



The Alabama Gazette

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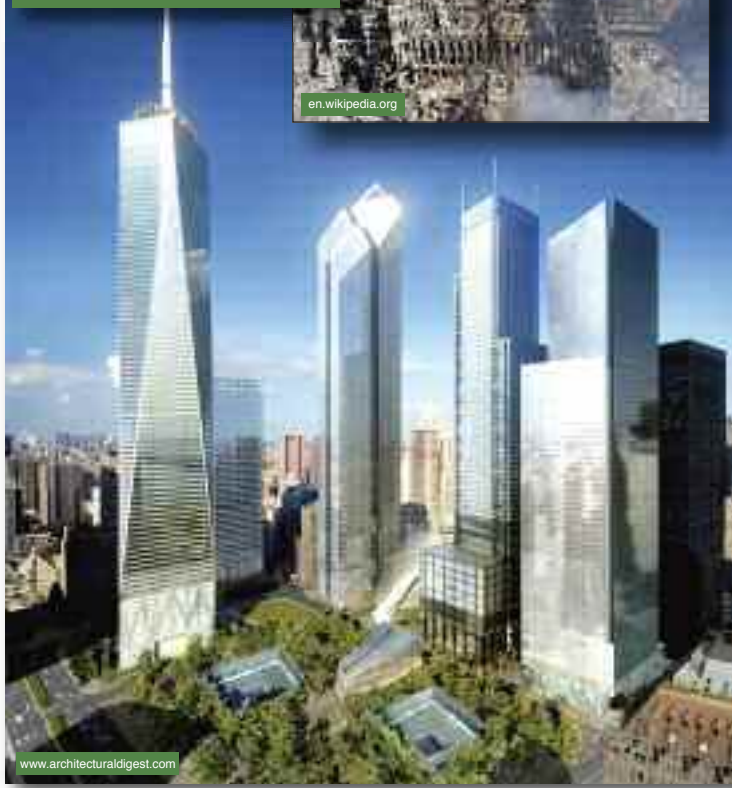
SEPTEMBER 2014

alabamagazette@gmail.com

MONTGOMERY COUNTY ~ AUTAUGA COUNTY ~ ELMORE COUNTY ~ CRENSHAW COUNTY ~ TALLAPOOSA COUNTY ~ PIKE COUNTY

What's Next?

Although a rebirth has occurred where the Twin Towers stood, we must NEVER FORGET the lives lost on September, 11, 2001



Under an agreement brokered by Egypt, Hamas and Israel entered into yet another cease fire recently. Over 2,200 have been killed and 11,000 injured, most of which are civilian casualties. Israel has pounded Gaza in response to Hamas attacks by air and through tunnels into Israel. This latest cease fire does not yield any new concessions by Israel. While Hamas declared victory, it has little to show for it except thousands homeless and devastated neighborhoods. Israel has equated the Hamas government of the Palestinians to ISIS or Al-Quaeda. Both sides are to meet within thirty days to detail the terms of the cease fire.



If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. 2 Chronicles 7:14

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 For details, contact Don Fisher at (334) 221-3175

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The Law and Search Warrants

Law Enforcement now generally needs a warrant to search an arrestee's cell phone according to a new U.S. Supreme Court ruling. Over the years the Supreme Court has had a difficult time trying to fashion concrete rules on searches and seizures that law enforcement officers can clearly understand when it comes to what they can do and cannot do.

This problem goes back about 100 years when the Court ruled in *Weeks v. U.S.* that the Fourth Amendment permits officers "to search the person of the accused when legally arrested to discover and seize the fruits and evidences of crime." 41 years ago in *U.S. v. Robinson* the Court said that the right to search incident to arrest includes the right to examine the contents of containers on the arrestee's person or in his immediate possession. The justification for this search was that it was incident to lawful arrest so no probable cause was necessary. The Court has ruled that it doesn't make any difference what kind of container is searched incident to arrest such as a locked brief case of a simple paper bag.

Because of the prior rulings the Courts throughout the country have ruled that a cell phone carried by an arrestee could be searched without a warrant. The Supreme Court has now reversed course on the issue of cell phones by its rulings in *Riley v. California* and *U.S. v. Wurie*.

David Riley was arrested for possession of concealed weapons during a traffic stop. Evidence found on his cell phone during a search incident to arrest produced evidence that implicated Riley in an attempted murder and other crimes. This evidence was used to convict him on several counts and he was sentenced to a term of 15 years to life. On his appeal he argued that the evidence obtained for the search of his cell phone should have been suppressed and the U.S. Supreme Court agreed and reversed his convictions.

Brima Wurie was arrested for selling drugs.

Again evidence was found on his cell phone during a search incident to arrest which was used to get a search warrant for his residence. During the search of his house, officers confiscated crack, other drugs, cash, and a firearm. He was convicted and received a sentence of more than 21 years in federal prison. His convictions were overturned by the Supreme Court ruling that the warrantless search of the cell phones were invalid.

The Court, in their rulings, looked to the quantity and nature of the private information that could be obtained from searching a cell phone. All nine justices agreed that examination of a cell phone could constitute such a massive invasion of personal privacy that judicial warrants should be required to authorize law enforcement access to them. It appears this ruling might apply to other devices during an arrest such as laptops, tablets and smart wristwatches. It appears that other types of searches incident to arrest are still allowed.

The Court did say that officers could make a physical inspection of the phone to ensure officer safety and to make sure that it could not be used as a weapon.

No warrant is required by consent, under probation or parole search conditions to which the arrestee is subject, or where an imminent exigency requires immediate access to the phone. Evidence obtained from cell phone searches incident to arrest that were lawful in some jurisdictions before issuance of the *Riley* ruling on June 25, 2014 is not affected by this decision.

This information was obtained from an article written by Devallis Rutledge in the July issue of **POLICE magazine**. Mr. Rutledge is a former police officer, veteran prosecutor and currently serves as special counsel to the Los Angeles County district attorney.

THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICES' ANNUAL SENIOR FISHING RODEO



**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9
6:00 A.M. UNTIL NOON**

It is held at the county ponds located 7 miles south of the boulevard on highway 231 south across from Meriwether Road and about a quarter mile before you get to Trotman Road. We will have a deputy stationed at the entrance. If you are 50 years old or older, grab your fishing pole and your bait and come on down and catch yourself a catfish or two. You provide the pole and bait and we will provide the hot dogs and drinks. Come early and beat the heat to have the best time. Bring your church or club members and have a contest with your friends to see who can catch the biggest or the most fish. Come on out and have a good time fishing.

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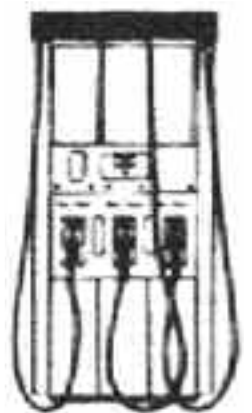
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Robservations...by Robert Tate

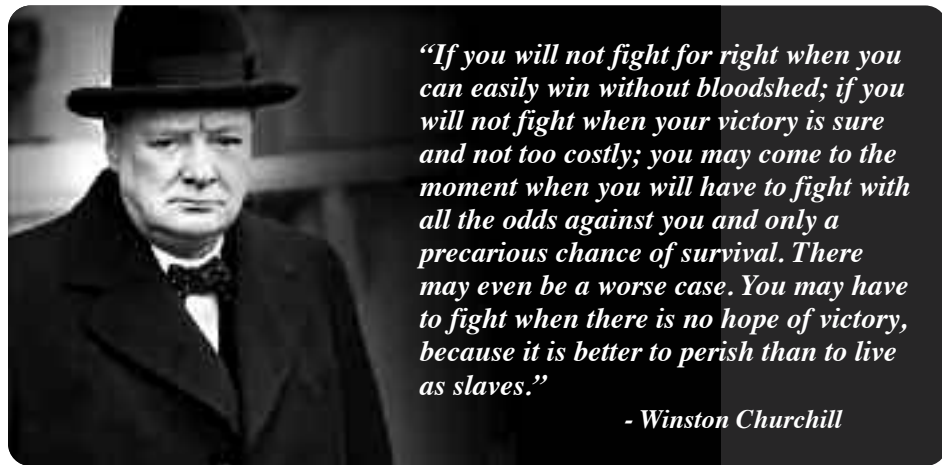
The views of this editorial may not express the views of The Alabama Gazette.

WAR STINKS ... BUT SOMETIMES, JUST SOMETIMES ... !!

"Silence In The Face Of Evil Is Itself Evil: God Will Not Hold Us Guiltless. Not To Speak Is To Speak. Not To Act Is To Act."

Dietrich Bohnhoeffer

I have been watching the crises in Iraq with some saturnine curiosity. I am not even sure where to begin with this Robservations. But I guess the best thing to do is to "cut to the chase" so to speak. These ISIS criminals are dangerous; not



only to Iraqis who think differently than they do but to the world as a whole. They hate everything and everybody who does not conform to their way of thinking.

I have always had this morbid curiosity in seeing, let's say, gross stuff. Weird? Yeah, I know but what can I say? How many of you remember the days, not too long ago when gas stations were the immediate repository for automobile accidents? As a kid, I would always run over and inspect the cars as carefully as I could. I remember during show-and-tell when I was in the third or fourth grade, I told of a car wreck I saw at a gas station on my family's way to Atlantic City. It was pretty gruesome inside that car and I still remember it to this day. My teacher, Mrs. Kole, told me to sit down and immediately called for an emergency parent-teacher conference. She told my parents I was the "most morbid little kid" she had ever seen. As strange as it may be, these images have always helped me put things into a certain perspective. Whether driving or flying, I try to be as competent as I can be because I have seen what happens when things go horribly wrong. Likewise, because I have pored over thousands of grisly wartime images through the years, I know war is something to be avoided at all costs.

In other words, I have a pretty strong stomach and images that make most people look away, have little negative impact on me. Until now. The other day I happened to see a link to images of what ISIS is doing to Christians in Iraq. Of course I had to go there and what I pulled up were some of the most terrible images I have ever seen. EVER. I called my wife over and by the time she came into the room I was actually crying. Those images, now seared in my brain will likely be with me for a long time. Although those pictures can still be found on the internet (or my iPad - sorry), I do not recommend going to see them. No way. Just say no.

I have seen hundreds of images of Nazi and Japanese atrocities, I have been to the concentration camp at Dachau several times, I have seen images of the desolation of Hamburg and Dresden, walked battlefields like Verdun, seen car wrecks and crashed airplanes with their mangled crews, but nothing really compares to what I saw happening in Iraq right now. Not to me anyway. It is not that these photos are in vivid color but rather it is their hellish nature that got to me. One of the more disturbing images showed a distraught and crying Iraqi man holding his little girl in his arms. The little girl was wearing a pretty blue dress with white leotards but had no head, courtesy of ISIS. The pure evil on display, only matched in the past 100 years by Hitler's Germany or the Khmer Rouge's Cambodian genocide led by Pol Pot from 1975-1979, is equally sickening and barbaric if not in scope but certainly in its intent. If ISIS had the technical know-how to be better killers, they would be. As a men and women of the West, we had better start preparing ourselves for the potential fight to come. Whether there or over here, it is coming because they have stated it is going to happen. "C'mon, Rob. They really don't mean it." Yeah, just like Hitler didn't call his shots in Mein Kampf back in 1925 and 1926.

Today, I hear pundits continually talking about our strategy in Iraq and what we are going to do, or not do, with ISIS. What would you say if I told you that strategies are worthless? Before you told me to go soak my head I would then continue my thought by saying, "Without clearly defined, measureable and attainable objectives, strategies are worthless." What I hear about our participation in Iraq is a lot of gibberish and nonsense with respect to what our strategy(ies) should be. Almost all media types are ignoring, whether out of ignorance or misfeasance, the truest of realities that our strategies appear flawed because I contend we have not yet developed any cogent tactical, operational and/or strategic objectives to deal with ISIS. Without clear objectives, you cannot have clear strategies because objectives define what you want to accomplish while strategies define how you are going to accomplish your objectives. "Rob, how can you say this?"

Well, I kinda taught this stuff for ten years in the Air Force.

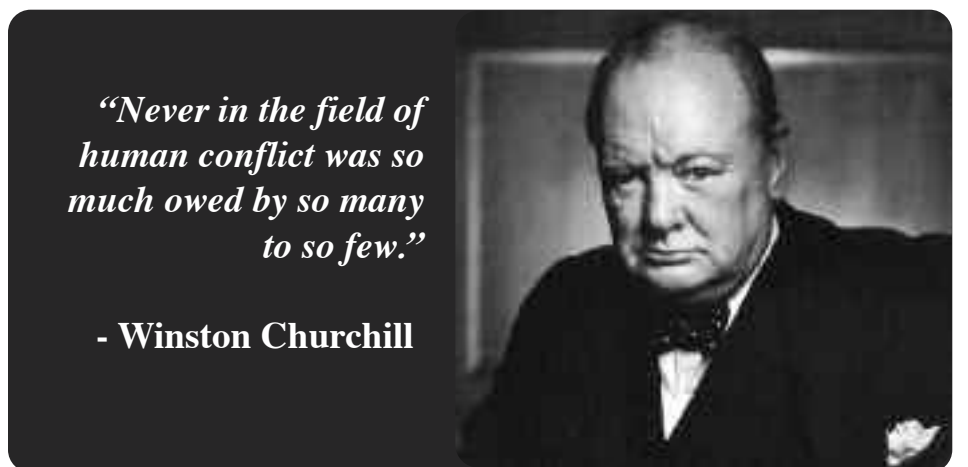
What I am getting at here is yes we are bombing ISIS targets now, but to what end? What are our real objectives there? Is it just to bomb them so people think we are at least doing something? Is it purely humanitarian? Is it to annihilate this regional threat? I have no idea and to be honest, few of us have a right to be privy to all information surrounding our operations in Iraq. But as an American citizen, I do feel our government has a responsibility to spell out what our goals (i.e. objectives) are regarding ISIS; much like President Bush succinctly did before Desert Storm.

This leads me to the real issue. If we are indeed going to fight ISIS, what are we actually prepared to do? Are we going to go after them like we did the Germans and Japanese in WWII? Are we going to pussyfoot around just marking time? Are we going to beat them down, without mercy until they can no longer threaten not just their region but the whole world? What? What are we going to do there? Although they may not be able to directly threaten us today, look at their doctrine. Doctrine is a powerful thing and it lets you know precisely what the enemy thinks. ISIS' doctrine (strategic aim) has stated that they want to plant their flag over the White House and they want to destroy the US and Europe. Again, Uncle Adolf's doctrine in Mein Kampf was pretty clear yet the whole world ignored it for over 15 years. I am sure you know what happened there!

Again, what are we, not just Americans but other Western countries willing to do? If America is going to do nothing but enter into yet another politically correct, kumbaya feel good operation that hamstring our warfighters' abilities to do what they have been trained to do, I say get a couple of C-5 transports, fill them with our more worthless politicians (we have to leave at least 25-30 behind) and let them fight their politically correct war.

