



**Alabama Legislature
Regular Session 2017**
House Convenes: 2/07/2017 ~ 12:00 noon
Senate Convenes: 02/07/2017



**Alabama House Speaker
Mac McCutcheon Ready for Business**



McCutcheon (R) was elected Speaker of the House during the first day of the special session of the Alabama Legislature held at the Alabama Statehouse in Montgomery, Alabama, on Monday, August 15, 2016. Speaker Mike Hubbard was ousted after convicted on ethics charges.

This will be McCutcheon's first regular session.

**Vital issues for our
2017 Alabama Legislature**

Budget Crisis top priority!

The budgets will be the biggest problem facing lawmakers this session.

House members remain largely opposed to tax increases.

It is expected that the ongoing struggle on gambling legislation will be prominent again this session.

Gov. Bentley has indicated he will propose a plan similar to his plan

last year to borrow \$800 million to build four new prisons.

House to seriously consider an increase in the gasoline tax.

Finding ways to fund Alabama's infrastructure, roads and bridges.

Increases in the cost of health insurance for education employees and state employees.

Medicaid again will be one of the areas facing a shortfall.

Advisory committees on the budget will be informing lawmakers of any earmarked funds that can be reshuffled.

Republicans have had a majority since 2010.

Look inside for these thought provoking articles!

**"It is a Cruel
World**

Rob Tate
Page 3A

**Union At All
Costs**

John Sophocleus
Page 4A

**Patience and
Pressure are
the Keys to
Deer Hunting**

Steve Long
Page 6A

**News from the
Montgomery County
Sheriffs Office**

Derrick Cunningham
Page 2B

**Southern
Gardening**

Judge Peggy Givhan
Page 7B

**Southern
Cuisine**

David Spooner
Page 6B

**Read the Gazette online.
You can also subscribe
for home delivery at
alabamagazette.com**

**Like us on
Facebook!**



GAZETTE PUBLISHING
12 East Jefferson St.
Montgomery, AL 36104

Return Service Requested

PRSRT STD
US POSTAGE PAID
MONTGOMERY, AL

PERMIT #69



Don't let the Flu get the best of you!

Talk to your Adams Drugs
Pharmacist TODAY
about your Flu shot.

Twelve Convenient Locations
to Serve You in the River Region.



www.adamsdrugs.net

Hours:
Mon. - Fri. 9AM-5:30PM
Saturday - 9AM-5PM
Sunday - Closed

1778 E. Main St.,
Prattville, AL 36066
(334) 365-6552



Bryan Jewelry



Ronald A. Holtsford

Presidents have issued pardons and/ or commutations. Harrison and Garfield did not because their deaths occurred relatively early in their Presidencies. The total may not be complete on President Obama but stands as I write this under 75 pardons or commutations. There have been many famous pardons or commutations by Presidents, some occurring much later after the prisoner’s death. Among those included are President Clinton’s brother, Roger; Confederate President Jefferson Davis; President Richard Nixon and many others. President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued well over three thousand pardons and commutations but then again he served more than two terms in office.

In looking at President Obama’s pardons and commutations, it has included less than ten Alabamians. It seems that the named Alabamians were listed due to drug offenses. At least two of those are from the tri-county area.

Notably not among those has been former Alabama Governor, Don Siegelman who has sought a pardon or commutation of his sentence from President Obama for some time. His charges included corruption, mail fraud and bribery linked to Richard Scrushy who served on a board and had contributed money to Siegelman campaign. Though an initial trial in 2004 was thrown out, Siegelman and Scrushy were both convicted in 2006. Siegelman was out of prison for a short time during his 2008 appeal but went back to prison upon losing the appeal. Scrushy was released in 2012 but Siegelman has remained in prison awaiting an August 2017 release (probation until August 2020).

Several months ago I began receiving emails concerning Siegelman’s efforts to get out of prison. As reported in other sources, Siegelman attorneys have

WHAT GIVES THE PRESIDENT THE ABILITY TO PARDON OR COMMUTE SENTENCES IMPOSED ON CRIMINALS?



reported prosecutorial misconduct among other things. I must say that he was not my choice for Governor and I did not agree with his push for a legalized lottery in Alabama. However, as Siegelman turns 71 later this month, I would like to see him released from prison soon. His retirement years have been spent not as a retired celebrity within the state but as a downtrodden former Alabama Governor, Lt Governor, Attorney General and Secretary of State, treated as a common criminal and from what I have read now in very poor financial shape. His son has worked tirelessly as his attorney since his admission to the Bar just a few years ago and his daughter has probably worked even harder in drumming up support for her father’s release. There has been very compelling support for his release.

In a time when President Obama’s pardons and commutations have mostly benefitted many serving time for drug offenses, it is a shame that a fellow Democrat to Governor Siegelman has not done the same for Siegelman as he has for those convicted of significant drug offenses. I just reviewed the latest Siegelman email where he states he “is at peace with whatever Obama chooses” and he prays for others he has met that he feels are unjustly being punished I do hope that Governor Siegelman finds an outlet to rebuild his life and enjoy the remainder of his retirement years.

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

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

Mailing address:
Ronald A. Holtsford, Esq.
Ronald A. Holtsford, LLC
7956 Vaughn Road, Box #124
Montgomery, AL 36116
(334) 220-3700
raholtsford@aol.com

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



Marcia Chambliss

Americans now have a new administration, battle lines have been drawn between the left and the right, and it would appear there is little hope that our fiercely divided nation can agree about anything. Politics naturally divides as it is only in the civil debate of opposing ideas are we able to create solutions to problems. Unfortunately, the continual stream of media commentary encouraging rancor in addition to an escalation of protests from the left designed to further divide makes the prospect of any sort of unity appear bleak.

While speculation regarding a divided nation makes for sensational headlines, and certainly fuels the fires of discord, is the premise correct? Is there not a single political issue that can unite Americans across ideological spectrums?

I think a common issue does exist among the electorate, one I covered in an article late last year which appeals to Americans across party lines, and it’s an issue that is tailored for the American grassroots of all stripes - **Congressional Term Limits**.

Obviously, it won’t unite everyone as it takes aim at those who are intent on attaining a congressional seat for their lifetime, but with more and more citizens becoming aware of just how broken our system is at the federal level, it’s time that the discussion of term limits moves to an action phase instead of only frustrated rants of why they are needed.

Term limits are unlikely to be enacted at the federal level, regardless of how many well-intentioned House or Senate members try to push through legislation, but awareness of the issue from the proposed Cruz-DeSantis bill can help our efforts at state legislatures across the nation, including our Alabama resolution calling for an Article V Convention for Term Limits that will be introduced during this 2017 legislative session.

Surveys conducted on February 12 to 16th, 2016 by McLaughlin & Associates* pertaining to congressional term limits reveal that American voters want a Constitutional Amendment for term limits on members of Congress in overwhelming numbers (80%) across political, geographic, and demographic groups. Additionally, 73% would more likely vote for candidates who support term limits, 62% are less likely to vote for someone opposing term limits, and 79% are in favor of a convention placing term limits on Congress. Whether male or female, Republican or Democrat, liberal, moderate or conservative, and across all racial and age demographics, Americans recognize that limiting time spent as a member of Congress is beneficial to our nation and its future.

One of the arguments against term limits has come from those who doubt it would have any impact whatsoever on the power of the special interests and bureaucrats in Washington, and would in fact give more control to that group, but one of the most infamous lobbyists of recent years disputes that claim. Jack Abramoff, once an influential force on Capitol Hill before he was charged and convicted of bribery – and now one of the most despised names associated with special interests – believes that the power and influence would diminish as the

 SMART GIRL POLITICS™
Action

Engage Educate Empower

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

CAN WE AGREE ON ANYTHING?

long-term relationships between those elected and the special interests would no longer be as beneficial to either party, and in fact, those relationships would be severed.

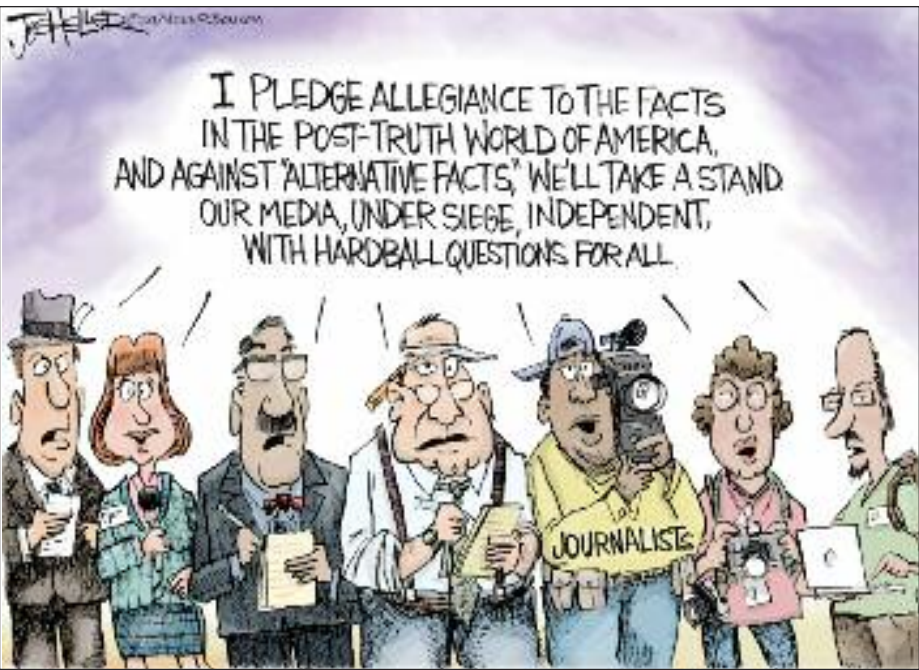
Additionally, consider that large campaign fundraisers would no longer hold the same value for a term-limited member, and the member would spend far more time in their respective districts rather than attending the never-ending Washington funding events. Have many times have you heard someone complain that once elected, our elected representative disappears until the next election cycle?

Term limits will provide a regular cycle of competitive elections, offering more choices for voters, and will also impact the quality of candidates for office. Voters would be offered more than 30-second commercial soundbites as candidates would necessarily engage in meaningful debates. An incumbent with an enormous financial war chest essentially discourages a serious challenger, knowing that the odds of winning are so stacked against them so they simply won’t run for office, and leaving our choices far too often as “the lesser of two evils.” As American consumers, we anxiously await the “latest and greatest” when it comes to product innovation, and most of us can’t wait to swap out our cell phones for the newest model. Why are we then willing to re-elect those who serve us in Washington for decades on end without term limits? How can possibly expect any sort of positive change for our nation with a permanent incumbency class?

There are many important issues arising with 2017 Alabama Legislative session, but this is one that is winnable for the grassroots. Won’t you join me in this call to action?

*McLaughlin & Associates, Alexandria, VA. www.mclaughlinonline.com

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



THE RAMER BANK



Contact Cindy or any of our friendly staff for all your banking needs.

“There is a difference in hometown banking!”

CINDY OVERSTREET, BRANCH MANAGER

Ramer, AL 36069
334-562-3257

Pump Repairs

6908 Norman Bridge Road, Montgomery, Al.

(334) 281-1258
or 1-800-242-8904

Service Station Repairs
Tank Installations & Closures
Hydrostatic Tank & Line Testing
Norman P. Mitchell ~ Tony Mitchell



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



ROBSERVATIONS... by Robert Tate

“IT IS A CRUEL WORLD, HERR HAUPTMAN. YOU SAID IT YOURSELF.”

This is my favorite line from my all-time favorite movie, The Blue Max. In this 1966 movie that my dad took me to watch when I was all of five years-old, George Peppard plays a German World War I fighter pilot, Bruno Stachel. After being denied his first aerial victory and being dismissed by his snobby, upper-crust squadron mates, Bruno shoots down a British airplane over his own airfield. When confronted by his angry commanding officer, Stachel walks over to the downed airplane, cuts the registration number off the plane and throws it at the squadron adjutant’s feet. He squares up to his commander, utters that classic line and walks off. I love it. Although in many ways I agree that it may be a cruel world, in many ways life as well can seem unfair. But nobody ever said life was going to be a bed of roses. It is up to us who are confronted with “unfair” situations to do our best to tighten our belts and move on. Many times, the best way to overcome adversity or someone else’s attempts to hold us back is to excel at what we do. The other day I was flying with one of my copilots and we were talking about race relations today in the US. Being someone who is all over the country every week, I will clearly testify that it has gone down over the past eight years. No doubt about it. But that being said, we both agreed that open dialogue and kindness still melts walls of bitterness and suspicion. I see it and practice it every day.

So during our conversation, he asked me if I had ever personally experienced any racism in my flying career. I immediately answered, “Absolutely. No doubt.” He seemed a little surprised because anyone who knows me knows that I DO NOT carry any form of racism or bitterness on my sleeve. I reject it, throw it under the bus and move on. I have to. It is who I am. Holding on to bitterness never does anybody, any good whatsoever. But if you ask me what I have experienced, I will tell you. So I thought I would share a couple of them with you today.

Almost all of the situations I faced were in the Air Force and only two were at Delta. At Delta it had to do with just me and the other pilot. One guy made it clear the moment we met that he had an issue with me. In fact, the first thing he briefed me was that he expected me to be on time. What? This after I was at the jet 30 minutes before him and had accomplished his tasks since he was running late. I left the cockpit and called my wife and told her this was going to be a long trip. By day three of the four day trip, let’s just say it was not an ideal situation in the cockpit. The other, well if you ever get me offline, just ask me. But to Delta’s credit, in my 19 years, I have flown with close to 800 different pilots and only two made it to my hall of shame “do not fly with” list. The Air Force; now that is a slightly different story. By and large, I had no major issues but back in the early 80’s black pilots were still not necessarily an everyday thing. In my entire Air Force career, for example, I never flew with another black pilot and I was always the only black pilot in any squadron I was in. 99.99999999999999% of my squadron mates and commanders were outstanding but I did run into a couple of issues. Here goes.

1. ROTC Summer Camp. Between our sophomore and junior years of college, those of us in the ROTC program had to go to summer camp. Upon our return, we were in the cadet officer corps (POC) and were expected to build our skills and for the most part run the cadet program. I went to Plattsburg Air Force Base and for my Field Training Officer (FTO) I had a Captain Moran from Penn State. The very first day of camp, he had all of us in my flight, about 15 cadets, introduce ourselves. Who we were, our university and our future career field. When it got to me and I said I was going to pilot training, Captain Moran stopped me and asked, “Are you actually going to pilot training?” When I said yes, he rolled his eyes and exhaled loudly. Okayyyy. His reaction was not lost on all of the cadets there. Matters were not helped at all when there was a young blonde cadet, Carol Stoner from Slippery Rock University and we hit it off vey well. You can see where this is going.

Over the next four weeks it was obvious to everyone in the flight that the weasel Moran did not particularly like the future black Air Force pilot. We would come back to the barracks and my bed would be messed up or my shoes would be slightly pushed under the bed. Demerits for T8ermann. But to shorten the story, there is a lot more, it came to a head one afternoon when we had an emergency meeting in the auditorium for all cadets. Apparently, someone found a marijuana cigarette on the parade grounds and one of the FTOs had his Citadel class ring stolen from his room. The sky cops were doing a sweep of the dorms and they brought the drug dogs into the auditorium. Although they found nothing, it was strange that one of the cops brought his dog right to me and had him sniff away. Hmm, 100-pound German Shepherd, his head in your crotch, yeah, very uncomfortable. After the drug search, we were released to go to the dorms and get ready for lunch. Once we got to the dorm, I went to my dresser and opened the top drawer so I could get a change of socks since we were going to change uniforms. Sitting on the very top of my socks, in plain view was the Citadel class ring as if in a jewelry case in a store. No missing it, it was right there for anyone to see. I called my three roommates over to look at it and discussed what to do next. I picked up the ring and walked down the hall to Captain Moran’s office. I went in without reporting and bounced the ring off his desk into his puny, schoolgirl like chest and told him, “I just found this in my drawer and I think you know how it got there.” I will never forget the stupid look on his pasty, face with his lipless mouth hanging open. To this day, I thank God that we got back to the dorm before the cops did. Had they found the ring I would have been thrown out, no Air Force career, no question. Who do you think the higher ups would have believed?

