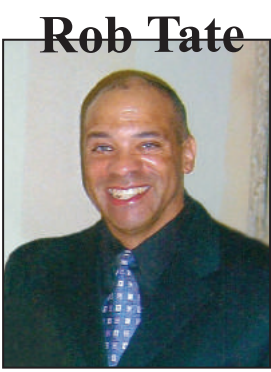


“SOUND OF FREEDOM - A MAJOR MOTION PICTURE MASTERPIECE THAT EVERYONE SHOULD SEE!”



My wife and I went to go see the movie, The Sound of Freedom the other day. All I can say is that it was outstanding. The movie confirmed my belief that any adults that are in the child sex and slavery trade, when caught . . . Let your imagination run free. Apparently, this movie was made in 2018 but its release was delayed after Disney acquired its original distributor, Fox. There it languished until 2023. After watching the movie, I can see why. There are probably more than a few powerful people out there that are sympathetic to this dark corner of human behavior.

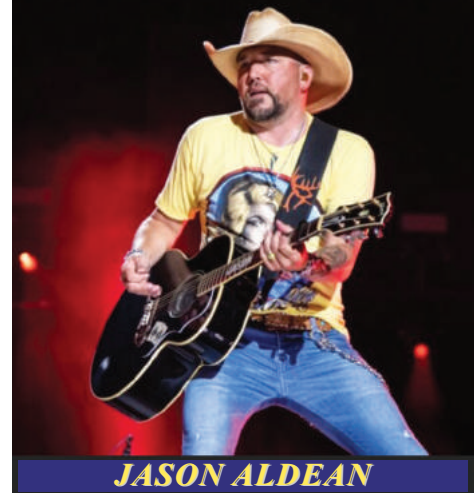
All I can say is go see it! I heard that now you can see it for free if you want to. This is because of their highly successful pay it forward program. If you watch it, you will not be disappointed.

Don’t miss reading Rob’s, *Bits and Pieces #17* and John Giles , *I Could Have Done More.* Articles on page 3.

Note from the Editor:
When experiencing this movie, you realize the true nature of EVIL. We are prone to keep our heads in the sand...it’s safer...than to expose ourselves to the truths of our so-called “advanced societies” of our modern world. I saw no religious propaganda being portrayed, just raw EVIL. OUR CHILDREN HAVE BECOME THE VICTIMS!



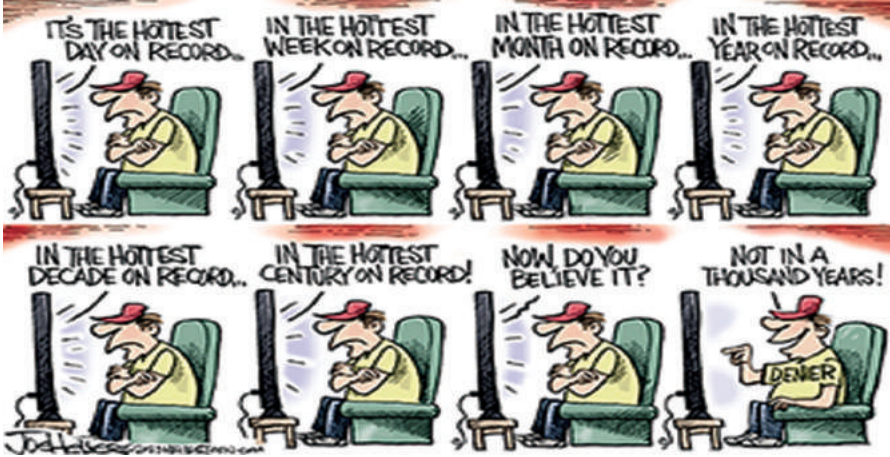
Never Apologize for Being Right "Try That In A Small Town"



“As Americans, we must demand and deserve responsible journalism that presents the whole picture without fear or favor. Instead of embracing sensationalism and perpetuating division, let us strive for media that fosters understanding, promotes unity, and encourages productive conversations about the challenges facing our communities today. Only then can we hope to build a more tolerant, empathetic, and cohesive society for future generations.”

See page 15 by Perry Hooper

STAY HYDRATED SUMMER



Heatstroke signs and symptoms include:

- High body temperature.**
A core body temperature of 104 F (40 C) or higher, obtained with a rectal thermometer, is the main sign of heatstroke.
- Altered mental state or behavior.**
Confusion, agitation, slurred speech, irritability, delirium, seizures and coma can all result from heatstroke.
- Alteration in sweating.**
In heatstroke brought on by hot weather, your skin will feel hot and dry to the touch.

More important information at: [Mayoclinic.org](https://www.mayoclinic.org)
If you think a person may be experiencing heatstroke, seek immediate medical help.
Call 911 or your local emergency services number.

LOOK!
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Inside the StateHouse With Steve Flowers

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

If Alabama Loses Space Command, It Is Because We Lost Shelby



Make no mistake about it, the decision as to where the heralded National Space Command Headquarters will be located is political. If you think otherwise, you are politically naïve.

Senator Richard Shelby is the reason and only reason that the federal military officials even considered moving Space Command from Colorado to Huntsville, Alabama in the first place, period. Folks, you are just beginning to see the impact Senator Shelby’s retirement meant to the State of Alabama.

Our freshman congressional members and even state and Huntsville leaders are continually referring to the results of a commission study that supposedly analyzed the qualifications and best locations for the Command Center and Huntsville was the best choice. Commissions and studies like that are created every day of the week by Washington’s most powerful senators to justify what they want to accomplish. Guess what, Shelby wanted the study to say that Huntsville was the place.

The bottom line is the only reason there was any consideration towards moving the facility from Colorado to Alabama was Richard Shelby, and the only reason that it might not be moving is because he is gone. I knew at the time of the announcement that Space Command Headquarters might move to Alabama, that if Shelby did not get it actually moved before he retired that it would probably never happen.

Our two new senators, Tommy Tuberville and Katie Britt, do not have the power to impact the final decision on Space Command’s location. Seniority is om-nipotent in the U.S. Senate. Britt is 99th out of 100 and Tuberville is 93rd. They have a vote and that is it. Huntsville even has a freshman congressman in Dale Strong. He is less than irrelevant as a new face in the 435 member House. It will be 10 years before they know he is even there. Strong and Britt have been in the House and Senate less than six months. If truth be known, with us having this little clout in Washington, I doubt that Huntsville is even on the radar screen for the headquarters.



Huntsville should not feel so badly about the Biden Administration leaving Space Command in Colorado, it was crumbs compared to what Shelby loaded Huntsville up with in the last decade anyway. This Space Command deal is more for prestige than it is for jobs and dollars. Shelby brought most of the high tech and aerospace dollars in the country to Huntsville, which is what matters. Much more importantly, he moved most of Washington to Huntsville, including the FBI Headquarters. Folks, that is real power. It is unlikely that Alabama or any other state in the nation will ever see the power wielded by Richard Shelby in the nation’s history.

King Shelby was more powerful than the President, whether it be Trump or Biden. As Chairman of the U.S. Senate Appropriations Committee and Chairman of the Subcommittee on Armed Services Appropriations, he called the shots when it came to the U.S. Military. When he spoke, the generals listened.

Unfortunately, when Britt and Tuberville speak, the military generals are cordial, but they could not care less what Britt and Tuberville say. In defense of Katie Britt and Tommy Tuberville, they are giving it their all as freshman senators.

The liberal writers in Alabama have castigated Tommy Tuberville for losing Space Command because of his position on abortion. He is no more the reason than Katie Britt or Dale Strong . All three are representatives of Alabama’s conservative Republican policy towards abortion.

The Biden administration is using this decision to win two political points. First of all, if you are a liberal Democratic president and Space Command is in a liberal Democratic state like Colorado, would you move it to one of the reddest Republican states in America? Secondly, Biden is promoting the notion that since conservative ruby red Alabama has enacted a very restrictive anti-abortion law that he is going to keep Space Command in Colorado. Most Democrats are for abortion on demand. He wins approval and points from both sides of the deal. By the way, he is running for reelection as a Democrat. That is Politics 101. Politics prevails, especially in an election year.

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Annual Legislative Session Successful



The recently completed Regular Session of the Alabama legislature was a success. It began on a high note and ended positively. Why? There was plenty of money to spend. Both the General Fund Budget and the Education Budget had historic amounts of money.

Most of the focus of the Session was on budgeting, as it should be, because that is the only constitutional mandate that the legislature is tasked with in the 105 day Regular Session.

Gov. Kay Ivey laid out her agenda in her State of the State address, then sent her proposed budget requests over to the legislature. The governor’s speech outlining her legislative agenda was about doing good things for education. However, her desires were vague and her ask list was long and wishful, like a kid’s Christmas wish list. It called for the state to give away the store. It was as though she was running for reelection which everyone knows she cannot do. Therefore, the veteran Senate treats her politely, but has relegated her to a lame duck status. The legislature has taken total control of the budgeting process, as they should do under the Constitution. The governor proposes and the legisla-ture disposes. The days of a strong armed, powerful, omnipotent governor that controls both the Executive and Legislative Branches are over. The King George Wallace era is gone, probably forever.

Steve Flowers continued on page 7.

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JUSTICE WILL SELLERS

In evaluating other countries, Ronald Reagan said that the acid test of a nation's liberty and system of government is determined by the gate test. This test was a simple observation of a nation's borders to see which side of the gate had a lock and armed guards. The test is pass-fail. If the country had guards to keep its citizens from getting out, then it fails the gate test, but a country that must guard to prevent people from getting in, passes.

This test examines perceptions of future opportunity to determine which country would gain population if people were allowed to accept or reject citizenship based on a vote of their feet. There are some countries that people yearn to inhabit and others they would leave immediately if they could.

Almost since inception, the United States has received high marks on the gate test. But, the journey to citizenship is not easy. Without experiencing or observing the process, it is difficult to fully appreciate the sacrifices legal immigrants make for the privilege of being called Americans.

In fact, 70 years ago this month, Lt. Franciszek Jarecki became a United States citizen. His path to citizenship required a literal act of Congress. Because he had defected from Poland, and was a former member of the Polish Communist Party, he had to have a congressional dispensation.

Unlike today, the Poland of Jercki’s era failed the gate test. Its people wanted to leave, but guards kept them in. Jarecki, though, was a pilot and had been trained to fly the state-of-the-art MiG-15. This high-performance aircraft was by all accounts the best jet fighter in the world.

Allied pilots fighting in Korea took notice when this new aircraft was introduced into the conflict. The MiG’s advanced technology had aeronautical engineers scratching their heads. It was critical to acquire one of these planes to fully check out its design and determine its vulnerabilities.

To this end, the CIA instigated Operation Moolah, which promised any MiG-15 pilot \$50,000 upon defection and political asylum in America. And, to prove the genuineness of the proposal, the testimony of Lt. Jarecki appeared on leaflets that were dropped over North Korea touting his warm welcome and acceptance.

At the time of his defection, Jarecki was only 22 years old. He was an exceptional student as only elite pilots were allowed to operate the MiG-15. But, in Poland at the time, the Soviet fist dominated everything, and the centuries long antagonism between Russia and Poland was inescapable. Fences and guards held the people in, and any sense of freedom was extinguished by the Soviet puppet government in Warsaw.

Nothing Left To Lose?

Keeping his own counsel, Jarecki shared his desire for freedom with no one. When his unit was moved closer to the Baltic Sea, a military briefing inadvertently revealed that the Danish island of Bornholm was a short distance from his base and contained a small landing strip.

One morning while leading his patrol, he decided without much advanced planning to make a run for freedom. Wanting it to appear that his plane was having mechanical issues while also getting under Soviet radar, he dropped his excess fuel tanks and made a severe dive without any communications with the other pilots on his patrol.

Realizing that time was critical, Jarecki flew very low above the water but was noticed by another pilot and began to hear chatter on his radio that Soviet planes were being scrambled to stop him. He was able to avoid further detection and, in a matter of minutes, had landed his plane undamaged, on Danish soil.

His defection was risky as the consequences were severe. In fact, a few months before his flight to freedom, another Polish pilot had tried to defect but didn't have an allied airfield as close. That pilot was caught, tried for treason, and without any due process or legal niceties, summarily executed. Jarecki knew the price was high. What he didn't know was that his mother would be arrested and imprisoned because of her son's defection. Another gate test failure.

Nevertheless, he succeeded and provided the West with the first completely intact MiG-15. Engineers from the United States were immediately dispatched to conduct a detailed examination of the plane, and Jarecki was on hand to explain the maneuverability from his pilot's perspective.

Once the aircraft was completely reviewed, photographed, and documented, it was returned to Poland by ship. Even though Denmark was a NATO member, its proximity to Russia and the Warsaw Pact countries was such a cause of worry that Danish officials felt returning the plane even without the pilot, would serve as a goodwill gesture.

Jarecki was treated as a hero and the Free Polish government in London recognized his service with a medal. From London he went to the United States, where he confirmed his status as a defector and supplied information about Soviet air capabilities, tactics, and his experience as a MiG pilot.

While the United States compensated him and gave him asylum, he could not become a citizen. U.S. policy required anyone seeking citizenship to have been in the country for several years, and precluded former communists from an easy path to naturalization.

But there was an exception, and that was for Congress to pass an act, specific to Jarecki, which effectively waived these requirements. Given the large Polish American population of his district, then-Congressman Gerald Ford sponsored the legislation to allow Jarecki to become an American.

Seventy years ago, this act was passed, providing yet another example of how the United States passed the gate test with flying colors!

Will Sellers is a graduate of Hillsdale College and an Associate Justice on the Supreme Court of Alabama. He is best reached at jws@willsellers.com.

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ROBSERVATIONS...

