Opinion Our View

Free internet a good thing

¬he Outlook is thrilled to hear Horseshoe Bend . Regional Library received free internet service from Alabama Supercomputer Authority thanks to state legislation. This public library joins five others who have received the same good news in the last week and the agency plans to provide the same service for libraries in all 67 counties of Alabama from state funding.

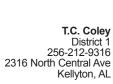
At the announcement this week, Alabama Supercomputer Authority employees, along with Rep. Ed Oliver, Tallapoosa County Commissioner T.C. Coley and library director Susie Anderson all echoed the same sentiment detailing the importance of public librar-

These days, so many people have access to information at their fingertips via smartphones and home internet but in rural areas such as Tallapoosa County that is not always the case. Libraries have been a valuable resource for years but now more than ever as job applications, unemployment benefits and even school work — to name a few — move online, it limits access to those who do not have reliable internet.

Free internet at public libraries is a wonderful accomplishment for our area and *The Outlook* is proud to see this amenity added to the community. Oliver spoke about broadband grants coming available in the fall and additional expansion of technology aiding libraries, schools and even healthcare around Tallapoosa and Coosa counties. We hope to see more of this happening to lessen that digital divide and equalize access to all people, despite their personal circumstanc-

Know Your **Officials**

Communication with elected officials is the key to good government. To let your most local representatives know how you feel about state or local matters, contact any of the following.



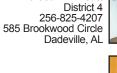














George Carleton Jr. 630 Turner Road Road Dadeville, AL

Postal

USPS-013-080 ISSN: 0738-5110 The Outlook is published five times a week, Tuesday through Saturday, by Tallapoosa Publishers, Inc., 548 Cherokee Road, P.O. Box 999, Alexander City, AL

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to P. O. Box 999, Alexander City, AL 35011.

Tallapoosa Publishers, Inc. manages The Alexander City Outlook, The Dadeville Record, The Wetumpka Herald, The Tallassee Tribune, The Eclectic Observer, Lake Magazine, Lake Martin Living, Elmore County Living, Kenneth Boone Photography and a commercial web printing press.

© 2011 Tallapoosa Publishers, Inc. Reproduction of any part of any issue requires written publisher permission

Study up before the mayor's race runoffs

ust when we thought municipal election season was over, we've got three mayor's race runoffs in Tallapoosa County.

Looks like we'll have to hold on a little while longer, y'all. The good thing is, for the most part, our local races haven't been dirty. It hasn't been your typical run-of-the-mill evil election season where everybody is out to get the other

Or I could've been living under a rock — or just stuck at my desk for far too long the last few weeks during all the campaigning, which is highly likely.

That being said, let's not get dirty now. It's no time for that. However, it is time to get educated. If you went to your polling place and just filled in one of the bubbles because you've "heard" that may be the right candidate or "that's who everyone you know is voting for" or "that's the person who on paper seems most qualified" or even "that's the person who will enact change," you need to have more information and have a new mindset next time



you vote.

What does change mean? And what qualifications truly qualify someone to run a city? And just because your friends and family voted for so and so doesn't mean you should.

Luckily, *The Outlook* is working on a pretty extensive runoff coverage plan, so you won't have to look too far to dig deep about the candidates.

We are talking about hosting a mayor's forum/ debate, going to do in-depth interviews and much more. By the time Oct. 6 gets here, you are going to know for a fact who you're voting for, what they stand for, and what they're going to do for our city. You won't be filling in a bubble just to fill it in, and you certainly won't be sitting at home deciding voting isn't all that important.

You'll know these candidates up, down, left,

right and inside out and you'll empower yourself and your neighbors by getting out to the polls to enact change and vote for the person you think can help our city move forward.

It's disappointing to see low voter turnout when municipal elections come around only every four years. The mayor and city council have everything to do with what happens in our city, its future and everything in between.

If you didn't go vote Tuesday, please make plans to do so in October and educate yourself on the candidates until then.

We've got plenty of time and I personally can't wait to see how this all plays

We deserve a mayor who fits the bill. You all deserve to know exactly who you're voting for, and that's what our duty to you will be until Oct. 6. Stay tuned.

Santana Wood is managing editor of Tallapoosa Publishers' newspapers. She can be reached at santana.wood@alexcityoutlook.com

Todav's Uuote

Forty is the old age of youth; fifty is the youth of old age. — Victor Hugo

Today's

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.'

— Romans 8:28

alexcityoutlook.com

Daily Poll

Wednesday's question: Are you happy with the results of Tuesday's municipal elections?



No -53%, 41 votes

Yes - 47%, 37 votes

Weekend question: Have you tested positive for COVID-19 over the last few months?

To participate in this daily poll, log on each day to www.alexcityoutlook.com and vote. Find out the vote totals in the next edition of The Outlook and see if your vote swayed the results.

