

Jones Takes Director Post

FLORENCE—Animal Control Officer **Cheryl Jones** has been named the new Director of Florence-Lauderdale Animal Services. The appointment became effective February 1 according to a release from Mayor **Steve Holt**'s office.

Jones has been a city employee for almost four years at the Florence-Lauderdale Animal Shelter. She has demonstrated a deep passion for working with animals since 2011 when she began as a volunteer with the Animal Shelter. Jones also has over 20 years of experience in Management and Human Resources and an acute awareness of state animal laws.

Jones is committed to comprehensive services. She is excited and



Jones

grateful for the opportunity to provide leadership and to work along with the city as it prepares to open the new Florence-Lauderdale Animal Services building.

Bible Class a New Option?

MONTGOMERY—Senator **Tim Melson** (R-Florence) has prefiled legislation that would allow the Bible to be taught as an elective in 6th-12th grade classes and require the State Board of Education to adopt rules and policies to help implement it.

The prefiled bill has been designated as SB 14 for the upcoming regular session of the Alabama legislature which begins March 5 and is similar to a law in Kentucky.

Melson told ABC 33/40 he is carrying the bill because teachers in his district want to teach the Bible, but do not feel comfortable doing so without a law on the books.

The bill has already picked up two of the most powerful

See SHORTS... on Page 3



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Volume 135 Number 15

February 6, 2019

Courier Journal

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Small Business Advice

SHOALS—The Alabama SBDC Network exists to train business people in a wide variety of business topics, and it provides comprehensive information services and access to experts in many fields. Although the Alabama SBDC has nine offices state wide, SBDC Business Advisor / Finance Specialist Heather Wright will be on hand the first Friday of every month beginning in February to offer business advice to Shoals area businesses.

"We are thrilled to have the opportunity

See SBDC... on Page 9

Shelter Share Underway

SHEFFIELD— Bank Independent will kick off its sixth annual Shelter Share drive Monday, February 11 to benefit local animal shelters.



All locations of the Bank will serve as donation points for

pet food and supplies designated for local animal shelters.

Last year's Shelter Share collected and distributed over 1,175 items and more than \$330 in donations to shelters in northwest Alabama. Donations were used

See SHARE... on Page 9

and beyond with direct mail, total market coverage



Vic Ragsdale, left, and Mike Miller stand by a framed photo of the first ribbon cutting at the current Cox Creek Parkway location. It was Ray Miller Buick in 1979. Ragsdale recently purchased the dealership from Miller.

Staff photo: TVM



It's Business as Usual

for Vic Ragsdale and His Staff at Ray Miller Buick-GMC

FLORENCE— The new owner of Ray Miller Buick-GMC was so appreciative of all the kind words and congratulatory gestures last week during a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the dealership hosted by the Shoals Chamber of Commerce. The well-wishes are wonderful, and his office may move a few feet down the hall. However, as far as Vic Ragsdale is concerned, it will be business as usual at 246 Cox Creek Parkway.

Ragsdale has been in the automotive business for 25 years and part of the Ray Miller staff since 2000. He officially purchased the company on January 17 from Mike Miller, son of company founder, Ray Miller.

"The good Lord has blessed me way more than I ever deserved," Ragsdale said to the showroom full of supporters gathered last Wednesday. He paused briefly to collect his thoughts, "And all you people being here, friends, family, employees, customers, it means a lot, and I really do appreciate it."

"One of the things I want people to know more than anything else is that this IS Ray Miller Buick-GMC. It has been for 54 years and it's going to continue to be. Even though I don't have the Miller name, I've got the Miller legacy to live up to. That's what I've been

...Even though I don't have the Miller name, I've got the Miller legacy to live up to...



Vic Ragsdale

See BUSINESS.. on Page 9

Inside this Issue

Junior Whirl
Adopt-a-Friend
Medicare Minute
Computer Skeptic
Soap Updates

Lovlace Workshop
Cat & Kids
Ask the Attorney
SIGNS of the PAST



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Shorts...

Bible Class a New Option?

Continued from Page 1

state legislators as supporters in Senate President Pro Tem Del Marsh and Senator Jabo Waggoner, the Senate Rules Committee chair. This bill will allow students to study text, artifacts, monuments and symbols related to the study of the Bible. Offering the classes on an elective basis would give the parents the right to decide if their children take them. This came after President Donald Trump earlier this week tweeted support for states offering Bible literacy classes in public schools.

The Alabama chapter of the ACLU and the Americans United for Separation of Church and State are among the groups who have already voiced opposition.

Utilities Has Scam Reports

FLORENCE—Florence Utilities received reports of a scam late last week. This includes someone pretending to be with the Florence Utilities calling customers. The caller may ask for payment through PayPal or bank account information and threaten to cut off service for non-payment. Please be advised that Florence Utilities does not call customers to ask

for payment information. If you have any concerns about your utility account, please call Customer Service at 256-760-6512.