I believe that IF we are going to fight ISIS, our goals must be clearly defined, measureable and attainable (our doctrine). Once defined, as quickly and savagely as possible, we have to accomplish those objectives (Sun Tzu Art of War 101). I for one do not want to see any more men holding up their beheaded children, Christians actually being crucified, pits with dozens of men machine gunned (just like the Nazis did to the Jews), the back of pickup trucks filled with severed heads or entire villages of men being slaughtered and their wives taken as sexual property. We need to wake up as to what is happening there and brace ourselves for what may very well be heading our way.

Winston Churchill, still my favorite statesman of the 20th Century perhaps said it best when he quipped, *"If you will not fight for right when you can easily win without bloodshed; if you will not fight when your victory is sure and not too costly; you may come to the moment when you will have to fight with all the odds against you and only a precarious chance of survival. There may even be a worse case. You may have to fight when there is no hope of victory, because it is better to perish than to live as slaves."* Do ya'll remember the Kenny Rogers' song, *"Coward of the County?"* In the song he said that you don't have to fight to be a man. But sometimes you have to fight when you are a man. If the ISIS threat



is deemed to be legitimate then an appropriate and legitimate solution must be achieved.

NOTE:

The day before I sent in this Robservations, American Journalist James Foley was beheaded by ISIS. This morning, 20 August was the 74th Anniversary of Winston Churchill's famous Battle of Britain quote. He said, *"Never in the field of human conflict was so much owed by so many to so few."* Just as the Battle of Britain was really heating up, three-quarters of a century later, again the West finds itself in a confrontation with pure evil. I just hope current world leadership has the panache, will, desire and intestinal fortitude to do what has to be done. More than ever, we need men of strength of character more than men with a 3 handicap. Pray for James Foley's family and our leadership. Remember, sins of commission and omission are still sins. Bohnhoeffer had it right all along.



Marcia Chambliss



ARE YOU TIRED OF POLITICS, TOO?

"I hate politics". I often hear that comment, especially in today's divisive political environment and after yet another ugly primary season. And it is apparent from the disparity in the number of "likes" I receive on my political Facebook posts as compared to my "happy" personal posts, most people would be content to never see anything pertaining to the world of political issues.

Perhaps you also think that "social" media isn't the place for political posts. That's fine, but please remember that social media was the driving force in the last two presidential campaigns, so while conservatives shy away from its use, those on the left solidly embrace it.

Because I have a love/hate relationship with politics, I really do understand the sentiment. But there is far too much at stake for the very survival of our Republic for me to disengage from the process.

What I have a harder time understanding is why an overwhelming number of Americans seemingly fail to recognize the enormous impact of public policy that touches each of us on a daily basis.

One of our SGP state coordinators shared the following from our recent Smart Girl Summit:

"Politics derives from policy. Policy WILL control your life. If bad policy...as you see with Obamacare, as you see with the immigration reform... if those issues take hold of your state, your communities, you're going to care. The fact that maybe you're not political, you're not a TEA Partier, you're not a grassroots person, you don't want to be involved with Republicans or Democrats...it's irrelevant when policy gets hold of your community."

Policy is foremost in my mind right now, and particularly our current foreign policy. I face my article deadline the day after American journalist James Foley was savagely beheaded and videotaped by Islamic State terrorists for the world to see. I will not watch the video – the photos are a sufficient reminder of the evil that

exists, a level of evil that I cannot possibly comprehend.

Almost immediately, threats and taunts to the U.S. from ISIS erupted, promising the shedding of more blood. As we mark yet another remembrance of 9/11, our southern border remains wide open and we face a national security crisis that very possibly exceeds what we experienced that horrific day. Is the policy of the Obama administration prepared for these threats? Earlier this summer, our president referred to ISIS as the JV team, essentially ignoring the ISIS threat in Syria regardless of intelligence sources revealing otherwise.

But are Americans seriously paying attention, or is this just something happening so far from our own backyards that the alarms have yet to be heard? From my Facebook and Twitter feed, I know that many of my activist friends are very awake and engaged, but because I mainly interact in a politically-aware environment, I don't have a good gauge of whether the outrage and recognition of this crisis has extended beyond that segment of the populace.

Mid-term elections are a short two months from now. There are key U.S. Senate seats which could shift the power structure of Congress and give conservatives a viable means of impacting national policy. Smart Girl Politics has committed to educating voters in these states as to the issues and it can be done from the comfort of your home. Will you consider investing some time with us to help make a difference in these races?

My husband has a favorite maxim that he often shares. **There are three kinds of people in this world: those who make things happen, those who watch what happens, and those who wonder what happened.** When it comes to politics and policy, we simply cannot afford to have any more citizens who fall into the last category.

Marcia Chambliss is the Alabama State Coordinator of Smart Girl Politics, a 501(c) (3) non-profit dedicated to the education and training of activists and candidates, and Smart Girl Politics Action, <http://sgpaction.com/>, a 501(c) (4) which focuses on conservative issues. She can be reached at:

Marcia@sgpaction.com. Her views do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Smart Girl Politics Action.

Have a Safe and Wonderful & Blessed Labor Day Weekend



Letters To The Editor

PLEASE SEND US YOUR THOUGHTS ON ANY ARTICLE PRINTED IN THIS PAPER.

STATEMENT IN REGARDS TO PROBLEM IN FERGUSON, MISSOURI

It has become hazardous and difficult to serve the American Public in the uniform of a Police Officer. Officer Wilson was doing his duty when he attempted to arrest this 6 ft. 4 inch, 280 lb. 18 year old man. This man started to attack him and this officer feared for his life or great bodily harm, so he used that force necessary to stop him.

Vigorous law enforcement is needed to cope with the crime and violence in this country. It cannot be achieved if arresting officers are required to make an apologetic approach to every law violator. If the rule of law is to prevail, the law must be enforced. We are asking our Police to operate under an honor system in dealing with an element of our society that has no honor. Certainly, arresting officers cannot be permitted to resort to illegal tactics themselves, but they must be allowed to perform their duty with confidence and assurance that they have the support of the public, the government at all levels and the Courts.

If the Police don't control the streets then the thugs will.

*Drue H. Lackey
Retired Chief Of Police
Montgomery, Alabama*

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UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE **MARTHA ROBY**
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ROBY COMMENTS ON ISIS

THREAT RAISES CONCERNS ABOUT BORDER SECURITY, FOREIGN POLICY, MILITARY READINESS

MONTGOMERY, Ala. – U.S. Representative Martha Roby (R-AL) today commented on the growing threat posed by the barbaric terrorist group identifying itself as ISIS, or the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria.

Rep. Roby, who has been traveling the 2nd Congressional District visiting with constituents over the last three weeks, said there is a growing concern about this new terrorist threat and the American response.

“I am deeply concerned about the growing threat posed by ISIS, and so are my constituents. I have reviewed footage and photographs of innocent men, women, and children being crucified and beheaded, including the beheading of American journalist James Foley.

“When the tactics ISIS uses are so brutal that al Qaeda denounces them, we are talking about a next-level terrorist ideology. Even worse, this group is well-funded, well-organized and has demonstrated military-style skills and discipline.

“I agree with General Dempsey, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who said, ‘This is an organization that has an apocalyptic, end-of-days strategic vision which will eventually have to be defeated.’

“We must prepare to take decisive military action to combat the threat ISIS poses. I look to our battle-tested military leaders to craft a strategically-wise course of action and to President Obama to command accordingly. Certainly, limited air strikes in Iraq have slowed ISIS's progress. However, it is clear more will be required to end this threat.

“This situation also emphasizes the need to secure our borders. I have long warned of the terrorism risk that exists with a porous border. Reports that these terrorists could have access to Western passports show how real that risk is.

“As always, the United States must learn from the past. Appeasing groups that seek a cultural, religious or ethnic ‘cleansing’ only emboldens them.

ISIS is killing anyone who does not conform to its bastardized, barbaric form of Islam, and they will not stop unless they are ended.

“As we address this threat, let us not forget to learn important lessons regarding our foreign policy and military readiness. In the absence of positive leadership, the meanest bully on the block will seize control, and that is what is happening now in the Middle East and beyond. At the same time, the hollowing of our military forces has left us in a depleted state of military readiness. I believe the confluence of our misguided foreign policy and compromised military readiness has contributed to this problem festering and growing to the point that we are now threatened.

“American must lead in the world, ensuring peace through strength.”

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

Bench-Bar & Beyond By Judge Dale Segrest

AN INCOMPLETE TRANSITION

In the last several articles I have dealt with issues of law and race from a different and unique view point. In the background of all of the articles is consideration of cultural systems. I have noted that the 400 years of slavery and segregation that existed in the United States produced a unique black culture. One aspect of that culture has been the strained relationship between the black culture and the legal system.

The legal system obviously originated in Europe-not Africa. African-Americans are not Africans, they are Americans. African-American culture is a unique product of the past 400 years. Obviously not everyone who shares genes that originated in Africa is automatically a member and influenced by the African-American culture.

Earlier we pointed out the possible adverse impact of the black cultural heritage on the possibilities for economic development. Law is a pre-requisite for economics, and full participation in and support for the legal system is a pre-requisite to economic development. Often in the past, the best interest of the black culture was not served by willing participation in the legal system. Therefore there has always been, a distance between the legal system and that culture. Thus, in our Black belt counties there may be a built in cultural impediment to economic development because of continued lack of confidence in law. The legal system is not the way conflicts are solved.

Differences in culture and cultural institutions came to the forefront of the Civil Rights Movement. The legal system, in many instances, particularly in the South, actually supported segregation, and provided separate institutions. Segregation was an obvious barrier to full participation of blacks in the good-life of the culture of America. In *Brown v. Topeka*, the Supreme Court of the United States recognized that separate is not equal. The application of a concept of equality to various social aspects of complex of human social systems is very problematic. Equality is not nearly as exact or easy to identify as it might sound when applied to matters social. The *Brown* decision recognized that separate is not equal. It would have done well to recognize, however, that separate is still separate. I remember extremely well 7th grade Civics at Shorter High School, a segregated 12 year school in the 1950's. We were introduced to the idea that America is the “great Melting Pot”. What that was supposed to mean is that people from Europe and all parts of the world coming into America were blended into the complex American culture. The Statue of Liberty was the iconic image. Slaves

did not arrive there. While the “melting pot” that had worked okay for certain Europeans, it had not worked universally. Nevertheless, that was a part of the mentality of that era. Another part of the mentality of the era was that proper education can solve everything. Those questionable beliefs were embedded in the answers to the problems of segregation.

The difference between desegregation (i.e. elimination of racial legal barriers) to integration (i.e. assimilation of the culture) is a subtle difference. I learned the difference from the late Dr. Frank Toland of Tuskegee University. The primary task of the Civil Rights movement was desegregation: elimination of the segregated bathrooms, segregated water fountains, segregated eating establishments, etc. Integration is a much more complicated matter, on which opinions in the black culture itself are much more divided.

The Voting Rights Act and the Civil Rights Act attempted to solve the problems of segregation by conferring individual rights, without really recognizing and dealing with the cultural differences. Although effective to bring about desegregation, those laws do not support a creative multiculturalism. They do not deal with the differences in culture at all. The side effect of those laws, when applied in Alabama, was to assign exclusive political and governmental control of predominately black counties to the culture that was separate and unequal. The continuity of the culture in these areas posed significant problems for the citizens of those counties in their quest to be a part of the good-life of America. They created and perpetuated a guilt pattern of territorial de facto segregation. Those measures, while necessary, needed to be carefully transitioned, after accomplishing desegregation, to also provide a route for the black population to move into the mainstream of the culture, without sacrificing the accomplishments of black culture. The creation of almost totally black political subdivisions of the State was not the answer to the problem. It is now time to identify and openly discuss the problems with this approach and openly seek more creative solutions.



Judge Philip Dale Segrest

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

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**Sports Editor,
Ed Jones**

THE GOAL IN 2014

The battle for number one begins August 28 with the SEC contest between Texas A&M at South Carolina. South Carolina could be a contender but **Coach Steve Spurrier** can not afford to lose to **Coach Kevin Sumlin's** Aggies in the opener.

Auburn and Alabama kick off the season on the following Saturday. They both will be in the mix to go to the "final four". However, Auburn plays at least eight teams that could beat the Tigers. Alabama only plays two teams with a legitimate chance to beat the Tide, LSU and Auburn. So, even though the teams are virtually even now, by the end of the season, one will have had better schedule luck and injury luck. Alabama has the easiest road to the play-offs.

Oklahoma is loaded with talent again this year. Only Baylor and Texas stand in the way of the Sooners getting to the play-offs. **Coach Bob Stoops** usually "blows" at least one game each year. This year he can't afford it.

Florida State could repeat as national champions, but they can't afford a let down against Clemson, Notre Dame, Miami and Florida. Wisconsin, Oregon, Auburn, Michigan State, South Carolina, Iowa and UCLA could slip in the back door by winning eleven games, which is very possible. Ohio State will coast to the "Big Ten" championship game but will go no further.

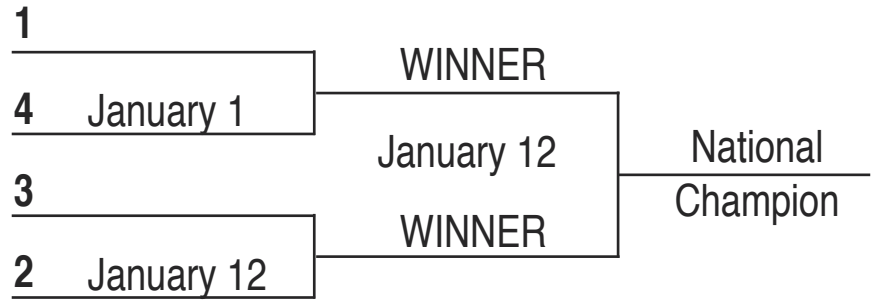
Wisconsin is my surprise team of 2014. **Coach Gary Anderson** is in his second year leading the Badgers. He is a very impressive young coach. His Utah State teams were always salty even though outmanned most of the time. His record last year was 9-4. He can beat LSU in the opener. If he does, only Iowa stands in his way to the top.

Georgia could surprise by making the SEC championship if they knock off Clemson at Athens, South Carolina at Columbia and Auburn at Athens. All three are doable but not likely. That is why Georgia is not in my top ten.

LSU will struggle to win ten games this year with no experienced quarterback and many players lost to the NFL. But, **Coach Les Miles** always surprises. Maybe he can do it this year. He must beat Wisconsin in Houston in the opener, then Auburn in Auburn and Alabama at home.

BYU, Notre Dame, Clemson, LSU, Stanford and Baylor are in a log jam. Any one of these teams could finish in the top five, but that will be like taking your sister to the homecoming dance. It will not mean much this year.

We hope your team will make the final four. It is going to be an exciting season...**War Eagle!...Roll Tide!**



ED JONES TOP 50

These projections are based on the order in which the following teams will be ranked in the AP Poll at the end of the regular season. They are not based on the power rating of each team. Their records are projected 2014 wins and losses.

