

SEPTEMBER 2018 Issue 121

FREE!! Take One, Enjoy & Share

Laughs and Lifts



Alabama Real Estate For Sale

NEW LISTINGS!

24± Acres • Covington County

Frontage on Friendship Road (paved County Road 70) with utilities available. Pond, possible home sites, hunting, and fishing. **Live and/or retire in a great community!** L-1800604 • \$60,000



67.97± Acres • Pike County

Located on US Highway 231 about 3-½ miles south of Troy. Average daily traffic of approximately 18,000 vehicles. Property may be divided. L-1800562 • \$407,820



80± Acres • Covington County

Outdoor paradise on old Boggy Road!

Electricity, county water, several potential home sites, and a great pond site. Offers frontage on Old Boggy Road and on Lightwood Knot Creek. Property includes 30± acres in 100± year old hardwoods and majestic cypress trees plus 50± acres in planted longleaf pines. **Hunting should be great on this tract!** L-1700380 • \$174,000



386± Acres • Coffee County

Frontage on Highway 141 a few miles north of Danley's Crossroads. Potential home sites with electricity and county water available. This is managed property with rich row cropland, planted pines (loblolly and longleaf) and hardwood bottoms along spring-fed streams. Excellent hunting with abundant wildlife! L-1600819 • \$636,900



79.14± Acres • Henry County

Located on County Road 102 in the Walls Crossroads Community, about four miles east of Abbeville. This beautiful property has four ponds, pastureland, wooded areas, and two mobile homes. L-1800217 • \$238,000



724 Darby Street, Brundidge • Pike County

Two-story Cape Cod-style home with two lots - Lot 7 and three-quarters of Lot 8 - located in a desirable neighborhood and near Pike County High School. Downstairs includes foyer, living room, dining room, kitchen, breakfast area, large den, two bedrooms, and one bathroom. Upstairs has two bedrooms and one bathroom. Features nine producing pecan trees and a 10' x 12' storage building. L-1700784 • \$115,000



571.6± Acres • Pike County

Hunting and fishing paradise - this outdoor retreat has it all! Includes a three-bedroom, 2-½ bath, two-story modern log home, 25± acre managed trophy bass lake, two-story boat house, food plot openings, and well-maintained interior roads. Diverse habitat includes mixed mature timber, beautiful hardwood bottoms, and planted loblolly pines. L-1000365 • \$1,650,000



155.7± Acres • Pike County

Located in the Monticello Community with frontage on paved County Road 6643. Managed timberland with 140± acres planted in loblolly pines ranging from about three to 17 years old. Electricity and county water available. Interior roads, established food plots, and spring-fed streams. **Excellent hunting!** L-1800506 • \$366,000



93± Acres • Pike County

Located on the south side of Brundidge with frontage on the east side of four-lane Highway 231. **Buy the whole tract or separate parcel(s).** Parcel 1: 27± acres inside Brundidge City Limits, offered for \$81,000. Parcels 2, 3 and 4: Three 22± acre parcels just south of the City Limits each offered for \$55,000. L-1500265



33.82± Acres, Pike County

1507 County Road 3329, Brundidge
Open land with beautiful four-bedroom, three-bath home, garage, and large shop building. L-1600845 • \$295,000



For property details, please contact:

Randall Thompson • Real Estate Broker

Brundidge, Alabama • Phone: (334) 268-1488

RThompson@FarmersNational.com • www.FarmersNational.com/RandallThompson



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Marriage Tension

A friend of mine was having a bit of marital-tension in his household and was trying to figure out just what to do about it.

In the course of our conversation, I said to him, "You know, quite often God speaks to us through our wives."

My friend looked at me and said, "Oh yeah? Well I'm pretty sure God doesn't use that kind of language!"

My husband says I look younger in this hat. Oh Really? What is your age? Thirty Nine. No, I mean without the hat.



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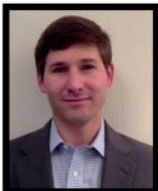
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TWO TEAS

1st customer: I'll have tea.
 2nd customer: Me, too. And be sure the cup is clean!
 (The waiter exits, and then returns after a while.)
 Waiter: Two teas. Which one asked for the clean cup?

Two Friends

Two friends are talking and one says to the other, "I am so tired of people not understanding what I'm talking about."
 His friend asks, "What do you mean?"

HR: "This is your revised salary. We recommend you keep it confidential."
Employee: "Don't worry, I'm equally ashamed of it."

Before you ask God for anything you must thank Him for everything.

Laughs and Lifts
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 Now in our 11th Year

**Published since 2008,
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We Are Everyone's
Favorite Family Magazine.**

Laughs and Lifts is the most unique and most loved monthly magazine in the Wiregrass Region, and is distributed Free in over 200 locations & online by subscription at LaughsandLifts.com

Laughs and Lifts provides laughter in clean jokes & cartoons, witty and wise one liners, encouragement through uplifting articles based on God's word and teachings of Christ Jesus, and entertainment with Sudoku, Recipes, Puzzles & More.