Bake Sale for Chloe's Fund

FLORENCE—Chloe's Fund gave medical care and saved the lives of hundreds of Florence Lauderdale Shelter animals in need with your help in 2018. More than \$37,000 in medical bills were paid. We've already received many animals that need medical attention this year, and Chloe's Fund must replenish its bank account! What better way to do that than with sweets for your sweet at a Valentine's Day-themed bake sale. In addition to Valentine's Day treats, we'll have gift baskets and assorted presents to purchase for animal lovers. Everything will be available from 8am-2pm on Friday, February 8 at the Florence-Lauderdale Government Building, located at 102 S. Court Street in downtown Florence. Bakers are also needed to contribute their Valentine's Day themed goodies to the sale. All kinds of home-made cakes, cookies, pies, etc. are appreciated. Individual cake slices, groups of cookies, lemon bars, or the like must be wrapped individually and marked with item, name, and price. You can drop off

baked goods on Thursday, February 7 at the Florence-Lauderdale Animal Shelter at 702 E College Street from 10am-5pm. If you have any questions, please call Dianne Michael at 256-740-2386. Chloe's Fund was started in March of 2017 after Shelter volunteers, Glen and Debby Nelson lost their beloved dog of 16 years, Chloe. Debby then set out on a mission to help as many sick and injured Florence-Lauderdale Animal Shelter animals as possible. Chloe's Fund will continue to help save the lives of hundreds of animals with your help. We thank you for your generosity.

Trolley Tour for Black History

FLORENCE—In recognition of Black History Month the Tennessee Valley Historical Society will present, "Up From Slavery", the history of the Black community in Florence before and after the Civil War. This trolley tour will be conducted by Lee Freeman, Florence Lauderdale Public Library historian & genealogist. The trolley will depart from the Florence Lauderdale Tourism Visitor Center, 200 Jim Spain Drive in McFarland Park at 11am on

See SHORTs... on Pg 5



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OCCASIONALLY YOU MAY SEE an ad duplicated and printed several times throughout the paper. This is done at the request of the advertiser. Each ad is paid for. Thank You for reading your Courier Journal.

Community Notes

COMMUNITY NOTES may be submitted for non-profit, civic or church-related events and published free of charge. Community Notes must be submitted in writing by 3pm Friday for consideration in the following week's issue. As space is available in the Courier Journal.

- Email to editor@courierjournal.net;
- Look for "Submit News" on our website at www.courierjournal.net.

- Fax to 256-760-9618;
- Mail to 219 W. Tennessee St, Florence, AL 35630; or
- Bring in person.

All properly submitted Community Notes which are dated will be posted weekly at www.courierjournal.net. Visit our website for a complete list.

The new adoption fee for the animals remaining at the current Florence Animal Shelter is \$25 per animal. And if your new buddy is not spayed or neutered, we will help you take care of that at no extra charge! You can visit the Shelter at 702 E. College Street in Florence. Hours of operation are: Monday-Thursday 10am-5pm; Friday 10am-7pm; Saturday 11am-5pm.

There is a full house of potential best friends, and each of them would love to have their own forever home with you. The Shelter will soon be moving to a new building in the Florence Industrial Park, so the shelter needs to find homes for all their four-legged friends before the big move. You can adopt, foster, foster to adopt, or rescue any of the animals. Please visit us and adopt your new best friend before the move.

"Hi Neighbors of the Shoals" meeting will be Tuesday, February 5 at 10:30am at the Florence Public Library. This group welcomes all newcomers to the Shoals area. Contact Janice Hilborn, 256-577-8355, for further information

LifeSouth Community Blood Drives for January - Keller Center - Monday thru Friday 9am - 5pm, 1208 South Jackson Highway, Sheffield - 256-383-3535

The Shoals Center - 307 Veterans Drive, Florence, 888-795-2707

Underwood Youth Spring Ball Sign-Ups - Every Saturday 10am-2pm & Sunday 2-4pm in February - T-Ball - Baseball - Softball

\$25 per Player for Baseball/Softball and \$20 for T-Ball plus a fundraiser. Please bring a copy of birth certificate when signing up.

All Signups are held in the Basement of the Underwood Petersville Community Center. Please see our Facebook page for more information

Tuscumbia Parks & Recreation is now taking registration for Baseball/Softball. Deadline is February 18. Fee is \$45 per player, \$20 each additional player. For more information, call 256-286-5655.

The Florence Parks & Recreation Dept. will be conducting online registration for Youth Soccer through February 24 for ages 4-14 years old. Register online now at www.fpard.com. Registration fee is \$45. For more information, contact 256-760-6628.

The Florence Parks & Recreation Dept. will be conducting registration for Youth Softball through February 24 for girls ages 5-12 years old. Register online now at www.fpard.com. Registration fee is \$35. For more information, contact David Dolan at 256-760-6628.

The Florence Parks & Recreation Dept. will be conducting registration for Youth Baseball through February 24 for boys ages 3-12 years old. Register online now at www.fpard.com. Registration fee is \$35. For more information, contact David Dolan at 256-760-6628.

The Lauderdale County Soil & Water Conservation District is now accepting applications for a \$500 scholarship sponsored by the Alabama Conservation District Employees Association. Applicant must be a U. S. citizen, high school senior, and living in the State of Alabama. Applications may be picked up at the USDA Service Center, Lauderdale County Soil & Water Conservation District, 2431 Darby Dr., Suite B, Florence AL 35630. Deadline to receive completed applications in the District office is March 5, 2019

See NOTES... page 7

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Shorts...

Trolley Tour for Black History

Continued from Page 3

Saturday, February 9.
The fare is \$10. Children in parent’s lap may ride free. All proceeds go to the Society’s UNA History Scholarship Fund.

Tournées Film Festival at UNA

FLORENCE—The Wesleyan Hall auditorium (rm. 214) on the UNA campus will host the Tournées Film Festival at 6pm on several nights from February 5-21.
The festival includes six French films with English subtitles. Admission is FREE for all UNA students, staff and the public. There will be a reception on the opening and closing nights of the festival with light appetizers before the movies on the 5th and the 21st.
This event is hosted by the UNA Dept. of Foreign Languages and the Departments of Communications, English, and the School of the Arts.