When I got back to UT that September, Colonel Colton called me into his office and asked me how summer camp went. I said good except for Captain

Moran. I told him what happened, he shook his head and showed me my final training report. In about ten areas, on a scale from 1-5 with 5 being the best, Captain Moran gave me all 1s. All. Firewalled. They knew something was amiss when even in athletic ability I got a one. They knew I was getting ready to test for my brown belt in Isshinryu Karate, I played Centerfield on the ROTC softball team, wide receiver on the ROTC football team, at the time could still run a 4.5 40-yard dash and would often do 100 push-ups in a minute just because. So they knew Moran was out to lunch. In the end, it didn’t hurt my ROTC career because in my senior year I still became the Cadet Colonel in charge of the entire Corps and graduated with a regular instead of a reserve commission. Dust under my feet; I had other things to do.



2. In the spring of our junior year, we had to take an aviation ground school class so we could start flying the fall of our senior year. It was the first cut for pilot training. If you could not pass this phase, to include an initial solo, you would not make it to pilot training (UPT). The teacher who I will not mention, was an older lady who was well-known as one of the premier female aviators in that region. But she ran the flying school in Knoxville that the Air Force used and taught the ground school class at the university. In the class we had about 6 ROTC guys and 20 civilians. For our grade, there was only one test and that was the private pilots written exam administered at the end of the semester. I studied like a madman and on test day, I finished it in record time about 5-10 minutes before the next guy. The teacher graded it right in front of me and boom, 100%. All the ROTC guys knew my grade, they saw it. Sweet, off to the 3rd Lt. Program at Holloman AFB and flying in T-38s for three weeks and then two summer classes so I could graduate early and head off to pilot training six to 10 months earlier.

Mid-summer and along comes my report card. In my ground school class I got a big, fat juicy “C”. What? I aced the only test we had. I immediately went into the Colonel Colton’s office (again) and asked him what was the deal. The active duty faculty were wondering the same thing and I told him my story. All the other ROTC guys corroborated my story and so he called out to the flying school and asked what happened. Her story? She said after she got back to the airport, she noticed she had lost my test. Only my test. Nobody else’s. Since she “lost” my test, the only fair thing to do was to give me a “C”. The active duty officers fought her but she would not budge. I offered to take the test again, right there but she refused. The officers told me not to worry about it and it would have no effect on me there in the Corps. In the end, this paragon of aviation could simply not give a black guy an “A.” She simply could not do it.

So those are the two most egregious events where people actively tried to destroy my fledgling Air Force career. Yeah I had an old lady in Portsmouth NH say to me, “How dare you talk to me you %#@% N----r,” when I thanked her for her comments praising the Air Force. Then in 1992, I was flown from Germany to Nebraska for an interview for a special duty assignment. As part of the interview process I had to fly and air refuel in the 747 (E-4B airborne command post). The commander in the right seat had me fly an oddball non-precision approach. It was an NDB full procedure turn with a circle to land to another runway and when I flew it flawlessly, he was clearly angry when I did it. The countenance on someone’s face never lies. Where he clearly wanted me to fail, he failed to realize in NATO, we flew those kinds of approaches all the time (btw, the flight engineer who had been there for about six years said no one had ever been asked to fly that type of approach on an interview before). Then after the interview, the commander, who never even reviewed my carried records, actually refused to take me to the airport the next day and made me find my own way there. The list goes on and on.

The bright side of all this, however, is that through it all, I still do not hold grudges or blame others for anything. I am never responsible for how others act but I am responsible how I act. I will, however, be honest with you. Had I been thrown out of ROTC and had my lifelong dream of being a military pilot dashed because of the “stolen ring” situation, I don’t know what I would have done. I was clearly a different person back then. At a minimum I surely would have traveled to Penn State and beat the snot out of Captain Moran, but then what? I certainly would not be writing this Robservation today. God has me and has always had me exactly where He wanted me. I love people and folks who know me will clearly testify to that. A cruel world, Herr Hauptmann? You bet it can be. But those who let it determine their attitude, their moral compass, their anger, their grief, their blame and their overall situation, are the ones who truly lose in this. I chose not to indulge in those things, certainly learn from them and then move on. It seems to work for me.

The Alabama
Gazette

12 E. Jefferson Street
Montgomery, AL 36104

Office (334)356-6700

Owner/Publisher
Managing Editor
Loretta Grant

Marie Hudson ~ Layout, Office

Hazel Harsey ~ Accounting

www.alabamagazette.com
alabamagazette@gmail.com

*If you like this newspaper...
advertise your business
in the upcoming issue of the
ALABAMA GAZETTE!
Or sit Silently!
Call 334-356-6700*

Published by:
Alabama Gazette Publishing, LLC
Volume 17 - Issue 5 Copyright 2017
The Alabama Gazette 20 pages- 2 Sec.

Owner/Publisher
Samuel Adams

Contributing Writers:

Bobbie Ames
Dr. John Bitter
Michael Brooks
Trisston Burrows
Marcia Chambliss
Sheriff Derrick Cunningham
Steve Flowers
Judge Peggy Givhan
Ronald Holtsford
Ed Jones
Patricia Killough
Steve Long
Dr. Rick Marshall
John Martin
Kyllé McKinney
Sheriff Joe Sedinger
John Sophocleus
David Spooner
Robert Tate
Ron VanHerwyn

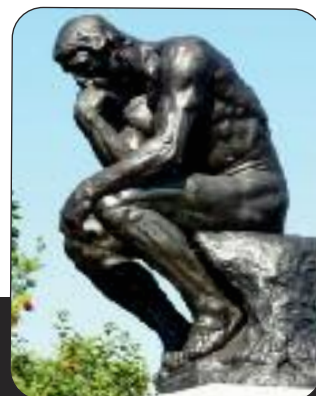
The Gazette, (*now The Alabama Gazette*) was created in year 2000 for the people of Central Alabama with the intent of being a thought-provoking, non-partisan publication reaching over 20,000 readers monthly. Written comments, stories, advertisements, social and church events, as well as classifieds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

Help Wanted!
Professional
Experienced Salesman!
Great Potential Income!
Call 334-356-6700

*The views of this
editorial are not
the express views of
The Alabama Gazette.*

John Sophocleus

THINK



Union At All Costs: *From Confederation to Consolidation*

Alabama native son John M. Taylor (Alexander City) has penned a ‘must read’ for all who want to advance their understanding of our morphing from a voluntary collation of sovereign States to the forced consolidation imposed via war 1861-5 and tyrannical years of ‘reconstruction’ to follow. A well seasoned backlog of Taylor’s short articles dating back to the early 1990’s, were the starting point of the project. I was delighted Johnny asked my input over the years and truly honored when asked to write the Foreword where I attempt to set the tone for the book, which includes transportation, economic and historical inferences to the Orwellian style ‘political correctness’ used to aid and abet the transition from our course toward liberty to a command economy.

Prefaced with a reference to one of Taylor’s Confederate ancestors (Henry Hodnett) his Mother was born in 1914 who knew Henry (her Great Grandfather) well and was greatly influenced by him. She was almost fourteen when Henry passed away in 1928. Taylor’s transportation experience clearly improves the text, making the usual distortion of history and corruption of morals via the media more understandable to the ‘layman’ reader.

Divided into general sections, the first three chapters deal with opposing views of the Declaration of Independence and State sovereignty as the colonies seceded from England. For example, Lincoln’s view of the Declaration is contrasted with the Jeffersonian view widely accepted in the South. Added to this ideological mix Taylor explains differences in agrarian-dominated and industry-dominated economies, relative to tariffs, trade, banking, and labor.

Chapters Four and Five introduce Abraham Lincoln more prominently into the ongoing transition. This includes a look at Lincoln’s youth and his interest in politics and transportation. His early identification with the Whig Party is well documented, especially his support for protective tariffs, internal improvements, and a national bank. Lincoln was an ideological disciple of Alexander Hamilton and Henry Clay.

Chapters Six through Nine address the intimate connection between Lincoln and the railroad industry, his political ascension, and the peculiar array of groups that supported him. Lincoln handled numerous legal cases which benefitted the railroads; some of the most important cases are covered. Also, Lincoln’s cunning and successful manipulative strategy in winning the 1860 Republican nomination is discussed on his path to election as the 16th US President.

In Chapters Ten through Thirteen, multiple Southern peace efforts are discussed. From the outset, the Confederate States sought peaceful co-existence, perhaps naively believing it was a possibility. Lincoln never had any intentions of recognizing the Confederacy; he *claimed* the Union existed before the colonies were generally referred to as States via the 1774 Articles of Association. Keeping the South in the Union was critical to Northern industry and their economic prosperity. A review of the Confederate Constitution (expressly forbidding the use of tariffs to foster one branch of industry over another) includes the list of grievances and how they were addressed. Most are never taught the two Constitutions are almost identical. With this in mind, Mr. Taylor makes his point well that the “age-old Just-War Theory” is shown to coincide with the Southern cause and actions. Finally, there is detailed information about Col. John Baldwin’s April 4, 1861, encounter with Lincoln and a couple of lesser-known meetings of a similar nature (Stuart, Preston, and Randolph on April 12, 1861 and Dr. Richard Fuller and associates on April 22, 1861) to avoid war.

Chapters Fourteen through Twenty-Six cover the numerous constitutional violations committed by Lincoln and his administration. Lincoln insisted the Southern States never actually left the Union. This includes Fort Sumter, coercion, the blockade, suspension of the writ of habeas corpus, suppression of press and speech in the North, Vallandigham’s arrest, the invasion of Maryland, the Fugitive Slave Law, West Virginia, the Trent Affair, and the Emancipation Proclamation(s). Part of this program was the invention of presidential war powers. After these abuses were enacted, Lincoln’s 1864 election assured the war against the Southern States would continue.

In Chapters Twenty-Seven through Thirty, the tactics used to subdue the South are examined including the basic right of the South to govern itself and whether or not the South is any way, shape, or form better off having lost a war which devastated the region. There is an examination of Jefferson Davis’ insistence that the Union is a voluntary coalition of States—not a Soviet-styled forced Union. Finally, there is a summary of the beliefs of Robert E. Lee and Lord Acton, including their dire and prophetically accurate predictions about forced consolidation of power and the inevitable results.

Chapter Thirty-One covers the Just War Theory and how it applied to the schism between the North and the South. Chapter Thirty-Two explores the tremendous amount of skepticism from many prominent Northerners as to the legitimacy of government by force as well as the tactics used. Chapters Thirty-Three through Thirty-Five delve into how and why Lincoln had to be reinvented to fit the PC narrative. This includes a look at Lincoln’s patently collectivist ideology, his so-called religion, and the apotheosis that was required to cement his martyrdom and adequately cover the tracks as to what had actually transpired. The Conclusion summarizes all subjects covered, including Orwell’s chilling comment about who controls the future.

Asserting the South had a legitimate position will likely stir up the usual catch phrases: “Southern apologist,” “revisionist,” “neo-Confederate,” “the Lost Cause,” etc. Also wise to write-off most modern entertainers, coaches, NASCAR drivers, etc., - esp. those completely ignorant about Southern history simply repeating what their corporate owners tell them to say. The best way to counter the demonization of Confederate ancestors is to simply tell the truth as Taylor does in his well documented book.

This book is purposefully designed not to be part of the standard fare included in most histories of the life and times of Abe Lincoln. Mr. Taylor’s goal is to offer abundant evidence and first hand accounts of how Abraham Lincoln was **not** a Godly, nor morally righteous individual. Lincoln was an alleged atheist and well recorded religious cynic who scoffed Christianity, a typical political creature driven by power and influence, more specifically a puppet of Northern manufacturers. In order to ‘broker’ the wealth transfer to industrialists, he was willing to “throw a bone” to the South with bargains like the Corwin Amendment. Few think of Lincoln’s character and beliefs lauded

by the likes of Lenin and Marx but as the reader proceeds through the chapters they will understand the actions and motives of this 16th US President who ended our voluntary union of sovereign States to set in blood the forced coalition of states we observe today.

Despite the “bring it on” attitude of Ruffin, Yancey, et al types so often cited many other Southerners knew they were ill-prepared to fight and did everything in their legal power to avoid war between the States. Some States simply wanted to continue under the letter and Spirit of the voluntary Republic and adhere to the Constitution. It was understood each State may voluntarily leave the compact under the “Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union,” to re-confederate under the US Constitution. There was no reason to assert it couldn’t be done again four score or so years later - that is, unless you adhere to Lincolnian beliefs and rhetoric to facilitate the wealth transfers and coercion he championed.

Mr. Taylor’s work is one of the best I’ve read (on par with Prof. Charles Adams; *For Good and Evil: the impact of taxes on the course of civilization, Those Dirty Rotten Taxes, When in the Course of Human Events*) to illustrate the degree to which Lincoln would go - regardless of his oath. Oaths mean nothing to persons of poor character, even ones of highest intelligence and political acumen as Lincoln and Taylor does a splendid job addressing ten major violations of the Constitution with examples to explain each violation to illustrate Lincoln’s blatant disregard for rule of law, voluntary government, etc.

In short, Lincoln’s usurpation of rights, both North & South, were only limited by all means made available to him (authorised or unauthorised) to accomplish his end of a powerful centralized command and control government.

The text doesn’t shy from the brutality and inhumanity of this unjust/illegal war waged upon the people of the South, including destruction of lives, property, legitimate government and the pursuit of freedom. He includes how the South is made worse off as a result of invasion and how Jefferson Davis stood on firm constitutional grounds (rooted in Christian principles of self-government) stating he would do it all again. Furthermore, Jefferson Davis longed to have his day in court to demonstrate he was not a traitor in violation of the US Constitution, but a trial would not be allowed to underscore **Lincoln’s** actions as treason according to Article 3, Section 3. As Sir John Harrington wrote, “Treason doth never prosper: what’s the reason? Why, if it prosper, none dare call it Treason.”

The direly prophetic predictions of Robert E. Lee and Lord Acton have come to their fruition as Mr. Taylor shows the modern ‘Soviet style’ US as “despotic at home and aggressive abroad” increasingly more accepted as what our Nation was supposed to become under the Lincolnian vision. Lincoln’s 1861 vision is antithetical to Mr. Washington’s hard fought and won vision of 1783. Too bad DC no longer lives up to the city’s name-sake and the promise of liberty as modern history unfolds under our post-Lincoln forced coalition

of states.

Many readers interested in this era will find Mr. Taylor’s work a ‘page turner’ if for no other reason than to contemplate how well the States under the Constitution were dealing with issues the Republicans used to enslave the Nation. Peacefully ending importation of slaves in 1808 and State emancipations are offered as a much more efficient method than the War’s 5 years of death and destruction. Few seem to know there were many who had already been emancipated by their masters or even the former slave’s own efforts to acquire their freedom (in my home state of Maryland, 49% of blacks were free in 1860) well before Mr. Lincoln’s political legerdemain in the Emancipation Proclamations, leaving us his dysfunctional legacy still reverberating today.

I find Taylor most compelling when reading Lincoln’s calculated efforts to hide his disdain for God and religion to establish his god, that is, command and control government to reverse the course of a nation of sovereign States well on the path toward freedom. Lincoln knew it would take time to separate the people from God for his Marxian style command economy to become well rooted in America. It seems increasingly more of the population has indeed embraced government as their god 150 years later.

If you want to understand Lincoln’s playbook (still used by politicians from both parties today) to set our nation on the course and outcomes we observe today - read Mr. Taylor’s “Union at All Costs.” These cost of Lincoln remain profound today, we ignore them at our own peril. If our nation does not learn from works of this sort, then the only rational forecast is we will be cast upon the junk heap of history along with all the other failed strongly centralized command and control economies which made government their god to inevitably turn despotic. Lincoln’s more recent iteration is nothing new since the days of Nimrod. Without the efforts of modern authors like Messrs Adams and Taylor, we are certain to have many more iterations of this sort (as Shakespeare penned in Julius Caesar) until these lessons are re-learned well and not forgotten. It is heartening to see authors like DiLorenzo, Ekelund, Thornton, Taylor, Woods et al scholars picking up the effort as giants like Charles Adams pass.

