

MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONER

Dear 2016 Honorees,

It is my honor and pleasure to welcome you to the 34th Awards Ceremony for the Alabama Senior Citizens Hall of Fame. This is a special time when we honor seniors for their numerous accomplishments and those who have contributed greatly to improving the lives of older Alabamians.

To the Hall of Fame Class of 2016, I congratulate you on being inducted into the Alabama Senior Citizens Hall of Fame. Your outstanding achievements and abundant contributions to seniors are remarkable.

To the recipients of the new Lifetime Achievement Commendation awards, I congratulate each of you. This award is to honor your lifetime commitment to serving the members across your communities and you should be proud of your ongoing service to others.

To the Special Award Recipients, the Alabama Department of Senior Services' mission is to promote the independence and dignity of those we serve through a comprehensive and coordinated system of quality services. Through your efforts and achievements in your specialized fields you have helped us ensure that older Alabamians have the opportunity to age with the quality of life that they so notably deserve.

To the couples who have been married 65 years or more, I commend you for honoring your vows and for standing beside each other through the good times and the bad. Together you witnessed multiple wars, economic roller coasters, the opening of Disney World and the creation of cell phones. You have shown your children, your grandchildren, and your great-grandchildren that marriages can and will survive.

To the individuals who are 100 or older, Happy Birthday! It is an honor to present these awards to you today. I hope this year brings you all the happiness you can wish for and I look forward to seeing you next year.

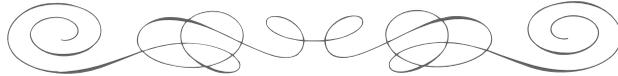
Thank you for allowing us to honor you today for all that you have done.

Congratulations!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Neal G. Morrison". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "N".

Neal G. Morrison, Commissioner of the Alabama Department of Senior Services

TODAY'S PROGRAM



WELCOMING REMARKS

WARNER FLOYD, CHAIRMAN
SENIOR CITIZENS HALL OF FAME, CLASS OF 1996

INVOCATION

REV. KENNY HOOMES
ASSOCIATE PASTOR, FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH MONTGOMERY

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

SPECIAL GUEST

COMMISSIONER JOHN McMILLAN
ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & INDUSTRIES

INSTALLATION OF PERMANENT MEMBERS

REMEMBERING HALL OF FAME MEMBERS

PRESENTATION OF LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

PRESENTATION OF SPECIAL AWARDS

RECOGNITION OF SENIOR CITIZENS

MARRIED 65 YEARS OR MORE
100 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER

CHARGE TO THE CLASS OF 2016

CAROL REDDOCH SPOSATO
SENIOR CITIZENS HALL OF FAME, CLASS OF 1990

DISMISSAL TO RECEPTION

FELLOWSHIP HALL

SENIOR CITIZENS
Hall of Fame
CLASS OF 2016

LT. GEN. CHARLES CLEVELAND
MONTGOMERY

LEOLA COOPER COBB
UNION SPRINGS

MAUD GARRICK
MONTGOMERY

JAMES HOOD
UNIONTOWN

DR. GERALD W. JOHNSON
AUBURN

PATTY LAMBRECHT
WETUMPKA

LEWIS C. MALONE
EVERGREEN

DR. JOHN ED MATHISON
MONTGOMERY

JAMES C. PRICE
WOODSTOCK

CHARLES SMITH
CROPWELL



Class of 2016

LT. GEN. CHARLES CLEVELAND
MONTGOMERY - MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Charles G. Cleveland is a retired Air Force lieutenant general and flying ace. His last position was commander of the Air University, Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama (1980 to 1984). When he retired, he became director of the Montgomery Area United Way for seven years. He also served as the president of the Say No drug coalition, serves as president of the American Fighter Aces Association and serves on the Alabama World Affairs Council.

Having graduated from West Point Military Academy in 1949, he earned his wings in 1950 and served in the Air Force during the Korean War as a fighter pilot. With several successful combat missions and newly discovered evidence of his kills, he was recognized by the Air Force as the 40th jet fighter ace of the Korean War, 55 years after the armistice in 1953. In October of 2008, he was awarded the Silver Star.

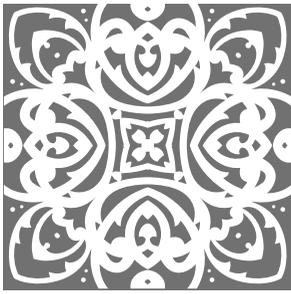
In 1967, he graduated from the Royal Air Force College of Air Warfare. He earned a master's degree in political science from Xavier University and a degree in management from Harvard University. He served in the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. from 1975-1979.

His military decorations and awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross with oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal and Republic of Korea Order of Military Merit, Chung Mu.

As president of the American Fighter Aces Association, in 2015, Cleveland gathered remaining living fighting aces and the families of those who have died nationwide to take part in a Congressional Gold Medal Presentation Ceremony for their service.

Through his books, he keeps the stories of the aces alive for future generations. He recently published the book *Wings of Valor* and his biography, *Once a Fighter Pilot* was published in 2012.

Nominated by W. Warner Floyd



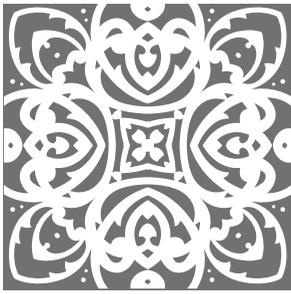
Class of 2016
LEOLA COOPER COBB
UNION SPRINGS – BULLOCK COUNTY

*L*eola Cooper Cobb was raised on the Edwards Dairy Farm in Bullock County where education was an important part of her life. She walked eight miles each way to attend school and get a good education. Later, she attended Southern Vocational College to study Psychology, and Sanford School of Religion.

Cobb has spent years assisting youth and seniors by always having her door open. She gained the nickname “Mu Dear” because of her kindness to those in need.

She is on several boards and committees within the Mt. Hebron District Association. She serves as chaplain of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 337 and is a member of the NAACP. She retired from DHR in 1995 and became the Union Springs Nutrition Center Manager in 1999. Having served 17 years at the Nutrition Center, Cobb has received many awards specifically for helping seniors including an Alabama Department of Senior Services award, and Area Agency on Aging award and a State Health Insurance Assistance Program award.

