolicited public opinion polls. But at the same time it is a suggestion that the public needs to begin acquiring information necessary to reach informed opinions on public issues. The public needs to find ways and means to express those opinions in a meaningful fashion.

The main area in which the public needs to form sound judgment is in the selection of the politicians who will ultimately make the decisions. It is not possible for the public to participate directly in the decision making process as to the underlying issues. It is much more important to select leaders who will make wise decisions, and whose judgment can be trusted, than to nail those leaders down on specific issues.



Family Therapy



Oswaldo Chavez,
MS, LMFT-S, LPC-S, NCC
Clinical Counselor, Non-profit organization.



My Kids and Television

A survey by the Kaiser Family Foundation found that more than four out of five parents are concerned that their children are exposed to too much televised drama, sex and violence -- yet millions of youngsters are still enthusiastically watching hours of TV daily, with little or no supervision. That's unsettling news for clinicians and medical professionals alike.

American children spend an average of six hours each day watching TV or using other media devices . That's more time than they devote to any other activity except sleep



according to the specify here what the AAP is, (AAP). In my opinion, American children watch more television and play more media games than any other country, due to the accessibility to media in the United States and our desire to have whatever the new trendy gadget that has come out. There are

hundreds of reputable studies that show a strong correlation between violence on TV/gaming devices and its impact on children's behavior, such as aggressiveness, emotional disconnection, concentration issues, communication problems, inappropriate boundaries and sleep disturbances, just to name a few.

Most kids tap into the world of television and media devices long before they enter school. According to the Kaiser Family Foundation:

- Two-thirds of infants and toddlers watch a screen an average of 2 hours a day.
- Kids under age 6 watch an average of about 2 hours of screen media a day, primarily TV and videos or DVDs.
- Kids and teens 8 to 18 years spend nearly 4 hours a day in front of a TV screen and almost 2 additional hours on the computer (outside of schoolwork) and playing video games.

How many hours a day does your child watch TV?

- None 2 hours or less
 Between 2 and 4 hours More than 4 hours



Food for Thought--Find other educational, fun activities for kids to do.

Too often we utilize television or video games as a way to occupy our children's time. However, most of us are unaware of its effect on our children. As a parent, I am at fault for doing this very same thing at times. So, I have

learned that I have to monitor, with my spouse, the amount of time we allow our two little boys to play video games or watch tv. It has been my experience with my order son that when we allow him more than one hour on a device, he becomes moody, less focused, defiant and many times aggressive towards his sibling. This is no different for my four -year- old who is way too intelligent and knows how to quickly maneuver through my iphone. When my wife and I limit the time we allow our children to spend on a media device to one hour a day, most of the symptoms I described earlier are minimal at best or normal for our children's age.

Violence and sexual images are a prevalent part of today's television landscape. In my practice, I often observe children who cannot sit still or concentrate for more than thirty seconds and have skewed views of what is considered normal behaviors and boundaries. I often educate parents of the effects television has on their children. Many parents report to me they do not monitor their children's television viewing. It becomes apparent to the parents once they realize what their child enjoys watching the reason why the child may act a certain way or talks about things in a manner that is considered unhealthy. If it is coupled with trauma, this can become very problematic.

A recent Surgeon General's finding concluded that 61% of all TV programming contains violence. According to the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), a child who watches three to four hours a day of noneducational TV will see about 8,000 small-screen murders by the time he or she completes grade school. Imagine what this does to a child's overall view on life and how he/she may or may not respond to others. Too often children's models become the television shows they watch or the video games they play.

In counseling, after I have educated the guardian, most often than not, the guardian will start the process of implementing rules that are healthy and limit the time the child has on the television or video games that are age appropriate. It has been recommended by the AAP that kids under 2 years old not watch any TV and that those older than 2 watch no more than 1 to 2 hours a day of quality programming.

You may be asking what is quality programming? PBS Kids and Discovery Channel for kids are perfect examples. If you do not have cable, as many people do not, there are local libraries in which you can checkout age appropriate shows. However, please make sure they are age appropriate-- don't assume because it is in the kids' section that it is age appropriate for your child. This will be something you may need to research on your own. Kids fight the fact that there are changes to their routine concerning television and gaming at first, but interesting enough, the children start to enjoy age appropriate shows that are educational in nature. They also start wanting to watch less and less television and play with age appropriate toys or want to do actives that are healthy such as board games, playing outside, or riding their bikes. Do encourage this and become an active participant because the child will follow your lead. As the weeks progress in counseling, most of the symptomology that was reported, regardless of the issue, reduces substantially. I have seen this time and time again, and it has been my experience that all families would benefit from the reduction of what their kids watch on television.



Woods & Waters with Steve



Steve Long

Deer Season is almost done but the "Rut is On"

I hope everyone had a great start to the New Year! I know I've gotten my year off to a solid start with some quail hunting down at GSO this past Monday. This time the posse of hunters was from Florida, making their way up to our neck of the woods to enjoy a little bird hunting. All the fellas had a great time, and, of course, the dogs did too. They love a good day's work on the field. The birds were flying great and the hunters were shooting straight! We managed to pick up 129 quail, so definitely a great day's work.



Johnny Seele with a big old Bullock County buck killed in January

As some of you may have noticed, it's gotten a bit chillier since I last wrote, and man, it's finally starting to pay off. I'm hearing reports from everywhere that the deer are finally starting to move, and to top it off, hunters are bringing in the big boys; mature bucks are starting to move. There's already plenty of sign, like scrapes and rubs, letting us know where those old boys are roamin and runnin for a bit. I'm also hearing talk that some folks are seeing bucks starting to chase does, so you know what that means. Get to the stands and hunker down; the Rut's starting in some places.

Of course, when you're out there, patiently working towards that new addition to the trophy wall, make sure you're playing it safe. Always wear your hunter's orange out there; no exceptions! All it takes is one mistake or one accident to end a life, no matter the intentions. So, I don't wanna be reading about any of those kinds of things in the paper or listening to them on the news; stay safe! Don't forget your hunter's license, and make sure you're recording everything on to your harvest record. While you're at it, make sure to fill out your harvest on Game Check as well, by phone at 1-800-888-7690, by app on your smartphone, or visit the Outdoor

Alabama website and search for Game Check! Remember, every little bit helps!

Speaking of the wildlife biology side of things, let's talk a little about our deer population, and some interesting figures that have been released. QDMA has released their annual Whitetail Report, available online at www.QDMA.com, and I discovered something rather interesting as I pored over it. For the first time since we've stabilized the deer population in the mid-1900's, we hunters are harvesting more mature bucks than young bucks, young meaning 1 and 1/2 years or younger in age. From the information QDMA's gathered, the percentage of young bucks has dropped to under 33% of harvests, while older bucks, at 3 and 1/2 years of age and older, are at 34% of harvests! That may seem a bit trivial at first, but think about it. We're really starting to see the long-term benefits of proper deer herd management, in that the population has not only become more stable, but the number of deer surviving to adulthood has increased as well.



Great Southern Outdoor guide Hunter Prichett with commissioner John McMillan and Bob Geddie on a recent quail hunt.

Now, overall harvesting of bucks has decreased a bit in number from last year, as seems to be the recent trend, but not to worry. We have had some crazy weather the past couple of years, so no reason to panic yet. I still think we're in pretty darn good shape for what we have in terms of deer population, as a whole, and we're heading in the right direction. The longer lifespan of mature bucks means that you'll have lots more activity like scrapes and rubs, and your grunts and rattling will definitely get more active responses than they used to, if this trend for mature bucks continues. We've just gotta keep up the hard work with proper land and deer herd management.

Here's to hoping all of you folks enjoy the rest of your time out there this month, and maybe bag a big buck in the process! I'm still traveling, wheelin' and dealin' with QDMA, but that won't keep me out of the woods too long! As always, I look forward to hearing from all of you about the hunts and fun you've all had this year, so get out there, be safe, and go get 'em!

Buster Reynolds

jrmills49@gmail.com



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THE LAST HURRAH!



