



# The Whitehursts'

## Dry Cleaning News

Ready to Wear. Every Time. Guaranteed!

JUNE 2021



Mark and Family    David and Sherry

## Teaching and Learning

Here I am, writing an article the day after Mother's Day. We spent Sunday with the Mothers in my family (Sherry and our Daughters-in-Law) and I can't help but think about my Mother, who died in 1998. She was a 4'11" firecracker. The alpha female in our house.

I didn't realize it at the time, but she was constantly teaching me how to grow up. She did this not just by explaining what I should do. It was also a process of putting me in situations where I could experience things and learn from that experience.

For example, my Mother would stop by the corner grocery store and ask me to go in and buy her a pack of cigarettes. She handed me 35 cents and I'd jump out of the car and handle my task. It was legal for a kid to buy cigarettes back in the 1960s. I learned years later that she asked me to do that so I would learn to speak up to adults with confidence. I always thought it was to teach me how to buy cigarettes.

My parents were in a bridge club with three other couples. When I was a teenager, my Mom insisted that I walk through the living room when she was hosting the bridge party and strike up a conversation with the adults. Believe

me, that was the last thing I wanted to do. But my Mom asked so I agreed. She explained that I could ask a question or comment on something that was familiar to me.

It was Saturday night, and a bridge party was planned for that night. I came home from a date and walked into the living room without a clue of what to say. The haze of cigarette smoke was hanging near the ceiling like rain clouds. Everyone had drinks of some nature sitting on coasters my grandmother had crocheted for just such events.

I walked up to Mr. McCullough and noticed his cigarettes sitting on the table. Since I was familiar with cigarettes, I asked him why he decided to smoke Camel's. I don't recall his answer, but I still remember the look on my Mother's face. I guess that wasn't what she had in mind.

I then walked over to Mrs. Brown and asked about her daughter. We went to the same elementary school but attended different high schools and I hadn't seen her in quite some time. That seemed like a good topic. After hearing the usual "she's doing fine, just fine" the only thing I could think to say was, "Mrs. Brown you've got a lovely daughter."

"I like it when my mother smiles. And I especially like it when I make her smile."

Adriana Trigiani,  
Viola in Reel Life

That's the title of a Herman's Hermits song popular at the time. I needed all the help I could get.

Here is another thing I learned from this experience. If I did my conversational meet and greet later at night, it was much easier to get others to talk and laugh. Everyone seemed to be a bit more conversant after a few hours of bridge.

Maybe that was influenced by the empty glasses sitting on my Grandmother's coasters.

Moms are good teachers!

David



## “Did You Know Where This Saying Came From...”

### Burning The Midnight Oil



**Meaning:** To work late into the night. Originally this was by the light of an oil lamp or candle. More recently, the phrase is used figuratively, alluding back its use before electric lighting.

**Origin:** The English author Francis Quarles wrote in *Emblemes*, 1635: Wee spend our mid-day sweat, or mid-night oyle; Wee tyre the night in thought; the day in toyle. At that time there was a verb for working late by candlelight - elucubrate. Henry Cockram

defined that in his *The English dictionarie*, or an interpreter of hard English words, 1623: “Elucubrate, to doe a thing by candlelight.” Clearly, we no longer have much call for that word and it has fallen out of use. Although it is probably some years since anyone needed to do it in reality the phrase ‘burning the midnight oil’ is still in everyday use. Porter Wagoner and Dolly Parton released an album called *The Right Combination/ Burning the Midnight Oil*, in 1972.

### Well, butter my butt and call me a biscuit!

**Meaning:** An expression of astonishment upon learning something unbelievable (usually positive).

**Origin:** No one knows who first said this. But one thing we do know--it’s from the South. Here are some more colorful southern sayings: “Paint me green and call me a cucumber.” “Slap me with bread and call me a sandwich.” “Pin my tail and call me a donkey.” “Fry me in butter and call me a catfish.” “Saddle my back and call me a horse!”



### Bees Knees

**Meaning:** Sweet and good. “You bought me a coffee? You’re the bee’s knees!”

**Origin:** The phrase “the bee’s knees”, meaning “the height of excellence”, became popular in the U.S. in the 1920s, along with “the cat’s whiskers” (possibly from the use of these in radio crystal sets), “the cat’s pajamas” (pajamas were still new enough to be daring), and similar phrases that didn’t endure: “the eel’s ankle”, “the elephant’s instep”, “the snake’s hip” and “the capybara’s spats”. The phrase’s actual origin has not been determined, but several theories include “b’s and e’s” (short for “be-alls and end-alls”) and a corruption of “business” (“It’s the beezness.”).