Nominated by Dr. & Mrs. Poe and 45 members of the senior center



Class of 2016

MAUD GARRICK

MONTGOMERY - MONTGOMERY COUNTY

*M*aud Garrick has served seniors for over 40 years as the Nutrition Program Coordinator for the South Central Alabama Development Commission Area Agency on Aging. She is the lifeline for 18 senior centers and assisted in cleaning, building and opening 11 of them. She has served as the local Ombudsman for many years, serves on the Macon County Senior Olympics Committee and is highly involved in the Senior Masters Games. She is an active member of her Church and regularly visits hospitals, nursing homes, and the homebound. She has a card mailing ministry focused on mailing to seniors who are alone and without family.

“Miss Maud”, as she is affectionately known, was born in Lower Peach Tree, Wilcox County, Alabama. She graduated from Thomasville High School as class Valedictorian at 16. She served as secretary to the State Director of Selective Service and was later a field representative for the same agency.

Her passion to serve the elderly began for her when she and her mother would walk to deliver food and flowers and check on the elderly. Maud kept the tradition up, constantly visiting hospitals, nursing homes, and the homes of sick or shut-in friends and taking “Sunday Dinner” to elderly ladies. Miss Maud states that she is the one most blessed by that experience.

She served voluntarily for 15 years as secretary of the Alabama Small Farmers Educational Committee. She was also a reporting member of the Tuskegee University Cooperative Extension Program State Advisory Council. Miss Maud is a member of the Clarke County Historical Society and has recently served as hostess to the Wilcox Historical Society.

Nominated by Carol Sposato, ADECA



Class of 2016
JAMES HOOD
UNIONTOWN - PERRY COUNTY

James Hood served 36 consecutive years as Perry County Sheriff from 1978 to 2015 when he retired. Hood gained the reputation of administering impartial law enforcement in the county seat, Marion, and throughout the area.

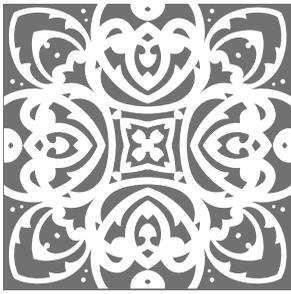
As a young man, Hood graduated from George C. Wallace Community College and earned his degree at Selma University. Then he served as a town police officer, followed by experience gained as a deputy sheriff. Following his election to the top position in the Perry County Sheriff's office, he graduated from the police academy at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa and completed numerous special courses in law enforcement.

Early in his tenure as Sheriff, he revised the law enforcement operations in Perry County, concentrating on families and youth to enhance safety for retirees and other older citizens with updated patrol cars so deputies could more effectively patrol all rural areas where many elderly citizens live. With the commission supporting him, he upgraded technology to better safeguard the security of older residents. Also, for more effective service, his department developed substations in Uniontown and Sprott.

Hood's career service did not go unnoticed. In 2007, he won the Foot Soldier for Freedom Award and in 2015 he achieved the Drum Major for Justice Award. Hood was named outstanding young man of America for Professional Achievement and Superior Leadership. He was honored in Who's Who in Law Enforcement and numerous other law enforcement awards.

James and his wife Anne married 45 years ago and have three children. Following retirement, Hood provides security and inspiration for seniors living in a large retirement and residential complex in the heart of the Alabama - Tombigbee Region. He is a deacon at First Baptist Church - Faunsdale, and a Vietnam War Veteran, volunteers his time with seniors and the Uniontown Housing Authority and is involved in food distribution to very needy citizens.

Nominated by Earnest Tate



Class of 2016
DR. GERALD W. JOHNSON
AUBURN – LEE COUNTY

*D*r. Gerald Johnson has a long and distinguished career in public education and the public policy field in Alabama. For over forty years, he has been involved in teaching, research and participation in Alabama state and local government, public administration, public policy and political behavior. He is an Auburn University Emeritus Professor of Political Science.

Dr. Johnson has advocated for retirees and seniors at the state and national levels. He was the liaison with the Teachers Retirement System/ PEEHIP Board and the Alabama Education Retirees Association (AERA) while working at the Alabama Education Association. He continues advocacy for affordable pensions including cost-of-living adjustments as well as quality affordable health insurance for seniors while serving on the Boards of AERA and the Auburn University Retirees Association.

Dr. Johnson is recognized as a leading opinion surveyor in Alabama and has conducted an annual survey of education retirees for 18 years. This work has been widely used to develop programs and policies for retirees.

His impressive civic record includes President of the Auburn United Way, Board of Directors for the Rotary Club, AL Citizens for Constitutional Reform and Auburn City Board of Education.

Nominated by Glenn Parker



Class of 2016
PATTY LAMBRECHT
WETUMPKA – ELMORE COUNTY

Patty Lambrecht has a BS from Troy State Montgomery and worked for the Alabama Criminal Justice Information Center. She was an ARSEA/APEAL chapter president for eight years where she sought to provide informative events for seniors. She has been an ARSEA/APEAL board member and is a committee chair and an effective advocate for adequate retirement resources for public retirees, earning numerous awards.

After her retirement from state service, she and her husband focused on Oakview Farms Granary, a successful second career and business partnership, providing fresh produce to a local food pantry and participating in clothing donation events. She has served on several boards and committees at state and local levels associated with their business and senior interests including the Alabama Farmer's Federation, Elmore County Soil and Water Conservation District, Office of Water Resources Commission, and the Alabama Agriculture and Conservation Development Commission.

She served as council chair and Elmore County board member for the Mid South Resource Conservation and Development Council (Mid-South RC&D Council) which solicits, promotes and approves grant applications in the eight county area for numerous senior needs including ID bracelets, first aid kits, building repairs in senior centers, meals, grounds and garden maintenance, information outreach, and volunteer fire departments. One such program Mid-South RC&D Council provides funding for is the Black Belt Eye Care Program. She has worked about four years scheduling free eye exams and securing numerous grants affecting seniors in some counties with severe poverty.

Both an advocate and volunteer for numerous aging programs and projects including presentations on Yellow Dot (life saving information for automotive emergency situations), preventing identity theft, exercise at every age, and senior cooking contests, organic gardening and more. She hosts senior tour groups and educational classes for seniors (including bread baking) for master gardeners, garden clubs, churches and more.