FEBRUARY 5
Faces, Places
FEBRUARY 7
Far From Men
FEBRUARY 11
The Passion of Joan of Arc
FEBRUARY 13
Jeannette: The Childhood of Joan of Arc
FEBRUARY 19
Nocturama
FEBRUARY 21
The Big Bad Fox & Other Tales

King Event is Successful

FLORENCE—The legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was celebrated by many in the area on January 21 at the Florence Coliseum. The theme for 2019 was, *Keeping the Dream Alive, One Generation to Another.*
Florence City Schools Superintendent, Dr. Jimmy Shaw, spoke about Dr. King’s famous “I Have a Dream” speech, noting that his dream was for us to work together, to struggle together, and to go to school together. Although, Dr. King’s life was short-lived he did the job that God called him to do. Dr. Shaw said, “the reality is that we have all been called to do a job. If God gave you a gift to do a job, you should do it and better than anyone else.”
Rev. James Barnett, Vice-President of the MLK Committee said, “There is a lot of progress that has been made since the death of Dr. King.”

The program meant a lot to Sheryl Hamilton too, because her husband, the late Rev. C. D. Hamilton, while attending Selma University, strategized with King during his many visits to Selma.

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HAVE YOU SEEN KIDSVILLE News! Yet? It’s the Shoals’ fun, family newspaper for parents, teachers and kids K-6th grade and IT’S FREE! Kidsville News! is delivered in the classrooms. Copies may also be obtained at any local library, several area merchants that cater to kids and the Courier Journal business office, 219 W. Tennessee St., Florence.



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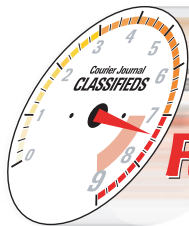
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MAIL — Mail your written ad to address at right. Include your phone number. We will call to finalize your ad. List how many weeks the ad is to run.

Office

OFFICE — Drop by our office at your convenience 8-5 Monday-Friday and write/submit it there.

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As an added bonus for our advertisers, all classified ads placed in the Courier Journal are also online at TNValleyStuff.com. This provides even greater impact than the 71,000 home circulation which the Courier Journal reaches every week.

• **Private Party Rate** 3 LINES* for 1 item Prepay - No REAL ESTATE, FIREWOOD, or TICKETS. Each additional line - \$1.25 - CASH DISCOUNT - 4 Weeks/3 LINES for 1 item \$13.50 - Each additional line - \$5.00 no credits..... **\$4⁵⁰** Week

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• **Private Party Auto Rate** Up to 8 LINES* for 4 weeks. Prepay Each additional line - \$2.00 **\$15⁰⁰** Week

*one line is approx. 30 characters

Name		
Address		
City	State	Phone

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Courier Journal, 219 W. Tennessee St., Florence, AL 35630
Please Print Ad Clearly. NOT RESPONSIBLE for illegible handwriting
Questions? Call our office at 256-764-4268.

ADVANCE PAYMENT IS REQUIRED in cash, check or Credit/Debit Card.
Phone-in Ads MUST be Charged to Credit/Debit Card! NO EXCEPTIONS! NO REFUNDS!

DEADLINE: Friday 5pm



New Ray Miller Buick-GMC owner, Vic Ragsdale, left, talks with 93.9-The Score's Greg Thornton during last week's ribbon-cutting event.

Staff photo: TVM

Business as Usual...

Continued from Page 1

doing for the past 19 years," Ragsdale added.
"Every one of these employees in here, they are among the main reasons why (the transition) was able to work. They are all good, honest people and we do things the right way." We're going to uphold the Ray Miller name and do the best job we can."

Mike Miller is confident that the dealership is in great hands moving forward.

"Having Vic step in and keep the Miller name means a lot," said Miller, who purchased the company from his father back in 2005. Miller was on hand for the festivities.

"I have been working at the business since 1970, and I sold my first car in 1971," Miller said. I've been going to work at the same place for 48 years. I have been thinking about retiring while my health is still good, but I didn't want

to sell to just anyone.
"Vic and I have been discussing this opportunity for a long while. He knows this business, he is customer oriented, and he has a real passion for the quality of the Buick-GMC product lines. I'm proud that Vic is the one taking it over," Miller added.

Ragsdale, 48, worked as a salesman from 2000-2005 before becoming the new car manager. He noted that several employees have been with the company longer than he has. That experience also made the opportunity attractive.

"Having seasoned employees makes the transition easier," Ragsdale said. "We have some great people in place who know how to do their job and serve the public."

"You can count on the fact that we'll be honest with you, and we'll treat you fairly."

Courier Journal

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Heather Ridinger
Toyce Dixon

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Jim Allen
Andrea L. Gray
Gwyn Jones

OFFICE STAFF/CLASSIFIED

Janie Brasfield

CIRCULATION

John Steele

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Friday
8:00am - 5:00pm

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219 W. Tennessee St.

Florence, AL 35630
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Fax: 256-760-9618

Your Courier Journal is published for total saturation, direct-mail delivery every Wednesday to 71,048 Shoals area and surrounding homes. It is Alabama's Largest Weekly-Mailed Direct, and enjoys a larger circulation than all local subscriber based newspapers combined.