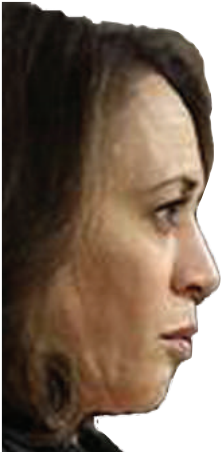
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By: Rob Tate

Bits and Pieces #17

NO! I DON'T WANT TO TAKE YOU TO OUR LEADER.

1. I WILL BE THE FIRST TO ADMIT THAT I GOT IT WRONG. BIG TIME. When President Biden first got into office, I said that he would not make it through his first two years. I thought there was no way in “H-E double hockey sticks” he was going to. But in my defense, nobody in our entire galaxy foresaw how incredibly bad Kamala was going to be. One look at her and you want to breathe a sigh of relief that she is not one step closer to the nuclear codes. But this is not about her. Everyone knows how bad she is whether they want to admit it or not. This Robservation is about the Biden family and how they have made it supremely clear that there are two standards of justice in this country.



2. HUNTER BIDEN PLEA DEAL. Let’s all of us be intellectually honest here. If you did not pay taxes and then unlawfully purchased a gun, you would be sitting in jail right now. After years of investigating Biden’s business dealings in Ukraine, China and Kazakhstan, investigations that began in 2018, all they have come up with is non-behavior changing form of punishment for Hunter. One news outlet reported that Hunter plead guilty to two misdemeanor tax charges but because of the plea deal, prosecutors did not charge him with a felony count of tax evasion for not paying taxes for a year on a business expense. It is not that he didn’t do it, they know he did but chose not to charge him.

As for the gun charge, he lied on a federal form by stating he was not a drug user when in fact he was. He even wrote about his drug issues. Bottom line is he falsified a federal document to buy a gun. That folks, is what we in the real world call, “ILLEGAL.” According to the Washington Post, “Hunter will admit the facts of the gun false statement but will not technically plead guilty to it. Instead, he has agreed to enter a pretrial diversion agreement. A diversion is a process that allows a defendant to avoid court if they agree to abide by certain conditions.)” As a result of not being charged with the felony tax evasion and the gun charge, Hunter will likely get just two years of probation and the diversion. www.vox.com/politics/2023/5/12/23715711/hunter-biden-investigation-taxes-indictment Pretty sweet deal.

3. COCAINE IN THE WHITE HOUSE. This has got to be one of the summer’s strangest stories. Or should I say, most corrupt stories. It is hard to imagine how nonchalant most of the media is about this story. We are not talking about a lost kid wandering the halls of the White House from some tourist group, but an illegal drug found in what is supposed to be one of the most secure buildings in the country. What if it was anthrax? Ricin? A bomb? Somebody snuck this item into the White House when it should have been caught. The most disturbing aspect is that the Secret Service has decided to end their investigation without identifying a potential suspect. I find that almost impossible to fathom considering all the cameras throughout the building. I read one news story that said the Secret Service knows who the culprit is. I would think they absolutely know. But it is just another indication that there is not one justice system in this country for all people.



4. BIDEN “SNIFF-GATE.” www.foxnews.com/politics/biden-nibbles-frightened-young-girl-during-trip-finland-weirding-twitter-users So how many

of you saw the President in Finland the other day? He was standing in a line greeting people when he spied a little girl. He walked up and started acting like he was trying to nibble on her. He was mouthing all around her and then stepped back, leaned in and true to form, took a sniff of the little girl. Some may want to deny it but it is there for everyone to see. Sniffed? Yeah, sniffed. Sadly, it cannot be unseen. Sorry but that is creepy as can be. On what planet is that acceptable behavior for the POTUS? And we all know this is not the first time this type of behavior has been caught on film. Truly sad.

5. JOE BIDEN’S GRANDDAUGHTER. In a truly sad story, Hunter Biden’s illegitimate daughter has gotten a lot of attention as of late. I do not care about the mother’s past. That whole stones and glass houses thing. But the real issue is that Hunter will not let the little girl, his daughter, take his name and has gone to court to lower his child support payments. But worse is that President Biden will not acknowledge the little girl as his grandchild. That is pretty low down and low rent. Look, no matter what, that little girl is still Joe Biden’s granddaughter; whether he wants to admit it or not. Shameful but not surprising.



6. ANGRY JOE. Have you all read the stories of how many White House staffers are afraid to deal with President Biden face-to-face because he is so mean. He loves to curse, tell people to get the “blank” out of here, “how the blank do you not know this” and the like. Many people have likened this to the same behavior many people with dementia or Alzheimer’s show when faced with situations they are not sure how to cope with. When you watch Biden in action, I would likely have to agree with those assessments.

7. NATO. finally, a segment that has nothing to do with President Biden. First, the Ukraine gain-Show of hands. Who is Okay, my turn. I am to- least. I know at the lat- was one of the main de- much to help the into NATO, I am not solutely no way in heck today. Once the war say let’s reassess. The



ing admittance into NATO. for it? Who is against it? tally against it. For now at est NATO conference, this bates. People want so Ukraine but admittance buying it. In fact, I say ab- would I support it. Not with Russia is over, then I reason I say, “No,” for now

8. NATO. When I was flying the NATO AWACS, we had members from Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, the United Kingdom, the United States, Greece, Turkey and Germany all flying on our jets together. Although Spain, France, Luxembourg and Iceland were members, they did not have crewmembers flying with us. Today, NATO has grown and now we have Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Albania, Croatia, Montenegro and North Macedonia. I have no idea how many of those countries participate in the NATO AWACS program. But what I do know, of all the countries listed, only Greece, the US, Poland, UK, Croatia, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania pay their required 2% of GDP for defense as part of the NATO treaty. I am not sure why so many in Europe continually expect the US to ante up and pay above and beyond our requirement to help secure their safety. This is just one reason so many of our NATO allies hated President Trump. He was determined to get all the allies to pay their required share and they did not like that at all. I think our current lawmakers should try to enforce the same thing.



2 Chronicles 7:14

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

King James Version



John Giles
Former President & Chairman, Choose Life Alabama

I Could Have Done More!!!

For the second Saturday in a row, my wife and I went to see “**Sound of Freedom.**” As the credits were playing, Jim Caviezel was doing the wrap charging all who saw the movie to tell the story and take action. I was reduced to tears both times seeing the movie. My mind immediately was drawn to Oskar Schindler. At the end of WWII, he was leaving the factory surrounded by Jews he had saved. They presented him with a thank you letter signed by all factory workers, gave him a handmade pure gold ring, he was broken by this love and reduced to tears. This setting gave name to the theme song, “I Could Have Done More.” I left the parking lot in tears thinking, “I am not doing enough.”

Oskar Schindler was a German Industrialist, humanitarian, and a member of the Nazi Party, who is credited with saving the lives of 1,200 Jews during the Holocaust by employing them in his enamelware and ammunitions factories in occupied Poland and the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia. During this final scene in the movie, shedding tears in this emotional heart-gripping scene, Schindler was taking inventory of his life. He said he wasted so much money in his life that could have been used purchasing Jewish prisoners, rescuing them from the death camps. He looked at his car and said he could have bought ten more. I could have done more.

The darkest of all industries, human trafficking is estimated to be a \$150 billion in sales globally. These sales have surpassed illegal arms & drug sales combined. There are an estimated 25 million adults and children worldwide victimized with 80% going into forced labor and 20% into sex trafficking. While boys and men are victims, most individuals identified as trafficked for labor and commercial sex are women and girls. For every 10 victims detected globally, five are adult women and two are girls, according to a report released in 2021. We have learned from Epstein Enterprises, just how deep and broad this industry lures, ensnares high level corporate and government leaders. This story has yet to unfold putting sun light on this despicably protected, globally webbed underground industry.

Economic ~ Social ~ Moral ~ Constitutional Conservatism

Like you, as one American who loves their country, I get a bit overwhelmed at the tasks before us to save this great Republic. The trojan horses have been unleashed on the “Seven Hills of Influence.” There are multiple battles engaged in religion, churches, family, academia, media, government, business, and the arts. We have an open border with bonafied deplorable illegally pouring into our country, liberal wokeness has spread like kudzu onto every platform, men can now use women’s bathrooms, compete against women in athletics, and they now say men can birth a child and breastfeed, we have elections being stolen and our great country is in a downward spiraling vortex, but I need to be doing more.

This attack on the family cannot be ignored by any of us. Jim Caviezel, playing the part of Tim Ballard, the former CIA and Homeland Security Special Agent said, “**Gods Children Are Not for Sale.**” We ALL need to engage. Find an existing non-profit to give money or volunteer or both. Find your battle station and don’t move until their white flag has been raised.

Most of my adult life from a volunteer perspective outside of church has been spent working in the prolife arena and electing economic, moral, social and constitutional conservative Republicans to office. I can always do more. After watching this movie, it affects us all. I have nine granddaughters. I am strongly compelled to do more.

Edmond Burke, the renowned English member of Parliament once stated, “The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing.”

All I could see leaving the moving theater was a somber, sober Schindler standing with 1100 Jews still alive and all I could hear was the strings of the violin crying to the tune, “**I Could Have Done More.**”

My heart breaks looking into the innocent faces of these children being sold like chattel. There is a room reserved in Hell for these despicable, wicked, vile, heartless beasts who inflict horror and stain on God’s children. The death penalty is ground zero for punishment.

Join me as we find our assigned post in this battle, WE CAN DO MORE!! I Could Have Done More!!

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Ronald A. Holtsford

After Pearl Harbor and the means in which the sneak attack was carried out, Americans became highly suspicious of the Japanese. There were over 110,000 Japanese living on the United States West Coast of which about 70,000 were citizens. Many lived near strategic military areas on the West Coast, which was also closer to Japan and thus more susceptible to attack. Some Japanese-Americans were very committed to the mother country, having sent tinfoil and money in Japan’s war with China. Some Japanese children had dual citizenship ensured by their parents and some received a significant portion of their education in Japan. Many radio transmissions were intercepted following the Pearl Harbor attack and submarines attacked ships as they left West Coast ports. About 5,000 Japanese refused to pledge allegiance to the United States and several thousand requested repatriation to Japan. The evacuation of Japanese and other subversive persons from the West Coast was recommended by the commanding officer of the Western Defense Command. Though second and third generations of Americanized Japanese might be affected, General DeWitt still felt their loyalties might lie with Japan. Oddly enough, he stated, “. . . the very fact that no sabotage has taken place to date is a disturbing and confirming indication that such action will be taken” (yes, you read that correctly).

President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 and Congress enacted it as law in March 1942. More than 100,000 Japanese in parts of Arizona, Washington, Oregon and all of California were removed to camps more inland if they had not already moved. Their property was seized. The curfew, removal and detention of Japanese-Americans was challenged and affirmed in the Supreme Court cases of *Hirabayashi v. United States*, *Ex Parte Endo* and *Korematsu v. United States*.

Korematsu was arrested and convicted under the law after being found in a prohibited area in California. It was argued by defense that Mr. Korematsu understood both that he was to leave or be arrested but also that anyone found in the area would be arrested.

Justice Hugo Black of Alabama wrote the majority opinion. Justice Black believed that such restrictions on a single race are suspect as being unconstitutional, but also stated that pressing public necessity might justify such action as that taken with those of Japanese ancestry on the U.S. West Coast. Black felt that only the gravest imminent danger to the public could constitutionally justify either the confinement of a race to their homes during certain hours of the day or the removal from their home.

Black said, “It was because we could not reject the finding of the military authorities that it was impossible to bring about an immediate segregation of the disloyal from the loyal that we sustained the validity of the curfew order as applying to the whole group.” Further Black said, “To cast this case into outlines of racial prejudice, without reference to the real military dangers which were

presented, merely confuses the issue.” We cannot- by availing ourselves of the calm perspective of hindsight-now say that at the time those actions were unjustified.”

Justice Murphy wrote a dissenting opinion, saying, “The judicial test of whether the Government, on a plea of military necessity can validly deprive an individual of any of his constitutional rights is whether the deprivation is reasonably related to a public danger that is so immediate, imminent and impending as not to admit of delay and not to permit the intervention of ordinary constitutional processes to alleviate the danger.” But to infer that examples of individual disloyalty prove action against the entire group is to deny that under our system of law individual guilt is the sole basis for deprivation of rights.” Also dissenting, Justice Jackson wrote, “A citizen’s presence in the locality, however, was made a crime only if his parents were of Japanese birth. Had Korematsu been one of four- the others being, say a German alien enemy, an Italian alien enemy, and a citizen of American-born ancestors, convicted of treason, but out on parole- only Korematsu’s presence would have violated the order.”

The 1984 Federal District Court case, forty years after *Korematsu v. United States* served to correct an error of fact (writ of coram noblis). Justice Patel wrote that the overturning of conviction was due to a factual error and not error of law in the 1944 Supreme Court case. Congress passed Title II of the Internal Security Act in 1950 to allow the President to have those apprehended that might reasonably engage in espionage or sabotage. It was suggested by a U.S. House of Representatives committee, that the law be used to detain those involved in urban riots. It enraged African Americans and was repealed in 1971. It was not the first time that a United States President had repealed the civil rights of some of its citizens, Abraham Lincoln had suspended the writ of habeas corpus during the War Between the States.

Though worthy of more than a footnote, segregated Japanese- American troops served with distinction in the European theatre during World War II as evidenced by numerous medals of valor awarded many of its members. The 60,000 surviving detainees were given \$20,000 each as reparation in 1988.

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

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

Ronald A. Holtsford, Esq.
Ronald A. Holtsford, LLC
7956 Vaughn Road, Box #124
Montgomery, AL 36116
(334) 220-3700

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Colonel John Eidsmoe

IS BASTILLE DAY LIKE THE 4TH OF JULY?

