

Muscle Shoals Chapter
Spring 2019 Issue

Be sure to receive your Chapter Newsletter. Enter/update your email address by sending it to Reba Whitson at rjwhitson@tva.gov



Muscle Shoals TVARA is on Facebook now!

Enter our name and hit like to join us for news, pictures, our newsletter and much much more

MS CHAPTER TVARA QUARTERLY MEETING

Summer is almost here. That means our Muscle Shoals Chapter's annual health fair and picnic is coming up. The picnic this year will be on June 18th at the Florence/Lauderdale Coliseum in Florence. Invitations have been mailed.

I thank all of you who volunteered with the garden program this year. The program provided garden seeds and plants to approximately 850 households.

We have a number of sponsors for our newsletter and our community projects. Please support these sponsors as you have opportunity.

As a reminder, the Muscle Shoals Chapter of the TVARA holds membership meetings each calendar quarter. The 1st, 3rd, and 4th Quarter meetings are held at the TVA Community Credit Union on Wilson Dam Road in Muscle Shoals. The 2nd Quarter meeting is our annual health fair and picnic. Please join us at our quarterly meetings for good fellowship, interesting speakers, and lunch.

I am looking forward to seeing each of you at the picnic and hope you have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Tim Cornelius

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Upcoming Events

Tuesday, June 18, 9:30 a.m.
Annual Picnic and Health Fair
Program: Health, Fitness, & More
Great Door Prizes (hundreds of dollars)
Florence/Lauderdale Coliseum

Wednesday, September 11, 10:00 a.m.
TVARA Endowed Scholarship & Essay Winner Presentations
Free Lunch and Door Prizes
Wilson Dam Road TVA Community Credit Union

Wednesday, December 11, 10:00 a.m.
Program to be Announced
Free Lunch and Door Prizes
Wilson Dam Road TVA Community Credit Union

Wednesday, March 11, 10:00 a.m.
Program to be Announced
Free Lunch and Door Prizes
Wilson Dam Road TVA Community Credit Union

Our Advertisers

Our advertisers are contributing to our Muscle Shoals Chapter TVARA Endowment by advertising in our newsletter and at the Annual Picnic. When considering any of the services offered, please think first of our advertisers!

TVA Community Credit Union **First Community Health Plan**

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Edward Jones **Viva**

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Brentwood Retirement Comm. **Cottage Senior Living**

Home Instead **Listerhill Credit Union**

The Foot Bar **Big Brothers/Big Sister**

CASA **Civitan International**

Tennessee Valley Arts Assoc

Meet your Muscle Shoals TVARA Board Members

President, Tim Cornelius

Vice President Vacant

Treasurer, Joan Marsh

Secretary, Carol Sherer

TVARA Picnic Manager, Henry Long

Garden Program Mgr., James Bedsole

Hospitality, MJ Ligon

Scholarship Program, John Ingwersen

Newsletter: John Ingwersen, Janice Berry

Board Members: John Blackwell, Cameron Kay, Jim Green, Bill Baggett

Problems with benefits, pharmacy? Contact TVA Service Center 888-275-8094

Comments/Recommendations/Articles for Newsletter? Send to jtingwersen@gmail.com

MS CHAPTER TVARA ANNUAL PICNIC

Folks, it's time for the 19th annual picnic and health fair. The date for this event is June 18, 2019. It will be held at the Florence/Lauderdale Coliseum starting at 9:30 a.m.

Come on out and enjoy a morning of fellowship with friends, food, and plenty of door prizes. We have taken steps to be sure everyone in our chapter area received a notice. However, if you or someone you know has not received a notice call John Blackwell at 256-386-2423.

As in the past, we are hoping to have a good crowd of retirees and friends. We are also taking steps to be sure there is plenty of opportunity for fellowship without a lot of background noise. We want you to hear the folks sitting across the table from you.



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256-532-2783 or 1-800-734-7826

The menu will be the same as in the past, with barbecued pork or chicken, coleslaw, baked beans, potato salad, bread, drink, and dessert. The cost is \$12.00 per person.

We will be giving a generous number of door prizes, including the grand prize of a \$500.00 Visa gift card, along many other valuable prizes. Don't miss it!