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A mistake that makes you humble is better than an
achievement that makes you arrogant.

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and Lifts**
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Now in our 11th Year



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Murray**
REALTOR

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Sat. Sept. 1	Louisville (Orlando)	Sat. Oct. 20	at Tennessee
Sat. Sept. 8	Arkansas State	Sat. Oct 27	BYE
Sat. Sept. 15	at Ole Miss	Sat. Nov. 3	at LSU
Sat. Sept. 22	Texas A&M	Sat. Nov 10	Miss. State
Sat. Sept. 29	UL Lafayette	Sat. Nov. 17	The Citadel
Sat. Oct. 6	at Arkansas	Sat. Nov. 24	Auburn
Sat. Oct. 13	Missouri		

Sat. Sept. 1	Washington	Sat. Oct. 20	at Ole Miss
Sat. Sept. 8	Alabama State	Sat. Oct 27	BYE
Sat. Sept. 15	LSU	Sat. Nov. 3	Texas A&M
Sat. Sept. 22	Arkansas	Sat. Nov 10	at Georgia
Sat. Sept. 29	Southern Miss.	Sat. Nov. 17	Liberty
Sat. Oct. 6	at Miss. State	Sat. Nov. 24	at Alabama
Sat. Oct. 13	Tennessee		

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New Listing

MLS#:438786 • 157 Rogers Ct • Located just outside of Ozark in the beautiful Southern Pines subdivision. This 3 bedroom 2 bath home with many new updates. private backyard, 2 car garage, and more. Call today to see.



Dream Home

MLS#:437181 • 2364 County Road 33 • This custom home sets on 6 private acres. Located in the Asbury Community, in the much desired Skipperville School district. The home has 4 BR, 2 1/2 B, over 3,000 sq. Ft., a pool, 3 car garage, small pond, workshop, and much more. Call today to see.



Reduced

MLS#:W20180450 • 408 Blake Drive • Privacy, 3/2 home has a large FR with beautiful stone wood burning FP, large BRs, large Mbath/Jacuzzi & separate shower. Kitchen / lots of storage. Back covered patio & goldfish pond, beautifully landscaped/privacy fence. Many updates. Call today to see!



10 Acres & a Creek

MLS#:W20181165 • 51 CR 332 • Skipperville Absolutely stunning, upgrades, over 3700 sq ft. on 10 acres. 10 ft covered front and back porch, Beautiful kitchen, granite CTs, custom cabinetry, FR/gas log FP. MB Suite/storm shelter. Additional 50 acres available.



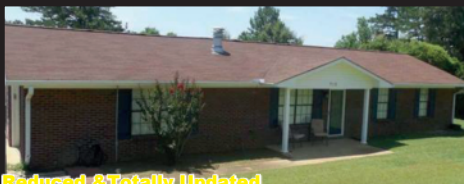
Priced Right

MLS#:435809 • 962 S Union Avenue • A wonderful place to call home, and so much potential. Large country kitchen with a large FR and DR area. Convenient to everything. The beautiful hardwood floors have been uncovered. Call Today To See!



Reduced

MLS#:W20180806 • 308 Stratford Dr • Lovely 3 bedroom/ 2 bath Townhome. Conveniently located to shopping and more. This Townhome offers many upgrades. Call today to see.



Reduced & Totally Updated

MLS#:W20172252 • 712 Gunter St. • Updates throughout, appliances, lighting, kitchen and baths. Large sun room can double as a den or anything you might like. Beautifully landscaped, very large corner lot, fenced, plants and trees, with a pond view.



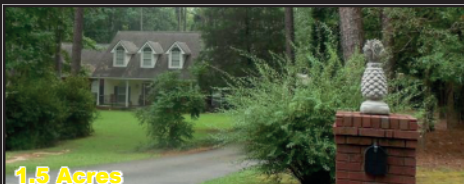
Reduced

MLS#:W20171761 • 1800 Mixon School Rd • Ozark Beautiful landscaped lot / arbors that enhance the patio area and beautiful garden flowers. Totally updated... flooring, paint, cabinets, counter tops, baths and more. Whole house security system.



Reduced

MLS#:2017119 • 507 Westview Drive • Ozark Great home for the price. Why pay rent when you can own. Some updates have been made. Also great floor plan. With 2 bedroom 1 bath. Priced to sell,



1.5 Acres

MLS#:439092 • 1588 Roy Parker, Ozark • This spacious home offers a large FR and formal DR and LR. Crown molding, large BRs/walk-in closets & Jack-N-Jill bath. MBR Jacuzzi tub and separate shower. 18x36 salt water pool. RV storage building. Convenient to shopping, schools, lake and parks.