Last month's column, *"Declaration of Independence: Rebellion, or Interposition?"* asked whether the Declaration of Independence and the War for Independence that followed were consistent with the Bible's admonition that we are to obey the civil authorities (**Romans 13:1-7; 1 Peter 2:13**).

We saw that civil disobedience is sometimes justified (**Exodus 1; Daniel 3, 6; Acts 5:29**); but further, we saw that the American War for Independence was neither rebellion nor civil disobedience; it was lawful interposition in which lesser magistrates *"interpose"* or place themselves between the people they represent and the higher magistrate who has become a tyrant. Interposition is consistent with II Chronicles 10 and the English Magna Charta of 1215. And on 4 July we celebrate Independence Day.

But France celebrates in July for another reason: 14 July is Bastille Day, the day in 1789 when, as some tell it, freedom-seeking French peasants stormed that notorious prison known as the Bastille to free the political prisoners and establish *"liberty, equality, fraternity."* (The original slogan was *"Liberty, Equality, Fraternity, or Death!"*) And some think the French revolutionaries and the American patriots were fighting for the same cause.

[Note to readers: Does that bear any resemblance to events of today?]

In the late 1700s France was suffering from moral decay. As historian Otto Scott wrote in Robespierre -- Inside the French Revolution (New York 1974),

"French intellectuals, middle and upper classes had grown ashamed of their country, history and institutions. Such a phenomenon had never before arisen in any nation or race throughout the long history of mankind. A great loosening began; the country slowly came apart. For the first time since the decadent days of Rome, pornography emerged from its caves and circulated openly in a civilized nation. The Catholic Church in France was intellectually gutted; the priests lost their faith along with the congregations. Strange cults appeared; sex rituals, black magic, satanism. Perversion became not only acceptable, but fashionable. ... The air grew thick with plans to restructure and reconstruct all traditional French society and institutions."

As France plummeted into economic collapse, agitators dispersed into the countryside to destroy grain stores and terrorize peasants, while hired mobs staged "spontaneous" riots in Paris. On July 14, 1789 a mob stormed the Bastille to free the "political" prisoners. Ignoring a white flag of truce, they massacred the warden and his soldiers, carrying their heads on spikes through the streets. As it turned out, there were a total of seven prisoners in the Bastille, none of whom were political. (The last arguably "political" prisoner, the Marquis de Sade, had been transferred ten days earlier.) King Louis XVI and Queen Marie Antoinette were beheaded, and in June 1792 a mob seized the National Assembly and made Danton dictator of France.

The National Assembly was increasingly radicalized under the leadership of Georges Jacques Danton and Maximilien Robespierre, and during this time the terms *"left wing"* and *"right wing"* were first coined. Led by Robespierre, the radical Jacobins sat on the left side, but they also used the term "left" in defiance of Christian tradition which portrayed believers at the right hand of God and unbelievers at His left hand.

In 1790 the National Assembly nationalized the Roman Catholic Church, made priests government employees, and created a French church under the control of the government. Priests who obeyed the Pope and refused to submit to the Assembly were evicted from their pulpits. An openly-atheistic national religion was created, the *"Cult of Reason,"* and an actress was enthroned in the Notre Dame Cathedral as the *"goddess of reason."* Over 2,000 churches were seized, renamed Temples of Reason, and used to promote this cult.

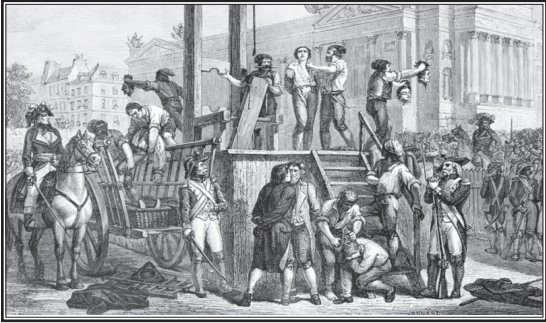


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The Reign of Terror was in full swing as mobs roamed the streets looking for anyone who might not be fully committed to the Revolution. Mere accusations were tantamount to convictions, and no real opportunity was given to present a defense. 40,000 people were dragged to the guillotine (exact figures vary), two-thirds of whom were peasants. 300,000 were executed by firing squads and other means, both in Paris and throughout the countryside.

Evil usually destroys itself, and the revolutionaries turned on each other. Danton decided Robespierre was too bloodthirsty and urged restraint; on 5 April 1794 Robespierre had him guillotined on charges of corruption. Before his execution Danton declared, *"Robespierre will follow me"*. And sure enough, less than three months later the mob turned on Robespierre and guillotined him 27 July 1794.



By this time the people of France had had enough, and they established a five-member committee called The Directory to restore order. But the Directory was unable to govern effectively, facing uprisings by royalists on the Right and Jacobins on the Left, and was overthrown by Napoleon Bonaparte in 1799. Liberty, equality, and fraternity gave way to dictatorship, and millions died in the Napoleonic wars that followed.

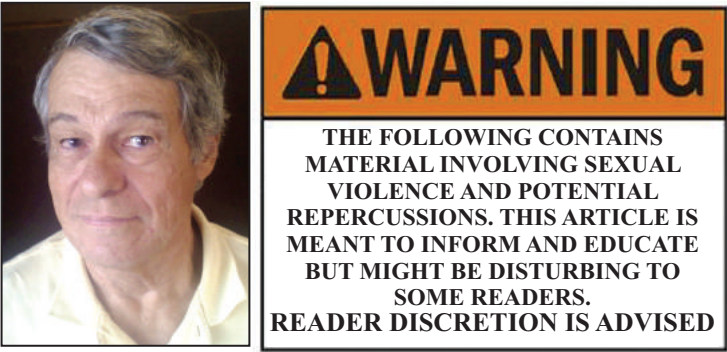
So should we celebrate Bastille Day and the French Revolution? Did they fight for the same ideals as American patriots? Observe the differences:

1. The American War for Independence was an act of interposition waged by the duly-constituted governments of the 13 colonies and their Continental Congress, not seeking to overthrow King George III but only seeking independence. The French Revolutionaries were a mob of self-appointed thugs who represented nobody but themselves.
2. The American War for Independence was, as Samuel Eliot Morison of Harvard called it, *"The Conservative American Revolution."* It left property, laws, and local governments in place, and only changed the seat of the national government. The French Revolution became a Reign of Terror, confiscating and redistributing property, abolishing national and local governments, and dragging untold thousands to their deaths. There was no guillotine on the streets of Philadelphia.
3. The Declaration of Independence is based on the "Laws of nature and of nature's God," recognizes our creation by God as the only basis for true equality and our God-given rights as the only basis for calling rights unalienable, appealed the *"Supreme Judge of the world"* for the rectitude of our intentions, and affirmed its *"firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence."* Many American churches and clergy supported the movement for independence, although some opposed it. In stark contrast, the French Revolution embraced atheism and engaged in open warfare against Christianity.
4. The Declaration of Independence, the War for Independence, and the Constitution of 1787 established the United States as a free nation and served as model for freedom-loving peoples throughout the world. The French Revolution became the model for socialist and Communist movements everywhere.

What do Vladimir Lenin, Josef Stalin, Fidel Castro, Mao Tse Tung, Pol Pot, and other tyrants have in common? They look to Robespierre as their inspiration.

[Readers, please consider: Do the orchestrated Antifa-led riots of 2020 and beyond derive their inspiration from the French Revolution? Are they leading us toward another Reign of Terror?]

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John Martin man can commit against a woman. It has existed since before the dawn of history and has remained a serious problem in many parts of the world right until the present day.

A 2001 WHO study revealed that 20% of women worldwide had been rape or attempted rape victims at least once. In 2011, the CDC said that one in five women in America are sexually assaulted, and more than 40% are under age 18.

Rape preventing devices are relatively recent. The earliest ones were chastity belts, which were first introduced in about the 1400's. They remained popular in many cultures up until Victorian times in the 1800's and sometimes beyond. Needless to say, they were very uncomfortable.

More radical devices began at least as early as the Vietnam war in the 1960's, when soldiers took liberties in raping women in the local villages. During that time, in Vietnam and neighboring countries, the local people developed Anti-rape devices made from short pieces of bamboo lined with sharp blades.

To make one, a piece of bamboo with a node on one end was selected for a suitable size and length to fit comfortably in a woman's vagina. Rough edges were polished off to ensure comfort. The piece was then split lengthwise to facilitate installation of the blades—anywhere from one to perhaps as many as four. The simplest design was a razor blade mounted horizontally about halfway down, which would slice a penis lengthwise anywhere from a few millimeters up to perhaps two inches, depending on the force of the input. Other designs might contain pointed blades facing downward with the sharpened edges on their back sides, allowing the penis to slide in, but cutting it on the way out. The two bamboo halves were securely glued back together, for strength and also to function as a condom to prevent impregnation and venereal diseases.

Although popular, they were condemned by others who had softer hearts for violent criminals instead of their victims.

In much of the world, and especially in African countries, rape convictions are rare. Victims have little access to medical care, and DNA tests to track down rapists are expensive.

In Post Apartheid South Africa in the 1990's, rape escalated to explosive levels, and it has now become *“The Rape Capital of the World.”* A University of South Africa study estimated 2,777 rapes per day—a total of 1 million every year—plagued the country. Anti-rape activist Charlene Smith claimed that a South African woman is now raped every 26 seconds—40% of them children, and 65% gang-raped. Successful convictions continue to be few. People in nearly all of the country are terrified. Some women resort to drastic measures, right up to wrapping razor blades in sponges and inserting them into their vaginas. No wonder South Africans have vowed to take serious action.

In 2000, Jaap Haumann (a South African) designed a tampon-like device with *“a hard cylindrical plastic core containing a tensioned spring blade primed to slice... the tip of a penis... in effect performing a minor penectomy.”* Haumann figured that a million women would buy and use it. Critics claimed it was barbaric. Sales never materialized, and the media ridiculed him.

Sonette Ehlers, who worked at the South African Blood Transfusion Service, met many rape victims. One of them told her, *“If only I had teeth down there.”* That was Ehlers' *“eureka”* moment.

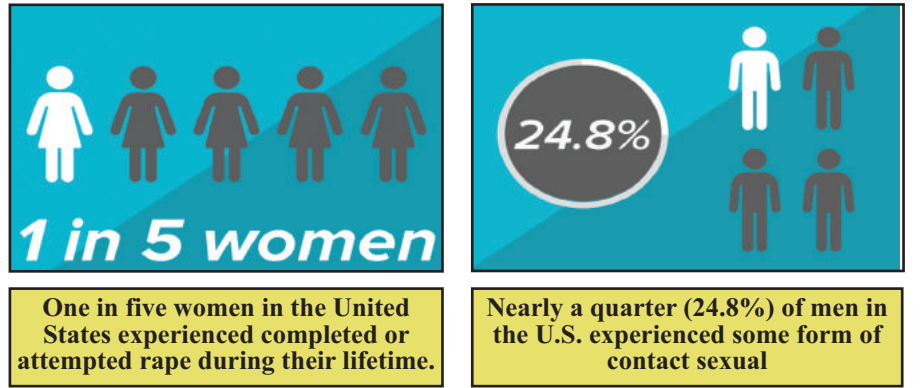
On August 31, 2005, Ehlers unveiled a condom-like anti-rape device she called RAPEX. (In 2006, the name was changed to Rape-aXe because RAPEX is also a European warning system against dangerous goods on the market).

The Rape-aXe is *“a latex sheath embedded with shafts of sharp, inward-facing barbs that would be worn by a woman in her vagina like a female condom.”* A rapist's penis would easily slip into the device, but upon withdrawal, the barbs would snag it and cause *“excruciating pain,”* distracting and disabling him and allowing the victim time to escape.

MORE INFORMATION:

The Rape, Abuse, & Incest National Network (RAINN), organizes the National Sexual Assault Telephone Hotline. The Hotline is a referral service that can put you in contact with your local rape crisis center. You can call the Hotline at: 1-800-656-4673, or access RAINN’s online chat service.

IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW HAS BEEN A VICTIM OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE, YOU’RE NOT ALONE...



For more information, help, education, resources, crisis lines, counseling and more please visit the National Sexual Violence Resource Center Alabama at:

<https://www.nsvrc.org/states-territories/alabama>



To: John Martin
Alabama Gazette

Dear John:

Your article "The National Debt catastrophe" is accurate and potent .

I feel that what politicians and Washington bureaucrats have done to federal spending and debt is the most irresponsible behaviour in my lifetime. Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,
Laurence Grinter

P.S. Interest payments on this debt-\$400Billion+ are more than all veteran benefits & services and all education, agriculture, space & environment combined.

Note from the Editor!

The Alabama Gazette’s staff of writers always welcomes comments from our readers.

Send in your editorials and comments to our staff and writers.

We will try and see that they are published...space permitting.

We believe that the Gazette has the best writers in the state. They are dedicated professionals with commentary you won’t see anywhere else.

Thank you for reading The Alabama Gazette!

RAPIST BEWARE

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Rape is one of the most heinous crimes a

The device would remain attached to the rapist's penis, and would only become more painful if he attempted to pull it loose. He would also be unable to run and chase the victim.

The rapist's only option is a hospital emergency room, where it can be safely removed surgically. The hospital can then take DNA samples and detain him for the police.

Unlike the crude Vietnamese devices, and in spite of the pain, the Rape-aXe does not damage the penis or even break the skin. Like an ordinary condom, the Rape-aXe also prevents impregnation and venereal diseases.

Nevertheless, some critics, including many women, have condemned the Rape-aXe for being cruel. It is not. It does no permanent damage, other than some well-deserved trauma for the rapist. WHY are they feeling sympathy for vicious sadists, and none for the victims?

