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<p><b>Section C: Community &amp; Lifestyles</b> 2C &amp; 3C .....Food &amp; Football 4C &amp; 5C.....Today’s Woman &amp; News around the Community 6C &amp; 8C.....Food for the Soul &amp; Garden</p>	<p><b>Section D: Fall Events in the Region</b> 2D .....TMC Times – That’s My Child! 3D .....Purple Pinkie Day – Fight Polio 4D .....More Area Events in October 5D .....Dining Out in the River Region</p>

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# The Alabama Gazette

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

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# Inside the Statehouse with Steve Flowers

Steve Flowers is Alabama's leading political columnist.  
His weekly column on Alabama politics appears in over 60 Alabama newspapers.  
He served 16 years in the state legislature.

[www.steveflowers.us](http://www.steveflowers.us)



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

With it being a presidential election year and an election for one of our United States Senate Seats and all of the interest that goes along with those high-profile contests, it has gone under the radar that most of our cities in the state had elections for mayor and city council last month. **Mayors serve four-year terms and to most Alabamians they are the most important vote they will cast this year.**

The job of mayor of a city is a difficult and intricate fulltime, 24 hours a day dedication to public service. They make more decisions that affect the lives of their friends and neighbors than anyone else. The old maxim, "All politics is local," is epitomized in the role of mayor. Folks, being mayor of a city is where the rubber meets the road.

In looking all over the state, it appears that most Alabamians are content with the jobs their mayor is doing. In almost every contest around the state, the incumbent mayor turned away the challenger usually by a wide margin. Indeed, a good many of the incumbent mayors in the Heart of Dixie had no opposition.

Many of these incumbent mayors were reelected without opposition. Gordon Stone, the mayor of Alabama's fastest growing community, Pike Road, will be entering his fifth term as mayor. Pretty soon Pike Road will have to start calling themselves a city.

Vestavia's Mayor, Ashley Curry, won a second term without opposition. This former retired FBI agent has done a yeoman's job managing this upscale, Jefferson County suburb.

Jasper Mayor, David O'Mary, who escaped opposition, will begin a second term. He has run Jasper like a well-tuned engine. Albertville mayor, Tracy Honea, garnered a third term without opposition. Luverne Mayor Ed Beasley was also unopposed.

In the contested races, most of the matchups were no contest. Two of Alabama's largest and most prosperous cities, Huntsville and Hoover, had mayoral races. Tommy Battle coasted to an easy 78 to 22 reelection victory in Huntsville. If Kay Ivey opts to not run for reelection in 2022, Battle will be favored to win the governor's race. However, being Governor of Alabama would be a demotion to being Mayor of Huntsville.

Hoover citizens must approve of Mayor Frank Brocato's job performance. Brocato trounced Hoover City Council President Gene Smith by a 76 to 24 margin.

Opelika's popular and effective, longtime mayor, Gary Fuller, turned back his challenger 66 to 34 to win a fifth term.

In Cullman incumbent mayor, Woody Jacobs, won a second term overwhelmingly. Hamilton Mayor Bob Page won a second term. Troy's 48-year-old mayor, Jason Reeves, won reelection to a third four-year term with 74% of the vote. Incumbent Eufaula Mayor Jack Tibbs won an impressive 68% victory for reelection over two opponents.

Prattville Mayor Bill Gillespie may have turned in the most impressive showing. He shellacked former City Councilman Dean Argo 70 to 30. His fellow citizens must approve of frugality with their city finances. Wetumpka's popular and hardworking, longtime mayor, Jerry Willis, turned back his challenger by a 69 to 31 margin. In neighboring Millbrook incumbent mayor, Al Kelley, won reelection 67 to 33. Mayor Kelley has overseen the growth of his city from 6,000 in population to over 20,000. Tallassee reelected Mayor John Hammock to a second term.

Clanton lost their mayor of three decades, Billy Joe Driver, to COVID this year. His successor will be Jeff Mims, who won the election in the Peach City. Mike Oakley won the mayor's race in Centreville with a 60% margin. It is proper and fitting that an Oakley will be Mayor of Centreville.

Bessemer Mayor Kenneth Gulley won a landslide reelection garnering 68% of the vote. Incumbent Pell City Mayor Bill Pruitt won reelection by an impressive 73 to 27 margin. Longtime Greenville Mayor Dexter McLendon won reelection in the Camellia City. Opp's first female mayor, Becky Bracke, won a second term with 60% of the vote.

There were two mayoral upsets on August 25. Scottsboro's incumbent mayor was defeated by challenger Jimmy McCamy. In the thriving, growing city of Fairhope challenger Sherry Sullivan trounced incumbent mayor Karin Wilson.

There are runoffs for mayor in several major cities, including Enterprise, Ozark, Selma, Tuskegee, Alexander City and Northport. These cities will elect their mayors on October 6 in runoff elections.

Some of you may be wondering about two of the most populous cities. Tuscaloosa and Dothan have their mayoral races next year in August of 2021. Tuscaloosa's Walt Maddox and Dothan's Mark Saliba will be tough to beat. All politics is local.

If you have not been counted in the census, you have not got many more shopping days to Christmas.

Steve may be reached at [www.steveflowers.us](http://www.steveflowers.us).



Ronald A. Holtsford

The political wrangling will be on as the Republicans attempt to place another conservative leaning justice.

I would have personally disagreed with Justice Ginsburg on several legal decisions, but the fact is she was one of the most incredible legal minds of the 20th and 21st centuries. During the pandemic the United States Supreme Court has held virtual hearings. Justice Ginsburg even conducted her questioning on at least one occasion from a hospital bed a few months ago. I had the pleasure of listening to some of the SCOTUS oral arguments online. Even at her advancing age, her questions for the attorneys representing the opposing sides were as sharp and almost as intimidating as any attorney could face. Any attorney that finds their way in front of the nine justices must be on their "A" game anyway.

Look closely at Article III, Section 1 of the Constitution.

**Article III.  
Section. 1.**

*The judicial Power of the United States, shall be vested in one supreme Court, and in such inferior Courts as the Congress may from time to time ordain and establish. The Judges, both of the supreme and inferior Courts, shall hold their Offices during good Behaviour, and shall, at stated Times, receive for their Services, a Compensation, which shall not be diminished during their Continuance in Office.*

Note that there is absolutely no mention of the number of SCOTUS justices. The number of justices have varied from as few as five to as many as ten. However, the Judiciary Act of 1869 fixed the number at nine, which is the Chief Justice and eight associate justices. Throughout American history there have been twenty-nine instances where it was an election year or an election had been held and there was a spot to fill on the Supreme Court. Former President Obama nominated a justice in his final year in office, but the vote was held off by the Republicans. So the balance

## Was Justice Ginsburg's death what is expected to happen?

What should have happened by the time you read this is that President Trump will have named a very capable, conservative female judge to replace Justice Ginsburg who died in September.

currently stands at approximately five conservative justices and three liberal justices. If President Trump is able to fill Justice Ginsburg's seat it will be a 6-3 court. Should President Trump be re-elected, there is also the possibility of octogenarian Justice Breyer (liberal leaning) leaving the court in the next four years which could possibly leave a 7-2 balance by the end of Trump's presidency. Democrats of course worry about Roe v Wade, gay marriage and the Affordable Care Act. There is speculation that the Democrats might attempt to "pack" the court when their next chance comes around and/ or maybe impose term limits. One former Democratic, Presidential candidate suggested five right leaning (Republican) justices, 5 left (Democratic) leaning justices and five with no political swing. I'm sorry but everyone has a political opinion even if it hinges on Roe v Wade; you either agree with a woman's right to privacy over the potential life of a human embryo or you agree with the life of a child over that of a woman's privacy.

In another life, I was an ultrasonographer. I saw the beating heart at five weeks gestation and it told me that the developing child was alive. Historical arguments have somewhat hinged on viability in considering the developing fetus a child. Consider an older person with a heartbeat but an inability to be viable outside of a nursing home, hospital, etc. Will that person be next in consideration of who lives and who dies? The advantage of the older person was that they had an opportunity to be born and to have a life. The voluntary induced abortion of a child means they will never have the ability to grow, to be viable and have a life. If I were king, . . . but I'm not and we have a republic form of government that in some way no matter how big or how little a particular group of people are, someone in government represents just about everyone in this country.

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

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# ROBSERVATIONS...

by Robert Tate

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

## Vote Your Conscience



We are down to the wire here. The election of 2020; billed as a make or break for our republic. As if this year has not been enough of mental meltdown. Now on top of all this, Ruth Bader Ginsburg has passed on. Could things get any uglier? Uhhhh, yeah. They are going to.

This is going to be a rather short Robservation since I am sitting here typing with a broken hand. I took the splint off and am typing for the first time in a while, and I feel like I have 400 uncontrollable fingers slapping away at the keyboard. Yes, that means a lot of backspace, delete, backspace and delete. But I wanted to simply discuss what is on everybody's mind right about now. As well it should be – the election.

I am not going to sit here and tell you who to vote for. All I am willing to say, however, is for each of you to go out and vote your conscience. First and foremost, however, vote. We have to vote. We need every single one of us to vote. There are millions of people around the world who wish they could vote and yet here, many of us treat this right as though it means absolutely nothing. But please, vote. We need to overcome all the illegal voters, double and triple voters and all of those pesky dead folks who keep voting. (Sarcasm included)

Next, I am pretty tired of hearing the argument that people “hate” the current president so this is why they are going to vote for the other guy. Have you ever read any of the racist comments by “the other guy?”

<https://pjmedia.com/news-and-politics/matt-margolis/2020/07/23/the-top-7-racist-comments-made-by-joe-biden-over-the-years-n673531>

As for President Trump, I grew up in New Jersey and had relatives in Atlantic City when the casinos first came to the state. I still have relatives there and yes, I am semi-versed on President Trump's activities there. I am not so naïve as to think there is no reason for some to dislike the man. I get that. (Just ask my brother). Bottom line, I don't know nor care enough to let that deter what I see today in 2020. So, if people hate President Trump, again, I get it. More than once I have said I wish his wife would take away his Twitter account. I wish he didn't feel the need to attack everybody who attacks him first. I wish he were a little more politically polished at times. But you know what? Those are also many of the qualities that many of us find appealing. He is not a lifelong politico and he actually gets things done.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/trump-administration-accomplishments/>

<https://frankreport.com/2020/04/18/one-hundred-twenty-five-amazing-accomplishments-of-president-donald-j-trump/>

No, I am in no way a believer in the President 100%. But then again, this is true of every single human on planet Earth. I only believe in one person 100% and he died on the cross for all of us over 2,000 years ago. But what I can tell you is that when I look at the platforms between the two Parties, I know which one I believe in. I can actually do that. Too many people on both sides of the proverbial fence unfortunately seem unable to differentiate between them. “I like him,” “I hate him,” “she's worthless,” “he's an idiot.” Whatever. But when you look at the two platforms, there is a clear difference between them, and these differences are what is clearly splitting this country in two. Can you, in all intellectual honesty, stand for one person over another even though they believe in programs and institutions detrimental to this country, to your beliefs and in direct opposition to our constitution? If so, good for you. Vote your

conscience. I have included just a few sites that break down the differences.

[https://www.diffen.com/difference/Democrat\\_vs\\_Republican](https://www.diffen.com/difference/Democrat_vs_Republican)

<https://www.thebalance.com/democrats-vs-republicans-which-is-better-for-the-economy-4771839>

<http://www.differencebetween.net/miscellaneous/politics/difference-between-democrat-and-republican/>

Like I said in the beginning, I just want you to vote your conscience and not the person. Don't let your hate or undeserved respect and love of either person be your only guiding factor. My brother, who is my best friend, will cancel out my vote. I know this to be true but I still love him just the same. I

know his beliefs; they differ greatly from mine but in the end at least his decision is not just a bad rendition of a high school popularity contest for prom king and queen.

\* \* \*

RGB – Just a short note about Ruth Bader Ginsburg. She was a wonderful woman. No doubt. She rewrote history and will hold her place there forever. Do I respect her? You had better believe it. My prayers out to her family. The disturbing thing about her death is of course, all the threats coming (from the left, of course) that if her replacement is selected before Trump is sworn in for his second term,

there will be riots in the streets. This my friends needs to stop. This participation trophy attitude of all these young communist punks is getting tiresome. BTW, folks, this specific SCOTUS issue is not the first time in our history it has come up. Look it up.

But the question I have is this. And this is a serious question that I do not know the answer to. RGB had battled cancer for two decades. While President Obama was still in office and she knew she could not do her job effectively any longer and her health was declining, why did she not step down and allow President Obama to fill her post while he was in office? Granted, it would have been a battle but so what? Her reported response to this question was, “Who would you prefer on the court?”

<https://www.marketwatch.com/story/ruth-bader-ginsburg-reveals-why-she-didnt-retire-during-obamas-term-2019-09-19>

Like it is not a battle today? Just asking because it seems if she had retired, we would not be having this discussion today. As another aside, in addition to the need for term limits for both the Senate and Congress, why not also get rid of the idea that one is on the SCOTUS for life? Really. Someone lives to 114 and you are going to tell me he/she should still be on the court? Hey, if I have to stop flying at 65, why not limit them as well? Someone once foolishly argued with me that it is a safety issue and that pilots have the lives of a couple hundred people in their hands. “People don't want a 70-year-old pilot flying them around.” This may be true albeit being based upon age discrimination because hundreds of pilots, fully capable of flying well beyond this artificially set date are forced to retire. But the decisions of the SCOTUS affect the lives of 360,000,000 people daily and nobody really questions their fitness “for duty.” Ludicrous. But I digress.

All I can say is I hope to see many of you fine people at the polls on Tuesday, 3 November. I am going to go re-splint my hand- ouch!

## We Must Work Together to Help Prevent Suicide



By Martha Roby,  
U.S. Representative

Each September, National Suicide Prevention Month is recognized as we draw attention to the causes, warning signs, and treatment options for those affected by this tragedy. You may think to yourself that this annual campaign is certainly important, but how does it impact you? The truth is, we can all help to reduce and prevent suicide.

As you know, the Second District is home to thousands of veterans. According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, an average of 20 veterans die by suicide every day – a rate of 1.5 times higher than non-veteran adults. I have spent my tenure in Congress fighting for better care of our veterans and sponsoring legislation to address these significant issues. We cannot allow suicide rates to be just a number. We must do what we can to ensure we are all educated on this crisis in order to help prevent it.

Here are some ways in which you can do your part to assist with suicide prevention:

- **Know the risk factors.** A number of factors can point to someone who is struggling with suicidal thoughts including anxiety, alcohol or substance abuse, hopelessness, self-isolation, impulsive or aggressive tendencies, loss of relationships, family history of suicide, and more.
- **Know the warning signs.** There are many warning signs including an individual ominously talking about death, having no purpose, feeling trapped, behaving recklessly, withdrawing themselves, mood swings, and many others.
- **Contact a professional.** Although it may be a difficult decision to make, it is important that you get help for someone you know is suffering. You can call 1-800-273-8255 to find available local resources or even encourage your loved one to call themselves. If you or someone you know is in an emergency, always call 911 immediately.

During these unprecedented times, it is critical that we pay close attention to mental and public health. Suicide is among the leading cause of death in the United States, and the national suicide rate reached historic highs prior to the pandemic. These troubling thoughts can affect anyone regardless of age, gender, or background. The National Alliance on Mental Illness HelpLine reported a 65 percent increase in communication over the phone and online since March, according to a recent study.



I encourage you to reach out to someone you are worried about and have the courage to check on them. Sometimes a simple “Are you okay?” is enough to make all the difference in the world. If you are struggling personally, please text the Crisis Text Line at 741741 or call the National

Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255 to be connected to someone who can help. Both resources are available 24 hours, seven days a week, and they are free and confidential. Let's work together to prevent suicide.

*Martha Roby represents Alabama's Second Congressional District. She lives in Montgomery, Alabama, with her husband Riley and their two children.*

**1-800-273-TALK (8255)**

**<https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>**

**The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline** is a national network of local crisis centers that provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We're committed to improving crisis services and advancing suicide prevention by empowering individuals, advancing professional best practices, and building awareness.

We can all help prevent suicide. The Lifeline provides 24/7, free and confidential support for people in distress, prevention and crisis resources for you or your loved ones, and best practices for professionals.

**Congress Approves National Suicide Prevention Designation Act**

The U.S. Congress has approved the adoption of **988**, the new three-digit number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline to be completed by July 2022.





By John Martin

# Kay Ivey’s Gulags

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

By now, most of us have heard about Governor Kay Ivey’s September 3 proposal to build three new mega-prisons, ostensibly to solve Alabama’s long-standing prison overcrowding problem once and for all. The new prisons are planned for Bibb, Escambia, and Elmore Counties, with construction beginning in 2021. Their total capacity will be 10,000 male inmates. For a minimum of 30 years thereafter, the state will be obligated to shell out \$88,000,000 of our tax revenue to lease them.

Before we build more prisons, let’s ask ourselves why our prisons have become overcrowded in the first place. After we crunch the numbers, we can see that we actually have ample prison space in relation to our population. The real problem is that we have a grossly disproportionate percentage of our population behind bars. Alabama has literally become a prison state. And the proof is right here.

## INCARCERATION RATES

*Comparing Alabama and Founding NATO Countries*

<i>Alabama</i>	<i>946</i>	Incarceration rates per 100,000 population
<i>United States</i>	<i>698</i>	
<i>United Kingdom</i>	<i>139</i>	
<i>Portugal</i>	<i>129</i>	
<i>Luxembord</i>	<i>115</i>	
<i>Canada</i>	<i>114</i>	
<i>France</i>	<i>102</i>	
<i>Italy</i>	<i>96</i>	
<i>Belgium</i>	<i>94</i>	
<i>Norway</i>	<i>74</i>	
<i>Netherlands</i>	<i>59</i>	
<i>Denmark</i>	<i>59</i>	
<i>Iceland</i>	<i>38</i>	

Source: <https://www.prison-policy.org/global/2018.html>

In one quick glance, we can see that the United States has an outrageously high proportion of its citizens in prison—698 people out of every 100,000—five times that of the nearest runner-up, the UK, and seven times the median of the world’s civilized nations, which is about 100. *Why?*

Now look at Alabama. Here we have even more disturbing figures—46,000 people, 946 out of every 100,000, enough to overload our prisons to our present 195 percent of designed capacity. That’s 9.5 TIMES the 100 per 100,000 world average. Are our people really 9.5 times more violent than the rest of the world?

WHY do we have so many people locked up? Have we become a gulag archipelago? Is Kay Ivey following the footsteps of Joseph Stalin and Kim Jong Un? Are you beginning to feel like a Jew facing the birth of the Nazi Party? Are you ready to move into your new concentration camp?

In this country, prisons for profit have become big business. Build more and bigger prisons. But to be profitable, they have to be filled. So we arrest and incarcerate more and more people for more and more frivolous “offenses.” We then loan them out to work for a fee, which is typically little if any above the minimum wage. Of that, the prison gets the lion’s share. The prisoners might get a few pennies on the dollar, if anything at all.

Today’s prison industry is a modern day SLAVE TRADE. Perhaps you thought slavery ended with the Emancipation Proclamation. Now you know better.

How did we get into this dilemma? Why has our imprisonment rate grown so dramatically over the last 40 years? ***Our prison population jumped from 4000 in 1983, to 25,000 in 2000, and now, 46,000—an increase of OVER TEN TIMES.***

One problem is the **Habitual Offender Act**, which was created by “Lock-em-up Charlie” Graddick. Commit three felonies, and you are put away for good—to rot in prison for the rest of your life—and during that time be subjected to violence, homosexual rape, and even homicide from other inmates.

We normally think of felonies as serious crimes—terrorism, rioting, murder, looting, kidnapping, robbery, home invasion, breaking and entering, burglary, grand theft, extortion, rape, arson, vandalism, and destruction of property.

Offenses like these, of course, are class “A” felonies that deserve serious time in the slammer.

But today, we have an entire menagerie of felonies that have no victims and harm nobody. And what is really insane is that many of these victimless “crimes” carry more severe penalties than most of the serious crimes listed above.

To have a bona fide crime of any kind, we must first have a victim—a person who has suffered either bodily harm or loss of property from the willful and deliberate action(s) of one or more other persons. If there is no bodily harm or property loss and no willful attempt or malice to cause it, there is no crime.