Postscript: in full disclosure, I must type Taylor cites my *Alabama Gazette* column on the timing of the emancipation proclamations I’ve wanted to see addressed in a sound scholarly work like this for many years. Sadly, pop press outlets will not print things too controversial/non PC. The only way this sort of economic history will get into print is when courageous writers like Taylor do so on their own purse. If you’d like to purchase a copy of **Union at All Costs**, below are links I’ve found where it is currently available:

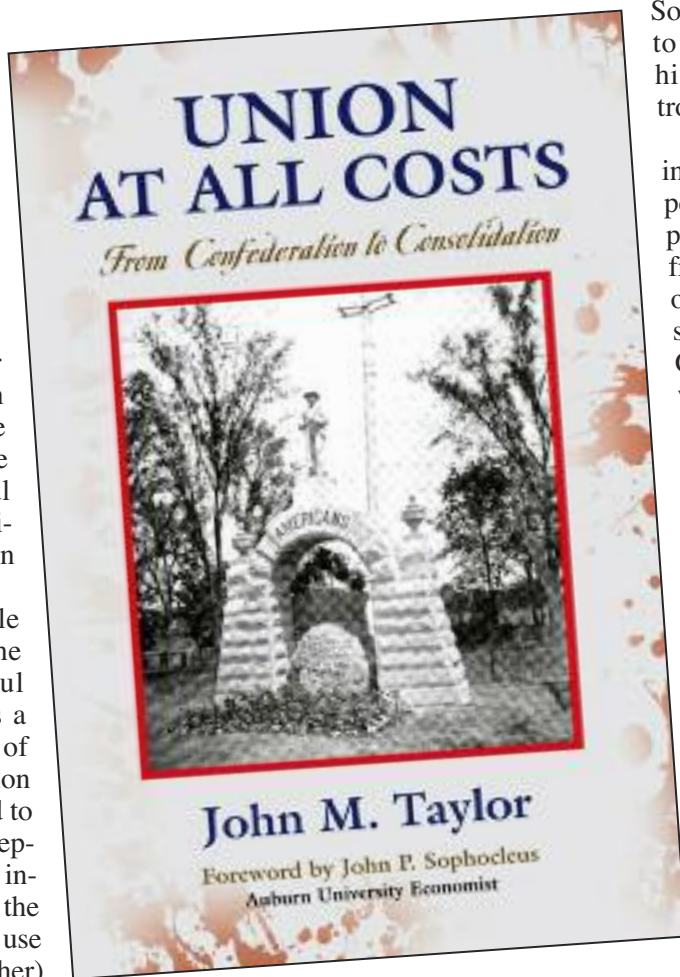
Booklocker link: <http://booklocker.com/books/8983.html>
is now available at the following URLs:

Amazon Store: <https://kdp.amazon.com/amazon-dp-action/us/dualbook-shelf.marketplacelink/B01MY8FLKI>

Apple Store: <http://itunes.apple.com/us/book/id1195223791>

Barnes & Noble Store: <http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/union-at-all-costs-john-m-taylor/1125480519?ean=2940157437268>

Kobo Store: <https://www.kobo.com/us/en/ebook/union-at-all-costs>





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

Martha Roby represents Alabama’s 2nd Congressional District. She lives in Montgomery, Alabama with her husband, Riley and their two children.



House Votes to Stop Tax Dollars from Funding Abortion

Measure Gives pro-life movement momentum after Roe v. Wade anniversary

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Representative Martha Roby (R-Ala.) today praised House passage of H.R. 7, the No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion and Abortion Insurance Full Disclosure Act of 2017, saying the bill’s passage is a victory for American taxpayers and the pro-life community.

“Since the infamous *Roe v. Wade* decision 44 years ago, nearly 60 million unborn children in this country have had their lives ended by abortion,” Roby said. “I believe in order to build a culture that truly values life, we must assign better, stronger protections for unborn children under the law.

“The majority of Americans believe that tax dollars should not subsidize abortion, and H.R. 7 rightfully prohibits this practice and places some necessary restrictions on abortion. House passage of this legislation is a victory for American taxpayers and the pro-life community.

“I am unapologetically pro-life, and it is my enduring responsibility to defend the unborn. We have a special opportunity to advance protections for life under a unified Republican government, and H.R. 7 is a great first step.”

H.R. 7 reduces on-demand abortions by implementing these restriction measures:

- Makes permanent and government-wide the Hyde Amendment and other current abortion funding prohibitions. The Hyde Amendment protects taxpayer dollars from being used to fund most abortions and abortion coverage through Affordable Care Act insurance plans and government programs like Medicaid;
- Ensures that the Affordable Care Act faithfully conforms to the Hyde Amendment while Congress works to repeal and replace the law;
- Until a new plan year begins, the bill ensures full disclosure, transparency, and the prominent display of the extent to which any health insurance plan on the exchange funds abortion.

H.R. 7 passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 238-183. It now awaits further action by the Senate.



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.
www.steveflowers.us



During the past couple of months everywhere I go people continually ask me why in the world the legislature could not simply put the issue of whether they could vote for or against a lottery on the November ballot.

The fact that this inquiry has lingered for this long tells me that folks are upset about this travesty. They are mad at the legislature. However, the blame lies with the governor.

Indeed, the legislature met in a special session to address this issue of whether or not to put the lottery proposal on the ballot and let you vote on this lingering issue. Most polls indicate that the good people of Alabama would vote in favor of it, provided that there are no sweetheart deals, hidden chicanery or favoritism in the proposal.

Most Republicans would vote in favor of it because they are tired of their money being sent to Georgia, Florida and Tennessee to help their schools, roads and indigents rather than keep their money at home helping Alabamians.

Folks in the Heart of Dixie are going to buy lottery tickets. They are just going to buy them in our surrounding states. It was noticeable that a good many of the legislators, who represent border counties, voted against the referendum. This is similar to bygone days when most of the dry counties in the state continued to vote dry due to an ironic coalition between the bootleggers and preachers.

I seriously think that some of these border counties are reaping a bonanza in gas tax revenue from the throng of cars headed to border states to buy lottery tickets. They say that cars are backed up for miles around every state border when these super powerball extravaganzas occur.

Well, to answer your questions, it is difficult to pass anything in a congress or legislature. That is why they have the old adage, “It takes an act of Congress to get something accomplished.”

In Alabama extraordinary special sessions of the legislature are the way to go to get something accomplished if you are the governor. The legislature has to address what the governor calls the legislature into session for, it is called “the call.”

George Wallace was a master of using special sessions to get what he wanted done. He would call them repeatedly. However, before he called them, he would have his ducks in a row. He would have called you on the phone, had you visit with him one on one in his office at the capitol or at the governor’s mansion. He would know what the vote count was on his issue before he called a special session. He would not waste taxpayer money on a session without any accomplishment.

Well folks, our good ole doctor Governor Bentley ain’t George Wallace. Ole Bentley did waste money that the state General Fund does not have to squander. That is why the special session was called. It was designed to help bolster the beleaguered General Fund. Bentley failed because he did just the opposite of Wallace. He did not call any legislators. They heard about the session on the news.

Even though Gov. Bentley shoulders the blame for failure to at least put the lottery issue on the ballot, he has shown profound leadership with his creation of an advisory council on gambling. This is a prudent, rational, and unbiased approach to the entire gambling issue. Bentley is right when he says the issue of gambling in the state is something that will never end unless we come together and figure out a way for the people of this state to have a say in its resolution.

This advisory panel has done a thorough job of studying this issue. Jim Byard and Clinton Carter, two bright stars in Bentley’s cabinet, have led the comprehensive study of gaming. The commission looked at what other states are doing to reap revenue from gambling that already exists to get a clearer picture of what a lottery would generate for state coffers. They have looked at all gambits of gambling in the state, not just the lottery. They are designing a long term approach to present to the legislature. The administration has extended the panel’s deadline to report to the legislature from January 31st to June, probably because they do not want to deal with gambling during this legislative session. The final solution must allowed Alabamians to vote on this issue.

February 1, 2017



John Martin

Warmongering Madness

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

In addition to repealing the catastrophic Obamacare health care plan, one of President Donald Trump’s absolute top priorities must be to resist the military industrial complex and put an immediate end to the carnage and destruction our nation has been spreading all over the Middle East under the guise of saving the local people from their leaders and civil unrest. For the past 50 years and more—from Vietnam to the Middle East—our involvement has produced no benefits whatsoever. The result has been nothing but trouble—

bloodshed, maiming, mass murder, and the utter wasting of trillions of tax dollars. It has made the United States the most hated nation in the World. Our actions in many ways were comparable to the atrocities of the Nazis.

Take Vietnam for example. From our politicians’ claims, our presence was to prevent the spread of communism into the southern part of the country. What did we accomplish? Absolutely nothing—except carnage and widespread destruction. Finally after massive public protest, President Richard Nixon decided to withdraw in 1973. Technically, we “lost” the war. But that was a far better decision than to continue the bombing, shooting, and spraying of Agent Orange until the entire country was blasted, poisoned and burned to a crisp.

During the subsequent years, Vietnam has done a decent job of rebuilding itself. And over these same years, the Vietnamese have managed to heal their hostilities toward the Americans. As long as we mind our own business and do no more meddling, good relations in the future should be successful.

In the Middle East, the beginning of our involvement seemed innocent enough. President Ronald Reagan and certain officials in the Pentagon decided it would be a good idea to help the Mujahadeen tribes in Afghanistan fight off the Russians. They were awarded substantial numbers of high-tech weapons, including Stinger missiles to shoot down aircraft. At first, it seemed like a good idea, but the local Muslim people didn’t like outsiders interfering. “I’m from the government, and I’m here to help you” is an idea that Middle Easterners (and many others) detest. The American brass, somehow, was unable to comprehend it and kept pressing on.

It wasn’t long before these same weapons were being used against Americans and other foreigners in the region.

Wars began erupting all over the Middle East. Iraq invaded Kuwait. Thousands of American troops were sent over—first Desert Shield and then Desert Storm. Oil wells were bombed and set ablaze. The most massive oil spill in history poisoned the Persian Gulf. Our involvement was hated by almost everybody in the region.

The Middle Easterners retaliated. They bombed American establishments in other parts of the World, including a huge truck bomb in one of the World Trade Center towers in New York. A few years later came the horrors of 9/11. While the towers burned and fell, crowds on New Jersey’s north shore and around the world were seen celebrating and yelling, “Death to America, death to the Great Satan.” Unlike the gentler people in Vietnam, most people in the Muslim world will not tolerate outsiders messing with them. If they try it, extreme vindictiveness can be expected. And that’s exactly what they did.

President George W. Bush felt an irresistible urge for revenge of his own. After a couple of years of planning and accusing Iraq of possessing “weapons of mass destruction,” he launched an invasion and bombing of Iraq in 2003 and later had Saddam Hussein Hanged (assassinated). (Imagine another nation doing that to us).

The result was the devastation of Iraq. Hundreds of thousands of people were killed, and an equal or greater number were horribly maimed. Homes and infrastructure were wiped off the map. Fires burned. People cried. Civil unrest exploded. Looters sacked every place they could find valuables. They even raided the museums, stealing and destroying priceless historical treasures.

Under Barack Obama’s eight years of folly and his utterly undeserved Nobel “Peace” Prize, the wars and destruction have continued unabated. New anti-American extremist groups (ISIS for example) have arisen and exacerbated the carnage and terror. We still have thousands of troops in Iraq, Syria, Afghanistan, and other places.

At home and abroad, our government must learn one very important lesson: Don’t butt in. Don’t try to “help.” Don’t meddle. Don’t be the world’s bully. President Trump must understand that we cannot “save” the Middle East. They have their own sets of morals and values. Leave them alone. Get our troops out ASAP. “Close the door, and let death pass us by.” That will be a good first step in getting them to leave us alone.



Steve Long

Woods & Waters with Steve



PATIENCE AND PRESSURE ARE THE KEYS TO DEER HUNTING

Deer season is entering the final stretch, and it’s finally getting to the real chase! The rut’s kicking into full swing, so if you’ve been keeping the pressure off certain little spots, now’s the time to lock ’em down and snag you that buck!

I like to remind folks that patience is key to deer hunting. Outside of the obvious “wait and see” approach to deer hunting in general, what with waiting in a box, blind, or ladder stand, that patience extends to the deer we harvest as well. Entering the rut, the bucks are chasing does, pure and simple. So if you’ve spooked your does, you’re not gonna be seeing much in the way of big old bucks, either. If you see some does on the field, be patient. Your next trophy could be strutting out onto that field right behind them!

That same patience can manifest itself in a lot of other ways, especially when you have younger hunters involved. I can remember quite a while back, when my oldest son Steven and I went on a hunt over near Union Springs, in Bullock County. I had him setup by himself over in a box stand looking over a good food plot that ran about 300 yards or so back. He wasn’t exactly little, but I still felt the need to remind him, over and over again, that he needs to make sure he doesn’t take a doe. That field he was on was a major passing point for a lot of the deer on the property, and sacking anything would ruin the hunting there for sure, so if he’s gonna harvest a deer, make it a good one! That property, and the areas around it, were fairly well managed, so we knew we had some of those old fellas in there. Not only that, but the weather the few days before had been fairly wet, and as any hunter or outdoorsman in Alabama knows, when it rains, you’d better be ready for some rough roads and trails. That prairie mud makes for some bad trouble!

I had dropped him off, and just gotten over to my stand. About 10 minutes later, and I hear the crack of that rifle; it was him. I knew, just knew that he had taken a doe. I was ready to give him that stern kind of lecture nobody wanted to hear, as I had told him for sure not to go harvesting any kind of doe, but to wait for a buck. A few short minutes later, I pulled my truck on over to where I had left him. As I walked up to the box stand, I looked down the field, and couldn’t believe my eyes for a moment. I could see the rack of that buck on the ground, 250 yards down the field, back from where the stand was! Steven climbed down and I knew right away he was almost as excited as I was. We trudged on down that field, and he got himself a good one! It was an 8 point I had seen on cameras before, with a 19 inch spread and some nice, thick beams; a trophy most hunters would count themselves lucky to see, much less harvest! I listened as he described

how that buck had followed a couple of does across the field a few minutes after they ran out, how he patiently waited for his shot to line up, about 250 yards downfield. I knew that he had really taken that talk about patience to heart, and boy did it pay off!



A recent buck taken at Great Southern Outdoors in Inion Springs Alabama, guide Hunter Prichett

There are other kinds of patience involved in deer hunting and deer management. With QDMA, I spend every day working with folks who understand and exemplify that virtue, ensuring that we don’t fritter away the things we have today, ruining what we could have tomorrow! Proper deer management isn’t something you just do for a couple of days a year, but something that takes constant dedication and work. The results take years to really start to shine, but they are absolutely worth it! That same pride I felt, seeing the results of the patience my son had that day, is the same I feel for the work I do with land management and deer herd management. It’s a lot of work, but it’s so definitely worth it! I encourage all of you to take some time and visit www.qdma.com and spend a little time reading up on us, and of course, deer! I really hope all of you folks have a wonderful remainder of the season, all the way through February 10th! So get out there, get comfy, and stay patient! Go get ’em!

Kritter Korner

Ringtailed cat/Miner’s cat

Ringtail cats are not related to the cat family but are members of the raccoon family, Procyonidae which also includes Kinkajous, and Coati mundis. Ringtails are cat sized animals that resemble a mix between a fox and a raccoon. The face



is fox-like, with a pointed snout, and the body is raccoon-like and elongated. The top side of the animal is yellow to dark brown or black, and the underside is a whitish buff. The ears and eyes are large and the eyes are ringed by white fur. The tail is very bushy and can be longer than the head and body in many cases. It is also marked by 14-16 alternating

black and white bands for which the animal is named. The average ringtail is 24-32 inches long and weighs between 2 to 5 lbs.

The name “ringtail” comes from the black ring markings that are found on the animal’s tail. Ringtails are also referred to by many other names, like miner’s cat because they were used to help control rodents in mines, civet cat because of the foul odor it secretes when confronted; this name is also an allusion to an African species named Civettictis civetta, which produces a substance called civet that is used in perfumes.

Ringtails usually inhabit deserts, rock plateaus, and canyons in the Southwest states such as Nevada, Utah, Arizona, and Texas. They also live in forests in California and Oregon. Ringtails are great climbers and because of their tactile movements and agility, these animals make their homes in mountainous terrain, rock crevices, tree hollows, or under cliffs.



Ringtails are primarily carnivorous but also do eat other food like plants, fruit, and insects. Their diets generally consist of small mammals (rodents, rabbits, squirrels), small birds, insects (spiders, grasshoppers, crickets, centipedes,

scorpions), and fruits (persimmon, mistletoe, hackberries). As well, the diet varies throughout the year. In the fall, it consists of mostly plants and insects; in winter, mammals and birds; and in summer, insects.