Ehlers consulted engineers, gynecologists, psychologists, and convicted rapists to determine its effectiveness and sold her house and car to begin production. She reportedly distributed 30,000 for free at the 2010 World Cup soccer venues. After a trial period, they would be sold for about \$2 each.

Women would not need to wear the Rape-aXe all of the time. Ehlers said, *“The ideal situation would be for a woman to wear this when she's going out on some kind of blind date ... or to an area she's not comfortable with.”*

Development of the Rape-aXe is still under way. Many prototypes have been made. The cost of production has been brought down to one rand, about 14 cents each—a huge profit margin with a retail price of \$2.

But production and marketing are still on hold. **WHY?** We do not yet know when the Rape-aXe will become available for the public. Many women are praying that it will be very soon. Eighteen years have passed since its introduction in 2005.

ATTENTION, SONETTE EHLERS: Rape victims all over the world have been waiting NEARLY TWO DECADES to purchase your product. STOP the rape pandemic. STOP dragging your heels. Quit begging for donations on GoFundMe. PRODUCE a batch and sell them on Amazon and eBay IMMEDIATELY. Use that 14X profit margin to make more and repeat, again and again. Soon you will have that \$310,000 you want for more research and development, if it's even needed.

And **ENTREPRENEURS** need to come forth and manufacture similar devices, just in case Sonette fails to deliver.

SOURCES:

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John Sophocleus

TWO FACED SENATOR TELETUBBY

Another one of our overcompensated ‘public servants’ made Alabama proud with potato-head mutterings and dim-witted TV comments this past month. Sunday talking head ‘Tube-R-ville’ mispronunciation amplify despair of how little Teletubby’s handlers improved performance of this highly subsidized (this IS Auburn) football coach milking the RSA on par with Florida resident Jay Jacobs... that is, if one controls for Tubberville’s shorter duration at Alabama’s hog-trough on the Plains.

Lee County Commission Watcher Rudy McCumsey, among the most courageous these past years addressing commissioner corruption (including one of the most accomplished politburo thieves who shamelessly brags about his connection to Coach Tubberville) evoked thoughts of how two-faced the Teletubby has been stating the following:

Tommy Tuberville coached in arguably the toughest college football conference in the country. He coached an undefeated season in 2004 with a team of diverse players from all walks of life. Recently he’s on record saying white nationals should be allowed in the military. White nationalists say they seek to ensure the survival of the white race and the cultures of historically white states. Why support a political candidate, now senator, who thinks white nationals aren’t racist? It clearly states their ideology in the name yet our senator can’t comprehend this and is willing to double down on remarks.

Corruption refers to the abuse of power for personal gain or the misuse of public resources. In Alabama we don’t have to look too far back in history to see former Alabama House Speaker Mike Hubbard ethics violations. Corruption results in significant economic burden on taxpayers; eroding trust in public institutions. Corruption exacerbates existing social and economic inequalities. Corruption within governmental systems has far-reaching consequences, particularly when it comes to the misuse and misappropriation of public funds. If we don’t speak up and at least question our elected officials then we aren’t any better. This is a government for the people, by the people and we need to start holding all elected officials accountable.

Mr. McCumsey’s ‘doubling-down’ observation and call to question prompts me to ask, which Teletubby position will be next? Some may recall when ‘Coach Tubby’ evoked getting rid of the battle flag as a weapon of ‘mass distraction’ from his poor recruiting skills. When folks asked why I didn’t support his coming to Auburn, this was among the reasons I found him dishonest and not very bright. Long time column readers will recall I’m a fan of Shelby Foote who despaired at Tubberville’s folly w.r.t. the battle flag, giving up hope the flag’s symbolism of fighting for independence and State sovereignty was finished at Ole’ Miss. One thing Alabamians can depend on is our Senators (one an overpaid football coach and the other a high end political prostitute making \$574,000 a year from the BCA before installed last election) will go for money, power and party over their oath, principle and integrity -- **every time**. And yes, Shelby Britt’s replacement at the BCA is another big govt. Democrat for those who care more about the colour of one’s jersey over her character. Similarly difficult to believe AU politburo members up in DC wearing the blue jersey, one vowing he cares about women’s health in the military after some of those who genuinely care about Auburn requested this Board member [Austin] address a corrupt FAR (Faculty Athletic Representative), Girl’s Softball rape, etc. Of course, this true of love of AU doesn’t reconcile with Bentley/Ivey style ‘Auburn Luv.’

Recent Teletubby episodes drove commenting again on <https://www.alabama-gazette.com/story/2019/09/01/opinion/im-a-god-supremacist/1732.html> which addressed supremacy and sovereignty as my first column in retirement from AU where civil rights are oft subject to malice, recently affirmed in federal court. I evoked Antonin Scalia’s understanding, intellect and Spirit on issues of supremacy, sovereignty, power and authority. Justice Scalia’s explicit courage as a ‘fool for Christ’ surprised some, given his station and “originalist” reasoning. Seems fewer DC politburo members, esp. the Britt, Jones, Shelby, Tubberville types appreciate why the First Commandment was put first and how most ‘miss this mark’ by making something else, usually government(s) their god. I provided many Scriptures in that 2019 column, from Acts to Zephaniah, asserting God’s supremacy and sovereignty throughout time.

So Teletubby once again triggered further discourse on national socialism, white supremacy, etc. as our senators show great ignorance and inability to think critically... proffering further embarrassment fueled with the fallacy of generalization. In our hegemonic, hyper-centralized result, many find it easier to distance oneself from God; rewarded (in the short-run) to embrace greater government control and power. Sadly, most cannot (or denial/refusal) identify government(s) as the source of their problems over the ages. If one wants to address more substantive harm Tubberville has proffered with ‘interim’ positions

in the military, it is doubtful he’s sees anything wrong after coming from ‘interim-U’ at Auburn, where retired generals offered no objection - esp. if remonstrations of this sort would obstruct wealth transfers to ‘public servants’ like Lowder’s AU credit card political theft, Rane’s kitchen and luxury condo on the backs of students and taxpayers along with other Hubbard-grubbers these past decades.

Senators like Shelby Britt and Tommy Teletubby don’t possess the character and intellect to comprehend security threats our alphabet soup of agencies present (ATF, CIA, KGB - er, I mean Dept. of Homeland Security, FBI, NSA, TSA, etc.) instead of federal marshals for civilian and ONI for military/non-citizen investigation as the only two security Agencies/Departments under the Executive. Ever increasing bureaucracy under our decaying/less representative politburo is exactly what the founders feared and predicted. Trump’s ‘Space Farce’ and the wealth transfer/distortion to bring more unsustainable growth to Alabama further destroying the generic, productive (non-parasite) citizen’s quality of life is just another iteration. No doubt Space belongs under the Navy with an established history of solving navigational problems, fuel and provision capacities/constraints, etc. and purposefully not placed under a 2 year appropriations limit. How much has our federal government squandered on ‘defense’ redundancies of this sort over safety, economy and security? Yes, I do expect to get the usual ‘nastygrams’ from political parasites as a result of typing this... most political hacks do not have the ability to see themselves as such - if they did, they’d likely have the Spirit and intellect to **not** be a parasite.

Many encounter self-labeled Christians of poor spirit - do you reject all Christians? I’ve dealt with poor administrators, coaches, doctors, engineers, lawyers, lobbyists, policemen, priests, soldiers, students, university presidents... that doesn’t prompt me to reject them all but look more closely for those of good Spirit. I’ve observed progressives (the worst among the white nationalists/supremacists) co-opt the Cross, flags (e.g., battle flag, 34 to 50 Star US) etc., which doesn’t make me reject the symbol but to rebuke a burning Cross advancing evil ends. I’ve observed battle flag and US flags used by progressives to advance false and most violent white supremacist rhetoric. I’ll never overcome disdain for misuse of the US **military** flag - esp. despotic politburo members in DC wearing it on their lapel like a shield. The military flag is constantly dishonoured/stained when used where inappropriate or flown where the **civilian** federal flag (purposefully phased out to make the point of DC hegemony) applies. I nonetheless revel at our flag flown where indeed apropos and what I know is still fundamentally good in those stars and stripes waiting to move us forward again toward liberty and away from leviathan. It is clear political hack Teletubby parasites of this world who stand for nothing **fail** to hold the intellect and integrity to be sound stewards for our State that purposefully remain irresponsible to their oath. Shame on us for (re)installing them in Alabama.

Postscript: Some asked to provide thoughts on “No Label” party movements getting increasingly more mass-media attention. Not displaying much traction in Alabama, national ‘talking head’ Sunday press showcase former Sen. Doug Jones, who offered little more candlepower than the football coach parasite and political BCA cheerleader senators mentioned above - i.e., nothing to crow about. Little surprise Jones failed to mention strong turnout on the margin by **non-duopoly** candidates (esp. Bishop) is what installed Jones into his brief US Senate stint to be replaced by a mediocre at best football coach who’s shown himself even more inept at understanding and following the Constitution. Unlikely the third party which had ballot access under the **unconstitutional** congressional districting last election will be allowed on the ballot for the corrected ones, given how tyrannical our State is w.r.t. allowing political competition. Comments from those who understood the June *Gazette* column on Birmingham *I&R* as a way to make a difference are much appreciated.

More recently the Libertarian Party of Madison County Alabama [LPMCA] filed a resolution for participation in the 2024 primary election. Information may be found at LPMCA.org [Ollie Rhys, Chair] or contact coordinator, Anson Knowles at (256) 698-4933. **LPA** success in the 2022 General Election (Alan Barksdale’s Sheriff race; **23%** and Laura Lane’s PSC race; **26%**) earning at least 20% qualified **LPMCA** a major Political Party for Madison County elections removing ballot access petition requirements for any county office (or below) race.

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AMERICA NEEDS SENATOR TOMMY TUBERVILLE



As a former legislator and life-long conservative Republican, I have come to understand the distinct and often harsh tone of politics in America. The game is played tough, and those who shy away from the hard tackles of debate and policy often find themselves on the sidelines. I have been in the trenches, and I know the quality of a true fighter when I see one. Today, I want to talk about a warrior of a different kind who has transitioned his battle from the football field to the U.S. Senate — Senator Tommy Tuberville.

As a former football coach, Tuberville has a unique perspective on leadership. In his career, he has led teams to win championships. He knows the value of discipline, hard work, and teamwork. His focus is not only on winning but on building character, which is perhaps the most underappreciated quality of a leader. These skills have allowed him to navigate the political world with ease and effectiveness.

One of Tuberville's critical strengths lies in his consistent dedication to conservative principles. Too often we see politicians waver and bend to the whims of public opinion. Senator Tuberville, however, understands that sound fiscal and social policy do not change with the political tides. They are founded on values that have stood the test of time — values that have kept this country on its feet even in the most challenging circumstances.

Over the past two years, the Biden administration has infused woke politics into the military, a move that reached a regrettable peak in February. The administration is saddling taxpayers with the cost of travel and paid leave for service members, their spouses, and dependents seeking elective abortions. This move blatantly disregards a bipartisan agreement, The Hyde Amendment, which has stood for 40 years: taxpayers should not be compelled to fund abortions, barring cases of rape, incest, or threats to the life of the mother. Despite this long-standing consensus Supreme Court precedent, the Biden administration side-stepped the law with a simple memorandum.



Perry O. Hooper Jr.

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



When rumors of this radical policy change began to circulate in December, Senator Tuberville issued a stern warning to Pentagon officials, threatening to block their nominees in the Senate if they persisted. However, the administration defiantly proceeded with their illegal plan, prompting Senator Tuberville to fulfill his promise by blocking nominations.

In response, the Washington outrage machine sprang into action. Majority Leader Chuck Schumer took an unusual step calling out Senator Tuberville by name on the Senate floor. Being relatively new to Capitol Hill, Tuberville was surprised to find himself the specific target of the majority leader four days in a row. A symphony of pro-abortion Democrats joined Schumer, reproaching Tuberville for staying true to his word.

This indignation, however, is markedly selective. Senate Democrats have recently threatened holds on military nominations to halt the relocation of the military’s Space Command from Colorado to Huntsville, Alabama – a decision deemed optimal by the Air Force.

Senator Tuberville's hold has so far impacted 187 nominations. Yet Democrats need not chastise him, especially as they disregard the military's real crisis: recruitment. Thanks to the Biden administration's liberal appointees, the military has experienced its sharpest drop in recruitment in 50 years. There's a shortfall of more than 15,000 Army recruits from last year, not to mention over 8,000 service members discharged due to Biden's vaccine mandate.

Democrats have failed to elucidate how abortion makes our military stronger or safer. Their sole focus is to win the culture war.

Contrary to Democratic rhetoric and outright lies by the mainstream press, Senator Tuberville's hold does not prevent confirmations. Senators could circumvent his hold with a straightforward confirmation vote on a specific nominee. It merely stops nominees from being confirmed en masse via a process known as unanimous consent. With the Senate having taken 35 days off this year, there has been ample time to vote.

Senator Tuberville is not a career politician. He is a proven leader and a devoted public servant. His unconventional path to the Senate has equipped him with a fresh perspective and a distinct set of skills. He has shown that he can face the opposition, rally his team, and deliver results. He is the kind of leader that America needs — a leader who prioritizes principle over politics and service over self-interest.

Nathan Bedford Forrest Revisited

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John Taylor

In the October 2022 Alabama Gazette I covered part of the legacy of Nathan Bedford Forrest (<https://www.alabamagazette.com/story/2022/10/01/opinion/the-false-demonization-of-nathan-bedford-forrest/2434.html>). If anyone has been a victim of “the winners write the history,” it is Forrest. From his humble Tennessee roots, Forrest was the quintessential self-made man, a masterful military leader, and the antithesis of most of his critics.