6 Acres

This property has a wonderful country setting and has six acres to build your dream home. Located in the small town of Skipperville. A wonderful stocked pond. The property has a pole barn there is also a small cabin on the property.

LOTS FOR SALE

Pick one of these wonderful lots to build your dream home.)

- 20 acres on County Road 104
- 3 lots on Tharpe drive 1.67 acres
- 3 lots on Alcuri 2.35 acres
- 1/2 Acre lot on Doncaster Drive
- 8 acres on County Road 54
- 1 acre lot on Stuart Tarter
- 3 acre lot on Faust Ave.
- 4.9 acres on Willa St.



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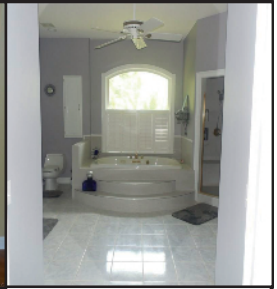
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Custom Built Home



MLS#: 437181 • 2364 County Road 33

The private winding drive takes you to this beautiful elegant custom built home. It is a hidden treasure. The six acres gives you total privacy. the home offers many unique features with many upgrades. Over 3000 Sq.Ft.



New Listing

MLS#: 438427 1672 N. Union Ozark

It may look small from the road, but don't be fooled! This house has about 1900 Sq. Ft. And sits on 3.74 acres. 3/1½ with metal roof, CHA, vinyl siding. Needs some TLC.
Being Sold "As Is" \$88,000



New Price

MLS#: 435714 199 Oak Ave. Ozark

You'll look a long time before finding one to match up to this charming one owner home. The minute you walk into the family room you will be SOLD! Beautifully maintained inside and out and even has a brand new roof!
Call Today! \$119,000



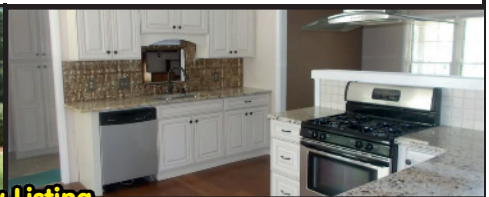
MLS#: 435516 271 Willa Circle Ozark

This 28,000 sq. ft. building could be a great business venture. It has 15+/- acres with space for offices, library, kitchen, large lunch room with stage. A gym building is separate from the main structure. Large bathrooms with showers.
\$150,000



MLS#: 437121 • 501 Joseph Dr. Ozark

This 2200+ sq. ft. 3/2 has been opened up and updated...wonderful open concept for today's living! Separate Family Room w/fpl. Granite countertops, beautiful wood flooring, freshly painted, enclosed patio, fenced yard. Near schools, lake and park. Don't let it get away!
\$149,900



New Listing



Beautiful Broad Street

MLS#: 20180325 461 E. Broad St. Ozark

Hardwood floors, large dining room, living room and kitchen with island. Chandeliers. 10" crown molding. Large deck and stunningly beautiful pool and landscaping. Walk-in cedar closets. Exercise room. Fireplaces. 3700 Sq. Ft. **\$329,500**



Fishing in the Neighborhood

MLS#: 433641 305 Spring Lake Bend

This beautiful 5 bedroom home, with 4 full and ½ bath is located in a great neighborhood. Circle drive, architectural roof, highly landscaped, gazebo and hot tub, 3704 Sq. Ft. **\$258,000**

What is a "free" gift? Aren't all gifts free?

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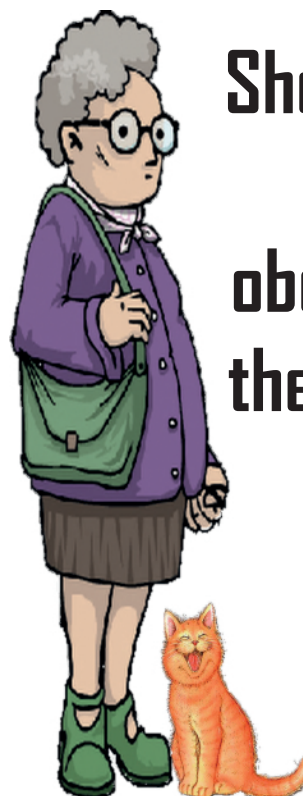
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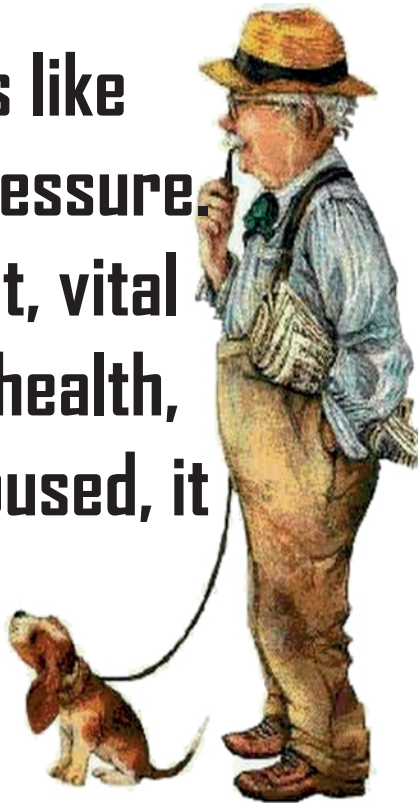
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THE MAN OF THE HOUSE?