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Levi Stadium in San Francisco could be “Peyton’s Place” on February 7, 2016. Two months shy of his 40th birthday, **Peyton Manning** will start the 50th Super Bowl with a determination to end his remarkable career with a win for the Denver Broncos over **Cam Newton** and the Carolina Panthers. This is a contrast between the past of one of the greatest quarterbacks in history (Manning) and the new breed

of quarterback (Newton) which may define the future. Peyton will be the oldest quarterback to start a Super Bowl at the spry young age of 39. Newton will be one of the youngest quarterbacks to start a Super Bowl at the really young age of 27. This is a first for Newton. It will be Manning’s fourth. He is 1-2 in Super Bowls. Manning has no more Super Bowls in his physically challenged, broken down body. Newton has many Super Bowls to fight for in his seemingly indestructible, physically powerful body. It is indeed a contrast in age, experience and style. Never has a Super Bowl had such contrasting quarterbacks. It’s the brainy 18 year veteran (Manning) and the five year wonder (Newton). It’s “The Sheriff” against “Superman”. It will be “Peyton’s Place” or “Cam’s Casa”. In the minds of most football pundits, regardless of the outcome, it will be Peyton Manning’s last hurrah! I really hope he retires before he permanently damages himself.

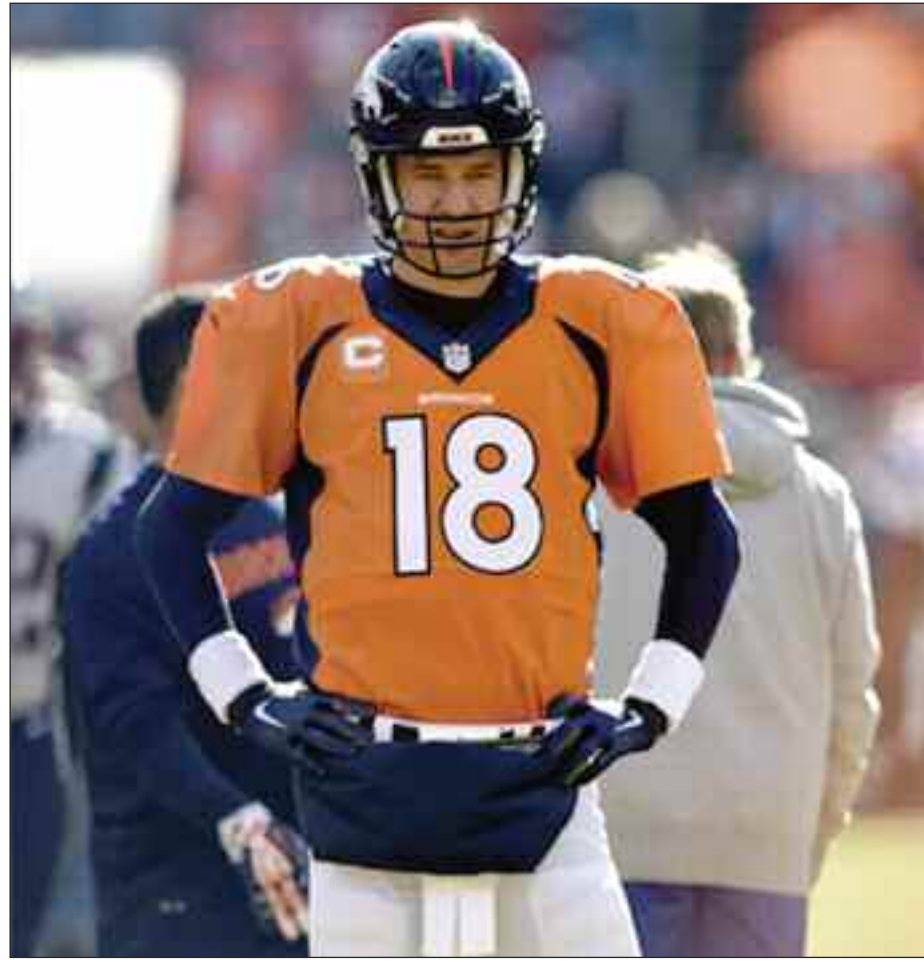
Should Peyton Manning manage the game with his experience and knowledge of defenses, the Denver pass rush of **Von Miller** and **DeMarcus Ware** will give the Bronco’s a chance to send Peyton riding off into the sunset of his playing career with his second Super Bowl ring. His first win came when he was with the Indianapolis Colts. No quarterback in history has ever won a Super Bowl with two different teams. This could be a trivia question for decades if he wins.

Peyton comes from good football stock. His younger brother, **Eli**, has won two Super Bowls for the New York Giants. His daddy, **Archie Manning**, was building his legacy as quarterback of the New Orleans Saints when Peyton was born. Archie is more of a legend at Ole Miss than Peyton is at Tennessee. He was the best college quarterback that I had ever seen. Of course that was in ‘69, ‘70 and ‘71. In 2010, I saw a phenomenon which is unexplainable even today in quarterback Cam Newton, as he led Auburn to a national championship. Cam had already won a junior college national championship. Now he is vying for a third national championship, the 2016 NFL Super Bowl. So, even though Manning has the edge in experience, Newton has been on the national stage before. He will not be intimidated by the pressure of the Super Bowl. He really has less pressure than Manning. Manning has to win. Newton will have other chances.

The two quarterbacks represent a long list of contrasts, but they have some similarity’s as well. They are both good field generals in that they make good decisions in the heat of battle. They are both leaders. Every member of the Broncos want this game for Peyton. He is their guy. The Panthers look to Cam to do what he does best - lead the way. Both command their locker rooms. **Coach Gary Kubiak** of Denver leans heavily on what Peyton thinks in

preparation and during games. **Coach Ron Rivera** of Carolina gives Cam much freedom in altering the game plan to fit his skills into the situation at hand. Peyton is a coach on the field. Cam has an engine that cannot be governed, a strength that can’t be harnessed. Peyton is a shadow of himself. In his prime, he was really a force to be reckoned with, as Cam is right now approaching his prime. Both will be in the Hall of Fame someday. Peyton and Tom Brady of the New England Patriots are the best of the “drop back” quarterbacks. Cam Newton and Russell Wilson of the Seattle Seahawks are the best of the new breed. One cannot categorize them. They play the position with improvisation never seen in the NFL.

As bad as I would like to see Manning end his career with a victory, I hate to see Cam Newton lose. Two former SEC quarterbacks have never faced each other in the Super Bowl as far as my recollection. There are so many reasons that this Super Bowl is different...No matter who wins, this will be fodder for the coffee clubs all over America for years to come.



Peyton Manning, the Old Warrior...Ever Stoic...Ever Ready!

I STILL THINK BRYANT EDGES SABAN ON “GREATEST COACH EVER” DEBATE

Regarding the on-going debate about who is the greatest coach of all time – **Coach Paul “Bear” Bryant** or **Coach Nick Saban**, I think one important point is perhaps being overlooked. With due respect to **Coaches Frank Thomas** and **Wallace Wade**, Coach Bryant built the tradition and the Alabama “brand” that has benefitted every coach who followed him, including Coach Saban.

If we are debating team accomplishments and records, a strong case can be made that Coach Saban’s results have surpassed Bryant’s. This qualifies as a truly amazing feat. However, if one is attempting to identify who is/was the superior “coach,” I still give the edge to Bryant.

Building, enhancing – and then sustaining – the tradition now associated with Crimson Tide football was vital to what Alabama would become in the minds of college football fans, and was incredibly hard to achieve.

Simply put, absent this tradition I doubt Coach Saban’s would have been able to accomplish what he has in Tuscaloosa. Indeed, Alabama’s august tradition is one of the main reasons Coach Saban came to Alabama in the first place. He knew tradition still counted and, because of its existence, that he would be able to win BIG in Tuscaloosa.

Saban is obviously a great coach, but it should be acknowledged that his “greatness” has been elevated to an entirely different level while at Alabama. Saban’s records at Michigan State, the Miami Dolphins and even at LSU do not really hint at “all-time great.”

Coaches do better at Bama ...

History shows that simply coaching at Alabama elevates a coach’s resume and any coach’s likelihood of experiencing significant success. The record books are clear. Every coach since Bryant experienced his best seasons while at Alabama and, once they left Alabama, carded mediocre or worse records.

Mike DuBose won an SEC championship at Alabama (before later going winless at Northview High School). **Mike Shula** won 10 games with his next-to-last Tide team, which was undefeated and ranked No. 2 in the country before an overtime loss to LSU.