BEST Robotics Competition—2019



sensors.

In addition to the hands-on DESIGN-ENGINEERING & BUSINESS-MARKETING aspects of the competition, teams must also RESEARCH the industry, related careers, processes, and equipment for a research paper to be included in their Engineering Notebooks, as well as for their Marketing Presentations and Trade Show Booths.

Every year the Robotics Game has a different career education/industry theme about which the students must research and write a report. They must also design, build, and program a robot; and develop many other real workplace skills and products (see below)—making it a true workforce development/career education program.

This year the game is called *Off The Grid* and relates to Electricity, Electrical Engineering, Utilities, etc. It will also involve a new feature in programming that will be an autonomous element of the competition that uses



For more information visit <https://www.nwalbest.com/>. Volunteers are needed and may register at <https://nwalbest.com/volunteers>

Dates scheduled for the 2019 Season:

August 24—Kick Off—*Off the Grid!* 6-week season begins! NW-SCC gym.

September 10—NW-SCC BEST Robotics Industry Night.

September 21—Mall Day (practice Robot driving), Regency Square Mall in Florence, AL.

October 5—GAME DAY at Northwest-Shoals Community College Gym and Tent.

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	2-year	2.75 % APY*	Minimum deposit \$1000
Bank-issued, FDIC-insured	3-year	2.85 % APY*	Minimum deposit \$1000

* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) effective 05/24/18. CDs offered by Edward Jones are bank-issued and FDIC-insured up to \$250,000 (principal and interest accrued but not yet paid) per depositor, per insured depository institution, for each account ownership category. Please visit www.fdic.gov or contact your financial advisor for additional information. Subject to availability and price change. CD values are subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of CDs can decrease. If CDs are sold prior to maturity, the investor can lose principal value. FDIC insurance does not cover losses in market value. Early withdrawal may not be permitted. Yields quoted are net of all commissions. CDs require the distribution of interest and do not allow interest to compound. CDs offered through Edward Jones are issued by banks and thrifts nationwide. All CDs sold by Edward Jones are registered with the Depository Trust Corp. (DTC).

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Muscle Shoals Chapter TVARA/UNA Endowed Scholarship Your Support Needed!

We have several businesses and charities who are supporting our endowed scholarship by providing financial support through the purchase of ads for our newsletter and booths at our Annual Health Fair/Picnic. We thank them for their generous support and hope that each of our members will look at their advertisements in this and future newsletters and support these businesses and charities as they support us.



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Phone: Cell (662) 315 6925
Fax: (256) 381-7232

Margaret (Meg) Deaton
Administrator
email: brentwoodretirement@gmail.com
2505 Alabama Avenue
Muscle Shoals, AL, 35661

As of March 31, of this year, our endowment has reached \$56,432. Many of our advertisers' payments do not show up in this report, so we are looking for a substantial increase in the balance at the end of the next quarter. In the three-month period from January 2019, through March 2019, we have had contributions from the following:

Cameron Kay	Joan Marsh	Brentwood Ops
Cottage Senior Living	NAMC	Listerhill CU

The endowment for 2018-2019 is supporting two \$800 scholarships. The awards for the 2019-2020 academic year will exceed \$900 each for two scholarships. The scholarship award gives preference to relatives of active (paid) Muscle Shoals TVARA members. The application process is completed for the 2019-2020 academic year, and the scholarships for the 2019-2020 academic year will be presented at our September Quarterly meeting, along with a \$100 award for the best essay submitted with an application. Look for the information on our

new scholarship winners in our next issue.

Donations are tax deductible. Make your check payable to Muscle Shoals Chapter TVARA/UNA Endowed Scholarship and mail it to:

UNA Foundation Office (Attn: Endowed Scholarships)
Box 5113
Florence, AL 35632-0001



A Memorable Trip

By John Ingwersen

In the 1970's, I was working out of the Chattanooga Nuclear Power Central Office and doing a lot of talks around the area and to some Universities as well. I was asked at one point to speak at Auburn, and the trip turned into one which was memorable.