A husband had just finished reading a new book entitled, "You Can Be THE MAN of Your House".

Finding new courage that he never knew he had, he stormed into the kitchen and announced to his wife, "From now on, you need to know that I am the man of this house and my word is the 'Law.' You will prepare me a gourmet meal tonight, bring it to me, and when I am done eating my meal, you will clear the dishes and serve me a scrumptious dessert. After dinner, you are going to go upstairs with me and we will make love the way I want! Afterwards, you are going to draw me a bath so I can relax. You will put on soothing music, wash my back and towel me dry and bring me my robe. You will massage my feet and hands to relieve any last bit of tension so that I can sleep like a baby. Then tomorrow, guess who's going to dress me and comb my hair?" The wife replied, "The funeral director would be my first guess.

Second Opinion

A woman rushed to see her doctor, looking very worried and all strung out. She rattled off, "Doctor, take a look at me. When I woke up this morning, I looked at myself in the mirror and saw my hair all wiry and frazzled up, my skin was all wrinkled and pasty, my eyes were bloodshot and bugging out, and I had this corpse-like look on my face! What's wrong with me, Doctor?" The doctor looked her over for a couple of minutes, then calmly said, "Well, I can tell you one thing . . . there ain't nothing wrong with your eyesight."

USELESS, but interesting, trivia fact:

Did you know that the first letter of every continent's name is the same as the last?

AmericA, AntarcticA, EuropE, AsiA,
AustraliA, Africa.

**TROY SHRINE CLUB PROUDLY PRESENTS
2018 PIKE COUNTY FAIR**

OCTOBER 2 – OCTOBER 6, 2018

Presented in cooperation with State Department of Agriculture and Industries

Sponsored by Troy Shrine Club.

Homer Homann, Troy Shrine Club President

This year we have the same promoter, "Modern Midway" who was a great hit with every one last year with a larger midway and some new bigger and better rides.

Presale of armbands and plenty of fun ahead

This year, with the help of our fair promoter the presale price for an armband is \$20.00 which is good for one night, all night of the Fair; this is a \$5.00 savings. These presale armband coupons are available starting September 16th ending October 1st at:

Pizza Palace, 112 So. Main Street Brundidge

Troy Bank and Trust's main office in Troy, Brundidge and Ariton

Thrifty Store, Troy

Farmer's Exchange Bank in Louisville.

Every Saturday morning at the Shrine Club office on U.S. 231.

Our fair promoter is again offering a 2 for 1 armband ticket which will be good only for Wednesday night's show October 5th.

~SPECIAL EVENTS~

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2nd TROY UNIVERSITY STUDENT NIGHT W/**ID REDUCED** GATE ADMISSION

6:30p.m. - BENTON BROTHERS

POULTRY DISPLAY – FFA & 4H

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 3rd

6:30p.m. - SHE BANG CLOGGERS

JOHNNY BARRON AND THE WATERFALL CHILDREN BAND SHOWCASE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4TH MILITARY NIGHT (PRESENT AND PAST) W/**ID REDUCED** GATE ADMISSION

7:00p.m. – ALCAZAR BAND

LIGHTHOUSE STRING ENSEMBLE

JUDGING OF THE PIGS - FFA & 4H

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5TH

JOHNNY BARRON AND THE WATERFALL CHILDREN BAND

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 6TH

PERFECTION AND GRACE, a big-time band with music for all ages

All of this entertainment is included in the entry fee of \$10 for adults and \$5 for children ages 6 to 11 with gates opening each night at 6 p.m.

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Aunt T's Kitchen

Louisiana Blackberry Pie

Ingredients

- 1 cup sugar
- 1/3 cup quick-cooking tapioca
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 4 cups fresh blackberries, divided
- Pastry for double-crust pie (9 inches)
- 2 tablespoons butter



Directions

1. In a large saucepan, combine the sugar, tapioca and salt. Add 1 cup blackberries; toss to coat. Let stand for 15 minutes. Cook and stir over medium heat until berries burst and mixture comes to a gentle boil. Remove from the heat; gently stir in remaining berries.
2. Line a 9-in. pie plate with bottom pastry; trim pastry even with edge of plate. Add filling; dot with butter. Roll out remaining pastry to fit top of pie; place over filling. Trim, seal and flute edges. Cut slits in top.
3. Bake at 400° for 35-40 minutes or until crust is golden brown and filling is bubbly. Cool on a wire rack.