Bill Curry’s last Bama team shared an SEC title. (It is educational to compare Curry’s subsequent record at Kentucky to Bryant’s records at the same school). **Ray Perkins** had losing records at the New York Giants and Tampa Bay Buccaneers, but had Alabama as a Top-10, competitive team before he departed. **Dennis Franchione** won 10 games his last year at UA, left for Texas A&M and flopped.

Gene Stallings, who had losing records at Texas A&M and the Phoenix Cardinals, won a national title at Alabama and led one of the best 5-year-runs in program history.

Something different (fan passion, high expectations, extreme 365-day interest, etc.) is in the air in Tuscaloosa that makes nondescript coaches winners (if only

temporarily). It also makes very good coaches like Saban candidates for icon status.

It can be argued that the legacy of Coach Bryant – 25 years after his death – helped ensure Nick Saban would and could become a legend.

Finally, we need to look at what Bryant did as a “coach” at his other stops (and compare this to what Saban did as a coach at his other stops).

Bryant’s record at Kentucky – THE basketball school in the country – is amazing. No coach prior or since has come close to accomplishing what Bryant did while leading the Wildcats football program. In four years Coach Bryant built Texas A&M into SWC champs and a national title contender. If he had stayed at Texas A&M, the Aggies almost certainly would have become the dynasty Alabama became.

I have no doubt that if a 55-year-old Bryant came to an Alabama boasting the same tradition Bryant largely created, his teams would have won at the same

clip Saban’s have. However, I am not so sure that if you flipped the scenario - if a 55-year-old Saban had taken over Alabama’s program in 1958 (after the Tide had won a mere four games the prior three years) - that Alabama, in two seasons would be a bowl team; in three a Top 10 team, and in four seasons national champions.

Bum Phillips probably said it best about Bryant – “He could take his’n and beat yours’n. And take yours’n and beat his’n.”

Nick Saban is clearly the best of his era, just as Paul Bryant was clearly the best of his era. But I think Bryant – at four school over 35 years – was the best “coach” ever. It was Bryant who bequest an unmatched tradition to every coach who followed him. The value of this gift should never be

discounted. Coach Saban took advantage of this gift – of this foundation, brand and fan passion- better than any other UA coach has.

Another way to say all of the above: If Coach Saban had coached the past nine years at any other program – I doubt he would have won four national titles and seriously competed for three more.

Or ask yourself this question: If Coach Bryant had never coached at Alabama, would Nick Saban have been able to accomplish all he has in Tuscaloosa? I don’t think so.

It’s the combination of Nick Saban’s “Process” and the tradition Bryant built that made Alabama a dynasty again. But the latter is just as important as the former. In attempting to identify the best coach of all time, I vote for the man whose heavy lifting built the tradition ... and then passed it on to his heirs. Because of Bryant’s efforts from 1958-1982 winning big at Alabama has been a tad easier in 2007-2015.

- *Editor’s note: Bill Rice, Jr. is the former managing editor of The Montgomery Independent, and editor of the Alabama Gazette’s annual “Reflections” historical publication.*



Bill Rice
Staff



www.reddit.com

Paul “Bear” Bryant



www.zimbio.com

Nick Saban



The "kick-off" in Montgomery for Sweet Young'Uns 50th Anniversary will be at Down the Street Café on February 12th to Celebrate Valentine's Day. Bring your Sweetheart and enjoy a fabulous dinner of Prime Rib or Grouper prepared by Gail. The Event is a Fundraiser for Child Protect and is co-sponsored by Bluewater Broadcasting and Down the Street Café

DATE: February 12, 2016
TIME: Doors open at 5:30 p. m., Dinner starts at 6:00 p.m. Dr. Sam, D. J. starts at 6:00 p. m. until 7:30 p.m., Sweet Young'Uns play from 7:30 p.m. until 10:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Down the Street Café on Zelda Rd.
DINNER: Pre-fixed menu. Prime Rib or Grouper, includes drink, salad, a glass of Champaign, and set-ups.
PRICE: \$60 per person in advance, \$75 per person at the door.

The Sweet Young'Uns began in 1966 and the founding members will have played together for 50 years in 2016. They have enjoyed entertaining hundreds of thousands throughout the southeast. They will be available for concerts, benefits, fundraisers, wedding receptions, birthdays and more during the year 2016! Call 1-800-240-7283.



For ticket purchase or donations go to bamacountry.com for the link. There will also be a button for donations for those who can not attend.

The Alabama Gazette has served the Tri-County area, plus other surrounding counties for the past 16 years! We are proud to be a part of bringing informative news, community businesses, community activities, and spotlighting our exceptional writers who are so faithful to the Gazette. Thanks you for your readership!

You can become a part by emailing your comments to: alabamagazette@gmail.com Our writers welcome your comments!

Don't complain about the government...if you don't vote! It's your right and responsibility.



Don't forget to VOTE in the Presidential Primary Tuesday March 1, 2016



March 1 Vote for a REAL Conservative!
 Becky Gerritson – the BETTER CHOICE

Martha Roby's Conservative Report Card



Group

- Heritage Action: 54%
- Club For Growth: 46%
- American Conservative Union: 56%
- Conservative Review: 50%
- Liberty For All: 31%
- Madison Project: 46%
- Freedom Works: 57%
- The Freedom Index: 57%

Comments

Martha shows a strong desire to side with liberals over conservatives. In fact, Martha scores lower than EVERY other member of the Alabama Republican delegation in each score!

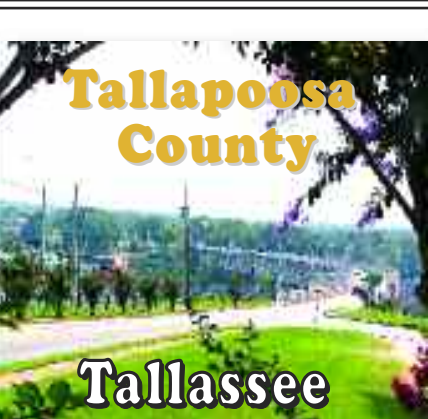
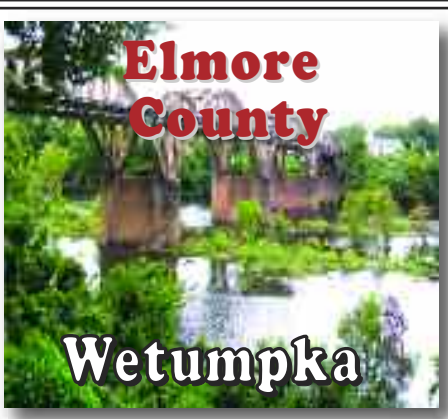
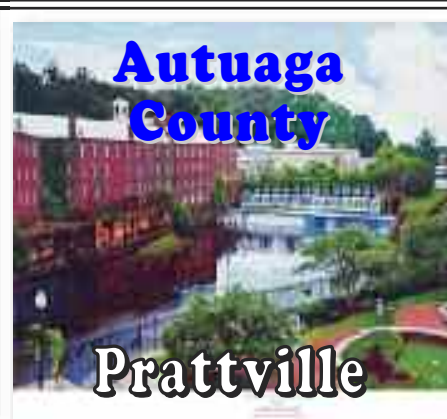
It's time for a change!

Paid for by Friends of Becky Gerritson

Updated 1/27/2016

Community Lifestyles

We are proud to announce that The Alabama Gazette is being delivered in parts of Crenshaw, Butler, Pike and Lee Counties. If you cannot find the Gazette in your area, please check out our website: www.alabamagazette.com



Montgomery County
Montgomery
 Cities, Towns and Communities:
 Pike Road, Cecil, Mathews, Pine Level, Grady, Ramer, Lapine, Snowdown, Pintlala, Hope Hull and Catoma

Autauga County
Prattville
 Surrounding Town and Communities:
 Autaugaville, Billingsley, Booth, Marbury, Pine Level, Independence, Statesville, Jones and Vida

Elmore County
Wetumpka
 Surrounding Town and Communities:
 Millbrook, Coosada, Elmore, Eclectic, Tallassee, Titus, Santuck, Slapout, Rockford, Deatsville, Kent, Red Hill, Weoka and Robinson Springs

Tallapoosa County
Tallassee
 Surrounding Town and Communities:
 Tallassee, Rockford, Deatsville, Kent and Red Hill



Judge Peggy Givhan

Southern Gardening Potpourri for February

by Peggy Givhan

The month of February reminds me of the phrase, a prelude to the future, your garden that is. With the hope of spring coming on March 22nd, we have turned the corner on winter. We can turn our dreams, hopes and wishes into reality if we start making plans now. Go out to the flower beds, and visualize your garden. This is always easy if your beds present a clean slate. After the hard freeze we had the end of January, there will be dead plant material drooping around the beds. Clean this out immediately. Hopefully with the low night time temps, many of the garden pests will be killed, but not all. There are always a few hardy ones that survive.