Nominated by Gene Brown



Class of 2016
LEWIS C. MALONE
EVERGREEN – CONECUH COUNTY

Since retirement, Lewis C. Malone has worked on several projects for seniors including providing assistance through construction work, arranging educational field trips and delivering meals. He enjoys visiting homebound seniors and makes frequent nursing home and hospital visits.

He served in the U.S. Marine Corps and was the only one selected out of 110 African American men to serve in the U.S. Marine Corps during that draft. Received his bachelor's degree and accepted a job as a math and science teacher, assistant coach and assistant principal in Thomasville. He retired after 31 years as the principal of Clark County High school.

He is the oldest deacon at the First Baptist Church of Evergreen where he is very active in various programs. He chairs the deacon's program which hosts an event drawing deacons from across the state. He is in charge of church maintenance and provides the meals for his senior bible study group.

Mr. Malone received the "Quilt of Valor" from the Sassy Stitchers Quilting group from the Connie Hudson Senior Center in Mobile and he was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal of Honor in 2015. His book *Deaconship* is used by churches in 27 states. He is in the process of publishing another book to be titled *A Bible Class Manual*.

Nominated by Robert E. Davis



Class of 2016

DR. JOHN ED MATHISON
MONTGOMERY - MONTGOMERY COUNTY

John Ed Mathison served as Senior Minister at Frazer Memorial United Methodist in Montgomery for 36 years. During his tenure there, the church experienced an increase in membership from 400 to 8,800. In 1986, it was the fastest growing church in Alabama.

Frazer had the largest Sunday school attendance in Methodist churches in the U.S. and in 2006, The Church Reporter magazine recognized Frazer as the most influential church in America. The church reaches 40 million homes through weekly televised services. The growth and progress of Frazer can be attributed to his inspirational messages and strong leadership.

Mathison graduated from Opelika High School and attended Young Harris Junior College. Having been raised as the son of a Methodist minister, he was called to the same path. He earned a bachelor's degree from Huntingdon College and a bachelor of divinity from Chandler School of Theology. He has a master's degree from Princeton University and a doctorate of ministry from Candler School of Theology. He also has honorary doctorate degrees from Asbury Seminary, Huntingdon College and Birmingham Southern.

He served as Chairman of the Southeastern Jurisdictional Committee on Episcopacy for over a decade. He was selected as Man of the Year in Montgomery in 1978. In 1994, Dr. Mathison was selected as the National Clergyman of the Year by the Religious Heritage of America. He was chosen Citizen of the Year in 2006. He retired from Frazer in June of 2008 and established John Ed Mathison Ministries.

Today, Mathison is a nationally known and sought-after speaker. He has been the platform speaker at the National Conference of Fellowship of Christian Athletes as well as the National Hi-Y Tri-Hi-Y Conference at Black Mountain, N.C. He is also a seminar speaker at the Billy Graham Training Center at The Cove. He has written eight books on various Christian subjects and he has an inspirational blog with thought provoking stories and messages.

Nominated by J. Lee Alley



Class of 2016
JAMES C. PRICE, JR.
WOODSTOCK - BIBB COUNTY

Jim Price served the Bessemer Police Department for 32 years, as a patrolman, motor scout, detective sergeant, lieutenant and shift commander. Most notably, he investigated the 1979 bombing of the Bessemer City Hall which killed and maimed elected officials and city employees.

Since his retirement, Price repeatedly represented more than 100 retirees and employees at Bessemer City Council meetings - attending and speaking before the council. This action, after many years of advocacy, most recently resulted in an overdue 7.2 percent raise for older retirees of the city.

Price has served on many boards and committees including the Bessemer YMCA Board of Directors and as president of the Bessemer Academy Athletic Boosters.

He is dedicated to his work with the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) where he has been a trustee for the Bessemer Lodge for over 20 years. He serves in the FOP State Honor Guard and was awarded Honor Guard of the Year. As an Honor Guard, he participates in the annual State Law Enforcement Ceremony in Montgomery and has attended several Memorial Services at the nation's Capital in Washington D.C. He is a memorial musician for scores of public ceremonies in Alabama which honor law enforcement heroes who pass from us while on duty and in retirement.

Price is an active church member and deacon in the First Baptist Church of Woodstock. He serves the congregation in several ways including trustee, treasurer, head of security and Sunday school teacher

For his abiding advocacy and because he is a lifeline for hundreds of law enforcement seniors in North Central Alabama who put their lives on the line in Alabama's most populous regions, we celebrate his induction into the Alabama Senior Citizen's Hall of Fame.

Nominated by Liane Kelly, ARSEA/APEAL Executive Director



Class of 2016
CHARLES SMITH
CROPWELL - ST. CLAIR COUNTY

Charles Smith retired after a distinguished career in education, having served as a principal for 23 years and an officer in the Athletic Association for 25 years. He has remained active in his professional association since retiring.

In fact, Charles Smith has been elected numerous times to serve at the local and state levels in the 25,000 member Alabama Retired Educators Association (AERA) and the St. Clair County Education Retirees Association. Alabama's retired educators have benefited greatly from his service as AERA president two terms, multiple terms as a district director and state treasurer, and hours of community service to seniors every year provided through his membership in AERA. His dignified leadership with retirees has strengthened and preserved their state retirement and health insurance systems and their community service outreach.

Charles Smith has served his church faithfully over many years in numerous roles including Sunday school teacher and taking care of offerings and financial reports.

In Pell City, Charles Smith has served over 15 years with various responsibilities with the Library Guild including fundraising and newsletter publication. He and his wife Juanita were extremely active in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. He volunteers at the Pell City Food Bank and for 10 years has chaired the local cancer support group (TOUCH). He volunteers at the Christian Love Pantry, Pell City's food bank.

Nominated by Janice J. Charlesworth

SENIOR CITIZENS
Hall of Fame
POSTHUMOUS CLASS OF 2016

GEORGE DAHL
BUTLER

RAY FARMER
HUNTSVILLE

COL. JERRY D. HEARD
HOKES BLUFF

KEN MELVIN
BUTLER

CURTIS L. STEWART
JASPER

WINSTON WILLIAMS
HOKES BLUFF

GEORGE DAHL

BUTLER - CHOCTAW COUNTY

George Dahl, born in Marinette, Wisconsin, moved to Butler, Alabama and became engaged in community service as a member of several boards including Butler/Choctaw Chamber of Commerce, Butler Telephone Company, Choctaw County Ambulance Service, and Butler Cares, Inc.