After his father died, sixteen-year-old Forrest became the sole supporter of his family. He eventually met Mary Ann Montgomery. Mary Ann had also lost her father and she became a ward of her foster father and uncle, Rev. Samuel N. Cowan, a Cumberland Presbyterian parson. In 1845 Mary Ann married Nathan Bedford Forrest despite Cowan’s disapproval, much of which arose from Forrest’s “cussing and gambling.”

Possessing a great work ethic and sharp mind, Forrest engaging in farming, horse-trading, real estate brokerage, and slave trading. By the war’s outset, he was worth a million and a half dollars. He enlisted as a private in the 7th Tennessee Cavalry, and used his own money to raise and equip a battalion of mounted troops. In a short time, Forrest’s military prowess became obvious—it was admirably recognized by Robert E. Lee and somewhat begrudgingly acknowledged by U.S. Grant, William T. Sherman, and other Union commanders.

Although some modern residents of Selma, Alabama, lack appreciation for Forrest, he deserves credit for doing everything in his power to keep Selma from being totally destroyed by the invaders. Forrest led roughly 4,000 defenders (perhaps half were actually soldiers) as they attempted to stop approximately 9,000 well-armed Union soldiers. The overwhelming odds did not allow for Selma to avoid destruction.

On July 27, 1871, Forrest testified before a Congressional Committee for over four hours. Facing charges of being a founder and early Grand Wizard of the Klan and being part of the Knights of the White Camelia, Forrest vehemently denied the accusations. The Klan was actually started in Pulaski, Tennessee, by six individuals (four were lawyers), with the original intention of being a social club. The term “Klan” was thought to be a variation of “Clan” based on the prevalence of the “founders” Scottish and Scots-Irish lineage. The original Klan also had a social welfare and aid angle to help those who had been harmed by Reconstruction. According to writer Lochlainn Seabrook, the original Klan had Black members and it undoubtedly had Jewish members. The Klan that sprang up in the early 1900s was totally different.

During the Committee’s interrogation, Forrest stated: “I said to 45 colored fellows on my plantation that I was going into the army; and that if they would

go with me, if we got whipped they would be free anyhow...Eighteen months before the war closed I was satisfied that we were going to be defeated, and I gave those 45, or 44 of them, their free papers for fear I might be called...It is clear from the end of 1863 to the close of the war these 44 black men served as free men under the flags of the Confederacy.” A few Blacks who served with Forrest included: Thornton Forrest, Ben Davis, Nim Wilkes, Polk Arnold, Jones Greer, Frank Russell, Preston Roberts, Alfred Duke, George Hanna, Ned Gregory, Robert Bruce Patton, Marshall Thompson, Hardin Starnes, John Terrill, Wright Whitlow, Lewis Muzzell, Alex Porter, James Jefferson, and John Sharp. All received Confederate pensions. Wilkes asserted, “I was in every battle General Forrest fought after leaving Columbia...” Duke stated, “At the beginning of the war I was with General Forrest’s regiment...I was in Confederate service almost the entire period of the war.” Nelson Winbush, a descendant of Louis Napoleon Nelson, of Forrest’s 7th Tennessee Cavalry, referenced loyal Black Confederates: “You won’t see this in the history books because the history books are written by Yankees. They aren’t about to put in there that they had some black dudes shooting at their asses for keeps.” Winbush is correct. Modern court historians would never acknowledge such a deviation from the “government-approved” narrative.

Post-war, Forrest was heavily involved with the railroad industry. He felt all Southerners should be given a chance to work and support themselves and their families and he worked tirelessly to achieve that reality. Indeed, after becoming a Christian, many considered Forrest to be a social liberal.

For over twenty years, Butch and Pat Godwin have celebrated the birthday of Nathan Bedford Forrest at Fort Dixie, near Selma. Sadly, due to health concerns, this year’s event had to be canceled. The Godwins are amongst the few who know the true history of Nathan Bedford Forrest and have the temerity to display it. As Pat stated: “Perhaps this year 2023 will be called the HICKUP YEAR and next year will be the 25th Anniversary of Ole Bedford’s Birthday Celebration!”

Sources:

“In Defense of General Forrest,” by Nathan Mote, at: <https://heritagepost.org/american-civil-war/in-defense-of-general-forrest/>; Forrest’s testimony to that 1871 hearing can be found under “The reports of Committees, House of Representatives, second session, forty-second congress,” P. 7-449. Information sourced from Lochlainn Seabrooks’ “Nathan Bedford Forrest and the Battle Of Fort Pillow: The True Story” and “Forrest! 99 Reason To Love Nathan Bedford Forrest”; Sons of the South, by Clayton Rand; “Black Southerners in Nathan Bedford Forrest’s Command,” by Thomas Y. Cartwright (from Black Southerners in Gray); “Nathan Bedford Forrest and the Death of Heroes,” by J.O. Tate (from So Good A Cause); The Coming of the Glory, by John S. Tilley; and “Rebel Yell Puts Multiculturalism to the Test,” by Karl Spence. On July 10, 1905, The Tennessean, Nashville, TN, ran an article about the six individuals who started the Klan.

Continued from page 2 -Annual Legislative Session Successful - \$
by Steve Flowers

The surplus in the Education Budget was enormous.

How to spend this surplus became the focus of the entire session. There is a very accurate political assessment, that it is much more difficult to deal with a surplus budget than a lean or deficit budget. George Wallace told me about this same thing during his last term as governor when I was a freshman legislator.

Accolades go out to Senator Arthur Orr (R-Decatur), Chairman of the Senate Education Finance and Taxation Committee and Representative Danny Garrett (R-Trussville), Chairman of the House Education Ways and Means Committee. These two gentlemen essentially, singlehandedly wrote the Education Budget and did a masterful job. They were cognizant that what goes up has to come down. Therefore, they created several savings accounts and rainy day funds for the rainy days ahead, because they will come.

The Education Budget was an historic \$11.5 billion. It gave increases for pre-kindergarten programs, school supplies, school nurses and a significant 2% cost of living salary increase to teachers and support personnel. All colleges and universities in the state received increased funding. Non-education entities were given money. There was \$100 million for prison education.

The high profile aspects of the Education Budget windfall were a onetime rebate going back to taxpayers in November. Governor Ivey had wished for a \$400

per person and \$800 per couple rebate. However, the final result is \$150 per person and \$300 per married couple. Most legislators preferred eliminating the grocery tax or long-term tax cuts to this one-time check back in November.

The surprise in the Christmas stocking from the Education Budget surplus is the reduction on the state sales tax on groceries. Eliminating or reducing the state tax on groceries has been championed by Democrats for years, as the tax is regressive and hurts the state’s lowest income earners the hardest. However, the measure garnered Republican bipartisan support this year after 20 years and passed with an overwhelming vote in both Chambers. It is, however, a gradual reduction. The grocery tax would decrease 2% in two steps, with the tax being reduced 1% this year and another 1% percent new year, if the funds are available.

The state General Fund had a good year as well. The \$3 billion General Fund was record shattering. The largest in history. The Chairmen, Senator Greg Albritton (R-Escambia) and Representative Rex Reynolds (R-Huntsville), oversaw a \$159 million increase over the current year. The largest increases in the budget were in Medicaid by \$69 million and Corrections by \$59 million more.

State employees will see a 2% increase in pay, which will go into effect as the new fiscal year begins October 1. The legendary head of the Alabama State Employees Association, Mac McArthur, has quietly garnered state employees a cost of living raise, five out of the last six years.

U.S. SENATOR TOMMY TUBERVILLE'S VETERAN OF THE MONTH: MSGT: DONNA JOHNSON

TOMMY TUBERVILLE REPRESENTS ALABAMA IN THE UNITED STATES SENATE AND IS A MEMBER OF THE SENATE ARMED SERVICES, AGRICULTURE, VETERANS' AFFAIRS AND HELP COMMITTEES

"ROTC programs also change people's lives. A perfect example is Master Sergeant Donna Johnson of Birmingham, who began her military career in ROTC at Jackson-Olin High School."

"The idea of serving those in need motivated Donna to join Alabama's National Guard full-time. She faithfully represented our state and country across the world, including stops in Iraq and Kuwait as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. While stationed in Kuwait, Donna was asked to sing the national anthem for her fellow service members after her commander noticed her gift of singing."

"Donna continues to share her love of America through song at various events across Alabama, including Veterans' Day ceremonies, school assemblies, and athletic events. Donna also generously invests her time in Alabama's next generation of leaders by mentoring in the Birmingham City Schools' "Common Ground" program. She serves as a positive role model for young women ages 12-14, encouraging them to rise above challenging circumstances, stay in school, and respect themselves and others."

Tuberville's Veteran of the Month series recognizes Alabama's heroes for service to our military and local communities. Constituents can nominate an Alabama veteran and submit their information to Senator Tuberville's office for consideration by emailing:



Support YOUR Local Law Enforcement

Montgomery County Sheriff's Office

(334) 832-4980

www.montgomerysheriff.com



Sheriff

Derrick Cunningham



Chief Deputy Murphy

Sheriff's Office App

If you haven't already heard, the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office has a phone app called "Montgomery County AL Sheriff" that can be accessed through your phone's app store. Once you have added this app to your phone, you can easily set your phone up to receive important push notifications. Push notifications are quick, important messages that can notify you of road closure(s), blocked road(s), anything pertinent to your travel, escapee, etc. While our app can help you with many things including checking to see if someone is in the county jail, it is most helpful to receive push notifications. After you have downloaded the app, go through the follow steps to make sure your phone is set up to receive the push notifications:

- Go to your Phone's setting icon.
- Scroll Down and click "Applications".
- Scroll down to "MCSO" or "Montgomery County AL Sheriff" ... OR
- Click "Application Manager", if it doesn't take you directly to the location.
- Click "Notifications".
- Turn on "Allow Notifications" & "Previews in pop-ups".

You should be all set to receive the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office push notifications!



Montgomery County Sheriff's Office



Now Hiring Part-time APOSTC Deputy Sheriffs

Perfect Job for Retired Law Enforcement!

\$21.72 to \$28.44 an hour

Applicants must have Alabama Peace Officers Standards and Training Commission's minimum standards training with a current CEU certification. For more information go to:

<https://www.jobapscloud.com/MGM/sup/bulpreview.asp?R1=18&R2=CO0431PT&R3=03>

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Sheriff
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Lowndes County SHERIFF'S OFFICE



(334) 548-2222

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www.facebook.com/LowndesCountyAlabamaSheriffsOffice/



Sheriff
Chris West

POLICE OFFICERS PRAYER

Lord I ask for courage
Courage to face and
Conquer my own fears...
Courage to take me where
Others will not go...
I ask for strength
Strength of a body to protect
others and strength of spirit to
lead others...

I ask for dedication.
Dedication to my job to do it
well.
Dedication to my community,
to keep it safe...
Give me Lord, concern for
others who trust me and
Compassion for those who
need me...
and please Lord through it all
Be at my side.

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Honoring Our Heroes



Local Veterans' Service Organizations

Vietnam Veterans' of America Chapter 607

Meets the 1st Monday each month at 1:00 p.m. at
The Garage, 4035 Wallace Drive, Montgomery, AL 36116.
Contact: President Jessie Donaldson
Phone 334-328-0468, E-Mail: jdonaldson@knology.net

Townsend Detachment #920 U.S. Marine Corps League

Meets the 3rd Monday each month at *Fried Tomato Buffet*,
6561 Atlanta Highway, Montgomery, AL 36117.
Contact: Commander of #920 Captain Michael Jeffries
Phone: 903-918-2348, E-Mail: jeffries608@gmail.com

American Legion Post 2

Meets the 2nd Monday each month at 5:00 p.m. at
Fried Tomato Buffet, 6561 Atlanta Highway, Montgomery, AL
36117. Contact: Commander Chuck Cochran
Phone 334-546-147, E-Mail chuck.cochran1@yahoo.com

US VFW Smith-Wynn Post 96

Meets the last Monday of each month at *Golden Corral*, 1480
Eastern Blvd, Montgomery, AL 36117.
Contact: Post Commander Master Sergeant Robert Carr
Phone: 334-546-5885, E-Mail: vfw.Robert@robertcarr.net

Martha P. Simmons
The Alabama Gazette wants to honor Martha for the many years of service to our veterans. She has spent countless hours interviewing, showing special attention, writing stories of the many great Veterans in our area



James M. Levy



Gerald May



Robert S. Kohn

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

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

1. Fenton Wesley Johnson: August 4
2. Marion Lee Hornsby: August 11
3. Patrick Louis Campbell: August 17
4. Carolyn McMeans: August 18
5. Harold E. Neal: August 20
6. Neal R. Schultz: August 20
7. Lisa Renee Davis: August 21
8. Donald Lee Applegarth: August 30
9. Joseph Edward Boyett: August 31

YOU ARE
NEVER
ALONE...



WWII Veteran, Robert Shafton Kohn Celebrates 101st Birthday

Robert Shafton Kohn served in combat in the U. S. Army's Infantry for 52 days in the WWII Battle of the Bulge and the Battle of the Rhineland under General George Patton in the 3rd Army, 90th Infantry Division, 359th Battalion, Company M (Heavy Weapons). Company M used 81 mm mortars and 30-caliber machine guns. Soldiers carried a 30-caliber carbine and a 45-caliber pistol. He also served stateside in the Army National Guard for 13 months during the time of the Korean War. Kohn's conclusions about how he accounts for living to the age of 101 are: "Most people ask, 'What is your secret?' It is no secret what God can do. I pray according to the last verse of *Psalm 19: Let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.*"

Martha Poole Simmons, volunteer with the American Red Cross, presented Kohn with a letter of birthday greetings and commendations from Rear Admiral Kent Davis, Commissioner, AL Department of Veterans Affairs.