EDITORIAL POLICY: Your Courier Journal accepts a variety of news releases, photos, stories, Letters to the Editor and upcoming community, church or civic events for publication as space permits. Please submit all materials in written form to:

219 W. Tennessee St.
Florence, AL 35630
or email to:
editor@courierjournal.net

well in advance of the planned event. The Editor reserves right to shorten, edit, reword or omit submissions as seen fit. All information submitted for publication becomes property of the Courier Journal. Information published does not necessarily reflect an opinion or endorsement by the Courier Journal, members of its management, or its staff. Advertisers are responsible for all content and claims in their advertising.

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Notes...

Continued from page 4

The NW AL Chapter #2 of the Korean War Veterans Assoc. will meet for breakfast and business at Hampton Inn and Suites, 505 S. Court St. in Florence at 8:30am on Wednesday, February 6.

Our meeting room will be separate from the dining area so come earlier and enjoy a free breakfast before we move to the meeting room.

Our guest speaker for this event will be up-scale Homebuilder Rusty Alexander. If you have ever served in Korea from 1945 to present or served outside of Korea during the period of June 25, 1950 - Jan. 31, 1955, then we encourage you to attend this meeting.

Please direct any questions to Commander Jim Taylor at 256-383-8172.

Clothes Give Away - Thursday, February 7 from 8-10am at the Care Center, First Baptist Church, Killen.

Sheffield Head Start Program located at 701 East 17st St., Sheffield is now taking applications for Pregnant Moms and children ages 6 weeks to 4 years for the upcoming 2019-2020 school year from 8am-2pm beginning Thursday, February 7.

Parents must bring the following items: birth Certificate, Verification of Income for 2018 (W-2 form, Income Tax Return, Check Stub, Social Security Statement, Child Support, Unemployment, etc.) Medicaid or Insurance Card (if available), WIC, Food Stamps, College ID, Military ID, Proof of Kinship, IEP/IFSP. Services are provided at NO COST to parents.

Children with special needs and/or disabilities and homeless families are given priority selection. Call for an appointment today at 256-383-3577 ext. 102.

White Oak Community Watch Group meets the first Sunday of each month at 2pm, except when holidays fall the week before or after. Our goal is to make our community a safe place to live. Volunteers are needed. To join attend a meeting and fill out a form for a background check.

The LaGrange Living Historical Association meets on Thursday, February 7 at 6pm at the Welcome Center, LaGrange College Site Park; located off Hwy 157 in Colbert County. Discussion: Recall LaGrange Bicentennial Event scheduled for May 3-5. Contact: L C Lenz 256-446-9324.

Hospice Volunteers Needed - Veterans, Students, Retirees, everyone with an hour a week to share with someone in your community. Specific needs: Male veteran to visit WWII

vet, Florence area. Hairdresser/Barber in all areas. alan.jordan@comfortcarehospice.org. 256-269-2100 Comfort Care Hospice, Sheffield

Florence Kiwanis Club Meets Fridays noon at Marriott Shoals Conference Center, 10 Hightower Place in Florence

Programs for February 2019
February 8 – Deputy of the Year Award and an update from the Lauderdale Sheriff Department

February 15 – Zachary Curtis, Program Director, from Air-Evac - will talk about the importance of air ambulances

February 22 – Rick Smith, Senior VP of Distribution at Books-a-Million - will discuss the economic strength and development of Books-a-Million

Black History Month at the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library gets underway with the screening of the PBS documentary, "John Lewis: Get In the Way" on Saturday, February 9 from 1-2pm

The son of sharecroppers, John Lewis grew up in rural isolation, seemingly destined to a bleak, segregation-imposed future. But his fate took a different turn, and Lewis rose from Alabama's Black Belt to the corridors of power on Capitol Hill, his humble origins forever linking him to those whose voices customarily go unheard. The Congressional elder statesman is as exceptional as he is ordinary.

The film by Kathleen Dowdey is the first biographical documentary about John Lewis, an inspiring portrait of one man cast into extraordinary times and his unhesitating dedication to seeking justice for the marginalized and ignored. The film spans more than half a century, tracing Lewis' journey of courage, confrontations and hard-won triumphs. For more information, call 256-764-6564, ext. 115.

Exploration of African based spirituals and gospel music entitled, Gospel Music: When Praises Go Up and Blessings Come Down on Sunday, February 10 from 2-4pm at the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library.

Learn about the music's rich tradition and relevance in the African American church and the church history through music as soloists, ensembles, and church choirs perform.

For more information, call 256-764-6564, ext. 115.

HipHop: Ya Don't Stop - Saturday, February 9, 11am-12pm at Children's Museum of the Shoals. A hip hop demonstration along with discussions about the music and African American culture. Museum entry ticket required. For more information, call 256-764-6564, ext. 115.

Shoals Habitat for Humanity is accepting applications for our Affordable Homeownership Program. Learn more at www.shoalshabitat.org or call 256-760-9515. Shoals Habitat for Humanity is an Equal Housing Opportunity Lender.

NAMI Shoals Family Support Group for families with adults and/or children who have brain disorders and the NAMI Connection Recovery Support Group for people who have been diagnosed with a brain disorder and are in recovery meet Tuesday, February 12 at 7pm at the NAMI Shoals office, 749 Thompson St., Suite A, Florence. Need directions or more information, call 256-765-2081.

Families helping families! You are not alone!

Plein Air painter and Birmingham artist Amy R. Peterson will display her new collection of work at Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts January 8-February 15. Amy R. Peterson's paintings combine strong draftsmanship with loose, impressionistic brushwork. She aims to capture the immediacy of a

moment in time, portrayed in a classic, timeless way. The result is a work of art that will endure. Amy paints extensively from life, including still life subjects, city scenes, and landscapes primarily in the Southeastern United States. She received strong academic training in the visual arts at the University of Notre Dame where she graduated in 2005, and has since pursued a professional career in the arts.

Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts is free and open to the public Monday-Friday 9am-4pm. The art center is located at 217 E. Tuscaloosa St. Florence, and can be reached at 256-760-6379.

See NOTES... page 34

2nd Location

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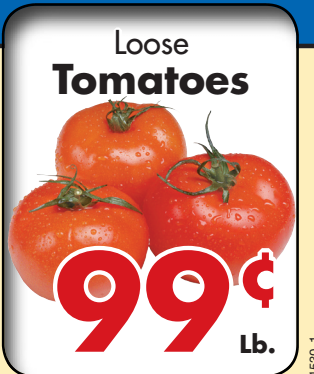
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SBDC...
Continued from Page 1

to partner with the Small Business Development Center," said Shoals Chamber President Caitlin Holland. "This entity shares many of the same goals as the Shoals Chamber in that its focus is the success of local small businesses. We want to see businesses, new and established, equipped with the tools that they need to succeed for years to come." The Alabama SBDC Network offers assistance

with interested parties starting a business, growing an existing business, financing, government procurement, exporting and importing, and other initiatives of business owners. "The best part of this partnership with the Shoals Chamber is that it is a no-cost resource for small businesses," added Wright. "We look forward to a great year assisting in the growth of the Shoals economy." Appointments can be made by contacting the Shoals Chamber office at 256-764-4661.

Share...
Continued from Page 1

to supplement resources available to local shelters. "Shelter Share drive was the heartfelt creation of team members who saw the need from local shelters for community assistance," said Macke Mauldin, President of Bank Independent and CEO of its parent company, BancIndependent, Inc. "So many of our team members are involved in fostering and rescuing shelter animals. They recognized a need through volunteering and acted to raise awareness." Throughout the month of February every Bank Independent sales office will accept donations of pet food, kitty litter, paper towels, nursing bottles, cleaning supplies, first aid items, used blankets, bedding and towels. The donated supplies will be delivered by Bank employees to the Athens Limestone County Animal Shelter, Colbert County Animal Shelter, Decatur Animal Services, Huntsville Animal Services, Morgan County Animal Shelter and Florence Lauderdale Animal Shelter in early March.

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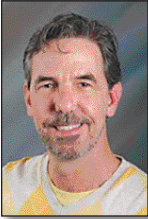
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CARES



I'VE HEARD SOME CRAZY and not-so-crazy ideas about caring for the batteries in our phones and computers and gadgets. Some of these ideas originate from old fashioned Nickel-Metal Hydride batteries we all used in the 1990s and early 2000s. Those old batteries have been replaced by much more resilient and intelligent lithium-ion batteries which, themselves, have evolved considerably in the past decade. Many of the battery rules some of us grew up with no longer apply yet we still adhere to them. Let's take a look at the claims versus reality:

"Turn off bluetooth, Wifi, GPS to extend battery life."

Mostly false. This was true



Fisher

BATTERY SMARTS

by "The Computer Skeptic"

years ago but phones made in the past 5 to 7 years are best left alone. These things do use a tiny bit of energy when they are not actively running, but we're talking maybe an extra 30 minutes of life over the span of a full day. An exception is when you're in an area with unreliable WiFi such as in your basement, on a train, or airplane. Your phone can discharge rapidly as it constantly switches between available WiFi (and cellular) signals. This is why your phone drains rapidly on a plane. This is what "Airplane mode" is for.

"Chargers from a different

brand of phone will kill your phone."

Mostly nope. Older Android and iPhone phones simply don't care. However, newer Apple and Android phones can cost up to \$1,000 and there have been some rare cases of cheap cables frying expensive gadgets. So I recommend you use either the original charger or a well-rated 3rd party charger if you can, but don't fret over using a cheap one if you are in a pinch.

"Using app managers or shutting down background apps will give your battery extra life."

Nah. This was actually true

10 years ago but phones have gotten better. In fact, 3rd party task managers apps can actually drain your battery faster and make your phone slower. Your phone is "smart." It knows how to disable inactive apps. Just reboot it every couple of weeks and you're good.

"It's best if you discharge the phone completely before recharging."

Nope. This is a holdover from 1990s battery technology that had "memory" issues that would give a false reading of battery levels. Modern batteries simply don't care. Charge them when they are 10% or 90% full, it doesn't matter.

"Charging the battery overnight is baaad! Unplug it as soon as it reaches 100%!"

Nope. Again, the smarts in modern batteries will protect the battery from overcharging. You could leave it plugged in

24/7 and the battery won't care. However, if you really want to extend the lifetime of your battery, it would be best to only charge the battery to no more than 80%. But who has time for that?

Lithium-ion technology will likely be with us for the foreseeable future. The batteries we use today are much better than the ones from just a few years ago. We are seeing about a 5% improvement every year. So I'll be updating this as time goes on.

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Commentary

A Highway to Hell On-Ramp for NY

Some synonyms for the word diabolical found at Dictionary.com include, cruel, fiendish, heinous, hellish, vicious, wicked, demoniac, evil, infernal, and satanic. It's important to recognize those terms because diabolical is almost as descriptive and colorful as I can get in this column and keep my job. However, it doesn't aptly describe someone who would advocate for New York's new abortion law named, "The Reproductive Health Act" which was recently passed legislatively and signed into law by governor, Andrew Cuomo to a standing ovation. Without defining the broad term, "health, the New York law states: "A health care practitioner licensed, certified, or authorized under title eight of the education law, acting within his or her lawful scope of practice, may perform an abortion when, according to the practitioner's reasonable and good faith professional judgment based on the facts of the patient's case: the patient is within twenty-four weeks from the commencement of pregnancy, or there is an absence of fetal viability, or the abortion is necessary to protect the patient's life or health."

