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\*deceased



# The Unitor

Exchange Club of Tuscaloosa

Chartered February 9, 1923 • Affiliated with the National Exchange Club

[www.tuscaloosaexchangeclub.org](http://www.tuscaloosaexchangeclub.org)

Thursdays at Noon • Indian Hills Country Club • In service to community, state, and nation

## TODAY: James Spann

May 17, 2018

### ABC 33/40 Weather Man

#### Host: Sydney Cook

James has served as the Chief Meteorologist for ABC 33/40 for 21 years, and can be seen weeknights at 4, 5, 6, and 10 o'clock. In all, James has been a television weather anchor for 39 years, and he has received the two highest awards in the nation for a broadcast meteorologist: national "Broadcaster of the Year" by the National Weather Association, which he accepted in September 2012. According to the NWA, James was selected to receive the award "For his passionate dedication to serving the Central Alabama community with critical weather information for over thirty years, especially during the deadly April 27, 2011 tornado outbreak." James also was the winner of the AMS (American Meteorological Society) "Award for Broadcast Meteorology" in 2013 in part because of "his tireless efforts to advance the public's awareness of and engagement in the science of meteorology, particularly severe weather forecasting and response."



James won an Emmy for best television weather anchor in the Southeast U.S. in 2014, and was elected to the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Silver Circle in 2013. Essentially, it is the ultimate Emmy Award. It represents outstanding achievement spanning at least 25 years in the broadcast industry with a proven record of mentoring and community involvement. And, James received another Emmy for live coverage of the deadly tornado which hit Tuscaloosa on December 16, 2000.

### Member News Briefs, page 2

Next Week: Davis Blair, Bruno Event

### Club Plans Flag Give-Away for Memorial Day

Exchange Club will distribute American flags at the Memorial Day service on May 28th at 9AM at Veterans Memorial Park in front of University Mall. If you can help, please be there 30-45 minutes early to hand out flags to the crowd as they arrive. Thanks,

*Patrick McKane, Project Chair*



Above: 2017 flag distribution volunteers: Glen Smith, Bev Leigh, Betsy Jarnigan, Finis Prendergast, and David Jones. Right: Patrick McKane at a 4th of July flag handout.





## Sign Up for Tours

There are two field trips in June you need to sign up for: the **Bryce Tour on June 21** and the new **Easter Seals of West Alabama building June 14**. These field trips (back-to-back weeks) will be held in place of our standard meeting at IHCC. Each will begin at noon, as we usually do.

If you miss the sign-up to go to either of these, be sure to email Betsy to be put on the list for lunch on tour days.

[bjarnigan@gmail.com](mailto:bjarnigan@gmail.com)

The building on UA's Bryce campus we will be touring is not air conditioned and everyone must wear close-toed shoes (no heels). If you need more information, please let Orman, Sydney or Betsy know.

## Golden Deeds Nomination Deadline Extended

The deadline printed in the Unitor for the Book of Golden Deeds nominations has been extended for another week (to May 22nd). Send nominations to **Wally Burge** at [wburge@ward-scott.com](mailto:wburge@ward-scott.com) or call him at 205/391-8483.

## Board Meets June 25

The next Club board meeting will be June 25 at Bank of Tuscaloosa, 11:30-1:00. Please email President **Betsy Jarnigan** if you want to put items on the agenda.

## Veterans Support

The Exchange Club Board has approved a \$700 Veteran Sponsorship for Tuscaloosa Rotary Honor Flight in May and a \$1000 sponsorship for the "Tuscaloosa Runs for Veterans 5K" in November (benefiting veterans' scholarships, homeless shelter, and memorial park.

Exchange Club of Tuscaloosa  
105 Covey Chase, Tuscaloosa 35406

**Ed Note:** In this new series to profile the longest serving members of this club, we need your help. *Please submit a profile of a fellow member.* This week, learn more about **Bev Leigh**, a 42-year member of the club. shown with an oscillated turkey he killed in the Yucatan Peninsula last spring (which completed Bev's "Wild Turkey World Slam").

## Beverly M. "Bev" Leigh, III

In his mortgage banking career, Bev made the dream of homeownership a reality for many in West Alabama. This exemplified Bev's love of community. His father, the late Col. Beverly M. Leigh, Jr., instilled in him the principal of "giving back" to your community. Bev works tirelessly to support assistance for those less fortunate while nurturing and fostering the conservation of our natural resources.

He supports his beloved alma mater the U of A College of Commerce and Business Administration and is a member of the Commerce Executive Society. He serves the University as a Volunteer Advisor for its Clay Shotgun Shooting Team and recently facilitated the gift of a 75-acre parcel for a future shooting complex.

Bev and his wife Nancy are Tide Pride supporters of Alabama Athletics and he is a proud veteran of the United States Air Force.

Bev is a Director, Tuscaloosa County Industrial Development Foundation, and a former Director for the Governor's Alabama Work Force Development Board. He served as a Director of the American Red Cross, being selected twice as volunteer of the year. He has served the United Way of West Alabama and is a lifelong "fair share" donor.

A long time member of Exchange Club of Tuscaloosa (42 years), Bev coordinates sponsor donors for the Club's very successful Annual Great Chili Cookoff.

In the aftermath of the April 2011 tornados, Bev was elected Chairman of the Tuscaloosa County VOAD [Volunteer Organizations Active after Disaster] and



continues to serve that organization. He is a Volunteer with the Tuscaloosa County Sheriff's Posse and is a trained Community Emergency Response Team member for Tuscaloosa County EMA.

Bev has helped many organizations raise funds including Shelton State Community College Foundation and Red Cross's Food & Wine Festival. He has also served the American Heart Association, American Cancer Society, and Ducks Unlimited (where he earned its Distinguished Service Award).

He is an avid spring turkey hunter and is committed to conservation of that natural resource. He chartered both the Alabama Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation and the Tuscaloosa Chapter. He was honored with the C.B. McCloud National Award given annually to an NWTF Volunteer "who has dedicated his life to wildlife, conservation and preserving the country's hunting heritage." With his leadership his Tuscaloosa Chapter was named "Most Outstanding Chapter in Alabama" in 2016 & 2017.