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Oklahoma12-0 | 26. Penn State.....9-3 |
| 2. Alabama12-0 | 27. North Carolina8-4 |
| 3. Florida State12-0 | 28. Louisville9-3 |
| 4. Wisconsin.....10-2 | 29. Marshall11-1 |
| 5. Oregon.....10-2 | 30. Michigan9-3 |
| 6. Auburn10-2 | 31. North Illinois11-1 |
| 7. Michigan State10-2 | 32. Cincinnati9-3 |
| 8. South Carolina10-2 | 33. Bowling Green10-2 |
| 9. Iowa.....10-2 | 34. Boise State9-3 |
| 10. Ohio State.....11-1 | 35. Ole Miss8-4 |
| 11. UCLA.....10-2 | 36. Texas A&M8-4 |
| 12. Georgia.....9-3 | 37. UCF.....9-3 |
| 13. BYU10-2 | 38. Mississippi State ...8-4 |
| 14. Notre Dame9-3 | 39. Texas8-4 |
| 15. Kansas State9-3 | 40. Florida8-4 |
| 16. Clemson9-3 | 41. Oklahoma State8-4 |
| 17. Stanford.....9-3 | 42. Arizona.....8-4 |
| 18. LSU9-3 | 43. Texas Tech.....8-4 |
| 19. Baylor.....9-3 | 44. Miami8-4 |
| 20. Nebraska9-3 | 45. Virginia Tech8-4 |
| 21. Navy10-2 | 46. Arizona State.....8-4 |
| 22. Washington.....10-3 | 47. Houston8-4 |
| 23. TCU.....9-3 | 48. Fresno State.....9-3 |
| 24. Missouri9-3 | 49. Duke7-5 |
| 25. Oregon State.....8-4 | 50. Maryland7-5 |

THE SPORTS PAGE

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Gus Malzahn

September 16
Jackie Sherrill

September 23
Joe Dean, Jr.

September 30
Larry Blakeney

October 7
Lee Roy Jordan

October 14
Bruce Pearl

All Meetings on Tuesday

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DOVE SEASON OPENS SEPTEMBER 8TH

Hunters statewide can celebrate the beginning of dove season at noon Saturday, September 8th. The long-awaited opening day is traditionally considered the beginning of the fall hunting season. Hunting the opening day of dove season is an absolute tradition in Alabama and many other southern states. For most hunters, pitting their shotgunning skills against these speedsters is the ultimate challenge. Mourning doves are not only fast, they can display aerial acrobatics under fire that make them almost impossible to hit. This month, we will look at some tactics that will improve your odds of harvesting these fast fliers, as well as tips to help you select the best spot to set up on a dove field.

In our part of the state, most counties fall into the North Zone of mourning dove season. This zone has a split season, actually 3 seasons, in which you can hunt dove. The first season runs from September 7 to October 6, the second from October 19 to November 2 and the third from December 7 to December 31. Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise until sunset except for opening day, when you can't start hunting until 12 o'clock noon. If you shoot a semi-automatic or pump shotgun, it must have an internal plug limiting it to only holding three shells. Remember too, that all licensed hunters who hunt dove are required by Federal Law to obtain a Harvest Information Program (HIP) permit prior to hunting. HIP permits are free and are available at www.outdooralabama.com and all hunting license vendors.

Fortunately for the hunter, doves are fairly predictable. Individual fields may not be covered up with birds on any given hunt, but scouting before the hunt will insure you set up where your percentages are the highest. From a good vantage point, use binoculars during early morning and late afternoon to determine the flight pattern used by doves, the time they start to fly and the sun. You can learn a lot about the dove in just one afternoon. Get your bearings and figure out east from west and then position yourself with the sun at your back. The sun can really hinder your ability to spot dove, much less shoot dove. If having it at your back is not possible try to face where it is not directly in your eyes. Then, locate a good spot to ambush them. The end of tree lines, grown up fence rows or even high weeds adjacent to a grain field can be good spots to hunt. Pick a few spots that look promising, just in case someone beats you to your first choice. Keep in mind that the early hunter gets the best spot and the birds. It's not very smart to spend the time scouting out your spot and come driving up too late to get it. I can assure you, if you've picked a decent spot it won't last long. Whether you are hunting the morning hunt or afternoon, get to the field, take your spot and prepare to be the one doing a lot of shooting. Also, pay attention to the wind when choosing a spot to hunt...dove prefer to take off and land into the wind.

If you can't scout a field prior to the shoot, keep in mind that many "structures" affect the dove's flight patterns in a field. It could be anything from a group of trees in the field, a single dead tree, a fence line, a break in a tree line or an old barn at the edge of the field.

After a dove has been shot at, they become very erratic and will change course on any ground movement. Expert dove hunters will tell you that being still and keeping your dog still is more important than the fanciest camo you can buy. Sure, you'll want to wear some camo but if you are jumping up to shoot way to early, the camo won't help. Dove have keen eyesight and can spot movement from quite a distance, so it's best to wait until the bird is in range, generally 25 to 35 yards, before you make your move.

Dove blend well into their surroundings and many are lost by hunters who

take their eye off of a falling bird and shoot at another. Unless shooting over a recently cut grain field or an area with short grass, it's a good idea to watch your bird hit the ground after the shot and go immediately to retrieve it, especially if you're not hunting with a good retriever.

Ten years ago, decoys were seldom used by dove hunters but we've caught on to the fact that doves are flocking birds and they respond well to decoys. Motion type decoys (spinning and flapping wing) have proved to be highly effective. A good decoy spread includes three or four stationary decoys and a couple of 'flapping wing' decoys. The best way to use dove decoys depends on several things. If you're hunting a big agriculture field you'll want to use your decoys to attract and guide the doves to your shooting zone. Begin by placing one where it can be seen from a distance - on a tall tree limb or the top string of a barbed wire fence. Out front, where you'd like to shoot the birds, place two or three dove decoys several feet from each other in a small group with a spinning wing decoy. Another trick is to drag a big downed limb into the field and stick a few decoys on the limbs in addition to the ones on the ground.

As far as being able to consistently hit dove, practicing at your local sporting clay range will help a lot. When taking a passing shot on a dove, regardless of the direction it is moving past the gun, I swing from behind the target and when I see daylight between the muzzle and the bird, I pull the trigger. Because the muzzle is moving faster than the target you will (a) establish the necessary lead and (b) be less prone to stop your swing. Follow-through is critical to dove-

shooting success. Stop your swing before you see the bird start to fall and you can count on a miss. The incoming bird is consistently the easiest shot for me to make. To take this bird, you need to address the bird, or put your body in the right position to take the shot. Then start moving the barrel of the gun from below (behind) the bird, continuing to bring the gun up. When you blank out the bird with your gun barrel so you can't see him, squeeze the trigger and continue to pull the gun up, you'll almost always take this incoming bird. When a dove is flying away from you, you want to use the opposite type of lead. As you move the gun barrel down on the dove, blank the bird out, squeeze the trigger and continue the downward motion of the gun. You should then be shooting right under the bird. By shooting under a bird that's flying away



from you, you're actually putting the shot out in front of the bird so that he can fly into it.

When selecting a shotgun, a 20, 16 or 12 gauge shotgun will work. Doves are small, have a light and easily broken bone structure, and require very few small pellets to drop them cleanly. Ask hunters who regularly get their limit and you will find, with precious few exceptions, they are using open chokes, usually an improved cylinder, and their shot size preference will never be larger than No. 7 1/2. Most will be shooting 8's or 9's.

This month is also the time to begin preparing your food plots for the upcoming deer season. Late September into early October is the best time to plant, so load up the tractor, bush hog those fields and get them ready for planting. When deciding exactly what to plant in your food plots, many hunters choose clovers, winter wheat, winter oats and Austrian winter peas. Others prefer a good, high quality blend. These are available from Bio-Logic, Pennington and Tecomate Seed Company, so check with your local feed and seed store for these. For the last 3 years, I've planted Buck Forage Oats that I purchased at Farmers Feed and Supply on Fleming Road, and the results have been great. Since changing to these oats, I've had more deer using my food plots than ever before.

In closing, this will be my last article for the Alabama Gazette. I started this column back in September of 2007, and I've thoroughly enjoyed writing for you each month over the last 7 years. I'm passing the gauntlet next month to someone that most of you will know... at least most of you who hunt and fish will know him. I'll give him a formal introduction at the beginning of his article next month. Until then, if you get the chance, introduce a young person to the great outdoors! They are the future of our sport.

The Alabama Gazette staff and our readers will miss Zack. He has been faithful to the Gazette and to his readers. Truly a great outdoorsman!



Gray Fox

The fox is said to be one of the most intelligent animals in the world. While you may know the basics about them, you are about to find out lots of fascinating facts about them. Then you will be able to expand your knowledge and to share them with other people. The scientific name for this animal is *Vulpes Vulpes*. There are 37 species of foxes, but only 12 belong to the genus "vulpes" or "true foxes". The best known of them are: Red Fox, Arctic Fox, Kit Fox, Fennec Fox, and the Gray Fox. Foxes are members of the canine family and the smallest type of them. However, they hunt alone instead of in packs like other types of canines do. The most common species of the foxes is the red fox, which is about the size of a large cat. It is characterized by a reddish coat, a white underbelly and a bushy tail with a white tip, with some variations depending on the habitat. It is the largest of the fox species. A baby fox is called a kit, and the male foxes are known as reynards and females are vixens. They are both deaf and blind when they are born. They will stay in a den with their mother for about a month for protection. They are nocturnal creatures which mean they are active at night time. They are believed to be among the most adaptable animals in the world. They can do very well with changes in the food sources and their surroundings.

" The Kritter Korner" "FOXES"

A fox can run at a speed of about 30 miles per hour for short periods of time. In the wild foxes can live for about 10 years. In captivity that life cycle can be as long as 20 years. The fox is found everywhere in the Northern Hemisphere as well as in areas



Red Fox

of Australia. The fox doesn't communicate by barking as other canines do. Instead, it relies almost solely upon non-verbal communication. This includes the posture of the body, tail wagging, and facial expressions. Some of their verbal communications include yelps and what sounds like human screams. The fox has such a powerful sense of smell that it can even find food under the ground. This is how they find food sources in the winter. It is also why they have been known to dig up dead animals such as family pets. There are more fox habitats in cities than any other location. They are able to heavily populate a given area in no time at all. This is why the authorized hunting of them is allowed at various times in certain areas. Large numbers of the fox populations

in the wild have been depleted due to different types of disease. They are able to spread it very quickly and most of the time the animals will die if they have been exposed to such a problem. The fox is classified as an omnivore. This means it will basically eat anything it needs to in order to survive. Large numbers of fox die annually due to being hit by vehicles. The fact that these animals are active at night and that the roads are built through their habitat causes this to occur. There are many connections to the fox in popular culture. It has ties to older ceremonies and traditions in various cultures. You will also find references in books, poems, and movies. The fox kills other animals for survival and nothing more. There is a myth that they are known to kill just for the thrill of it. They are known to kill more food than they need though. Then they will bury it or hide it to consume later on when they are hungry. Foxes are known to have both canine and feline characteristics. Even though they are considered to be a member of the dog family, they have feline characteristics such as vertically slit eyes and retractable claws. They are excellent tree climbers and also play with their prey before killing it, just like a cat. The fox doesn't attack or kill humans. They can become infected with rabies which makes them very aggressive. It is not true that the fox will attempt to breed with dogs when they live in close proximity to humans. Approximately 20% of the young fox will die before they are one month old. When that occurs, the other young will consume it as a meal.



HSEC

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Cocoa is very sweet and adorable two-year old Chihuahua that came to us as a stray and that we had to treat for those nasty heartworms. She is all healthy now and, of course, her adopter **MUST** keep her on heartworm prevention so

that she never again gets this life threatening disease. Cocoa is NOT in our shelter as she is in a foster home who has seen her through her heartworm treatment so please contact us for an application and to make arrangements to meet her. Cocoa takes some time getting used to you but if you give her a chance she will jump in your lap and stay there. She gets along with other dogs and cats but will also do her best to police up any animal that is out of line. Cocoa is NOT fond of children so needs an adult only home. She is crate trained and house trained. She loves her crate and knows that is where to go when her foster parents leave the house or go to bed. They call her a "treat hog" as she has definitely learned the treat routine and will do her magic 'til she gets her treat J!

Our adoption fees are \$100 for dogs and \$50 for cats which completely covers the mandatory spay or neuter, basic immunizations, de-worming, microchip, heartworm check for dogs, rabies vaccination if old enough, 45 days of pet health insurance and a free health exam with your veterinarian.

It was a great **Supply Drive at the Millbrook Wal-Mart** and many thanks to Charlie and all the volunteers who braved the scorching heat, and to all who purchased and donated supplies to help our animals! Those supplies truly help so we can use donated funds for direct animal care – thank's so much to ALL of our supporters!

On the upcoming Labor Day holiday we will NOT be doing any adoptions at the area PETS-MARTs on Saturday. The shelter and Thrift Store will, however, be open our normal hours on Saturday, 30 Aug. The Shelter will be closed Monday, 1 September in observance of Labor Day.

If you have plans to be away from home and cannot take your pet with you we hope you have made plans for your pet's care. If you are not boarding your pet at a professional boarding facility and have a family member or friend caring for your pet, please take the time to ensure that person has all the info they need to not only keep your pet safe and happy, but how to respond in an emergency. Make sure your pet has its collar and tags on so that it can be reunited with you in the event it becomes lost (and still time this week to take your pet to your veterinarian for a microchip). While we hope this isn't needed, leaving signed instructions with your pet sitter in regards to medical treatment authorization could be vital in the event of an emergency when you cannot be reached. Of course leaving contact info with your pet sitter is vital, but

phone connectivity is often sparse in many vacation areas, so please plan for the worst case, perhaps having another person as a contact in the event of an emergency.

Whenever you leave your pet in someone else's care, please leave written information about your pet such as physical description, collar color and tags, name, food requirements, medications and behavioral issues that a sitter or veterinarian needs to know. All of this will help in the event of an emergency as your sitter just may not know everything there is to know about your pet. And if you come home and your pet is missing, please call us first so that we can either take a lost report and be on the lookout for your pet or reunite you if your pet is safely with us.

In this day and age of technology we also advise having photos of your pet on your phone and also on your Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest or other social media. This way you can quickly get your pet's photo circulating in the event it becomes lost and you can get to a computer to post the info. And if you are traveling with your pet and it is microchipped, perhaps store that microchip number in your phone so you can access it if your pet is lost away from home.

We wish everyone a wonderful and safe Labor Day weekend!

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THE DAN MORRIS SHOW





Inside the Statehouse

with Steve Flowers



Steve Flowers is Alabama's leading political columnist. His column appears weekly in 72 Alabama newspapers. Steve served 16 years in the state legislature. He may be reached at www.steveflowers.us

The 1978 Governor's race between the three heavyweights, former Governor Albert Brewer, Attorney General Bill Baxley, and Lt. Governor Jere Beasley, was expected to be titanic. All three men had last names beginning with the letter "B." The press coined the phrase "the three B's." The Republicans were relegated to insignificance on the gubernatorial stage. The winner of the Democratic Primary would be governor.