PIES OF THE SOUTH

Texas Pecan Pie

Ingredients

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/3 cup shortening
- 3 tablespoons cold water

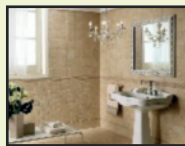
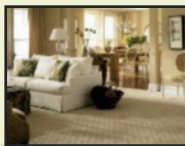
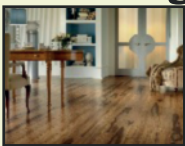
FILLING:

- 1-1/4 cups chopped pecans
- 1 cup plus 1 tablespoon light corn syrup
- 3 eggs
- 1/2 cup plus 1 tablespoon sugar
- 1-1/2 teaspoons vanilla extract
- Pinch salt

Directions

- In a bowl, combine the flour and salt; cut in shortening until crumbly. Gradually add cold water, tossing with a fork until a ball forms.
- Roll out pastry to fit a 9-in. pie plate. Transfer pastry to pie plate. Trim pastry to 1/2 in. beyond edge of plate; flute edges. Sprinkle with pecans; set aside.
- In a small bowl, beat the corn syrup, eggs, sugar, vanilla and salt until well blended. Pour over pecans.
- Bake at 350° for 45-50 minutes or until a knife inserted in the center comes out clean. Cool on a wire rack.

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Oklahoma Strawberry Pie

Ingredients

- 1 pie shell (9 inches)
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 2 tablespoons corn-starch
- 1 cup water
- 1 package (3 ounces) strawberry gelatin
- 4 cups sliced fresh strawberries
- Whipped cream, optional



Directions

1. Line unpricked pie shell with a double thickness of heavy-duty foil. Bake at 450° for 8 minutes. Remove foil; bake 5 minutes longer. Cool on a wire rack.
2. In a small saucepan, combine the sugar, cornstarch and water until smooth. Bring to a boil; cook and stir for 2 minutes or until thickened. Remove from the heat; stir in gelatin until dissolved. Refrigerate for 15-20 minutes or until slightly cooled.
3. Meanwhile, arrange strawberries in the crust. Pour gelatin mixture over berries. Refrigerate until set. Serve with whipped cream if desired.

- 3 eggs yolks, beaten
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 pastry shell (9 inches), baked

MERINGUE:

- 3 egg whites
- 1/4 teaspoon cream of tartar
- 1/2 cup sugar

Directions

1. In a saucepan, melt the butter. Remove from the heat; add flour and stir until smooth. Stir in brown sugar. Return to heat; stir in milk and salt until blended. Cook and stir over medium-high heat until thickened and bubbly. Reduce heat; cook and stir 2 minutes longer. Remove from the heat. Stir about 1 cup hot filling into the egg yolks; return all to pan, stirring constantly. Bring to a gentle boil; cook and stir for 2 minutes longer. Remove from the heat. Gently stir in vanilla. Pour into pastry shell.
2. For meringue, beat egg whites and cream of tartar in a small bowl on medium speed until soft peaks form. Gradually beat in sugar, about 1 tablespoon at a time, on high until stiff glossy peaks form and sugar is dissolved. Spread evenly over hot filling, sealing edges to crust.
3. Bake at 350° for 12-15 minutes or until meringue is golden brown. Cool on a wire rack for 1 hour. Refrigerate for at least 3 hours before serving. Refrigerate leftovers.

Missouri Butterscotch Pie

Ingredients

- 6 tablespoons butter
- 6 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 1-1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 2 cups milk
- 1/4 teaspoon salt

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'Well,' she said, 'I think I'll braid my hair today.'

So she did and she had a wonderful day.

The next day she woke up, looked in the mirror and saw that she had only two hairs on her head.

'H-M-M,' she said,

'I think I'll part my hair down the middle today.'

So she did and she had a grand day.

The next day she woke up, looked in the mirror and noticed that she had only one hair on her head.

'Well,' she said, 'today I'm going to wear my hair in a pony tail.'

So she did, and she had a fun, fun day.

The next day she woke up, looked in the mirror and noticed that there wasn't a single hair on her head.

'YAY!' she exclaimed.

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Dale Medical Center

Challenges of Rural Hospitals

Dale Medical Center continues to serve the community providing quality care close to home at a time that Alabama Rural Hospitals are in a crisis. Providing an array of services including primary, chronic and long-term care, behavioral health, addiction services, rehabilitation beds, radiology, laboratory services, MRI, CAT Scan, 24-hour ER, inpatient and outpatient surgery as well as home health and hospice care. DMC has been recognized nationally for the care provided in our ER and Inpatient Nursing Units for delivery of high quality patient care in an efficient and cost-effective manner. "In healthcare there are many things over which we have no control, such as payer mix of the patients we serve or reimbursement rates. However, what we can control is how we treat our patients and we have a very caring and compassionate staff that do a great job every day," says Vernon Johnson, CEO.