He served a leading role, along with Ken Melvin, to build the Butler Senior Center in his capacity as President of Butler Cares, Inc. He also constructed White Oak Apartments, a 12 unit senior housing facility completed in 1992. Dahl not only helped to envision the buildings, but assisted in raising money toward the construction of the Senior Center.

Nominated by Jean Allen, Butler Senior Center

RAY FARMER

HUNTSVILLE - MADISON COUNTY

Ray Farmer, a resident of Huntsville since 1958, died on April 30, 2016. An engineering graduate of the University of Tennessee, he worked for the Army Missile Command at Redstone Arsenal for 30 years.

After retirement, he became a strong advocate of seniors in the Huntsville area. Farmer on election to Alabama Silver-Haired Legislature four successive times, twice chaired the Top of Alabama (TARCOG) delegation representing five counties. His leadership responsibilities for seniors includes five year president of the TARCOG Advisory Council, President of the Board of Directors of the Huntsville Madison County Senior Center and an outstanding longtime advocate for seniors at the city, county, state and national levels.

Nominated by Rene Breland, AAA Director, TARCOG

COL. JERRY D. HEARD

HOKES BLUFF - ETOWAH COUNTY

Colonel Jerry D. Heard (U.S. Army, Retired) was active in his church, civic and military organizations and in his community. No matter what was needed, he was the "go to" man.

Colonel Heard served his country with distinction for 30 years and retired as the Commandant of the U.S. Army Finance School and Chief of the Finance Corps.

In addition to his service on the Hokes Bluff Council and 8 years as Mayor Pro Tem, he was active in the Alabama Silver-Haired Legislature serving as the treasurer.

Nominated by ASHL Area Four Delegation

KEN MELVIN

BUTLER - CHOCTAW COUNTY

In 1986, Ken Melvin retired from the James Rover Paper Mill (aka Georgia Pacific) in Pennington, Alabama where he worked as an industrial engineer. He immediately became an advocate for the senior citizens of Choctaw County. Tireless in his endeavors, he was instrumental in persuading the County Commission to purchase 45 acres suitable for a senior center.

Melvin turned a thought into a working blueprint that later became the Butler Senior Center. He solicited donations from various businesses and civic organizations to help fund the senior center construction which completed in 1992.

Nominated by Jean Allen, Butler Senior Center

CURTIS L. STEWART

JASPER - WALKER COUNTY

Curtis Loren Stewart was born in 1916 in the Pineywoods Community of Walker County. He rose to serve his country in WWII and later ran a successful business for 43 years as owner of the Curtis Stewart Piano Company in Jasper. He held an elected public office and most notably wrote and published 220 songs, his most famous being “Lord Build Me a Cabin in Glory” first published in 1943 and recorded around the world in many languages.

His songs have been recorded by famous artists like Bill Monroe, Roy Acuff, Charley Pride, Hank Williams and Porter Wagoner, J.D. Sumner, Blackwood Brothers Quartet, the Stamps-Baxter Quartet and Le Fever Quartet. Curtis Stewart was the songwriter of the year at the 2001 Annual Gospel Music Festival.

Nominated by Heath Stewart and Senator Greg Reed

WINSTON WILLIAMS

HOKES BLUFF - ETOWAH COUNTY

Winston Williams focused his time after retiring on giving back to his community and state. His work improved the lives of the many people he touches. He was president of his local AARP chapter and district coordinator for community operations helping organize chapters across Alabama.

From 2008 until his death, he chaired the 10 county East Alabama Area Agency delegation for the Ala-bama Silver-Haired Legislature (ASHL). An Army Reserve LTC (retired) he volunteered many hours in the Employees Support of the Guard and Reserves (ESGR) program and was the Ombudsman Director for Alabama. The Military Officers Association of America named him Ombudsman of the year for the United States in 2012.

Nominated by ASHL Area Four Delegation

SENIOR CITIZENS
Hall of Fame
LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT

CLAUDINE ANDRESS
SPANISH FORT

ESTHER PEARL BEARD
WILMER

SENATOR ROGER BEDFORD
RUSSELLVILLE

VERA BOOKER
VALLEY GRAND

CONSTANCE ELLIOTT
GENEVA

KENNY FENDER
JASPER

MARY SUE GAINES
TALLADEGA

JAMES HARRIS
WEDOWEE

JUDY PENNIC HOUSTON
MONTGOMERY

WILLIAM (BILL) KING
TOWN CREEK

MARY JO MARTIN
DEMOPOLIS

REPRESENTATIVE NATHAN MATHIS
NEWTON

ANN MINK
WADLEY

LEE R. O'BERRY
ENTERPRISE

DEBRA J. REED
DOTHAN

BILLY WADE ROLLINS
HAMILTON

MACK SPENCER
TUSCALOOSA

PEGGY C. STROUD
ELBA

DOROTHY TISHLER-ZIFF
BIRMINGHAM

C. W. WHITE
PRATTVILLE

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

CLAUDINE ANDRESS

SPANISH FORT - BALDWIN COUNTY

Claudine Andress has organized many community functions. She started the Delta Woods Expo which has 31 professional teaching classes and thousands of weekly visitors. She helped establish three churches and has taught Sunday School for 65 years. Andress also produced the Sassy Seniors Fashion Show, where she designed and constructed all of the garments. She started the Women's Lunch Bunch, a group that helps women re-establish in the community, which has been going strong for 45 years.

Nominated by Lucille M. Wilson

ESTHER PEARL BEARD

WILMER - MOBILE COUNTY

Esther Pearl Beard has been volunteering and attending the Wilmer Senior Center for 35 years.

Nominated by Larry Helton, Wilmer Senior Center Manager

SENATOR ROGER BEDFORD

RUSSELLVILLE - FRANKLIN COUNTY

Former State Senator Roger Bedford (1982-2014) is a longtime champion for senior citizens across the state. He was one of the pioneers for The Elderly Medication Program (TEMP), which later became SenioRX. He secured funds in the Legislature for the Meals on Wheels program and the establishment of 12 senior centers. Senator Bedford has been honored with multiple awards and recognition including the Golden Eagle Statesman from the Alabama Senior Citizens Hall of Fame, Franklin County Citizen of the Year and three times he was awarded the AL Association of RC&D Council's highest award. Senator Bedford was also voted most outstanding State Senator.