The fundamental cause of our insane incarceration rate is recreational drug prohibition. We all learned in our history that alcohol prohibition was a social and criminal disaster. It took eleven years for the American people to comprehend its gravity and repeal it. But we have come right back and imposed drug prohibition and enforced it for decades, with more and more severe penalties. When will we get over that?

Various sources clearly state that most of the people in our prisons were convicted and sentenced for buying, selling, using or just possessing even small amounts of “controlled substances.” Many prisoners are locked up for marijuana alone.

Why do we incarcerate people for actions between consensual adults? Why do our governments meddle with people’s personal and private interactions?

Take Amsterdam, for example. There is almost no crime there. Very few people are in jail or prison. Want to puff some “weed?” Go ahead. There are plenty of public places where any adult can do that, along with other drugs. And did you know there are plenty of prostitutes available? And did you know they even publicly display themselves in store windows? Welcome to Amsterdam. Have a good time. Walk the streets safely at night with not a hint of crime anywhere.

The Netherlands and most of Europe in general have little crime. Police do not pursue victimless offenses. Mind your own business, and the police will mind theirs—to keep the streets safe from thieves and thugs—to perform their duty as peace officers.

So how do we fix our prison overcrowding? In truth, the answer is very simple: Release those who have committed only victimless “crimes”—drug possession, use and sale, prostitution, pornography, etc. If there are no identifiable people who have suffered bodily harm or loss of property (i. e. victims) and no willful actions to do so, then they should be released.

Police made 2,351 arrests for marijuana possession in 2016 (the last year data was available) along with thousands more for intent to purchase or for drug paraphernalia. Marijuana prohibition costs the state and its municipalities an estimated \$22 million a year. We could end this outrage by legalizing marijuana and repealing our abusive anti-drug laws. So far, 33 states have legalized medical marijuana. Of these, 11 have also legalized recreational marijuana.

We could go even farther—legalize all recreational drugs. End ALL drug prohibition. If they were legal and cheap, the drug cartels would go out of business. That would free up our police to do their real job—stop and fight genuine crimes.

People should be trusted to behave like adults, assume their own responsibilities, and take their own risks without “Big Brother” looking over their shoulders. People who abuse drugs should be left alone to suffer their own consequences. Only when they commit crimes to support their habits should they be prosecuted and incarcerated.

But sadly, here in Alabama, felony pot possession convictions continue. Our courts are still loaded with thousands of cases that result in 900 to 1,200 unjustified convictions every year. Meanwhile, the courts never have enough time to deal with the serious crimes.

How can anybody tolerate such cruelty? The purpose of any prison is to keep thieves and thugs off the streets, not violators of abusive laws that prohibit peaceful interactions between adults.

Finally, some people are beginning to take action. Both the Southern Poverty Law Center and the American Civil Liberties Union are planning to slap Ivey and her prison industrial complex associates with some serious litigation. We’ll have to wait and see how that works out.



By Daniel Sutter

# Truly Expediating Vaccines

*Daniel Sutter is the Charles G. Koch Professor of Economics with the Manuel H. Johnson Center for Political Economy at Troy University and host of Econversations on TrojanVision. The opinions expressed in this column are the author’s and do not necessarily reflect the views of Troy University.*

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

Two COVID-19 vaccines are in large-scale trials in the United States. Federal bureaucrats have thus far rejected human challenge trials (HCT), which would intentionally expose volunteers to the virus and speed testing. HCT should be part of our vaccine approval process.

Vaccine testing employs randomized control trials with subjects assigned to either a trial group receiving the vaccine or a control group receiving a placebo. Neither subjects nor trial personnel should know who receives the vaccine. Randomized control trials help ensure that the treatment causes any differences in health outcomes.

Traditional trials, however, involve an enormous unknown, whether a participant encounters the virus. Even a super-effective vaccine will not appear effective if control group subjects do not encounter the virus and get sick. Vaccine trials consequently employ large samples; the current trials each involve 30,000 subjects. Traditional trials also cannot control when exposure occurs, lengthening vaccine trials. The SARS-CoV-2 virus is circulating widely enough to possibly produce results within three months but Britain may have to use HCT for the Oxford University candidate vaccine.

Deliberately exposing subjects to a deadly virus is problematic since control group subjects receive only a placebo. For COVID-19, restricting HCT to young adults should limit risk. Participants in an HCT would be closely monitored and provided the best possible medical care if needed.

Medical researchers use informed consent as an ethical guide. Whether informed consent suffices to make HCT voluntary resembles questions economics deals with regarding “voluntary” market transactions. Many jobs are inherently dangerous, like mining and commercial fishing, and were much more deadly 100 or 150 years ago. Should workplace deaths be regarded as corporate murder?

Economists focus on whether employers try to hide a risk and whether workers can easily quit if they decide the danger is too great. Dangerous jobs pay higher wages, suggesting that workers understand and accept the risk.

Freedom presumes that adults are competent and entitled to make decisions for themselves, including decisions that might shorten their lives. I believe that

the thousands of volunteers for HCT registered with advocacy group 1DaySooner understand the risks involved.

HCT would enormously benefit vaccine testing. Effectiveness trials could be completed much faster, perhaps in as little as six weeks. Sample sizes could be much smaller since all participants get exposed to the virus, and multiple candidate vaccines could be tested against one control group. Researchers could also learn about the illness, like whether some people have natural or transferred immunity to COVID-19 or if asymptomatic patients can transmit the virus to others.

Every day we shorten the testing process will save lives. Since April 1, at least 209 Americans have died of COVID-19 each day, with an average of over 1,100. At least 17,000 deaths have occurred over every thirty day span since then. Delay is deadly with a pandemic.

Yet a commentary from the National Institutes of Health stated that HCT would be unacceptable without a “rescue therapy” (or cure) for subjects who became ill. They stated, “A single death or severe illness in an otherwise healthy volunteer would be unconscionable and would halt progress.”

This is nonsense. If we had a cure, we would not need a vaccine to save lives. Volunteers not infected as part of HCT could still get COVID-19 and possibly die. Traditional trials need control group subjects to get sick to demonstrate a vaccine’s effectiveness.

Yes, a Federal bureaucrat would have to order HCT subjects be infected. Taking versus refraining from taking an action sometimes is ethically significant: a bodyguard who fails to take a bullet intended for the person he is guarding is not guilty of murder. But vaccines cannot be marketed in the U.S. without FDA approval. Our regulatory regime denies Americans the freedom to try a vaccine, so bureaucratic inaction also produces death.

Hopefully one of the candidate vaccines in trials will prove highly effective. But new viruses will produce future pandemics. The regulation of medicines is for our benefit, not the comfort of bureaucrats. We should insist on the use of human challenge trials for vaccines.





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John Sophocleus  
**THINK**  
*GazetteSophocleus@gmail.com.*

Pray for This  
Impenitent Thief



*“...one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss.” Luke 23:39-41 KJV*



Many contacted me after receiving news convicted felon Michael Gregory Hubbard finally reported for the prison sentences he indeed justly earned. I ask forgiveness from those who expected jubilation instead of my sadness. The milestone evoked reflection on how we failed shepherding this lost soul toward a righteous path... impenitent and still arrogantly demanding even lighter sentencing without any reparations for all the harm he caused and orchestrated with fellow public servant co-conspirators. These malefactors do NOT fear God, looking to earthly power(s) to bless, protect and save them; flaunting disregard for their own soul, exhibiting even less regard for the general welfare of others they’ve sworn to serve.

Among the more indelible memories of observing, researching and writing on this public servant’s trial in Judge Walker’s Lee County Circuit Court was reading the full name in submitted documents. Orthodox Christians may find this more noteworthy. It appears Michael Gregory was raised by decent, honest, hardworking parents in the Hubbard household similar to my parents who also put a daunting moniker of John Peter upon me at baptism. Hubbard’s parents could only do so much before offspring must take on more responsibility for their own actions. Furthermore, over in Georgia, these parents have even less responsibility than Alabama and Lee County citizens who continued to reelect and support this lost soul.

If Saints Michael and Gregory are Hubbard’s namesakes - it is indeed much to live up to... it seems this tradition of venerating positive Christian figures/icons is attenuating. Some make it very clear their child’s name(s) are for entertainers, politicians, sports figures, etc., oft lacking in moral character. Perhaps generations who suffer the example, naming and parenting of Speaker Hubbard types will navigate their worldly paths with greater rectitude. Thankfully there were some righteous examples to observe trying to shepherd Hubbard from his felonious path. Buddy Mitchell, Van Davis, Matt Hart, Jacob Walker, Alice Mitchell, Jack Campbell, John Rice, Bill & Susan Britt are some which quickly come to mind as I quickly type to meet my deadline. Also worthy to remember well and keep in prayer, former Alabama Representative Wren who plead guilty to move toward a more righteous path from Hubbard corruption; more recently State Senator David Burkette who resigned for his wrongdoings is another righteous example of a penitent soul.

Barry Moore, a full throated Hubbard minion was not convicted by a Lee County jury before the Hubbard trial – this further emboldened public servant is on track to be yet another corrupt US congressman from Alabama. This just Hubbard imprisonment result is indeed rare. ‘Reap what you sow justice’ befalls one of the legislators most responsible for what our prison system decayed into – sentenced to serve time in the environment he aided and abetted. Perhaps politburo members this former Speaker still controls will now consider actions to reduce overcrowding and lack of prison education programs to address recidivism.

Disappointing how many thought Hubbard getting reelected in his low turnout, uncompetitive, hyper-gerrymandered district was vindication after all his indictments. Even Hubbard’s anointed House district replacement was improperly/unlawfully installed without a general election. Sadder still, after spending great sums (with ill-gotten gains) in appeals and exerting ‘full court press’ corrupt political influence, if Hubbard’s convictions were overturned it would make political theft of this sort OK to most duopoly party devotees. Plan to see more ‘Pardoning amongst thieves’ which turned Rod Blagojevich into a ‘Trumpocrat.’



*“The Informed Southerner”*

*by John M. Taylor*

Individuals who have recently attended school or worked in the business world are aware of “diversity.” During my Russell Corporation career, one company leader was nearly fanatical about it; it often seemed to be more important than making quality products and providing good customer service. Some claim the term itself is classic “Orwellian double-speak” – a word having two opposing meanings. Others reference Kurt Vonnegut’s “Harrison Bergeron” short story about a dystopian society that punishes excellence and beauty by enforcing nebulous forms of “equality.”

Regardless of any modern definitions, there are real examples where a diverse group of individuals worked for a single goal. Likely the most taboo or non-PC example is the case of those who fought for Southern Independence. The following is an overview of the diversity and complexity of Confederate forces.

The general stereotype is most Confederates were genealogically English Cavaliers, Scots-Irish “Rednecks,” German, etc.; however, this omits many contributors. The Confederacy was one of the most diverse forces in history; it was composed of all groups who resided in the South and some from outside the region. Not only were the aforementioned groups a major part of the Confederate States, there were also those with the following lineage/ethnicity/religion: Scottish Highland, Welsh, Irish Catholic, Dutch, French (Huguenot and Catholic), Portuguese, Spanish, American Indian, Swedish, Swiss, Polish, Creole, Cajun, Jewish, Italian, Greek, Black, Chinese, Brazilian, Mexican, Cuban, Hawaiian, plus thousands of Northerners. Surely, some have been left out.

First of all, Jefferson Davis’ right-hand man was Judah P. Benjamin, a Sephardic Jew. Estimates of Jewish Confederates run from a low of 2,000 to a high of 10,000. Sephardic and Ashkenazi Jews both served in the Confederacy. A few of them were Moses Ezekial, David Levy Yulee, Abraham Myers, and Phoebe Pember (nurse). Robert N. Rosen wrote about this subject in his 2001 book, The Jewish Confederates.

The “Five Civilized Tribes” of the Southeast—Choctaw, Chickasaw, Cherokee, Creek, and Seminole—were official allies through signed treaties. An estimated 12,500 Indians wore the gray or a variation of it. On June 23, 1865, Stand Watie, Cherokee Confederate General, was the last field commander to surrender. This was over two months after General Lee’s surrender at

Feckless Auburn University Administrators/Trustees (I’m accustomed to expect nothing less from public servants like Leath, Lowder, Rane, et al) Lee County Commissioners and Councilpersons did nothing to support removing their fellow corrupt politburo member. Most cowering from something as simple as removing Hubbard’s embarrassing name from signage until after all appeals were exhausted (i.e., made no affirmation/stand against wrongdoings and the approval of this felon’s continued display of power/impenitence.

Failure to shepherd this lost soul from his path of political theft was highlighted at Hubbard’s sentencing. Administrator, banker, clergy to mayor and US Congressman showed to shill for this impenitent thief. One might expect stockholders to discipline granting unsecured loans for one who failed to perform on current debt, congregations to question a pastor who did not ask a thief to confess and ask forgiveness, fail to re-elect a mayor and other politicians who shilled for Hubbard in open court. But this is Alabama... one of the least politically competitive, thus most politically corrupt in our hegemonic coalition.

The Lee County Sheriff - most inappropriate (as the chief law enforcement officer of the county) among the ‘I Believe in Mike Hubbard’ minions PR campaign against his felony charges -- did not show/shill at Hubbard’s sentencing. Again, applaud and pray for those who change course toward a righteous path. I wish we observed as much public belief in God’s Truth, Transparency and Justice as that expensive believe in Hubbard campaign asserted. Keep Sheriff Jones in your prayers as I can easily imagine he’s suffering pressure from Riley type public servants and Mike’s coconspirators to buffer inmate Hubbard’s consequences. It appears the Sheriff is no longer showing “I Believe in Mike Hubbard” favoritism in the Spirit of justice as determined by his county’s jury.

If my pen reads a bit more fatigued and defeated this month it may be due to other, more recent failed efforts to shepherd politburo members from political theft in Lee County. It seems Hubbard felonies have been most successful at getting Goat Hill to protect/immunize corruption from ‘economic development’ destroying our quality of life. Crony contractors, developers, etc. are not pressed to follow county access management policies, compensate for damage/loss caused by their actions and discipline corrupt, un-bonded (as proscribed by law) engineers. One of the most corrupt commissioners (lobbying to head ACCA) tells us ‘people’ are dying to come to Lee County. Which people? – crony developers and corrupt contractors benefitting from the thievery – of course they are! Those who wonder why Lee County remains at the top of Covid cases/deaths - all this cancerous/unsustainable growth is now showing and more difficult to cloak. This is a result of building/growing where those who generate the increased cost don’t pay to accommodate the increase traffic, demand on hospitals, etc. A county hospital blocking competition will inevitably generate the consequences we now observe. The only commissioner to cry “People are Dying” I doubt understands this economic reality, nor (as one seen beholden Hubbard minions) will do anything to expose or change course.

In closing, we (me and my eldest Godson) as long time ‘watchdogs’ or witnesses of the Lee County Commission have tried to shepherd politburo members to answer questions or least allow transparency with respect to their actions. Difficult to avoid feeling failure when one you’ve tried to help (applying everything from Socrates to Scriptures) dies without changing course or observing any contrition, remorse or penitence.

*“And he [the penitent thief] said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.” Luke 23:42-43 KJV*

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This Diversity Model will not be Allowed

Appomattox Court House. Some tribes had their own Confederate flags. One tactical criticism of the Confederacy concerns the underuse of Indian Confederates with their expertise in guerilla warfare.

Although “Hispanic” is a U.S. government-invented term, thousands of individuals with Spanish/Portuguese lineage served the Confederacy. Texas State Historical Association records show at least 2500 Mexican Americans (Tejanos) joined the Confederacy and a smaller number joined the Union. Confederate Colonel Santos Benavides commanded the 33rd Texas Cavalry; he led the defeat of Union forces at the Battle of Laredo in 1864. Other examples of “Hispanic” Confederates include Jose Agustin Quintero, a Cuban poet who worked with Jefferson Davis to help get European supplies to the South and Cuban Ambrosio Benavides, who served under P.G. T. Beauregard (Confederate Creole General).

Asian Confederates included Charles Chon, Co. K, 24th Texas Dismounted Cavalry, William Henry Kwan, Co. B, 15th Virginia Battalion, Light Artillery, John Fouenty, from China (a cigar-maker from Savannah, GA), at least eighteen Asian-Confederates named in Louisiana units, and the two sons of P.T. Barnum’s Siamese twins: Chang and Eng Bunker.

The subject of Black Confederates always raises criticism, yet records show at least 2807 Blacks received Confederate pensions. The argument is they were not engaged in actual combat; however, the testimony of Frederick Douglas and Dr. Lewis Steiner, Chief Inspector of the United States Sanitary Commission, indicates otherwise. Although generally disputed by the usual suspects, some estimates put as many as 13,000 Blacks in combat related roles and a total of around 65,000 who served the Confederate States. Several Blacks who rode with Nathan Bedford Forrest were said to have carried firearms. Jewish Confederate Moses Ezekial designed a monument (at Arlington Cemetery) depicting a Black Confederate marching with White Confederates to depict historical accuracy (per Edward Smith, Black Professor at American University in Washington, D.C.)

This brief glimpse of those who were actual Confederate soldiers and supporters is the tip of the iceberg. Good luck getting this acknowledged in any school setting—it simply does not fit the narrative. The “broad brush” characterization of Confederate forces is not accidental, just like the fact the war was fought between two slave-holding republics. In the case of the Confederacy, diversity really was “our strength”; however, being outnumbered as much as 4 to 1 was too much to overcome.





by Perry O. Hooper, Jr.



Republican State Executive Committee  
Former State Representative

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# Historic Peace Deal Signed 5.0

The Historic “Abraham Accords” Peace Deal was signed at the White House on Tuesday September 15th, 2020 between Israel, The United Arab Emirates and Bahrain. The Middle East will never be the same. President Trump signed the documents as the official witness. This is only the second such deal in the history of Israel in which Arab countries formally recognized Israel’s right to exist. The Deal would not have been possible without the intervention and negotiation skills of President Trump. The President has even received a nomination for the Nobel Peace Prize for his leadership role in this treaty.

Under the Abraham Accords, Israel, the United Arab Emirates, and Bahrain will establish embassies, exchange ambassadors and cooperate as partners across a wide range of sectors including tourism, trade, health care, security. These Accords also open the door for Muslims around the world to visit historic sites in Israel and to peacefully pray at al-Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem, the third holiest site in Islam.

President Trump began to pave the way for this historic agreement by ignoring conventional wisdom by not making an easy first trip as President. Presidents usually visit a North American ally, usually Canada. Instead in 2017 President Trump took the bull by the horns and made the difficult first foreign trip to Saudi Arabia where he met with 54 leaders of Arab and Muslim-majority nations. This trip set the stage for Tuesday's breakthrough peace agreement.

In Riyadh, President Trump delivered a speech urging the Muslim world to unite against terrorism. "My message that day was very simple: I urged the nations of the Middle East to set aside their differences, unite against the common enemy of civilization, and work together toward the noble aims of security and prosperity," President Trump said Tuesday on the White House South Lawn just prior to the signing of the accords. "I offered America's friendship. I offered America's help. But, I said clearly that the nations of the regions had to decide what kind of a future they wanted for their children, and for their families, and for their nation itself. No one could make that choice for them. They had to do that themselves."

Trump's work on the accords also came after he bucked the foreign policy establishment and moved the U.S embassy to Jerusalem from Tel Aviv in 2018. The President called the Embassy move “a long-overdue step to advance the peace process and to work towards a lasting agreement.”

The Embassy move was one of his key campaign promises. When He actually made the announcement, it was met with howls of protest from so called experts in the swamp. These experts included former Obama CIA Director John Brennan and former Obama Secretary of State John Kerry, who currently serves as a Biden foreign policy advisor.

This is what Brennan predicted in 2018: 'By moving the Embassy to Jerusalem, Trump...destroyed the US peacemaker role.' People actually pay John Brennan money for his expertise" wrote Michael Doran, a senior fellow at the Hudson Institute.

Doran also noted that "Kerry made a similarly dire prediction but two years earlier. If Trump were to move the embassy to Jerusalem, 'You’d have an explosion. An absolute explosion in the region.” So much for Kerry’s knowledge and judgement on the Middle East.