Meanwhile, over in east Alabama, a little known former Auburn halfback named Fob James strolled into the governor's race. Fob's entry evoked very little interest, only curiosity as to why he would want to enter the fray against three well known major players. Fob was exposed as a card carrying Republican whose only political experience had been as a member of the Lee County Republican executive committee, but even a political novice like Fob knew he could not win as a Republican so he qualified to run as a Democrat along with the three B's.

Fob had become very wealthy by starting a successful barbell company in Opelika. When Fob signed up to run for governor, the press wrote him off as a rich gadfly who simply chose politics, rather than golf, as his pastime. Little did they know the fact he was rich and had a lot of time on his hands could spell trouble for the average political opponent who had to worry about fundraising and feeding their family while running a fulltime campaign.

Fob realized he was no political professional like the three B's, who had spent their entire political adulthood in public office, so he sought out professional advice. He had the money to think big and wanted to know who was the best political consultant in the South. It was an easy answer: Deloss Walker, a political public relations genius who lived in Memphis, Tennessee. His track record for electing governors of southern states was 5-0. The scenario was the same for all five upset victories. He took an obscure, unknown candidate and elected him governor over a well known incumbent or favorite. He had just taken an unknown school board member named Dale Bumpers and made him Governor of Arkansas. Deloss Walker was the most renowned and expensive political guru in the country in 1977.

Fob quietly sought out Walker, who at first refused to take Fob's race. Walker's first impression was that even he could not mold Fob into a winner against three well-financed, experienced thoroughbreds. Fob persisted convincing Walker with the fact he had unlimited personal money to spend. Walker relented

knowing he might risk blemishing his unbeaten record but at least he would make a lot of money off poor old Fob.

Walker's one condition for taking the race was Fob must do exactly what he said. He must be scripted and never deviate from Walker's pat ads and speeches. Nobody was aware Fob had already garnered the genius Walker and been to political school when he signed up to run for governor in the spring of 1978. Brewer, Baxley, and Beasley ignored Fob. Baxley even praised him saying, "Fob would be a good governor. Too bad he's not a serious candidate." Those words would come back to haunt Baxley.

Walker's initial polling showed Fob actually had some name identification from being an Auburn halfback in the 1950's. It also picked up on the fact that Auburn alumni yearned for an Auburn man to be governor instead of a University of Alabama alumnus. However, Fob's best attribute was that he always followed Walker's script. No matter what question Fob was asked he answered it with the same pat answer, "I'm for getting back to the basics, reading, writing, and arithmetic."

He traveled the state in a yellow school bus and let the three B's tear each other up. Baxley, Beasley, and Brewer spent all their time and money attacking each other with negative ads, all the while Fob ran positive ads evoking a clean image of himself. By mid May most Alabamians had seen so many negative ads and mudslinging by the three B's they were of the opinion that all three had probably shot their mothers in a bar fight but they liked old Fob James, even if they thought his name was "Bob James."

It was too late for the three B's when they saw a poll about a week before the election showing Fob ahead of all three of them. Baxley refused to believe it and kept hammering at Beasley and Brewer, ignoring Fob. When the votes were counted Fob was in first place. Baxley finished second because black voters were with him. Brewer was third and Beasley finished fifth behind State Senator Sid McDonald.

Fob easily beat Baxley in the runoff. After all, what could Baxley say? He had run all over the state for three months saying Fob would make a good governor. Fob James had pulled off one of the most amazing upset victories in the history of Alabama politics. The Fob James story of the 1978 Governor's race is truly one for the record books.

August 27, 2014



WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MAGNA CARTA?

I recently read an article in the American Bar Association Journal online concerning a speech that United States Supreme Court Chief Justice John Roberts gave recently about the significance of the Magna Carta.

As you may recall, many of the Barons in England were disgruntled with the King John I. What they really wanted to do was to replace King John but they didn't have a favorable replacement. As an alternative, King John met them at Runnymede on the bank of the River Thames, which is not far from Windsor. The purpose was to limit the arbitrary powers of the King so that the things that he imposed on the people were backed by the "law of the land".

The Charter of Liberties had been sealed by Henry I in 1100, which had specific limitations on King Henry I. On 15 June 1215, King John placed his seal on the Magna Carta. The Magna Carta is also known as the Magna Carta Libertatum and The Great Charter of the Liberties of England. It is written in Latin. Though the Charter was not numbered, clause 61 gave the Barons the right to overrule the King if he defied the Charter through the unanimous consent of twenty-five Barons. Such action would allow the Barons to seize the King's castles and possessions if necessary through a medieval legal practice that was known as distraint. King John was unhappy about that clause and renounced it as soon as the Baron's left. The Pope, Innocent II was a supporter of King John at the time (he had previously excommunicated John in 1209) and renounced the Magna Carta.

The Barons realized that King John would never accept the Magna Carta and began to look for a new King. A civil war occurred called the First Barons War. The Crown was offered to Prince Louis of France, who also prolonged the War along with the rebel Barons. King John died in 1216, paving the way for the Magna Carta's implementation into English law and John's, minor son, Henry III was crowned as King. King Henry III had further influence over the Magna Carta after he obtained the age of majority though he reduced the number of clauses. The influence of the Magna Carta was further expanded under King Edward I in 1297 and was Constitutionally more important. Even though one half of the Magna Carta had been repealed by the mid 1800's, it was responsible for representative government, due process and sentences to fit the severity of crimes among many other things. Many of these ideals were carried into the Colonies and became a part of the framework of the United States Constitution.

Chief Justice John Roberts delivered speech about the Magna Carta and its influence on American law was a part of the 800th anniversary commemoration of its signing as it approaches next year. At the outset he told of a tour guide at Runnymede after the tour guide's main presentation had ended. The tour guide asked the group if they had questions. One gentleman raised his hand and asked the guide when the Magna Carta was signed. The guide replied 1215, to which the gentleman in the group turned to his wife and said, "See, I told you we shouldn't have stopped for lunch. We just missed it." Chief Justice Roberts drew great laughs for that and followed by saying, "If you don't like that, you try coming up with a Magna Carta joke".

Roberts went on to say, "We live in an era in which sharp partisan divides within our political branches have shaken public faith in government across the board." Roberts went on to point out that an independent judiciary can help remedy partisan disputes by exercising independent and sound decisions.

Today, three parts of the Magna Carta (as sent forth under Edward I) exist in English law; those being (1) Clause 1 and the freedom of the English Church; Clause 9 and the "ancient liberties" of the City of London and Clause 29 and the right to due process.

As this article has only touched on the history and content of the Magna Carta I would urge you to read further on this great document.

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

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

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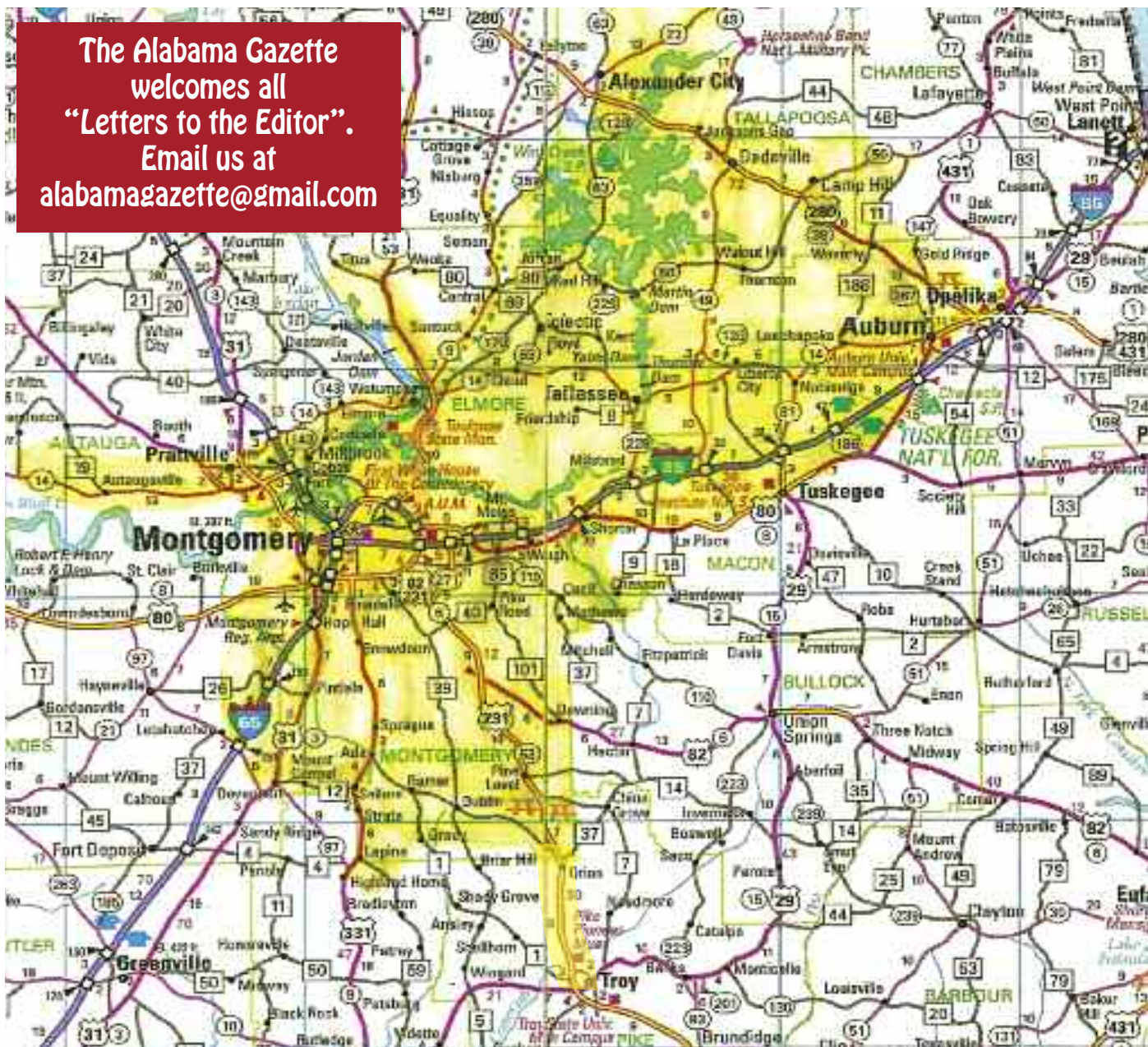
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The Alabama Gazette will be celebrating its 15th Anniversary in the month of October. Hope you will plan to pick up an October issue. The map below shows our distribution area.

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MARBURY, AL. NATIVE SERVES ABOARD USS GERALD R. FORD

NEWPORT NEWS, Va. – A Marbury, Alabama native and 2008 Marbury High School graduate, is serving in the U.S. Navy as part of a hand-picked crew charged with bringing the Navy's newest aircraft carrier into service.

Seaman Apprentice James McClain, who enlisted a year ago, is a personnel specialist aboard Pre-Commissioning Unit Gerald R. Ford (CVN 78), the first ship in its class and the successor to the Navy's Nimitz-class aircraft carriers that have been in operation for the last half century.

McClain, the first in his family to join the Navy, and the rest of the 1000-Sailor crew are slowly bringing the ship to life, a crew that will eventually grow to more than 4,500 when the ship is at sea. When complete, the aircraft carrier, powered by two nuclear reactors, will measure more than three football fields long at 1,092 feet in length and will weigh more than 100,000 tons. It will be capable of sailing at nearly 35 mph and will carry more than 75 Navy aircraft.

"Seaman Apprentice McClain plays a vital role in preparing our Nation's newest and most technologically advanced warship for sea," said Ford's Commanding Officer, Capt. John F. Meier. "We have the opportunity to build this command with the ideals of our namesake and we are creating the command climate and a culture of excellence that we have always wanted. This crew is setting that standard, a standard that will last for the 50-plus year life of the ship."

As one of the sailors who will commission the ship, McClain has the opportunity to see firsthand the innovations being incorporated into the design of the ship; from a redesigned flight deck to allow for more efficient aircraft operations to equipment that requires less maintenance.

As the crew grows and works toward the goal of joining the fleet in 2016, McClain and other Gerald R. Ford sailors will be accepting spaces on the ship, training to operate it and building a legacy that will last beyond their lifetimes.

Training for the crew has to come from some unique sources. There are no Navy schools for some of the new equipment, so the crew is partnering with Huntington Ingalls Newport News Shipbuilding and other vendors to master the new systems.

"This is a unique opportunity to see first-

hand how the systems are installed and tested, which is an advantage that future crews won't have an opportunity to experience," said Meier. "Seaman Apprentice McClain and his shipmates are becoming the subject matter experts. They are working hand in hand with the Shipyard throughout the testing phase and in turn teaching the Navy how to operate this new class of aircraft carriers."



Seaman Apprentice James McClain, who enlisted a year ago, is a personnel specialist aboard Pre-Commissioning Unit Gerald R. Ford.

McClain said it is an exciting time to be in the Navy, helping to build a crew and a ship from scratch, something he never expected to be doing just a couple years ago. He also said he is proud of the work he is doing to help commission and man the Navy's newest aircraft carrier. As a 24-year-old with numerous responsibilities, McClain said he is learning about himself as a leader, sailor and a person. "I now have a plan for my life and career,"

said McClain. "I have a direction and a plan—and I know where I want to be. The Navy is going to help me get there."

McClain adds he is ready to accept the sacrifices the Navy and his country are asking him to make. This humbling reward is being a part of something much bigger than he ever expected.

Like the Nimitz-class aircraft carriers that came before it, USS Gerald R. Ford's mission is to protect and defend America on the world's oceans. When the ship deploys it will bring four-and-a-half acres of survivable, sovereign U.S. territory, increasing the Navy's strike capability and defending the country's interests in any region of the world.

The ship is scheduled to commission in spring 2016.

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On our planet, more than 70 percent of which is covered by water, being there means having the ability to act from the sea. The Navy is uniquely positioned to be there; the world's oceans give the Navy the power to protect America's interests anywhere, and at any time. Your Navy protects and defends America on the world's oceans. Navy ships, submarines, aircraft and, most importantly, tens of thousands of America's finest young men and women are deployed around the world doing just that. They are there now. They will be there when we are sleeping tonight. They will be there every Saturday, Sunday and holiday this year. They are there around the clock, far from our shores, defending America at all times.

Thank you very much for your support of the men and women in U.S. Navy, deployed around the clock and ready to protect and defend America on the world's oceans.