Nominated by Nell Bedford

VERA BOOKER

VALLEY GRAND - DALLAS COUNTY

Vera Booker was a proud foot soldier in Selma in 1965. She served in a leading role on Bloody Sunday and helped to organize the March for Voting Rights. The oldest of 13 children, Booker worked as a nurse for more than 38 years until an accident caused her right leg to be amputated. She served as vice-chairman of the Alabama Baptist Convention Nurses Guild for 20 years and served 10 years as chairman.

Nominated by Earnest Tate

CONSTANCE ELLIOTT

GENEVA - GENEVA COUNTY

Constance Elliott is an active volunteer at the Geneva Senior Center and serves on the AAA Advisory Board at Southern Regional Council on Aging. In her spare time, she helps fellow seniors by chauffeuring them to and from doctor's appointments, assisting with groceries and cooking nutritious meals for those who are homebound. In 2015 and 2016, Elliott was awarded the Volunteer of the Year award. Her success in raising over \$1000 for the Seniors Helping Seniors Tornado Relief Fund earned her the Fund-raiser of the Year award.

Nominated by Robbie Owens

KENNY FENDER

JASPER - WALKER COUNTY

Kenny Fender retired as a lieutenant colonel in the U. S. Army, serving tours in the Vietnam War to support the 101st Air Mobile's 1st Brigade. Having the heart of a volunteer, Fender donates his time and talents to his church, Habitat for Humanity, prison ministries, Beacon House, the local soup kitchen and more. Because of his servant's heart, his church has designated one Sunday as "Ken Fender Awards Sunday" and the Mayor of Jasper proclaimed one day on his behalf. He has received a Bronze, Silver and Gold award in recognition of his volunteerism.

Nominated by David Rowland

MARY SUE GAINES

TALLADEGA - TALLADEGA COUNTY

Mary Sue Gaines is the founder of the Talladega City School Foundation and the Ritz Theater, which presents plays and programs for seniors. She served on the Talladega Pilgrimage for 20 years and is a member of the Red Door Kitchen which serves meals to seniors and homebound citizens. She is recognized throughout the county as being a strong advocate for senior citizens. Gaines has been awarded the Chamber Woman of the Year award and the Women Committed to Excellence award.

Nominated by Pat Miller

JAMES HARRIS

WEDOWEE - RANDOLPH COUNTY

James Harris has served as an advocate for seniors his entire career and retired life. He was mayor pro-tem for 24 years and was very dedicated to protecting the rights of seniors, taking them to vote, grocery shopping and doctor's appointments. He serves on the East Alabama Area Agency on Aging Finance Committee and has attended the Alabama Silver Haired Legislature, serving as Sargent at Arms. Harris visits many nursing homes and homebound and provides financial support to the soup kitchen.

Nominated by Agnes Windsor

JUDY PENNIC HOUSTON

MONTGOMERY - MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Judy Pennic Houston grew up in Ramer, Alabama as the daughter of a sharecropper, working in the fields. She earned her Bachelor's degree from Alabama State University and her Master's Degree from Troy. She spent her entire career teaching.

Nominated by Colonel Alton R. Barnes

WILLIAM (BILL) KING

TOWN CREEK - LAWRENCE COUNTY

Bill King is devoted to strengthening AERA and improving public education for children. He is known for working harder than anyone to serve people. He is a member on over 13 national, state and local associations including the AL Silver Haired Legislature. King is regarded by many as the ultimate "communication specialist". He has developed and sends out over 1,300 emails daily to keep followers informed on important issues. As a church volunteer, he assists the sick and bereaved, as well as leading roles to serve others. King also volunteers his talents as a photographer for local events that impact the lives of seniors.

Nominated by Janice J. Charlesworth

MARY JO MARTIN

DEMOPOLIS - MARENGO COUNTY

Mary Jo Martin has spent her entire senior life caring for other seniors in her county. She is an active advisor member on the AAA Advisory Council, volunteers with multiple programs including Meals on Wheels, nutrition services, personal allotment for Medicaid and Ombudsman. Martin is an active member of the ASHL, as well as the Yellow Dot program and the 2014 Black Belt Commission. She was chosen for the 2014 Citizen of the Year in the City of Demopolis. Martin was one of the first pioneers serving on the Elder Justice Citizen Advocacy board, educating judges and law enforcement on the new elder abuse prevention law.

Nominated by Delia Brand and Ann Holman

REPRESENTATIVE NATHAN MATHIS

NEWTON - HOUSTON COUNTY

Nathan Mathis helped establish the Wicksburg Senior Citizens Club, donating new and used vans to the senior center to help with transportation. He helped to raise funds to assist with many Houston County senior programs. Still today, each senior center in the county receives \$500 each month for use in their operations. Mathis is the former Chairman of the Houston County Commission and was elected to the AL House of Representatives in 1994. He has been awarded the outstanding Farmer of the Year award for Houston county.

Nominated by Agnes Windsor

ANN MINK

WADLEY - RANDOLPH COUNTY

Ann Mink retired from Randolph County Hospital as the Business Office Manager. As a participant in RSA, Mink led the effort with ARSEA/APEAL to fund the retirement program for retired employees of the hospital after it was sold. Mink was chosen for the first Humanitarian award given at the hospital. She served as Sunday school teacher for adult women, and began playing the piano for her church at age 12. Mink currently serves as a District Board Member for ARSEA/APEAL.

Nominated by Lauren Hodge, ARSEA/APEAL

LEE R. O'BERRY

ENTERPRISE - COFFEE COUNTY

Lee O' Berry was a pilot in the Army, serving his country in Germany, Korea and Vietnam. He retired after 20 years and joined the Federal Aviation Administration where he served for 29 years. He currently serves as the NARFE District Vice-President, and serves as the Fort Rucker NARFE Service Officer, helping federal employees, retirees and widows. He was elected as Service Officer of the Year and nominated for Man of the Year, City of Enterprise in 2002.