In sharp contrast to these dire predictions President Trump stated the reality of this historic event: "Together, these agreements will serve as the foundation for a comprehensive peace across the entire region, something which nobody thought was possible certainly not in this day and age — maybe in many decades from now — but one founded on shared interests, mutual respect, and friendship,"

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called Tuesday's accords a "pivot of history." "It heralds a new dawn of peace," he said. "For thousands of years, the Jewish people have prayed for peace. And this is why, today, we're filled with such profound gratitude."

Senior Presidential Advisor Jarrod Kushner, who was instrumental in laying the groundwork for this historic deal, added “this is the beginning of the end of the Israel-Arab conflict.”

The entire civilized world owes President Trump a big thank you for a job well done. The President should receive a unanimous Nobel Peace Prize for this herculean effort.



## POTUS and FLOTUS Test Positive for Coronavirus

President Trump and First Lady Melania Trump tweeted that they both had tested positive for the Coronavirus.



While in good health with few symptoms, the Trumps will be quarantined in the White House under the care and direction of their doctor.

During this time, many public events and appearances have been cancelled or postponed, however, the POTUS will continue with his Presidential duties from the White House as circumstances allow.

Currently, neither of the upcoming debates have been cancelled or rescheduled, but this could change.

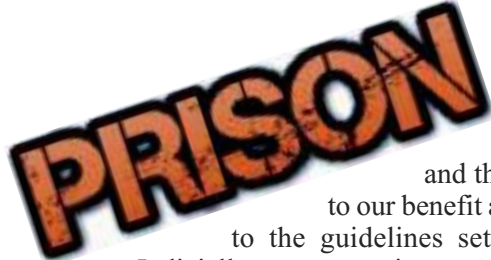
*We wish the President and First Lady a speedy recovery!*



# Letters To The Editor

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

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The Preamble of the United States Constitution states we the people, inferring that this country and the inner workings that occur here are to our benefit as well as our responsibility to adhere to the guidelines set forth by establishing this nation. Judicially our system is one of sheer brilliance in the path towards punishment but lacks definition into reforming an inmate during incarceration. There are quite a few ideas the public would be willing to share if the voice of the people could be heard on this topic. The Federal and State government as well as the private sector would then see the outcry of the people and then begin to manage their prisons in an orderly fashion and lean more toward reform rather than the current issue which lacks any reform towards the inmate at all, thus leading to a return system in which the inmate is institutionalized rather than primed for success. Mandatory punishment for crimes is a definite but while the person is incarcerated; we need to apprehend this moment so we could work together towards the common goal of a greater nation, a better person.

Prisons on the Federal, State and Private level receive funding depending on how many beds are in use though seem to lack any substantial quality reform for the people that inhabit them. Reform towards a greater citizen as well as a better quality of person can be managed appropriately through little to no funding and proper management of the facility. The job system within a prison lacks constant weekly cycles which hinder the inmate from obtaining any systematic baseline through a healthy lifestyle and long-term development. This lack of a steady job also infringes on basic human rights when an inmate lacks toothpaste due to insufficient funds or an absence of work that week. The minimum wage at a prison complex while maintaining funds does not rise equally with consumables on any period thus making it hard for an inmate to afford toiletries, cleaning products or food outside the basic three meals a day. Reform does not cost money but rather the basics of a relationship; time, energy and proximity; we work together with ingenuity and a common goal to secure a proper reform system within our Penitentiaries.

Overpopulating a prison will incur harm to basic human rights and individual advancement whereas the use of management skills greatens the outcome in reform. This overcrowding leads to an insufficient number of towels causing a person to use a shirt to clean off the showered debris. The demographic of guards to inmates severely offsets the possibility of reform creating a tougher environment to accomplish what they are at this facility for; guards that are over worked and stressed would accomplish less just as inmates who are over

crowded would be less inclined towards personal development. These can be accomplished with building a new prison or simply managing the funds in a more appropriate manner. When one has his or her rights infringed, they are less likely to adapt towards reform in a positive manner.

Proper management of funds can increase the overall value and quality of meals served within a facility. Quality of food varies throughout every institution with Class-A to Class-D meat but there is one that the label reads, “Not for Human Consumption,” which is primarily used in agriculture but can be found in the Penitentiary system. This meat that is consumed contains deficiencies of any substantial nutritional value, a grade that we deem worthy of livestock but find our loved ones eating it for multiple meals a week. This desecrates basic human rights by stating that these inmates are not even human and are deemed fit to be cattle, they are human and by the documents we forged as well as the grading deemed by the Food Drug Administration this meat is “Not for Human Consumption.” Proper meals within a prison complex is not a funding issue but rather a disregard for adhering to a strict dietary plan within the meal coordinating as well as portion sizes or purchasing proper meat.

Basic human rights are written within the Bill of Rights and set forth guidelines in which to follow by all Americans to achieve the common goal of a better country. That we ourselves are held accountable as well as responsible for our fellow man, that the government was made by us and is for our protection. One person can not accomplish greatness alone without the whole team, us, coming together for a common goal. Proper management of funding and management within a penitentiary lead to a greater outcome of reformative persona which indicates a properly oiled machine that focuses on reform and punishment, the American ideal that one can work together to accomplish greatness. I want you to advocate for a better tomorrow with using this idea, the help of our citizens with some more reform ideas and catch the attention of the Federal, State and Private sectors with public attention.

Submitted by:  
*Joseph Barium*

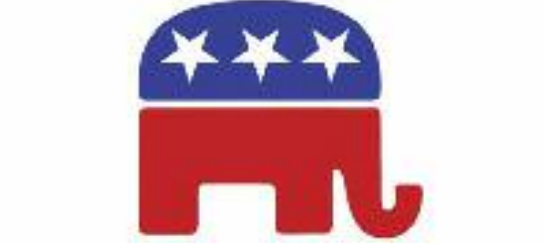


Photo by Stuart Miles, FreeRangeStock.com



# 2020 GENERAL ELECTION

## TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2020



### Upcoming Debates

**October 15th**  
**Adrienne Arsht Center for the Performing Arts, Miami, FL**

**October 20th**  
**Belmont University, Nashville, TN**

**Vice Presidential Debate:**  
*The first and only debate between Republican Candidate Vice President Mike Pence and Democrat Candidate Kamala Harris is set for Wednesday, October 7th at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City. Susan Page of USA Today will moderate.*



### Voter Registration Deadline

**Oct 19:** Last day to register to vote for General Election on **November 3!**

Click here to register: <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes/voter/register-to-vote>



### Absentee Ballot Deadline

**Oct 29, 12 am:** Deadline to apply for an absentee ballot for General Election on **November 3!**

Visit this link for absentee information: <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes/voter/absentee-voting>

<https://www.sos.alabama.gov/>

**ALERT:** Due to COVID-19 (coronavirus), any voter who thinks it is impossible or unreasonable to vote at their polling location in the 2020 elections due to the declared state of emergency can vote absentee. Be sure to check the box on the ballot request application that says "I have a physical illness or infirmity which prevents my attendance at the polls." You may have to submit a copy of your photo ID with the application. Be sure to request your absentee ballot before October 29th to ensure you can vote absentee for the November General Election. The voted absentee ballot must be witnessed by 2 people or have the seal of a notary and must be postmarked by the day before the election (and received by noon on Election Day) or hand delivered by 5pm on Election Day for the ballot to count. For more information, please contact your Secretary of State, John Harold Merrill, (334) 242-7200.

### U.S. Senate

Congressional senators have exclusive authority to approve or reject presidential nominations to executive and judicial offices, to provide or withhold its "advice and consent" to treaties negotiated by the executive, and have the sole power to try impeachments. The Senate was designed to protect the rights of individual states and minority opinions, so every state has the same number of Senators regardless of population size of the state.

**Doug Jones (D)**



**Tommy Tuberville (R)**



### U.S. House of Representatives

Congressional representatives are responsible for crafting, debating, and passing federal law, in coordination with the U.S. Senate. The House was envisioned to represent the popular will, so that voters in each state elect their representatives directly. The House also has unique powers, such as initiating revenue bills and impeachment.

**District 1**

**James Averhart (D)**  
**Jerry Carl (R)**

**District 2**

**Phyllis Harvey-Hall (D)**  
**Barry Moore (R)**

**District 3**

**Mike Rogers (R)+**  
**Adia Winfrey (D)**

**District 4**

**Robert Aderholt (R)+**  
**Rick Neighbors (D)**

**District 5**

**Mo Brooks (R)\*+**

**District 6**

**Gary Palmer (R)\*+**

**District 7**

**Terri Sewell (D)\*+**

### Judicial

#### Alabama Supreme Court

The state Supreme Court has authority to review decisions rendered by other state courts, to determine legal matters that no other court has jurisdiction over, and to establish administrative practices and procedures for all state courts. Their ruling on a case is typically final, and they are not bound by decisions of lower federal courts. The chief justice acts as administrative head of Alabama's judicial system but does not have additional authority or power during judicial proceedings.

**Place 1**  
**Greg Shaw (R)\*+**

**Place 2**  
**Brad Mendheim (R)\*+**

#### Criminal Appeals

The Court of Criminal Appeals hears matters that have been decided at the circuit court level, including exclusive jurisdiction over all misdemeanors, felonies, and habeas corpus.

**Place 1**  
**Mary Becker Windom (R)\*+**

**Place 2**  
**J. Elizabeth Kellum (R)\*+**

#### Civil Appeals

The Court of Civil Appeals hears matters such as divorce, custody, worker's compensation, and appeals from administrative agencies. Their jurisdiction applies in cases where the amount in question is less than \$50,000.

**Place 1**  
**William Thompson (R)\*+**

**Place 2**  
**Matt Fridy (R)\*+**

#### Public Service Commission

Public Service Commissioners are tasked with overseeing the regulation of public transportation such as railroads and tolls and public utilities such as electricity, gas, water, and solar, including the sale or lease of utility properties. Their mission states that they are to "provide consumers with safe, adequate and reliable services at rates that are equitable and economical" (via psc.state.al.us).

#### President

**Laura Casey (D)**  
**Twinkle Cavanaugh (R)+**

Source: <https://www.aclualabama.org/en/2020vote>

\* - winner, uncontested  
+ - incumbent





# FROM MILITARY TO FIRST RESPONDERS TO OUR ELDERLY ... WE CARE!

## Honoring Our Heroes

### Dr. Martha Poole Simmons: A Journey of Service



Serving others: the elderly, people affected by disasters, and especially veterans, is Martha Poole's passion. In May 2004, when she retired after 32 years of teaching, her U.S. Marine son asked, "Mammy, what are you going to do?"

Martha Poole replied, "I am not going to work because I did that for 32 years. I'll volunteer, and the Lord will lead me."

Volunteering has become a step-by-step journey with each of her decisions for action laying a foundation for future service without her realizing it at the time. It has been meaningful for her to serve the elderly at the new Montgomery

Crump Senior Center where working with others on the Friends of the Crump Center Board as its President, over \$125,000 was raised for renovations prior to its opening in 2011. She wrote and received seven grants totaling over \$25,000 for the purchase and installation on needed equipment for the Crump Senior Center. For 15 years, she has coordinated a Tuesday afternoon bridge session there where an average of 40 senior adults including seven who are over 90 years old enjoy fellowship. In addition, each December for over 10 years, she has coordinated the recruitment of volunteers to fill bags and distribute toys and food with the Salvation Army's Angel Tree program.

After retiring, Martha spent her first year volunteering in the Mission Service Corps office at the Baptist State Convention building in Montgomery where she kept records and assisted with communications with people who were going on home missions within the United States.

During that time, Martha became trained as a Baptist Disaster Volunteer in the area of administration. Her first disaster trip was to Biloxi, MS, after Hurricane Katrina. She spent one week living in the building of First Baptist Church of Biloxi where she used a computer to compile records of the Baptist chain saw crews. She never met clients during the entire week. At the end of the week, her Baptist supervisor suggested that she go out with the American Red Cross on its Emergency Response Vehicle (ERV) delivering hot meals. Her experience on the ERV led her to decide that she would prefer volunteering with the Red Cross which provided her contact with clients whom she could offer comfort on a personal basis.

Martha completed the required training to become a Red Cross disaster relief volunteer in 2005-06 and became a driver of the ERV. Her first disaster assignment took her to northwest TN where a tornado had killed 25 people in a rural area. Her experiences with clients there convinced her more than ever that she needed to be a Red Cross disaster relief volunteer which she has continued to do for 15 years. She has served as an ERV driver by delivering meals and supplies all over the nation where clients have been affected by disasters such as hurricanes and tornadoes. Now she teaches the ERV classes training new, younger volunteers and also takes the ERV for maintenance. In addition, she serves as a caseworker with clients who experience loss from fires within the five counties of central Alabama.

In fall 2009, she became a member of Frazer United Methodist Church. After attending a new member orientation class, she was asked to make a commitment to a particular service. She became a volunteer reporter for the monthly publication, *Frazer Family News*. One of the Frazer members she was assigned to interview was Roy McGinnis, a WWII veteran and hero who survived 18 months as a prisoner of war in Stalag 17. In addition, she serves with Congregational Care visiting patients in hospitals and nursing homes and as the editor of the roster for the Encouragers Sunday School Class at Frazer.

While serving as a Red Cross volunteer, she became aware of its service to the armed forces. Representing the Red Cross, she attends veterans' patriotic events, and she serves as a speaker at meetings of organizations. She serves as



a caseworker with the Red Cross Service to the Armed Forces doing follow-up phone calls and maintaining computer files on each case for service members who have requested emergency leave due to the death of a close family member. In 2015, she learned that the Red Cross of Alabama was hosting an annual Heroes Breakfast, and she felt that WWII veterans should be among the 15 honored each year because of their advanced ages. She nominated Roy McGinnis for this honor. In 2016, two of her WWII veteran nominations were honored, and in 2018, five of those WWII vets she nominated were selected.



During the summer of 2016, the Holy Spirit kept after her to volunteer at the VA medical facility in Montgomery. She resisted this urging at first because she already had other volunteer responsibilities; however she

did begin serving as a volunteer at the Central Alabama Veterans Health Care System (CAVHCS), Outpatient Clinic, beginning on its opening day, December 7, 2016, and has continued there ever since. Martha greets veterans as they enter, assist them to find the place of service, and talk with them about their service to our country.

Much to her dismay and disappointment, she learned in fall 2018, that the Alabama Red Cross would not host its annual Heroes Breakfast in March 2019 because the organization had spent so much assisting clients affected by recent hurricanes. She had already prepared the biographies and pictures for nominating WWII veterans for the next Heroes Breakfast.



In November 2018, while volunteering at the outpatient clinic, she happened to pick up a copy of the October 2018 issue of the *Alabama Gazette* at the Information Desk. Seeing this publication spurred her to contact the owner/editor, Loretta Grant, to see if she might be interested in publishing articles about veterans.

Martha Poole is a member of the patriotic organization, Daughters of the American Revolution. She is a former member of the William Bibb Chapter and is currently a member of the Peter Forney Chapter with whom she serves as Co-Chair of the DAR Service for Veterans Committee. At each meeting, she presents a Veterans' Minute describing a veteran's military service.

Since December 2018, 116 of her articles about veterans have been published in the *Alabama Gazette*. When she interviews them using a tape recorder, she is moved almost to tears as she listens to their stories of sacrifice and patriotism. Her articles are not limited to WWII Veterans although they take priority. When she first opens the issue containing the articles and pictures of our nation's heroes, she is again touched deeply. As long as her health remains good, she hopes to continue this privilege of documenting their military service by writing these articles and taking the pictures for the *Alabama Gazette*. This information is later sent by Martha to the Alabama Department of Archives and History so their data will be preserved digitally forever.

Dr. Martha Poole Simmons says, "Whatever that I do to help others, provides me with opportunities to carry out the message given by Jesus Christ in Matthew 24:40, 'Whatever you did for the least of these, you did for me.'"



*We thank you Martha for your continued service to these Veterans!*

### Romay Catherine Davis is turning 101!



*Please join the Alabama Gazette in wishing Romay Davis a very happy birthday! Romay will turn 101 years old on October 29th! She was featured in the Jan. 2020 Issue.*

### Veterans Celebrating Birthdays

George Brenton Smith: Oct. 5	Sophie Ryan: Oct. 18
Jacob Thomas Chesnutt: Oct. 5	Edgar Leslie Smith: Oct. 19
Jeff Holland: Oct. 12	Gary Dean Mehlhoff: Oct. 26
Raymond Russell Martin: Oct. 15	Judson L. Huett: Oct. 26
Carl William Edwards: Oct. 16	Mark Dierlam: Oct. 26
Nancy Burtron: Oct. 18	Romay Catherine Davis: Oct. 29



**Lt. Col Leo M. Headley passed away Sept. 2.** His article was published in the October 2019 issue. He served 20 years in the U.S. Air Force as a pilot and a pilot-instructor. After retirement, he served as the Buildings and Grounds Supervisor for Frazer United Methodist Church for 17 years.

**Veterans are entitled to a patriotic ceremony at their funerals. Raymond Keel will provide this service *FREE!***  
Call Keel at 334-233-8736 or fill out the form at:  
<https://www.buglesacrossamerica.org>.

**If you know of a Veteran who deserves to be honored, please email us at [alabamagazette@gmail.com](mailto:alabamagazette@gmail.com)**



COL Edgar Leslie Smith III: Age 77



award, the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Gold Palm, the Vietnamese Honor Medal First Class, the Senior Parachute Badge, the Army Pathfinder Badge, Federal Republic of Germany Parachutist Badge, the Army General Staff Badge, the Alabama Distinguished Service Medal and numerous unit combat awards.

COL Smith was born October 19, 1942, in Columbia, SC, to Edgar L. Smith II and Ruth Smith. He was reared in St. John, WA, where he graduated from St. John High School followed in 1966 by graduation as a Distinguished Military Graduate from Washington State University with a BA Degree with a major in English and a minor in Military Science.

COL Smith entered military service January 24, 1966, and reported to Fort Benning, GA, where he completed courses in Platoon Leadership and Air Borne Division. He was sent to the 82nd Air Borne Division at Fort Bragg, NC, where he was a rifle platoon leader and battalion adjunct. In 1967, he was deployed to Vietnam where he served as a rifle platoon leader with Company A, 2nd Battalion (Air Assault), 1st Calvary Division (Air Mobile) in the Central Highlands. Twice he was wounded, returned to duty and assigned as the battalion’s intelligence officer. Then he served as the commander of Company A, 2nd Battalion 5th Calvary (Air Assault) leading his rifle company in the relief of Khe Sahn and Dong Ha.



COL Smith returned to the States in July, 1968, where he completed two command assignments, namely, of Company A, 5th Battalion 1st Infantry at Fort Campbell, KY, and of Company A, 1st Battalion, 34th Infantry (Mechanized) in

Fort Riley, KY. These assignments were followed by completion of the Armor Officer Advance Course in Fort Knox, KY.

In 1970, Col Smith returned to Vietnam where he commanded Company A, 2nd Battalion, 5th Calvary (Air Assault), 1st Calvary Division (Air Mobile) and then was selected as aide-de-camp to General Michael Davison, Commander of II Field Force Vietnam. In June 1971, he was deployed to Heidelberg, Germany, where he continued to serve as General Davison’s aide while the General served as the commander of the U.S. Army Europe and 7th Army. He then served as the Intelligence Officer of the 3rd Battalion, 5th Infantry, Berlin Brigade and the commander of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, Berlin Brigade.

Returning to the States, COL Smith served as Assistant Professor of Military Science at Rice University at Houston, TX, followed by his attendance at the Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, KS. He was then sent to serve as the S3, 1st Battalion, 35th selected to serve as the Training Officer for the 25th Infantry Division and then became Chief, G3 Plans and Operations for the Division. Following this assignment, he served as Commander, 9th Battalion, 2nd Infantry Training Brigade, Fort Benning, GA.



COL Smith was deployed to the Republic of Panama in 1987 as Deputy Director, Small Wars Operations Research Directorate (SWORD), U.S. Southern Command, achieved the rank of full colonel and became the Director of SWORD followed by assignment as Deputy Commander, Special Operations Command South, US SOUTHCOM in 1988. His last assignment was Inspector General for the Alabama National Guard in Montgomery, AL, where he retired from active duty July 31, 1993.