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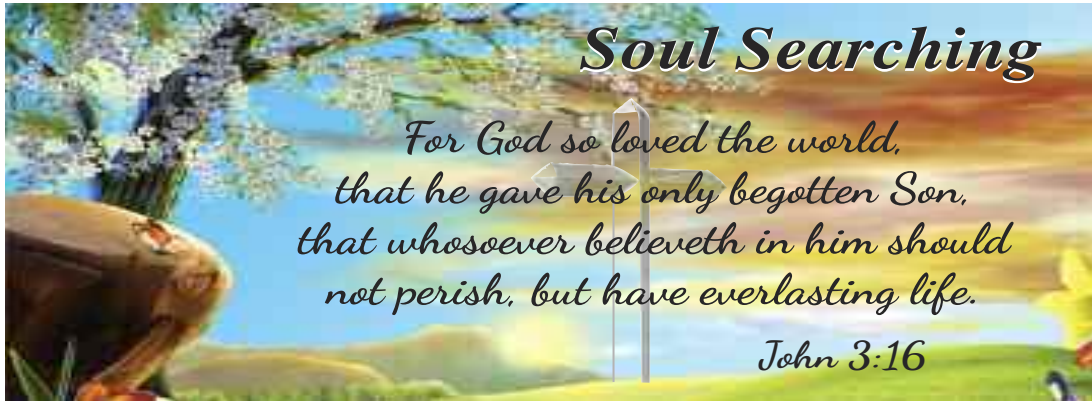
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John 3:16

THE MARSHALL MOMENT

DR. RICK MARSHALL
Eastern Hills
Baptist Church
Montgomery, Alabama



GOOD GRIEF

Perhaps some might wonder where I could have found a more confounding title? Would anyone wish to associate the word “good” with “grief?” Actually it came from the title to a little book I was introduced to many years ago. It has gone through numerous printings and still remains a definitive work on understanding grief. The book is titled, **Good Grief**, written by Granger Westberg. I have also gained insight from an article by Joey Faucette, Jr.

The truth is most of us don’t like to think about grief until it stares us in the face. Grief is simply a word which describes how we cope with death or loss. It can be good or bad depending on our reaction to it. Let’s focus on how grief can be a good experience.

We are grieving as a nation over the death of a celebrity, over the death of a correspondent at the hands of terrorists, and over the death of a young man which has caused great turmoil in a community. Certainly many who read this have faced death of someone in your family or close to you in the past year. Grief is also a byproduct of other sudden changes in our lives relating to health, job or family situation. And those things have also impacted some of us and we are in the midst of our own grief.

“As a society we tend to avoid talking about unpleasant things, and death is in that category. We want to focus on happy thoughts, the beginnings rather than the endings. We work hard to accumulate and achieve, striving to do our best among the many challenges and difficulties of daily life, and we don’t want it to end. We don’t want to lose everything we have attained, and we prefer not to think about this inevitability”

However, reality is just the opposite. I recall a quote by the past NFL coach of the Houston Oilers and Tennessee Titans, Bum Phillips. In his less than elegant English he once said, “There are two types of coaches in the NFL: them that have been fired, and them that are gonna be fired.”

There are also two types of people in the world; those who grieve and those who will grieve. We can’t escape it. Neither can we avoid it. At some time or another, we’ll all face a situation—either by the circumstances of life, or by the death of those we love, or by friends or by people we trust, or by a drastic change in our environment, or even by own stupidity. It’s a fact that there will be times in our life when we hurt and grieve. Just because you make a commitment to follow Christ, you don’t receive an exemption from grief. However, our grief doesn’t have to destroy us; Christ offers us hope in dealing with our grief, as a matter of truth, only Jesus can take our hurt and turn it into good grief.

Therefore, it is important we consider positive ways to cope with grief when it occurs and perhaps come out of it with a healthy outlook on life. Let me suggest three ways we can turn grief into “good grief.”

Good grief is first realizing that life will be different because of death. The first thing most of us do in facing grief is to deny its reality. Many times I have had people ask me to tell them that the news is really just a dream or that someone is playing a cruel joke on them. We want to turn back the clock to a time before death interrupted the harmonious flow of life. “Death is somehow supposed to rob others and their loved ones of joy, but not you.”

Recall with me from the Bible how David suffered the loss of a child. His grief was as real as any other parent in that situation. The Bible says in II Samuel 12 that “David arose from the earth, washed, anointed himself and changed clothes.” That means more than he just needed a bath. When questioned by his servants he responded, “Can I bring him back again?”

I am reminded of the story of a little boy who had an incurable disease. He asked his mother one day, “Mommy, what is it like to die?” She was both floored and inadequate to know how to explain. After a few moments she asked her son if he remembered times he would go to sleep in the car on a trip but wake up the next morning in his own bed? The child responded, “Yes, that’s when daddy carried me up to my room.” “That’s right,” she said, “and death is like that. The strong arms of our Heavenly Father carry us to a place He has prepared for us.”

Grief looks different when we think of the Heavenly Father receiving His child. Good grief is knowing life can and will be different rather than denying it happened.

Good grief also is remembering that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Currently I am preaching through Romans at our church and focusing these days in the magnificent Chapter 8. If you have not read it lately it would be great encouragement in so many ways including the subject of grief. The typical feeling of grief is emptiness, a sense of being unloved or even forsaken. Many times this feeling becomes anger focused on God. We question

how a loving God could let this happen to us. Remember the power of grief when Jesus cried out in the midst of his torturous death on the cross, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

In his grief David remembered that not even death could separate him from the love of God. The scriptures tell us that following his change of clothes, David “went into the house of the Lord and worshipped.” That was in a sense a kind of funeral experience for him in which he recognized the providential care of the Lord for him even though his child had just died.

Most of us remember the words from the beautiful 23rd Psalm, “*Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, Thou art with me, Thy rod and Thy staff comfort me...*” These words are an acknowledgement that death is a dark place, but one in which we are not alone. David walked through that valley no matter how dark the night or thick the clouds.

It’s a little like traveling through mountains and seeing a beautiful peak. Rounding a bend further down the road the same mountain is covered in clouds and mist. A child traveling with his parents asked, “Will the mountain still be there when the clouds are gone?” “Of course,” was the answer from his reassuring mother. “It will always be there.”

No matter how difficult the situation of our grief, God will always be there. One of the great comforts of scripture is from Romans 8:38-39 which reads, “*For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.*”

Third, good grief is reclaiming the life that is still ours. Grief may rob us of a sense of responsibility as well as enjoyment of the life we still have. Withdrawal is a human reaction. It makes us think we are finding security when in reality we find only loneliness and emptiness.

Again I learn from David. It is said after his worship, something like we would call a funeral, he went “to his own house, and when he asked, they set food before him and he ate.” So what does this mean? It speaks to me of his forward look. He knew life would be different. He remembered that nothing could separate him from God’s love and that he had a future life to live.

There is no doubt that grief has the capacity to cripple our present and rob our future. It is a good thing to feel deeply and be honest about our grief and loss. What we must not do is let it take from us what it does not deserve and what those who have gone from us would never want us to lose sight of. We can act with hope not because we see, but because by faith we know we are seen by the One who loves us.

Good grief looks back but does not remain there. It accepts that life will be different. It lives in the present through the reassurance that vibrant faith and family brings. Most of all it keeps a forward look to make the most of the days ahead because one day each of us will come to the end of our lives.

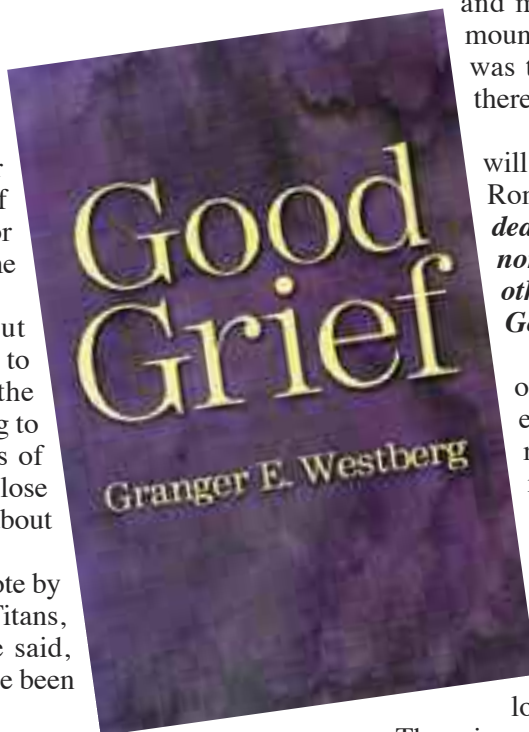
Few stories of someone’s grief are as touching as the story of Horatio C. Spafford, who lived from 1828-1888. Spafford had known peaceful and happy days as a successful attorney in Chicago. He was the father of four daughters, an active member of the Presbyterian Church, and a loyal friend and supporter of the evangelical leader of this day, D. L. Moody. The great Chicago fire of 1871 wiped out the family’s extensive real estate investments. When D.L. Moody, left for Great Britain for an evangelistic campaign, Spafford decided to lift the spirits of his family by taking them on a vacation to Europe to assist Moody in the meetings.

In November, 1873, Spafford was detained by urgent business, but he sent his wife and four daughters as scheduled, planning to join them soon. Halfway across the Atlantic, the ship was struck by another vessel and sank in 12 minutes. All four of Spafford’s daughters were among the 226 who drowned. Mrs. Spafford was miraculously saved. Horatio Spafford boarded a ship carrying him to rejoin his grieving wife in Wales. When the ship passed the approximate place where his precious daughters had drowned, Spafford received sustaining comfort from God that enabled him to write these words which many of us have sung through the years:

“When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll—Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say, It is well with my soul. Tho Satan should buffet, tho trials should come, let this blest assurance control, that Christ hath regarded my helpless estate and shed His own blood for my soul. And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll: The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend, ‘Even so,’ it is well with my soul.”

Let me mention in closing the final thoughts of David about his grief experience. He expresses it so well in Psalms 30:11-12, “*You turned my wailing into dancing; you removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, that my heart may sing to you and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give you thanks forever.*”

That’s what good grief can do!





The Education Station...

By Bobbie Ames

DECONSTRUCTION OF TRUTH TO POST MODERNISM

Our Forefathers not only crossed the Atlantic Ocean to found America, but they overcame the ecclesiastical, political and social ideas of the past. They had come against the ideas of the infallibility of the church and its hierarchy in the great Puritan movement. They had rejected the Sovereignty of both pope and king.

They rejected tyranny whether in church or state, and they accepted the infallibility of the Scriptures. **II Timothy 3:16**, "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." **I Peter 1:19-21**, "But with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot: Who verily was foreordained before the foundation of the world, but was manifest in these last times for you, who by him do believe in God, that raised him up from the dead, and gave him glory, that your faith and hope might be in God." The church in America would be Biblical, local and self governing.

When in the past, man's status was set by his rank or authority in the hierarchy, Americans were equal as created by God, before His law, and before Civil law. Liberty would be God-given, and inalienable. This was America, and it was indeed, A New World. Welcome to the New World of Man and Government. Americans lived in voluntary union with others, and lived in liberty of conscience under God's law. **I John 1:7**, "But if we walk in the light as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ, his son cleanseth us from all sin."

The blessings of the first 200 years came from Americans living the Christian principles of Christian self-government and Christian Character. The principles of Scripture applied to our form of representative government and the Constitutional safeguards protected Liberty for all. This was the blessing of the Modern Age.

POSTMODERNISM

If we had to define Postmodernism, we could safely say, "It is an attack on Biblical Christianity." Since the 1960's and 70's there has been a major change in the culture because of this philosophy. It penetrated the universities and institutions of learning throughout America, without the masses of Americans even realizing it for the first decades of infiltration. In 2014, it prevails in the public square, as the thinking of Western Society.

To parents and grandparents who are Christians: You need to know what a danger Postmodernism is today, and what a danger to your family, and what a danger to our liberty. We must equip our children and young adults to resist it, and understand the danger. Immorality is at the heart of it, as the Bible is ridiculed and family values are the target.

In speaking of Postmodernism, Dr. Martin Loyd-Jones viewed today's culture "as lost in sin today as Adam and Eve were in the day that they fell." The Postmodern Man is still hiding from God.

Post Modern Man believes that each person constructs "truth" for himself. A British theologian and pastor, Rev. Erroll Hulse, has written extensively on Postmodernism in a very understandable fashion. You can find his writings on the [Reformation Today Series](#).

He explains, "The Jewish Holocaust, Solzenitsyn's revelations of the Stalinist regime's horrors and the Gulag Archipelago, genocide in Africa, Cambodia, Yugoslavia, the ecological crisis, global warming, the Aids crisis, and the abuse of political and military power all brought deep seated disillusionment. No belief system is to be trusted. Indeed, one belief system seems as valid as the next. This attitude has encouraged relativism and bred a fixed aversion to claims of absolute truth. Simply stated, the essence of Postmodernism is that there are no fixed absolutes."

When I studied with Dr. Francis Schaeffer, he spoke of "Post Christianity" and we saw that as we traveled through Europe with him. We now understand that it has come to American culture as Postmodernism, or accurately to say "Post Christianity" in today's culture. It is prevailing in the laws of our land. Our own Alabama Supreme Court is one of the few places we can see a faithful and legal interpretation of the Rule of Law historically.

Evolving law in general in America is "antinomian" to its core. It is "against law" as we have known it in the past. Bypassing the Scriptures, we construct "new truth" to eradicate Morality, and pass laws to make Immorality acceptable; examples are abortion, euthanasia, no fault divorce, sexual identity, and government indoctrination of school children. Does it make us wonder how different we will be from Marx or Stalin, if this continues in our nation?

What are the battle lines for believers in Biblical Christianity? How are

we to be armed for combat against it? Dr. Erroll Hulse urges believers first to be informed. "The enchantment of modernity is characterized by technological messianism, enlightenment idealism, quantifying empiricism, and smug fantasy of inevitable historical progress."

The enemy intends to deconstruct our Biblical world view, and substitute a moral relativism where there are no absolute truths. Pluralism guarantees that all religions have a level playing field, EXCEPT for Christianity. Tolerance is crucial to Postmodernism, for there must be NO final authority in that world view.

Existentialism is at the heart...feelings are supreme and they rule. Teaching can easily reach the heart of a student at any age: for good or evil. One of many examples of an education teaching outline encourages a specific attitude (feelings) rather than the facts about The Declaration of Independence. You will recall these words and probably can repeat them by heart: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness."

In deconstruction, this would be an example:

1. Does the language exclude women? Are only men created equal?
2. Thomas Jefferson penned these words, but didn't he own slaves?
3. We hear about equality and justice, but what about women and minorities?

Is this document hypocritical?

Can we tell that this discussion goes to the heart of a student's FEELINGS?

What can we do to combat Postmodernism in our churches? Pastors have the pulpit and they can boldly preach Propositional Revelation. The writings of Dr. Francis Schaeffer and Dr. Carl F. H. Henry's [God, Revelation, and Authority](#), held firm to the Scriptures and delved into these problems before many others understood the shift from the Modern world to the Post Modern.

Dr. Henry, speaking of the Bible's relevancy in our modern age, "Unless the study of Biblical

theology finds its rightful preeminence among the priorities of modern learning, there will be no authentic rescue or salvation for modern society." His writing stresses that no modern thought can replace the loss of the Biblical God, a loving Father, who is both above His creation, and at work within it.