Although Dale Medical Center is not currently in danger of closing, the pressures of the current healthcare environment are being felt. "We have worked hard over the years to operate a financially efficient organization. We have worked to pay off debt and accumulate cash during financially challenging years for Alabama Rural Hospitals," said Vernon Johnson, CEO. "However, with the ever-growing pressures associated with day to day operations, growing uncompensated care, and declining reimbursement, as a rural hospital we struggle to remain financially viable. We have reached a point that we are having to make tough decisions, looking for additional revenue streams, as we lobby for equitable reimbursement relief from Washington DC."

According to the Alabama Hospital Association, 80 percent of Alabama Rural Hospitals are operating in the red with an average operating margin of -11 percent because of lower and inadequate reimbursement for services. This current financial crisis facing hospitals today is a culmination of years of declining reimbursement, increasing under-insured and uninsured, and unfunded mandates and regulations.

The three biggest issues facing Alabama's hospitals include:

- The Medicare area wage index, which determines the rate at which hospitals are paid for the care they provide to patients insured by Medicare. Sixty-five percent of the patients served by Dale Medical Center are insured by Medicare.
- Cuts to programs funding hospitals for providing care to uninsured patients, as the thought process was that the Affordable Care Act was to assure that everyone had some form of health insurance.
- A general drop in patient volume at hospitals nationwide. A trend toward more care being delivered in clinics and home settings and more stringent admission criteria as set by insurance companies that patients must meet to be admitted to the hospital has contributed to the drop.

The first and biggest issue is the area wage index. The theory behind the index is that a uniform rate of payment for all hospitals rendering services would be inherently unfair because the cost of living varies from city to city and state to state.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services tries to remedy this by using a formula to calculate an adjusted rate of repayment, but Alabama's hospitals have some of the lowest rates in the nation. Dale Medical Center's reimbursement rate is roughly .68 compared to Santa Cruz California at a rate of 1.8. So, for a procedure costing \$1,000 to perform, Dale Medical Center would be paid \$680 compared to \$1,800 in California for the exact same procedure. Not many businesses can remain in business if they operated under similar payment schemes. This might have been a good idea when it was first implemented, however, it has been manipulated by politicians in places like New Jersey and California who make sure hospitals in their states have the highest reimbursement rates possible. And since the system must remain budget neutral, if the rate is increased in one area it goes down even further in other. Currently under this system, the more efficient and cost-effective Alabama Hospitals become the formula drives the reimbursement for the State even lower. "We are falling on our own sword as Alabama hospitals are punished for holding cost down and proving good quality

care compared to states being rewarded for higher cost. Seems like it is totally backwards during a time of financially challenging times within our country," said Johnson.

"In some cases, Alabama hospitals are being paid three to five times less than other hospitals providing identical care to patients," says Danne Howard, VP of Alabama Hospital Association. "It's a death spiral we never can seem to get out of, this is the most egregious issue we've been working on, and it continues to get worse every year. Now we're at a breaking point, and we're asking our legislative delegation for help. If we could only fix one thing the Wage Index would go furthest in providing relief to the stressed healthcare system in Alabama."

Continued cuts to federal funding programs to hospitals is another factor that is causing undo stress on the financial stability of rural hospitals. When Alabama didn't expand Medicaid, no new dollars came into our state to fund healthcare. Federal assistance programs designed as safety nets for hospitals providing care for the uninsured were cut thinking that the Affordable Care Act would provide everyone with insurance. With no new Medicaid dollars coming into the state and no reduction in the number of uninsured or underinsured patients, rural hospitals in the state struggle financially with eleven closing since 2010. Another challenge is many patients with new insurance plans have very high deductibles that are uncollectable by the provider driving uncompensated care up.

A national trend of declining admissions to hospitals is driven by more stringent admission criteria and a push to treat more in an outpatient or home setting. As hospitals adjust to this trend of decreased utilization, they are faced with the challenge of the high overhead of maintaining required equipment and staff within the facility.

For over 65 years Dale Medical Center has been providing healthcare to this local community. But many don't realize that it is also an economic driver for the community as well. Some facts about Dale Medical Center's economic impact to this community are:

- As one of the largest employers in Ozark, Dale Medical Center employs 400 people and indirectly supports an additional 390 jobs in other industries, for a total of 790 jobs.
- DMC provides \$18 million in salaries and benefits for employees and another \$12 million indirectly for a total of \$30 million in labor income for our community.
- The economic impact of DMC for our community is estimated to be \$60 million.
- Although Dale Medical Center receives approximately \$1.1 million in county tax support annually, it provided \$8.6 million in uncompensated care in 2017.
- Dale Medical Center paid \$1,024,742 in utilities in 2017.
- Over 18,000 patients were provided care in the ER in 2017.