After his military retirement, he created the Army Junior ROTC battalion at Calhoun and Central High Schools in Lowndes County, AL, working with that program for 10 years until retirement in July 2003. He has continued service to his country by his membership and leadership in veterans’ organizations including the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Sons of the American Revolution, Association of the U. S. Army, the American Legion, Post 2, Disabled American Veterans, Chapter 12, Military Officers Association of America and Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 96. He participates in the Auburn University at Montgomery Army ROTC award ceremonies and commissioning ceremonies.

COL Smith has three sons and six grandchildren. He enjoys watching the televised program, Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS), and he is a member of the Eastmont Baptist Church in Montgomery, AL.

COL Smith emphatically expresses his loyalty to his country after serving in the U. S. military saying, “I believe in service to the country. In fact, I have two American flags flying in front of my apartment. To have what we have and to live with the freedoms that we enjoy, that was worth fighting for.”

Larry Armstead: Age 66



Larry Armstead is a veteran who served three years in the U. S. Army and four years in the AL Air National Guard. His awards and medals include: Expert Infantry Badge (including being the Distinguished Graduate) and Good Conduct Medal.

Armstead was born September 4, 1954, in Montgomery, AL, to his parents, Charlie and Annie Armstead. He was reared in Snowdoun, AL, until he was 11 years old when his father passed away, and his mother brought him and his seven siblings to Montgomery to live and where he graduated from Lanier High School in 1972.

Three months after graduation under the military three-month-delayed-entry program, Armstead volunteered for military service and enlisted in the U. S. Army Infantry beginning at the

rank of E3. He completed Basic Training at Fr. Ord, CA, where his Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) was Infantry 11th Bravo. At age 18, he then volunteered and completed three months of paratrooper training at Ft. Benning, Ga. He was sent to Ft. Campbell, KY, for 16 weeks of Advanced Infantry Training. There he was promoted to Sergeant and became a Squad Leader of an M60 Machine Gun Squadron. While there, he began counseling soldiers returning from Vietnam War hazardous combat service. Armstead was then promoted to the rank of E5 while helping the returning Vietnam soldiers. Armstead says, “They taught me a couple of things that I still use in my life. What is your mission, and what is the welfare of the people with whom you are working? If you focus too much on the mission or too much on the people, you won’t accomplish much. I try to live that way. I try to treat everybody the way that I want to be treated.”

His next assignment was in Chemical, Biological and Radiological Warfare (CBR) where for three months, he was trained at Ft. Campbell in the use of nerve gas and chemical agents that could be deployed against soldiers, and for 16 months, he went back and trained his officers how to use protective clothing and equipment. Armstead was then deployed to Baumholder, Germany, where

he served as the Squad Leader for a tank brigade for 12 months. He returned to the U.S.A. where he was discharged in Ft. Jackson, SC, from military service in October 1975. Lastly, Armstead served as the base photographer at Dannelly Field with the 187th Alabama Air National Guard before returning completely to civilian life.

Armstead received a B.S. Degree in Criminal Justice with a minor in Psychology and a Master’s Degree in Criminal Justice from Alabama State University in 1979. He immediately became employed with the Montgomery Police Department where he served 21 years followed by four years as the Executive Assistant to the Mayor of Montgomery, AL. From 2003-2009, Armstead served as the Senior Manager of General Affairs with the Hyundai Motor Manufacturing Montgomery encompassing security, protocol, building two new cafeterias, etc. He then operated his own private investigative business for two years. In 2011, Armstead became Director of Security and Access Control for Retirement Systems of Alabama (RSA) for 10 buildings and nine parking decks in Montgomery and Mobile overseeing 125 security contractors and four access control security officers.

Armstead has a deep, genuine love for his family especially for his four daughters from previous marriages, six grandchildren and one great-grandchild. He is an active member of the Maggie Street Missionary Baptist Church where he sings tenor in the mass choir and in the Voice of Thunder Male Chorus. He gives his personal time serving as a mentor to adults and youth seeking help.

When summarizing his personal life and his military service, Armstead says, “I wanted to put myself in a position that I could help my family. I knew what my mother had gone through supporting my brothers and me. I personally grew up in the military. My parents instilled in me that I should always believe in a higher power. The military taught me how to prioritize my life. It taught me structure, responsibility, how to fight towards a cause and to live for a reason, to be productive with your life and to give something back.”



SMSgt Jeff Holland Jr.

Senior Master Sergeant Jeff Holland Jr. served in the United States Air Force for 22 years. His awards and medals include: Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with three oak clusters, Air Force Achievement Medal with one oak leaf cluster, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with one oak leaf cluster, Air Force Organizational Excellence Award with two oak leaf clusters, Good Conduct Medal with five oak leaf clusters, National Defense Service Medal, Air Force Overseas Long Tour Ribbon, Air Force Longevity Service Award Ribbon with four oak leaf clusters, NCO Professional Military Education Graduate Ribbon with two oak leaf clusters and Air Force Training Ribbon.



Holland was born at Griffin, GA, October 12, 1959, to his parents, Jeff Holland Sr. and Vivian Marie Holland. He was reared there and graduated from Griffin High School in 1978. Holland worked as a laborer baling hay and bush hogging for his father until he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force as a 702X0, Information Manager, which he did for his entire career.

Holland’s Air Force assignments took him to a variety of Air Force installations. His first tour of duty was Plattsburgh AFB, NY for 18 months then to Kadena Air Base, Okinawa, Japan, for 18 months followed by an assignment to Offutt Air Force Base at Omaha, NE, for four years. He then applied for and was accepted to a special duty assignment to Area 51, at Tonopah, NV. This was a top-secret assignment. Holland was then assigned to Langley AFB, Hampton, VA, continuing this type of work. In June 1992, Holland played a integral role in the standup of the Air Combat Command which combined the Strategic Air Command and Tactical Air Command. His last assignment was at Maxwell, AFB, Montgomery, AL, where he worked as the Superintendent of the Commander’s Professional Development School at Ira C. Eaker College. SMSgt Holland retired on August 1, 2000.

During his military career, Holland received an Associate Degrees in Information Management and Personnel Administration and a Bachelor of Science Degree in Electronics Management from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale in May 1995.

Since 2001, Holland has been working at Reinhardt Lexus in Montgomery, AL. He started as a valet and greeter and currently serves as the Service Operations Manager. He and his wife, Denise, have been married eight years. Holland has one stepson and one step-grandchild, Allison Grace. They are active members of First Baptist Church, Montgomery, where he serves in various ministries serving as a deacon, drummer in the church’s orchestra, church security, and a board member of Children’s Hope Ministry in Haiti. They enjoy reading, mentoring, sewing, cooking, walking/running, working out and golfing. Denise states, “I am grateful for Jeff having served his country and served with such passion for our freedom.” Denise also elaborates on Jeff’s faith, stating, “He is a God fearing husband and loves the Lord!”

Holland’s conclusions about his military service are, “Considering that less than one percent of the U. S. population serves in the military, I thought that it was so important to do something that meant more to me probably than anything that I had ever done workwise. Serving our country 24 hours a day for more than 20 years has meant more to me as a commitment to help me realize that it is never about one person. It is about with whom you serve. Although I was a member of the Air Force, my Army, Marines, Navy and Coast Guard comrades were all one team. We are called to defend this country whenever the United States flag, Old Glory, flies. The reason we serve is so all Americans and our allies can enjoy the freedoms we have today. If I could convince more of our youth, especially our young men, to do a two or four-year term, they would be amazed how much more they would appreciate this great country.”





### Col Benjamin J. Hulsey III:

Col Benjamin J. Hulsey III served 28 years in the U.S. Air Force. He received the following medals and awards: Legion of Merit with 1 oak leaf cluster, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with five oak leaf clusters, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal with 1 oak leaf cluster, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Air Force Outstanding Unit award with two oak leaf clusters, Air Force Organizational Excellence Award with two oak leaf clusters, Combat Readiness Medal with one oak leaf cluster, National Defense Service Medal with one service star, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border, Air Force Longevity Service Award with six oak leaf clusters, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, and Air Force Training Ribbon.



Hulsey was born in Gainesville, GA, to his parents, Benjamin and Dorothy Hulsey, in 1961, and he was reared there. He achieved the rank of Eagle Scout in the Boy Scouts and graduated from Gainesville High School in 1979. He then graduated from the U.S. Air Force Academy in 1983 and was commissioned as a 2nd Lt. He completed navigator flight training at Mather AFB, CA, followed by a three-month assignment to KC-135 aircraft refueling training at Castle AFB, CA.

Hulsey next served for six years at Grissom AFB, IN, flying worldwide missions, and he participated in his first combat duty during Operation JUST CAUSE, the invasion of Panama and removal of dictator, Manuel Noriega. Hulsey served four times in Alabama with the first as a faculty instructor teaching leadership for two years at Squadron Officer School (SOS).

He then transferred to Auburn University serving as the Commandant of Cadets, Air Force ROTC Detachment 5 for three years. Hulsey states, “I enjoyed teaching and mentoring cadets, and it was inspiring later in my career to see Auburn graduates in uniform serving their country.”

He returned to his flying duties with the KC-135 at McConnell AFB, KS, followed by his third tour in AL returning to Maxwell AFB where he was a student at the Air Command and Staff College (ACSC). He was then assigned to the Pentagon for two years as an Action Officer at Air Force Headquarters. Next, he was selected for Squadron Command at Fairchild AFB, WA, for two years followed by an assignment to the Naval War College in Newport, RI.

Hulsey was next assigned to the U.S. Transportation Command at Scott

AFB, IL. While there, he deployed in support of Operations IRAQI FREEDOM and ENDURING FREEDOM and served as the initial cadre for the USCENCOM Deployment and Distribution Operations Center (CDDOC) in the theater. For five months, his duties included leveraging logistics expertise and technology to get combat supplies in the 40 foot commercial shipping containers at the port in Kuwait along with the combat supplies on metal pallets used for air cargo to the war fighters downrange in Iraq and other areas. While there, Hulsey accompanied a 28-vehicle tractor trailer supply convoy from Kuwait to Balad AB, north of Baghdad along hazardous roads where hidden IED’s were often lurking.

He returned to the Pentagon for his second tour for two years as Director of the Air Force’s 60th Anniversary Task Force, which planned and dedicated the Air Force Memorial adjacent to Arlington Cemetery overlooking the Pentagon. Hulsey then returned to Maxwell AFB to The Air University Headquarters as Director of Staff for the Commander and served until his retirement in 2011.

Hulsey and his wife, Connie, have been married 33 years, and they have one child and two grandchildren. Hulsey praises his wife’s loyal support during his military career as a true partner caring for officer and enlisted spouses while their military members were deployed. They are active members of First Baptist Church of Montgomery where he serves as a deacon and Sunday school teacher, and he also serves as the Coordinator each fall for Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan’s Purse, collecting shoe boxes filled with gifts of toys, school supplies and hygiene items for needy children to be sent across the globe at Christmas. They have gone on mission trips to Guatemala, Senegal and the Holy Land trying to be God’s agent of love, light, and life. Hulsey and his wife enjoy visiting Alabama’s Gulf Coast and the mountains as well as being with their families in Ohio and Georgia.

When Hulsey reflects upon his military service, he states, “I never asked my airmen to do something that I would not do. The military provided me with opportunities to give back to my country for all the opportunities and experiences that I had growing up. Throughout my military career and as a cancer survivor, I learned that life is hard. Honestly, life is a battleground, not a playground. I have chosen Jesus as my role model and guide. My life verse is Colossians 3:23-24: ‘Whatever you do, work at it with all of your heart as serving the Lord not men since you know you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as your reward. It is the Lord Christ that you are serving.’ While the world screams at us to pursue money and materialism at all costs, there is a better path. It is obeying God’s gentle voice to lead a life of significance and meaning.”



### Geoff Allen Colt: Age 73

Geoff Allen Colt served in the U. S. Air Force in the Vietnam War attached to the 22nd Tactical Air Support Squadron (TASS) where he was assigned as a radio operator at a U. S. Army Special Forces Camp on the Bassac River near the Cambodian border. He worked in a radio room in the center of the village of Chau Doc located three miles south of the Camp. Colt provided intelligence reports on enemy troop movements along the Ho Chi Minh Trail. Besides living in primitive conditions with limited food and water, there was always the danger of attacks from the Viet Cong.



Colt received the following medals and awards: Air Force Commendation Medal, Outstanding Unit with “V” Device with One Oak Leaf Cluster, Vietnam Service Ribbon with Three Bronze Stars, Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm, Vietnamese Campaign Ribbon and One Year National Guard Service Ribbon.

Colt was born January 6, 1947, to his parents, Hallock Colt and Grace Baker Colt, at East Providence, RI, and graduated from Veterans Memorial High School at Warwick, RI, in 1965. Coming from a strong military background of service including his grandfather who served in WWI, his father in WWII and the Korean War, and later his younger brother in Desert Storm in Iraq, Colt continued this path of military service by enlisting in the U.S. Air Force in

January, 1966. He completed Basic Training at Lackland AFB, TX, and then received training in combat radio operations.

After his discharge from military service at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, AL, in 1969, he moved to Rhode Island and worked 12 years as a tool and die maker in the machine shop of Brown and Sharp Co., and then he worked 17 years for the Hasbro Co. making prototypes of toys. He assisted others by driving for a drug and alcohol center for five years.

Colt and his wife, Peggy, have been married 50 years, and after each retired, they moved to Millbrook, AL. They enjoy traveling all over the USA, and he enjoys watching televised women’s college fast-pitch softball. Colt voluntarily serves as the Captain of the Honor Guard at veterans’ funerals providing the flag ceremony and the gun-salute, and as a member of Chapter 607 Vietnam Veterans of America, he serves on its Steering Committee.

Colt’s conclusions about his military service are, “I learned a lot about myself as a man and about other people. I just feel that the country, the people in it and our way of life are worth it. If I had to do it, I would do it all over again even with the way we treated when we came home.”



### Rear Admiral Fernandez Ponds, USN, Ret. Age: 60

Rear Admiral Fernandez (RDML) “Frank” Ponds is a retired United States Navy officer from the state of Alabama who served 33 years in senior executive, operational and managerial positions with the U.S. Department of Defense and interagency. He dedicated his career to developing people, creating high-performing organizations, and driving transformation through continuous process improvement. He held five Navy Command positions afloat and ashore, leading joint, multinational, and interagency organizations in a complex global security environment. From 2001 to 2015, he served as Commander USS Fife (DD-991), Commander Amphibious Squadron Eight. As an Admiral, he served as Commander Naval Surface Group Middle Pacific Hawaii, Commander Navy Region Hawaii, and Commander Expeditionary Strike Group Three.



Operationally, he directed military forces during Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF), Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF), counter-drug operations and counter-piracy missions off the coast of Somalia. As Mission Commander, he conducted disaster relief operations to Bangladesh in 2007 and Haiti in 2008 and led multinational forces during

Operation Continuing Promise ’08 (CP’08). Operation Continuing Promise was a primary Theater Security Cooperation mission with seven nations within the Caribbean, South, and Central America.

His shore assignments include Inspector for Pacific Fleet’s Propulsion Examination Board; Inspector on the Office of the Navy Inspector General Staff; OPNAV Resources, Requirements and Assessment (N81/N00X); OPNAV Operations, Plans, and Strategy (N3/N5); Senior Naval Advisor in the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs, Department of State during 2005 Pakistan earthquake relief operations, 2006 Lebanon non-combatant evacuation operation, and Hurricane Katrina disaster relief and as Special Assistant to the Commander Surface Forces, US Pacific Fleet. He was also a Senior Fellow on the 2010 Chief of Naval Operations Strategic Studies Group. Additional sea assignments included Damage Control Assistant and Assistant First Lieutenant in USS Mauna Kea (AE 22); Boilers Material Officer in USS Midway (CV 41); Engineering Officer in USS Berkeley (DDG 15); Flag Secretary for Commander Amphibious Group 1 (CTF 76); and as Executive Officer, USS Paul F. Foster (DD 964).

RDML Ponds received the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit (four), Meritorious Service Medal (five), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (three), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal and

numerous campaign and unit awards. He has the distinction of being selected as an Honorary Navy Chief Petty Officer and was awarded The 2013 George Washington Black Alumni Association Impact Award for his contributions and impact within the local community and across the whole-of-government in implementing security, energy, environmental, historical and educational initiatives throughout the Region of Hawaii.

RDML Ponds was born in Autaugaville, AL, where he was reared and graduated from Autaugaville High School in 1977. He graduated from the University of Alabama in 1982 with a Bachelor’s Degree in criminal justice and minors in anthropology and psychology. He received his commission from Officer Candidate School in June 1983. Ponds holds a Master of Science in Information Systems Technology from George Washington University, a Master of Science in Military Studies from the Marine Corps Command and Staff College, and a Master of Science in National Security Strategy from the National War College, National Defense University. He is a graduate of the Darden Corporate Business School, Emergency Management Leadership, and the National Association for Corporate Directors.

RDML Ponds is currently the principal and owner of FPONDS LLC Independent Consultant providing consultant services in ethics, leadership and professional development, defense and national security, strategic planning, maritime safety and security through analytically based sustainable solutions tailored to meet the needs of the customer.

RDML Ponds and his wife, Carol, have been married 27 years, and they have two adult children. His daughter is a practicing pediatrician, and his son is a member of the United States Air Force. He volunteers in the communities of San Diego, CA, and his hometown of Autaugaville, AL, and dedicates time to mentor young naval officers. He enjoys reading, walking, sports, golf and being around family and friends.

In reflecting upon the influence that his family made on his life, RDML Ponds says, “I have always felt that it was my civic duty to give back to those who have gone before me and to provide opportunities and advice to those who will come after me. I was blessed and graced by my Lord with loving grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Charlie and Ovetta Caver, a loving mother, Mrs. Myrtle Mainor, a close-knit family and many others in the community who kept me focused and on the right track. They provided me with a sense of purpose demanding that I do my best, be my best and always treat others with respect. Most importantly, they demonstrated through personal example that given the opportunity, with hard work, a person can achieve many things, no matter the odds.”

The following summarizes RDML Ponds’ military service: “During my time in the Navy, I learned that character and competence are the keys to success, that nothing is given, and that everything must be earned. I stood on the shoulders of African American pioneers and walked the trails that they blazed for me to follow. I am grateful for their sacrifices and the opportunity to carry on the rich tradition of service to my country. As a young man from a small town of 900-plus folks, the Navy allowed me to see the world and to meet people from all walks of life. My travels allowed me to appreciate my small town and my humble beginnings. My goal is to continue a journey of service so that I can make my grandparents, mother, family, and community proud. If I can do that, then this life that I have lived will not have been in vain.”



# Support local Law Enforcement



Sheriff Derrick Cunningham



## Montgomery County, Alabama Sheriff's Office

(334) 832-4980

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Chief Deputy  
Kevin J. Murphy

### Social Media

We are in the process of preparing a new business Facebook page so please excuse our page being down temporarily. You can still visit our Instagram page to stay connected with the latest Sheriff's Office.

As a reminder, please wash your hands regularly, disinfect all public access areas not only at your job but at home as well. Don't forget to clean your hands thoroughly after pumping gas into your vehicle as everyone has to touch the same pump to refuel their vehicle. Finally, try to use your Bluetooth or speakerphone so your cell phone doesn't have to touch your face. These simple techniques could mean a lot!

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**We appreciate your  
patience during these  
stressful times.  
STAY SAFE!**



Join us for our DRIVE-THRU  
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Spooktacular**  
Saturday, October 31  
Garrett Coliseum ~ 4 pm - 7 pm  
w/entrance on Federal Drive

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## SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION NEWS AND INFORMATION . . .



### WHAT SHOULD I DO IF I GET A CALL CLAIMING THERE'S A PROBLEM WITH MY SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER OR ACCOUNT?

*If there is a problem, we will mail you a letter with your Social Security number.*

Generally, we will only contact you if you have requested a call or have ongoing business with us. The latest scam trick of using robocalls or live callers has increased. Fraudsters pretend to be government employees and claim there is identity theft or another problem with one's Social Security number, account, or benefits.