Dr. Errol Hulse, writing for [Reformation Today](#), counsels us. "We were created to relate to each other, to have fellowship with the Father, the Son, and with other believers - the assembly of believers who reflect the love of our Triune God (**1 John. 1:1-4**). Christians are by virtue of their union with Christ brought into the heart of the Trinity, a heart which is love ("God is love"). The Father loves the Son eternally and perfectly: the Son loves the Father and proved it throughout His life on earth. The Holy Spirit infinitely and comprehensively loves the Father and the Son. Jesus referred to our union with the Father, and in that context prayed fervently for the complete unity of His Church. This unity is one of love which, when witnessed by the world, proves to be a tremendous drawing factor.

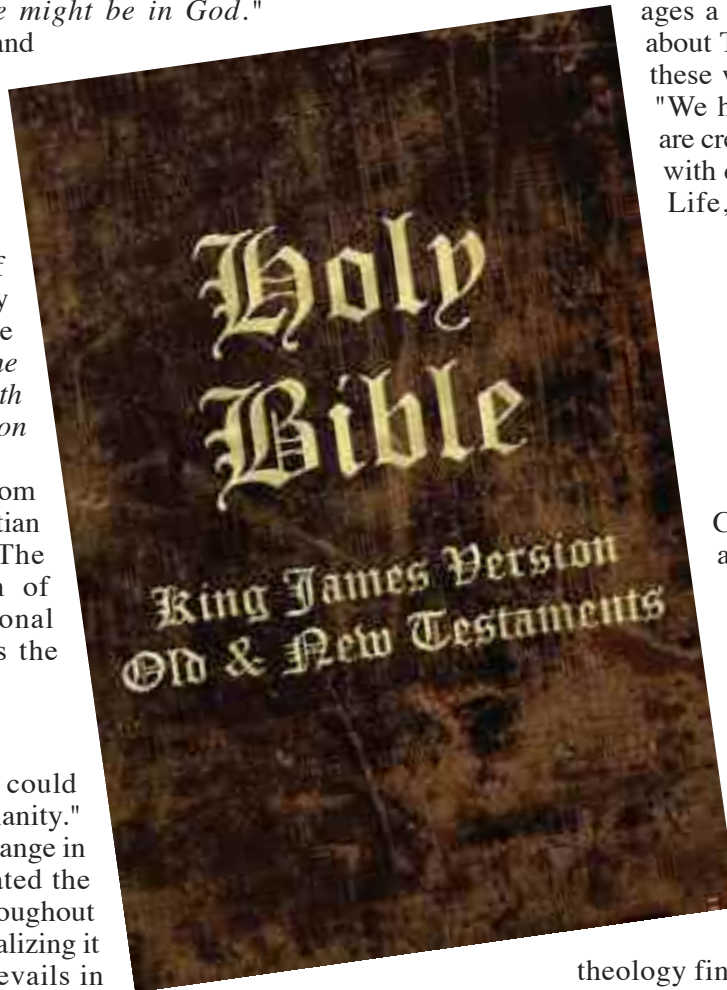
Let us stand against Postmodernism by proclaiming the wonderful, unchanging truths of God's Word, and by faithfully loving others with Christ's love."

The true God is in Sovereign control. His church is alive in over 220 nations and His Word is in over 1,000 languages. God is not dependent on the United States of America. Should we become the United Socialist States of America, we will have lost our way. The Bible is God's Word without error. It is the absolute Truth of All-time. Wouldn't it be appropriate for every pastor to teach a series on the Moral Law of God and the dangers of Postmodernism? I love the English Puritans and their focus. Had they not understood the Last Judgment, they would not have been so passionate about preaching the glorious Gospel. They knew nothing of shallow thought and "feel good preaching."

Let's say it again. Bold proclamation of God's moral law and all Scripture is the answer to Postmodernism. **John 8:32**, "And ye shall know the truth; and the truth shall make you free."

We strongly recommend these authors.

The book we recommended last month is available from us, [Rebuilding Civilization on the Bible](#) is a "Construct" book to combat Postmodern thought. You can reach me at 567-0555.





John Sophocleus

THINK

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

..., DEFENSE OF FT. MCHENRY BICENTENNIAL, FALL OF ATLANTA SESQUICENTENNIAL, ... (what a difference 50 years can make)

Fifty years prior to the War of 1812, our so-called "French & Indian War" settled the trade dispute between New France and New England in North America where the European ebb and flow of empire simply had more territory in the mix. Following their newly established trade dominance in the region, England slowly increased mercantilist policies to favour specific business interests over promoting competition and the general welfare of her subjects. The stage for our First War for Independence was set as the British Navigation, Quebec, Stamp, etc. Acts fomented revolution. Against seemingly insurmountable odds, the traditional Yankees won independence from the British Empire; championing freedom and competition over tyranny and politically determined wealth redistribution. The Crown settled for peace with each sovereign geo-political unit, no longer colonies under the hegemony of Britain's United Kingdom able to determine their own course and destiny.

The War of 1812 shown our nation of sovereign States (former colonial units) at a high watermark of righteousness as the Spirit of traditional Yankees (think Adams, Franklin, Jefferson, Washington, et al) devoted blood and treasure to hold onto the blessings of their hard won independence for themselves and their posterity. We've slowly lost the wisdom provided in Coretta Scott King's (1927-2006) quote, "Freedom is never really won; you earn and win it every generation." What a difference fifty years proffered as traditional Yankees morphed into modern Yankees replacing the British mercantilists they previously seceded from and reviled. Sadly the Ft. McHenry bicentennial where Francis Scott Key (1779-1843) penned our national anthem has enjoyed little veneration and September is upon us. Avid readers know I hold this event in our nation's history dear and a past column (April 2011) includes all 4 stanzas of Key's "Star Spangled Banner" which more collectively affirmed trust in the power of God as our ultimate sovereign; not the power of government(s) and flawed arbitrary rules of man.

As is true with most political compromise - it makes for more profound damage later instead of addressing short-run cost and trepidation as they arise. The Compromise of 1790 determines the locale for the seat of our newly formed federal government (not to exceed a ten mile square) just south of the Mason-Dixon Line between Maryland and Virginia on the Potomac. This places Baltimore 'front and center' in the War of 1812 due to the city's proximity to Washington, DC. Historian Bart Rhett Talbert wrote little military action of note takes place on Maryland soil during the Revolutionary War in her successful break with England although she did send her sons to fight well in seceding; some say most notably in the Carolinas at King's Mountain and Cowpens. DC's placement plays a huge role in the military actions during the War of 1812 and then War Between the States fifty years later.

There's much to applaud about our nation's conduct in the War of 1812. It was declared by Congress via sound majority and many private efforts (including Baltimoreans in defense of Ft. McHenry and North Point) were exerted to remain independent of British mercantilist hegemony. British blockade of ports had a devastating impact on federal revenue as expenditures to finance the war effort mounted. This prompted the first proposed federal income tax where Congress (who took their oath of office seriously at that time) saw no authorization for this sort of direct taxation thus never acted on this unconstitutional source of revenue. The heavy war debt was addressed in the Tariff of 1816 and set the course well to return to peacetime normalcy by 1819. As excessive tariff rates were to decrease as this debt dissolved, it was co-opted by the protectionist wing of the Whig Party which morphed into the Republican Party of Lincoln, militarily asserting corporate welfare/wealth transfers (i.e., imposing excessive tariffs followed by the first federal income tax, federal gun laws, conscription acts, fiat currency, etc.) when his political efforts failed.

Cooler heads prevailed when the Tariff of 1828 (a.k.a. Abominations) set the stage for war between the States triggering the Nullification Crisis; perhaps fresh memories of horrific warfare a dozen years prior attenuated enthusiasm for warfare. The newly formed Republican Party (of Lincoln, et al) platform to return tariffs to 1828 levels (corporate welfare recipients were angered by Democrats' successful reduction of excessive taxation in the 1846 Walker Tariff and Tariff of 1857) foreshadowed another trade war in North American likely to digress into military action and dysfunction. Since the federal seat of government did not remain in the more populous northeast, Baltimore would again be 'front and center' at the outset of war between the States when the 6th Massachusetts explicitly commits (Art. 3, Sec. 3) treason effusing 'first blood' April 19, 1861. Patriots Day if you have a penchant for irony. The same April date for the 'Shot Heard Round the World' where colonist citizen soldiers in Massachusetts defend against British hegemony is the same April date an army from Massachusetts commits acts of war upon another State still in the federal union at the time.

Obviously, if DC had not been placed south of the Mason-Dixon Line many of the mid-Atlantic States would have remained neutral increasing the likelihood cooler heads would once again prevail as those in the federal coalition would suffer consequences of a 47% tax rate while those in the newly formed coalition operate under a 10% tax rate. Had the seat of the 1861 Confederacy remained in Montgomery, it would've been much more difficult to accomplish the political end of taking the capitol of the central government along with the economic and military objectives of Richmond and Atlanta. Arguably, Alabama would have suffered even more as a target if the Confederate capitol remained on her soil.

Onto the more important sesquicentennial of what in fact happened instead of "what ifs." The September 2, 1864 surrender of Atlanta is dominated by discussion of military end results, leaving most unaware of the political accomplishment. Lincoln himself admits if Atlanta doesn't fall by the November 8 election he'll not be re-elected. Attempts for peace would be negotiated by Democrat Gen. George B. McClelland (former US commander of the Army of the Potomac) and the spirit of British hegemony to accomplish mercantilist corporate welfare may again be thwarted in the fight to keep independence and decentralized sovereignty in North America.

Prelude to the Atlanta Campaign begins May 4, 1864 with a hundred mile "Red Clay Minuet" from Chattanooga to Atlanta well chronicled and explained by historian Shelby Foote. Movements of Schofield's, Thomas' and McPherson's Corps combined to a force of approximately 100,000 troops under Sherman's command who were opposed by Hardee's, Hood's and Polk's Corps of about 60,000 soldiers under Johnston. Between the 'jump-off' from Chattanooga to Atlanta is a series of mountain passes to 'run the clock' before Johnston will dug-in for the defense of the city. These mountain passes may seem an array of invulnerable defensive positions for Johnston to stave off Sherman's advances. Not so. Instead they're much harder to defend than they appear to the untrained military eye. The oft coveted advantage of mountainous area (looking down on the enemy) was what also made them defensive liabilities; Sherman just maneuvered around them. Johnston couldn't easily jump from one mountain to another in response to fluid flanking movements of Sherman's numerically superior army. Johnston was an accomplished chess master of the minuet, a tactical wizard stalling Sherman. It would be mid-July before breaching the Chattahoochee, as Johnston engaged in another turning movement, Jefferson Davis appointed Hood to replace Johnston. This would be the defining moment to pave the way for Lincoln's re-election and end hope for peace and independence.

Many find the removal of Johnston as commander hard to explain given his army in those Georgia mountains endured very poor defensive positions while effectively prolonging the stalemate with minimal losses. Once in Atlanta Johnston's tactics would have enjoyed the benefit of interior lines where he could move troops easily from spot to spot wherever required to repulse Sherman's forces. These interior lines would increase the effectiveness (force multiplier) of his army to combat Sherman's numerically superior army. This is how Lee fought Grant to a standstill in Richmond for many months and Johnston was clearly capable enough to do the same in Atlanta until the November election. The stage was set and Jefferson Davis could see for himself first hand how well this type of defensive maneuvering worked. This stage, so carefully built by Johnston, crumbled to the demands of Georgia Gov. Brown for Davis to replace Johnston with Hood.

Johnston was prepared to defend the City of Atlanta, not retreat from it, using the classic defensive position of interior lines, which he did not have in the mountains. He was never given the chance. Hood took over, a poor tactician in comparison and his reckless use of soldiers further decayed war weary morale. Hood foolishly threw his smaller army at Sherman's entrenched larger army. The result was not just a defeat, but a slaughter and expedited fall of Atlanta. Without Johnston, the Confederacy squandered the ability to stalemate Sherman in the trenches around Atlanta until the election. For Johnston to hold another couple months is not farfetched. The Petersburg siege began about the same time and lasted through winter, well after the presidential election.

Just as in the first War for Independence, when a smaller nation of States goes to war against a larger nation united in hegemony, the margin for error is very small. Prior to sealing Atlanta's fate installing Hood, the Confederacy had done well keeping victory within reach to again retain their independence. They simply had to do what Lee was doing in Virginia to stalemate Lincoln and Republicans till November 8th. Johnston was capable, had about the same size (comparatively) army as Lee and the terrain. In closing, the loss of our independence would reverberate back to Europe observing our experiment in decentralized sovereignty and freedom. As the Europeans saw our failure at the hands of Lincoln and the Republicans, it gave the green light for the continued cycles of empire building and bloodshed where we will tip the balance in World War I fifty years later. The WWI centennial is fodder for another column as it sets the stage for more accelerated and larger scale destruction with deaths in the millions...

POSTSCRIPT: many thanks to Jeffrey W. Bennett, JD for input on the Johnston/Hood transition prior to Atlanta's 1864 surrender; the usual caveat applies - i.e., all errors are mine. Furthermore, I'd like to thank all for corrective and oft entertaining comments on my mistyping Sen. Cam NEWTON (sic) in my last column. Forgive the occupational hazard of far too many years as an instructor at AU... seems only natural for Newton to follow Cam. Indeed Mr. Newton has NOT been elected to the Alabama Senate. I pray Senator Ward may also be forgiving and understanding as I'm even more prayerful Alabama may give the more important matter of competition in political outcomes over fleeting sports results the serious consideration it deserves and support Cam Ward's efforts to improve our State.



Dr. John Bitter
Editor-Senior Section

Gazette Seniors...

YOU MAY BE
OVER THE HILL
...if you know who Jack
Armstrong is.

A NATION OF LAWS

Speaking of the U.S. as being a "Nation of Laws," is good, so long as these laws are designed for our benefit, and we know them and that we fully understand them; such is the case with the fledgling Elder Abuse Law.

Barely two years old, the new piece of legislation concerns itself with the fact that there are in the neighborhood of 700,000 Alabamians age 65 and older, whose wellbeing is a major concern of the Alabama Department of Senior Services. Also, many of those covered exist on a limited income.

The National Center on Elder Abuse has estimated that nationally, "between one and two million Americans age 65 and older have been injured, exploited, or otherwise mistreated by someone on whom they depended for care and protection;" and of that number, untold millions are being harmed physically, financially, or sexually or exploited in a variety of ways.

Not only was an Elder Abuse Law recently enacted in Alabama; a year later a second piece of legislation sailed through the Legislature which clearly

spelled out what should happen to those transgressors should they decide to abuse senior citizens.

A tragic reality of all this is the fact that in many of the cases of elder abuse, the abuser is someone close to the senior involved; someone in whom the abused person had placed his or her trust and confidence.

This roster includes close relatives: sons and daughters, spouses, caregivers, friends and neighbors; persons upon whom the senior relied for his or her wellbeing. Now that is both a tragedy and a disgrace.