There was no major airline flying into Auburn, so I flew on Southern Airways (Jerry Clower, Ray Stevens and Minnie Pearl did a great number—listen at [http://fastestvideos.com/southern-](http://fastestvideos.com/southern-air-ray-stevensjerry-clowerminnie-pearl_610fc846c.html)



[air-ray-stevensjerry-clowerminnie-pearl_610fc846c.html](http://fastestvideos.com/southern-air-ray-stevensjerry-clowerminnie-pearl_610fc846c.html)). I flew

on another airline to the Atlanta Airport, where I went looking for the gate where Southern Air was supposed to be. When I got there, I found it was some airline other than Southern Air. After looking around some more and confirming that was the correct gate, I then discovered they actually shared the gate with another airline. As time drew near for my departure, they announced that their plane was having some sort of difficulty (similar to the one pictured), and there would be a delay. Finally resolved, we boarded and headed out for Auburn. On landing, I discovered there was no car rental, and so had to take a cab to my hotel. All went well with my presentation, and the next morning I was ready to head home. I got to the airport only to note that the plane was not there. Along with half a dozen other passengers waiting, we talked about what was going on and our experiences getting there. It came time for departure and still no plane and no announcement. At this point a man walked in the airport door and asked if we were the passengers for Southern Air. We answered, “yes”, and he said that he was our pilot; the plane was out of

A poster for the Tennessee Valley Museum of Art's Summer Studio Art Camp. It features two sections: 'Young Artist Series' for rising 3rd-5th graders and 'Portrait Study' for rising 8th-12th graders. Both sections list dates, times, and tuition. Contact information is provided at the bottom, including an email address, phone number, and social media links for Facebook and Instagram.

Tennessee Valley Museum of Art
Summer Studio
Art Camp
Young Artist Series
For rising 3rd - 5th graders
July 9 - 12
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
\$195 tuition
\$165 for TVAA members at Family/Friends level & up
Portrait Study
For rising 8rd - 12th graders
July 9 - 11
10 a.m. to noon
\$125 tuition
\$100 for TVAA members at Family/Friend level & up
Email us at curator.tvaa@comcast.net
or call 256-383-0533
for more information and to sign up.
facebook.com/TheTVMA
facebook.com/OfficialRitzSheffield
@The_TVMA
@ritztheatresheffield

commission, and he would be driving us to Atlanta.

An advertisement for Listerhill Financial Services. It features a close-up of a smiling woman with blonde hair. The text asks 'Does your money work as hard as you do?' and provides contact information for retirement planning services.

**Does your money work
as hard as you do?**
We can help you make the most
of your retirement. Call us at
256.314.6580 or at listerhill.com. Ifs
to set up an appointment today!
Listerhill
FINANCIAL SERVICES

For many years I told everyone that I had an airline story that no one could top. One time when I said that, the person I was talking to said they thought they could top me. So I told my story, and he looked rather surprised, then told me he was on the continuation of that same flight leaving Atlanta when we arrived. The pilot had driven them on to their destination.

ANOTHER SUCCESS STORY!