Scammers may threaten arrest or other legal action, or may offer to increase benefits, protect assets, or resolve identity theft. They often demand payment via retail gift cards, wire transfers, pre-paid debit cards, internet currency, or mailing cash.

Our employees will never threaten you for information or promise a benefit in exchange for personal information or money.



#### Social Security may call you in some situations, but will never:

- Threaten you.
- Suspend your Social Security number.
- Demand immediate payment from you.
- Require payment by cash, gift card, pre-paid debit card, internet currency, or wire transfer.
- Ask for gift card numbers over the phone or to wire or mail cash.

#### Don't be fooled! You should look out for:

- A caller saying there is a problem with your Social Security number or account.
- Any call asking you to pay a fine or debt with retail gift cards, wire transfers, pre-paid debit cards, internet currency, or by mailing cash.
- Scammers pretending they're from Social Security or another government agency. Caller ID or documents sent by email may look official but they are not.

#### How to protect yourself and your family:

- If you receive a questionable call, hang up, and report the call to our Office of the Inspector General.
- Don't return unknown calls.
- Ask someone you trust for advice before making any large purchase or financial decision.
- Don't be embarrassed to report if you shared personal financial information or suffered a financial loss.
- Learn more at [oig.ssa.gov/scam](https://oig.ssa.gov/scam).
- Share this information with friends and family.

Learn more about fraud prevention and reporting at  
<https://www.ssa.gov/antifraudfacts/>.

### HOW DO I CHANGE OR CORRECT MY NAME ON MY SS CARD?

If you legally change your name because of marriage, divorce, court order or any other reason, you must tell Social Security so you can get a corrected card. You cannot apply for a card online. There is no charge for a Social Security card. This service is free. The same applies once you receive the I-766 card, Employment Authorization Document (EAD), from the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) and bring required evidence. See Defining the legal Name for an SSN.

To get a corrected Social Security card, you will need to:

- Show the required documents. You will need proof of your identity;
- Fill out and print an Application for a Social Security Card; and
- Take or mail your application and documents to your local SS office.

For complete instructions, please go to Social Security Number and Card:  
<https://www.ssa.gov/ssnumber/>.

### SOCIAL SECURITY ANNOUNCES NEW ONLINE VIDEO HEARINGS

The Social Security Administration announced a new service for people awaiting a hearing decision. In addition to telephone hearings, Social Security will offer the opportunity for an online video hearing using the Microsoft Teams platform beginning this fall. This new free service will allow applicants and their representatives to participate in the hearing from anywhere they have access to a camera-enabled smartphone, tablet, or computer. This stable and secure online platform allows the Social Security judge to see and interact with applicants and their representatives just like an in-person hearing, while maintaining privacy of the claimant's information. Other hearing experts, such as medical or vocational experts, may participate as well.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance of finding new ways to serve the public," said Commissioner of Social Security Andrew Saul. "For over a decade, the agency has used video hearings to get applicants their hearing decisions sooner. This advancement builds on that effort, making it easier and more convenient to attend a hearing remotely, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. To continue to ensure all participants' safety, we expect online video hearings and telephone hearings will be the only two hearing options for the foreseeable future."

Social Security has been conducting appeal hearings with Administrative Law Judges (ALJ) via telephone only since March, while offices remain closed to the public to protect the health and safety of the public and employees. The agency's ALJs have held more than 180,000 telephone hearings since March, allowing the agency to continue to deliver critical customer service.

For the new online video hearings, whether the device is a laptop, smartphone, or tablet on either iPhone or Android, people will experience a clear picture and audio of the ALJ and their representative during their hearing.

For updates on the implementation and expansion of this new hearing service, and other Social Security information, please visit the agency's COVID-19 web page at, [www.socialsecurity.gov/coronavirus/](https://www.socialsecurity.gov/coronavirus/).

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## Troy University's Golf Tournament Benefitted the John W. Schmidt Student Ministries Fund



On September 23, The Robert Trent Jones Capitol Hill Course was the setting for Troy University's largest golf tournament for the benefit of the John W. Schmidt Student Ministries Fund on Troy's campus.

Dr. Jack Hawkins and Ret. Col. John Schmidt (picture above right) embrace to celebrate a field of almost 150 players as 36 teams took to the Judge and Legislator courses.

Funding for the Student Ministries has reached over \$750,000 with a goal toward a \$1,000,000 endowment. Its purpose, as explained by Ret. General Walt Givhan, Senior Vice Chancellor for Advancement for Troy, is to aid student ministries across the campus and to promote the athletic ministries as well. These programs enhance a student's personal and academic achievement while at Troy.

The event had over 50 sponsors including the lead sponsor Troy Bank and Trust with Cardinal Sponsors including Whaley Construction, McKee and Associates, Guardian Credit Union, Thornton Farish Inc, Power South and the Alabama Gazette just to name a few.



*Pictured: (above left): Ret. General Walt Givhan, Senior Vice Chancellor for Advancement for Troy, explains the Student Ministries purpose; (above right): Hole 18 on the "Judge" provides a magnificent view of the River Region; (below left): golfers enjoy the camaraderie of the club house at Robert Trent Jones in Prattville; (below right): participants of the benefit pay homage to the U.S. flag prior to the start of play.*



Sam Adams, co-owner of Alabama Gazette Publishing, was proud to sponsor and participate in the benefit tournament. Nelson Bean, from Birmingham, led the Gazette foursome to a net score of 58.



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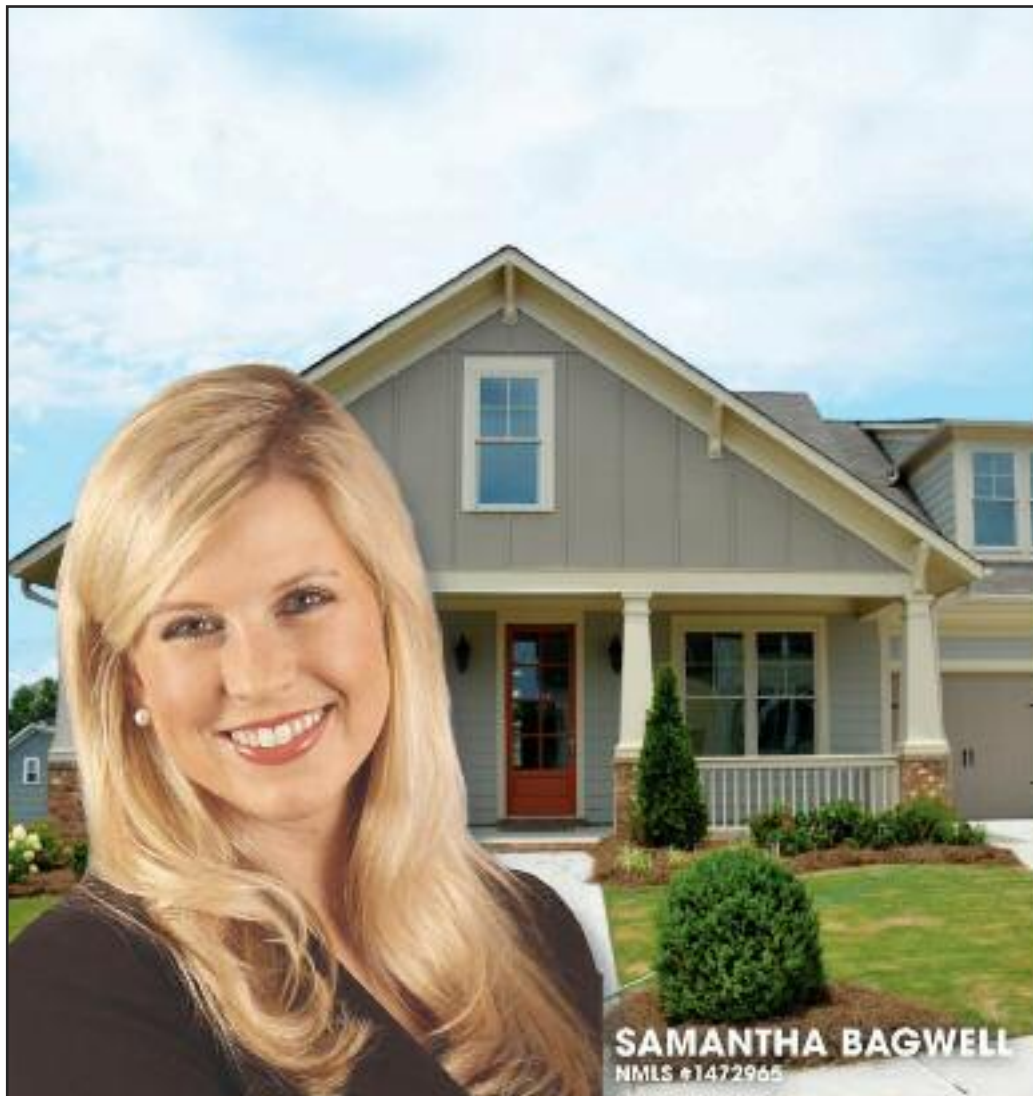
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# Southern Cuisine

**Chef David Spooner, Retired Chef ~ Volunteer Fireman, Lowndesboro V.F.D., St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, Lowndesboro Board of Registrars, Lowndes County**

***Our economy depends on cash flow. Our farmers, ranchers and other small businesses need as much help as we can afford. Buy local and help your fellow Alabamians. Also, don't forget to donate to your local food bank whenever possible!***

While searching for articles about eating during this pandemic, I observed some interesting tidbits of information. A noticeable number of the articles concerning food buying, preparation and storing are from governmental sources, and most of the articles are about feeding your family. And not to rub it in, there are a number of articles about meal planning, healthy cooking and setting up, maintaining and cooking from your (hint, hint) pantry. A recent survey found that 75% of the adults surveyed were more confident in the kitchen and 50% said they were learning more. There has been a growth in cooking related publications. My ROKU has 21 cooking apps and that is after I purged a long list of ones that were really lame and had very few recipes. That does not include channels that have cooking shows on them. I think that we were caught flat-footed. The coronavirus pandemic has exposed poor cooking skills among us. Many people have grown accustomed to eating pre-prepared food from fast-food restaurants, cafeterias or specialty coffee and doughnut shops, yum! With safety standards like social distancing, closed restaurants and residents off the streets, people have flocked to grocery stores and gotten back in the kitchen. There are still people in the grocery stores asking themselves “How do I make a dinner?” They can’t cook and the frozen food section is empty. This explains the shortage of certain products in supermarkets in the early stages of the coronavirus crisis.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Remember when preparing meals or goodies like cookies, pies and cakes that we gave to a neighbor or someone that has done something nice or preparing a pick-me-up casserole for an elderly relative? These are things we did in the past during a crisis. Now should not be an exception, but we ask ourselves if it is safe? Catching the virus from food is slim but how do we prepare food for a group of unrelated people? This brings me to the \$64,000 question. What has happened to the \$250 a plate dinner that was a mainstay for politicians to raise campaign funds? We have a Presidential Election looming ahead of us! Yet there is not a peep about people paying hundreds and even thousands of dollars for a plated dinner in support of a candidate. Has this sort of fund raising been tossed aside because of political correctness or because of a virus? I found out that it hasn't disappeared, it has adapted to the times.

David Duty is a longtime friend of mine from college days and was my sous-chef and carnival barker when I competed in the SPAM® cook-off “SPAMARAMA™”. He used his culinary and organizational skills to organize a virtual campaign fund raiser. It was not an over-priced \$250 dinner. For contributions to an Austin, Texas area Democratic candidate starting at \$25 and up, you could have a prepared meal ready for a touch-less pick-up at a certain time or delivery to your home. And there was a Facebook Live show of the event so you could opt-in to watch.



He assembled the forty dinners the morning of the delivery since everything was already refrigerated. He had the fridge space to keep the meals cold until show time.

He made everything from scratch. (Except the sour cream, chips, salsa, Mexican cheese, guacamole and tortillas)

Dave gave the 30 or so people that contributed to the campaign a two-hour window from 1 to 3 to pick up their meals. He put the meals in a plastic grocery bag along with the toppings of Mexican cheese, salsa, Pico de Gallo and sour cream (each in 4-ounce plastic covered container) on top of the food trays in the bag. Separate chips and salsa were in brown paper lunch bags.

Dave started three days out so he would not get overwhelmed — it all could have been in one day — for the cooking that is — but that would have been a really long, hard day.

*Food purchased for meals to feed 40 people:*

- 10 lbs of chicken breasts and beef (skirt steak ala fajita meat).
- 4 lbs dried pinto beans which made eight lbs. of borracho beans.
- 4 lbs of brown rice, which made 8 lbs of cooked Mexican rice.
- 35 assorted colored bell peppers.
- 7 lbs of onions.

I am not sure how much was raised but it was enough for Dave to think about doing another if there is a run-off.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**Organic versus nonorganic fruits and vegetables.** I am asked culinary questions frequently from neighbors, relatives and anyone who just found out that I am a retired chef. A common topic is about *organic versus nonorganic fruits and vegetables*. While I cannot remember a list of the organic or nonorganic produce to eat or not to eat, I use a few tips to limit or at least lessen my intake of pesticides from my food. First tip is washing your fruits and vegetables. You can never completely wash away all of the pesticides but you can reduce them. If it is a soft skinned fruit or vegetable, peel it. This will remove most of the pesticides from the outside but some chemicals are even in the flesh of the produce. Leafy vegetables need to be washed. Of all the articles I have read, even organic produce can have pesticide residue on it. It comes with the wind from the farm down the road. Do some research on your own. Tests done last year on figs may be different from the tests this year. If you know that nonorganic green beans rate poorly for pesticides switch your eating habits to something else or if you just cannot go without having your green bean casserole, limit it to just Thanksgiving. At least don’t eat green beans every day.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

**Next question concerns scrambled eggs.** It is a travesty what people have done to the egg. Since the scientific community has rated the egg as something healthy, treat them as a subject deserving respect. Do not cook them until the chunks of egg are rubbery enough to bounce off your plate. Add some flavor by adding a bit of garlic powder; try a quarter teaspoon per egg. Also, add a splash of water to the egg mixture. The steaming effect will fluff your



*All photos attributed to Anne and David Spooner.*

## Kale & Brussels Sprout Mix with Bacon Grilled Sandwich

### INGREDIENTS:

- 4-6 slices of thick-cut bacon
- 4 Brussels sprouts sliced thinly
- 1/2 cup Sweet Kale mix
- 6 ounces Smoked Gouda sliced (or any easy melting cheese)
- 4 thick slices hard crusted bread (sourdough, Irish soda, etc).
- 1 teaspoon lemon-pepper seasoning
- Mayonnaise as needed.

*I use mayonnaise instead of butter to grill my sandwiches. It it makes for crispy, golden brown grilled bread.*



### INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Use a large cast iron pan that will hold two sandwiches at once.
2. Cook the bacon to your liking. Crispy works well in this sandwich
3. Then drain most of the bacon drippings from the pan. Leave table spoon or so.
4. Add the Brussels sprouts to a medium high heat and stir around until slightly soft.
5. Add the salad mix and cook another 1 to 2 minutes.
6. Remove to bowl and add lemon pepper seasoning and mix.
7. Spread thin even layer of mayonnaise on one side of each slice of bread.
8. On a cutting board, place two slices of bread mayo side down.
9. Evenly cover with half of the cheese and then divide sprout and salad mix between the two slices of bread.
10. Top each with the bacon.
11. Add the rest of the cheese and top with the remaining bread, with mayo side up.
12. Place the sandwiches in a medium high pan and pressing slightly with a spatula cook until the bread is toasted and cheese has melted.
13. Remove to cutting board and cut each sandwich in half and serve.

eggs with an airy lightness. Do not add milk. If you want dairy in your eggs add cheese but right at the end of the cooking and let the heat from the eggs melt the cheese. The next thing you can do to your eggs is add baking soda. One eighth teaspoon per every two eggs is what the Daily Meal recommends. You have baking soda in your baked goods to give them a light and airy texture. It has the same effect with eggs. All of this is for naught if you do not cook them properly. Bon Appétit says to use a whisk to mix all of the ingredients together and cook over low heat and never stop stirring until the eggs have just set. This will break down the egg into smaller curds which are softer and creamier. Remove from heat and enjoy.

Believe or not, this is the time to start thinking about Thanksgiving and your turkey. I buy mine the day after Thanksgiving and freeze it. You have to have that extra freezer space and make sure the turkey is properly stored and deeply frozen. Mine has not seen daylight since the end of last November. The October issue of Consumer Reports already has tips on storing holiday leftovers!

I am not interested in Thanksgiving or Christmas meals yet. It is still hot and protocol stills says we cannot have group meals with friends. So, I am still making single serving dishes for me. But when the time comes, I will be ready to feed a group and they can each have a different entree.

I have found a salad mix that I use in a number of ways. It is a chopped greens salad mix called SWEET KALE. It has seven super foods; broccoli stalk, green cabbage, sliced Brussels sprouts, kale, chicory, dried cranberries, and pumpkin seeds. I use it sautéd lightly in an omelet, as a base for every salad and as crunchy filler for every meal I make. I do not use the poppy seed dressing so I have several plastic storage containers filled with poppy seed dressing packets. I like it but do not use it that often.

One of my favorite uses for the mix is in a grilled cheese sandwich. The best thing about grilled cheese sandwiches is you can make it with any ingredient as long as it has cheese and you grilled it. This sandwich is no exception; I make it slightly different every time I make it.

### PANTRIES

As I opened my article hinting about pantries, I will end my article with a pantry list. In past articles, I listed items that should be in a Southern pantry. John Edge of the Southern Foodways Alliance has his own list of five essentials. I bet you don’t have these in your kitchen!

1. **Potlikker (Pot Liquor).** The liquid left over from cooking greens or beans. It is “the building block” of other dishes.
2. **Sweet potatoes.** In southwestern Louisiana chunks of sweet potatoes are used instead of rice in a bowl of gumbo.
3. **Alecia’s Tomato Chutney.** You need to read the history of ketchup to understand this. It is made in Leeds, Alabama.
4. **Hot sauce.** Not just Tabasco, but the spectrum from Cheerwine Hot Sauce to Sriracha and Valentina.
5. **Rice grits.** The broken grains of rice and you don’t cook them too long or it will turn to mush. But the rice grits look like grits and absorbs all the flavors they are cooked in.

“I’m always sketchy of people who don’t like grits.” Jaycee Ford

*Be Safe, it is not over yet.*

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by Stan Hurst  
Associate Sports Writer



# From Pigskins to Rawhides

## Football... Really?



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



Photo by Nikki Johnson, freeimages.com

As we find ourselves on the eve of our beloved SEC football season; will we enjoy the new sanitized product with just a handful of fans in attendance?

Major League Baseball is nearing the end of the sixty game regular season. At the time of this writing we have six games left with the Oakland Athletics having clinched the American League West. The New York Yankees, The Tampa Bay Rays, Chicago White Sox and Minnesota Twins all have clinched a playoff berth. Looks like the Cleveland Indians or Houston Astros will be the sixth team for the American League.

It's a wild ride on the National League Side, The Los Angeles Dodgers and the San Diego Padres have clinched in the National League West. Looks Like the Chicago Cubs, Atlanta Braves and perhaps the Miami Marlins will be in the fight and not to forget the St Louis Cardinals. Maybe the Cincinnati Reds, who are red-hot could be the sixth team.

From my vantage point, I believe the Padres will be in this thing until the end once the playoffs begin. The Yankees would have been, but they are missing some of their big hitters and the run production has been so bad lately, if not for their pitching, they'd have no chance. While their runs scored lead the American League, most of these were produced earlier in the season, not so much down the stretch.

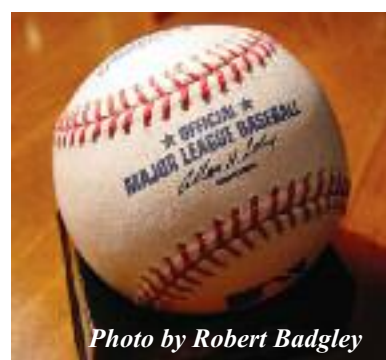


Photo by Robert Badgley

The NFL has finished its first two weeks, these games, with the exception of the Kansas City Chiefs, look a lot like pre-season games. However, no matter how many things have changed this year, some things are constant. Atlanta just can't win; and the Jets, well, they are just the Jets.

