



AFA NEWSROOM

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FEMA/Alabama Recovery Centers Help Recovery Begin



FEMA

CLANTON, Ala. --- Disaster Recovery Centers operated by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Alabama Emergency Management Agency are open in Baldwin, Blount, DeKalb, Etowah, Jefferson, Lee, and Limestone counties to help survivors of the recent severe storms, tornadoes and flooding begin recovery.

[Read initial release](#) and follow-on release announcing [additional counties added to the disaster declaration.](#)

Who Tops Leaderboard in 6th District Congressional Race? AFA Survey Says.....



The Alabama Forestry Association recently had a poll conducted in the race which will determine who will succeed long-time U.S. Congressman Spencer Bachus for the 6th District of Alabama. Bachus announced late last year that he was going to retire after his current term ends after the election this year.

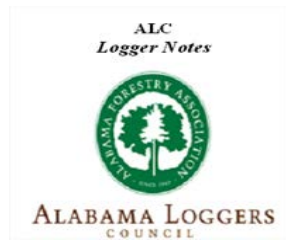


Bachus' announcement brought a flurry of interest and attracted seven candidates in the Republican Primary that will be held on June 3rd. Although a Democrat has qualified to run for the seat, since the district is heavily Republican, whomever wins the Republican nomination will almost certainly be the next Congressman for the 6th district.

The AFA poll has two Alabama legislators, State Representative **Paul DeMarco**, above left, and State Senator **Scott Beason**, above right, running one and two, respectively, with the five other contenders trailing along behind.

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Calendar of Events

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Tea Party Express Endorses Senator Jeff Sessions Re-election Bid

Sacramento, CA – Tea Party Express, the nation’s largest Tea Party political action committee, is proudly announcing their endorsement of Senator Jeff Sessions.



Tea Party Express Executive Director Taylor Budowich said, “The Tea Party movement was birthed by a deep-seated frustration with the go-along-to-get-along culture of Washington, D.C. that has led to a sky-rocketing national debt and struggling economy. Since 2010, the movement has helped to elect some bold conservatives that have gone to D.C. and tackled the critical issues facing our nation. However, not everyone needed a Tea Party wake up call. Senator Sessions has been a consistent Tea Party conservative throughout his career.”

[Read more...](#)

Alabama Certified Prescribed Burn Manager Training Set

If you are interested in prescribed fire as a forest management tool, you ought to sign up for the 2014 Alabama Certified Prescribed Burn Manager courses set for this year.



Who should take the CPBM Certification course? Any forest landowner, wildlife biologist, consultant, contractor, or agency personnel who is interested in the use of prescribed wildland fire as a management tool and who is seeking certification, should attend. Starting in July, 2014, courses will be held at various times and locations at Auburn, Andalusia, Guntersville and Evergreen.

[Read full schedule](#)

AU's Cliff Webber Honored With the W. Kelly Mosley Award

AUBURN, Ala.—Cliff Webber, a retired research fellow and current visiting professor in Auburn University’s School of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Sciences, was recently recognized for his contributions to natural resources conservation in Alabama with the W. Kelly Mosley Award for Achievement.



PHOTO: Pictured here is Dr. Webber, left, receiving the W. Kelly Mosley Award from John Jensen, center, interim director of the Auburn University School of Fisheries, Aquaculture and Aquatic Sciences and Eric Reutebuch, associate director of Alabama Water Watch. Our congratulations to Dr. Webber on this outstanding award.

[Read more...](#)

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Walk In the Forest 2014 Featured Sunshine and Good Times!



The 2014 Walk in the Forest took place on May 7th at Lanark Nature Center. The event was hosted by the Alabama Forestry Association, Alabama Wildlife Federation and Alabama Project Learning Tree. Over 300 students and teachers from Redland and Wetumpka Elementary Schools attended.



The students participated in 8 different activities and programs. Topics and activities included raptors and reptiles with the Alabama 4-H Center (Columbiana); aquatic invertebrates discovery and fun facts with Brian Helms from Auburn University Natural History Museum and hands-on fishing and techniques with Doug Darr from ADCNR.

The program also included mammals of Alabama with Debbie Watkins from AWF; birds and worms PLT activity with Matt Vines and Danielle Cavanaugh from AFA, a walk through the forest with Scott Feazell from AWF; and tree measurements with Tom Carignan of The Society of American Foresters and Ashley Smith from AFA.



PHOTOS: Upper left - Danielle Cavanaugh with the Alabama Forestry Association holds a species of crayfish. Upper right - Tom Carignan with the Society of American Foresters helps this little girl measure this tree's diameter. bottom left - These three best friends from Wetumpka Elementary loved learning about birds of prey with the 4-H center-Columbiana.

In Memoriam: Mr. Dan A. James

Mr. Dan A. James, age 77, of Brent, died May 2, 2014, at DCH Regional Medical Center. The funeral was held at 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 6, 2014 at Brent Baptist Church. Burial followed in Bethel Cemetery.