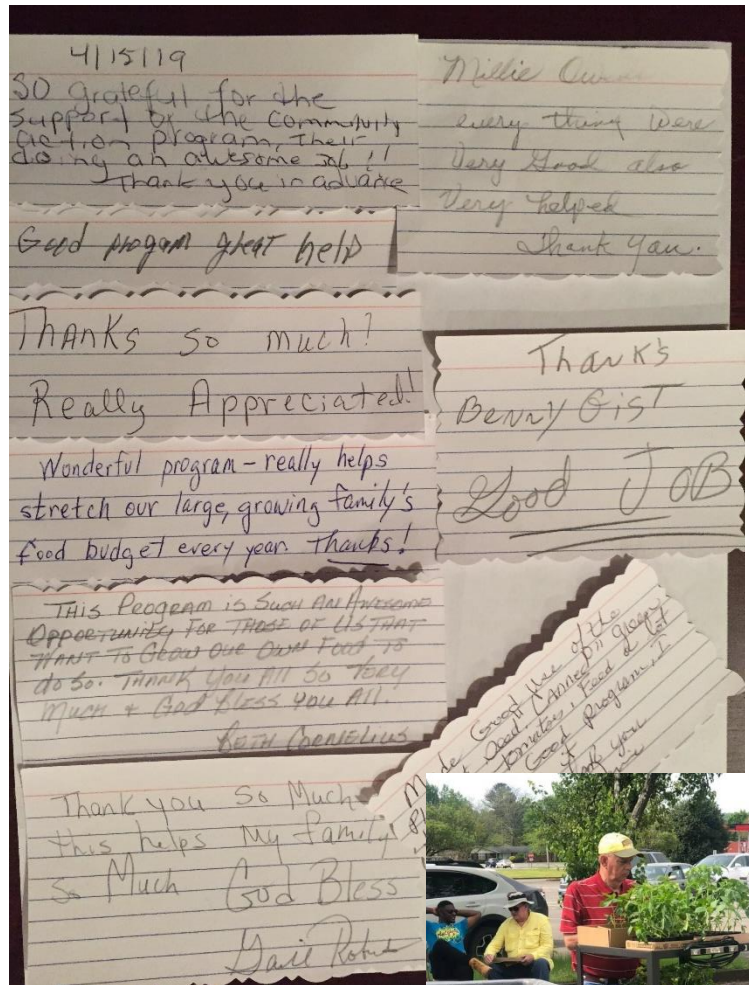
“Thank you for this blessing! I use this to teach my grandkids to make a garden and eat from it.” “I love this program! We enjoy the food, and it helps with the grocery bill, and the people are always so kind!” “Thanks! God bless you!” These and the comments to the right are but a few of the comments made by the 850 recipients from Colbert, Lauderdale, and Franklin Counties as they received their plants, seeds, and fertilizer in the Muscle Shoals Chapter TVARA Gerald Williams Cooperative Garden Program. The Gerald Williams Cooperative Garden began in 1975 and was named for Gerald Williams—then TVA’s director of Agricultural Development.



This is no small undertaking, as planning started in December and required a total of 125 persons’ contributing an amazing 481 hours of volunteer labor. More than 10,000 plants were distributed, including Better Boy and Big Boy tomato plants, banana and bell peppers, and 450 pounds of seeds for Pinkeye purple hull peas, contender bush

beans, Yellow Dent corn, lima beans, squash (straight or crookneck), turnips, okra, and cucumbers. In addition, to ensure great crops, a total of 850 forty-pound bags of fertilizer were distributed among the recipients.

Donations for the garden program can be mailed throughout the year to Community Action Agency of Northwest Alabama Inc., Attn: Garden Program, 745 Thompson Street, Florence, AL 35630.



Mark Your Calendar Now!

The Valleywide picnic is drawing near once again. Everyone who attended last year seemed to really enjoy the entire experience—from the visiting, to the food, entertainment, and awards. Make plans now to attend the Valleywide picnic in Chattanooga on Friday, September 13.

May Valleywide Meeting Summary

By John Blackwell

Dewitt Burleson, Valleywide President, called the meeting to order.

The following are highlights from the meeting:

John Clendenen, Public Relations Consultant with TVA in Communication and Marketing, provided an update on TVA.

- The next meeting of the TVA Board of Directors is on May 9, 2019, in Franklin, TN. This will be the first meeting for Jeff Lyash, new Chief Operating Officer, TVA, to attend. Mr. Lyash was named to replace Bill Johnson.
- Mr. Lyash has been meeting employees and visiting TVA facilities and communities in the valley. This will enable him to identify key issues that will present challenges to TVA. One of these issues is that Memphis Power and Light is examining options for purchasing power.
- TVA is working with valley schools to provide grants. To date, 161 schools have applied for grants, and 150 were approved. One example is the use of a sand box to understand geography.



What is the Institute for Learning in Retirement (ILR)?

ILR is a member-run group of active mature men and women seeking intellectual and social stimulation. Members participate in discussion groups, luncheons, social activities, and short day trips, all during daytime hours. Winter classes run January through March; Fall classes run September-November.

Who can Join?

Retirees—any age, education, or work background! Try a class with no obligation!