For shady beds, there is always white Impatiens and begonias to fill the bill. Dusty Miller, the Artemesias and Astilbes can also tolerate shade. There that should keep you busy for at least the spring and summer planting. If you are out and about, and see another great white addition to the bed, grab it up and plant. Remember, the planting and sowing of all these flowers should be in large drifts. We do not want to be accused of our plants lining up like soldiers on parade.

Which reminds me to harp again on spraying the yard, and everything in it with Volk and Lime Sulfur. When I say everything, that is exactly what I mean. Fences, trees, shrubs, grass, and other structures included. Always spray up into the trees and shrubs because the insects and other pests lay eggs or hides in these places. The winter oil, or brand name Volk Oil, smothers the eggs to prevent hatching. This not only kills white flies, but fleas and roaches as well. Peach, pear and apple trees benefit not only from the Volk Oil but also the lime sulfur destroys fungus and mildews. Lime sulfur is especially good for roses and other shrubs normally susceptible to fungus and mildew.

PLANT OF THE MONTH

Florist's Queen Ann's Lace---Ammi Majus Queen of Africa

This flower, an annual, is a native of North Africa and appears very similar to our native Queen Ann's Lace. It is easier to cultivate and gives a more elegant appearance. Obtain the seed from seed catalogs, and plant early before the south heats up. As wild Queen Ann's Lace was mentioned above in the white planting scheme, obtaining the Queen of Africa seed would mean that the flowers would be available for the garden this summer.



GOOD GARDENING!



Candidate Report Card

 Becky Gerritson	ISSUE	 Martha Roby
A+ Conservative leader fighting government overreach & reckless spending which puts our safety and liberty at risk	Voted for Cronibus Bill	F • Fully funded Obamacare • Fully funded Obama's Executive Amnesty • Fully funded Obama's Syrian refugee program
A+ Becky stands with the American worker, believes trade should be fair, free and pro-growth	Voted For Trade Promotional Authority (TPA)	F • Opposed Sen. Sessions to support Obama agenda • Would kill thousands of American jobs • Puts American sovereignty at risk
A+ Becky supports eliminating the Federal Dept. of Education & has been a strong voice against Common Core	Reauthorized No Child Left Behind	F • Stands with Hillary Clinton in support of early childhood government indoctrination • Supports Obama's Common Core initiatives
A+ Becky supports ending Corporate welfare for fat cats on Wall Street & returning power to the people on Main Street	Reauthorized Import-Export Bank	F • U.S. Import-Export bank is a slush fund for Corporate welfare & propping up big banks • Taxpayers are on the hook for \$140 billion
A+ Becky believes funding our military should be Congress's first priority & growing our national debt is a grave threat to our nation's future	Voted to increase the debt by \$4.5 trillion dollars	F • Increased spending for HUD, DOE, Amtrak & more • Fully funded Planned Parenthood for 4 years • Voted for Obama's budgets

Vote to Elect Becky Gerritson for U.S. Congress

www.BeckyForCongress.com

It is time we elect a TRUE CONSERVATIVE!

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Montgomery County Law

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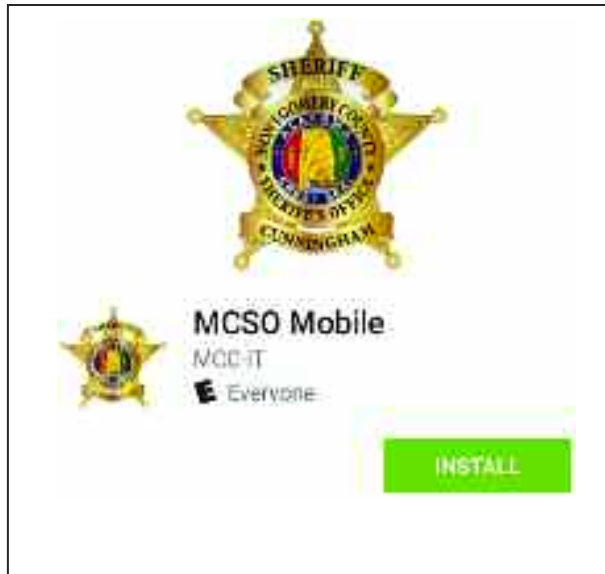


Sheriff Derrick Cunningham



Chief Deputy Kevin J. Murphy

MCSO Mobile App



The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office has launched an app called "MCSO Mobile".

You can install the app on your phone directly from your app store. It is compatible with apple or android phones. This new innovation will give you "breaking news" as news happens in and around the community.

You can also check to see if someone is in the County Jail, has an active warrant, find out if someone is a registered sex offender, receive notification of road closures or if an inmate escapes, etc. You get all the latest and greatest news from the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office!

Firearms Familiarization Course



We have already begun our firearms course to "familiarize" Montgomery County citizens about the laws and proper use of a firearm. We know that learning how to protect yourself is very important in today's world. Our course is held one Saturday a month and has been scheduled for the following dates:

- Saturday, February 13th • Saturday, March 12th
- Saturday, April 23rd • Saturday, May 14th
- Saturday, June 11th • Saturday, July 9th
- Saturday, August 13th • Saturday, September 24th
- Saturday, October 8th • Saturday, November 12th

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

Course Requirements:

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

Pistol Permit Questions?
334.832.1335 or 334.832.1337

Obtain an Application?
LisaCrenshaw@mc-ala.org
334.832.1339

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

Citizens Academy

We are enrolling for our first Citizens Academy for 2016!

Course Starts **Monday, March 14th**



It is our belief that the citizens are the most valuable assets in our community. Without your assistance, our tasks would be more difficult to complete. The Citizens Academy includes members from all communities of Montgomery County. The academy meets for six (6) consecutive weeks, but only one (1) night per week for one (1) hour. The participants of the Citizens Academy are guaranteed to have fun while learning about the duties and obligations of the Sheriff's Office. While our ultimate goal is to make you aware of what is going on in your community and make you aware of how to report suspicious activities/crimes as well as how things are handled from a law enforcement perspective. I can assure you fun will be had by all who are in attendance and Sheriff Cunningham looks forward to meeting each and every one of you!

TO ENROLL

- * Visit our Website - www.MontgomerySheriff.com
- * Request via Email - CitizensAcademy@mc-ala.org
- * Request via FAX - 334-832-7113
- * Request via Phone - 334-832-1339
- * Pick Up an Application @ 100 S. Lawrence Street, Montgomery, AL 36104

Thank you for your continued support of the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office!

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American Red Cross

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urgently needed by the American Red Cross!
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AUTAUGA COUNTY



Autauga County Law

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
www.ataugasheriff.org

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



Sheriff Joe Sedinger

The Autauga County Sheriff's Office received a grant from the National Rifle Association (NRA) for an Eddie Eagle mascot costume. Eddie Eagle is the mascot of the NRA that teaches children about gun safety. Eddie says if your child sees a gun to "STOP, DON'T TOUCH, LEAVE THE ROOM, TELL AN ADULT".

Coloring books and sticker are available with this program. The Autauga County Sheriff's Office promotes gun safety whenever possible.

Eddie Eagle made his debut in the Martin Luther King parade on Jan 18, 2016 in Prattville. The children were thrown coloring books and stickers on gun safety as the float with Eddie Eagle went passed.

We would like to thank the National Rifle Association for the costume!



Prattville
 "The Preferred Community"

Prattville Community Chorus.

Singing Valentines!
 February 12, 2016

Only \$25 buys three (3) love songs, a rose, a card, and a sweet treat delivered by the Prattville Community Chorus. Deliveries to Prattville Area only.
 Call (334) 595-0854 to schedule your Singing Valentine today!

City of Prattville

2016 Mardi GRAS Celebration

The City of Prattville
Mardi Gras Parade and Celebration
Saturday, February 6.
 11 am – food, music, arts & speciality vendors, children's activities.