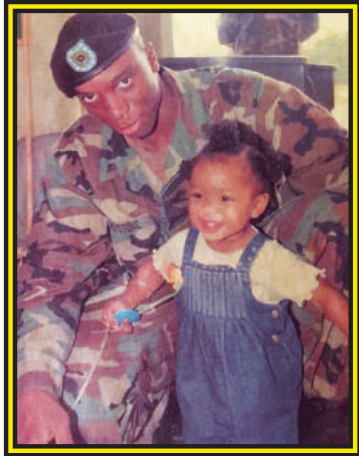
CPL Robert Kohn
and Martha Pool Simmons



SPECIALIST ANTONIO RENARD WHETSTONE



Specialist (SPC) Antonio Renard Whetstone served three years and 11 months in the U.S. Army. His Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) was truck driver in motor transport. His medals, awards, citations and decorations included: Purple Heart, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal (4th award), Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with M device, Combat Action Badge, Driver and Mechanic with Driver-wheeled vehicles badge, Iraq Campaign Medal, Overseas Service Bar.



SPC Whetstone was born at Montgomery, AL, April 8,1985 to his mother, Mary Whetstone, and he was reared at County, AL. SPC Whetstone completed Basic Training at Ft. Benning, GA, with the AL National Guard in the summer 2002 while he was still in the 11th grade in high school. He graduated from Calhoun High School in May, 2003 and volunteered for military service.

He entered military service in May 2003 and completed 4.5 weeks of training in Advanced Individual Training (AIT) for truck driving at Ft. Leonard Wood, MO. He was then assigned to work at the office of the Army National Guard at

Prattville, AL, where he worked until his unit was activated January 2004. While serving in combat at Balad, Iraq just north of Bagdad he was seriously wounded and received extensive medical treatments at Landstuhl Medical Center at Germany as well as at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. Because of his severe injuries and his disability, he was honorably discharged April 6, 2006.

Whetstone's reflections on his military service are: "*It was the greatest time of my life. I met brothers and sisters with whom I am still in touch. I got a chance to see the world. I appreciate my unit, 231st MP Battalion which is still keeping in touch and checking on me now.*"

SPC Whetstone and his wife, Natonya, have been married eight years, and they have two children with whom he enjoys rearing. He is a member of the Morning Star Baptist Church at Louwndesboro, AL, and he is a member of the Wounded Warriors Project, an American charity and veterans service organization that offers a variety of programs, services and events for wounded veterans who suffered a physical or mental injury or illness resulting from combat.





MASTER SERGEANT THOMAS CHARLES FORD



Master Sergeant (MSgt) Thomas Charles Ford served 20 years in the United States Air Force, and his Air Force Specialty Code (AFSC) was medical technician. He received the Good Conduct Medal three times, the Unit Citation and the Meritorious Service Medal.



MSgt Ford was born October 21, 1938 to his parents, Thomas Edward and Julia Ford at Antigo, Wisconsin. Although he dropped out of high school at age 18 and entered military service, he received a B.S. Degree in Business in 1973 and a Master's Degree in Business in 1976 from Auburn University using the Veterans Administration Tuition Assistance while still in military service.

MSgt Ford enlisted in the U.S. Air Force March 3, 1957 at the induction center at Milwaukee, WI. MSgt Ford completed 15 weeks of Basic Training at Lackland, Air Force Base (AFB), TX. He trained as a medic for four months at the Naval Station Great Lakes. His first assignment was at Olmstead AFB, PA, for 18 months where he worked in the dispensary, the emergency room and the wards. He was transferred to Elmendorf AFB, AK, for two years where he worked in the hospital first in the emergency room and then as a surgical technician for three months. He was transferred to Andrews AFB for a one year assignment working in the emergency room 1961-1962, trained as a cardio-pulmonary technician at the nearby National Naval Medical Center at Bethesda, MD, for one year 1962-1963 and then returned to Andrews AFB working as a cardio-pulmonary technician for two years 1963-1965. He was next deployed to work as a cardio-pulmonary technician at the hospital at

Wiesbaden Air Base, Germany, for three years. He returned to the U.S.A. to work as a cardio-pulmonary technician at Travis AFB, CA, for three years where he worked in the hospital for two years and then cross-trained as a computer program technician for one year while at Travis AFB. Next, he went to Bolling AFB, Washington, D.C. where he worked as a computer programmer. His final assignment was at Maxwell AFB, AL, as a computer programmer where he retired March 31, 1977.

MSgt Ford and his wife, Doris, have been married 58 years, and they have three children, six grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. Since retirement, he served as a volunteer repackaging medicines at Medical Outreach Ministries, a medical clinic for uninsured adults at Montgomery, AL. He is a member of Frazer Church, at Montgomery, AL, where he volunteered in the kitchen and served on the Board of Stewards. For recreation, he has enjoyed bowling.



MSgt Ford's conclusions about what serving in the military has meant to him are: ***"It saved me. It gave me a future. My parents did not have much. I was interested in doing something for my country. My great-great grandfather had served in the American Revolution and the War of 1812. My great-grandfather served in the Civil War. I wanted to continue my family's tradition of military service. It was time well spent. If I had to do it, I would do it over again."***



LT. COL GEORGE ROBERT PARTRIDGE



Lt. Col George Robert Partridge served 33 years in the U.S. Military including seven months enlisted in the Marine Corps Air Reserve and 32 years in the U.S. Air Force including four years as enlisted and 28 years as an officer. His Military Occupational Specialty Code (MOSC) was fighter pilot racking up more than 5,000 hours flying military aircraft. Lt. Col Partridge served three "temporary" tours for a total of 13 months in Vietnam. The F-100 Super Sabre, the first fighter in the inventory that could break the speed barrier in level flight, the most versatile day fighter in service and a fighter-bomber with nuclear delivery capabilities was his favorite mount in the service. He received the following medals, decorations, citations and badges: Silver Star; Bronze Star; Distinguished Flying Cross; Air Medal and Purple Heart.



Lt. Col Partridge was born to his parents, George and Lenna Partridge, at Doraville, GA, in 1933. He was reared at Chamblee, GA, and Norcross, GA, and he graduated from Lilburn High School in 1949. He attended North Georgia College, a military college, for two years majoring in mathematics. Because of his strong desire to become a military pilot, on March 4, 1951, he enlisted in the Marine Air Corps Reserve, but he served only until March 28, 1952, and then on March 29, 1952, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force, where he completed eight weeks of Basic Training at Lackland Air Force Base, (AFB), TX. He was sent to Claysburg, PA, a radar site, where he worked in administration for six months. He then attended the Jet Mechanic School at Amarillo, TX, for 12 months.

Next, he returned to Claysburg, PA, followed by assignment to the New Castle Airport, DEL, a joint use base with civilian aircraft operating as well as U.S. Air Force where he worked as a jet mechanic until January 1955. He was finally sent to Lackland AFB, TX, for preflight pilot training followed by training to fly the T-34 and T-28 at Spence Air Base, GA.

Next, he was sent to Bryan AFB, TX, for training to fly the T-33 jet. He returned to serve at the New Castle Airport, DEL, to fly the F-94-C jet with the 97th Fighter Interceptor Squadron for one year. This was followed by serving at Hamilton AFB, CA, where he flew the F-89 Interceptor from January 1958 to September 1958 and also when he was transferred to Canadian Force Base, Goose Bay, Labrador. Next, he served at Tyndall AFB, FL, where he completed radar controller training, and then he served as a mobile radar controller at Ft. Gordan, GA, on Temporary Duty at Vietnam for five months September 1961-February 1962 where he flew the F-100 serving as a forward air controller with the 1st Infantry Division and then on regular duty at Shaw AFB, SC. He then served as a pilot of the F-100 at Cannon AFB, NM, flying and instructing.

In 1965, he had a three month deployment to Japan and Korea. Col Partridge escaped fatal injury when he was forced to eject from his F-100 when flying near Kunsan, Korea, because of weather and fuel problems in May 1965. He served as the Forward Air Controller to the 2nd Battalion, 2nd Infantry, 3rd Brigade, US Infantry Division on a second TDY tour to Vietnam September 1965 to February 1966. He then served as a pilot and instructor of the F-100 at Luke, AFB, AZ, 1966-1968.

Next, he served as the Action Officer at the Pentagon preparing information for the generals 1968-1970. Although he volunteered for service as a pilot of the F-100 at Vietnam, he was assigned to serve as the Operational Plans Officer at Seymour AFB, N.C. and at Shaw AFB, S.C., 1970-1971 followed by two years of service at Clark Air Base, Philippines as Assistant Plans Officer Plans Officer in 1971 with the 405th Fighter Wing. He was sent TDY to Tan Son Nhut AB, Saigon, Vietnam, on June 1, 1972 to serve as the Fighter Duty Officer for the 7th Air Force Tactical Control Center. He completed training at the U.S. Survival School at Fairchild AFB, WA, and at the USAF Air/Ground Operations School at Hurlbert Field, FL. He served one year in 1973 at Osan Air Base, Korea, with the 19th Tactical Air Support Squadron as Operations Officer. Next, he served at Eglin Field AFB, FL, as the Division Chief in Command and Control 1974-1977. Then he served at Mitchell Field, N.Y., as the Liaison Officer to the New York Civil Air Patrol 1977-1982 and also in this role with the AL Civil Air Patrol Headquarters 1982-1984 where he retired from military service October 1, 1984.

After his military service, for 10 years, Lt. Col Partridge worked as the Job Coordinator at the Louise M. Smith Development Center at Prattville, AL, where services included daily living skills, prevocational training and basic education for high school students and adults. During this time, he also returned to his love of flying working as an instructor at the Maxwell AFB Aero Club. While working at Montgomery, AL, he graduated from Troy University with a Master of Science Degree in Adult Education in December 1983. Lt. Col Partridge retired from all employment in 1999.

Lt. Col Partridge and his wife, Patricia, were married 45 years before she passed away, and they had two children and two grandchildren. He and his wife, Margaret, have been married 20 years. They have enjoyed traveling especially to reunions of Air Force squadrons and to sites in Europe which his father had described in his letters where he had served during WWI. They belong to First Baptist Church of Prattville, and he belongs to the Daedalians, the premier organization for U.S. military aviators and to the Lions Club International at Prattville, AL, from which he received the Lions Club Melvin Jones Fellowship Award. He was inducted into the Georgia Military Hall of Fame and in November 2018 received the Medal for Valor in combat in Vietnam. His autobiography, My Story...And I'm Sticking to It, I think, is available for sale on Amazon. For many years, he presented a "live" military uniforms ceremony at Prattville, AL, using items from his collection of military uniform memorabilia.



Lt. Col Partridge's conclusions about his military service are: "It was a life long ambition to be an Air Force pilot, to become a veteran pilot and to retire. I felt good about my service as I am a patriotic person. I wish people would remember why we are free today."



What is Homemaker Home Health Aide Care?


A Homemaker and Home Health Aide is a trained person who can come to a Veteran's home and help the Veteran take care of themselves and their daily activities. The services of a Homemaker and Home Health Aide can help Veterans remain living in their own home and can serve Veterans of any age. Homemakers and Home Health Aides are not nurses, but they are supervised by a registered nurse who will help assess the Veteran's daily living needs.

This program is for Veterans who need personal care services and help with activities of daily living. This program is also for Veterans who are isolated, or their caregiver is experiencing burden.


Homemaker and Home Health Aide services can be used in combination with other Home and Community Based Services. Services may vary by location.

Homemaker Home Health Aides work for an organization that has a contract with VA. Homemaker or Home Health Aide services can be used as a part of an alternative to nursing home care, and to get Respite Care at home for Veterans and their family caregiver. The services of a Homemaker or Home Health Aide can help Veterans remain living in their own home and can serve Veterans of any age.





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





SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION (SSA) SERVICES IN MONTGOMERY

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kylle.mckinney@ssa.gov*

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CHECK THE STATUS OF YOUR SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS CLAIM ONLINE

If you applied for Social Security benefits, or have a pending reconsideration or hearing request, you can check the status online using your free personal my Social Security account. If you don’t have an account, you can create one at <https://www.ssa.gov/myaccount/> to see the following information about your claim:

- Date of filing.
- Current claim location.
- Scheduled hearing date and time.
- Incomplete applications.
- Servicing office location.
- Publications of interest, depending on the claim and current step in the process.

Use your personal my Social Security account to check the status of your application or appeal at <https://www.ssa.gov/myaccount/>

If you have questions about retirement, disability, Medicare, or survivors benefits, as well as Supplemental Security Income, visit our webpage at <https://www.ssa.gov/benefits>

RECOGNIZING THE NEEDS OF PEOPLE ON THE AUTISM SPECTRUM AND THEIR FAMILIES

Social Security is committed to reducing barriers and ensuring people who are eligible for our benefits receive them. We provide income security for the diverse populations we serve. This includes people with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and their families.

Many parents and caretakers of children with disabilities lose work hours and income because of their children’s care needs. Supplemental Security Income (SSI) provides monthly financial support to low-income families with children who have developmental and behavioral disabilities. These include ASD – and physical impairments. For more information on SSI, please visit <https://www.ssa.gov/ssi>

People with ASD may have questions about how ASD affects their employment options. They may also see their ASD as a barrier to employment. Employers have started to recognize that many people with ASD can bring a variety of skills and strengths to the workplace. Our Ticket to Work (Ticket) Program supports career development for people ages 18 through 64 who receive Social Security and want to work. The Ticket Program helps get vocational rehabilitation, training, job referrals, and other employment support services.

For more information about this program please read:
<https://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10061.pdf>

We recognize the need to support, understand, accept, include, and empower those on the autism spectrum. Please share this information with friends and family and help us spread the word on social media!