The Outlook strives to report the news honestly, fairly and with integrity, to take a leadership role and act as a positive influence in our community, to promote business, to provide for the welfare of our employees, to strive for excellence in everything we do and above all, to treat others as we would want to be treated ourselves

What's your **Opinion?**

We'd like to share your thoughts and opinions with the community for free. You may submit one letter to the editor per month (400 words or less) and/or a guest column (600 words or less). Include name, address and phone number. No hate speech, libel, slander or cursing. We reserve the right to refuse any submissions. Mail: Your View

The Outlook P.O. Box 999

Alexander City, AL 35011 E-mail: editor@alexcityoutlook.com

Submissions

Obituaries: 25 cents per word and \$15 for a picture. Obituaries are only accepted via the funeral home in charge of arrangements. The Outlook does not accept obituaries from individuals.

Weddings, Engagements, Anniversaries or Birth

Announcements: These significant family events or milestones are 25 cents per word and \$15 for a picture. Email announcements@alexcityoutlook. com. Include name and telephone number along with the announcement in the body of the email (no attachments) and photographs must be sent as a .jpeg. Announcements will appear within 10 days or on a specified date in The

Follow us

www.alexcityoutlook.com or on Facebook and Twitter



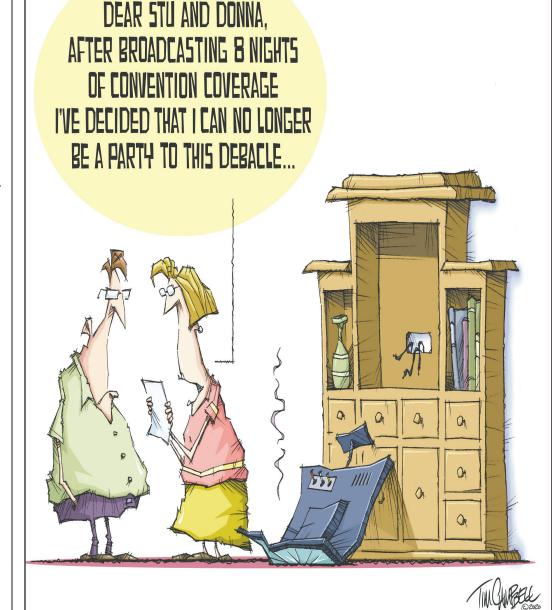


We reserve the right to refuse to print any advertisemen to us for any reason.

The publisher reserves the right to change subscription rates during the term of subscription with a 30-day notice. The notice can be mailed to the subscriber, or by notice in the newspaper itself. To subscribe or if you missed your paper, call Erin Burton or Linda Ewing at 256-234-4281. © 2018 Tallapoosa Publishers, Inc. All rights reserved and any reproduction of this issue is prohibited without the consent of the editor

The Outlook is contract printed Monday through Friday evening in Alexander City by Tallapoosa Publishers, Inc. 256-234-4281





Letter to the Editor

Everyone needs to check voter registration

Dear Editor.

We all need to check our registration status or get registered to vote in November.

be disrupted, we all — and I say all — need to make sure we are still registered to vote. People are being knocked off the register and Alexander City is one of those places. Why? Because some people put Alex City instead of Alexander City; so please check your status.

One website, www.vote. www.sos.alabama.gov. to be a

On vote.org, these are the categories listed:

2. Get your absentee ballot

- (which Alabama does not have) 6. Absentee ballot rules 7. Voting and COV19
- Voter registration dead-
- 9. Election reminders A. Are you registered?
- 1. You fill out the form and it will tell you whether or not you
- 2. The form includes: name, address, email, and phone number

B. Get your absentee ballot asks for the same information but has different states at the bottom of the page. Check out the rules page. If you are scared of COVID-19 as many of us are, then you are out of luck, but if you have a health issue and cannot make it to the polling location then you can

apply for this. C. Register to vote – postmarked 15 days before election date mailed and online. Do this

have someone messing up our mail service, please get this in the mail by October 1st to make sure you can vote. D. Polling place locater -

make it October 19th. Since we

you will have to fill in the form and it will tell you where to go. Some areas will need to check this because they are closing some polling locations E. Early voting calendar -

unfortunately, Alabama doesn't

have early voting which would

help during this pandemic to keep any lines from forming. Please get your absentee ballots in early because I doubt they will be counted if they come in on the day after the

elections even if the postmark says it was earlier than two weeks beforehand. We need to get everyone to

Judy Palfrey Dadeville

vote this year.

Since our mail service may are registered

org, is a location you can go to and it is really easy. I found the secretary of state's website

bit harder.

- 1. Are you registered?
- 3. Register to vote 4. Polling place locater 5. Early voting calendar
- earlier if possible which would