**August**

14  In *To Kill a Mockingbird*, Atticus says, “You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view...until you climb into his skin and walk around in it.” #AlabamaAuthors #HarperLee #ChooseKind

Discuss the quote and share on social media.

15  Discuss the significance of Alabama’s upcoming bicentennial on December 14, 2019. Why is it so important?

16  Brainstorm a community project tied to the bicentennial to complete before December 14, 2019.

17  Alabama was the first state to ratify the 16th amendment that gave government the power to collect taxes. Complete a practice W-9. (https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf)

18  What do Pier Grits, Throwed Rolls, and Tomato Pie all have in common? They made the 100 Dishes to Eat in Alabama list! What made the list near you? What would you add to the list? (https://tourism.alabama.gov/content/uploads/100-Dishes-Web-Ver.pdf)

19  Research the ten largest cities in Alabama by population.

20  On this day in 1937, Dixie Bibb Graves took her seat in the U. S. Senate and became Alabama’s first female senator. Research the current demographics of the U.S. Senate and compare it to the pre-civil rights era.

21  In 2005, Hurricane Katrina caused major flooding and destruction along the coast of Alabama; flood waters reached 11 feet in Mobile. Twenty-two counties were declared federal disaster areas. What is your family’s severe weather safety plan? If you do not have one, spend some developing one for your family.


23  Game Day: Who Wants to be a Millionaire?: Alabama Edition (bit.ly/AL200Games)


25  “There is a circle of love surrounding us, even if we are afraid.” —Mrs. Jean Graetz

The Gaetz’ house was bombed on this day in 1956. Discuss the quote in response to the tragic event and how this can be applied to your own life.
#OnlyinAlabama: Too much baggage! Lost luggage? You might find it in Scottsboro, Alabama! Learn all about the Unclaimed Baggage Center here: [https://www.unclaimedbaggage.com/about/](https://www.unclaimedbaggage.com/about/)

Alabama, first written as a poem by Julia Tutwiler, is the official song of our great state. Look up the lyrics. What features about Alabama are mentioned in the song? What features about Alabama would you add to the state song if you could? What is Alabama’s greatest feature? #MusicMatters

Mary Anderson, born in Greene County, Alabama, is credited with the invention of this automobile feature. She was granted the patent for her invention in 1903. In 1922, Cadillac became the first car manufacturer to adopt them as standard equipment. What did she invent? #AL200Inventors

Alabama is the second leading catfish producing state in the U.S., surpassed only by Mississippi. What other agricultural products are important to Alabama’s economy? #AgInAlabama


September


3. Good Digital Citizenship is Critical! Google yourself! What’s your digital footprint? Set up a Google Alert to be notified if any new content about you shows up online. ([https://www.google.com/alerts](https://www.google.com/alerts))

4. Social Media Challenge: #WomancrushWednesday, #WCW: This hashtag is a trend on social where people reveal a female crush, typically accompanied by a photo. Another take on this hashtag is to feature women you admire for their accomplishments. What Alabama woman do you admire and why? Use the #WCW and #AL200 hashtags.

5. The spiral staircase in the Alabama State Capitol was built by Horace King, who was an architect, engineer, and bridge builder. He was born in slavery in South Carolina in 1807. Plan a trip to the Alabama State Capitol ([https://ahc.alabama.gov/AlabamaStateCapitolPlanYourVisit.aspx](https://ahc.alabama.gov/AlabamaStateCapitolPlanYourVisit.aspx)) or take a virtual tour ([https://www.c-span.org/video/?406964-1/alabama‐state‐capitol‐building](https://www.c-span.org/video/?406964-1/alabama‐state‐capitol‐building)).


8. On this day in 1960, NASA’s George C. Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, which grew out of the Army’s Redstone Arsenal, was dedicated by President Dwight D. Eisenhower. Among many contributions to the U.S. space program, center director Wernher von Braun and his team developed the Saturn rockets that launched American astronauts to the moon in 1969. Alabama at the Movies: Watch *Space Camp* (1986), a space adventure film inspired by the U.S. Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama.


10. Alabama has lots of towns and cities with unique names...Can you think of any? Check out this list: [https://www.onlyinyourstate.com/alabama/strange-town-names-alabama-part-2/](https://www.onlyinyourstate.com/alabama/strange-town-names-alabama-part-2/)

11. “Remember if people talk behind your back, it only means you are two steps ahead.” —Fannie Flagg, *Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle Stop Cafe*. #AlabamaAuthors #ChooseKind #FannieFlagg

Discuss the quote and share on social media.
Today is Jesse Owens’s birthday. Jesse Owens, an Alabama native, is famous because of his outstanding performance in track and field. The track and field stadium at Ohio State is called the Jesse Owens Memorial Stadium. Take some time to read *Triumph: The Untold Story of Jesse Owens and Hitler's Olympics* to learn more about how Jesse’s 1936 Olympic performance transcended sports through his remarkable courage.