I watched the much ballyhooed game between the Tampa Bay Bucs and the New Orleans Saints with not nearly as much anticipation as the hype before the game suggested.

Tom Brady was not at home in the new offense that he is trying to manage, this one really looked like a scrimmage rather than a game. Not all Brady's fault, even though coach Bruce Arians would like to have suggested as much in the post game interview. Brady looked perplexed and very frustrated in this new game plan. One that puts the quarterback in peril at times as the offense in front of him develops. In this game, Gronk looks like he might have lost a step during his one year sabbatical, and just did not perform like the go to agent of change Tom Brady has been used. The second game for the Bucs against Carolina with Tampa coming out with a win, not so much Brady, rather a vastly improved running attack by Leonard Fournette, 8.6 yards per carry for 103 yards and a Tampa defense that was much improved with four take aways. Teddy Bridgewater for the Panthers looked good throwing the ball, except for the two interceptions which killed them.

point blank range for another rushing touchdown but poor blocking and a fired up Seahawks defense stopped him.

NCAA Football, at least for the SEC starts September 26th. And by the way, the Big Ten has reconsidered its position on cancelling the season and will be playing a conference only schedule beginning October 23rd an 24th. Number 8 Auburn hosts number 23 Kentucky with an 11am kick and Alabama visits Missouri with a 6pm kick off. I think that it is important to note that there are 6 SEC Teams ranked in the top ten this week. Besides Auburn and Alabama we have Florida at number five, LSU at number six Georgia at number 4 and Texas AM at Number 10. I'll be watching curiously to see who plays for LSU with their matchup hosting Mississippi State. Head Coach Oregon stated several days ago in an interview that almost every player has had or currently has COVID-19. Why I haven't seen so much poor mouthing since Coach "Bear" Bryant was coaching. No disrespect, this was certainly meant as a compliment to Coach Bryant.

So far MLB has put the best product on the field of all professional sports, at least that's my opinion. I just can't manage watching neither a NBA game nor NASCAR. MLB worked hard on a plan before the season started, and they have stuck to that plan. While it's a long way from what we've ever seen before, at least it is respectable. Why for example I was watching the Yankees get clobbered in a double header against the Orioles and I could have sworn I saw some of those cardboard placard Yankee fans with their backs turned leaving Yankee stadium.

Personally I had hoped that when the NFL got rolling this year it would entice me to really follow it and dig in. Not so much. The political and social statements the NFL and many players have adopted have soured me on the games. Like many of you, I was hoping that in the year of the pandemic, while we can't go and watch a game, that maybe, just maybe, we would be treated to just football and only football. And not unlike the NBA with TV ratings plunging; I naturally assumed that we could count on the NFL to just play dog gone football. But no; they had to just brutalize it so that I hardly know if I watching the NFL or the CNN News channel. Let's just all say a collective: "Come on Man!"

*Next Time ...*

## Riley Green selected by AMC as Male New Artist of the Year

By: Perry O. Hooper, Jr.

As a huge country music fan, a proud Alabamian and a member of the Alabama Music Hall of Fame Board, I would like to congratulate Alabama's own Riley Green in being selected by the Academy of Country Music as it's Male New Artist of the Year.

Riley has been one of my favorites since he burst onto the Country Music Charts with gold certified hits "There Was This Girl" and "I Wish Grandpa Never Died".

Green, who is 31 years old, was born in Jacksonville, Alabama, and attended Jacksonville University where he played football. He was raised on the sounds of traditional Country, Bluegrass, and Southern Gospel music.

"When we had to come off the road back in March, I wasn't sure what the rest of 2020 would look like," said Green. "So much has happened in the world since then and I'm really excited to have a moment to play music again. My grandfathers' love for Country Music is what led me to this moment, and I have to dedicate this award to him. Thank you to everyone who believes in my music enough to let this boy from Alabama get to share his songs like this."

I hope one day to be able to nominate Riley to the Alabama Music Hall of Fame and attend his induction to the Country Music Hall of Fame in Nashville.

## Alabama Spay and Neuter Clinic



Beth Thomas  
Staff Writer

Every year, dogs and cats that are perfectly healthy are abandoned or euthanized because they far outnumber the amount of homes available to them. In an effort to counteract this tragic trend, the Alabama Animal Alliance Spay/Neuter Clinic (AAASNC) was founded in 2007. Their goal is to ultimately reach a point where there are no homeless or unwanted pets in Alabama, an admirable hope indeed.

AAASNC is dedicated to reducing the number of unwanted animals by providing high quality, high volume, affordable spay/neuter surgeries that are available to all pet owners. The clinic provides their services at cost; therefore, surgeries range from \$45-\$80 depending on the sex and species of the pet. All surgery fees cover the cost of the surgery, anesthesia, pain management medications that will be administered both during and after the procedure, an antibiotic injection, and follow up check. Rabies vaccines are also available at the time of surgery.

The AAA Spay/Neuter Clinic's veterinarians are Dr. Cathrine Byars and Dr. Angela Tolbert. Drs. Byars and Tolbert are licensed veterinarians with more than 40 years of combined experience. The clinic does not utilize the services of volunteer veterinarians or veterinary school students. Over the last 13 years, the clinic's veterinarians have performed more than 93,000 surgeries.

The clinic is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that works hard to secure donations and grants to maintain their affordable costs and help low-income residents have their pets spayed or neutered. The clinic currently has grant funds to help Medicaid recipients and low-income residents have their pets "fixed" for only \$10. Proof of income and current address is necessary to apply for assistance from these grant funds. These grant funds are only available for a limited time so if you've been waiting for the perfect opportunity to stop the endless litters of puppies and kittens in your neighborhood or you want to get your male cat neutered so he will stop spraying, do not hesitate. Contact the clinic today.

Where can you find them? The clinic is located at 5316 Atlanta Highway, Montgomery, AL 36109. They are just down from Krispy Kreme in the shopping center with Goodwill and Dirt Cheap.

For more information, call (334) 239-7387, visit their website <https://alabamaspayneuter.com/> or email [info@alabamaspayneuter.com](mailto:info@alabamaspayneuter.com).

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# TODAY'S WOMAN

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



## Tears and Laughter: The Season of Cooking

By Amanda Walker

The temperature in my quiet kitchen early in the morning has felt a few degrees cooler this week. I am still drinking coffee out of a cup with a pink flamingo on it, but summer is being ushered out by fall.

Before long, a flurry of leaves will be followed by the first frost.

I am from people who did not believe in eating certain foods until after the first frost – like cabbage and collards. Turnips, carrots...root vegetables.

These were people who collected cookbooks but didn't use recipes.

I am from a big family. They are not all here with us any more, but for a time when I was younger...they all knew how to cook.

That of course did not make them in any way special. Once upon a time everybody knew how to cook, and the women in my family were no exception. They took a lot of pride in their cooking. They all felt they cooked things the right way and they strongly believed their way was the right way. They made their families believe it too.

Some of my aunts would go so far as to let the family know which bowl of potato salad to eat – and also which to avoid – at the fall revival.

They were not being mean about it. They were not the type of people that would ever be rude or hurt anybody's feelings.

It was just after a few years of going to church with the same people they knew who put too many pickles in their potato salad, who didn't boil the potatoes long enough, and who lets their mayonnaise sit out on the counter too long.

They were so confident in their cooking that on Sunday afternoons when they would pile around at Granny's with cookbooks spread on their laps, they would often critique them as much as they would read them.

If they ever followed a recipe step-by-step, it was handwritten by somebody they loved...usually on the back of an envelope, or a piece of paper torn from a brown grocery bag.

I grew up in Sandflat – a community just south of Thomasville. I was a student of the Thomasville City School system for 11 year prior to moving to Chilton County, where I graduated, and I never – at either school – took a single semester of home economics. I don't know how in the hell I ever got married.

It was the 1980s, and a lot of people in rural Alabama still believed that a woman could not get married if she did not know how to cook...at least not to anybody worth having. A lot of people in Alabama still feel that way even today, and I am not here to argue with them, but even back then society was changing. There were stoves in certain classrooms, but that class was not an option for girls who wanted a career. And according to the society that was forming around us, we were all supposed to want a career. We needed to know how to figure out what X equaled more than we needed to know how to cook an egg. We were supposed to want a career more than we wanted a man, a marriage, a baby, or a home.

As it turns out, one has little to do with the other. And over time, all of the stoves have been removed from the classrooms. It still not a bad idea to know how to cook though, even if you aren't after a man...because soon there will be the first frost.

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



Photo source: [www.vintag.es](http://www.vintag.es)



Trisston Wright Burrows  
Ms.Wheelchair America/  
Alabama 2005

## Trisston's Tidbits ...

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

## Finding a New Groove

Happy Fall Y'all! (as we say in the South) The leaves are beginning to turn, and there's a crisp chill in the air. What is it about a simple change in weather that can bring out the best in people? It's almost like each new season is a new beginning of sorts. It's a very representation of newness that stirs up changes in our souls. Autumn visions of our favorite warm cozy sweater, rich hot cocoa, and steaming hot apple cider spring into action in our hearts.

The Bible also references new changes and beginnings in our lives as being seasons. Seasons are metaphors for God's perfect timing in delivering us through all the changes He makes in our lives. These certain seasons can bring about the blessings we reap from having been obedient in following Him through those changes even if we did not fully understand or welcome them.

*“And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up.” Galatians 6:9*

This scripture tells us to never give up. No matter how long, strenuous, and painstaking the road or trials are in our lives, there is always a new season ahead, a season of new beginnings.

Every day we can make the decision to begin again. We can adopt a positive mindset to overcome, conquer, and live triumphantly. All beginnings must eventually come to an end so a new beginning, a new season, can commence. We need to take the opportunity to look ahead at what can be and forget the “what-might-have-beens”. We can challenge ourselves to be better, live higher, rise above our own self-appointed limitations. We can look ahead to a new season of thinking, speaking, acting and living more positively. Each subtle change we implement towards living a more positive life will eventually take root and manifest itself into our days, weeks, months and years.

A beautiful tree full of wonderful green foliage and rich, ripened fruit can offer shelter, nourishment, and shade, but only temporarily. The leaves eventually turn brilliant hues of crimsons, golds, reds and oranges, offering us a wonderful spectacle to behold, a brushstroke of genius only God can artfully paint. Then, those leaves must fall, leaving that beautiful tree bare and vulnerable as it must survive the harshest of seasons. The tree must go through that season to begin a new life, a new cycle, with budding blossoms fragrant and beautiful.

*“He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.” Psalm 1:3*

We need to be very grateful and thank God continually even when our future seems very unclear. We can still stay firmly planted in faith so we will never wither; but always prosper and produce good fruit.

All glory comes then from daring to begin, daring to change, ushering in each new season, and forever trusting God with each unpredictable new step. Never stop believing and growing. We can never fully know what God's intentions are for us, but we can always do our absolute best with where He has placed us right now. Only then, when we have learned all there is to learn and are truly grateful in this place, this season, will God move us to a new, more bountiful, and blessed season.

*“For everything there is a season and a time for every purpose under heaven.” Ecclesiastes 3:1*

*Many blessings!*

## Women Won the Right to Vote 100 Years Ago! EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE NOVEMBER 3RD!



<https://womenshistorymonth.gov>



Women of Hope (WOH) was founded in 2006 by Maria Ashmore, a breast cancer survivor.

The Women of Hope logo of two angels locking hands connected by the pink breast cancer ribbon is symbolic of strength, courage, friendship and the bond of HOPE for those coping with breast cancer.

Women of Hope consists of a Board of Directors, Professional Advisory Board, and Members, all who have in some way been affected by breast cancer. Members of the Board are dedicated to the operation of the organization as well

as mentoring breast cancer patients and survivors. Many Women of Hope members have first-hand experience with breast cancer. Our empathy is an effective tool for supporting individuals and families and providing them with a living portrait of HOPE!

Members of the medical community who specialize in cancer treatment are enthusiastic supporters and many serve on the group's professional advisory board.

### Humanitarian

Women of Hope is an organization of caring and compassionate women dedicated to providing Hope and encouragement to families surviving breast cancer and promoting awareness to those unaware of the potential devastating effects of this disease.

### Outreach

Women of Hope utilizes the online tools, telecommunications, print, video and radio media, as well as medical and community service venues to reach those in need of our services.

### Perspective

Women of Hope gives breast cancer patients and their families an opportunity to reconstruct their lives. Families are given Hope through information regarding various aspects of breast cancer treatment and survival, research, mentoring, knowledgeable physicians and specialists to restore their quality of life.

### Empathy

Women of Hope offers empathy to breast cancer patients, survivors, and their families and caregivers.

<http://www.thewomenofhope.org/>

WOMEN OF HOPE is a non-profit Foundation for Breast Cancer Support and is classified by the U. S. Department of the Treasury as a 501 (c)(3) organization under the code of the Internal Revenue Service.

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**Patricia Killough**  
*Community Editor*

**Albert Sharpe & Brenda Morrow were married Sept. 12.**

A reception given by their family was held at The Barn on Pettus Road in celebration.



**Happy Anniversary**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Oct. 3 Mr. & Mrs. Theo Katechis (41th)   | Oct. 12 James & Jean Hicks (62st)      |
| Tom & Mary Lion (67th)                   | Glenn & Susan Yost                     |
| Oct. 5 Jack & Kim Golson                 | Oct. 13 William & Loretta Grant (58th) |
| Lance & Sylvia Smith (62st)              | Oct. 15 Lance & Amy Brown              |
| Oct. 6 Jimmy & Donna Grant               | Gaston & Doris Wallace                 |
| Oct. 7 Jimmy & Judy Grubbs               | Travis & Nicole McGough (4rd)          |
| Tracey & Britt Betts (7th)               | Oct. 16 George & Marilyn Evans         |
| Oct. 8 Eric & Casey Fleming (15th)       | Oct. 19 Brett & Barbie O’Neal (18th)   |
| Bob & Lynda Maddox                       | Oct. 20 Tim & Amanda Anderson (8th)    |
| David & Xan Morrow                       | Oct. 21 Jimmy & Ann Hale               |
| Oct. 9 Ian & Caty Jane Turnipseed (10th) | Oct. 22 Brad & Lee Ann Williams (14th) |
| Oct. 12 Mike & Lynn Davis                | Oct. 27 Chuck & Janice Cole (28th)     |
|  | Kathryn & Andrew Hilton                |

**Happy 58th Anniversary**  
**William & Loretta Grant**

**October 13, 2020**



*William retired from Coca Cola after 39 years and now enjoys his family, grandchildren and working with his cattle.*  
*Loretta is the founder and co-owner of The Alabama Gazette. They serve God in ministry together at Snowdown Baptist Church.*  
*Their love for each other and for their family and friends are their greatest earthly blessings.*

**Please join the Gazette in wishing Madera Spencer a very happy birthday! She will turn 100 years old on Oct. 8!**

**HOME TOWN COMMUNITY NEWS**

*October Birthdays*



- |                                 |                               |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Oct 1 David Hite (78th)         | Oct. 19 John Lithgrow         |
| Karen Hollingshead              | Jeff Ludwick                  |
| Wallis Litchfield               | Nell Nesbit                   |
| Oct. 2 Allie Dibole             | Evelyn Roger                  |
| Jerry Hollingshead              | Oct. 21 Pam Anderson          |
| Donna Karen                     | Ken Guthrie                   |
| Janice Vaughn Majors (71th)     | Cheryl Horp                   |
| Bob Morris                      | Spears Rhodes                 |
| Oct. 3 Ladon Boyd (60th)        | Oct. 22 Judith Lamar          |
| Monica Mills                    | Joyce Browning Mills          |
| Ben Sawada                      | Tony Nemunaitis               |
| Stevie Ray Vaughn               | Alicia Smith                  |
| Oct. 4 Hazel Campbell           | Oct. 23 Earl Henderson        |
| Oct. 5 Chester Alan Arthur      | Mollie Ester Isacson          |
| Thomas Chesnutt (99th)          | Mike Kirk                     |
| Nikki Smith Womack              | Elfie Meredith                |
| Lynn Moore                      | Betty Jo Richie               |
| Oct. 6 Frances Grant            | Mitzi Woodall                 |
| Jimmy Pugh                      | Oct. 24 Thomas Norman         |
| Matthew Sweet                   | Connie Thompson               |
| Oct. 7 Ashley James             | Norma Stockett                |
| David Price (71th)              | Oct. 25 Glenn Chesnutt        |
| Oct. 8 Jim Fleming              | David Alexander Dean          |
| Beck Tucker                     | Hannah Grace Johnson          |
| Oct. 9 Vance Cordle             | Dot Pouncey (70th)            |
| Arbin McCathern (83nd)          | Oct. 26 Alice Cole (70th)     |
| Bob Persons                     | Carol Fowler                  |
| Asia Patron                     | Judd Huett (83nd)             |
| Clifton Renfro                  | Mike Horsley                  |
| Linda Stringer                  | Natailie Merchant             |
| Oct. 10 Sherry McCulley         | Brynlee Ashmore (10th)        |
| Ron Selvaggio                   | Oct. 27 BoBo Boyd             |
| Mason Williams (10th)           | Terry Boyd (60th)             |
| Oct. 11 Bonnie Ashcraft         | Amy Moone (46th)              |
| Susan Guevara                   | Glen Raley (66th)             |
| Debbie Moore                    | Stephanie Selvage (46th)      |
| Anna Marie Sessions             | Louise Lareson                |
| Christie Vazquez                | Oct. 28 Roger Bryant (68th)   |
| Oct. 12 Kirstin Boyd            | James Cantrell (93nd)         |
| Kim Moore                       | Heavenly Fanning (5th)        |
| Oct. 13 Fred Cole (98th)        | Patti Moseley Higgins         |
| Loretta Grant                   | Josh Hudson                   |
| Danny Ott (59th)                | Parker Lynch                  |
| Mary Wimpee                     | Johnny Miles                  |
| Oct. 14 Margaret Batley         | Joakin Phoenix                |
| Brian Burrows                   | Matt Schall                   |
| Elizabeth Miller                | Oct. 29 Marge Crockett (77th) |
| Sarah Margaret Poundstone       | Adam Dupree                   |
| Oct. 15 Bob Crowe               | Lisa Etheridge                |
| Noah Edwards                    | Amber (Sally) Heitsenrether   |
| Dolores Kavanagh                | Elizabeth Mills               |
| Charlie Lamar Jr.               | Caylyn Oswald                 |
| Ray Martin (81th)               | Oct. 30 Nellie Cole (95th)    |
| Linda Stenbridge Chandler       | Felicity Edwards              |
| Gaston Wallace                  | Lee Sellars                   |
| Oct. 17 Jane Braswell           | Grace Slick                   |
| Chris Floyd                     | Josie Stanton                 |
| Oct. 16 Louise Light            | Oct. 31 Carey Cauthen (66th)  |
| Jessie Watt                     | Annabelle Henderson (6th)     |
| Oct. 18 Charles Andrew Campbell | Ron Johnson                   |
| Ryan Sellars                    | Elizabeth Kirk                |
| Oct. 19 Joann Hassey            | Johnny Marr                   |

**Gazette’s Sympathy to the families of...**

- |                                      |         |  |         |
|--------------------------------------|---------|--|---------|
| Reagan, Roland Edward (77)           | Aug 26  | Luquire, Margaret Padgett (83)         | Sept 13 |
| Hall, Michael Lee (67)               | Aug 29  | Davis, William Padgett (94)            | Sept 16 |
| Rittenour, Helen Rapp (91)           | Aug 29  | Dzialo, Mark Andre (71)                | Sept 17 |
| Spiro, Jean Dunn (92)                | Aug 29  | McMahan, Elliott Ross (38)             | Sept 17 |
| Allen IV, Walter LaMar (57)          | Sept 1  | Myers, Woodard “Woodie” Luker (98)     | Sept 19 |
| Cooke, Shirley May Byars (82)        | Sept 2  | Easter, Philip                         | Sept 21 |
| Fike, Cecelia Ann (80)               | Sept 3  | Kilpatrick, Lucy Ann Smith (91)        | Sept 21 |
| Franco, Herman B. (91)               | Sept 3  | Phillips, Mural Hamer                  | Sept 21 |
| Green, James Kenneth (89)            | Sept 3  | Hopper, Helen Schons                   | Sept 22 |
| Marrihew, Arthr Irving (90)          | Sept 3  | Neel, Bettie Potts (94)                | Sept 22 |
| Dunlap, Jodie Rawls (70)             | Sept 5  | Sereneck, Kathy Story (69)             | Sept 23 |
| Hooper, Barbara Evelyn Daughtry (76) | Sept 10 | Bodine, Charles Brian (72)             | Sept 24 |
| Suddath, Peggy W. (64)               | Sept 11 | Pappas, John Hunter (43)               | Sept 25 |
| Figh, Virginia P. (93)               | Sept 12 | Smitherman, Robert “Bobby” Warren (76) | Sept 27 |
| Manning, Sarah Navaada Matthews (84) | Sept 12 |  |         |

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- |                        |              |
|------------------------|--------------|
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| Flora Parden           | September 3  |
| Angela Shires          | September 3  |
| Jason Graham           | September 4  |
| Linda Dorrough         | September 5  |
| Jesse Stewart          | September 5  |
| Bettie Austin          | September 7  |
| Andrea Wilkins         | September 10 |
| Harmon Grier Jr.       | September 10 |
| Brenda Post            | September 11 |
| John Jordan Jr.        | September 12 |
| Robert Owens, Jr.      | September 13 |
| Robbie Favre           | September 14 |
| Benjamin “Ben” Mullins | September 14 |
| Janis Pittman          | September 15 |
| Carienell Morrow       | September 15 |
| Jacqueline Cotney      | September 18 |
| Eloise Wilson          | September 18 |
| Claude Woodall         | September 20 |
| Charles Tracy          | September 20 |
| Larry Attaway          | September 20 |
| Marie Stiff            | September 21 |
| Wanda Peacock          | September 23 |
| Carolyn Lunsford       | September 23 |
| Brian Chamber          | September 25 |
| Luann Knowles          | September 26 |
| Albert Hunt Jr.        | September 28 |
| Billie Faulk Sr.       | September 28 |





## Dr. Lester Spencer

Lead Pastor  
St. James United Methodist Church  
9045 Vaughn Road  
Montgomery, AL

## Soul Searching

### Respect and Civility

## Where Have They Gone? Part One

**Political discord. Civil unrest. Violence in the streets. Toxic division. Ugly accusations. Harmful words.**

In the minds of many, these words define the state of our wonderful country right now!