Ringtails are solitary animals, except during mating season, and are nocturnal. They are also quite vocal, especially the young. They will make squeaks, chitters, grunts, growls, and hissing. Ringtails are also exceptionally good climbers, which is why they make their homes in rock crevices, cracks, and cliffs. They are very nimble and can quickly reverse the direction they are moving in by performing a cartwheel using their tail. Another interesting feature is their ability to rotate their hind feet 180°. Ringtails are also able to move up narrow passages by pressing their feet on one side of the wall and pressing their back against the other side or pressing both right feet on one side of the wall and both left feet on the other side.

Ringtails have no special status but are the official state mammal of Arizona. The main predators of ringtails are bobcats, raccoons, foxes, large owls and humans. Although humans are one of their top predators, ringtails are usually killed because they are pests to farmers, damaging poultry and orchards.

Ringtails can be kept as pets.



Ron VanHerwyn

Ron's Kritter Kids (wildlife education)

Wildlife education & wildlife rescue

Wildlife education & wildlife rescue. To educate as many people as possible about wildlife indigenous to Alabama and the repercussions that occur when we build and take away their homes.

TOURS AVAILABLE

Please call: 334-301-5131/334-301-5128 • No daily hours available.

Email: kritterkids@yahoo.com
Website: <http://kritterkids.webs.com/>



GEICO
Local Office

Your local GEICO
agent is now close by.

(334) 260-0755
5163 Atlanta Highway | Montgomery



Sports Editor,
Ed Jones

Georgia State were probably correct in the assessment of moving into the top class of college football with the plethora of bowl games available, the promise of more money in the coffers due to expanded crowds and fan bases. Also the alumni were stuck in what they considered the oblivion of Division I-AA or Division II. There may have been other considerations, but this was the impetus that had the alumni licking their lips at the prospect of playing teams like Alabama and Auburn. Georgia beat Troy 66-0 in Athens two years ago. What amount of money could be enjoyed by the university at the expense of an embarrassment like that. It is a given that Troy beat Mississippi State during a down year and also beat Missouri. The Missouri game was the first big conference team to come to Troy. The game was won on a fumble recovery for a touchdown and other mistakes by Missouri. **Coach Pat Garner** and I were in Troy for the Missouri game. It was at this game that I thought Troy may be able to compete with the “big boys”.

Games like the Missouri win and the Mississippi State win have been few and far between. Troy even persuaded Duke to come to Troy a few years ago. The score was Duke 34 and Troy 17. Well, that was a close game to the Troy faithful continuing to perpetuate the myth that Troy can eventually play with the Alabama’s, the Auburn’s, the Georgia’s. **Coach Larry Blakeney** retired from Troy in 2014 with the most wins by a college coach in the State of Alabama, even eclipsing his own college coach, **Ralph “Shug” Jordan** who won 176 games at Auburn. Larry coached, promoted, worked as hard as he could during his tenure at Troy. It must be pointed out however that many of those wins came in Division II and Division I-AA. The new coach, **Neal Brown**, in his second year, will find the going just as tough as Coach Blakeney did.

University of Alabama Birmingham (UAB) has been in this quagmire for thirty years or more. They even beat LSU in Baton Rouge when **Nick Saban**



Coach Neal Brown of Troy has the Trojans on the march

was the LSU coach. Everybody got excited. What have they done since. Their record is worse than Troy’s, playing what I call the “Big Boys”. The University of Alabama System has carried the load of UAB football from its inception. UAB was forced to drop football in 2015 from lack of funding. Alumni and supporters pledged \$17 million dollars to reinstate football in 2017. That \$17 million will be gone in five years. Although UAB plays Troy each year, the attendance is not what one would expect of two D-I teams. UAB plays in Conference USA along with Southern Mississippi, a team we will discuss later. Troy plays in the Sun Belt Conference where they have to travel to Idaho and New Mexico State.

There are two other teams in the Sun Belt Conference that are in the “twilight zone” mentioned above. That is Georgia State in Atlanta and South Alabama in Mobile. South Alabama is having moderate success in that they are breaking even on the field, but not in the finance department.

Southern Mississippi has been in Division I for as long as I can remember. I first saw them play when the Golden Eagles beat a good Alabama team in Crampton Bowl in 1953. That has been the highlight of the not so glorious history of Southern Mississippi football. With the presence of programs at Ole Miss and Mississippi State, Southern Miss has been relegated to “baby brother”. They are out funded, out recruited and out coached. They can no longer be relevant in the State of Mississippi. The pool of football players is just not good enough to divide three ways in Mississippi.

We have discussed the difficult situation with schools that moved from D I-AA to D-I. Would these universities consider going down one classification in order to compete on the field and compete at the financial office? Probably not, but the following is a scenario that could work if phased in over a period of three years.

Troy, UAB, South Alabama, Georgia State and Southern Mississippi could begin the process of forming a new conference of Division I-AA schools called the **DEEP SOUTH CONFERENCE**.

Schools that are playing at the Division I-AA level now who should be added to the Deep South Conference are Alabama State in Montgomery, Alabama A&M in Huntsville, Jacksonville State in Jacksonville, Samford in Birmingham and Chattanooga in Tennessee. Three years is an ample time to make the move to the Deep South Conference. This gives us nine teams by 2019.

There are three Division II teams that are playing above their classification for the most part that could easily make the transition to Division I-AA in three years. They are North Alabama in Florence and Tuskegee in Tuskegee.

To move from D-I to D I-AA, teams would have to give up from 85 football scholarships down to 65. This sounds like a tremendous blow. But if you are not winning and making money, this would be a considerable savings in tuition room and board, and medical insurance not to mention the savings in cost of travel. No more Idaho’s or New Mexico State’s. Jacksonville State or Alabama State will bring more fans than Idaho and New Mexico State combined.

In addition to losing 20 scholarships, Division I-AA teams can only schedule eleven games because each team will be eligible for the I-AA National Championship Play-offs, if they qualify. Troy was a perennial candidate in I-AA and won the national championship twice. Therefore a nine game rotating schedule would allow each team to play nine conference games and two out of

TROY, SO. ALABAMA, UAB ALWAYS ON D-I BUBBLE

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

conference. This means you could schedule Michigan State as did Jacksonville State one year, traveling to East Lansing, Michigan, get beat 45-7 and come home with a nice check. Or you could schedule West Alabama, who I did not include in the proposed Deep South Conference because their potential fan base is seriously limited. The twelve teams recommended in this scenario would never have to travel more than approximately 300 miles. In some cases only forty or fifty miles. The savings would be tremendous. The chance of winning will be much better and the attendance at a winning Division I-AA program will certainly outdistance the present attendance of struggling Division I-A programs. Winning is contagious. So is losing!

Of course I have only given a scenario that could work. However, I am not naive enough to believe that all of the above schools would authorize such a drastic move. But, it is something to think about.

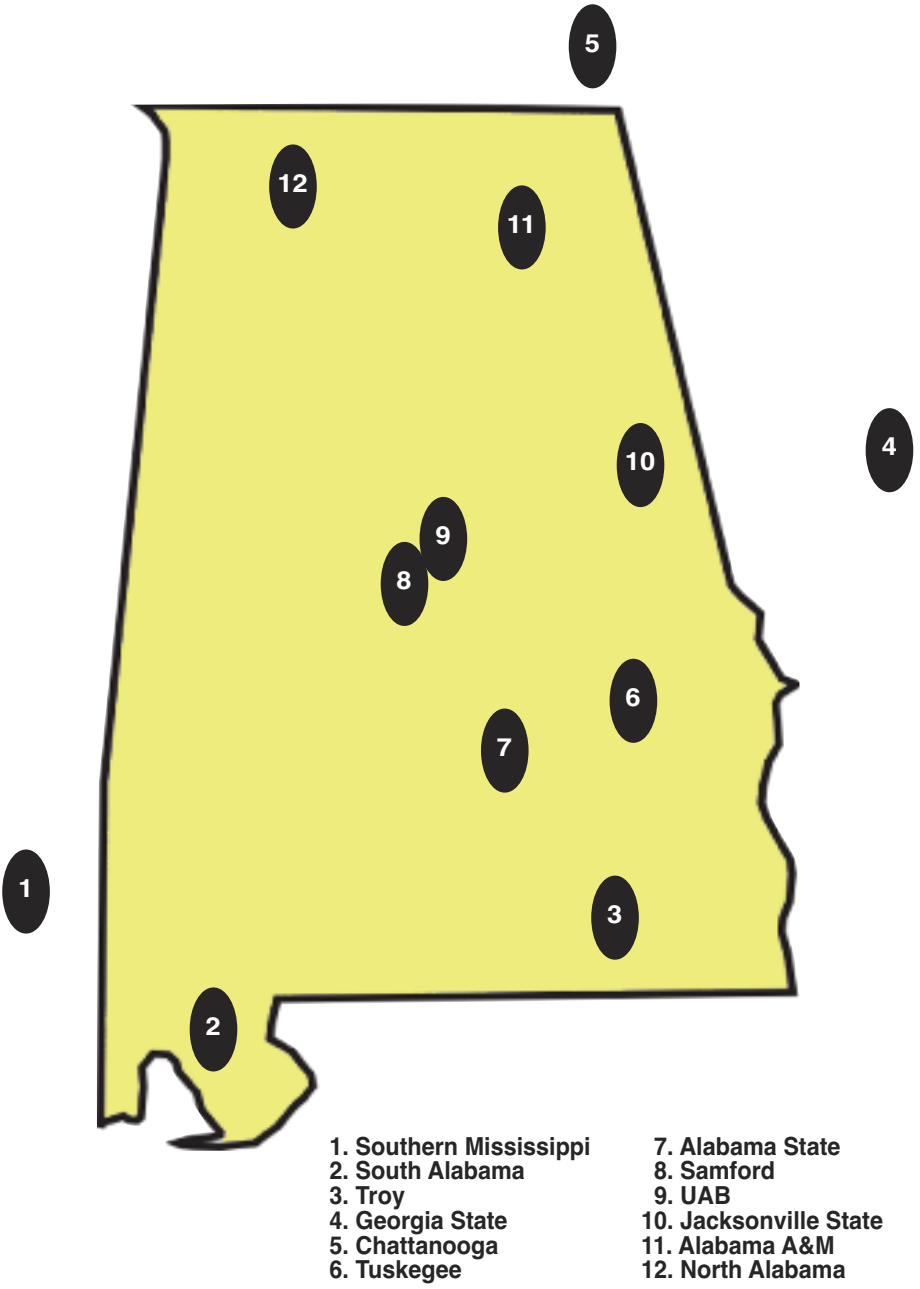
It just hurts me to see players and coaches be embarrassed and sometimes injured, playing programs that are just one step ahead of them. I don’t see Troy, UAB, Southern Mississippi, Georgia State, South Alabama ever reaching the goals that they set out to accomplish. There are just not enough good football players in Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia and Tennessee to support programs other than Auburn, Alabama, Ole Miss, Mississippi State, Georgia and Georgia Tech, Tennessee and Vanderbilt. Any other Division I programs in these four states will always suffer no matter who the coach is or what the alumni base wants to accomplish or how much money is thrown at the program.



Coach Bill Clark is trying to find enough players for 2017



Coach Joey Jones is struggling to keep USA above .500



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

You may be over the hill if... you remember that who, what, when, where, why, and how were guiding principles of news reporting



Gazette Seniors...

Dr. John Bitter, Editor
Senior Section

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO GOOD MANNERS?

“We just ain't got no couth no more.”

Those of us who are stumbling into our Golden Years, and are watching national events on television are frequently reminded of two behaviors we learned in our youth; two behaviors that we seldom witness any more. These are manners and decorum. We grew up being constantly reminded of our manners, and frequently punished should we stray from either.

We were constantly being reminded of our manners by our elders, and straying from the principle of manners would frequently result in a good tanning. The principle of manners varies among social classes, but the basic rules concern our ways of living and our respect for others.

Decorum can best be defined as the way of behaving as a member of polite society.

Now, apply these two definitions with what we've observed during the recent presidential election battles we've witnessed, and most seniors find themselves asking: What happened?

We recall our youth and frequent tanning that followed straying from either or both.

We learned to address our seniors as sir or ma'am, whichever was appropriate. Speaking when spoken to was another rule, that most of us remember being

punished for should we fail to adhere to this conduct guide.

After watching the primary and presidential elections many of us in the senior category find ourselves scratching our heads and wondering: What happened to manners and decorum?

Watching the television presentations with respect to the presidential elections and to the hearings that have taken place in their wake. Speaking when spoken to speaking in a modulated voice, being respectful of those to whom we speak, using proper English when addressing others, and the list of courtesy and proper language usage infractions goes on.

Have we no Shame?

Do Americans know the definition of manners?

Did their elders not bring them up properly?

Has our society sunk to such a pitiful low as to rendered us ashamed to admit that we're Americans?

One would hope not; but recent events suggest pride in being an American has suffered a new low.

Perhaps one of President-elect Trump's first chores should be to teach Americans some manners and decorum.

Liar, liar!

President Barack Obama must have been extremely uncomfortable the evening of January 12, giving his State of the Union Address while his trousers were ablaze.

On the 10th of January, Americans, and any of the rest of the world who may have cared, were introduced to a monument of incongruity.

It should have been obvious to the average TV or radio listener, that Pres. Barack Obama was reading from text prepared by someone else.

To try to match the words spoken by Pres. Obama, and the reality of his two terms as President of the United States one would be left with the feeling that the two had absolutely nothing in common.

It was an uplifting speech, but it had nothing to do with Mr. Obama's last two terms as President of the United States.

Practically everything Mr. Obama said required a stretch of one's imagination. If anything, he has dragged this nation down inch by inch during his fantasy terms as President of the United States. Looking back to his election many Americans remember wincing at Mr. Obama's apology tour of the world after his inauguration.

We remember agonizing at the sight of our President bowing and scraping before foreign dictators and potentates. We were thunderstruck at the sight of the supposed leader of our nation genuflecting before people the average American would have turned his or her back on should he or she have met them on the street.



Reflections

By Michael J. Brooks

A MORE EXCELLENT WAY

He was deacon chairman in the church when I became the pastor. I was young and impressionable, and he made an impression on me. I still quote Horace, though he's been in heaven for many years, when I jokingly refer to the Sunday worship guide as the "bullington" as he did. Horace had a sense of humor, but everyone knew he loved the Lord and his church.

One day his wife Ruth told me the season of the year we were in at the time--summer--was particularly hard for Horace. I asked her what she meant, and she reminded me it was nominating season in the church, and Horace often found himself on the nominating committee. Then I understood.

Baptist churches begin their new church year in September or October, so the middle-to-late summer is the time we busy ourselves trying to staff organizations for the new year. And it can be a frustrating time. Some treat their volunteerism like a prison sentence: "*Preacher, I've served my time,*" they say. What they mean is something else is now more important than this job. Then we try to "guilt trip" them into working one more year.

Nevertheless, I often lament that we do God's work in this way--putting square pegs in round holes--as the church is often accused of doing. There ought to be a better way.

The Apostle Paul insisted in **1 Corinthians 12** that God has given a "charismaton" to every Christian (**v. 4**). The word is based on the Greek word for grace, and it's translated "spiritual gift." Sometimes we equate the charismata with the tongue-speaking gift, but Paul labeled all gifts "charismaton." Thus all Christians are charismatic since all have spiritual gifts for service to the body of Christ, the church.

And it's in this context that Paul used two familiar analogies. He imagined a civil war in the body when the ear decided it wasn't as important as the eye, so it stopped working. And in the same way, the foot grew weary of playing second fiddle to the hand and decided to stop working (**vs. 15-17**). His point is that every member of the body is important and without every part in operation the body is impaired. And this is true in the spiritual body, the church.

The better way to operate might be to help people discover their gifts and to encourage them to obediently use those gifts in ministries. After all, serving the Lord is not only a privilege, but it's also designed to bring fulfillment and joy.

The better question might be, "How we can effectively use your spiritual gift in the advancement of God's work through our church?"

Reflections is a weekly devotional column written by Michael J. Brooks, pastor of the Siluria Baptist Church in Alabaster, Ala. The church's website is siluriabaptist.com.

The Scout Oath

Two historical events occurred in the year 1941: Japan attacked Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, and your writer joined the Boy Scouts of America.