Where? UNA East Campus

Cost? \$70 per semester

For more information call the UNA Center for Learning and Professional Development at 256-765-4862 or visit us at UNA East Campus

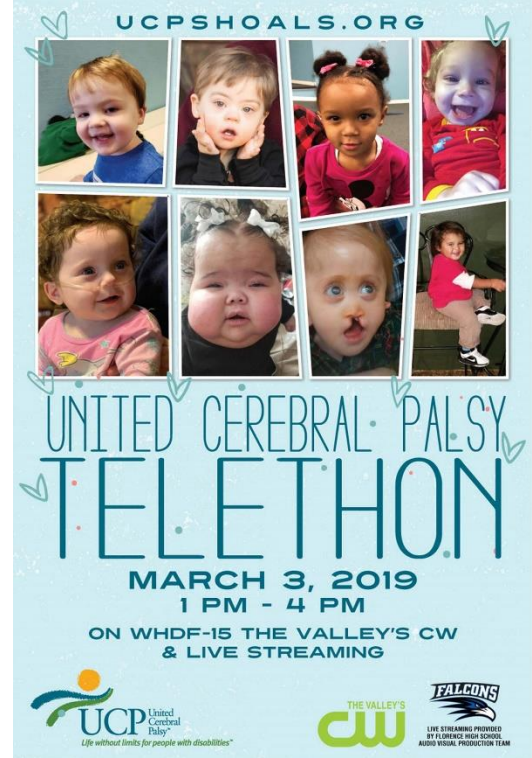
- This past February was the wettest on record. TVA used all available storage to handle the water. As a result, \$1.6B of damage was averted. However, the rainfall helped reduce the cost of power during the second quarter.
- Economic Development efforts have continued to be aggressive, with new investments of \$4.6B and with 43,000 new jobs.
- TVA is now undertaking a project with Dollywood to establish, as a part of a new facility, a section dealing with the history of TVA.

Justin Vineyard, Senior Consultant, TVA Retirement Operations and Benefits, provided information on the retirement system.

- As of the end of February 2019, TVA had 9,700 employees. Of these employees, 865 were on the original defined pension plan; 582 were on the cash balance plan; and 3,600 were only on the 401K plan. As the employee numbers change in each retirement plan, the liability of the system changes.

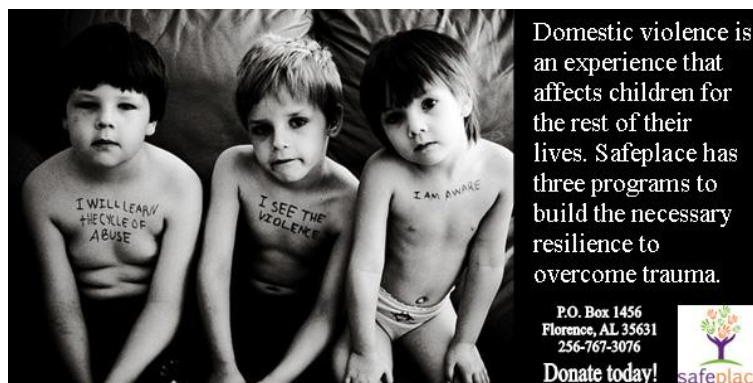


Join a Caring Community. Four clubs in the Shoals area are meeting at various times and days. Call Cameron Kay at 256-810-6569 for a club near you!



- As of the end of February 2019, the system has a value of \$7.8B, with liabilities of \$9.5B, and with 82% of the system being funded. The retirement system is continuing to perform better than anticipated.

Pat Brackett, is retiring in September 2019. His replacement will be [Mark Meigs](#).



Bicentennial Volunteers Incorporated (BVI)

BVI is YOUR organization. Do you know what they do? We have received thousands of dollars from BVI every year for our projects. If you are not familiar with BVI, here is what they are all about.



WE ARE DEFENDERS OF POTENTIAL

Toys are great at Christmas, but our Littles mainly just want a positive role model to hang out with. Could YOU be that person? Won't you join us in igniting the potential of youth by becoming a Big or supporting our mission with your donation today?

www.bbbsshoals.org

Big Brothers Big Sisters.
OF THE SHOALS

505 N Columbia Ave., Sheffield, AL 35880

BVI was established in 1975 to tap the talents of TVA's huge retiree population. That mission continues today. Over the years BVI has grown and expanded to include three major areas of activity.