## CHAMPION CLEANERS

VOTED BEST OF ...

Birmingham

Vestavia Hills

Hoover

Mountain Brook

Shelby County

**10% OFF**

**DRY CLEANED GARMENTS  
EXCLUDES LAUNDERED  
SHIRTS AND BLOUSES**

**Minimum 3 Items - Limit 20**

1 coupon per household  
Good for orders received in June  
Offer Expires 6/30/21  
Cannot be combined with any other offer

**AN INTRODUCTORY  
WASH DRY & FOLD SERVICE  
FOR \$99**

We Will Do Your Laundry for 30 Days  
Start Anytime in June  
Sample our WDF Subscription Plans

1 coupon per household  
Good for orders received in June  
Offer Expires 6/30/21  
Cannot be combined with any other offer

**15% OFF**

**GOLF SHIRTS  
& SWEATERS**

**Minimum 3 items - Limit 15**

1 coupon per household  
Good for orders received in June  
Offer Expires 6/30/21  
Cannot be combined with any other offer

**25% OFF**

**JEANS**

**Minimum 3 Items - Limit 10**

1 coupon per household  
Good for orders received in June  
Offer Expires 6/30/21  
Cannot be combined with any other offer

**WE CAN TAKE THE WORK OUT  
OF YOUR WASH DAY!**

**Champion Cleaner's  
Wash Dry & Fold Service**

If you put it in your washer and dryer, we will do that for you. Then we'll neatly fold your clothes, towels, sheets and more then return them to you ready to put away.

Our "On-Demand WDF" price is \$3.00/lb. Lower prices are available if you sign up for one of our monthly subscription plans.

30 lbs. - \$59

50 lbs. - \$99

90 lbs. - \$179

That's less than \$2.00 per lb.

Subscription plans are cancellable anytime. See our website for details. Some restrictions apply. Price includes Free Pickup & Delivery in our service area.



**Rocky Ridge Cleaning Center**

2548 Rocky Ridge Road Vestavia Hills, AL 35243

205.824.7737

**Greystone**

5403 Highway 280, Suite 101 Hoover, AL 35242

205.408.2797

**Calera Cleaning Center**

4204 Highway 31 Calera, AL 35040

205.668.4727

**Crestline**

42-A Church Street, Mtn. Brook AL 35213

205.871.2962

## Happy Father's Day



Father's Day was founded in Spokane, Washington at the YMCA in 1910 by Sonora Smart Dodd, who

was born in Arkansas. Its first celebration was in the Spokane YMCA on June 19, 1910. Her father, the Civil War veteran William Jackson Smart, was a single parent who raised his six children there. The idea of a special day to honor fathers and celebrate fatherhood inspired by the American Mother's Day celebrations to plan a day to honor fathers.



**WE ARE AN  
OFFICIAL  
CORPORATE  
PARTNER OF  
SAMFORD  
ATHLETICS**





2548 Rocky Ridge Road  
Birmingham, Alabama 35243  
United States



A+



PSRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
BIRMINGHAM, AL  
PERMIT #85

## NEWSLETTER JUNE 2021

### Beside the normal stuff, we also clean:

- Wedding Gowns
- Area Rug Cleaning
- Suedes and Leathers
- Purses, luggage and backpacks
- Ugg Boots
- Wash Dry & Fold

### And we do...

1. We are a Certified Wedding Gown Specialist
2. We are part of the Certified Restoration Drycleaning Network (CRDN) - We handle textile and electronics restoration due to damage from smoke, fire, water and mold.
3. Home and office dry cleaning pickup and delivery
4. Wash Dry & Fold service - including Champion Hamper service

## Some Very Exciting Book Titles

- ▶ The 120 Year Diet
- ▶ Detecting Fake Nazi Regalia
- ▶ Foundry Work for the Amateur
- ▶ Versailles by The View from Sweden
- ▶ Theory of Lengthwise Rolling
- ▶ The Potatoes of Bolivia by Their Breeding, Value and Evolutionary Relationships
- ▶ Innovation and the Rise of the Tunnelling Industry
- ▶ The Interpretation of Geological Time from the Evidence of Fossilised Elephant Droppings in Eastern Europe
- ▶ Big and Very Big Hole Drilling

## Time To Do This...

- ✓ Clean the gutters and consider gutter guards.
- ✓ Wash the washer and dryer.
- ✓ Update first aid kits for summer adventures.
- ✓ Get outdoor gear ready.
- ✓ Prep the swimming pool.
- ✓ Repair and seal fences and garden structures.
- ✓ Put in screen doors.
- ✓ Switch the direction of fans.
- ✓ Plan some patio sitting time.
- ✓ Make a summer to-do list.