The country has undergone many historical changes since that time, the majority of them negative, but the Scout Law has remained the same since it was written in 1908 by Baron Robert Baden-Powell, the creator of this world-wide youth movement. But the United States of America has undergone some significant, but also disappointing changes, as evidenced by the various campaigns for the U.S. presidency—especially the one we recently witnessed.

Scouts lived their young lives with a pledge to be TRUSTWORTHY. This meant that they told the truth. A Scout kept his promises. He was dependable. By the time many scouts attained voting age this trait has been blurred considerably; probably going back 40-some years ago and the Watergate era, when disgracing the office of the Presidency came into vogue. A Scout also pledged to be LOYAL; Loyal to his family; his friends, and his nation. At the rate we're going the word loyal may soon be expunged from our dictionaries.

A Scout pledged also to be helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, cheerful and thrifty.; worthy traits, indeed.

And, he also pledged to be obedient. This worked well for young scouts, but once they became of voting age, the trait of obedience began to blur.

The pledge to be brave still has some credibility; look at many of our young men who choose to wear the various uniforms of their country; men and women who have pledged to defend and assist their fellow men--and women, often at the risk of their own lives.

Clean of mind and body has taken a negative hit over the last few years, and reverent has really taken some hits over the last quarter century or so.

Learning and reciting the Scout Pledge was a significant highlight of this aging writer's life, but today one has cause to wonder:

Where are the Scouts when you need them?

ELIZABETH H. WRIGHT APARTMENTS

Independent Senior Living • 62 and older



Spacious 1 Bedroom • 1 Bath apartments
Rent is based on income
rent includes utilities
(On the Campus of Faulkner University)

5201 W. Alabama Christian Dr.
Montgomery, Al. 36109

(334) 386-7490 TDD 334-557-6252
or 557-6254



Advertise your business in
The ALABAMA GAZETTE!
Call 356-6700



DR. RICK MARSHALL
Pastor, Eastern Hills
Baptist Church
Montgomery, Alabama

THE MARSHALL MOMENT

Soul Searching

“Dealing With Our Anger”

February is known as the month of love with the annual mid-month celebration of Valentine’s Day. Love is certainly one of the most powerful emotions God gave us. Most of us enjoy the love of others and find happiness in returning love. But there is another powerful emotion we are less capable of managing well within the framework of our Christian faith. That is anger.

Let’s start here with a question. What is your pet peeve? Everyone has one. One of the most frustrating to me is telemarketers. Yes, I know it is their job to get on the phone to make cold calls and sell a product or service you and I never thought about wanting or needing. Doesn’t that name or number which keeps coming up on your phone disturb you?

Of course, there are any number of other things which “get to us” such as the way people drive, use their cell phone inappropriately, gossip, make messes and don’t clean them up, the constant complainers or those who somehow demand to be the center of attention no matter what is going on. The list could go on and on.

So what do you do? If you are like the rest of us you get angry. You feel you have the right to want them to suffer if you had to. You want them to apologize or appease you for the inconvenience. You might even be tempted to enlarge the problem by trying to get even yourself.

Anger is a valid emotion, but a subtle one which must be acknowledged and managed or it can be highly destructive. Anger has the capacity to do more damage by holding on to it than the original provocation which inspired it. Someone compared holding anger to walking around with an open container of acid or a stick of dynamite. It contains either much capacity for good or destruction. How often do we hear the phrase, someone “blew up?” What that means is that someone had no capacity to manage anger and let it come out on others. Many times the receiver of the anger isn’t even the person who initiated the problem.

Dealing well with anger is one of the biggest challenges for Christians due to confusion surrounding it. We often do not acknowledge we have it because we feel we are not supposed to have it in the first place. We may even deceive ourselves by calling it something else. But like cancer, it still grows no matter what it is called. To identify it is the beginning point of managing or using it well.

According to a news article, *"The average person feels some degree of anger or its lower-grade cousin, frustration, ten to fourteen times a day."* This is all the more reason to identify it, accept it and address it.

The Apostle Paul gives us some help when he wrote, *"Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not make room for the devil"* (Ephesians 4:26-7) I don't know if you have really thought about this passage before. But the first time we read it, it often causes us to have a double take, because it says, *"In your anger do not sin."* So evidently, there is an anger that is not sin, anger that is acceptable, perfectly within the will of God. Wow! Did you know that?

When is anger acceptable? Before answering that let me remind us that there is a difference in feeling anger and acting out that emotion toward others.

The capacity for anger is a God-given emotion. It is acceptable to be angry when God's Word and God's Will are being violated. Florence Nightingale was known for her anger against inadequate hospital care. William Carey was angered by the inhumane slave trade in Africa.

There are times when we ought to say, *"Enough!"* There are times when we need to stand up for what is right and express our anger. We are not commanded to sit passively by and let evil rule supreme. We must become angry at the unjust things that are happening in our world.

Anger is unacceptable when you become angry because you are jealous of someone else.

Do you remember the story of the prodigal son and the older brother’s

reaction when the prodigal son returned? He would not participate because he was angry. Why was he angry? It was jealousy.

Secondly, anger is unacceptable when you become angry because things just don't go the way you want them to go. Has this ever happened to you? Maybe you remember the story of Jonah. He didn’t want to go to Ninevah because he didn’t want to see the people repent. He was rebelling against God. He did finally end up there and when they repented, he was angry. Have you ever felt you knew more about what God ought to do than Him?

A third reason for unacceptable anger is when we get angry because we don't know all the facts. A man got to a restaurant after calling for reservations only to find no table was ready. He complained and was frustrated at the manager who said he could find no record of the call. But the man was sure he had called. After a difficult evening he got home and looked back at the record of the call on his home phone only to discover he had called a restaurant by the same name at a different address by mistake.

And I should mention also that sometimes we get angry because of our hectic schedules. We're so busy and always seem to be rushing about. We're tired - so when something happens we react angrily often failing to think things through.

But God tell us we can be angry and not sin. How? Paul advised, *“Don't let the sun go down on your anger."* Be careful not to make it a habit to leave unsettled matters with those in your family when you go to bed.

"Don't give the Devil an opportunity." You see, when the Holy Spirit comes into our life, He wants to make us like Jesus. He begins to refine the rough edges in order to make us more like Jesus. But when we give the Devil an opportunity; He does the opposite. He tries to make us more and more like himself.

Thomas Jefferson said: *"If you are angry count to 10 before you speak. If you are very angry, count to 100."* That’s not bad advice. But even better is having the peace of Christ in our heart. If so, we are not looking for things to make us angry every day, but rather that which increase our joy. Take those things which cause disturbance to the Lord in prayer.

James said, *"You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; for your anger does not produce God's righteousness."* (James 1:19-20)

God will grant us that power if we will commit ourselves to Him. If we will commit our tongue, our mind and our emotions to Him, God will help us to have a healthy anger at the right things and not to have the kind of anger that would cause others to stumble and fall. Remember, you can be angry but it doesn’t have to lead to sin.



Welcome
Eastern Hills

Come & join us on
SUNDAY MORNING

Bible Study:
9:00 AM

Worship:
10:15 AM

www.ehbconline.com



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

By **Kylle’ D. McKinney**
kylle.mckinney@ssa.gov
(334) 479-1242--Cell
(334) 272-7630--Fax

SET A GOAL, MAKE A PLAN, AND SAVE AUTOMATICALLY: AMERICA SAVES WEEK



Saving for the future is a vital part of ensuring a secure retirement. American Savings Education Council and America Saves coordinate the annual America Saves Week. Started in 2007, the week is an annual opportunity for organizations to promote good savings behavior and a chance for individuals to assess their own saving status.

For years, Social Security has collaborated with **America Saves Week** to promote our shared mission of helping millions of people save for their future. This year, **America Saves Week begins on February 27**, but people like you are striving to save every day.



The 2016 annual America Saves Week survey assessing national household savings revealed:

- Just two out of every five U.S. households report good or excellent progress in meeting their savings needs.

- About half (52 percent) are saving enough for a retirement with a desirable standard of living.
- Only 43 percent have automatic savings outside of work.
- More men (74 percent) report progress with saving than do women (67 percent).
- Those with a savings plan with specific goals (55 percent of the public) are making much more savings progress than those without a plan (23 percent).

Knowing this, it’s never too early to start planning for your future. Set a goal, make a plan, and save automatically. Savers with a plan are twice as likely to save successfully. Pledge to save for America Saves Week at www.americasaves.org. *Share what you’re saving for using the hashtag #ImSavingFor.*

You may also want to visit www.myRA.gov if you do not have retirement savings as part of your job, myRA is a retirement savings account from the Department of the Treasury designed to help you put aside money for your retirement. You can invest in the fund according to your budget, putting you in control of your financial prospects.

Social Security’s “People Like Me” website has tailor-made information for preparing for your future. Our richly diverse country is made up of countless backgrounds, ethnicities, and nationalities, yet we all want the same thing — a secure future. You can see many of the diverse people we serve at www.socialsecurity.gov/people.

Younger people need to know, the earlier you start saving, the more your money can grow. Our website for young workers at www.socialsecurity.gov/people/youngpeople/saving.html has many resources that can help you secure today and tomorrow.

Veterans and wounded warriors, as well as their families, sometimes face unique obstacles when saving for their future. Our website has life-changing information at www.socialsecurity.gov/people/veterans.

After more than 80 years of success, we know that Social Security will always be there for you. Securing your today and tomorrow will always be our priority.

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



The Education Station... *By Bobbie Ames*

The Origin of Old Glory

The story of the Stars and Stripes is the story of our nation. It is the story of freedom, liberty, and equal justice under the law. Our flag has gone through the evolution of our ideas and of our free institutions. The flag is our symbol, our emblem for our ideas, our faith, and our laws.

In our early days when we were thirteen British colonies, the banners borne by the Revolutionary forces varied widely.

The local flags and colonial devices, displayed on land and sea during the first months of the American War for Independence, carried the various grievances that the colonists had against the Mother Country.

The first public reference to the flag was published on March 10, 1774. A Boston newspaper, “**The Massachusetts Spy,**” ran this poem as a tribute to the flag:

*“A ray of bright glory now beams from afar,
Blest drawn of an empire to rise:
The American Ensign now sparkles a star,
Which shall shortly flame wide through the skies.”*

In the summer of 1775, when George Washington had been appointed Commander in Chief of the Continental Forces for the defense of American Liberty, the Continental Congress was still corresponding with King George to present their grievances.

However, by the fall of 1775, the revolting citizens chose a flag that reflected their feeling of unity with the Mother Country, but expressed their demand to obtain justice and liberty.

In Taunton, Massachusetts, a flag was unfurled in 1774, which carried the British Jack in the canton, and had the words “Liberty and Union” printed on it.

The famous Rattlesnake Flag, carried by the Minutemen in 1775, showed thirteen red and white stripes with a rattlesnake emblazoned across it, and the warning, “Don’t Tread on Me.”

In 1775, the banner that flew over Fort Moultrie displayed a crescent on a blue field with the word “Liberty” printed in white. When this flag was shot down by enemy muskets, a brave sergeant named Jasper nailed it back to the staff at the risk of his life.

The Pine Tree Flag, which flew over the troops at Bunker Hill in 1775, displayed the pine tree symbol of the Massachusetts Bay Colony. It was a white flag with top and bottom stripe of blue, and it showed a green pine tree with the words, “Liberty Tree---An Appeal to God.”

The first flag to represent the colonies at sea was raised by John Paul Jones from the deck of the Alfred on December 3, 1775. One month later, George Washington displayed the same design and named it the Grand Old Flag. This was on January 2, 1776. It had thirteen alternate red and white stripes and a blue field with the crosses of Saint Andrew and Saint George on it.

After July 4, 1776, the people of the colonies felt the need for a new flag—one that would be a national flag, an emblem of unity and independence. The Continental Congress acted:

“Resolved that the flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate with red and white, that the union be thirteen stars, white on a blue field. The significance of the colors was defined thus:

**White signified Purity and Innocence,
Red, hardiness and Valor;
Blue, Vigilance, Perseverance and Justice.”**



Francis Hopkinson, signer of the Declaration of Independence and a member of the Continental Congress, is credited with having designed the American Flag.

Betsy Ross, the flag maker in Philadelphia, is credited by historians of the period with having made the first flag and having suggested that the stars be five pointed. Betsy Ross’ home in Philadelphia is a national shrine, and the flag flies on a staff from her 3rd floor window. Her grandson, William J. Canby, wrote in 1857, that he vividly recalled as a boy of 11 being told the story by his 84 year old grandmother, Betsy Ross.

“It is not tradition, it is report from the lips of the principal participator in the transaction, directly told not to one or two, but a dozen or more witnesses, of which I myself am one, though but a little boy when I heard it... Colonel Ross with Robert Morris and General Washington, called on Mrs. Ross and told her they were a committee of Congress, and wanted her to make a flag from the drawing, a rough one, which, upon her suggestions, was redrawn by General Washington in pencil in her back parlor. This was prior to the Declaration of Independence. I fix the date to be during Washington’s visit to Congress from New York in June, 1776, when he came to confer upon the affairs of the Army, the flag being no doubt, one of these affairs.”

There is in the Archives of the Navy an order “for making ship colors” for 14 pounds, 12 shillings and 2 pence, to Elizabeth Ross of Philadelphia.

The Marine Committee adopted on June 14, 1777, the theme of the red and white striped Union flag of Holland to the flag of the thirteen United States of America. Ezra Stiles, President of Yale University, recorded in his diary the resolution passed by Congress in 1777:

“The Congress have substituted a new constella of thirteen stars instead of the Union in the Continental Colors.”

On May 1, 1795, our flag was changed to 15 stars and 15 stripes with the inclusion of Vermont(1791) and Kentucky(1792) into the Union. It was the flag that was “*so gallantly streaming*” over Fort McHenry when Francis Scott Key wrote “**The Star Spangled Banner.**” This flag flew from

1795 to 1818 for 23 years. Five presidents served under this flag; **George Washington** (1789-1797), **John Adams** (1797-1801), **Thomas Jefferson** (1801-1809), **James Madison** (1809-1817), and **James Monroe** (1817-1825).

During the night of September 13, 1814, the British fleet bombarded Fort McHenry in the harbor at Baltimore, Maryland. **Francis Scott Key**, a 34 year old lawyer-poet, watched the attack from the deck of the British prisoner-exchange ship. He had gone to seek the release of a friend, but they were refused permission to go ashore until the attack had been made. On the following morning, Key turned his telescope to the fort and saw that the American flag was still waving. The sight so inspired him that he pulled a letter from his pocket and began to write the poem, which eventually was adopted as the national anthem of the United States – “***The Star-Spangled Banner.***” Key was returned to Baltimore and later that day took a room at a Baltimore tavern, where he completed the poem. Years later, Key told a hometown audience in Fredrick, Maryland:



“I saw the flag of my country waving over a city – the strength and pride of my native State – a city devoted to plunder and desolation by its assailants. I witnessed the preparation for its assaults. I saw the array of its enemies as they advanced to the attack. I heard the sound of battle; the noise of the conflict fell upon my listening ear, and told me that ‘the brave and the free’ had met the invaders.

*O thus be it ever when freemen shall stand
Between their lov'd home and the war's desolation!
Blest with vict'ry and peace may the heav'n rescued land
Praise the power that hath made and preserv'd us a nation!
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto - "In God is our trust,"
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.*

This is the last verse of the “Star Spangled Banner”, showing spelling and punctuation from Francis Scott Key’s manuscript in the Maryland Historical Society collection.
http://amhistory.si.edu/starspangledbanner/pdf/ssb_lyrics.pdf

On April 4, 1818, Congress enacted the following law which is still in effect:

“An Act to Establish the Flag of the United States. Sec. 1. Be it enacted. Etc., That from and after the fourth day of July next, the flag of the United States be thirteen horizontal stripes, alternate red and white; that the union have twenty stars, white in a blue field. Sect. 2. Be it further enacted, That on the admission of every new state into the Union, one star be added to the union of the flag; and that such addition shall take effect on the fourth of July next succeeding such admission.”

The First Flag Flown in Battle

Fort Stanwix, New York, August 3, 1777. The city of Rome, New York is the spot where Fort Stanwix was situated. On August 2nd, British and Indians attacked the fort, which was defended by Colonel Peter Gansevoort with 600 men. Lt. Col. Mellon arrived at the fort that afternoon, with ammunition and supplies, and he also brought newspapers that carried the accounts of the newly enacted flag resolution.