PARADE STARTS 1:00 p m

Floats, Bands, Cars, Dancers, Candy & Beads. For more information, please contact the Special Events Office at 334/595-0854 or visit the website at www.prattvilleal.gov

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405 Cloverdale Road
Montgomery, AL 36106 ♦ info@vymgm.com

GRAND RE-OPENING

Over the years the restaurant has changed hands, but the focus has remained the same. The goal of the Vintage Year has always been to serve Montgomery the finest cuts of meats, the freshest seafood along with excellent service! With this goal in mind, the Vintage Year enters a new stage with a complete kitchen and restaurant remodel, a new chef and new ownership. We hope you will join us in our grand re-opening."



Valentine Weekend Special
Friday, Saturday and Sunday

Dinner for two \$35.00
10 oz. grilled Angus ribeye steak topped with six shrimp sauteed in garlic butter & two sides of your choice.

Dessert
"Chocolate To Die For" consist of layered brownies, chocolate syrup, chocolate candy bar, chocolate chip cookies served in a pint jar. Topped with whipped cream and chocolate shavings

Southern Comfort Restaurant
210 Wasden Road
Hope Hull, AL
(334) 280-0012

Hours:
Monday - Saturday
10:30 am - 8:00 pm
Sunday
10:30 am - 2:00 pm



*Happy Valentine's Day
February 14, 2016*

Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up;



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\$200 OFF ANY MEDIUM PIZZA
(Add Breadsticks for \$1, CheeseSticks for \$2)
Must present coupon. Not good with any other offer. One coupon per person. Expires 3/31/16.

\$300 OFF ANY LARGE PIZZA
(Add Breadsticks for \$1, CheeseSticks for \$2)
Must present coupon. Not good with any other offer. One coupon per person. Expires 3/31/16.

HOURS
Mon-Thurs: 10:00am-9pm
Fri: 10:00am-10pm
Sat: 11am-10pm

Limited Delivery Area

[The Greatest Gift]

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing. ...

1 Corinthians 13



MARTIN'S RESTAURANT
1796 Carter Hill Rd., Montgomery, AL
(334) 265-1767
Mary Anne Merritt ~ Owner

"Home Style Cooking Since 1930's"

Martin's Restaurant was started in the 1930's by Mrs. Alice Martin. It was located on the corner of Carter Hill Road and Pine Leaf. With \$100 borrowed from Dr. Farris Martin, David Smith took over the restaurant. He served a meat, three vegetables, cornbread and a cold drink for 25 cents. That was in 1939. On his first day, he started with only 19 cents in the register because he had spent \$32.50 for rent and the rest for food, ice and other items. "I kept the Martin name because of Dr. Farris Martin who lent me the \$100 to go into business." In 1965, Martin's moved to the Country Club Shopping Center. It was located where the Winn Dixie is now located. Next door was Harris Paint Store. Martin's had a small garden out front where Ethel and Doris planted tomatoes and hot peppers. In 1990, Martin's moved to this location. We are proud to be serving our customers for over 75 years.

All of us at Martin's Restaurant would like to say "Thank You" to our customers. We appreciate the opportunity to serve you. We hope that you will continue to join us for lunch and dinner. Martin's Restaurant is owned by David Smith's daughter, Mary Anne Merritt. The restaurant manager is Annie Calhoun.

Hours of Operation
Lunch:
Monday- Friday
11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Dinner:
Monday - Friday
2:00 PM - 7:30 PM
Sunday Lunch:
10:45 AM - 2:45 PM
Closed on Saturday



Southern Cuisine

We made it through the Thanksgiving and Christmas meals, with the stuffing, dressings, casseroles and too many sweets. We ate until we were going to burst and then we ate the leftovers. We spent hours in the kitchen cooking and then hours cleaning up. We also spent time with relatives and friends, which was a good thing. But now is the time to spend with just one other person, your significant other. The holiday this month is about love. If you are inclined to go out to a restaurant for a romantic dinner, fine! But if you want to spend a quiet evening at home and make it an expression of your feelings I am going to make it easy for you this month. Instead of advice, cooking tips and a few recipes, I'm giving you the recipes for an entire Valentine's Day Dinner.

My goal is for you to prepare a meal that will take a short prep and cooking time. Be somewhat lighter fare than what you have had the last couple of months and also colorful and fresh. I'm not going to say healthy, because to me Scotch Eggs are healthy as long as you don't eat a dozen of them for dinner. If you don't know what a Scotch Egg is, Google it.

Finding fresh vegetables, fruits and somewhat un-common items like jicama, star fruit, chayote, sunflower chokes and yucca root has become easier. With online grocery stores such as Melissa's and newly opened ethnic food stores, there isn't much in the way of fruits and vegetables you can't find. When I first moved to Montgomery, I could not find jicama anywhere. Now I know of a chain grocery store and a specialty Asian market that carries it all the time. I will have a few items that you will have to do a little searching for, but will be able to find them locally. If not, substitute with some like item.

The menu will consist of a Starter, a Salad, a Main Entree and a Dessert. This is where you need to stage every menu item so they are ready when you need them and you still get to sit with your significant other and enjoy the meal. These recipes were adapted from a store in England, Marks and Spencer.

The Menu is:

- Pear, Brie and Pecan Tartine**
- Clementine, Mozzarella and Parma Ham Salad**
- Tuscan Style Sausage Bake**
- Brisk Fruit Crisp**



TUSCAN STYLE SAUSAGE BAKE

INGREDIENTS

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 sausages, I used a chicken/apple sausage that works well with this recipe and can be found at local grocery stores 1 red onion 2 yellow bell peppers 1 tablespoon olive oil 1 lb. cherry tomatoes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 ounces pitted Kalamata olives ¼ cup hot chicken stock ½ pound canned butter beans (good big beans) find a southern style bean 1 tablespoon red wine vinegar 1 small bunch fresh basil |
|--|--|

METHOD

1. Cut the red onion into thin wedges, deseed and cut yellow pepper into large chunks, drain the olives and drain and rinse the canned beans.
2. Heat oven to 425 degrees.
3. Lightly oil a large roasting pan and pre-heat in oven for 5 minutes.
4. Add sausages to pan and roast for 10 minutes turning every few minutes until browned.
5. While you are waiting for the sausage, toss the tomatoes, onion, pepper and olives in oil and salt and pepper to taste.
6. Scatter the vegetables on the pan with the sausage and roast for 15 minutes, tossing vegetable once.
7. Pour chicken stock around veggies and add beans cook for another 5-10 minutes.
8. Sprinkle with red wine vinegar, place on serving platter and top with basil leaves.



PEAR, BRIE AND PECAN TARTINE

INGREDIENTS

- 4 thick slices of sourdough bread (two for each serving)**
- Olive oil**
- 8 ounces Brie (one ounce slices)**
- 2 pears cored and sliced**
- ¼ cup pecans**
- 2 tablespoons honey**



METHOD

1. Toast bread, place on baking sheet and brush with olive oil.
2. Top with slices of brie and then pear slices.
3. Drizzle with little olive oil and broil in oven for 2-3 minutes to melt brie.
4. Scatter pecans on top and drizzle a little honey on top and serve.

CLEMENTINE, MOZZARELLA AND PARMA HAM SALAD

INGREDIENTS

- ¼ cup pecans**
- 5 Clementine's, zest and juice**
- 2 Clementine's. Peel and deseed the other 3 then slice to make ½ inch thick rounds**
- 6-8 ounces fresh mozzarella**
- 3 ounces, watercress, or arugula or mixed greens**
- 4 to 6 slices of Prosciutto ham or any dry cured ham (coppa, thin sliced country ham) or Black Forest or Boar's Head thin sliced ham from the deli department**



FOR THE DRESSING

- 1 ounce fresh basil**
 - 3 tablespoons Clementine juice from two of the Clementine's**
 - 1 tablespoon olive oil**
 - 1 tablespoon lemon juice**
 - 1 teaspoon honey**
- Whizz together in blender with a pinch of salt, save.

METHOD

1. The dressing and the sliced Clementine's can be prepared earlier and kept covered in the fridge until ready to assemble prepare salad.
2. In blender, whizz together the basil, lemon juice, Clementine juice and honey.
3. Toast pecans on low to medium heat in dry fry pan 2-3 minutes until fragrant, cool and cover until assembly time.
4. Drain and pat dry the mozzarella and tear into small pieces.
5. Divide greens between two plates, top with Clementine rounds, ham and mozzarella.
6. Curl the ham up to give the salad some height.
7. Scatter pecan on top and drizzle dressing.
8. Serve.