Which is one of the reasons "Who's Lookin' Out for You?" was launched a year ago with the intent of making available to seniors aspects of the legislation, and introducing them to some of the players in its existence.

This program has been continued at Cara Vita Community; an independent living facility at the southernmost end of Fieldcrest Drive. It's free and open to the public, and begins promptly at 10:30 a.m. each Wednesday. The general public is invited to attend.

So far, those who have attended have heard

from Neal Morrison, the State Commissioner of Senior Services, Ms. Susan Segrest, the new executive director of the Central Alabama Aging Consortium—a major player in insuring that the law serves its constituents properly and vigorously—representatives of city, county, state governments, and sometimes federal agencies concerned specifically with insuring that elders are not abused, and that should they be, the transgressors are severely dealt with.

The problem of elder abuse can only be effectively addressed if those who are the potential targets of this venal crime are identified and prosecuted to the extent of the new law.

It is in the best interests of local senior citizens to learn not only about elder abuse and how to deal with it, but also, about all of the various support services that are available to them.

Every Wednesday at 10:30 a.m. in the Bird Room at Cara Vita Independent Living Facility, someone of importance will be explaining how they are "Lookin' out for you."

TIME TO TAKE A STAND

Every once in a while something rings a bell in the cluttered memory of an octogenarian; and this is one of them.

Most Americans don't remember this—it happened 104 years ago—but its message was heard. The irony is that many of us would like to hear a similar message today. But it's highly unlikely that we will, given the differences in the character of the two main figures on this country's side.

Back in 1904, a man named Ion Pedicarus, presumed to be an American citizen, was kidnapped from his villa in Morocco by a Rifian bandit named Raisuli, who demanded of the American government a hefty ransom for his return.

Unfortunately, Raisuli crossed swords with an American president who was interested in displaying his and his country's strength—not its weakness.

When Raisuli made his demand President Theodore Roosevelt sent this terse reply: "Pedicarus alive or Raisuli dead!"

It didn't matter that Pedicarus wasn't actually an American citizen, it was the principle: You don't mess with America or its citizens.

Which brings to mind a 1955 Pete Seeger song, which we might paraphrase to "Where have all the patriots gone?"

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Hardly a month goes by but what we see some instance of semantic idiocy in the headlines, most of which must have been aborned during a slow spell in the dark dimensions where do gooders and shysters go to conjure up mischief to beleaguer otherwise sane society.

It's not sufficient that trouble making isn't enough. Ignorance enters into the picture to complicate matters.

The nonsense in question concerns a relatively recent decision by the federal trademark board that the Washington Redskins football team name is "disparaging of Native Americans."

Now isn't that a hoot? Washington bureaucrats have now compounded stupidity with ignorance.

Who in the labyrinthian halls of federal judicialdom came up with the lame brained notion that American Indians were indigenous to this country?

They got here earlier than the rest of us, we'll agree; but they're not natives. In actual fact, the mighty red man migrated here from somewhere in the Soviet domain, via Alaska and into what we now call the United States of America.

On top of that, their skin isn't really red, nor is the white man's really white; and not all blacks are black. So what's all the fuss about?

Either it's ignorance or stupidity that prompts these misguided efforts; but for sure, it's mischief.

Some people just have to create trouble where no trouble exists.

Happy Labor Day - Be Safe!!



Kyle McKinney

By Kyle D. McKinney
Alabama Public Affairs Specialist
Social Security Administration
4344 Carmichael Road, Suite 100
Montgomery, Alabama
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Good coaching and a great playbook can make all the difference in the world for a winning football team.

Fail to create a sound game plan, and you're likely to miss opportunities and fall behind.

The same is true for retirement—except you call the plays, including when to retire and how much to save. If you walk onto the retirement field without a game plan, you may have to work longer than you had hoped. You certainly don't want to find yourself unable to have the comfortable retirement you envisioned.

You may have to call your own financial plays, but Social Security has tools to help you. We can help you decide what options might be successful in any situation you may find yourself in.

For example, how much can you expect

longer? Two years? What about your spouse, if you are married? And are you saving enough in addition to your expected Social Security benefits?

By simply visiting www.socialsecurity.gov, you can get answers to all of these questions. You will find several financial planning tools, including our easy-to-use and secure Retirement Estimator. You can use it to get quick retirement estimates based upon your own earnings record. It's like training camp for financial planning.

All you have to do is provide some information about yourself to verify who you are for security purposes—your name, Social Security number, date and place of birth, your mother's maiden name, and an estimate of your last year's earnings. The Retirement Estimator will then create Social Security benefit estimates based on your entire career earnings record.

The Retirement Estimator shows what you

FOOTBALL AND SOCIAL SECURITY

to get from Social Security? How much more could you get if you worked a year

could receive in Social Security benefits if you retire at age 62, what you could receive at your full retirement age, and what you could receive if you work until age 70.

Interested in other play options, such as what will happen if you made more money in the future? Or if you want to stop work at a different age than the three we show you? You can try out alternate game plans using the Retirement Estimator if you change your mind about your initial retirement plans.

The last thing you want to do is depend on a "Hail Mary" pass when it comes to your retirement. With a good game plan, you will score a retirement touchdown.

Remember what one of football's most accomplished and respected coaches, Vince Lombardi, said: "There's only one way to succeed in anything, and that is to give it everything." So give everything you have to developing the playbook for your retirement. And the best place to begin your game plan for a successful retirement is at:

www.socialsecurity.gov.



**Judge
Peggy Givhan**

Normal routines and schedules return for us all, and that should include the care and maintenance of the garden. Fall also means lots of leaves drifting to the ground and extra work raking, blowing, mulching or bagging the dead foliage. At my farm, I put nature to work for me. I have all the leaves and grass clippings thrown in a pile behind my smoke house which will become fresh rich organic soil in a couple of months. Incidentally, I predict an early winter because my Catalpa trees have already exfoliated.

Speaking of grass and lawns, some of you may have large areas in your lawns which have died due to pests or weeds. Many have contracts with companies to fertilize and apply chemicals to kill weeds only to find that after the weeds have been eliminated, 50% of the yard is now brown dirt. Before you get into this situation, ask the company what percentage of the lawn is weeds. You may want to eliminate the weeds a little at the time. The homeowner is in shock, but the company's contract is ironclad regarding any liability. In fact, I have heard cases in small claims court over this same issue. And you may want to get rid of the weeds at all costs. If you can afford to sod the bare areas, great; however it is very expensive and outside many of our budgets. Sprigging the bare areas is a good idea, but this is the time of year many of the grasses go dormant. Sowing seed is the next best solution to the problem. First find out the type of grass which exists so the new grass will blend in when it germinates and matures. Get professional advise as a lot of money can be spent and could come to naught if the type of grass you choose should not be sown this time of year. If you choose to do nothing, you should mulch the bare areas to deter erosion of the top soil.

Being a nut over hydrangeas, I try to add new varieties to my garden when they are available. All types, big and small, catch my attention. There is one that takes center stage producing almost dinner plate size lace cap blooms. These bloom the following year on the current year's growth and also on old wood which ensures a vast number a flowers the next year. The variety is named "Let's Dance Diva" and bloom blue and pink. Now, I must admit I have not seen this next hydrangea yet, but have been reading rave reviews of its performance. A dwarf, and suitable for pots or small patio gardens, "Little Quick Fire" is sure to please. The fluffy cream colored spikes turn pink with red highlights and have red stems. They would look great in pots and get between three to five feet tall. If your pot garden has as many pots as mine, adding

The month of September begins the season of county fairs, local festivals, football games and rodeos, where people are no longer at the lake or at the beach for long swathes of time. I have friends with homes in Highlands who have been gone since May and will be returning in September.

this dwarf hydrangea to several pots could save money and even pay for itself in a couple of years.



PLANT OF THE MONTH

COCKSCOMB--CELOSIA CRISTATA

A showy annual which hails from the tropics actually has two very different types of unique blooms and seem entirely unrelated. One is the cristata which has a crested or brain like rolled appearance. And as the name suggests, looks much like a rooster comb. The other, *C. argentea plumosa*, has a bloom that is feathery and flame shaped. Both come in bright colors, tall and dwarf varieties, and have long bloom times-late spring until frost. Their requirements include full sun, well drained soil with a Ph of six to eight, and can tolerate poor dry soil. I have seen trays of these plants in nurseries and garden centers recently, so add them now to your beds for Fall color. Since they are not cold hardy, they die in winter, but do well when sown into the soil after the threat of frost is over. Incidentally, both varieties make great cut flowers and hold their color when dried.

GOOD GARDENING

CAMGA MEMBER RECEIVES 'FRED EVENS' INTERN OF THE YEAR AWARD

At a recent meeting of the Central Alabama Master Gardeners' Association (CAMGA), Alabama Master Gardener Coordinator Kerry Smith presented CAMGA member Charlotte Hall, Montgomery, with the first state-wide 'Fred Evans Intern of the Year Award'. With Alabama Cooperative Extension Systems (ACES) Regional Extension Agent Mallory Kelly, Smith explained that candidate,s for the award are judged on their "all-around support of Extension activities, cooperative spirit and exceptional stewardship."

Hall was a member of the 2012 CAMGA Master Gardeners' class, becoming a Master Gardener in 2013 and contributed more than 190 volunteer hours in 2012-13. She was instrumental in establishing the monthly CAMGA 'Lunch &

Learn' program which provides free, lunch-time programs for the community once a month, averaging 30 attendees at each 'L&L'. For the Wetumpka Library's Children's Program, she presented a "Dig Into Reading program. For the same group, Hall developed a historical presentation on Thomas Jefferson's garden and provided materials for 80 youngsters to plant a hyacinth bean, Jefferson's favorite plant.

Collectively, the nearly 100 members of CAMGA contributed more than 8,000 hours of volunteer service to the Elmore County and surrounding communities in 2013.

**For more information about CAMGA, call
334-567-6301.**



CAMGA member Charlotte Hal of Montgomery, left was named the first statewide 'Fred Evans Intern of the Year' for the Alabama Master Gardener Assoc. at a recent CAMGA meeting. L to R: Charlotte Hall, ACES Alabama Master Gardener Coordinator Kerry Smith and ACES Regional Extension Agent Mallory Kelly.



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Alabama**

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**Montgomery Area Food Bank
Grand Opening and
Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
August 28, 2014
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**Executive Director Parke Hinman announces the
new expansion of the MAFB warehouse.**



**L-R- Mayor Todd Strange, Gov. Robert Bentley,
Dep. Dir. David Fata- Standing-
Exec. Dir. Parke Hinman**

Pike Road News



Town of Pike Road
9575 Vaughn Road
Pike Road, AL 36064
Gordon Stone, Mayor

Mary Catherine Barganier,
Communication Director
(334) 272-9883



WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT NEWS AND EVENTS IN THE TOWN OF PIKE ROAD? LIKE US ON FACEBOOK OR FOLLOW US ON TWITTER!

PIKE ROAD REMEMBERS SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

PIKE ROAD LADIES AUXILIARY TO SPONSOR 9/11 EVENT

The Pike Road Ladies Auxiliary is sponsoring a 9/11 event to honor the fallen heroes of September 11, 2001. The ceremony will be held at Pike Road Town Hall (9575 Vaughn Road) beginning time 6:30pm on Thursday, September 11, 2014. The event will feature speeches, music and accounts of the tragic day in September. In addition, Donica Knight will be singing the National Anthem, a fly over by Haynes Ambulance and an array of American flags. Posting of the colors will be performed by the Montgomery County VFD Honor Guard.



Donica Knight

The eight Montgomery County Volunteer Fire Departments will be honored for their service to their communities. The eight departments are: Catoma VFD, North Montgomery VFD, Snowdown VFD, Waugh-Mt. Meigs VFD, Pintlala VFD, Rolling Hills VFD, Pike Road

VFD, and South Montgomery VFD.

The guest speaker will be Colonel USAF Charles Douglass (Retired). Douglass was a first responder at the Pentagon on September 11, 2001. He was subjected first hand to the tragedy of that day. He will share firsthand what that September day was like – “overwhelming,” “shock,” and “gut-wrenching.”

The Ladies Auxiliaries mission is two-fold: remembrance and education, we feel Douglass is a wonderful fit for our venue and we invite all citizens in the area to attend this compelling and memorable event.

There is no admission charge. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be served at the conclusion of the ceremony & will be grilled by Alabama Power Company.



Chuck Douglass

MIKE GREEN WINS RE-ELECTION AS AAVFD PRESIDENT

Mike Green was re-elected as AAVFD President on Saturday, August 9, 2014 at the AAVFD Annual Conference. This year's conference was held in Sheffield, Alabama. More than 500 departments were represented during the annual weekend conference which was hosted by Colbert County Fire Association.

The evening at the Sheffield Recreation Facility. Green, along with other board members, was sworn into office by State Fire Marshal Ed Paulk.

Green currently serves as the president of the Montgomery County

Association of Volunteer Fire Departments and serves as a Commissioner for the Alabama Firefighter's Personnel Standards & Education Commission at the Fire College.

The AAVFD is a non-profit association that provides service, education, networking and leadership advancement on public safety issues. The AAVFD is made up of over 900 volunteer fire department and approximately 30,000 volunteers throughout the state of Alabama. Only the Alabama education Association is larger.



Saturday, September 13th • 10:00 am

AMC Theaters Vaughn Road

(formerly, Rave Theaters)

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High school juniors and seniors, as well as local college students are invited to attend.
 Two faculty members from each school may attend.

Please contact Phil Easter at 334.451.0366 or Mary Long at 334.462.4214

Stand In The Gap Alabama

- Why can't I help my child with Math?
- Why are they re-writing history?
- Why are they sexualizing children?
- Why are they preparing for testing so much?

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- Reclaim Parental Authority In Education
- To Free Our Teachers
- Save Our Schools and

★ Thursday, September 11, 2014
 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

★ River City Church
 formerly Dexter Avenue United Methodist Church
 301 Dexter Avenue, Montgomery, AL 36014



FREE ADMISSION

Montgomery Tea Party

Next Meeting: Thursday,
August 28th
6:30 pm at Pizza Perfect
428 Coliseum Blvd
 (across from Eastbrook Flea Market)

Speaker: Don Casey
Topic: Unlawful revision of the
Alabama Constitution

COMMON CORE: UNCOMMON SENSE

The Alabama Gazette welcomes our new contributing writer David Nichols



Dr. David Nichols is a retired educator who continues to research and publish on vital issues facing our public schools. He served on two local school boards in Alabama. He served as a teacher, leader and consultant at every level from k – 12 through universities. His publications include three books, featured commentaries in every major daily newspaper in Alabama and dozens of journal articles.