Since the term "health" is left undefined here, the definition can revert back to Doe v. Bolton, a companion case to Roe v. Wade, where one's health is all-encompassing and

See ON-RAMP... on Page 22

Comments do not necessarily represent those of the Courier Journal staff, its advertisers, or its readers.

In A Few Words



TOM MAGAZZU
Editor

Courier Journal in the Shoals THIS WEEK February 6, 2019

Speaker Series: Poetry and Workshop

FLORENCE - Nabila Lovelace will give a poetry reading and host a workshop at the Florence Indian Mound Museum on February 6 as part of the Black History Month Annual Speaker Series. The workshop will start at 6pm and the reading will begin at 7pm.

From Nina Simone to DMX, the black music tradition is a driving force in Nabila Lovelace's poetry. This tradition not only influences the subject matter of Lovelace's work, but also the tone and delivery of her poetry. The title of her collection, Sons of Achilles, shows that Lovelace's

See LOVELACE.. on Page 21



Iron Horse Opens for Volume Five

SHEFFIELD-The annual Jake Landers Bluegrass Concert will take place at 7pm, Saturday, February 9 at the historic Ritz Theatre, located at 111 W. Third St. in Sheffield.

The concert will be headlined by Volume Five and Iron Horse will open. Tickets are \$25 each and can be purchased at the Tennessee Valley Museum of Art, at 511 N. Water Street in Tuscumbia. Call 256-383-0533, visit tvaa.net or ritztheatre.ticketleap.com. All seats are

reserved.

Prior to the concert Scooter Muse, Weston Stewart, and Nick Foster will present a free presentation on the five-string banjo, part of the "Wires & Wood" series at 6pm. They will review and demonstrate various playing techniques from beginner to advanced skills.

Mississippi-based Volume

See LANDERS... on Page 16

Happening THIS WEEK

BETHEL LAUDERDALE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH at 10099 County Road 2 in Florence invites everyone to their Annual Black History/Soul Food Sunday on February 10. The service begins at 10am with dinner afterwards.

THE NORTHWEST ALABAMA MS WARRIORS, a support group for patients and their families dealing with multiple sclerosis, will meet at 5:30pm Thursday, February 7 at the Muscle Shoals Public Library, 1918 Avalon Avenue in Muscle Shoals. There will be a guest speaker. Please call 256-356-8548 for more information.

DAY BY DAY, a grief support group for bereaved parents and grandparents, meets Sunday, February 10 at 2pm at Woodmont Baptist East Campus located at 2002 Darby Dr. in Florence. For information, email debbiec2414@aol.com or anita.watkins@comcast.net.

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YOUR Letters

Your Courier Journal welcomes tastefully presented letters to be published as space allows. Letters may refer to timely matters of local, state, or national interest or any topic of concern or interest. **Letters must include name, address and phone number for verification.** (Only name and town will be published.) Letters subject to editing. Please limit letters to 400 words. All letters become the property of the Courier Journal and may not necessarily reflect opinions of the Courier Journal staff, its advertisers or a majority of readers. Please submit typed or neatly written letters to: Editor-Courier Journal

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Straight Talk from God

To the Editor:

As if the practice of killing babies could not get any more heartbreaking and tragic, some lawmakers are now supporting the liberalization of immoral abortion law(s). A vote has been cast to allow the killing of a fully-developed human being who is living in the womb. Those who support this practice, call it a choice.

Our Lord, speaking to us in the Bible, Gen. 25:21,22 - - Rebekah conceived twins, and "--the children struggled together within her;--" Here we read that which was conceived was called a child. These children were living in the womb during conception and birth. Also, in Deuteronomy 27:25, -- "Cursed be he that taketh a bribe to slay an innocent person." What clearer description could be given for those, in business, who take lives of the unborn in an abortion clinic? Common decency, and innate human

These boys, teenagers, were attacked and verbally abused by adults just because of the light color of their skin and for the clothes they were wearing...



kindness should cause anybody to want to protect the precious lives of the unborn. Tragically, our society now supports the immoral practice of taking the lives of healthy, fully developed children who are living in the mother's womb. Shame on us.

Dave Schmidt
Florence

Cell Phones an Issue

To the Editor:

Highway 247 South in Colbert and Franklin counties is a deathtrap. There have been several deadly wrecks on it in the last few years.

This road was promised and delivered by the late Governor George Wallace. It has been very beneficial to the businesses in Red Bay and to citizens going to and from work in our area.

This road was constructed by cutting through a few small hills, but mostly by filling in too many low places which created deep ravines on both sides. There were and are constant issues with erosion which create work for the highway department. A large section of the road collapsed a few years after it was constructed. There are guardrails at these deep holes, but not all. At the places where the right-of-way is near the roadway, there are numerous deer

See LETTERS... on Page 23

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Medicare Minute

Medicare Part A Part 1


On a Medicare card Part A will have the word "Hospital" beside it. Because of that Medicare Part A is most commonly known as the inpatient or hospitalization part of Medicare. This means when a Medicare beneficiary is admitted into the hospital most of the services that are received are filed under Medicare Part A. This sounds simple but sometimes it's not.