BRISK FRUIT CRISP

INGREDIENTS

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 large Macintosh apple 1 ripe Pear 2 ounces brown sugar 1 teaspoon corn starch 1 table spoon amaretto 2 ripe plums | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 oatmeal raisin cookies 1 ounce whole almonds ½ ounce cold butter |
|--|---|

METHOD

1. Core apple and pear and cut into thin wedges.
2. Deseed plum and cut into wedges.
3. Crumble the cookies and chop the almonds. Dice the butter.
4. Heat oven broiler.
5. Toss the apple and pear with sugar, cornstarch and amaretto in a large microwavable bowl.
6. Microwave on high for 2 minutes
7. Add plums and heat 2 more minutes.
8. Mix the cookies, almonds and butter together.
9. Place fruit into a heatproof ramekin and top with cookie mixture.
10. Heat under broiler until butter melts and cookies are golden.
11. Serve warm. Can add ice cream if wished.

*The tartine can be made up and put under broil and then served.
The salad can be made up early and just put the dressing on at last minute.
The sausage bake can be finished and kept warm while eating the salad.
The crisp can be kept warm while eating the main entrée.*

***I hope you enjoy your meal,
and Happy Valentine's Day!***



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

Gazette Seniors...

A BIG MONTH FOR CELEBRITIES

YOU MAY BE OVER THE HILL...

...if you have to take mountain climbing lessons in order to get into your bed.

February is the shortest month of the year, but for us old timers it's a month that produced a lot of the folks who entertained us through our years of the "Greatest Generation."

For example, Actor **Clark Gable** was born on February 1, 1901. Who can forget his memorable portrayal in **Gone With the Wind**?

On the second day of February, 1937, **Tommy Smothers** of the famous "Smothers Brothers," came into the world.

Comedian **Joey Bishop** was born on February 3, 1918; and a year and a day later, **Red Buttons** was born.

"Babe" **Ruth** was born on February 6, 1895, and on the same day in 1911 **Ronald Reagan** came into being, and on the 6th day of the month in the year 1940, newsman and author **Tom Brokaw**, joined us.

On the 8th, we got a foursome: Actress **Lana Turner**, **Jack Lemmon**, **James Dean** and **Ted Koppel**, not all in the same year.

On the 9th, in 1943, **Joe Pesci** breathed his first breath, and two years later on the same day, **Mia Farrow** came along in 1945. Also, the war ended that year.

On the 11th, 1936, **Bert Reynolds**, was born, followed in 1963, by singer **Sheryl Crow**.

In 1909, **Charles Darwin** breathed his first breath, in 1915, **Ben Cartwright**, (**Loren Greene**) was born, and on the same day in 1955, talk show host **Arsenio Hall** was born.

On February 13, **Tennessee Ernie Ford** was born in 1919, and on the same day in 1933, **Kim Novak** came along.

Back in 1894, **Jack Benny** squeezed his first nickel, **Hugh Downs** came along in 1921, Actor **Vic Morrow** in 1932, and in 1934, Actress **Florence Henderson**.

A day later, in 1927, **Harvey Korman** was born, and on the same day in 1951, along came actress **Jane Seymour**.

Jumping ahead to the 17th Actor **Hal Holbrook** was born in 1925, and Cleveland Browns football great **Jim Brown** came onto earth.

Skipping along to February 18, we had **Jack Palance** in 1920, **Cybill Shepherd** in 1950, and **John Travolta** in 1954. And were that not enough for that day, **Matt Dillon** came along in 1964.

On the 19th, in 1924, **Lee Marvin** came into life, and a day later in the same year, **Sidney Poitier** was born.

More folks the oldtimers will remember were **Erma Brombeck** on February 21, 1927, **Rue McClanahan**, in the same date in 1933, and on the 21st. In 1946, **Tyne Daly**.

On the following date in 1907, **Robert Young** of "Father Knows Best," and "Marcus Welby" fame was born.

February 22, 1932, was the birth date of **Edward M. Kennedy**, and on that date in 1975, actress **Drew Barrymore** was born.

Dropping a good bit back to 1885, World War II **Admiral Chester W. Nimitz** was born, and on that same date in 1938, so was Actor **James Farentino**.

On February 25, 1901, who was born but **Zeppo Marx**, and in 1935 **Sally Jesse Raphael**, and in 1943, **Beatle George Harrison**.

On the 26th, 1887, **Fred Mertz** (**William Frawley**) was born, as was **Tony**

Randall in 1920, **Fats Domino** in 1928, and **Jackie Gleason** in 1916.

Nearing the end of February, **John Steinbeck** was born in 1902, Actress **Joanne Woodward** in 1930, two years later, **Elizabeth Taylor**; and in 1937, **Ralph Nader**.

Actor **Charles Durning** was born on the 28th, in 1915; Race car driver **Mario Andretti**, in 1940; Actress **Bernadette Peters** in 1948, and Comedian **Gilbert Gottfried**, in 1955. Closing out the month of memorables, and in a leap year, was singer **Dinah Shore** in 1916.

Now if that isn't a month full of famous folks, who knows what is.

And for those readers who celebrate birthdays this month: **Happy Birthday!**

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PILOTS FOR CHRIST

We go through life thinking, "That would never happen to us," but truth is **NOTHING** is guaranteed. We don't know what tomorrow holds or even the next minute for that matter. **BUT GOD** does and that is why **Pilots For Christ** is in existence.

PFC is a group of Christian pilots and volunteers whose aim is to help those in need of transportation due to medical reasons and are not able to travel any other way but by plane. **PFC** in not an air ambulance or a medical aircraft but they believe that it is their mission through the call of our **Holy Father** to help those that are in need and can not afford the costs.

Pilots For Christ does not receive any form of government funding and does not get reimbursements from insurance companies. They are fully funded by individuals, churches, civic organizations, and businesses. If you feel that the **Lord** has put it on your heart to make a contribution please visit their website at www.pilotsforchrist.net, and as always your gift is tax deductible.

*"Whoever is kind to
the needy
honors God."*

~ Proverbs 14:31



Alabama Public Affairs Specialist
Social Security Administration
4344 Carmichael Road, Suite 100
Montgomery, Alabama 36116



PREVENTING DEBILITATING DISEASES AMONG WOMEN

Just about every minute, a woman dies of heart disease. But the majority of these deaths are avoidable. That's why Social Security encourages you to participate in National Wear Red Day on February 5, which aims to raise awareness about preventing heart disease and stroke among women.

Social Security plays an important role in many women's lives — nearly 60 percent of people receiving Social Security benefits are women. Social Security provides important financial assistance to women in times of need, including a sudden illness or an injury leading to disability. While many illnesses and injuries are difficult or impossible to prevent, there are steps that women can take to help prevent some health issues, so that they can live longer and healthier lives.

According to the American Heart Association, "heart disease is the number one killer of women, causing one in three deaths each year." But the American Heart Association reports that this is 80 percent preventable with education and lifestyle changes. Changes in diet and exercise can help

prevent these events, along with obtaining preventative healthcare such as cholesterol checks. You can take part in raising awareness about this women's health issue by wearing red on February 5 to show your support. You can also learn more about heart disease and stroke prevention by visiting www.goredforwomen.org.

Raising awareness about women's health issues is important to improving quality of life for all women. Social Security is also committed to addressing the unique concerns that women may face in obtaining Social Security benefits, whether they're seeking benefits for health or other reasons. Women may face different situations than men throughout their lives that can affect their need for benefits. For instance, women are more likely than men to outlive their spouse. Working women earn less on average than men do. Women are more likely to be stay-at-home parents or spouses. All of these circumstances can cause women to have different Social Security needs than men have.

In order to address these concerns in one place,

we have a website designed for women that provides pertinent information to women regarding Social Security's services. This website includes information that may be particularly useful to working women, women who receive Social Security benefits, brides, new mothers, wives, divorced women, caregivers, and widows. Our website for women provides information on retirement, survivors, disability, and Supplemental Security Income benefits. Our website also contains links to Social Security publications relevant to women's issues, such as our publications What Every Woman Should Know and Understanding the Benefits. You can visit our website for women at www.socialsecurity.gov/people/women.