- **Volunteer work:** providing services to TVA and other institutions.
- **TVA contract work:** providing TVA with short-term staff augmentation.
- **FEMA work:** providing trained emergency assistance to the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

BVI has established a [web site](#) to promote networking and communication among TVA retirees. The site allows visitors to do the following:

- Learn about opportunities for volunteer work.
- Sign up to be considered for TVA contract work and FEMA work.
- Send e-mails to friends in the BVI Directory.
- See pictures of co-workers in the BVI photo gallery.

Don't lose touch when you retire. Stay connected at www.MyBVI.org

BVI is open to all TVA retirees and former employees. Spouses are welcome to participate in BVI volunteer activities. BVI has no dues or meeting requirements. To register, go to the BVI website, www.MyBVI.org, and click "REGISTER" in the upper right hand corner.

BVI Headquarters

(865) 632-8419
Toll-free: (888) 821-2191
Mail: BVI, SPT 5A-K
400 W. Summit Hill Dr.
Knoxville, TN 37902



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CASA
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Thanks to Joan Marsh for finding the following gem:

REMEMBER THE BURMA SHAVE SIGNS—BRINGS BACK MEMORIES!



<p>TRAINS DON'T WANDER ALL OVER THE MAP 'CAUSE NOBODY SITS IN THE ENGINEER'S LAP</p>	<p>SHE KISSED THE HAIRBRUSH BY MISTAKE. SHE THOUGHT IT WAS HER HUSBAND, JAKE.</p>
<p>DON'T LOSE YOUR HEAD TO GAIN A MINUTE. YOU NEED YOUR HEAD; YOUR BRAINS ARE IN IT.</p>	<p>DROVE TOO LONG. DRIVER SNOOZING. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT IS NOT AMUSING.</p>
<p>BROTHER SPEEDER, LET'S REHEARSE. ALL TOGETHER, "GOOD MORNING, NURSE."</p>	<p>CAUTIOUS RIDER TO HER RECKLESS DEAR, "LET'S HAVE LESS BULL AND A LITTE MORE STEER".</p>
<p>SPEED WAS HIGH; WEATHER WAS NOT. TIRES WERE THIN... "X" MARKS THE SPOT.</p>	<p>THE MIDRIGHT RIDE OF PAUL FOR BEER LED TO A WARMER HEMISPHERE.</p>
<p>AROUND THE CURVE LICKETY – SPLIT! BEAUTIFUL CAR WASN'T IT?</p>	<p>NO MATTER THE PRICE; NO MATTER HOW NEW, THE BEST SAFETY DEVICE IN THE CAR IS YOU!</p>
<p>A GUY WHO DRIVES A CAR WIDE OPEN IS NOT THINKIN', HE'S JUST HOPIN'.</p>	<p>AT INTERSECTIONS, LOOK EACH WAY. A HARP SOUNDS NICE; BUT IT'S HARD TO PLAY.</p>
<p>BOTH HANDS ON THE WHEEL EYES ON THE ROAD THAT'S THE SKILLFUL DRIVER'S CODE</p>	<p>THE ONE WHO DRIVES WHEN HE'S BEEN DRINKING DEPENDS ON YOU TO DO HIS THINKING</p>
<p>CAR IN DITCH DRIVER IN TREE THE MOON WAS FULL AND SO WAS HE</p>	<p>PASSING SCHOOL ZONE TAKE IT SLOW LET OUR LITTLE SHAVERS GROW</p>

Help! We Need Your Help!

Do you enjoy writing or photography? We're working to make this newsletter the best, and your talents are needed. If you would like to occasionally write an article on your experiences, or on a TVA person who deserves recognition, please let me know, and I will schedule your article for a future newsletter. Do you enjoy photography? We could use a designated photographer to get pictures at our various events. We have been somewhat haphazard at this, and would like to get better. Call John Ingwersen at 256-757-5325 or email him at jlingwersen@gmail.com.



Suggestions?

We want your feedback, comments, and suggestions. Let us know what you would like for TVARA programs, for our newsletter, and/or ways we can improve, in any way, our service to you.