**MACOA
continues
to serve seniors!**

**The Montgomery Area Council On Aging (MACOA)
SERVING SENIORS FOR 48 Yrs.**

The Montgomery Area Council On Aging assists senior citizens by providing services to promote independent living, by offering opportunities to enhance quality of life, and by increasing community awareness of senior issues. You can help! MACOA needs volunteers once a week to deliver meals.

If you can help, please call 334-263-0532.

115 East Jefferson Street / Montgomery, AL 36104

SOCIAL SECURITY ONLINE LEARNING TOOLS

Our online learning resources for educators are great for teaching others about Social Security! Chances are that a student will know someone who receives retirement or disability benefits. Our educational resources help communicate information about our programs to a new audience and show them how our programs can help people other than retirees. Understanding how Social Security helps wounded warriors, children, and adults with disabilities can inspire greater empathy and encourage them to learn more.

We offer an educator’s toolkit to engage students and teach them about our programs. Use the toolkit to create your own lesson plan! You can also use our toolkit to teach your child or grandchild about Social Security’s important programs.

The toolkit includes:

- Lesson plans with objectives.
- Infographics and handouts for each lesson plan.
- Links to Social Security web pages.
- Talking points.
- Quiz questions and answers.

For more information, we encourage you to access the toolkit at: <https://www.ssa.gov/thirdparty/groups/educators.html> and share it with your favorite educators today.

SOCIAL SECURITY EXPANDS OUTREACH AND ACCESS FOR SSI

Social Security has expanded its outreach to people in critical need of financial help who may be eligible for Supplemental Security Income (SSI). SSI provides monthly payments to adults age 65 and older or to other adults – and children – with a disability or blindness who have limited income and financial resources. SSI helps pay for basic needs like rent, food, clothing, and medicine.

We identified underserved communities in rural and urban areas across the country. We focused on areas with the greatest decline in SSI applications since the pandemic. Our outreach efforts targeted areas where a majority of people are living at or below the federal poverty threshold.

People who receive SSI may qualify for other financial help, including Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or SNAP benefits (formerly known as food stamps), Medicaid, and discounted internet service through the Federal Trade Commission’s Affordable Connectivity Program. Social Security beneficiaries may also be eligible for SSI.

People with limited income and financial resources and internet access can <https://www.ssa.gov/ssi> to learn more about SSI eligibility and request an appointment to apply for benefits. People without access to the internet can call our National 800 Number at **1-800-772-1213** to speak with a representative.

Please share this information with your friends and family to spread the word about SSI.



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Dr. Lester Spencer

Lead Pastor
St. James Church
Montgomery, AL
www.sjlife.com

Soul Searching....

Truth Is Like A Lion

Two of my favorite truth quotes are:

“You will know the truth and the truth will set you free.” -Jesus, John 8:32
And ...The Apostle Paul states, *“ Love does not delight in evil but rejoices in the truth.”* -1 Corinthians 13:6

God is truth. When we tell the truth, we live as God wants us to live and as God has commanded us to live. *“You must not testify falsely against your neighbor.” Or “You shall not lie.”* -Exodus 20:16

When we lie, we go against what God expects of us, and we disobey His Commandments. Often people lie because they are concerned about getting in trouble or perhaps they fear that by telling the truth they will hurt someone. But we lose our integrity when we lie. We hurt ourselves, and we hurt others. We lose our integrity not only in the eyes of others but also in the eyes of God. Lying diminishes our relationships with others and destroys trust.

Think about how the world would be different if no one ever lied. At first it is a scary thought. After all, if we didn’t lie people would get hurt right? For example, you might hurt your relationship with your best friend if you told him or her that you couldn’t stand a certain character trait of theirs. Or you may have to pay a bit higher taxes if you told your accountant about a particular gift or inheritance you didn’t want to declare on your income statement. Yet, not being able to lie might teach us to be more tactful with our friends or more honest about our business affairs.

We must learn the skills that will help us be honest in all of our relationships. If we want to be people of integrity and honesty, we have to overcome the temptation to lie. It can be frustrating at times and fear is the biggest emotion we must overcome when we face the temptation or desire to lie. Yet we must always keep in our hearts and minds that there is a way to tell the truth that is good, right and wholesome!

How can we live as people of truth?

Think first.

Sometimes we lie so we can give a quick answer to someone. Before you speak or answer a question, take a deep breath and pray about how you can say the truth in a tactful way. Sometimes you don’t need to say anything at all.

Keep It Real

Lies aren’t always full untruths. Sometimes we exaggerate or stretch the truth. Exaggerating or stretching the truth is also lying. We often do it to make ourselves look better. But is it worth it? Be authentic. Be real. People are usually very impressed with people they can always trust to tell the truth no matter what.

Set Things Right

We have all given in to the temptation to tell a lie or exaggerate. If you have or if you do in the future, pray about and look for the opportunity to make it right and tell the truth. It will be uncomfortable, but telling the truth will set you free to be who God created you to be. You will experience a freedom that comes from being a person of integrity who speaks the truth.

Determine today that you will be a person who always speaks truth. I will close with two more of my favorite quotes about truth:

“Speak the truth in love.” - Paul, Ephesians 4:15

“Truth is like a lion. You don’t have to defend it. Let it loose. It will defend itself.” Saint Augustine

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



the namesake of his second book. Fulghum reported that firefighters rescued a man from a burning bed. They asked if perhaps he was smoking and fell asleep, but he responded, “No, it was on fire when I lay down on it.”

This poor man was obviously chemically impaired that day, and fortunate to survive!

But I think of this story often when I observe some of us doing the same thing.

I see this in marriages when couples rush into relationships without thinking about the challenges they’ll face. It’s been said that many couples spend more time planning for a 20-minute wedding than planning for a 50-year life.

A couple I know found a local church offering an eight-week premarital course. I told them they were my heroes and I’d use them as an example forever more since they did it right.

Most of the time those in second marriages have learned hard lessons previously and enter the new relationship with greater understanding that moonlight and roses can become daylight and diapers! But there are couples who sign-on for a new marriage quickly “on the rebound” without proper foresight about acquiring new children and perhaps bitter ex-relatives. The bed is burning already.

“REFLECTIONS”

By Michael J. Brooks

On a lark I located Robert Fulghum’s three books lately and reread them. He was my favorite writer in the 80s, best-known for “All I Need to Know I Learned in Kindergarten.” My favorite story is

Dr. Charles Chandler who founded “Ministering to Ministers” for ministers in crisis situations often talked about “the messiah complex.” Pastors suffer from this when they rush to accept calls to conflicted churches, reasoning “I know they’ve had problems, but they’ve never had a pastor like me!”

Sam Rainer wrote about a church that had four congregational splits in a ten-year period. The new pastor learned that the previous split happened after a business meeting. Someone in “new business” claimed that a family had stolen one of the church’s Christmas trees. Then someone else said that no one would do this because the trees were ugly, which offended the family who donated them. And then someone else accused members of misusing the church’s photocopy machine. And on it went.

It all made sense when the church secretary told the new pastor he best not mention Christmas trees or copy machines.

This church was certainly “on fire,” but not in zeal for the Lord.

Wise church leaders do their homework. They take time to discuss issues and programs with key leaders, valuing their insight, instead of rushing into a business meeting or worship service already “on fire.”

Fulghum’s wisdom remains: if the bed is burning, we should be very cautious about jumping into it.

“Reflections” is a weekly faith column written by Michael J. Brooks, pastor of the Siluria Baptist Church, Alabaster, Alabama. The church’s website is siluriabaptist.com.



Judge Peggy Givhan

Recently I had a disaster in my flower garden with a rogue armadillo rooting and digging up some expensive Pentas that I had just planted a few days before. The unfortunate incident occurred at the farm which is in south Dallas County. I have had trouble with these critters before, and I ordered from Amazon a product named Armadillo Scram. It seems like I used up the whole bag in 2 areas about a year ago. So what do they say, out sight, out of mind. After replanting these Pentas which most survived, I ordered more of the repellent. But before it came, my son's dog, Belle, chased down both of these destructive pests and in an instant we had 2 funerals. I now look at Belle as a heroine.

Annuals, perennials and even herbs have escalated in price. For instance, herbs at any of the box stores costs about \$5.00 per plant. Ridiculous. So I have begun sowing seed in black plastic 6 packs and when I ran out of them, I used the **CARDBOARD EGG CARTONS** that I saved after using the eggs. These are great as they do not seem to dry out as quickly as plastic and when the seeds are big enough to plant in the garden, you can plant the carton as is into the soil. The spacing for most seedlings is just about right. Some plants need to be sown directly in the garden without transplanting from the seed tray. These would include: **zinnias, cleome, and cosmos**. These can be sown at any time from April through late fall. We in zone 8 can have, for example, 3 crops of these wonderful tall showy annuals.



Southern Gardening

Potpourri for August

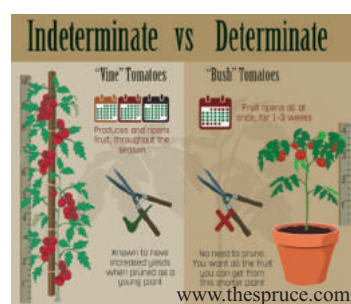


This year I have had great luck wintering over **Dragon Wing Begonias, and geraniums**. Around the end of March, I cut off any dead stems and leaves from the plants and put them into large outdoor pots, fertilize, and water them in. Do not be discouraged as they will most probably look a little rough. Within a couple of weeks they will put on new growth and thrive. Now at the end of July or the first of August, they will have gotten so large, it will be necessary to cut them back by a third. If I do not cut them back, within a month they will get leggy and flop over. I admit this task is hard to do because they look so beautiful, full of blooms and so vibrant. But you must be ruthless if you want an outstanding pot garden for fall. During the summer months I fertilize the geraniums at least 3 times per month, and usually feed the begonias a liquid fertilizer about one time per month.

Some people still have not learned that to prune flowering shrubs such as camelias, azaleas, and forsythia now, will assure that these bushes will have no blooms next spring. Someone asked me why their indica azaleas were spotty bloomers for years, and then I found out their annual ritual of pruning all shrubs late summer was the reason why. One can prune these flowering shrubs as much as you desire up to 6 weeks after their spring bloom.

Here is another tidbit I have learned over the years which helps with increased indeterminate tomato production. Of course plenty of fertilizer, periodically pruning up the plants from the bottom to let in more light.

The difference between determinate and indeterminate tomatoes can be summed up by saying that determinate plants produce all at once and the indeterminate plants bloom and produce until frost.



Good Gardening!

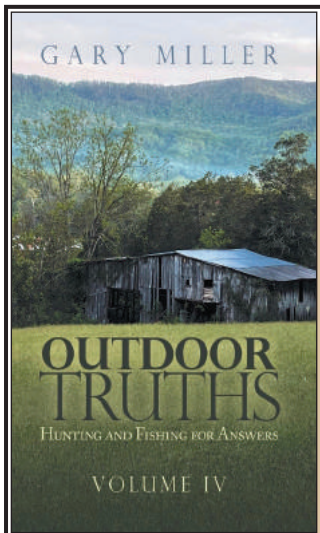
Be cautious of the Summer Heat!

SUMMER



He gives power to the faint...

Gary Miller has written Outdoor Truths articles for 20 years. He has also written five books which include compilations of his articles and a father/son devotional. He also speaks at wild-game dinners and men's events for churches and associations.

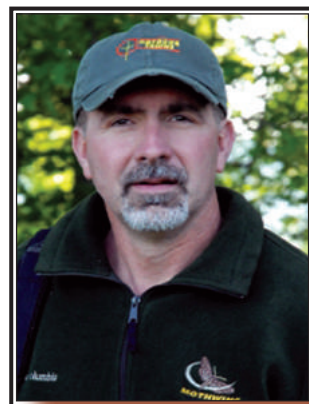


One of the activities I have enjoyed for about twenty years is running. But after the first decade, my knee put me on the shelf. During that time, I learned to enjoy road biking. And I still do. But my love has always been to run. There are a lot of reasons, but the number one reason will probably sound odd to you. I have actually never felt closer to God than when I run. Many of you tell me that same thing about your time on the water or in the woods. I get it, but my experience comes from running. I've never been much of a crier, but I've never cried more than when I run. I know. I know. Call me whatever, but it's just the truth. Needless to say, you can imagine the day I had to quit running because of my knee. At that time, I had just left a position and had no health insurance. My knee problem was a quick fix but how to afford it was not. I sulked, got depressed, and even got mad at God. After all, the expenses involved around running was minimal, and I had such a good experience doing it, that I questioned why. When I was able, I had the knee repaired and began the process of recovery and return. During that time, I was never able to fully return to the miles I once put it. Recently, I have enjoyed more pain-free milage. I have also enjoyed the return of my spiritual closeness. The wait has been long. It always is. I think for most of us, it is the

worst four-letter word in the English language. Wait. Ugh! What a disgusting word. And yet, it is perhaps God's greatest tool for building trust. The prophet Isaiah wrote about waiting. He said this.

*He gives power to the faint,
and to him who has no might he increases strength.
Even youths shall faint and be weary,
and young men shall fall exhausted;
but they who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength;
they shall mount up with wings like eagles;
they shall run and not be weary;
they shall walk and not faint. (Is 40:29-31 ESV)*

He gives us some results of waiting. Sometimes the wait will result in soaring like eagles. We will move into new blessings where we will remain on top with very little effort. Other times, the end of our wait will be so full of goodness that we will feel like we could run forever, without getting tired. (I've done that a few times) But sometimes the initial results are simply that God will sustain you in the middle of the wait - when you feel your strength to take another step is gone. You will walk and not faint. Not soar. Not run. But simply walk. Many of you are at this place right now. You are in the middle of the wait. The walk is hard. I pray you will lean into God one more day. Trust in him one more day. What He has for you will be worth the wait.