Medicare Part A has a deductible of \$1,364 per benefit period. Notice two things here. First is the deductible of \$1,364. If you are admitted into the hospital and had Original Medicare only, you would owe the first \$1,364 of your stay. This deductible covers hospital services, including semi-private rooms, meals, general nursing, drugs as part of your inpatient treatment, and other hospital services and supplies.

The second thing to notice is the term "benefit period". This tells you the deductible is not an annual deductible but could hit you more than once in a calendar year. A "benefit period" begins when you are discharged from a hospital or skilled nursing facility and ends when you haven't received any inpatient care for 60 consecutive days. If you are admitted as an inpatient after the 60 days of no inpatient care a new benefit period begins, meaning another \$1,364 deductible. Also if you are confined to the hospital for 60 consecutive days your deductible will cover you but on the 61st day you will begin paying a coinsurance.


The good news is for most Medicare beneficiaries Part A is free. Free meaning you don't pay a premium for it. The reason for this is while you are working you pay 1.45% of your pay check into Medicare. If you did that for 40 quarters you're entitled to Part A for free. Next week will discuss the other benefits of Medicare Part A.


If you have questions regarding any aspect of Medicare or Medicare health plans feel free call us at Alabama Health Guidance (256-648-5710), stop by our office at 885 Florence Blvd (Four Lane Shopping Center) or email me at ikey@alabamahealthguidance.com. Alabama Health Guidance is an independent insurance agency and is not affiliated with Medicare or any other government agency.



Ikey Fowler

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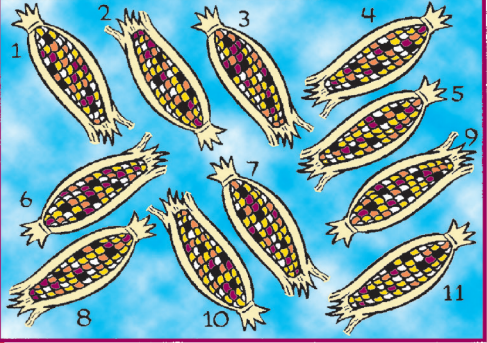
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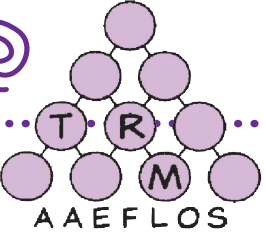
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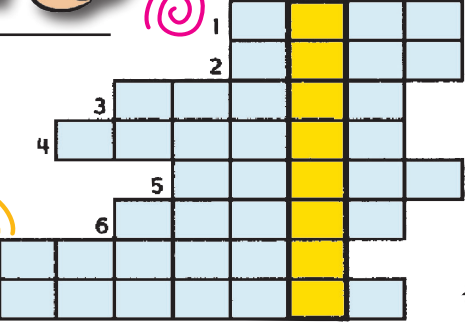
IT'S HARVEST TIME! Two of the above ears of decorative corn are exactly alike. Can you "pop" up with the answer in 30 seconds?

CHAIN REACTION! Take the seven letters printed below the diagram and place them in the circles so that eight four-letter words can be read, top to bottom, along the connecting lines. All the words will begin with the letter in the top circle.



T R M
A A E F L O S

Answers On Page 34




In the Country!

It's time for you to do your chores. In our grid there is room for eight words pertaining to this time of year. The following hints should help you celebrate the season.

1. Often seen with just one horse.
2. This is enjoyed by man or beast.
3. This is what apples turn into.
4. Large, colorful squash-like fruits.
5. You see your breath when he arrives.
6. Field robbers.
7. Type of leaves.
8. What the time on the farm is.

There is a dark frame around one of the columns in the grid. If you correctly solve the puzzles, the letters in the frame, top to bottom, will spell out how farmers celebrate when work is done.

A WISE OBSERVATION! All right, students, you have two minutes to solve Professor Flunkum's rebus complaint.



Illustrated by David Coulson

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Volume Five Courtesy photo

Landers Bluegrass...

Continued from Page 12

Five recently celebrated ten years together, and their trophy shelf includes two 2017 International Bluegrass Music Association (IBMA) Awards for Emerging Artist of the Year and the Song of the Year award for, "I Am a Drifter."

The band includes the talents of Glen Harrell on fiddle and vocals, Patton Wages on banjo and vocals, Jacob Burlison on guitar and vocals, and Jeff Partin on bass. Recently Volume Five announced the addition of Adam Steffey to the band. He is a 5-time Grammy award winner and record-holding 11-time IBMA Mandolin Player of the Year Award winner. The Ritz Theatre is honored to have the new lineup from Volume Five perform at the Jake Landers Bluegrass Concert.

"It's such an honor to be part of this concert to honor Jake Landers," Harrell said. "He was a true friend and inspiration to so many. Thank you so much for allowing us to be part of such a wonderful thing in memory of our pal Jake."

Iron Horse performs at concerts across the U.S. and

Canada. The group creates much of its own music, but it is renowned for their exceptional skill and ability to transpose metal to bluegrass. This versatility enables Iron Horse to perform such standards as "Rocky Top" and "Man of Constant Sorrow" with a spirit and sense of style that pays the most gratifying compliment to acoustic and bluegrass lovers, while entertaining "metal-heads" with the familiarity of the compositions of metal and pop icons all on the same stage.

Iron Horse is a Shoals-based bluegrass group that spun off the Jake Landers Band and features Tony Robertson, Vance Henry, Ricky Rogers and Anthony Richardson.