Nominated by Ralph Ballew

DEBRA J. REED

DOTHAN - HOUSTON COUNTY

Debra Reed retired from the City of Dothan Department of Leisure Services after 23 years as Center Manager of Rose Hill Senior Adult Center. She is credited with several firsts- the first drum circle for seniors at Rose Hill, first guitar classes at the center- as well as creating fund raisers for March of Dimes. Reed received the Golden Eagle Award for outstanding service to seniors, the Region III AIAW Academic Award of Excellence, served on the Masters Games Board of Directors and as Chairman of the AL Recreation and Parks Aging Committee, as well as a member of the Older Americans Day Committee since 1997

Nominated by Robbie Owens, Geneva Senior Center

BILLY WADE ROLLINS

HAMILTON - MARION COUNTY

Billy Wade Rollins is a longtime respected and very well known large scale farmer who heads his family's farming business, Rollins Farms, LLC in Marion and Franklin counties. He is a WWII veteran of the Air Force and Army. He established the First National Bank in Hamilton in 1976 and now serves as Chairman on the Board of Directors. He has earned tremendous respect for his tireless dedication and exceptional abilities, his ingenuity and hard work in the fields of banking and agriculture.

Nominated by Pat Duke

MACK SPENCER

TUSCALOOSA - TUSCALOOSA COUNTY

Mack Spencer is recognized for his help to his fellow seniors. He provides transportation for other seniors to doctors appointments and polling places to make sure they have the chance to vote. He created the Love Program for seniors who need financial assistance, served as an escort to seniors attending Honor Flight and helped chair community events geared toward seniors. Mack is recognized for helping more than 600 Hurricane Katrina refugees relocate to the area and for restoring the Taylorville Community Center.

Nominated by Alma Wyatt Jones

PEGGY STROUD

ELBA - COFFEE COUNTY

Peggy Stroud is recognized for her devotion to helping her fellow seniors. She worked with Auburn University for 14 years planning and sponsoring many senior programs, volunteered with the Extension Office to lead the "Alabama Saves" program and served for 35 years as the director of her church senior citizens program "Young at Heart", as well as serving on several other committees and boards. Stroud recruits seniors to serve as volunteers to help with Reality Check and in her spare time, she cooks meals and prepares devotionals for homebound seniors. She has received many awards including the "Spirit of Coffee County" and her church's "Mother of the Year" award.

Nominated by Mr. and Mrs. Brooks

DOROTHY TISHLER-ZIFF

BIRMINGHAM - JEFFERSON COUNTY

Dorothy Tishler-Ziff has worked many years to serve seniors in the Birmingham area. Two primary programs are Hadassah's Bubbe Club and the Chesed program. Both programs provide direct services to seniors who are either homebound or living in assisted living facilities. She has organized a cadre of volunteers to meet their needs and provide bereavement when needed, meals, home care, and regular visitations. She also served as a travel consultant for 21 years to help seniors plan their dream vacations.

Nominated by Barbara Bonfield & Bob Greenberg

C. W. WHITE

PRATTVILLE - AUTAUGA COUNTY

C. W. White has volunteered with RSVP and been a hospice volunteer since 2006. He serves on the Autauga County Advisory Council and is very active in the Autauga County Water Festival and Prattville City Fest. White is a greeter and volunteer for the Prattville Medical Park and delivers frozen meals to homebound seniors.

Nominated by Shirley Stewart, Autauga and Elmore County RSVPs

SENIOR CITIZENS
Hall of Fame
SPECIAL AWARDS

AL SILVER HAIRED LEGISLATURE AWARD

CHARLOTTE BOYLE
ATMORE

GERALDINE SEALES BURFORD

CAMDEN

WILLIAM H. COBB

MOBILE

ROBERT FLOYD

EVERGREEN

JOYCE UPSHAW

SALEM

AARP/TAX-AIDE AWARD

ROGER HORTON
MONTGOMERY

EDUCATION AWARD

JACKIE HOWELL
JACKSON

CARMEN LAFOSSE

TRUSSVILLE

ELDER JUSTICE AWARD

STEVE SEARCY
MONTGOMERY

GREATEST GENERATION AWARD

JOSEPH INGRAM
SHEFFIELD

RAIFORD JARRETT

HARTFORD

HOSPICE AWARD

PAULA PHILLIPS
HORTON

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AWARD

MARIE CARTER BLACK
ARITON

RSVP AWARD

CAROL RICHARD GLAYRE
LOUISVILLE

BETTYE HORTON PEEPLES

CALERA

RELIGION AWARD

CARPENTER'S FOR CHRIST
MONTGOMERY

FRIENDSHIP MISSION

MONTGOMERY

VOLUNTEER AWARD

NELLIE ALDRIDGE
AUBURN

BARBARA HOMANN

BRUNDIDGE

PAUL LOTT

Mt. HOPE

MORRIS S. WILLIAMS

BAY MINETTE

SENIOR CAREGIVER AWARD

JOYCE THROWER
PELL CITY

AL SILVER HAired LEGISLATURE AWARD

CHARLOTTE BOYLE

ATMORE - ESCAMBIA COUNTY

Charlotte Boyle taught school for 39 years in Atmore. She is very involved in her community, serving as the Chairman of the American Red Cross, West Escambia County and a member of ASHL. She is also a member on the 911, Atmore Hall of Fame, and RSVP Advisory boards. Boyle has won the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Atmore Chamber of Commerce, Citizen of the Year award from First Baptist Church, the AERA Service award and Retired Teachers Association award.

Nominated by A.J. Heritage

GERALDINE (GERRY) SEALES BURFORD

CAMDEN - WILCOX COUNTY

Gerry Burford has served the senior community for many decades and is a long standing member of the AAA Advisory Council, serving as secretary. She was elected to the ASHL in 2003 and represents a large region. She volunteers at all of the Older American Month events and has presented senior related education courses at many local senior nutrition centers. Burford served as a board member on the Cahaba Center for Mental Health for 30 years, as well as being a volunteer with the Leukemia Society, March of Dimes, American Heart Association, 4H Club and her church.

Nominated by Delia Brand, AAA, ATRC

WILLIAM (BILL) H. COBB

MOBILE - MOBILE COUNTY

Bill Cobb has been an active member of ARSEA/APEAL since 1998 and currently serves on the association's board of directors. He has served on the Mobile County Drug Advisory Committee and helped set up drug treatment programs in Mobile County. Cobb helped train numerous probation and patrol officers during his career and has received the highest honor given in the field of corrections. He is a member of several other associations including Fraternal Order of Police and ASHL.