Soldiers gave up their white shirts. One of the wives at the fort donated her red flannel petticoat, and Captain Abraham Swartwout's coat made of blue cloth was donated to provide the blue field for the union.

In the Battle for Guilford Courthouse, March 15, 1781, was the first time the "Stars and Stripes" were carried by the North Carolina Militia of the American Army in the Revolutionary War. It had thirteen eight pointed stars.

A bronze historical marker, close to the Detroit River, identifies the spot where the first American flag was raised along the Great Lakes on July 25, 1791.

When George Washington transferred his army from Boston to New York, he carried the "Grand Flag" with him, and raised it over his headquarters.

On April 24, 1778, John Paul Jones wrote, "Following the first naval victory, I hoisted the ‘American Stars’."

When the army was established in 1789, the colors carried by the army consisted of a blue field embroidered with an eagle. During the War of 1812, the flag contained an eagle in whose breast was a striped shield. As each state was admitted to the Union, the stars around the eagle's head were rearranged to include the new star.

In 1834, the artillery and the 184th infantry were given permission to carry the colors.

Each state flag conveys her individuality. Alabama's flag consists of a diagonal cross, and the square shape of the flag recalls the Battle Flag of the Confederacy, organized in Montgomery in February of 1861. Alabama entered the Union in December 1819 as the 22nd state.

Flag Day celebrates the birthday of our Flag, June 14, 1777. By the 1890s Flag Day was a popular event. In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation calling for a nationwide observance of Flag Day. However, it was not until 1949 that Congress made it a permanent observance, although not an official federal holiday. President Harry Truman signed it into law.

Food for our thought. **Isaiah 5:26**
“He lifts up a banner for the distant nations, he whistles for those at the ends of the earth...Here they come, swiftly and speedily.”

Sources for further study:
Our Flag House Document 100-247, U.S. Printing Office, Washington, D.C.
Compilation of M.R. Bennett nationally known author of The Hidden Garden, and March Steele-Daughter of the American Revolution.
F.A.C.E. Foundation for American Christian Education, FACE.net, Chesapeake, VA.
Further reference: Bobbie Ames, Emerald Mountain Christian School, P. O. Box 241405, Montgomery, AL 36124.

Community Lifestyles

We are proud to announce that The Alabama Gazette is also being delivered in parts of Crenshaw, Butler, Pike, Lee and Talladega 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



CENTRAL ALABAMA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION



Promoting beekeeping & positive apiary management practices through education

BEGINNING BEEKEEPING CLASS

LEARN BASIC HONEY BEE MANAGEMENT

6 week class from 6:00-8:00 pm

at Elmore County Extension Auditorium

340 Queen Ann Road, Wetumpka, AL 36092

Hurry ~ Classes start February 16, 2017

Class dates are February 16, Feb 23, March 2, March 9, March 16, & March 23

Only \$50 per person if paid by Feb 10th deadline;

\$75 if received after Feb 10th

(You will receive instruction from practicing master beekeepers, *First Lessons in Beekeeping* book, + annual membership in CABA) (note: former CABA class members can re-attend Free)

Includes: Honey bee biology and behavior, types and use of equipment, where to put your hives, honey production and processing, disease diagnosis and treatment, and lots more

-Classes taught by certified MASTER BEEKEEPERS

**Support and future access to local beekeepers through member association including monthly meetings with timely topics and informative monthly newsletters

Submit payment along with name, address, phone #, & email to Central Alabama Beekeepers Assn c/o Myles Wright, Treasurer 1222 Woodward Av Montgomery, AL 36106

CENTRAL ALABAMA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION
www.cababees.org
Questions? Call CABA President Alyson Andrews at 334-759-2254

THE CITY OF PRATTVILLE PRESENTS



Mardi Gras

2017 PARADE AND CELEBRATION

SATURDAY—FEBRUARY 11

11 AM—FOOD, ART, SHOPPING, & CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

2 PM—PARADE BEGINS

334.595.0854 | PRATTVILLEAL.GOV



Cash and the King at ASF

“A hunk a hunk of burning love” is coming to the Alabama Shakespeare Festival for Valentine’s Day. Grab your sweetie and enjoy this dynamic tribute to two of the biggest icons ever in the history of music, Johnny Cash and Elvis Presley. Don’t miss dinner in the Black Swan before the show! Tuesday, February 14, 2017 7:30PM



Calling ALL Fathers and Daughters to *Dads and Daughters Saturday* for storytimes, fun and laughs, **11am-12pm every 2nd Saturday** at the Juliette Hampton Morgan Memorial Library. There will be singing, dancing and arts & crafts. So come visit us and have an enjoyable time!

Call 334-240-4999 for more information.

More Information on Website:
www.facebook.com/groups

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Complete the form below for Home Delivery. Please Print.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: () _____ Email: _____

Indicate the date of your beginning issue. _____ Gift subscription _____

____ I enclose my check for \$15.00 for 6 monthly issues to *The Wetumpka Gazette*

____ I enclose my check for \$30.00 for 12 monthly issues of *The Alabama Gazette*

____ I enclose my check for \$45.00, which would include a 6-month subscription to *The Wetumpka Gazette* and a 12 month subscription to *The Alabama Gazette*

Mail Subscription form and check to:

Alabama Gazette Publishing, LLC
12 E. Jefferson St.
Montgomery, AL 36104

OR

The Wetumpka Gazette
109 Company Street, Suite 210
Wetumpka, AL 36092

OR visit our website: www.alabamagazette.com to pay with PayPal (enter amount).

Email: alabamagazette@gmail.com (334) 356-6700 wetumpkagazette@gmail.com

The Alabama Gazette & Wetumpka Gazette invite our readers to enjoy these newspapers delivered to their home.

We offer to you a
“shipping and handling subscription.”

Take advantage of this offer today!

See details on the left.



Sheriff Derrick Cunningham

Montgomery County Law

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:
www.montgomerysheriff.com

(334) 832-4980



Chief Deputy Kevin J. Murphy

MCSO Firing Range Building Dedication

On December 1, 2016, the Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office Training Facility and Firing Range was officially dedicated to retired **Sheriff D.T. Marshall**, who passed away earlier this year. The Firing Range was



renamed the Sheriff D.T. Marshall Firearms Training Center, in his honor. Many friends and family spoke on behalf of Sheriff Marshall including Montgomery County Commissioner, **Ronda M. Walker**, House of Representative, **Dimitri Polizos** and **Bobby Timmons**, Executive Director of the Alabama Sheriffs Association. They reflected on the importance to Sheriff Marshall that training and state of the art equipment be made easily available not only to the deputies and staff of the Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office, but to law enforcement throughout the State of Alabama. Sheriff Marshall would be proud to know that the work he started at the training facility would continue, with the addition of a new firing range and additional training facilities and dormitories on the other end of the property.

A Resolution was presented to **Ms. Annie Pease**, Sheriff Marshall’s sister, by Rep. Dimitri Polizos, commemorating Sheriff David Thompson “D.T.” Marshall, which will be displayed in the newly dedicated facility.

Sheriff Marshall was aware of the building dedication prior to his passing and appreciated that his name will be honored at the training facility.

~~~~~

## Firearms Familiarization Course

Sign up NOW for our Firearms Familiarization Course scheduled for **Saturday, February 11th**, and learn how to protect yourself! We know that learning how to protect yourself is very important in today’s world.



The class is held at our newly dedicated Sheriff D.T. Marshall Firearms Training Center and lasts most of the 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 (if you would like). All classes are under the instruction of the Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office Range Master.

### Course Requirements:

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

**Pistol Permit Questions?**  
**334.832.1335 or 334.832.1337**

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

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

~~~~~

Sheriff’s Office APP

We are getting a lot of positive feedback from our new Sheriff’s Office APP! In case you missed last month’s article, here it is again...

The Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office has a new phone app called “Montgomery County AL Sheriff” that can be accessed through your phone’s app store. Once you have added this app to your phone, you can easily set your phone up to receive important push notifications. Push notifications are quick, important messages that can notify you of road closure(s), blocked road(s), anything pertinent to your travel, escapee, etc. While our app can



help you with many things including checking to see if someone is in the county jail, it is most helpful to receive push notifications. After you have downloaded the app, go through the follow steps to make sure your phone is set up to receive the push notifications:

- **Go to your phone’s setting icon**
- **Scroll down and click “Applications”**
- **Scroll down to “MCSO” or “Montgomery County Sheriff”**
OR
- **Click “Application Manager”, if it doesn’t take you directly to the location**
- **Click “Notifications”**
- **Turn ‘on’ “Allow Notifications” and “Previews in pop-ups”**
You should be all set to receive the Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office push notifications!

~~~~~

## Neighborhood Watch/Crime Prevention

If you are planning to develop a Neighborhood Watch or Crime Prevention



Program, please do not hesitate to contact the Sheriff’s Office at 832.7106 to set up a time for us to come out and speak to your group!

~~~~~

Building Renovations

We are in the process of renovating the 1st floor of our Annex I building at 100 South Lawrence. If you need to access this area, please check with our



building security personnel at the public entrance door at 100 South Lawrence. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

~~~~~

## THANK YOU... Generosity

Thank you to the community for assisting in the Robbery/Home Invasion that occurred on Hobbie Road, Friday, January 13th. The information was very helpful in catching the two subjects. As we often say, citizens are the “eyes and ears” of the community! Thank you all again for assisting with capturing these subjects and putting them in jail where they belong.

Employee Recognition

~~~~~

Employee Recognition

Each month, we recognize one of our own at the Montgomery County Sheriff’s Office! This month, we recognize Fannie Stovall. Fannie has been employed for 10 years and currently works in the Legal Services Division as a Fingerprint Classifier. She is married to Leon Stovall and they have a son and daughter and are expecting twin grandson’s this spring. Fannie enjoys reading mysteries, crafting, camping, cooking, and working with the youth. She is excited and looking forward to being a grandmother and teaching those boys to love SEC football and scream “WAR EAGLE”!

Great Job, Fannie! Thank you!