The lack of respect and civility in our country in recent months and years is very alarming and downright scary to me! It is a red flag waving in the wind for us as Americans, and we should tread very carefully in determining how we as a people in these great United States Of America will personally respond and behave. Changing this starts with you and me. So, why should we begin to show more respect and how can we express greater civility for others?

In part one of this series, I want to address why we should show respect. In part two, next month, I will explore how we can express greater civility!

#### Showing Respect

Respect has become an endangered value in recent years. The Bible has a lot to say about respecting others. In 1 Peter 2:17, Peter reminds us to “Show proper respect to everyone.”

Everyone even includes people that we vehemently disagree with on any subject. The Bible tells us to: respect and honor our parents, respect and obey civil authority, respect your spouse, show respect for our elected leaders (even if you did not vote for them), and respect even those who don’t show respect to you or your views!

#### Why should we show respect?

##### 1. God created each of us!

“You have made them (human beings) a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor.” – Psalm 8:5 NIV

People aren’t perfect and they make mistakes and bad choices, but they are still made in His image and deserve our respect. God loves even the most difficult ones to love, and we are called to do the same. You don’t have to like them or agree with them, BUT we are called to love them. And loving people means showing respect for them!

##### 2. Jesus Christ died on a cross for every single person!

God values each person so much that He sent Christ to sacrifice His life for them. Everyone matters to God. Even those we sharply disagree with. Every person you meet is worth dying for in God’s eyes. “He died for everyone so that those who receive his new life will no longer live for themselves. Instead they will live for Christ...” – Paul, 2 Corinthians 5:15

Every person you will ever meet (even those you really disagree or don’t approve of their behavior) was suffered and died for by Jesus Christ. Why? Because they matter to HIM!

##### 3. Showing love and respect for others proves we know God!

“If a person isn’t loving and kind, it shows that he doesn’t know God-for God is love.” – 1 John 4:8

The Bible tells us over and over again that God is love. And if you know God you will seek to love others because He loves them. Jesus commanded us as his disciples to: “Love others as I have loved you.” – Jesus, John 15:17

There is no way to show love and disrespect at the same time. To show love to someone is to show respect. That doesn’t mean we have to agree with them at all. But it does mean we must learn to disagree in loving and respectful ways!

#### 4. You will reap what you sow!

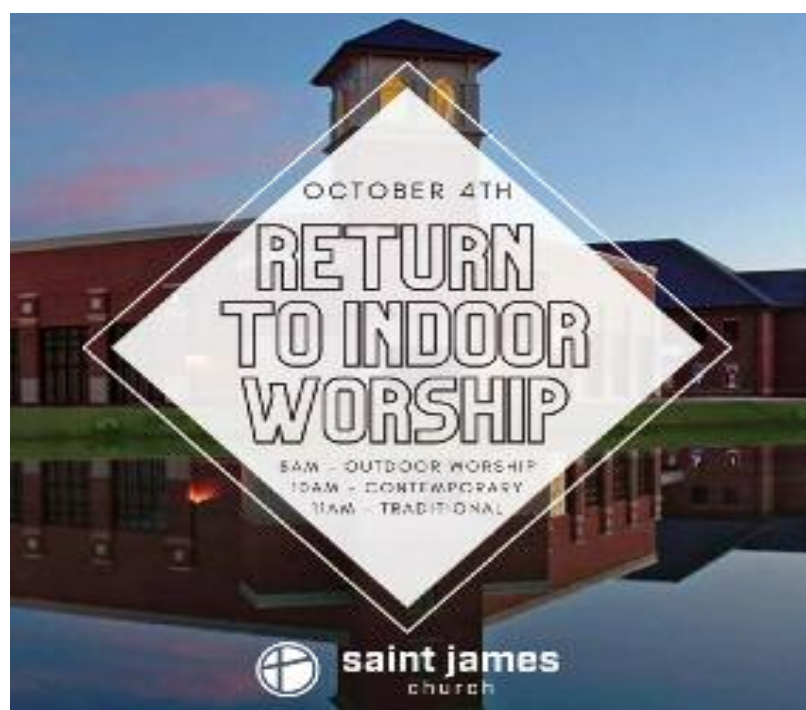
If you want to be respected, you must show respect for others! What goes around, comes around as they say. It’s not just Karma, it is a truth from the Word of God. “Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that will he also reap.” – Paul, Galatians 6:7

Everyone these days wants to be heard and respected. But if we aren’t willing to listen to and respect others and their opinions, we will not receive respect from them nor will our voices be heard. It comes down to the golden rule: “Treat others as you want to be treated.” – Jesus, Luke 6:31.

May we all remember these reasons to show respect to others as we engage in our daily conversations and our weekly meetings. If this article helped you, share this article with someone else.

*Spread the love and the respect.*

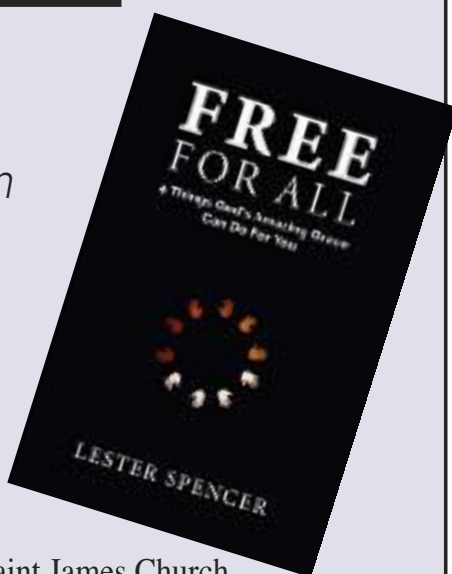
*Our country desperately needs it right now!*



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Dr. Spencer is Lead Pastor at Saint James Church  
in Montgomery, Alabama and writes  
the *Soul Searching* column for *Alabama Gazette* each month.

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## David's Tent Alabama

October 1 - November 10

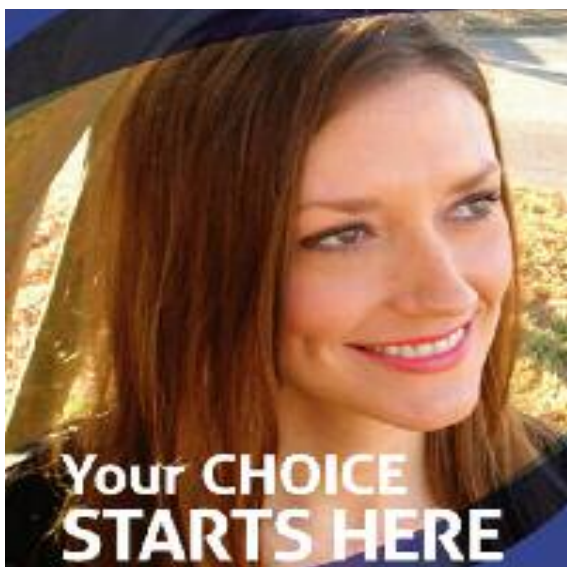
David's Tent will be erected on Life On Wheel's upper lot for 40 days of 24 hours a day prayer and praise across the street from the abortion clinic beginning October 1st on South Perry Street.

Please share this link with your churches and worship leaders as they are invited to sign up to come and lead worship: <http://vid.us/jc64bd>

We are rallying the Body of Christ to Declare the Exceedingly Great Worth of JESUS CHRIST from the Heart of Our State through Day & Night Worship & Prayer. He alone is worthy of it all, and we all need Him desperately!



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# Halloween has become an issue among Christians !



BY RUSSELL K. TARDO

Long considered harmless fun, many are now questioning its history, nature, influence and fruit. The revitalization of Satanism and Witchcraft and their obvious association with Halloween has caused Christians to wonder whether they should participate in it at all. There is no denying the bizarre and occultic nature of Halloween decorum (certainly witches, devils, ghouls, monsters, vampires and ghosts are not Christian in character!). But in spite of that, some Christians defend their participation in the holiday asserting their "liberty" in Christ from the bondages of "legalism", or shrugging it off as innocent fun. Many churches see the whole thing as evil and will have nothing to do with the celebration whatsoever. Others see no harm in it and participate fully, with costume parties, Halloween decorations and trick-or-treat. Still others try to find a "middle-of-the-road" approach, allowing trick-or-treat and masquerades, but as "Bible characters" instead of demonic and occult figures.

*What's wrong with Halloween? And, what should be the attitude of the conscientious Christian towards it? Is it harmless, or is it sinister? The facts we present below should help you to answer that question once for all.*

## 1. THE HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION IS THOROUGHLY ROOTED IN PAGANISM AND THE OCCULT.

History traces it back to the ancient religion of the Druids, a religion so evil that Rome forbad its practice. The AMERICAN PEOPLES ENCYCLOPEDIA explains: "The origin of Halloween customs antedate Christianity. The Druids, members of pagan orders in Britain, Ireland and Gaul, held a celebration on October 31st, the eve of the Festival of Samhain. It was a night of ghosts and fairies, in which bonfires were built and futures were foretold and witches rode through the sky."

Superstitions linking cats with reincarnation made them special objects of notice on Halloween. Unquestionably, the holiday had its origin with the pagan Druids, only they called it the "Festival of Samhain – lord of the dead". Samhain was nothing more or less than a demon (a demon spirit of death at that, or perhaps he may have been Satan himself!) who was given special homage on Halloween. This is where the emphasis on death comes from on that night. Death symbols such as coffins, tombstones, skeletons, skulls and crossbones, ghosts, mummies and graveyards are common Halloween decorations.

Numerous legends surrounded the holiday, but two significant things supposedly occurred on that night:

First, it was believed that the dead would rise out of their graves and wander the countryside, trying to return to the homes where they formerly lived. Frightened villagers tried to appease these wandering spirits by offering them gifts of fruits and nuts. If not placated, villagers feared that the spirits would kill their flocks or destroy their property. This is the origin of our present day "trick-or-treat"! It's a custom born out of superstition, and pagan superstition at that!

Furthermore, its a blasphemous perversion of the Christian belief in the Resurrection. In Christianity, the righteous dead are resurrected in a glorified, immortal body. In Druidism, the dead are raised as horrifying creatures of the night, hideous monsters, decaying skeletons, vampires, etc. They received not glorified bodies, but grotesque ones; not immortal bodies, but inhuman ones.

Second, Samhain was the supreme night of Demonic jubilation. This was a celebration of the beginning of winter and darkness, as daylight grew noticeably shorter, and nights lengthier. The hoardes of hell would roam the earth in a wild celebration of darkness and death, all in honor of Samhain! Pity the poor mortal forced to travel on such a night! The only thing the superstitious people knew to do to protect themselves on such an occasion was to masquerade as one of the demonic hoarde, and hopefully blend in unnoticed among them! This is the origin of Halloween masquerading as devils, imps, ogres, and other demonic creatures.

The question is, should Christians adopt such practices? Can we borrow the pagan customs and superstitions of ancient peoples and "Christianize" them? The Bible is not silent on the subject:

**"Learn not the way of the heathen....for the customs of the people are vain." (Jeremiah 10: 2-3), and,**

**"When thou art come into the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations" (Deut. 18:9).**

**Ephesians 5:11 declares, "And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them."**

## 2. HALLOWEEN GLORIFIES SATAN.

When America and the world celebrates the powers of darkness by masquerading as evil creatures or decorating our homes, schools, businesses and churches with occult symbols, Satanic power is glorified. While you may have participated "all in fun," be assured, Halloween is serious business for Satanists and Witches.

Anyone familiar with witchcraft would tell you

that there are certain rituals and spells that can only be cast on Halloween night. That is the night when the "veil" believed to separate the living from the dead is thought to be the thinnest, and futures are easier and more accurately foretold by diviners.

Those who oppose Christ are known to organize on Halloween to observe Satanic rituals, to cast spells, to oppose churches and families, to perform sacrilegious acts, and to even offer blood sacrifices to Satan. Last year, Newscasters in numerous cities warned their viewers to guard their animals on Halloween night. Dogs and cats are thought to be the most often sacrificed animals on Halloween, and many S. P. C. A. centers will not allow black cats to be adopted until after Halloween. In rural communities, it is not uncommon for farmers to awake to find the mutilated remains of their farm animals (cows, calves, chickens, even horses) that were ritualistically slaughtered in Satanic sacrifices. The practices that accompany such sacrificial rites are almost too revolting to believe-the drinking of animal (or human) blood and urine, the digestion of entrails and organs, orgiastic rituals, substance abuse, and something becoming more frighteningly common across the U.S. – human sacrifice. The 700 CLUB interviewed several people last Halloween (several of which were teenagers) who actually participated in or witnessed human sacrifices while involved in Satanism. No one scoffs at such stories anymore, as police departments around the country have had to scurry to develop a whole new field of investigation dealing with the gruesome reality of Satanic sacrifices.

Isn't it sad that while Satanist, Witches, Occultists and Police are taking Halloween very seriously, many in the church protest our "spoiling all of the fun for the children," by urging Christians not to participate in it.

## 3. HALLOWEEN TREATS OCCULTISM AS "HARMLESS."

When Christians participate in Halloween, it sends a message to children that Witchcraft, Demonism, Satanism, and the Occult is something fun, entertaining and harmless. It gives the false impression that what is actually lethal, is innocuous! It's the spiritual equivalent of painting a loaded gun to look like a toy and giving it to a child to play with!

On another recent 700 Club testimony, one man said that it was while he was out trick-or-treating on Halloween night as a boy that he had a profound psychic experience that led him on an occult odyssey that kept him bound and oppressed for dozens of years! Halloween participation led him into deeper forms of occultism, until he was swallowed by it.

Christians, we betray others and deceive ourselves if we consider this celebration a harmless or innocent one. It is more deadly than a rattlesnake, and God says **such things are an abomination (cf. Deut. 18: 9-12; Lev. 18: 24-30).**

## 4. IT IS THE APPEARANCE OF EVIL.

The Bible says, **"Abstain from all appearance of evil." (1 Thess. 5:22).**

Who can deny that virtually all of the symbols of Halloween are evil? Witches, monsters, ogres, vampires, ghosts, ghouls, goblins, devils and demons all portray evil! On the other hand, Christians are called to be "followers of God" (Eph.5:1), and "lights" to a sin darkened world. How can we justify our masquerading as creatures of darkness in the light of the Scriptures? And if our houses and churches are dedicated to God and are to glorify Christ, how do we justify decorating them with demonic and occult symbols?

**Virtually all of the common Halloween decorations represent something Demonic or Occult.**

**For instance:**  
**The "Jack-o-lantern"** is the ancient symbol of a damned soul.

**The "black cat"** has long been associated with Witchcraft and numerous superstitions are still connected to it.

**Witches and Witchcraft** are a dominant theme of the holiday, but are an abomination to God (**Exodus 22:18; Deuteronomy 18: 8-14; Leviticus 18: 24-30).**

**Even the "trick-or-treat" is a threat!** It's nothing less than extortion! "You either give me a treat or I'll play a trick on you."

## HALLOWEEN DESTRUCTION

Vandalism and wanton disregard for the property of others is common on Halloween night, as even normally well behaved children are driven by unseen forces to destructive behavior. Police officials everywhere report great increases in such activities at Halloween. Worse yet are the horrifying accounts of poisoned candy and fruits booby trapped with razor blades and needles. Such threats are so real that many hospitals offer free X-Rays of Halloween treats in order to prevent children from being harmed. Who but Satan could inspire such monstrous actions?

## 5. IT IS DISOBEDIENCE TO GOD!

God repeatedly forbids his Children's participation in such demonic activities, as the following passages attest: **Deut. 18:14; Ex. 7:11-12, 22:18; Lev. 19:26, 31; 20: 6, 27; 1 Chron. 10:13-14; 2 Ki. 21:5-6; Isa. 2:6; Jer. 27: 9-10; Zech. 10:2; Mai. 3:5; Acts 8:9, 16:16; 19:19; Gal. 5:16-21; 2 Tim. 3:8; Rev. 21:8, 22:15.**

A careful examination of these Scriptures reveals God's unreserved condemnation of all who participate in any occult activity.

What's wrong with Halloween? Everything about it is wrong! It does not have even one single redeeming virtue. It is a demon inspired, devil glorifying occult festival! Those who love the Lord Jesus Christ should have nothing to do with it!

**"Learn not the way of the heathen...for the customs of the people are vain."**

(Jer. 10:2-3).

**"When thou art come into the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee, thou shalt not learn to do after the abominations of those nations." (Deut. 18:9).**

**"Let us cast out the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light." (Rom. 13:12)**

**"And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them." (Eph. 5:11)**

**"Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness." (1 Thess.5:5)**

**"For what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness? And what concord hath Christ with Belial? Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing..." (2 Cor. 6:14-17).**

## WHAT SHOULD OUR POSITION BE?

Clearly, we should have nothing to do with the Halloween celebration whatsoever. If Christians assemble on Halloween it should be to worship, sing, praise, pray, intercede, wage Spiritual warfare and pull down demonic strong-holds. Under no circumstance should we compromise with this celebration or attempt to imitate the world in any manner. It should not be observed as any kind of a festival or "party" (masquerades, apple-bobbing, games, treats, etc.), but rather as a time to wage holy warfare and be separate from the world.

The Christian should not fear Halloween or any of the powers of darkness, for we have authority over them (**Mk. 16:15; Lu. 10:19**), and **"God has not given us the spirit of fear..." (2 Tim. 1:7).** But at the same time, **"We are not ignorant of Satan's devices" (2 Cor.2:11)**

Some may call me "legalistic" for doing so, but I have forsaken this pagan celebration altogether. Perhaps its time you considered doing the same.