On this day in 1892, three women passed entrance exams to earn admission to the junior class at Auburn, making the college the first in Alabama to become coeducational. The young ladies, one of whom was the daughter of the Auburn president, were allowed on campus only when attending class.

Changing Times Quick Check: Does Alabama have any single sex colleges in operation today?

On this day in 1969, Talladega Speedway opens with its first running of the Talladega 500 which is won by Richard Brickhouse. Over 30 top drivers boycotted the first run saying the track was unsafe at high speeds. The facility cost $4 million dollars to build and attracted a crowd of 65,000 to the first major race.


On this day in 1963, four black girls were killed and 21 others were injured when a bomb exploded at Birmingham's 16th Street Baptist Church, a center for nearby civil rights demonstrations the previous spring. The girls were preparing for Youth Day activities when the Sunday morning explosion occurred. Three Klansmen accused of the bombing were convicted: one each in 1977, 2001, and 2002. A fourth suspect who died in 1994 was never put on trial. Read Gene Patterson’s column, A Flower for the Graves (https://www.wmnf.org/flower‐graves‐eugene‐pattersons‐stunning‐column/) and/or watch Alabama at the Movies: HBO’s documentary *4 Little Girls* (1997).

Social Media Challenge: #MancrushMonday, #MCM: This hashtag is a trend on social where people reveal a male crush, typically accompanied by a photo. Another take on this hashtag is to feature men you admire for their accomplishments. What Alabama man do you admire and why? Use the #MCM and #AL200 hashtags.

Happy Birthday, Hank Williams! Analyze the lyrics to his song “I’m So Lonesome I Could Cry.” #MusicMatters

On this day in 2015, the band Alabama, formed in Fort Payne in 1969, released their first new studio album in 14 years, Southern Drawl. The band released 21 straight #1 singles. What is your favorite Alabama song, or who is your favorite Alabama musician? #MusicMatters

More than thirty years after it became law, the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which gave women the right to vote, is ratified by the Alabama legislature. Although Alabama complied with the provisions of the amendment as soon as it went into effect in 1920, the 1953 legislature wanted “to record its approval of extending the right of suffrage to women.” Play a game of GooseChase (digital scavenger hunt) on this topic: https://gsch.se/game/0b07500645c541728e83e89f8f5477fe/share/
The first general election for governor, members of the U.S. Congress, legislators, court clerks, and sheriffs was held on this day in 1819 as specified by the Constitution of 1819. Held on the third Monday and following Tuesday of September, the voters elected William Wyatt Bibb as the state’s first governor. How many governors has Alabama had?


Today’s the first day of fall! Some of the best places to view fall foliage are at Alabama’s twenty-two state parks. Learn more about them here: https://www.alapark.com/

#TravelTuesday: People typically share vacation pictures, ask for travel tips, or express their desire to travel somewhere. What is your favorite place in Alabama to visit or to vacation? Or, where in Alabama would you like to visit? Post a pic of places you have been or would live to visit in Alabama, along with the hashtags #TravelTuesday and #AL200.

The oldest newspaper in Alabama owned by a single family, The Southern Star, was first published in Dale County on this day in 1867. Except for a few issues, the editor has always been a family member. The current editor, Joseph H. Adams, is the fourth generation family editor. What is your local newspaper? How long has it been in publication? Who owns it?

#ThrowbackThursday, #TBT: #ThrowbackThursday is a social media trend where people post old images, typically of themselves, during a different period in their lives. Post old photos of you, your family, your school, or your community along with the hashtags #TBT and #AL200. Celebrate your heritage and your history!

Game Day: Alabama Bicentennial Kahoot!: https://create.kahoot.it/details/alabama-bicentennial/e58a5c57-b2a4-4c77-b703-10d19521ed84

Alabama at the Movies: Check out these movies that were filmed in Alabama in 2018-2019 and make plans to see one when it is released: https://expo.al.com/life-and-culture/g66l-2019/03/e38ce643c64222/14-movies-that-filmed-in-alabama-20182019.html

Social Media Challenge: #SundayReads: What is your favorite book by an Alabama author? If you don’t have one, research and find one you’d like to read. Post the cover of it on social media with the hashtags #SundayReads and #AL200.

On this day in 1865, Alabama's Constitutional Convention of 1865 adjourned. Although the ninety-nine delegates repealed Alabama's 1861 Ordinance of Secession and declared slavery illegal, they produced an essentially conservative document. Blacks were not given the right to vote, representation was based on the white population only, and the constitution was ratified without a vote by the people. How many constitutions has Alabama had? What year was the current, governing constitution written?
October

1 Today in History: African American men voted for the first time in a state election. What are the steps that must be taken to become a registered voter?