There is a growing outcry from parents across Alabama regarding the federally created k – 12 curricula standards, “Common Core State Standards” (CCSS) recently adopted by an Alabama’s State Board of Education in a split vote. This “reform” covertly transfers control of education explicitly given to states by the U.S. Constitution to federal bureaucracy. Led by the U.S. Department of Education (USDOE) it is endorsed by entities as The National Governors Association (80% of operating funds from federal government), the Council of Chief State School Officers groups (50% of operating funds from federal government) and Achieve, Inc. - a private company receiving \$36 million to promote CCSS. The Pearson Foundation received \$3 million from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to publish this un-piloted curriculum. The USDOE awarded two consortia \$350 million to develop standards all-the-while claiming this was a State-initiated process. It is not! States adopt the national CCSS (85%) but only 15 percent by each state – which is not included in the nationally aligned assessments.

David Axelrod, Senior Advisor to President Obama stated the CCSS “were the initiative of the Obama Administration”. Common Core is to education as Obama Care is to health.

Town hall meetings held across Alabama reveal some little known and interesting facts behind CCSS. Two of the original CCSS Validation Committee members refused to sign off on CCSS. Dr. James Milgram, a math professor from Stanford University stated, “The math standards would put students two years behind those high achieving countries”. Another member, Dr. Sandra Stotsky, refused to sign due to mediocre reading, “weak English literature and cultural standards needed for college coursework”. On August 24th, 2013 the FOX news network did a segment on the blatant omissions in the new Advanced Placement U. S. History Curriculum Framework (tested by the College Board’s designed assessment). This curriculum places an emphasis on the problems and failing of our ancestors while omitting their achievements; it never mentions most of our Founding Fathers to include Jefferson, Franklin, Madison and Adams; and the omission of military history, battles, commanders, and heroes. This undermines the most fundamental foundations of the building and character of the greatest nation on earth.

The fundamental question for Alabamians is, “Will our children be better

or worse off with Common Core?” A 2011 pre-CCSS “Quality Counts” report revealed improvements using the Alabama Course of Study standards with strategies like Alabama Reading Initiative (ARI):

- The National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) showed Alabama the largest gain in 4th-grade reading in the nation - ARI.
- The Fordham Foundation gave Alabama’s English/Language Arts an “A” rating and a “B+” in Math.
- The College Board praised Alabama as #1 in Advanced Placement Progress.
- NAEP ranked Alabama 2nd nationally only to Maryland in 4th grade reading scores.

Despite this overwhelming evidence to the contrary, Common Core is supported and being promoted as a positive change by Alabama’s State Superintendent of Education, Tommy Bice. He launches a bus tour in September to each of the State Board of Education’s districts to persuade parents that Common Core is good for their children. Governor Bentley and two other State School Board members disagree voting against this federal initiative with the covert intent to change our schools and our children. There are five states that declined federal dollars along with the new Common Core Curriculum.

Late April of 2014 privately developed assessments aligned to CCSS standards were administered to Alabama’s children. However, with our children’s future at stake parents in Alabama and across our country are diligently working to have the CCSS repealed so that Alabama can keep our academic progress strong.



A Woman lifted up by others is stronger than a woman standing alone!



2014
Breast Cancer Support Group

MEETING SCHEDULE

Tuesday, September 9th

Beating Cancer with a Different Approach

Presented by Christy Clark - Breast Cancer Survivor

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“Labor Day”

Labor Day...The last 3-day weekend of the summer. It's usually filled with people camping, biking, picnics, barbecues, or just hanging out. It's the last official holiday of the summer. It usually is the beginning of college football (My hubby, Brian, says Roll Tide and I say War Eagle).

So, what is labor day? It was first celebrated on September 5, 1882 in New York City and became a federal holiday in 1894. It all started because a number

of workers were killed at the hands of U.S. Military and U.S. Marshals over the Pullman Strike. President Grover Cleveland put into effect for reconciliation with the labor movement. It was rushed to congress and made an American holiday. All 50 states observe it as a state holiday.

Why is this important? Well, it is an awesome example of Jesus in your work and community. It says in **Proverbs 30:10**, “Never slander a worker to the employer, or the person will curse you, and you will pay for it.” We live in a day where slander in the work place carries no bounds and people are no longer loyal to each other. Sadly, some employers simply look to employees as a means to accomplish a task – what a sad place and environment to work in. Thankfully, not all work places are like this. Many places of work have great employee/ employer relationships. This, I believe, is what Jesus desire's for His people.

So, as you celebrate this Labor Day, remember Jesus' awesome examples in your work and community.

Happy Labor Day & Many Blessings!

In Memory of

Anita Pierce Folmar

August 11, 1930 ~ August 23, 2014

A memorial service was held August 27, 2014 at the Trinity Presbyterian Church for Anita Folmar. She was the wife of former Mayor Emory Folmar. She was born in Dyersburg, Tennessee and graduated from the University of Alabama where she met Emory. They moved to Montgomery in 1959 and she served as first Lady of Montgomery for twenty-three years. She was actively involved in Trinity Presbyterian Church and many other community, art and youth events. The Armory Learning Arts Center was named in her honor. She was instrumental in having the Glen Miller Holiday Concert appear in Montgomery for over 30 years. She was preceded in death by her son David Pearson Folmar and Emory of husband of 59 years. She is survived by her children Wilson Bibb Folmar and Margaret Emily Dauber and respective spouses along with many children and grandchildren.

Those in attendance included Mayor Todd Strange, Justice Tom Parker, Judge Jim Main, members of both the Montgomery Police Department and Montgomery Fire Department to name just a few.

Honorary Pallbearers included Gene Brown, Jim Buckalew, John Cork, Martha Jane Dawson, Celia Dixon, Randy Dixon, Jean Goodwyn, Michael Hunter, Carol Lightfoot, Reese McKinney, Marion Nolan, Darick Wilson.

The Gazette wishes express its heart felt condolences to the family and friends on the lost of an outstanding lady of Montgomery who made an impact on all she met. The Folmars were long time readers and subscribers of the Alabama Gazette.

Sympathy to the families of...

- Jones, John Tom “Coach” (90).....died July 15, 2014
- Stuart, Mose Wadsworth, III (82).....died July 15, 2014
- Beck, Billydied August 4, 2014
- Beasley, Mila Ruth “Grandma Beasley” (93)died August 7, 2014
- Poulos, Evelyn Truett (86)died August 7, 2014
- Grant, Francis Berry (72).....died August 8, 2014
- Beasley, Melvin Eugene (90).....died August 9, 2014
- Hudson, Jerry Joe (75)died August 10, 2014
- Powers, Dorothy Dixiedied August 10, 2014
- Ivy, Jean Mosley (71)died August 12, 2014
- Vinson, Wilmer Olin (92)died August 13, 2014
- Bayley, Sara Lee Howell (57)died August 15, 2014
- Walters, Dorothy “Dewayne” (71)died August 15, 2014
- Martin, Neil Robbins, Sr. (96).....died August 16, 2014
- Prater, Wesley Shane (30)died August 16, 2014
- Adams, Folma Walker (90)died August 17, 2014
- Hall, Ethel Cole (90).....died August 18, 2014
- Folmar, Anita Pierce (84)died August 23, 2014

Freddie Owens ~ (August 20, 1955 - August 7, 2014)

Freddie Lane Owens age 58 of Elba, AL departed this life Thursday, August 7, 2014 at his home. Funeral services were held at Hayes Funeral Home Chapel on Saturday, August 9, 2014 with Rev. Jim Peters officiating. Committal services followed at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens in Elba. Mr. Owens was preceded in death by his father L.E. Owens and a son, Justin Mathew Owens. He leaves behind his Mother - Helen (Eddie) Toledo of Montgomery, AL, two sisters: Shannon (Tanner) Grant, Montgomery, AL, Wanda Hughes of Montgomery, AL. Also surviving him are his three brothers: Shane (Vikki) Owens, Goshen, AL, Tony (Karen) Owens, Montgomery, AL, and Terry (Sheila) Owens, Wetumpka, AL. Other survivors include numerous nieces and nephews and his beloved companion "Jessie".




Pregnant?
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Maybe not...
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Enjoy these dishes with a friend!

Recipe for: Italian Chicken Marinade

- 1 (16 ounce) bottle Italian-style salad dressing
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 4 skinless, boneless chicken breast halves
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder

1. In a shallow baking dish, mix the salad dressing, garlic powder, and salt. Place the chicken in the bowl, and turn to coat. Marinate in the refrigerator at least 4 hours. (For best results, marinate overnight.)
2. Preheat the grill for high heat.
3. Lightly oil grate. Discard marinade, and grill chicken 8 minutes on each side, or until juices run clear.

Original recipe makes 4 servings

Allrecipes.com

Recipe for: Peanut Butter Pie

- 1 (9 inch) prepared graham cracker crust
- 1 (16 ounce) container frozen whipped topping, thawed
- 1 (8 ounce) package cream cheese, softened
- 1/2 cup creamy peanut butter
- 15 miniature chocolate covered peanut butter cups, unwrapped
- 1/2 cup confectioners' sugar

1. Mix the cream cheese, confectioners' sugar and peanut butter together until smooth. Fold in 1/2 of the whipped topping. Spoon the mixture into the graham cracker crust.
2. Place the remaining whipped topping over the top of the peanut butter mixture and garnish with the peanut butter cups. Chill for at least 2 hours or overnight before serving.

Original recipe makes 1 pie

Allrecipes.com

Patricia Killough



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

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

HOME TOWN COMMUNITY NEWS

September Birthdays



- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 Joe Boyd (75th) | 19 Beth Cline |
| 2 John Hannon | Bobby Hudson |
| 3 Dian Majors | 20 Lynn Davis |
| Leslie Riley | Carol Hudson |
| 4 Jimmy Dick | 21 Hank Henderson (92nd) |
| Gary French | Marlee Day Smith (5th) |
| Tim Riley | Kristen Taylor |
| Britney Williams | Sarah Kite Taylor |
| 5 Joyce Moore | 22 Bertha Reagan Bell |
| 6 Ethleen Bazzell (75th) | Tom Garlington |
| Bonnie Edwards | David Webb |
| Diana Elliott | Tracey Woodall |
| C. J. Faulk (80th) | 23 Era Hall |
| 7 Tanner Grant | 24 Barbara Berg |
| Ruby Law | Ave Catherine Crowe (6th) |
| 8 Adam Broadway | Lynda Maddox |
| 9 Kendra Devon Lamar | Catherine Preston |
| Marietta Russell | Chrystal Rahn |
| Jesse Southern (90th) | R. J. Seevers |
| 10 Terry Dotherow | Melissa Wallace |
| 11 Traci Weafer | 25 Brenda Abrams |
| 12 Warner Boyd (78th) | Linda Abrams |
| Catherine Jane Grubbs (8th) | Sonny Cauthen (65th) |
| Brian Hudson | Rocene Fowler |
| 13 Donna Mulcahy | Betty Gafford |
| Debbie Partridge (57th) | Baxter Moseley (19th) |
| 14 Elaine Webb | 26 Emily Lamar (92nd) |
| 15 Shannon Flores (42nd) | Barbara Mitchell |
| 16 Phyllis McCalman | 27 Roy Stephens (85th) |
| Dick Payson (80th) | 29 Elvin Stanton |
| 17 Mike (Pete) Moore | 30 Scott Borders (52nd) |
| Mandy Stringer (11th) | Kim Butler |
| 18 Don Dawkins | Susan Feaga |
| Jace McClelland (1st) | Hunter O'Neal (10th) |
| Betty Russell | Mike Smith |
| Eddie Spivey | |

HAPPY 101st BIRTHDAY LAMAR B. "RED" FOWLER

Born September 10, 1913 in Crenshaw County, Patsburg, Alabama, Lamar is the oldest of eight siblings and a WWII Veteran. "Red" is a people person. He worked in his dad's shop learning many trades. He was a blacksmith, carpenter, builder, welder, inventor and a salesman. He built trailers for trucks. In 1932 he graduated from Ramer High School.



Before and after he graduated he drove the school bus. As the school bus driver, he realized the need to help the children to be safe. He invented the pull out STOP sign attached to the bus to stop traffic so that children could cross the street safely. When the Superintendent of Education saw this he asked who made this, and then ordered to have all buses be equipped with the stop sign pull outs. Lamar made and installed all the pull out stop signs himself.

He worked for Capitol Chevrolet in Montgomery for 49 years. In the first 32 years of selling trucks, he sold 11,129 new Chevrolet trucks.

He married Alice Katherine Crutchfield in 1940 and has 3 children. After his wife of 61 years past, he is now married to Alice Rhocene Cauthen.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS!

Carl Boyd of Snowdown was 60 on August 19th. His family had a party for him on August 23rd at the Snowdown Volunteer Fire Department. Helping him to celebrate was **Earl Russell** (64 on August 15th), **Jimmy Grant** (60 on August 29th) and **Madison Williams**, granddaughter, who was 6 on August 21st.



(L-R)Earl Russell, Carl Boyd, Jimmy Grant and in front Madison Williams

CONGRATULATIONS George and Fay McCurdy



Fay McCurdy, Rev. Larry Armstrong, George McCurdy

George McCurdy of Montgomery and Fay Spivey of Selma were married at his home in Dalraida. Performing the ceremony was Reverend Larry Armstrong of Eastern Hills Baptist Church. Friends and family gathered in a small intimate ceremony joining George and Fay in Holy Matrimony.

In attendance were Connie Pavelic, Karen Castile, photographer, Fay's grandson Justin of Selma and George's son Russell and daughter-in-law Ann McCurdy. Cecilia Armstrong accompanied her husband.

A small reception was held after the ceremony.

The Alabama Gazette sends out a special congratulations to George and Fay. "Mr. George" as the Gazette staff fondly refers to him, was a big part of the success of this newspaper for over 10 years. We wish them a blessed and happy marriage. It's never too late for Love!



"ANGELS OF ALABAMA" PAGEANT



Stephanie Campbell

Stephanie Campbell, daughter of Pastor Steve and Sonja Campbell, participated in the "Angels of Alabama" Pageant in July at Hunter Hills Baptist Church in Prattville. She 34 years old and has been employed at Chappy's Deli on Carmichael Road in Montgomery for 14 years, where she has touched so many lives. She loves going to work everyday and talking to all her friends.

Stephanie's talent for the pageant was using sign language to the song "Angels Among Us." She loves music and blesses her church every time she sings a solo. God has allowed Stephanie a wonderful life. Her parents say, "to have a special needs child", has truly blessed our lives."

Happy Anniversary

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2 Joe & Jean Douglas | 20 Jason & Stephanie Selvage (11th) |
| 3 Howard & Martha Stripling | 21 Tony & Janie Drake |
| 4 Don & Barbara White | 22 Hank & Geneva Henderson (72nd) |
| 6 Thomas & Louise Light | James & Sherry Tucker |
| 7 Gary & Lyda Crowe | 24 Larry & Linda Browder |
| Steve & Paige Stringer | 25 Chuck & Betty Gentry Holmes |
| 10 Mike & Linda Reynolds | 26 Jose' & Susan Guevara |
| 12 Warner & Margaret Boyd (58th) | Roy & Wanda Stephens (61st) |
| 17 Hugh & Helen Gordon (66th) | 28 Morgan & Ashley James |
| Andy & Lori Meadows | September anniversary |
| 18 James & Sarah Glass (4th) | Chris & Kelley Grantham |

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