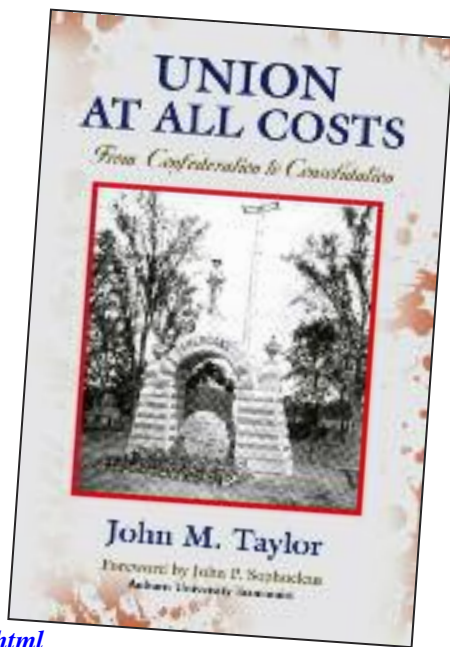
~~~~~

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



# The Book Shelf

Alabama native son  
**John M. Taylor**  
(Alexander City) has penned a  
**‘must read’** for all who want to  
advance their understanding of  
our morphing from a voluntary  
coalition of sovereign States  
to the forced consolidation  
imposed via war 1861-5 and  
tyrannical years of  
‘reconstruction’ to follow.  
If you’d like to purchase  
a copy of  
**Union At All Costs**  
below are links where it is  
currently available:



The Booklocker link:

<http://booklocker.com/books/8983.html>

The Amazon link:

[https://www.amazon.com/Union-All-Costs-Confederation-Consolidation/dp/1634916476/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1483486073&sr=8-1&keywords=union+at+all+costs%2C+taylor](https://www.amazon.com/Union-All-Costs-Confederation-Consolidation/dp/1634916476/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1483486073&sr=8-1&keywords=union+at+all+costs%2C+taylor)

The Barnes & Noble link:

<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/union-at-all-costs-john-m-taylor/1125415955?ean=9781634916462>

Amazon Store URL - <https://kdp.amazon.com/amazon-dp-action/us/dualbookshelf.marketplacelink/B01MY8FLKI>

BN Store URL - <http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/union-at-all-costs-john-m-taylor/1125480519?ean=2940157437268>

Apple Store URL - <http://itunes.apple.com/us/book/id1195223791>

Kobo Store URL - <https://www.kobo.com/us/en/ebook/union-at-all-costs>



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

## Commissioners Corner, PSC

Commissioner Chris “Chip” Beeker, Jr.

## Goodbye and Good Riddance Obama Godspeed President Trump

In the words of the old spiritual, “*Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty we’re free at last.*” Barack Obama is no longer president and Donald Trump is. As further proof that a leopard doesn’t change his spots, Obama spent his final weeks in office doing the same things he did throughout his presidency – displaying his utter contempt for America and trashing our Constitution. In a series of despicable displays of arrogance over his last few weeks in office, the lame duck circumvented Congress yet again by issuing even more executive orders. Obama used vague provisions in an old statute to make nearly 120 million acres of water inaccessible for fossil fuel exploration. Then, in another attempt to limit the use of our natural resources, he designated two new national monuments, essentially placing over a million and a half acres off limits to fossil fuel exploration. Then, in what I consider to be Obama’s most egregious act, he commuted the sentence of Bradley/Chelsea Manning.

Unable and unwilling to build congressional support for his liberal policies, Obama abused his executive power to designate about 115 million acres of the Arctic and about 3.8 million acres of the Atlantic Ocean to be off limits to oil and gas exploration. Those areas have vast deposits of natural resources that could greatly benefit our country for years to come. True to form, Obama acted against our nation’s interests in his attempt to block our use of those vital natural resources. I am confident that President Trump will undue Obama’s unconstitutional actions.

In a reprehensible land grab, Obama signed proclamations creating new national monuments, preventing exploration for fossil fuels. Combined, those monuments cover about 1.65 million acres of land in Utah and Nevada. Surpassing all of his predecessors, Obama has misused his executive orders to set aside 535 million acres through his many federal land grabs. Apparently viewing Congress as a minor impediment to the achievement of his liberal agenda, Obama bypassed it as often as he deemed it necessary.

In the waning days of his administration, Obama committed a final despicable act of betrayal when he commuted the sentence of Bradley/Chelsea Manning. He/she was correctly imprisoned because he/she illegally leaked confidential information, an act which likely led to the murders of American informants. Without a doubt, Manning’s actions were deeply appreciated by the enemies of our nation. In fact, the information Manning leaked was found in Osama Bin Laden’s lair. His/her commutation was a display of contempt for every man and woman who bravely serve in our military.

Obama did all he could to thwart President Trump’s plans to grow America’s economy and return our nation to greatness. But I have faith that the Trump administration will lead America through the obstacle course set up by his predecessor and put our country back on the path to success and prosperity. To Obama, I say, “Goodbye and good riddance.” To President Trump, I say, “Godspeed!”

**Advertise your business in  
The ALABAMA GAZETTE!  
Call 356-6700**

## WETUMPKA Gazette Advertisers Directory



109 Company St #110  
Wetumpka, AL 36092

**334-478-4970**



JACKSON THORNTON  
194 Fort Toulouse Rd.  
Wetumpka, AL 36092

**334-567-3400**



Mark's Service Center  
& Body Shop

743 Kelly Fitzpatrick Dr.  
Wetumpka, AL 36092

**334-567-9246**

### Brest & Body Health

100 Court Street  
Wetumpka, AL 36092

**334-478-5090**

### Scent Wizards

108 Company Street  
Wetumpka, AL 36092  
**334-233-1554**



### Liberty National



Agency Director;  
Gary Dobbs  
**334-546-2040**

### Best Buy Automotive & Tire

3835 Atlanta Hwy  
Montgomery, AL 36109  
**334-244-8083**

4081 U.S. Hwy. 231  
Wetumpka, AL 36093  
**334-478-7878**

### El Rancho

915 U.S. Hwy 231, N.  
Wetumpka, AL 36092

**334-567-5956**



**Call Janice at 334-850-5510  
for all your Tallassee  
Quarterly advertising needs.**

*Thanks to all our  
Tallassee Quarterly  
advertisers*

*If you have a business...  
don't miss advertising in the next issue!*

*Tallassee Music Boosters Presents*

*20th Annual*

***Fabulous  
Follies***

*Admission \$5.00  
(6 and under FREE)*

***Friday & Saturday  
February 17th & 18th  
Tallassee High School Auditorium  
Beginning At 7:00 p.m.***



## AUTAUGA COUNTY



# Autauga County Law

VISIT OUR WEBSITE:  
[www.autaugasheriff.org](http://www.autaugasheriff.org)

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



Sheriff Joe Sedinger

## MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. PARADE

Sheriff Joe Sedinger, Captain Larry Nixon and Deputy Josh Averette participated in the Martin Luther King Jr. Parade that was held on Monday January 16, 2017 in downtown Prattville.

A great time was had by all that participated. Pictured are snapshots from the starting lineup of the parade.





Prattville's Way Off Broadway Theatre Presents



# To Kill A Mockingbird

*From the novel by Harper Lee**Adapted by Christopher Sergel**Directed by Sam Wallace***FEBRUARY 9-26***Opens Thursday, Feb. 9, 7:30 PM**Special Performance Feb. 14, 7:30 PM*

Fridays and Saturdays 7:30 PM | Sundays 2:00 PM

*Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door*

334-595-0854 | wobt.prattvilleal.gov

*Presented by special arrangement with the**Dramatic Publishing Company of Woodstock, Illinois.*

**GREAT AMERICAN  
TRUCK SHOP**  
1408 South Memorial Dr.  
Prattville, Alabama  
**334-361-9330**

**Bumper to Bumper**  
Oil Change • Brakes • Clutches • A/C  
• Tractor Wash • Trailer Wash  
New & Used Truck Tires

Call Eric Barnes at 235-1618  
for your Autauga County advertising needs.  
Advertise your business in the next issue of  
The Alabama Gazette!

Call our office at 356-6700  
for rates and information.  
Thanks to all our Autauga County advertisers.

**Prattville Art Guild 2017**

**Art With A Heart**  
**Annual Soup Cook-Off**

benefiting the  
Autauga Interfaith Care Center Food Bank

**Saturday • February 18 • 11am-3pm**

*Soup Team Competition*  
*Handmade Bowls by Local Artists*  
*Soup from Local Restaurants*  
*Art Exhibit by Local Artists*

The Gallery at the Prattville Creative Arts Center  
342 Chestnut Street — Prattville, Alabama 36067

**To Register Your Team**  
**Or For More Information**

Prattville Special Events Office 334/595-0854  
or artguild.prattvilleal.gov



**CAROL LEMON  
REALTY**

744 S. Memorial Drive  
PRATTVILLE, AL 36067

Office 334-365-4404

Fax 334-365-8535

1-800-862-1335

Cell 334-315-2715

**Carol Lemon**

Broker

E-Mail: CLR@mindspring.com

www.carollemonrealtors.com

**107 ADELL PLACE**

Located in Woodland Heights, quiet cul-de-sac with trees this traditional home features Living & Dining combo or could be a large Living Room, Kitchen has loads of cabinets and counterspace also has electric range, dishwasher, disposal & refrigerator, Breakfast area for that early morning coffee. Brick fireplace and on down the hall you will find 3 nice sized bedrooms and 2 full baths, then off of den is large screened porch overlooking large backyard with trees. I don't believe this one will last long!

**1960 CALUMET PARKWAY**

This is a charmer! Three bedrooms, two baths, greatroom, formal dining room, kitchen with all appliances, breakfast area, large laundry room. 1,545 sq. ft. covered patio, two car carport detached and storage building. Convenient to all shopping and restaurants. \$500.00 bonus with accepted contract.

*Let us help you with all your  
Real Estate needs!  
Buying or Selling...we are here for you!*

## Bird Buffet N Things

### "Exotic Bird Specialty Store"

1013 South Memorial Dr., Prattville, AL 36067

**334-380-3070**

Treats,  
eggfood, millet,  
vitamins,  
handfeed, greens,  
dried fruit,  
bulk seed &  
bulk pellet diets  
and much more!

Website: [www.birdbuffetnthings.com](http://www.birdbuffetnthings.com)Email: [Sales@BirdBuffetNThings.com](mailto:Sales@BirdBuffetNThings.com)*"Providing for your bird's nutritional needs"*

## Medac, PC

**Johnnie W. Strickland, Jr. MD**

270 Interstate Commercial Park Loop  
Bradbury Place, Prattville, AL 36066

**334-361-8225**[johnnie@medac4u.com](mailto:johnnie@medac4u.com)[www.Medac4u.com](http://www.Medac4u.com)

*"Every cell in your body functions like a car, it has it's own engine, You can put the best gasoline (food) in, and the best oil (vitamins/minerals); but if you throw sand (chemical toxins & heavy metals) into the motor, the first two doesn't matter. At MEDAC, PC, we focus on helping to get the sand out of your motor. We also help with the food and the oil so that your motor can hum and run in the optimal way it was designed."*

**Advertise your business in  
The ALABAMA GAZETTE!**  
**Call 356-6700**

**TERMITE  
CONTROL****PROFESSIONAL  
PEST CONTROL***Serving the public since 1967.*

**GREG BOWEN**  
**334-365-4610**

**740 MEMORIAL DR.**  
**PRATTVILLE, AL 36067**





**Chef**  
**David Spooner**  
*Retired Chef*

*Volunteer Fireman,  
Lowndesboro V.F.D.*

*Senior Warden,  
St. Paul's Episcopal  
Church, Lowndesboro*

*Chairman,  
Board of Registrars,  
Lowndes County*

shelves very long. The mason jars are our favorite method to store vegetables, soups or leftovers that we want to freeze. Therefore, my topics for this article came from our icebox and the comments of an 11 year old.

In 1992, the USDA introduced their first version of the Food Pyramid. The top of the pyramid was the smallest section and signified the foods that you were to eat the least; fats and sugars. The next level down was the cheese, eggs, milk section, the section we keep the most of in our refrigerator. My favorite food in that food group is cheese. If the weather ever acts normal for a winter, I will make cheese soup to eat on a cold winter’s day. I was not going to wait for the cold but I knew it would come so I decided to make the soup anyway.

I found an old recipe from my mother for Cheese Soup that makes 3 quarts. The ingredient list was hand written on a 5x6-recipe card but the instructions was a cutout from a newspaper. This made me think that my mother changed the ingredients for the soup. The name Cheese soup is pushing the definition of the meaning of cheese. The recipe has its high moments and its low. Sautéed carrots, onion, celery, and making a roux for thickening are high notes; using CHEESE WHIZ does make the recipe easier and makes for a smooth sauce, gives it the color and cheese taste, and helps the soup from separating. Even with all the cheese I had in the refrigerator, I still had to make a trip to the store to buy CHEESE WHIZ!

As with any cream soup recipe, first you make the roux. I have watched chefs make a roux with the vegetables already in the fat, sautéing, and then they add the flour. I like to make the roux first because you can cook it at a higher temperature to cook out the flour taste. This will keep from overcooking the vegetables while you are making the roux. Sautee the vegetables separately and then add to the roux.

**CHEESE SOUP**

*From the kitchen of Oma Ruth Spooner*

**INGREDIENTS**

- |                                    |                                       |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>1 small carrot</b>              | <b>Scant ½ teaspoon white pepper</b>  |
| <b>½ medium onion</b>              | <b>Scant ½ teaspoon dry mustard</b>   |
| <b>4 stalks celery</b>             | <b>2 tablespoons dry chicken base</b> |
| <b>1 ½ sticks butter</b>           | <b>1 quart hot water</b>              |
| <b>1 cup flour</b>                 | <b>1 cup milk</b>                     |
| <b>1/8 teaspoon cayenne pepper</b> | <b>4 cups CHEESE WHIZ</b>             |
| <b>¾ teaspoon garlic salt</b>      |                                       |

**METHOD**

1. Clean and dice vegetables into small pieces. Sauté in butter over medium heat for about 15 minutes.
2. Add flour and mix thoroughly to make a roux.
3. In a separate container, add seasonings and chicken base to hot water. Add water to the roux, slowly, while stirring until mixture thickens.
4. Cook 10 minutes, and keep stirring. When thick add milk, slowly while stirring. Add CHESSE WHIZ and stir until dissolved.
5. Remove from heat.

Makes 3 quarts.

**NOTES:** Do not use high heat and never let mixture come to a boil. If you need to thicken soup, add more butter and flour roux.

My ‘go to’ restaurant when I am out shopping and want to sit down at a table and have someone serve me is a Mexican restaurant. My first request is for queso. I do not want just any queso, but white queso and if available with chorizo. Usually I add some Pico de Gallo to it to spice it up a bit. To make a similar queso at home, melt some white Velveeta and add some salsa from a jar. On the other hand, if you want a yellow cheese dip, do as my mother and open a jar of CHEESE WHIZ. As I always say, the less processed the ingredients the better for you. Therefore, you should have a stand by recipe for queso that is quick, simple and does not contain processed cheese. This recipe takes about 25 minutes and is a good base for whatever level of spiciness you want. It is best to melt cheese in a double boiler if you have one. Milk and cheese can scorch easily and ruin the whole batch. A slow cooker will work but take longer to melt the cheeses.

**SPICY WHITE QUESO**

**INGREDIENTS**

- |                                                                                                      |                                                                                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>8 ounces Mexican style chorizo, cooked, crumbled and drained well</b>                             | <b>chunks and room temperature 1-cup sour cream</b>                                        |
| <b>2 pounds grated pepper jack cheese, with habaneros if you can find it, for a little more heat</b> | <b>Two 10 ounce cans Rotel toma-toes, original or hotter versions if you like, drained</b> |
| <b>16 ounces cream cheese, cut into</b>                                                              | <b>Whole milk, up to 2 cups as needed</b>                                                  |

**METHOD**

1. Cook chorizo until crispy, drain and set aside.
2. Whatever method you are using to heat queso, combine the cheese, sour cream, cream cheese, and Rotel
3. Heat and stir often, adding milk as needed to keep mixture creamy.
4. Serve in a slow cooker at Low setting.

Makes six cups

**NOTES:** Other spices such as powdered garlic, onion, cayenne, cumin can be added at a ½ teaspoon at a time to taste.



Now that we have eaten most of the cheese in the refrigerator, let’s go for the eggs. Instructions on how to buy, store and basic techniques for cooking eggs takes up chapters in some cookbooks. Eggs have been around since the Chinese and Egyptians kept domesticated fowl. The Ancient Greeks and Romans noted the consumption of eggs. The Victorians introduced the idea of eating eggs for breakfast. I have seen this recipe on several cooking shows and it is a good last minute dinner dish. If you have ever eaten leftover pizza for breakfast, then you will not think that eating spaghetti in the morning is out of the ordinary. This recipe has veggies, bacon, dairy, and eggs. Top the final dish with a fried egg and it becomes a filling and satisfying breakfast.

There are many different variations to this recipe. The main difference is the use of cream and making a sauce. The traditional Spaghetti alla Carbonara has no cream and requires more skill to keep the eggs from curdling when added to the spaghetti.

**SPAGHETTI with eggs and bacon**

**INGREDIENTS**

- |                                                                   |                                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>2 tablespoons olive oil</b>                                    | <b>½ cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese, extra for garnish</b>  |
| <b>1 small onion, finely chopped</b>                              | <b>Optional: A fried egg for the top-ping of the final dish</b> |
| <b>1 garlic clove, crushed</b>                                    |                                                                 |
| <b>½ pound bacon, cooked and crumbled</b>                         |                                                                 |
| <b>10 ounces dried spaghetti</b>                                  |                                                                 |
| <b>Four large eggs</b>                                            |                                                                 |
| <b>¾ cup half-and-half cream (or crème fraiche or sour cream)</b> |                                                                 |

**METHOD**

1. Heat oil in large saucepan add onion and garlic and fry gently until soft. About 5 minutes.
2. Add cooked bacon and stir until heated.
3. Meanwhile, cook spaghetti in a large saucepan of salted boiling water according to the box instructions.
4. In a small saucepan whisk eggs and cream until blended, and cook over low heat until temperature reaches 160 degrees, do not let simmer. Remove from heat add cheese. The result should be a thick creamy sauce that will stick to the spaghetti.
5. Drain cooked pasta, leave in pan and add onion, garlic, bacon mixture, stir until mixed. Heat pasta and bacon mixture until warm, turn off heat and then add egg mixture and stir well until pasta is coated. The goal is to keep everything as warm as possible. Serve in warmed bowls and top with fried egg if desired and with grated parmesan and grated pepper and salt. Serve immediately.

Serves four.

It was not too long ago that Mason jars were only for canning. Now there are more uses for the jars than John Landis Mason ever envisioned. PINTEREST on one board has pins for over a thousand different uses for a Mason jar. At our house, canning fruits and vegetables tops our list. Second would be freezing leftovers and soups. Usually its freezing soup made from leftovers. Whatever soup we make goes in a jar, cooled, lid put on and into the freezer. When we want some soup, remove the metal lid, cover with a napkin (stops splattering) and microwave until hot and ready to eat. The half-pint jars make for a perfect serving and easy to heat in the microwave.

Any recipe for soup will work, except a cheese or dairy based soup, because the soup will have a tendency to separate or curdle when defrosting. Since I am highlighting cheese and eggs, I searched for an egg and cheese recipe written for preparation in a Mason jar. Moreover, it is for my favorite meal of the day, breakfast.

*Continued on page 7B*

# Valentine Day Special



Tuesday February 14, 2017

Dinner for Two \$ 35.00

10 oz. Grilled Ribeye Steak

Topped with 6 Shrimp Sautéed in Garlic Butter

& 2 Sides of your choice

Dessert - Death by Chocolate \$ 6.50



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

**210 Wasden Road  
Hope Hull, AL  
(334) 280-0012**







Judge  
Peggy Givhan

# Southern Gardening Potpourri for February

by Peggy Givhan