Reimbursement isn't growing; no inflation of rates and no influx of new patients seem to be on the horizon. DMC's strategy includes providing the very best care possible and being more creative with services, such as new physicians, swing beds, behavior health, addiction medicine, hospice, home health and growing outpatient services. The bottom line is that we need local community support to survive and continue to grow our services. In 1952 the Dale County Hospital was constructed at a cost of around \$600,000, today to build a new replacement facility would cost \$72 million. As badly as it is desired and needed, a new hospital will require major reforms in reimbursement from Washington DC and renewed community support, says, Vernon Johnson, CEO. "Until then, the staff of Dale Medical Center will continue to work daily to become a better place to receive care, physicians to practice medicine and employees to work."

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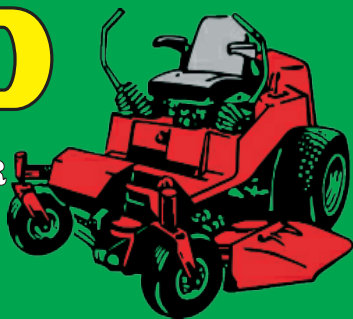
I was on a panel for prospective jury duty. The first lawyer came across as an intimidating showman. After several questions, he asked, "Do any of you here today dislike lawyers?"

There was an awkward silence. All of a sudden you heard, "I do."

The lawyer looks around the courtroom, and then turns to the judge. "Your Honour, I wasn't asking you, I was asking the jurors."

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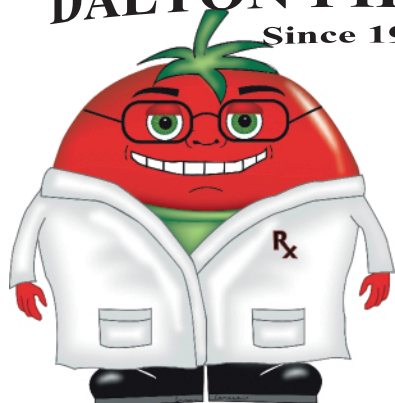
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Are We Seeking God's Presence or His Presents?

By: Wallace Kennedy, Jr.



We can always locate our heart when we examine, or listen to what we say in our prayers. We will discover if we have an attitude of self-seeking or gratitude and love for others.

King David said: *I ask only one thing from the Lord. This is what I want most: Let me live in the Lord's house all my life, enjoying the Lord's beauty and spending time in His palace.* Psalm 27:4 (ERV).

This is my testimony: I used to wrestle with finding time to spend with the Lord and then one day the lights came on. I set my alarm clock earlier than I needed to for going to work and I never struggled another day. I love my quiet time with the Lord, being in His presence brings an inexpressible joy. Anticipating receiving instructions, wisdom, and new revelation from Him; who and what to pray about, my hunger and thirst being filled as He promised to do. There is never a time-out or vacation from seeking Him early in the morning each day.

God wants us to bring Him our petitions. He knows our needs even before we ask. Listen to what the

gospel says in Matthew 6:25: *so I tell you, don't worry about the things you need to live—what you will eat, drink, or wear. Life is more important than food, and the body is more important than what you put on it.* Job said: "God's Words are greater than necessary food" (Job 23:12).

Our brother Paul said: *But my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.* (Philippians 4:19)

This is what God wants from us: *But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.* (Matthew 6:33) So, instead of begging God to give you more worldly things, pray that you would dwell in the house of the Lord, knowing that when you seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, ... all these things will be given to you as well (Matthew 6:33).

Seeking God's presence is what opens the door to what we need and desire of the Lord. His Presents are by-products of us seeking Him first, making him our first priority.

To the parents: Our children also desire our presence more than our presents.

May the Lord fill your life with an abundance of His love and keep you in His care.

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What To Eat?

Like all growing boys, my teenage grandson was constantly hungry. I went to the refrigerator to find something he might like. After poking around a bit and moving the milk and juice cartons, I spotted a bowl of leftover chili. I called out to him excitedly. He came running into the kitchen. "Look! I found some chili!" I said to him. Struggling to be polite, he said, "If you're that surprised, I'm not really sure I want it."

A woman walked into a library and wondered whether they had any books about paranoia. The librarian replied, "They're right behind you."

"When you tolerate mediocrity, you get more of it."

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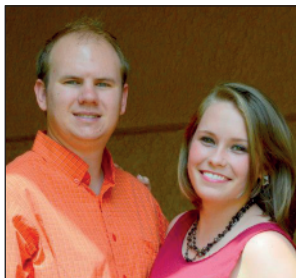
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HARVEST

Pastor Josh and Kayla Sims, Faith Christian Center

September is a special month for me and not because of the reasons you might think. September typically is a tougher month in ministry. School is in full swing and companies are finishing their fiscal year.



People are usually under a lot of stress, and everyone can't wait until Thanksgiving and Christmas. Even though September is typically tough it is also rewarding. What I have seen is that this time of year, as we are stressed to the max, we are searching for a deeper understanding of who God truly is. If you are a Jesus follower, you are familiar with the passage of scripture found in Luke where Jesus is telling His disciples about reaching the lost.