Mr. James, he was a respected leader and landowner and was instrumental in the creation of the Alabama Forestry Planning Committee (now the Alabama Natural Resources Coordinating Council) and the Alabama TREASURE Forest Association. Mr. James and his wife Romaleta (Roma), were active in most forestry-related groups, including the Alabama Forestry Association. In 1989 they were named Alabama Tree Farmers of the Year.



Some of you may recall the ad campaign conducted by the AFA a number of years ago featuring Mr. James and his grandson planting a tree (see photo). The campaign was entitled *From One Generation to Another* and ran in numerous periodicals across the country. Our prayers are with Romaleta and the James family.

Lumberback Sports Camp, PLM Training and Logger of the Year!

By Ashley Smith



Read about the upcoming lumberjack sports camp, the initial PLM training session and the opportunity for you to nominate someone for Logger of the Year for 2014.

[Read Logger Notes...](#)

Alabama Ag Credit Gives Back to Those Who Participate in Loan Program

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Alabama Ag Credit, a rural lending cooperative serving southern Alabama, recently declared a \$6.1 million cash patronage to its customers. This record amount was based on the co-op's strong 2013 financial results and was approved by the Alabama Ag Credit Board of Directors.



[Read more...](#)

Sporting Clays Event at Selwood Farms Raised Over \$10,000

Shannon White and his helpers put on a great sporting clays event at Selwood Farm on May 2, raising more than \$10,250 at the event. Shannon's event followed the first event this year, which was Kimberly Fuller's sporting clays/turkey shoot near LaFayette that raised 36,500. The third event of 2014, the annual Wiregrass Trail Ride overseen by Angie Sherrill near Abbeville, raised \$6,140. Not a bad start for the 2014 fund-raising season.



Remaining events for 2014 include:

- **May 20.** Capital District Golf event at Lagoon Park Course, Montgomery, Ala. Contact: Terry Bussey at (334) 855-5981 or, terry.bussey@MWV.com. For [Terry's flyer](#), [click here](#).
- **May 22.** Golf at Deerfield in Chatom, the Reynolds family. Contact: Karen Sansing, shaysansing@yahoo.com.
- **June 11.** Piedmont Golf Event, Jeff Gossett at Greystone near Birmingham. Contact Jeff Gossett at, (256) 268-2965 or, jeff.gossett@resolutefp.com.
- **Sept. 19.** Annual Kronospan Event at Silver Lakes, Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail. Contact: Jeremy Oliver at (256) 282-2559.
- **Sept. 20.** The Annual Archery Shoot sponsored by the Auburn University Forestry Club will be held at the Sportsman's Outpost in Waverly, Ala. Contact: Tom Gallagher, tgallagher@auburn.edu.
- **Nov. 7.** Westervelt Sporting Clays & Skeet Shoot, at Westervelt Lodge near Aliceville. Contact: George Franklin at, (205) 562-5699 or Lydia Fields at (205) 562-5482.

Teachers Conservation Workshop set for Auburn July 14-17, 2014

The 2014 Teachers Conservation Workshop for Auburn is set for July 14-17, 2014 at the Hotel at Auburn University. The goal of the workshop is to help teachers and particularly agri-science teachers learn about forestry through programs on forest ecology,



forest management and forest products.

[Read about the program and help sponsor a teacher today!](#)

Columnist Cal Thomas: Climate Change = "Chicken Little Science"

By Cal Thomas



The cult centered on "global warming" alarmism is getting hot under the collar. People seem to have stopped paying attention and polls show "climate change" barely registers on a list of voters' concerns.

This can only mean, as losing politicians like to say, that their message isn't getting through. What to do? Why shout louder, of course.

[Read more...](#)

Rebel Pine Beetles Attacking Yankee Forests

A southern invader is headed north and wreaking havoc in Yankee states. No, this is not the fulfillment of the oft stated slogan that the "South Shall Rise Again" and retaliate for the South's defeat in the U.S. Civil War!

This time the attackers are smaller than a dime and called Southern Pine Beetles. They are moving north and feasting on pine trees as far north as the Pine Barrens in New Jersey. Not surprisingly, our northern brethren don't like the little critters anymore than we do.

[View video...](#)

Don't Forget About These Great New Books About Our Industry

We now have two books that you can use to learn more about forestland



management and the history of the forest products industry in Alabama. These books make outstanding gifts for birthdays, Christmas and any other gift-giving purpose. The book on the left, *Green Gold: Alabama's Forests and Forest Industries*, provides the first comprehensive history of forestry in

Alabama, from when the Indians cleared forests for agriculture to the modern era.



The book on the right, *Managing Forests on Private Lands in Alabama and the Southeast*, is probably the best book ever produced on managing forests for timber production and for preserving water and wildlife resources.

If you are interested in owning either or both of these books, contact Liz Chambers at (334) 481-2135 or lchambers@alaforestry.org.