We hope that raising awareness on women's health issues and providing women easy access to information about Social Security benefits can enrich your life and the lives of those you love.

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

Dr. John Bitter
Editor
Senior Section

By Kylle' D. McKinney



THE MARSHALL MOMENT

DR. RICK MARSHALL
 Eastern Hills
 Baptist Church
 Montgomery, Alabama

In his book, **Mastery**, **Eli Stanley Jones** says, "The art of living is the least learned of all arts." We have learned the art of existing, working, getting by with half-answers, but we know little about how to live up to life with all its demands, and have a sense of adequacy. Unfortunately, many who claim to be Christians seem to have about as much trouble with life as unbelievers. This is in contrast to the words of Jesus when He promised, "**I have come that you might have life and that you might have it more abundantly.**" (John 10:10)

This leads me to ask the question, "What then is the Biblical perspective on living?" Let me illustrate with lessons we can glean from several passages. The first is seek to live patiently. Most of us remember Job and his sufferings. It is a timeless message for us. The great message of Job's life is to refute the generally accepted idea that all suffering is due to sin. Sometimes suffering comes from other reasons. When things don't go our way in life, God can often use our suffering both for our good and as a witness to others. Patience with life is a great virtue. From the Biblical perspective, it does not mean to sit back with arms folded and grimly take whatever life throws at you. Rather, it means to keep striving when the popular view is to quit. It means that obstacles do not stop you or deter you from seeking God's will or take away your hope in Him. Job explained his faith best with the words, "**Blessed be the name of the Lord.**" (Job 1:21) Patient living happens when we accept the will of God as our own will and have Christ to lead us in all our endeavors.

Another thought for living is to live reliantly. The **23rd Psalm** is among the most loved and read scriptures in the Bible. It is a Psalm for everyone. The beauty of the Psalm is the Lord. "If you excluded the Lord from the Psalm you would have nothing." The role of the Shepherd is constant care for His sheep. What David says to all of us in these beautiful verses is that only the Shepherd can release us from life's anxieties. That same Shepherd frees us from fear, frustration and feelings of inadequacy in life.

It should be noted, however, that sheep are notoriously independent creatures and in constant need of direction and care. They will blindly, stupidly and habitually follow one another along the same trails without help. Doesn't that sound like human beings? Our Shepherd leads all who will follow in the paths of righteousness. If left to our own desires, trails will become ruts which do not lead us in the right paths.

How we love the last verse of this Psalm. The last verse does not say "maybe" but rather, "**surely goodness and mercy shall follow me ... and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**" There is no greater promise than knowing you will live in God's care forever. The promise of finality in contrast to the opposite conclusion in eternity should inspire us to reliant living.

The writer of Hebrews gives us a third clue as to how we should live. It is to live faithfully. I enjoy listening to stories about people who will not give up; stories of those who stay the course even though the "going gets tough". They are a source of great inspiration to all. Remember the man who came to Jesus and said, "I will follow you wherever you go"? Jesus responds, "**Before you make that kind of commitment; you need to realize that, foxes have holes and the birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head.**" (Luke 9:57-58)

In other words, living the Christian life is not just for the easy times. Many have begun the Christian walk and later quit when the going got tough. As such, these have become an object of ridicule to some and a source of discouragement to others. That's why faithfulness is so important.

Hear the Hebrews writer, "**Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.**" (Hebrews 12:1-2)

In this passage the Christian life is not compared to a wind sprint, but to a marathon. In a wind sprint you run as fast as you can for a short distance. And speed is the critical factor. But in a marathon, stamina, our endurance, is the critical factor.

Soul Searching

"How Shall We Live?"

"What then is the Biblical perspective on living?"

Paul wrote to young Timothy, "**I have kept the faith. I have finished the race. Therefore there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness. And not for me only...**" Finishing the race is critically important for all of us who would call ourselves followers of the Christ.

We are inspired by those saints, believers that have gone on before us. And praise God, we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses so that we are inspired to finish the race. Chapter 11 mentions some of those people such as **Abraham, Moses, Samson, David** and others. We must not forget they among so many others really want to cheer us on. We get so caught up in our own burdens, we forget the race and those cheering us on. They do not ridicule or judge for they know how difficult the race can be.

Now when I get discouraged, I think not only of the great saints of the Scriptures, but also the men and women of God who have had an impact on my life, who have inspired me, who also have finished this race of life. I remember Godly parents who made sure I was grounded in the Word and saw it lived out in their lives. I remember Pastors who faithfully preached the Gospel and blazed the path for younger ministers like me years ago to follow. I remember those faithful church members and fellow Christians in many places who inspire me to continue the journey.

Your experience will not necessarily be like mine. But if you are a believer and think for a moment, God has been placing examples and cheerleaders in your life. Doesn't the Holy Spirit speak to our heart encouraging us to do the same for those who come after us? If not us, who will pass the baton to the next generation? Living faithfully isn't simply about getting what we can out of the Christian life. It is more about those who come after us.

Anyone can become discouraged from time to time. When we feel like giving up, we must press on. Fight the good fight and finish this race of life and finish it well. Be mature in the faith. Commit to walk in the way of the Lord as long as you have breath. Never be satisfied, but continually seek to be transformed into the image of Christ. May we all finish this race, this marathon of life, and may we finish it well.

My prayer for each of you is that when you cross over to the other side that you will hear the Savior's voice saying, "**Well done my good and faithful servant. You have fought the good fight, you have finished the race. Enter into your rest.**"

Do you ever visit cemeteries? If so you recall that virtually all the markers have dates separated by a dash. The two dates plus a dash make a stark point. Our lives, all that we are, all that do, all that makes up our existence, are what we did in the dash. So and so was born on such and such a date, lived life in the dash and then died on such and such a date. Dear friends, we are presently, each one of us, living in the dash.

We don't get to choose the length of the dash, only the breadth and value of the life we live in it. How are we presently using our dash? Are we in a mad dash to pack in as much as possible into our dash? Are we dashing to live, speedily pursuing things that don't matter and won't last?

*In view of the reality that each of us are living the dash,
 I hope you will consider the words of this brief article
 which sought to answer the question,*

"How shall we live?"

Vote

**Don't forget to VOTE in the
 Presidential Primary
 Tuesday March 1, 2016**

Vote



Reflections

By Michael J. Brooks

DON'T WASTE YOUR PAIN

I'm convinced the greatest detriment to faith is the problem of pain. "Why do the righteous suffer?" is a question as old as the book of Job. And it still befuddles serious-minded people who consider faith.

The apostle Paul wrote in **2 Corinthians** about his "thorn." We think of a thorn as a slight irritation easily removed with fingers or tweezers. But New Testament scholar **William Barclay** argued that the word can also mean "stake." It was common to impale one's enemies or criminals in the Roman world, and the cross was similar to a stake. If Barclay is correct, what Paul wrestled with was much more than a simple irritation.

My favorite "thorn" theory is the stoning in Lystra (**Acts 14**). Paul survived, but perhaps with unattended bones or bruised internal organs. Others suggest he had eye problems, or epilepsy or some other physical abnormality.

Whatever the case, Paul insisted God gave him comfort and encouragement in his pain (**2 Corinthians 1: 4-5**). The word for "comfort" is the same word Jesus used in **John 16** speaking of the promised Holy Spirit. Just as the Spirit would be with his followers, so God's comforting presence is with his people in suffering.

But the writer further insisted that believers use their pain to help others. He wrote, "*We can pass on to them this same help and comfort God has given us.*"

Henri Nouwen published "**The Wounded Healer**" in 1972. He proposed that Jesus is our wounded healer. He suffered so that we might receive God's forgiveness. And Nouwen wrote that all Christians are wounded healers. We take our pain and help others.

I think of several notable people who suffered, but used their pain for the benefit of others. **Candy Lightner** founded "**Mothers Against Drunk Driving**" after her 13-year old daughter was killed by an intoxicated motorist, who was also a repeat offender. She urged President Reagan to sign the bill raising the drinking age to 21, and he did. **John Walsh's** son **Adam** was abducted and killed in 1981. Walsh has given his life to law enforcement and "**Code Adam**" in retail stores is designed to save lives. And **Beth Holloway** took her pain and founded the "**International Safe Travels Foundation**." She also is promoting "**Mayday 360**" which will be the international equivalent of "Code Adam."