2 #AlabamaHistoryTrivia: The land that is today the state of Alabama was originally settled by two groups of Native Americans. What are those two groups? Post the answers to social media using the hashtag #AL200trivia.

3 #AlabamaHistory: Although the slaves had been freed after the Civil War, African Americans were still subject to discrimination and segregation. Laws that created separate schools, restaurants, drinking fountains, and more kept African Americans from true freedom. What were those laws called? What impact do they have on African Americans today?

4 #AlabamaEconomy: Alabama has transitioned from being an agricultural economy to a diversified industrial one. Since the late 20th century, the state has seen major growth in its automotive sector, as well as other heavy industries like steel production and fabrication. The state also has modest telecommunication and banking sectors. Research the top companies in Alabama. What kind of jobs are available to Alabamians?

5 #AlabamaGovernment: Who is the Lieut. Governor and what is his/her role?

6 #AlabamaGovernment: Who is the Secretary of State and what is his/her role?

7 #AlabamaGovernment: Who is the Attorney General and what is his/her role?

8 Did you know that Huntsville is home to the largest space museum in the world: the U.S. Space & Rocket Center? Visit huntsville.org to learn more about the national treasure and plan a visit today!

9 Social Media Challenge: George Washington Carver lived in Alabama when he came up with peanut butter. Share your favorite peanut butter recipe on social media with the hashtag #AL200Inventors.

10 What’s in a name? How Alabama got its name: the name Alabama comes from a Native American tribe that lived in the middle of the state. They named the local river the Alabama River and the state took its name from the river. Ask your family how you got your name and what it means.

11 “I may not be a smart man, but I know what love is.” —Winston Groom, Forrest Gump #AlabamaAuthors #WinstonGroom #ChooseKind Discuss the quote and share on social media.


13 Fun Facts: Where is the sock capital of the world? (It has been reported that it produces nearly 70 million pairs of socks a year!) Find it on a map.
Since 1991, dozens of cities, several universities, and a few states have adopted Indigenous Peoples’ Day, a holiday that celebrates the history and contributions of Native Americans. Not by coincidence, the occasion usually falls on Columbus Day, the second Monday in October, or replaces the holiday entirely. Why replace Columbus Day with Indigenous Peoples’ Day? For starters, activists have long argued that holidays, statues, and other memorials to Columbus sanitize his actions—which include the enslavement of Native Americans—while giving him credit for “discovering” a place where people already lived. What is your take on this?

The football game between the University of Alabama and Auburn University is one of the biggest rivalries in all of sports. The game is named the Iron Bowl. It will be played next month. Who do you think will win the Iron Bowl in the bicentennial year? Make your predictions and share them on social media using the hashtag #AL200IronBowl.

Baseball players Hank Aaron and Willie Mays were both born in Alabama. What teams did they play for?

The world's largest cast iron statue, called The Vulcan, is in Birmingham. It is 56 feet tall! Plan a visit to Vulcan Park today!

Audemus jura nostra defendere is the official state motto. What is the translation? Discuss what you think our state motto means.


Who was the first African-American man to be on a U.S. postage stamp and to be invited to the White House? Post the answer on social media with the hashtag #AL200Trivia.

What’s so special about the women and the quilts of Gee’s Bend? Learn about them here: http://www.quiltsofgeesbend.com/

On this day in 1821, the steamboat Harriet reached Montgomery after ten days of travel from Mobile. This was the first successful attempt to navigate so far north on the Alabama River and opened river trade between Montgomery and Mobile. Plan a trip on the Harriett II in Montgomery if possible: http://www.funinmontgomery.com/parks-items/harriott-ii-riverboat

The first electric trolley was introduced in Montgomery in 1886. The Capital City Street Railway, also known as the Lightning Route, was the first citywide system of streetcars established in Montgomery, Alabama. It was on this system that Montgomery’s segregated racial seating was established in the early 1900s, which continued on the city buses after 1936. When did racial segregation end in Montgomery on public transportation?

“You must never be fearful about what you are doing when it is right.” —Rosa Parks

Today marks Rosa Parks’ date of death. Discuss what this quote means to you.
Helen Keller, born in Alabama, was the first deaf-blind person to earn a bachelor’s degree and a prominent advocate for people with disabilities. She helped to found the ACLU, won an Oscar for the documentary based on her life, was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Lyndon Johnson, and founded one of the world’s premier international nonprofit organizations dedicated to preventing blindness and reducing malnutrition. Visit [Helen Keller International](#) to learn more about the famous Alabamian.


“The welfare of each is bound up in the welfare of all.” —Helen Keller

#AlabamaQuotes #HelenKeller #ChooseKind

Discuss the quote and share on social media.