Nominated by Jim Fibbe

ROBERT FLOYD

EVERGREEN - CONECUH COUNTY

Robert Floyd retired as an educator in the Conecuh County School system. He served as Director of Special Services and Public Relations for the AL State Teachers' Association, as well as president of the local teachers' association. Floyd is a lifetime member of NAACP and an active member with the AAA Advisory Council, serving as their Vice-Chairman. He serves seniors through his tireless work with the ASHL.

Nominated by Delia Brand, AAA, ATRC

JOYCE UPSHAW

SALEM - LEE COUNTY

After 25 years as owner of Unteen's Little Angels Daycare, Joyce Upshaw retired from her first passion and pursued her second passion- helping seniors. She has served as the Administrative Assistant for the Senior Community Services Employment Program for the Lee Russell Council of Governments, a program which helps older adults with employment and skill training assistance. She created the "Job Club" to help seniors discuss the stresses of finding employment in their older years. She serves as a member of the AAA Advisory Committee and on the ASHL.

Nominated by Jackie Pinkard, AAA Director, LRCG

AARP AWARD

ROGER HORTON

MONTGOMERY - MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Roger Horton has served as a volunteer for the AARP Tax-Aide program for 30 years. He has been a counselor, instructor, state training specialist and Montgomery district coordinator. He is a member of the AARP Tax-Aide National Training Committee. Horton volunteers as an instructor and tax counselor at Maxwell Air Force Base. He has received several awards for his volunteer work assisting older adults with their tax preparations including Tax Person of the Year. He was a caregiver for his elderly, legally blind friend for over 10 years.

Nominated by Carl Stevenson

EDUCATION AWARD

JACKIE HOWELL

JACKSON - CLARKE COUNTY

Jackie Howell has been an active volunteer for the Jackson Senior Center for over 9 years. Howell graduated from UAB with a teaching degree and taught at the ARC, a special needs school. She remains an advocate for the school today. Howell serves as the Site Council President at the senior center and provides encouragement for the seniors. She is the heart behind the local caregiver support group and a pioneer to start the first Alzheimer's Awareness Walk in the City of Jasper.

Nominated by Sherry J. Moseley, Jackson Senior Center

CARMEN LAFOSSE

TRUSSVILLE - JEFFERSON COUNTY

Carmen Lafosse is a very active member and volunteer for the Trussville Senior Center. She was a nun and teacher at Catholic schools in both Texas and Illinois. When she retired from teaching, she became a professional clown known as "Fancy Pants". Lafosse works closely with the senior center director to develop new programs. She also serves as a member of the Trussville Senior Activity Center Board.

Nominated by Pam Isley Loggins, Trussville Senior Center

ELDER JUSTICE AWARD

STEVE SEARCY

MONTGOMERY - MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Steve Searcy worked with the Montgomery Police Department, establishing the Domestic Violence Crime program for the police academy. He was appointed to serve on the first Governor's Domestic Violence Task Force. He was also appointed executive director of the first Family Justice Center in AL where he directed the establishment of the One Place Family Justice Center. Searcy continues to advocate for seniors and victims of domestic violence and has received countless awards including the Medal of Merit, Officer of the Year, and an appointment on the State Victims Notification Task Force. He was one of the pioneers to establish the statewide council of the prevention of elder abuse.

Nominated by Julie Miller ADSS

GREATEST GENERATION AWARD

JOSEPH INGRAM

SHEFFIELD - COLBERT COUNTY

98 years old and still going strong, driving himself to the senior center to volunteer. Joseph Ingram was recently awarded the National Order of the Legion of Honor by the French Government for his service during WWII. He has received the Distinguished Flying Cross, the oldest military aviation award and five air medals. Ingram flew 32 successful bombing missions over France and Germany. In March, Ingram was awarded the key to the City of Sheffield and the mayor declared March 20th as Joe Ingram Day for the city.

Nominated by Angie Robert, Sheffield Senior Center

RAIFORD JARRETT

HARTFORD - GENEVA COUNTY

Raiford Jarret proudly served his country as a WWII veteran. He is a highly devoted volunteer at the Hartford Senior Center and at 96, still drives himself there almost every day. He tends to a large garden, most of which he gives to area seniors. Jarrett is very involved in community projects and was named the Grand Marshall for the 2015 Christmas Parade.

Nominated by Wanda Dorriety, Hartford Senior Center

HOSPICE AWARD

PAULA PHILLIPS

HORTON - MARSHALL COUNTY

Paula Phillips retired from IBM and began volunteering for the town of Douglas where she held the office of mayor for three terms. She worked with the AAA and county commission to receive grants that would benefit seniors, the police and fire departments. Phillips led the efforts to start the Douglas Senior Center and was appointed to the AAA Board in 2002, holding every office. She currently serves as the secretary-treasurer for Hospice of Marshall County.

Nominated by Rene Breland, AAA Director, TARCOG

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AWARD

MARIE CARTER BLACK

ARITON - DALE COUNTY

Marie Carter Black was the first female to be elected mayor of Ariton. She has been very active in improving her local community by serving as a city council member. She works closely with the fire department, law enforcement and rescue squad on a variety of local projects and initiatives. In 1993 she was appointed as the Dale County representative to the Ozark-Dale County Public Library Board of Trustees.

Nominated by Sandra Holman

RELIGION AWARD

CARPENTER'S FOR CHRIST - EASTERN HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH

MONTGOMERY - MONTGOMERY COUNTY

The Carpenter's For Christ program at Eastern Hills Baptist Church includes many seniors. Those who participated in the June 2016 mission trip built a much needed sanctuary for First Baptist Church of Strawberry Plains, Tennessee.

The team leaders are Steve Fuller and Bill Summers. Team members are James Berry, Jim Crain, Harold Ezell, Ken Freeman, David Furst, David Grimes, Mike Hand, Bill Harper, Rev. Dan Harrison, Larry Kennedy, Matt Manning, Ricky Middleton, Mitch Marshall, Van Nunnely, Crews Reaves, Mark Spain, Rev. Bob Sandifer, Bill Struthers, Earl Venable, Doug Weaver, Charlie Winsett, Joel Winsett.

Nominated by Warner Floyd

FRIENDSHIP MISSION

MONTGOMERY - MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Friendship Mission's goal is to assist people in becoming self-sustaining in the local community. Friendship Mission facilitates a program of healing and progress by working to meet peoples' spiritual, mental and physical needs. The majority of those they serve are older adults and they are one of the largest missions in the State of Alabama.