Gary Miller

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Patricia Killough
Community Editor

**Woodland Mewthodist Church
at Pike Road Welcomed
Jennifer Rezek
as their new
Associate Pastor on July 9th.
A church family pot lock luncheon
followed the service. She is
married to Rev. Sean Rezek
and resides in Opelika.**



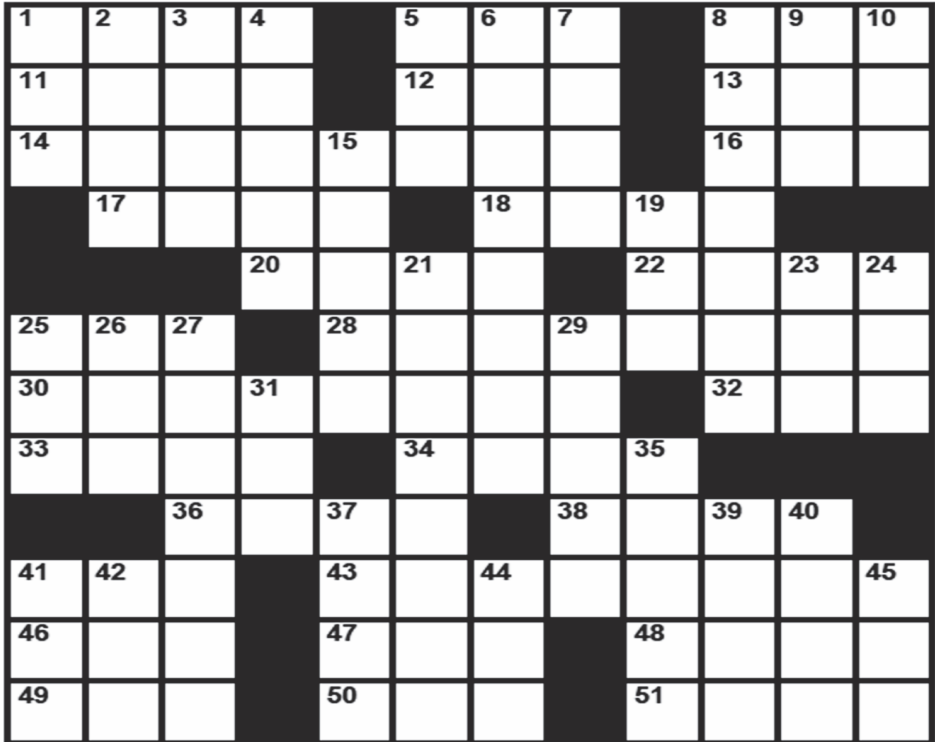
Happy Anniversary

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 2 Mike & Laura Lane | 19 Jason & Shawn Adams |
| 4 Frances & Ted Watts | 19 Rob & Minerva Tate |
| 5 Michael & Jackie Moseley | 21 David & Elizabeth Miller |
| 7 Todd & Nikki Windham | 22 Johnny & Betsy Walker |
| Zach & Magan Grambling | 24 Frank & Aileen Kovacic |
| Charlie & Debbie Moore | 25 Bill & Jane Grubbs |
| 9 Turpin & Angie Ashurst | 27 Johnny & Regina Johnson |
| 11 Mack & Susan Terrell | Barbara & Tommy Ratliff |
| 13 David & Julie Livingston | 28 Dr. Karl & Brenda Stegall (58th) |
| Tim & Cherie Meadows | 29 Mike & Deborah Kirk |
| 16 Leon & Pearl McClain (65th) | Bill & Sharlotte Younkin |
| Terri & Michael Taylor | David & Suzanne Webb |
| 18 Earl & Theresa Henderson | |

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

- | | |
|--|---------|
| Beck, Michael Ray, 52..... | June 27 |
| Haigler, Johnel Cound, 75 | June 28 |
| Hubbard, Peggy Jean Seymour, 92 | June 30 |
| Walthall IV, Thomas "Tom" Arthur, 85 | July 3 |
| Wright, Sr., Kenneth "Ken" William | July 8 |
| Hale, Jack Richard, 93..... | July 9 |
| Mill, Delores Jean, 71 | July 9 |
| Layne, Sara "Frances" Strane, 90 | July 11 |
| Coalson, Carolyn Manning, 80 | July 14 |
| Russell, Sydney Lillian, 12 | July 17 |
| Stakely, IV, Rev. Charles Averett, 64..... | July 19 |
| Boyd, William "Bill" Thomas, 82..... | July 21 |
| Britt, Wilme Jean, 97 | July 24 |

Myles August 2023 Crossword



- Across
- 1 Baldwin of '30 Rock'
5 Greek "T"
8 Letters heard on "CSI"
11 Leaning tower
12 T.L.C. givers, abbr.
13 Loaf with seeds
14 Petitions
16 Always, to Byron
17 Laker, Lamar
18 Small energy units
20 Money to be paid back
22 Spent
25 Temperature controls, briefly
28 Critical point
30 Fancy-schmancy
32 One of TV's Ewings
33 Sheet of ice
34 Wasn't hurt
36 Hit the ground
38 Dame Hess at a piano
41 Laughter on the internet, abbrevia-
tion
43 Fenced-in group of buildings
46 Passion
47 Pitcher's asset
48 Decades
49 Pathetic
50 "___ como va, mi ritmo" Santana
51 Like some history

- Down
- 1 Gorilla
2 Floor cover, for short
3 Cornerstone abbr.
4 Dickens "A Christmas ___"
5 ___ la la
6 Sights on roofs
7 What Gorbachev reorganized
8 Improve
9 PBS "Science Guy"
10 ___ Lingus (Irish airline)
15 Icons for texts
19 Go with your ___
21 Hearing-related
23 Important time
24 Rep's opposite in the US
25 Acronymic alien of '80s TV
26 U.C.L.A. rival
27 Lost depth
29 Chew noisily
31 State next to Maryland, abbrevia-
tion
35 Environmental protection treaty
37 World flying association
39 Remorseful one
40 ___ Kournikova (tennis star)
41 Fleur-de-___
42 "...man ___ mouse?"
44 Madame, for short
45 CableDown

Answers on Page 15

Home Town Community News

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



Congratulations

Kathleen Faulkner celebrated her 95th Birthday!

Friends and family gathered
Saturday, July 22 at the Belcher
Barn in Hope Hull, Al.
All of Kathleen's 8 children were
present, along with 15 grandchil-
dren, 29 great grandchildren and
6 great, great grandchildren. Her
family feels so blessed to have
her in their lives and hope to have
many, many more years!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY! AUGUST

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1 Cindy Bolton | Jill McCain |
| Ty Bolton | 14 Patsy Norman (71st) |
| Heide Doran | Ricky Webster (74th) |
| 2 Nichole Lansdon Gibson (49th) | 15 Connie Mainor (60th) |
| Chloe Taylor Jordan | Earl Russell (73rd) |
| Moe Parker | 16 Billy Betts (74th) |
| Rhonda Tatum | 17 Tyler Schoknecht |
| Gerald H. Thompson (96th) | Max Webb |
| 3 Frances Byrd | 19 Carl Boyd (69th) |
| Lisa Wooten | Shannon Grant |
| 4 Harry Baker | 20 Caleb Holmes (45th) |
| Chuck Bolton | Sydney Mills |
| Harris Bolton | 21 Lorraine Hall |
| Linda Hix | Paula Jones (69th) |
| Eveline & Ernestine Trafford (73rd) | Madison Boyd Williams (15th) |
| 5 Sue Boyd Drake (102nd) | 22 Tom Garlington |
| Chuck Gambrell | O. C. Thompson (94th) |
| Ellie Harper (6th) | Rhett Tucker |
| 6 Chase Cumbie | 23 Lamar Higgins |
| Luke Davis | Lindsey Woodall Brown |
| Tony Drake | 24 Terri Gulsby |
| Joshua Jones (38th) | Lori McGough |
| 7 Anna Louise Moseley | Mary Iva Sellers |
| Bill Ratliff (88th) | Preston Webb |
| 8 Mallory Hitson | 25 Loyd Smilie (94th) |
| Lauren Meredith | 27 Angie Herndon |
| 9 Audrey Alison | 28 Bill Hix |
| Perry Mason (64th) | 29 Charlie Blount |
| Don White | Jimmy Grant (69th) |
| Doris Williams (96th) | Glenn Fuller (88th) |
| 10 Hilda Furlow (97th) | Diane McLaney |
| 11 Wayne Roy (76th) | Dawson Moore (6th) |
| Shawn Terrell | Paul Reynolds |
| 12 Trisston Burrows | 30 Imogene Bryan |
| 13 Bobby Boyd (63rd) | Mary Ester Cook (90th) |
| Barry Ehrlich | 31 Winnie Barton |
| Maxine Scroggins | Chloe Mills |
| 14 Darlene Fuller Davis | Sallie Rhodes |

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is here, and that means it’s time to enjoy the bounty of fresh and delicious food that the season has to offer. Whether you are hosting a backyard barbecue, picnicking in the park, just looking for some easy and healthy weeknight dinners, I have you covered with some of the most popular food for summertime meals. They are just some of the most popular food for a summer time blog that you can try this



TOMATO PIE

A rich and savory pie that is best made with summer tomatoes at the height of ripeness.

Ingredients:

- ½ cup Lemon juice
- 3 T vinegar
- 1 cup butter
- 2 teaspoon pepper
- 1 teaspoon red pepper
- 1 teaspoon dry mustard
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 medium onion chopped
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 3T Worcestershire sauce



Filling:

- 2 cups shredded sharp cheddar cheese, about 10 ounces
- 1 cup Dukes mayonnaise
- 1 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley
- 2 green onions, white and green parts, chopped
- 1 tablespoon grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 cup Panko bread crumbs
- ½ pounds firm fresh tomatoes, sliced ½ inch thick
- Corn meal as needed. About 1 tablespoon

Instructions:

1. Make pie crust. Combine flour, salt and sugar in a food processor. Add butter and pulse until the mixture resembles coarse meal, about ten seconds.
2. Slowly add ice water, pulsing the mixture for no longer than 30 seconds, just until it begins to form a ball.
3. Divide the dough ball into 2 pieces and place each piece in a piece of saran wrap. Flatten into a disk, wrap in plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least 1 hour.
4. Remove dough from refrigerator. Let the dough rest for several minutes at room temperature and then roll it out on a lightly floured surface until it fits a nine inch pie plate. Transfer pie crust to pie plate. This is easy to do if you roll the dough on a piece of parchment paper and then just flip the pan and peel the paper off.
5. Place the tomato slices on paper towels to remove most of the excess moisture.
6. Preheat oven to 425 degrees.
7. In a medium bowl mix together the cheese, mayo, parsley, green onions, parmesan and bread crumbs.
8. Layer ½ of the tomato slices with the cornmeal in the pie pan. Cover with half of the cheese mixture. Repeat layers.
9. Bake for about 30 minutes or until the top of the pie is browned and bubbly. Serve warm.

Notes: Makes about two pies. You can try using pre-made pie crusts. Use very ripe tomatoes. Use pepper-jack cheese to spice it up a little bit. Add a bit of tarragon or Italian seasoning. Recipe adapted from the *Tupelo Honey Café Cookbook*

If there is any better time to use items that you picked last year, open up your freezer and find your stored frozen peaches. Peaches were not a good crop this year. Without a freezer and if you have a desire for a peach dessert, you have two choices! Canned or paying an arm and a leg for peaches in the store. I happen to have a freezer and had a good crop of peaches last year. This recipe is one reason to have a freezer pantry.

Potato Salad

No picture is needed for this because no summer picnic is complete without potato salad.

This classic recipe is easy to make and is always a crowd pleasure. It has hard-boiled eggs, celery, onion, dill relish and mustard. It goes with any sandwich or grilled meat. You can make it ahead of time and keep it cold until ready to serve.



CUMCUMBER BOATS

Combine all ingredients desired in a bowl and chill.

- 4 cucumbers peeled if desired.
- 3 cans tuna drained
- ¾ cup chopped celery
- ¾ cup Dukes mayonnaise
- ½ teaspoon celery salt
- 1 tsp. onion salt
- 1 handful basil. Finely chopped
- 2 hard boiled eggs, chopped
- 3 Tbsp. whole grain mustard
- Juice from one lemon.



Any other items such as small chopped apples, chopped grapes. Cut the cucumbers lengthwise and scoop out the seeds Fill each cucumber with desired mixture and serve chilled as a cold side dish. Top with chopped parsley.



PEACHES AND CREAM CAKE

Ingredients:

- 1- 18 ¼ ounce box of yellow cake mix. It is best if you can find and use a box of cake mix that says it is a butter flavored yellow cake mix.
- ½ cup butter, melted
- 1 egg
- 4 cups chopped peaches(from your freezer)
- (If you do not have four cups of peaches in your freezer, use 2 cans of 29- ounce cans of peaches.)
- SAVE 3 tablespoons of juice from either source for the topping.
- 2 - 8 ounce packages of cream cheese
- 1 cup sugar



I don’t remember where this recipe came from but it is the best way of having peaches and cream.

Instructions:

1. Combine cake mix, melted butter, and egg in a medium bowl, by hand or with a mixer. This will form soft dough.
2. Press dough onto the bottom and halfway up he sides of a 9x13 inch pan.
3. Cover dough with the drained peaches.
4. Make the topping by mixing the cream cheese, sugar, and reserved juice with an electric

mixer until creamy and spread over peaches.

Sprinkle with cinnamon. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 to 35 minutes or until crust is golden brown. Finish it off by serving with a dollop of whipped cream!

Serves about 12

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