Discuss options for your post high school education: Military, Career tech, 2-year college, or 4 year college.

Send yourself a future me email @ [https://www.futureme.org/](https://www.futureme.org/)

Visit [FASFA.ed.gov](https://federalstudentaid.ed.gov) and research what information is needed.

Halloween...bring on the candy! CBS News published a list of the most popular candy in every state. What is Alabama’s? Check here: [https://www.insider.com/best-sweet-every-us-state-2018-1](https://www.insider.com/best-sweet-every-us-state-2018-1)
November


2. Plan to attend to a college football game in Alabama. Share your experience on social media with the hashtag #AL200.

3. Fred Gray and Thomas Reed were elected to the Alabama State House of Representatives and became the first black men to serve in those roles. Research the demographics of the Alabama State House of Representatives.

4. Learn how to properly take care of the U.S. flag.

5. Discuss the symbolism of the U.S. and Alabama flags.

6. Discuss the 3 branches of government and their roles.

7. How are you serving your country?

8. Did you know that in the spring of 1910, aviation pioneers Wilbur and Orville Wright opened the nation’s first civilian flying school on an old cotton plantation on the outskirts of Montgomery? Research what happened to that school and what it is used for today.


11. Write a thank you letter to a local veteran for his/her service.

12.“The marks humans leave are too often scars. You build a hideous mini-mall or start a coup or try to become a rockstar and you think, ‘They’ll remember me now,’ but (a) they don’t remember you, and (b) all you leave behind are more scars. Your coup becomes a dictatorship. Your mini-mall becomes a lesion.” —Harper Lee

#AlabamaAuthors #HarperLee #ChooseKind

Discuss the quote and share on social media.

13. Research the global hunger epidemic and how many are affected in the state of Alabama and your local community.

14. Collect canned goods and deliver them to your local food bank before Thanksgiving.

15. This Day in History: Continental Congress approves the Articles of Confederation, the precursor to the U.S. Constitution. Research the Articles of Confederation.

16. W.C. Handy was born in Florence, Alabama on this day in 1873. Why is he important to Alabama History? Research his contributions to music.
17 #AlabamaHistoryTrivia: What is the state tree?
18 #AlabamaHistoryTrivia: What is the state flower?
19 #AlabamaHistoryTrivia: What is the state bird?
20 This Day in History: The Alabama Legislature convenes in the new capital of Tuscaloosa for the first time in 1826. How many state capitals has Alabama had and where were they established?
21 #AlabamaHistoryTrivia: What is the state mammal?
22 #AlabamaHistoryTrivia: What is the state gemstone?
24 This Day in History: Alabama ratified the 15th amendment giving African Americans the right to vote in 1869. How did this affect rights for African Americans in Alabama?
25 #AlabamaHistoryTrivia: What is the state fruit?
26 Did you know that there are nearly 3,500 homeless people in the state of Alabama? 14,000 public school students experience homelessness over the course of a school year. Volunteer your time and donate what you can to a local shelter.
27 Share a Thanksgiving tradition or recipe with someone you know.
28 Social Media Challenge: Post “Why I am Thankful” on all social media outlets using the hashtag #AL200Thankful.
29 #RememberYourAlabamaChildren: While shopping on Black Friday, purchase a toy to donate to a local or national toy drive.
30 #InterestingAlabamaStories: Research what happened to Ann Hodges in Sylacauga in 1954. #StarsFellOnAlabama
December

1. This Day in History: Rosa Parks was arrested for refusing to give up her seat on a Montgomery Bus. Alabama at the Movies: Watch *The Long Walk Home* (1990).

2. This Day in History: The 13th Amendment which abolished slavery was ratified by Alabama in 1865, making it the final state to do so.

3. Visit a historical site in your county and post a picture to social media using the hashtag #AL200.

4. Social Media Challenge: Take a selfie in front of a historical marker in Alabama. Post it to social media with the hashtag #AlabamaHistoryMatters.

5. Alabama Highway Patrol, Alabama’s first statewide law enforcement agency, was created on this date in 1935. Write a thank you note to an Alabama Law Enforcement officer.

6. “There is only one unpardonable sin—deliberate cruelty. All else can be forgiven.” —Truman Capote
   #AlabamaAuthors #TrumanCapote #ChooseKind
   Discuss the quote and share on social media.


9. Make a top ten list of interesting facts about your county or city.

10. Share your #MyAlabamaStory. How did your family come to reside in Alabama?

11. The Boll Weevil Monument was dedicated in Enterprise in 1919. Research why Alabamians choose to honor the bug that killed the cotton treasures!

12. Social Media Challenge: Write a six word memoir about your life in Alabama.

13. #AlabamasBrightFuture: What kind of state do YOU want to live in? How can YOU make Alabama better?