February, in the gardening world, is a transition month from winter to spring. February is also a month of great expectation for things to come in the next garden cycle. But most of us associate this month as the month of love with cupid's arrows finding their mark on Valentine's day. It is this month that many have high expectations that this is the years they will create the best garden ever. Of course, garden beauty is in the eye of the beholder. I think we can all agree with Fielding Rushing, well known plants man and author from Mississippi, that gardening is an attitude, not a skill. I have read that Southern gardeners spend more time in their gardens than any other region of the country. Gardening here is not a summer pastime, but has become almost the number one hobby not only in the South, but in the United States. We find that both men and women heed the call to service. After all, a garden can certainly be a thing of beauty and can bring out the artistic nature in each of us. Also, we should not overlook the amount of exercise that goes with the territory. This comes with digging weeds or planting bulbs and plants, but also the stooping and lifting that goes with the territory. Gardening is just naturally good for one's health. Did you know that gardening is America's number one hobby? Recently I read about the economic impact that this hobby has in Alabama since it rates right on the same level as cattle and poultry and other farming endeavors. I remember reading somewhere that in the South, gardening is a much in our blood as in a hound dog that can not give up the chase.

*Let's now turn to some of the garden chores we all face this month.*

- Weeding**--although I planted pansies in the fall, I can detect masses of green between my flowers that are the ubiquitous winter annual weeds. These weeds and other need our attention now before they choke out our fledgling plants. Now when the temps get hot they will wilt and die, however, by that time, may be too late for the flowers you have invested in to thrive. In another words, winter annual weeds need our attention. Although this task can appear strenuous, it is not. Luckily, these weeds are top heavy with lots of green above the ground, but supported by small shallow roots underground. If the area is too great in size to get down on one's knees, a hoe can easily do the job. No use spraying with Round Up due to the lower temps, but round Up for these weeds is what I call overkill, like sending in a battalion of Marines and tanks when a few foot soldiers would do. Now over the years, I have had crops of buttercups which are flowers with lovely white and pink flowers, to invade. They started out with just a couple, and now, masses appear. What is one person's flower is another one's weed.
- Pruning**--now is a great time to prune back roses, but any other spring or early summer blooming tree or shrub, not a good time. Most spring bloomers set their buds last year and the rule of thumb is to prune only 6-8 weeks after blooming.
- Planning**--I must insist that you sketch off the garden area for 2017. Plug

into the plan that perennials cut back last fall ,any areas that you have sown seed, and areas of bulbs that have awakened. I call this my underground garden. Then write in the areas with names of the plants yet to come.

**4. Planting**--this month there is still time to plant bulbs such as narcissus, daffodils, cannas, daylilies, but too late for tulips; sow seed such as larkspur, cosmos, and zinnias; plant later winter annuals such a dusty miller, lamb's ears, coreopsis, daisies, salvias, coneflower, and herbs such as chives.

**PLANT OF THE MONTH--Dicentra (fumariaceae)**

Dicentra or Bleeding Heart would be an appropriate February choice due to



Valentine's Day. A perennial with fern-like foliage, have heart shaped weeping flowers. Most are native to the United States, but one variety, common bleeding heart (D. spectabilis) is native to Japan. This flower requires partial to full shade, and regular watering. Many times we can purchase these flowers in pots in nurseries this time of year. Some can be repeat bloomers if they are cut back for a second growth.



**GOOD GARDENING AND  
HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY**

## Southern Cuisine

by Chef David Spooner



*Continued from page 6B*

Some people are still under the impression that eating eggs are bad for your health, due to their high cholesterol content. An article from [healthycornermag.com](http://healthycornermag.com), says food high in saturated fats and Trans fats can raise your cholesterol levels...but eggs are not in the same group-they are an excellent source of protein. The article also claims, eggs can resolve iron deficiencies, promote brain health, prevent cataract and protect your eye health, are the best source of protein, protect your bones, and improve the quality of your hair and nails, and the article recommends eating three eggs a day!

### MASON JAR FRITTATA

#### INGREDIENTS

- |                                                 |                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Eight ounces bulk breakfast sausage             | Eight large eggs                      |
| 1 bunch kale, stemmed and roughly cut           | ¼-cup milk                            |
| 8 ounces fingerling potatoes cut in small cubes | One cup shredded sharp cheddar cheese |
|                                                 | Salt and pepper to taste              |
|                                                 | Nonstick cooking spray                |

#### METHOD

- Preheat oven to 375 degrees
  - In a large skillet, brown the sausage and break it into crumbles.
  - Toss in potatoes and cook until well coated with oil.
  - Stir in kale and cook until wilted.
  - Season with salt and pepper and remove from stove.
  - In a medium bowl, lightly beat the eggs, and whisk in the milk and cheese.
  - Set aside.
  - Spray six half-pint Mason jars with cooking spray.
  - Divide the sausage mixture evenly between the jars.
  - Top each jar with egg-cheese mixture, leaving one inch of headspace at the top of jar.
  - Place jars on a baking sheet covered with parchment paper, the eggs may bubble over.
  - Bake at 375 for 25 to 30 minutes, or until the eggs are set and the top is golden brown.
  - Let jars rest for five minutes before serving. Serve warm or room temperature.
- Serves six

**NOTES:** If not serving immediately put lid on jars and refrigerate. To serve, remove lid and ring and warm in microwave or in a hot water bath. Recipe adapted from [Cooking.com](http://Cooking.com).

The same magazine recommends a morning routine of drinking a glass of water, with a teaspoon of baking soda and a half of a lemon squeezed and dropped in the glass. There are as many or more tips for better health on the internet than uses for Mason jars. I would trust my doctor with my health and search the internet for uses of Mason jars.



Capital City Master Gardener Association  
Montgomery, Alabama

## Lunch and Learn Program

(Montgomery)

**1st Wednesday of Every Month**

**12:00-1:00 P.M. FREE PROGRAMS**

**Armory Learning Arts Center  
1018 Madison Avenue, Montgomery 36104**

- |             |                                               |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| February 1  | <i>Making my Garden Organic</i>               |
| March 1     | <i>Planting your Summer Garden</i>            |
| April 5     | <i>Tomatoes, Tomatoes, Tomatoes!</i>          |
| May 3       | <i>Herbs - Growing, Drying, &amp; Storing</i> |
| June 7      | <i>Selecting &amp; Caring for Roses</i>       |
| July 5      | <i>Name that Tree</i>                         |
| August 2    | <i>Water Wisely- Drip Irrigation</i>          |
| September 6 | <i>Fall Gardening for Spring Color</i>        |
| October 4   | <i>October Backyard Varmints</i>              |
| November 1  | <i>Papercrete</i>                             |
| December 6  | <i>Houseplants</i>                            |

**FREE- Tea and Water Provided**  
**Contact Name: Montgomery County Extension Office**  
**Phone: 334-270-4133**  
**Event Website: <http://www.aces.e...capcitymga.org>**  
**Email: [jones57@aces.edu](mailto:jones57@aces.edu)**

**Quality  
Privacy Fencing**

**(334) 235-8271**

**fencing4younow@gmail.com**





Patricia Killough

Please send Patricia your family birthdays, anniversaries and weddings to [alabamagazette@gmail.com](mailto: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               | 17 Brian Betz                 |
| 2  | Thelma Alexander           | William L. Carl (82nd)        |
|    | Brewer Box                 | Chuck Glasscock (55th)        |
|    | Shelby Smith               | Kathi Farley                  |
|    | Alvin Turner               | Willa Faye Munson             |
| 3  | Del Atkinson               | Anastasia Meadow Takacs (1st) |
|    | Pam Daniel                 | Gavin Noah Takacs (1st)       |
|    | Sybil Foshee               | Alice Tyson                   |
|    | Helen Lankford             | Jean Warren                   |
|    | Genye Messick              | 18 Chip Norris                |
|    | Wayne Robinson             | Kermit Paramore               |
| 4  | Paige Box                  | 19 Anita Jones                |
|    | Anna Haigler Johnson       | Barbara Pugh                  |
|    | Helen Rahn Millican        | Chuck Lear                    |
| 5  | Peggy Agent                | Dawn Johnson                  |
|    | Jean Fuller                | 20 Ann Moore                  |
|    | Beth Norris                | Hayden Ward                   |
|    | Lila Webster               | Todd Windham                  |
| 6  | Amanda Edwards             | 21 Victoria L. Carl (17th)    |
|    | Morgan Lee Madison (6th)   | Alyssa Lear                   |
|    | Donna Spradley             | Jessica Burgess               |
| 7  | Rhonda Black               | Jerrell Campbell              |
|    | Mary Helen Fleming         | Hugh Gordon (91st)            |
|    | Shelvie Freeman            | Jane Russell                  |
|    | Rick Marshall              | Shirley Yarbrough             |
|    | Rodney Powell              | 22 Ellen Adcock               |
| 8  | John Barnes                | Douglas Evans (67th)          |
|    | Helen Burch                | Jean Finlayson                |
|    | Claudine Nobles            | Hettie H. Harrington          |
|    | Helen Oates                | Tim Meadows                   |
|    | Sharon Owens               | Willie Stephens               |
|    | Janet Phillips             | 23 Dorothy Bennett            |
|    | Abigail Roux               | Virgil Culepper               |
| 9  | Lori Meadows               | Nathan Horsley                |
|    | Lucille Wilson             | Ann Spheres                   |
| 10 | Jim Soule                  | 24 Katherine Andrews          |
|    | Jeanne Villar              | Cheryl Jarrell                |
| 11 | Glen Hataway               | 25 Bettye Garlington          |
|    | Steve Law                  | John Higgins                  |
|    | Earline Wood               | Lewis Mulleck                 |
| 12 | Jean Cantey (88th)         | Shanny Sansom                 |
|    | Chas Hammock (8th)         | Willie Pearl Shepherd         |
| 13 | Susan Gambrell             | 26 Erma Dillard               |
|    | Dot Hill                   | Cassidy Gwin                  |
| 14 | Nancy Andrews              | Dean Moore                    |
|    | Carolyn Bowden             | Carolyn Watson                |
|    | Michael Coker              | 27 Portia Goss                |
|    | Lyda Crowe                 | Evans Hartzog                 |
|    | Drew Martin                | Jamie Hall                    |
|    | Hamil Martin               | Mary Horton                   |
|    | Dorothy Sparrow            | Carol Spencer                 |
|    | Zac Swearingen             | 28 Joy Carlisle               |
| 15 | Mildred Durden             | Mary Daniels                  |
|    | Mike Green                 | Debi Nowakowski               |
|    | Nancy Rabren               | Weldon Payne                  |
|    | Susan Terrell              | Charlene Schofield            |
| 16 | James Ellis Fleming (11th) | Freddie Oswalt                |
|    | Joan Kirk                  | 29 Mandy Azar                 |

Belated birthday wishes to Joe Thomas on January 13, 2017.  
He was 89 years young!

## Happy Anniversary

- |    |                         |    |                                |
|----|-------------------------|----|--------------------------------|
| 14 | Gordon & Vicki Davis    | 21 | Tom & Bettye Garlington        |
|    | Clark & Anita Jones     |    | Gilbert & Ethel Sellers (61st) |
|    | Josh & Jamie McCandless |    |                                |
| 20 | Chuck & Susan Gambrell  | 22 | Jerry & Debra Morrison (32th)  |
|    | Hayden & Dee Ward       | 28 | Pat & Butch Moseley (58th)     |

## Sympathy to the families of...

Walters, John Dandridge (76).....died January 4, 2017  
Boddie, Roy Hansford (92) .....died January 9, 2017  
McGraw, Lula Brown (98) .....died January 9, 2017  
Stough, Betty Jo (68) .....died January 11, 2017  
McClurkin, Jean Gilmore (89).....died January 13, 2017  
Nelson, Michael “Mike” Curtis (52) .....died January 13, 2017  
Hamilton, Jr., Nathan Kelso (65).....died January 14, 2017  
Newman, Lorene (94) .....buried on January 19, 2017  
Harris, Zac (31).....honored on January 21, 2017  
Glasscock, Bobby Don (74) .....died January 23, 2017  
Trotman, John McNeill, III “Trey” (39) .....died January 23, 2017  
Kolb, Thomas Gordon, Jr. (77) .....died January 24, 2017  
Leavell, Robert B. “Bob” (98).....died January 24, 2017  
Golden, John Rudolph (89).....died January 25, 2017

# YARD SALE

## WOODLAND UMC

Friday, March 3rd - 6:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.

Saturday, March 4th - 7:00 AM til NOON

Located in the Family Life Central, 4428 Wallahatchee Road, Pike Road

All Proceeds go to Mission Trips.

ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS  
IN THE ALABAMA GAZETTE.  
GROW YOUR BUSINESS WITH US!  
334-356-6700

## Tribute to Coach Billy Mason



Coach Billy Mason (holding drawing of him coaching the next generation) and Tony Dismukes

A tribute to **Coach Billy Ray Mason “Sugar Pops”** was held on January 20, 2017 at Arrowhead Country Club in Montgomery, Alabama. Tony Dismukes, from Massachusetts, was the ball player who initiated and organized the surprise tribute. He drafted Doug Singleton and Steve Scott and few others to help him put the tribute together. Players came from Alabama, Massachusetts, Tennessee, Florida and many others.

He coached these boys in 70's, four years of Belser Dixie Majors League, a Babe Ruth League, and four or so more years of high school baseball and basketball at Central Alabama Academy. The Belser Dixie Majors Teams won several World Series games in Texarkana, Texas. Out of the young men he coached, 11 received baseball scholarships to various colleges, many went on to become business men in various walks of life.

The 1975 team was made up mostly of Chisholm and Highland Garden boys that won the World Series.

He worked with the Montgomery Sheriffs Department from 1964 until 1998 when he retired as Assistant Chief Deputy.

He retired to Orange Beach, Alabama with his wife Janice and is enjoying playing tennis, fishing, camping and passing his love of sports to his grandchildren.

He felt very honored that they cared enough about him to put the event together. He was touched by their appreciation and knowing that he did make a difference in their lives.

The real job was getting Coach to Montgomery and keeping it a surprise. He thought he was attending an engagement party for his grandson.



Coach Mason is holding two of the four baseballs signed by teams he coached



# TODAY'S WOMAN

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

**VIVIX, slow aging  
at the Cellular Level**

**Feel Younger, Longer,  
or Your Money Back**

**Shaklee®**  
Creating Healthier Lives™  
Independent Distributor



**CONTACT ALICE COLE FOR ALL YOUR SHAKLEE NEEDS!**  
**ACOLE.MYSHAKLEE.COM 334-288-8624**



**FirstChoice**  
Women's Medical Center

**We're here for you.**

**Your CHOICE  
STARTS HERE**



380 Mendel Parkway  
Montgomery, AL 36117

1.334.260.8010

[www.FirstChoiceMontgomery.com](http://www.FirstChoiceMontgomery.com)



SCAN FOR APPT.



**Trisston  
Wright Burrows  
Ms.Wheelchair  
America/  
Alabama 2005**

## Trisston's Tidbits...

By: Trisston Wright Burrows  
[www.trisstonwrightburrows.com](http://www.trisstonwrightburrows.com)

### “Love, Sweet Love”

Remember the line in that old pop song, "*What the world needs now is love, sweet love*". How true that is! God's love that will make all the difference.

Don't you just get excited to see God's love manifested in someone's life? Watching new Christians learn and grow close to God to me is just amazing. You begin to see them attending church, reading their Bibles, their family lives begin falling into place, and they begin to be active for Christ and all because of God's love.

Of course, we as Christians know everything just doesn't automatically turn rosy when we are saved and accept Christ as our personal Savior, but just to know and have a God that cares and loves us does make life worth living.

You've probably heard the saying, "*there but the grace of God go I*". Just think where we would be without Christ. As Christians, we have so many things in our lives that wouldn't be possible without God's love. First and most importantly, we have our salvation.

**“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever should not perish, but have everlasting life.” John 3:16**

As Christians, just think how much we rely on God's love. We are blessed with the privilege of praying to Him, any time anywhere.

**“...who is even at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us.”**

**Romans 8:34**

So, in this season of love, hearts, and Valentines, remember that God's love makes all the difference. His is the sweetest love of all!

**Happy Valentine's Day & Many Blessings!**

## School Nutrition Foundation Honors Montgomery, AL Native with National School Nutrition Hero Award for Community Work

MONTGOMERY, AL - The national, non-profit **School Nutrition Foundation (SNF)** has recognized **Timikel Blakey Sharpe**, MS, Deputy Director of Food Services for the Los Angeles Unified School District, as one of five 2017 School Nutrition Heroes for the work she has done for her hometown of Montgomery, Alabama.

The Heroes are nominated by peers and chosen by SNF to represent the many professionals who have dedicated their lives to serving the needs of school children and the community.

A native of Montgomery, Timikel has never forgotten her roots. In 2008, determined to reduce the number of homeless families in her hometown, Sharpe opened the **“Vision of Grace Transition Home.”** The Sheridan Heights home became a place of refuge for local homeless families, providing them with a safe, temporary space to live.

*“Timikel is a great role model showing the difference one person can make in the lives of others by offering a hand,”* said Mark Bordeaux, Senior School Lunch Director of the Broome-Tioga Board of Cooperative Educational Services. Bordeaux nominated Timikel for the award. *“Timikel and her board of directors have worked tirelessly to fundraise; her passion, commitment and love have inspired so many people.”*

Through hard work and use of her own resources, Timikel purchased and furnished the three-bedroom home with everything a family needs. She achieved 501(c)3 status within three years of purchasing the home, making it tax-exempt, and has used some of her retirement savings to keep the home financially stable. In 2015, Timikel's outreach grew further, allowing her to remodel, furnish and open a second home with three bedrooms to help her in her mission to reduce homelessness in Montgomery.

*“Timikel is a perfect example of what we look for in a School Nutrition Hero,”* said School Nutrition Association CEO Patricia Montague, CAE. *“Her love of both the city she now calls home and the one she once called home is unparalleled. Working to better the health and lives of those in her hometown is something we are proud to honor.”*



**“Vision of Grace Transition Home.”**

*The Sheridan Heights home became a place of refuge for local homeless families, providing them with a safe, temporary space to live.*

**For Dependability...**

**Call Tillery**

**264-2388**

**TILLERY**

**HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING INC.**

**Since 1974**

- Residential Comfort Specialists
- Repairs
- Replacements

**Peace of mind from \$15 per mo.**

**Call TODAY to schedule a**

**“Get Your ‘WINTER’ Tune-Up  
Before it Gets COLD!”**

[www.tilleryheatingandair.com](http://www.tilleryheatingandair.com)

ALLIC #84787



# Experience the Best of Both Worlds in Downtown Montgomery



Adams Avenue Flats



Gun Shop Lofts

Modern conveniences with  
historic preservation in mind



Printing Press Lofts



Ice House Lofts

Adams Family Properties  
Managed by the Foshee Company

For rental information call (334) 273-0313 • 9 am to 5 pm  
[www.fosheeresidential.com](http://www.fosheeresidential.com)

Be salt and light unto the world.