**"For ye were sometimes darkness, but now are ye light in the Lord: walk as children of light." (Eph. 5:8).**

## FOOTNOTE

*Halloween and other common festivals which people observe in the Christian professing world have no Biblical basis. Nowhere in the Bible (which, by the way, should be the foundation of our beliefs) does our Lord tell us to participate in pagan festivals, in fact, God clearly tells us that we should have no part in them. We as Christians cannot (according to God) change the name of a holiday and then participate in it. "During the early Middle Ages, the Roman Catholic Church often incorporated modified versions of older religious traditions in order to win converts." Pope Gregory IV wanted to substitute Samhain with All Saints' Day in 835, but All Souls' Day (Nov. 2nd) which is closer in resemblance to Samhain and Halloween today, was "first instituted at a French monastery in 998 and quickly spread throughout Europe." If the so called "Christian" holy days of the Roman Catholic church were in fact solidly based on the Christian Bible, then why do so many non-Christians observe them? Have you ever really reflected on your motives for celebrating so called "Christian" holidays? Or by nature do you tend to follow the crowd, whether they are right or wrong? Changing the name while playing according to the same rules changes nothing. If this offends you, then why don't you really find out for yourself.*

**The following secular dictionaries and encyclopedia confirm the Pagan origins of Halloween.**

Online Etymology Dictionary says of Halloween:

c.1745, Scottish shortening of Allhallow-even "Eve of All Saints, last night of October" (1556), the last night of the year in the old Celtic calendar, where it was Old Year's Night, a night for witches. Another pagan holiday given a cursory baptism and sent on its way. Hallowmas "All-saints" is first attested 1389. (Online Etymology Dictionary, © 2001 Douglas Harper)

Webster's New Millennium™ Dictionary of English says of Samhain:

October 31, Halloween; a day of celebration for Wiccans and other pagans; also called November Eve, Halloween, Feast of Souls, Feast of the Dead. (Webster's New Millennium™ Dictionary of English, Preview Edition (v 0.9.7) © 2003-2007 Lexico Publishing Group, LLC)





*by Peggy Givhan*

*Photo By Andy Biggs*

spring to summer, are very fragrant, and have large, multi bloom heads, and can rise from 2-8 feet in height. Stargazer is an Oriental lily. Both lilies have a long vase life when cut and brought inside. Plus lilies are the top ten flowers that people choose in the world.

***GOOD GARDENING!***

The image shows a business advertisement for Econotech Recyclers & Junk Removal. The logo at the top features the word "ECONOTECH" in large green letters, with "LLC" in smaller green letters to the right. A red recycling symbol is positioned between "ECONO" and "TECH". Below "ECONOTECH" are the words "RECYCLERS & JUNK REMOVAL" in blue. The text "We Haul Away 'Broken' Appliances & Much More!" is in black, followed by "Free Estimates!" in red. Below this, it says "Now picking up in your area!" in black. To the left of this text is an illustration of various household appliances: a refrigerator, a microwave, a stove, a dishwasher, and a washing machine. To the right is a circular seal that says "SCREENED & APPROVED" around the edge, with a HomeAdvisor logo in the center. At the bottom, the phone number "Phone: 256-444-0478" is displayed in black, and the website "WWW.ECONOTECHRECYCLERS.COM" is in red.

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## Brantley Bank & Trust is coming to Pike Road



The new branch, called Brantley Bank at Pike Road, is tentatively scheduled to open May 2021 and will be located at 9545 Vaughn Road. Ray Kyzer will serve as the Pike Road city president and the branch will initially employ 6-10 people. The new branch will offer the same services as the other branches ranging from personal and business banking products to loan services, credit cards, and more.



# THE ALABAMA Gazette

## Fall Events in 1D the River Region

# Fall into FUN!

**Tuesday  
Oct. 13th**

**FREE Sack Lunch  
at the Curb!**

**11:30 am  
~ 1 pm**

Join us at 12 East Jefferson Street  
Montgomery, AL 36104  
as *The Alabama Gazette* and That's My Dog  
Celebrate 21 Years of publishing!



This year we are **GIVING BACK**  
and any donation will benefit  
That's My Child!

Stop by or drive-up to *The Alabama Gazette* on Tuesday, October 13,  
and we will gladly hand you a



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**That's My Dog!**

The students of **That's My Child!**  
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opportunity to meet members  
of the community and would  
appreciate everyone's support!

*Students will be at the curb happily  
handing out sack lunches.*

*Please wear your masks and  
practice social distancing!*

*Don't miss out on a **FREE** lunch!*

*First-come, first-serve!*



# TMC TIMES S.P.O.T.

[www.thatsmychildmgm.org](http://www.thatsmychildmgm.org) ■ 2414 Lower Wetumpka Road ■ Montgomery, AL 36110 ■ (334) 239-7434 ■ [info@thatsmychild.org](mailto:info@thatsmychild.org)



## About That's My Child!

**That's My Child (TMC)** was founded in 2012 by Charles Lee to mentor youth through arts, education and work-force development ending hopelessness and generational poverty. We are developing the talent and skills of our students which are necessary to become leaders in our community. TMC offers the following programs, free of charge, to local teens ages 13-18:

**That's My Dog, Jr.** – America's first teen operated restaurant providing employment opportunities for local teens

**Teen to Work Program** – a job readiness program that prepares local teens for the work-force while connecting them to potential employers

**Gents to Gentlemen** – a mentoring program for young men that builds confidence, improves academic performance and teaches leadership skills for success

**Living Legends Dance Team** – a movement based art program for young women that encourages self-confidence, improves academic performance and teaches leadership skills for success

**Donate** to support our work and learn more at [www.thatsmychildmgm.org](http://www.thatsmychildmgm.org).

**We Believe:** Children deserve a fair shot at success. But statistically, children from Chisolm-North Montgomery are born with disadvantages that cripple their ability to become successful leaders. Our mission is to mentor the youth through arts, education and work-force development ending hopelessness and generational poverty.

### Our Values:

**Honor** – we honor each person, where they are

**Empowerment** – we empower people through all situations

**Love** – we do all things with love

**Creativity** – we promote creativity in both students and leadership

**Community** – we do all things to benefit our community

**Our Vision:** Youth excelling in life by becoming productive members of society and future leaders of tomorrow.



**"Even If It's Not Your Child, It's Somebody's Child. Why Not Be There For Them?"** – CHARLES LEE, Founder

## About That's My Dog!



**That's My Dog (TMD)** is America's first teen-operated restaurant. Every meal purchased is a donation to **That's My Child**. Join us for a meal and become a **#DonorDog!**

Please join us today at **That's My Dog**, located at 2414 Lower Wetumpka Road in **Montgomery** and meet the youth your support is helping to obtain a bright future! The young people who graduate through the **Teens to Work Program** have changed their lives over the course of nine weeks and are prepared to enter the workforce with confidence and hospitality training.

**Teen to Work Program:** A job-readiness program that prepares local teens for the work-force while connecting them to potential employers. During the program, students will receive on-the-job training and real work experience at our on-site restaurant, **That's My Dog Jr.** – America's First All-Teen Managed & Operated Restaurant. Upon successful completion, they are then connected to one of our partnering hospitality employers.



Zanya is America's **YOUNGEST General Manager!** Zanya is pictured above with the Charles Lee and the WSFA news staff. **Congratulations to Zanya!** We love seeing her hard work being recognized, and we love to know **That's My Child** and **That's My Dog** are paying big dividends for the youth in Montgomery!

### Support That's My Child!

Learn more about this organization and the opportunities offered to the youth of Montgomery, Alabama on October 13th at 12 E. Jefferson St., at the Alabama Gazette's open house, or visit: <https://www.thatsmychildmgm.org>



### That's My Child (TMC!)

was founded in 2012 by Charles Lee to mentor youth through arts, education and work-force development ending hopelessness and generational poverty. We are developing the talent and skills of our students which are necessary to become leaders in our community.

Visit:

[www.thatsmychildmgm.org](http://www.thatsmychildmgm.org).



The *Alabama Gazette* is excited to partner with **That's My Dog** on October 13 the *Gazette's* 21st Anniversary celebration!

The students of **That's My Child!** are looking forward to meeting members of the community and would appreciate everyone's support! Drive-up for a **FREE** sack lunch while they last!



OCTOBER 24, 2020

# Purple Pinkie Day

## Give the Finger to Polio!



Pickup Tuesday October 20  
12 E. Jefferson St.  
Montgomery, AL 36104  
334-356-6700



The latest edition of the Montgomery County Historical Society magazine, *The Herald*, highlight's a 1953 *LIFE Magazine* article describing the dire situation our nation faced with a different deadly virus, polio.

The article focused on the inoculation that took place in Montgomery for 33,000 children receiving gamma globulin as a preventive to limit paralysis in an epidemic that struck down 85 children by week's end in the City.

Thanks to Dr Jonas Salk, an immunization was discovered in 1955 that would prevent polio around the world. No patent was taken so the cost of making the vaccine is very small. Fast forward 70 years, the world went from over 120 countries with over 350,000 polio cases annually then, to now only two countries, Afghanistan and Pakistan as harboring this dread virus. But, until the virus is completely removed from the earth, it poses a constant threat to the lives of children everywhere. You might recall, President Franklin D. Roosevelt contracted polio as well as many other famous people, including the late Jack Nicholas.

A great deal of credit for the reduction in cases goes to Rotary International, which adopted the goal of complete polio eradication. Every year on October 24, Salk's birthday, Rotary celebrates World Polio Day by raising awareness and funds to help pay for immunizations around the world from the U.S. to Mexico to Africa to India and all parts in between. In developing countries, like India, children receive the polio drops between age 6 months and 6 years. Once received, the child dips his or her pinky into a purple inkwell to display they have received the immunization.

This year, Alabama joins the state of Tennessee in promoting Purple Pinky Donut Day because of the gracious acts of a Rotarian in Knoxville. Dave Baumgartner owns Dunkin' Donut franchises in Tennessee. Rotary Dave generously donates, free of charge, donuts for Rotary to sell with ALL proceeds going to the Rotary Foundation to Eradicate Polio. But, there is more because for every dollar spent it has a \$9.00 multiplier.

In other words a box of purple pinkie donuts costs \$20. But, through matching donations from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and others, the donation turns into \$180! With the manufacture cost of the vaccine only about a dime per dose, your gift can help immunize over 1,800 children!

Last year the Purple Pinkie Day project donated \$500,000 to the Rotary Foundation because of the generosity of people who want to make a difference in the world and maybe even have a sweet tooth. The boxes can be shared with people at work, your Sunday school class, first responders and even local classrooms, you name it!

**Please order ahead!** Individuals and Rotarians can order online at <https://www.purplepinkiedonuts.org>.

Orders need to be in by October 15. No payment online. If a Rotarian, just write a check to your club for the number of boxes you purchase (2 boxes x \$20= \$40) or if an individual, bring a check made payable to Bluemont Group, LLC at the pickup sight at 12 East Jefferson Street between 7 am and 6 pm on Tuesday, October 20.

## The Purple Pinkie Donut Project

### What is the 'Purple Pinkie' Donut Project?

On Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>, in early celebration of World Polio Day, Dunkin' locations in Tennessee, Alabama and Mississippi are partnering with Rotary Districts 6760, 6780, 6800, 6860, and 6880 to host a fundraising event for End Polio Now!

For every \$2 donated to End Polio Now! at a participating Dunkin' location, Guests will receive a Purple Pinkie Donut—a glazed donut stick, topped with a dab of purple icing—as a thank you. Through generous matching funds from Rotary districts and The Gates Foundation each \$2 donation becomes a total donation of \$18 to help eradicate polio.

Success of the program is driven by Rotarians who pre-order 10-count boxes of "Pinkies" for a \$20 donation per box. The Purple Pinkie Donut Project has generated more than \$600,000 in donations to End Polio Now! in the first two years.



### Why 'Purple Pinkie'?

In countries where the threat of polio remains high, every child under 5yrs. receives polio vaccine by mouth twice per year during events called "National Immunization Days." When vaccinating millions of children in a very short period of time it is impossible to document which child has received the vaccine, so every child vaccinated has the little finger (pinkie) nail of their left hand painted with an indelible purple marker. Local communities recognize that children with "purple pinkies" will never get polio which is cause for great celebration.

Over time the "Purple Pinkie" has become an international symbol of a polio free world.



John G. Zimmerman is the photographer whose images appeared in the 1953 Life Magazine article about the polio inoculations in Montgomery. More of those can be viewed at <https://johngzimmerman.photoshelter.com/gallery/Montgomery-Polio-Outbreak-1953/G0000mbU.14HuZYY>, password MCHS.



Photo credit: John G. Zimmerman.



### How can you get involved?

Pre-order 10-count boxes of Purple Pinkie Donuts at [www.purplepinkiedonuts.org](http://www.purplepinkiedonuts.org). For every \$20 donation, you will receive a box of 10 purple pinkie donuts and, thanks to all the matching funds, \$180 will be donated to End Polio Now!

- Visit [www.purplepinkiedonuts.org](http://www.purplepinkiedonuts.org)
- Click on your district's map to access the pre-order form
- Include the name of your club on the pre-order form to receive Paul Harris credit (your Rotary member number is also helpful, but not required, if you don't have it handy)
- Watch your donation multiply by a factor of nine and make a huge impact in the fight to End Polio Now!

## PURPLE PINKIE PROJECT

### SPECTACULAR



## Help Eradicate Polio from the PLANET



JOIN US FOR A FUN AFTERNOON ON THE  
FAIRWAYS AS WE TEE OFF FOR TMC'S FIRST EVER

**TMC**  
That's My Child

# GOLF TOURNAMENT AT WYNLAKE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2020 REGISTRATION & LUNCH: 11:30AM  
SHOTGUN START: 1 P.M.

AWARDS: IMMEDIATELY TO FOLLOW GOLF WYNLAKE COUNTRY CLUB

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## Back to Our Future – Return to Cloverdale!

Montgomery's own professional ballet company has moved to its original home in Cloverdale and will be celebrating with an open house October 5-10 at its new home, 1062 Woodley Road. There will be no large group gatherings or traditional open house party due to COVID safety precautions. Instead members of the community, young and old, are invited to register online to participate in any of the classes offered by the company's school for **FREE**.

Parents and students will be able to see the new studio space, try a new experience, and acquaint themselves with the building and current COVID protocols or meet their teacher and dance from the comfort of their own home!

Montgomery Ballet Artistic-Executive Director said "I'm so excited to be opening our house to the community. We are the city's ballet company and the performance company for outlining communities. Moving to our historical roots really helps to bring the ballet full circle. We started here in Cloverdale and we are returning to create something truly special for the community. Remember we are not just another non-profit. We belong to the city of Montgomery. Every dancer, teacher and staff live here in Alabama, which is why the slogan Dance Lives Here is part of our logo. This open house is more than just to advertise our classes. This open house is to show how we are a part of the culture of the community. Every dancer that moves here brings their unique talents and adds to the community. We have dancers from all over the country. We are in essence opening our home to let you know we are here and we are more than a ballet company; we are your neighbors."

Even in this unusual year, there is no better time to try something new and find out more about the performing arts right here in Montgomery. Local, small businesses are made great by support from their own community. All information on class offerings and open house registration can be found on [montgomeryballet.org](http://montgomeryballet.org). All are welcome and we look forward to dancing with you soon!



Ballet I students ready to dance at the Cloverdale location.



## Maestro Thomas Hinds Retired as of September 30 as Music Director and Conductor of the Montgomery Symphony Orchestra after 37 years.



Maestro Hinds, 72, made his debut with the Montgomery Symphony Orchestra in 1983 and quickly became the face of the symphony, leading classical concerts at the Davis Theater and pops concerts at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival and the State Department of Archives and History. Hinds said he is retiring because his wife, cellist Katerina Jauaskova received an opportunity to teach and perform in London, Ontario.

In a letter to the symphony's board of directors, Hinds said, "You have allowed me to make a contribution to an institution I have come to love, for the benefit of a city that has become my home. You have allowed me to have a life of meaning and purpose, and I cannot adequately express my gratitude to you."

Stanley Gregory, Montgomery Symphony Association board president, said, "He devoted the prime of his career to MSO with enthusiasm and innovation. Tom is a tremendous talent, and the Montgomery region has been blessed to have him on our podium for so many years."

Bryan Reeves, the symphony's executive director, said the orchestra will bring in guest conductors for the Coronavirus-shortened 2020-2021 season, and it will use the 2021-2022 season to audition potential conductors.

The Montgomery Symphony Orchestra would have begun its 2020-2021 season with its "Broadway Under the Stars" pops concert on August 28 and its first classical concert on October 5, but the symphony board had to cancel both due to restrictions on large gatherings caused by the Coronavirus pandemic. The symphony's next scheduled classical concert is November 16 at the Davis Theater.

Please visit the Montgomery Symphony's website for the latest on performances and the search for a new conductor: <https://montgomerysymphony.org/>



## Buddy Watch Walk EAST Alabama

Oct 12 – Cuba  
Oct 13 – Bellamy  
Oct 14 – Demopolis  
Oct 15 – Uniontown  
Oct 16 – Marion Jct.  
Oct 17 – Selma  
Oct 21 – Autaugaville  
Oct 22 – Prattville  
Oct 24 – Montgomery  
Oct 29 – BWW Day  
Oct 30 – Shorter  
Oct 31 – Tuskegee  
Nov 1 – Marvyn  
Nov 2 – Ladonia

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



# DINING OUT in the river region



Photo by Roger Kirby, freeimages.com



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**That's My Dog (TMD)** is America's first teen-operated restaurant. Every meal purchased is a donation to **That's My Child**. Join us for a meal and become a **#DonorDog!**

[www.thatsmychildmgm.org](http://www.thatsmychildmgm.org)  
[info@thatsmychild.org](mailto:info@thatsmychild.org)



**PLANTATION HOUSE  
RESTAURANT**

**Annual Oktoberfest**

**Every Friday Night in October**



**GOOD  
FOOD  
GOOD  
FRIENDS  
GOOD  
FUN**

**BUFFET  
\$15.95 + tax  
adult  
\$7.95 + tax  
child  
4-10**

**3240 Grandview Rd., Millbrook, AL  
334-285-1466**

**Hours: Wed. - Fri. 11am - 2pm & Fri. 5pm - 8pm • Sun. 11am - 2pm**

Like Us On





# Kick Back Ranch & Event Center, LLC

Presents

Todd Allen  
Herendeen

ENJOY ALL OF YOUR  
FAVORITES INCLUDING  
CASH, PRESLEY, &  
ORBISON!

## DINNER THEATRE & SUNDAY GOSPEL

SATURDAY NOV 7

DOORS OPEN FOR DINNER AT 5:30, SHOWTIME 7:00

DINNER & SHOW - \$40

SHOW ONLY - \$25

MEMBER & RESIDENT RATE - \$32

\*LIMITED AVAILABILITY, MUST MAKE RESERVATIONS\*

SUNDAY NOV 8

DOORS OPEN FOR LUNCH AT 11:30, CONCERT 2:00

SUNDAY SHOW FREE TO PUBLIC WITH

LUNCH AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE AT 11:30, WALK-UPS WELCOME

CALL 334.286.4140 FOR RESERVATIONS TODAY

\*SEATING FIRST COME FIRST SERVE\*

PRECAUTIONS WILL BE TAKEN IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

# KICK BACK RANCH & EVENT CENTER FALL FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, OCT. 24 3PM TO 8PM

Games  
Vendors  
Food  
Entertainment



\$7 per person  
3 & under free

Costume Contest!

0-6 YRS @ 5:00 PM

7-13 YRS @ 5:30 PM

Prizes for Winners!

RV Decoration Contest

Overnight RV guests decorate your RV and join our contest!



OVERNIGHT GUESTS & RV'S  
ENCOURAGED TO BRING CANDY FOR  
PROPERTY TRICK OR TREATERS

414 UNION ACADEMY ADA RD. RAMER AL  
334.286.4140



334-280-3276

## THE SCARECROWS ARE COMING!



SCARECROWS AT  
THE CREEK

Scarecrow Contest

Oct 3 at 3 pm - Oct 17 at 5 pm  
Voting begins October 5th!

Visit Sweet Creek Cafe! It was voted Best of the Best  
in the Montgomery Advertiser's annual contest for  
Best Barbeque, Best Frozen Treat, and Best Take Out!



[www.facebook.com/sweetcreekfarmmarket](http://www.facebook.com/sweetcreekfarmmarket)

85 Meriwether Road  
Pike Road, AL 36064



Join us for all the fun  
October festivals!!