Luke 10:2 Then He said to them, "The harvest truly *is* great, but the laborers *are* few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest.

As a Jesus follower, you know that it is our mission to show people the love of Jesus and show His grace and mercy towards them. We also know that if we were to be honest, we are not showing the love of Jesus as often as we should. We are stressed with our own situations, let alone getting involved in someone else's. Jesus said to, "Pray that God would send out laborers."

I pray that in this stressful time of year, we would take time to look at the needs of those around us and for a moment start being generous with the love Jesus showed us. I would also like to encourage the ones who are not Jesus followers. Jeremiah 29:13 says, "And you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for Me with all your heart." God is waiting for you to seek after Him today.



Pastor Josh and Kayla Sims
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<https://faithozark.church>

BAMBOOZABLES

Answers on page 30

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Woman customer in restaurant: "I'd like a margarita please."

Waiter: "I'll need to see your ID."

Customer (giggling while showing her ID): "You think I look like a teenager?"

Waiter: "No. I thought you qualified for our senior citizen discount."

Claybank Master Gardeners



On the **2nd Wednesday of each month** the Dale County Extension Office, in cooperation with Claybank Master Gardeners, offers a free **Lunch and Learn** on a topic of interest to gardeners. In August the topic was about Wildflower Gardens. We learned that wildflower gardens encourage native pollinators (hummingbirds, butterflies, bees, etc.) which are vital to the health and diversity of the natural ecology of the area. A small or large patch for a wildflower garden in some corner of the yard, or even in clay pots for smaller areas, can be seeded in the early spring. Mix seeds with damp sand, 9 parts sand to one part seeds, and spread over soil where weeds have been removed, and cover with a thin layer of straw (wheat straw, not hay) and keep moist but not too wet. Plant in an area that gets about 6 hours of sunlight for best results. Seeds should begin to sprout in 10 to 20 days. For more complete information look for free bulletin ANR-0623 available for at the Extension office or online at www.aces.edu.

The next **Lunch and Learn** will be held on **September 12th** on Invasive Plant Management, then on **October 10** on Indoor Plants. and on **November 14th** there will be one on Holiday Décor.

Claybank Master Gardeners meet on the third Thursday of the month, which will be on **September 20th** at 11:00-12:30, at the Hoppergrass Restaurant, 129 East Avenue, in Ozark.



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Slim walks into his local post office and notices a new sign on the wall:
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"Gosh!" he says, "If only that job was in Texas, I'd take it!"

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FIND 11 DIFFERENCES

answers on page 30



Wise Sayings

- *There is always death and taxes; however death doesn't get worse every year.*
- *If it ain't broke, fix it till it is.*
- *The real art of conversation is not only to say the right thing at the right time, but also to leave unsaid the wrong thing at the tempting moment.*
- *Brain cells come and brain cells go, but fat cells live forever.*
- *Talk is cheap because supply exceeds demand.*

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My friend David lost his ID. Now we just call him Dave.

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He even lost his girlfriend, whom he wanted to marry, because, he spent more time with the sick than with her. He spent a life of selfless dedication to any and every person around him. When he died, his funeral was the biggest ever seen in that town. At a meeting afterwards, the townspeople tried to figure out what kind of monument to erect to the memory of the doctor. A couple who had been especially helped by the doctor, on their way home from the meeting, removed the sign from his door and the following day it appeared over his grave. It read: DOC BRACKETT - OFFICE UPSTAIRS



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Since yesterday.

I can't remember how to write 51, 6, and 500 in Roman numerals.

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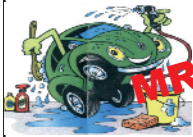
Anot so bright young lady in the pet shop ask about buying a gold fish. The salesperson ask if she needed an aquarium. Her reply was, "I don't care what sign it is."

"Thanks, you don't look so hot yourself." -- After being told he looked cool. ~ Yogi Berra

Laughter is the best medicine - unless you have diarrhea.

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| 2. Walk on Water | 2. Did it Cross Your Mind? |
| 3. Space Invaders | 3. All in All |
| 4. You Are Always on my Mind | 4. Little House on the Prairie |
| 5. Keep on Smiling | 5. Incomplete Sentence |
| 6. It Doesn't Add Up | 6. Count Dracula |

Is it my imagination,
or do buffalo wings
taste like chicken?



SUDOKU



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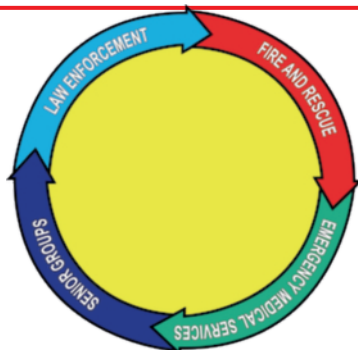
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