Nominated by Warner Floyd

RSVP AWARD

CAROL RICHARD GLAYRE

LOUISVILLE - BARBOUR COUNTY

Carol Richard Glayre received a Senate Proclamation for her community service to others, as well as receiving many RSVP Angel Awards, State/United Daughters of the Confederacy Awards and others. She is a master quilt maker and has quilts on display statewide. Glayre is the former president of the Mental Health Association of Florida and spent 20 years supporting Native Americans in various capacities, spearheading the Blankets for Blessings Program.

Nominated by Annetta Dasinger

BETTYE HORTON PEEPLES

CALERA - SHELBY COUNTY

Bettye Horton Peeples is well known for her work in serving others. She is president of the Grant Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church Women's Missionary Society, coordinator of the food pantry and volunteers for 13 different organizations including American Red Cross, Angel Flight, House of Blessings, Calera Senior Center, NAACP and more. She has been a leader for Shelby county RSVP since 2009 and recorded over 13,000 volunteer hours.

Nominated by Marvin Copes

SENIOR CAREGIVER AWARD

JOYCE THROWER

PELL CITY - ST. CLAIR COUNTY

Joyce Thrower owns a little beauty shop at Ingram Manor Nursing Home in Pell City. She has been volunteering her services one day each week for over 19 years at the nursing home, making the residents feel beautiful inside and out. The residents rely on Thrower to help them look their best as many of them have no other options on beauty services.

Nominated by Eleanor Clinkscales

VOLUNTEER AWARD

NELLIE ALDRIDGE

AUBURN - LEE COUNTY

Nellie Aldridge has been an active member of the AAA Caregiver Support Group, as well as volunteering for several aging programs including the Ombudsman Advisory Committee. For the last 16 years she has delivered meals to homebound seniors and has volunteered at the Food Bank Community Market for 11 years. In addition, she volunteers at the local hospital, manning the information desk at the Cardiac Care Unit and visiting long term care facilities, advocating on resident's behalf when needed.

Nominated by Leis Askew, AAA, LRCG

BARBARA HOMANN

BRUNDIDGE - PIKE COUNTY

Barbara Homann is very involved with her local AAA, serving on the AAA Advisory Council, Ombudsman Advisory Council and SCADC. Homann is active with her senior center, publishing the newsletter, hosting greeting card workshops, exercise programs and maintaining birthday activities. She is the current president of the Women's Circle for her church.

Nominated by Martha Hall and Brundidge Senior Center Members

PAUL LOTT

MT. HOPE - LAWRENCE COUNTY

Since retiring, Paul Lott spends his time as a full time volunteer. He has served as a volunteer of NARCOG since 2007, assisting the director in a variety of capacities including the "Mr. Fix It" program helping homebound and disabled seniors and delivery/set up of medical equipment. He is very active in other associations including Habitat for Humanity, The Good Samaritan Food Pantry, Emergency Food and Shelter and Meals on Wheels. He was selected as Citizen of the Year by the County Chamber of Commerce.

Nominated by Cissy Pearson, NARCOG AAA and Tamisha Sales (Community Action)

MORRIS S. WILLIAMS

BAY MINETTE - BALDWIN COUNTY

Morris Williams is a driver for Meals on Wheels, where more than once his quick thinking has helped his clients. His kind personality and compassionate heart has led him to recognize and act when his clients needed a little extra help.

Nominated by Lana Palmer, Bay Minette Senior Center

COUPLES MARRIED
65 Years
OR MORE

HOWARD & VONA ADAMS
DOTHAN

CAROL & JEAN FINCHER ANDERSON
TUSCALOOSA

WALTER GRAY & MARY ALICE BROOKS
JACKSON

EUGENE & ANNIE BUCKHALT
TAYLOR

LEON & DOROTHY CHAMBERS
FAIRHOPE

JOSEPH & AZETTA CHYTIL
NORTHPORT

RAYMOND & DORLA CUMMINS
ENTERPRISE

CHARLES & JEAN DALRYMPLE
ENTERPRISE

JULIUS & IVA LEE FRANKS
TRUSSVILLE

JOE & BETTY GISSENDANNER
SLOCOMB

JAMES & AGNES LATHAM
COTTONDALE

W.L. & ANN LAWLER
MONTEVALLO

ROBERT EUGENE & KIZZIE RUTH MAY
UNION SPRINGS

DEWEL & FAYE MCGRUFF
PRICEVILLE

REX & MARGIE MCINTOSH
ENTERPRISE

H.C. & LOUISE MIRACLE
WETUMPKA

LONNIE GILBERT & CLARA REED NEELY
TUSCALOOSA

BILL & EVELYN OATES
ALBERTVILLE

BILL & BETTY PELHAM
HARTFORD

FRED & LELIA REED
MOBILE

JOHN & THELMA REYNOLDS
BAY MINETTE

JAMES THOMAS & ELMA LEE SPURLIN
FITZPATRICK

ROSCOE SR. & ORABELLE TODD
COTTONWOOD

JOHN E. & BETTIE D. WALKER
BIRMINGHAM

SAM REEVES & MARY ALICE WATERS
UNION SPRINGS

SENIOR CITIZENS
100 Years
OF AGE OR OLDER

BESSIE CALDWELL
UNION SPRINGS

ELLEN MARIE COLLINS
DOTHAN

JOSEPHINE H. DANIELS
DEMOPOLIS

COLUMBUS DOUTHARD
OHATCHEE

CORA HORTON
HILLSBORO

VEOLA JONES
SALEM

O.M. JACK JONES
SAMSON

EFFIE KINDRED
UNION SPRINGS

PATRICK KINNEY
CULLMAN

ELZENA SAVAGE McCONNICO
FURMAN

ARRIE McGRADY
UNION SPRINGS

EUNICE BRIDGES MICHAEL
PRITCHARD

MARY "LOUISE" RASCO
GARDENDALE

IKE ROGERS
UNION SPRINGS

CLARENCE PERRY RUTHERFORD
BOAZ

MARY SHAVER
EVERGREEN

RUTH SMITH
HANCEVILLE

DOROTHY SKINNER
CULLMAN

FANNIE LOUISE SYKES
MONTGOMERY

ANN WARE
SMITH STATION

CHARLES LEWIS WHITE
BOAZ

BEN WILLIAMS
TUSCALOOSA

ROGER WILLIAMS
OPELIKA