Charles Chandler of the **Ministering to Ministers Foundation** often tells ministers who've been through crises, including involuntary termination, "*Don't waste your pain.*" He believes wounded ministers can be stronger, and can use their pain to help others who walk the same path.

So the question for every Christian to consider is, "**How will you use your pain for the glory of God?**"

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

Patricia Killough



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

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

Home Town Community News

February Birthdays



- | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Sara Margaret Auerbach | Clark Jones |
| George Evans | Randy Smith |
| Mary Johnson | Brunies Cauthen |
| Ellen Saddler | 17 Brian Betz |
| 2 Thelma Alexander | William L. Carl (81st) |
| Brewer Box | Chuck Glasscock (54th) |
| Shelby Smith | Kathi Farley |
| Alvin Turner | Willa Faye Munson |
| Frances Yedmans | Gene Smith |
| 3 Del Atkinson | Alice Tyson |
| Enoch Chalker | Jean Warren |
| Pam Daniel | 18 Chip Norris |
| Sybil Foshee | Kermit Paramore |
| Gay Hayes | 19 Anita Jones |
| Helen Lankford | Barbara Pugh |
| Genye Messick | Chuck Lear |
| Wayne Robinson | Dawn Johnson |
| 4 Paige Box | 20 Ann Moore |
| Anna Haigler Johnson | Hayden Ward |
| Helen Rahn Millican | Todd Windham |
| 5 Peggy Agent | 21 Victoria L. Carl (16th) |
| Walter Friday, III | Alyssa Lear |
| Jean Fuller | Jessica Burgess |
| Beth Norris | Jerrell Campbell |
| Lila Webster | Hugh Gordon (90th) |
| 6 Amanda Edwards | Jane Russell |
| Morgan Lee Madison (5th) | Shirley Yarbrough |
| Donna Spradley | 22 Ellen Adcock |
| 7 Rhonda Black | Douglas Evans (66th) |
| Mary Helen Fleming | Jean Finlayson |
| Shelvie Freeman | Earl Gray |
| Rick Marshall | Hettie H. Harrington |
| Rodney Powell | Tim Meadows |
| Edith Upchurch | Willie Stephens |
| 8 John Barnes | 23 Dorothy Bennett |
| Helen Burch | Virgil Culpepper |
| Claudine Nobles | Thelma Nelson |
| Helen Oates | Nathan Horsley |
| Sharon Owens | Ann Spheres |
| Janet Phillips | 24 Katherine Andrews |
| Abigail Roux | Cheryl Jarrell |
| 9 Lori Meadows | Bobbie Rahn |
| Lucille Wilson | 25 Bettye Garlington |
| 10 Jim Soule | John Higgins |
| Jeanne Villar | Lewis Mulleck |
| 11 Glen Hataway | Shanny Sansom |
| Steve Law | Willie Pearl Shepherd |
| Earline Wood | 26 Erma Dillard |
| 12 Jean Cantey (87th) | Cassidy Gwin |
| Chas Hammock (7th) | Dean Moore |
| 13 Susan Gambrell | Carolyn Watson |
| Dot Hill | 27 Portia Goss |
| 14 Nancy Andrews | Evans Hartzog |
| Carolyn Bowden | Jamie Hall |
| Michael Coker | Mary Horton |
| Lyda Crowe | Carol Spencer |
| Drew Martin | 28 Joy Carlisle |
| Hamil Martin | Freeman Carroll |
| Dorothy Sparrow | Mary Daniels |
| Zac Swearingen | Debi Nowakowski |
| 15 Mildred Durden | Weldon Payne |
| Juanita Miers | Charlene Schofield |
| Mike Green | Helen Turner |
| Nancy Rabren | Mary Vann |
| Susan Terrell | Freddie Oswalt |
| 16 James Ellis Fleming (10th) | 29 Mandy Azar |
| Joan Kirk | |

Birth Announcement



Bill and Carrie Rice are pleased to announce the birth of their son, **Jackson (Jack) Mason Rice.**

Jack was born January 6 in Montgomery. He weighed 7 pounds, 11 ounces. Jack is the little brother of Maggie Rice (4).

He is the grandson of Elizabeth and Frank Fryer of Montgomery and the late Mr. and Mrs. Bill Rice, Sr., Troy.

Jack's father, Bill Rice, Jr., is the editor of *The Gazette's* Annual "Reflections" historical publication. His mother teaches 7th and 8th grade English at Pike Road School.

Second Annual Benefit for Eastmont Baptist Church

The second annual benefit dinner and concert for Eastmont Baptist Church was held at Gail's Down the Street Café on Tuesday, January 26th. The benefit is held to support mission trips.

In spite of the rainy weather, over 70 people attended the delicious dinner prepared by Gail and her staff and were entertained by Mike Atcheson, Jerry Thomas, Chris Parham and Don Clayton.

It was a great evening of fellowship, food and great music.

Sympathy to the families of...

- Brannon, Roscoe (97).....died January 5, 2016
 Noland, Virginia Blankenship (90).....died January 6, 2016
 Avinger, Harold Joseph "Key" (83).....died January 11, 2016
 McQuillen, Father Paul G., S. S. E. (65).....died January 11, 2016
 Cardinal, Dr. Louis Charles "Bud", Jr. (87).....died January 12, 2016
 Raines, Mary Rose (84).....died January 13, 2016
 Turner, E. J., Jr. (89).....died January 15, 2016
 Mann, Gloria J. (84).....died January 16, 2016
 Stone, Cynthia Smith Gray (87).....died January 16, 2016
 Frazer, Jean Lane (78).....died January 19, 2016
 Norris, William (88).....died January 20, 2016
 Reed, Charles Wallace (77).....died January 20, 2016
 Dubina, Marjorie Jeanne (91).....died January 21, 2016
 Smith, Tammy Gilpin (52).....died January 22, 2016
 Grubbs, Mrs. Ed (97).....died January 26, 2016

Happy Anniversary

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 14 Gordon & Vicki Davis | 21 Tom & Bettye Garlington |
| Clark & Anita Jones | Gilbert & Ethel Sellers (60th) |
| Josh & Jamie McCandless | |
| 20 Chuck & Susan Gambrell | 28 Pat & Butch Moseley (57th) |
| Hayden & Dee Ward | |





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TODAY'S WOMAN

2016 Meeting Schedule



Breast Cancer Support Group Meetings

Support group meetings are free, do not require registration and convene the 2nd Tuesday of each month at:

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5:30 PM Social time with light meal
6:15 PM Program followed by Q & A

Tuesday, February 9

Fighting the Fear

"You've won the physical battle, now you must win the emotional war."

Presented by Ronda Walker, Breast Cancer Survivor

Tuesday, March 8

Friends on the Journey Together

Presented by Friends & Breast Cancer Survivors
Lee Hayes & Jannah Bailey

Tuesday, April 12

Finding My Purpose

Presented by Julia Upton, Breast Cancer Survivor

Tuesday, May 10 (Room 8253)

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Trisston's Tidbits...

By: Trisston Wright Burrows
www.trisstonwrightburrows.com

"New Beginnings"

A friend recently shared this with me and it really blessed me. So, I thought I'd share it with you.

Here is a **NEW** way to look at **John 3:16** and remember that it was written as GOD's Valentine to the world, and to you and me!

Jesus said:

"For God so loVed the world
That He gAve
His onLy
BegottEn
SoN
That whosoever
Believes In Him
Shall Not perish,
But have Everlasting life."

Happy Valentine's Day & Many Blessings!

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Note from the Editor:

Print media appears to be waning...but The Alabama Gazette is growing! We are in our 16th year and have a vision far beyond where we are now. Without vision we perish! Readership is up because of the quality media product we print.

We are the only real conservative "voice of the people"! We cannot allow the truth to be monitored andensored. We invite you to be a part of this news media by sending us your views and comments. It is not that we always agree; but that we know we have the freedom to converse over critical issues.

The Republic of America is in serious danger of losing its

historical foundation, its' moral compass and its world status. This year's election will be one of the most critical in history. Homeland safety has strangely become a top issue of grave concern. Where are we going and how will we get there? Big Decisions!

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Thanks you for reading the Alabama Gazette!

Loretta Grant, Managing Editor

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