Henry said Iron Horse has been familiar with Glen Harrell and Volume Five for many years.

"We've jammed with him at some bluegrass festivals and he's been a band mate of our banjo player Anthony Richardson at one time," said Henry. "They're a great group and the Shoals needs to hear them. They're down from Mississippi, they're home

They're a great group and the Shoals needs to hear them...

”

Vance Henry
Iron Horse

folks to a certain extent. It'll be a good show."

"It is a perfect combination of high-quality talent and wholesome entertainment," he said. "Volume Five is a world class band and a Grammy-nominated group. It's an honor for me to share a show with them. This is just another example of how Alabama can bring it when it comes to producing a high-quality event."

The Jake Landers Bluegrass Concert was created in 2010 to honor Shoals bluegrass artist, Jake Landers who performed at the Grand Ole Opry and was one of Bill Monroe's "Blue Grass Boys." He is an award-winning songwriter and Grammy nominee. Landers is an Alabama Music Hall of Fame Music Achiever and was inducted with the first class into the Alabama Bluegrass Hall of Fame.

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Lovelace....
Continued from Page 12

work goes beyond one music or one culture. Her poetry incorporates the black music tradition to show that black music is human music. Her poetry incorporates the black music tradition to show that the black experience is a human experience.

This program is sponsored by the city of Florence Department of Arts and Museums, the University of North Alabama Department of English, the UNA Office of Diversity and Educational Equity, and the Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area.

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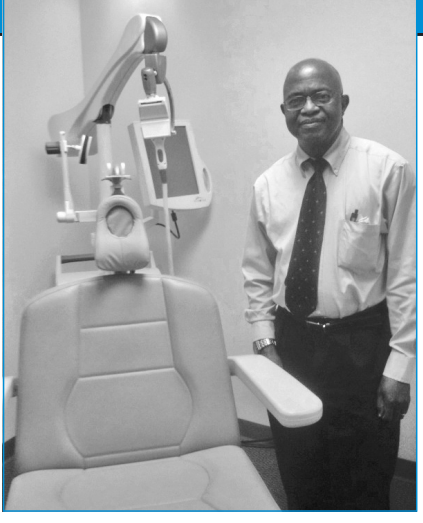
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Commentary

On-Ramp...

Continued from Page 12

can include any emotional, psychological, familial, situational, and financial considerations. In other words, a woman doesn't need a real exception or exemption from the 24-week (second trimester) abortion stipulation. They can consult with their health care practitioner and decide to get an abortion for any ambiguous reason. The degree of selfishness of those who would support such a far-reaching and boundless law against human life is incalculable. The fact that personal-

gratification was most likely responsible for the pregnancy to start with only magnifies the insulting irony.

Many support abortion at any stage, even when a botched abortion results in a live birth. However, some of the bill's supporters of the bill are mortified at the thought of the Holocaust which took the lives of millions. They would also fight tooth and nail to shut down a billion dollar bridge or highway project because it may put some obscure bit of marine life in some shallow creek in danger of becoming extinct.

We can also rest assured that many of these same people are also in support of the government having more authority over the raising of your children and your grandchildren than you have. But let's not get off track.

There may be legitimate debate as to what point in a pregnancy constitutes life and viability. I would contend it is much closer to the day after, but we all know that it's not after 24 weeks. The problem is too many of us no longer care. Our society is me-first like never before.

If we all could see the tiny infant squirming and fighting for it's life during an abortion at 10-12 weeks, we might understand that "the fetus doesn't feel any pain" assertion is pure BS, - a total feel-good LIE.

This new law also seeks to deny protection or recognition for infants as human beings before birth under any circumstances and allows a fully-developed infant to be left on the table to die after somehow fighting through a full term abortion.

And now Virginia governor, Ralph Northam, is joining the chorus as an advocate for this barbarically deliberate, premeditated, and calculated dismemberment without sedating the subject.

It's a shame that supporters can't experience the same surgical process as the child before casting such a foolish vote.

All we can do is pray for the return of sanity for those otherwise devoid of it.

Regardless of whether we know it, believe it, like it, or agree with it, the synonyms for diabolical at the start of this column are

in play. Without a reversal of thought and a renewed respect for human life - that is clearly a human life - we're individually punching our tickets to hell and paving the way for open civil warfare and our societal destruction.

And half of these elected moronic mercenaries will probably utter the words, "God Bless America" during their next campaign.

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MidGard Self-Storage will hold a public sale to enforce a lien imposed on said property, as described below, pursuant to the Alabama Self-Service Facility Act, Alabama Code 8-15-30 to 8-15-38, at **11:00 AM on Wednesday, February 20, 2019,** located at **4450 Chisholm Road, Florence, AL 35633.**

Management reserves the right to withdraw any unit from sale. Registered or motor vehicles are sold "As Is / Parts Only," no titles or registration.

Name	Unit #	Brief Description of Items
PHILLIP PERRY	E38	Garage Items
CHRISTA WILLIAMS	B84	Household Items



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The World Satanic Ruse

First of all: **1 Corinthians 14:33** "For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints." God has complete control. What happens in this world God allows, not necessarily approves of, but transpires because of the morality or immorality and words and actions of earths inhabitants. God is all knowing, omnipresent, and omnipotent and has a record of all of our lives. God will make sure we get what we have coming. There is another force out there in the world for wickedness and evil called the devil and Satan. The devil's target? The world. The devil's desire? Worship. The devil's prize? Your soul. Some of the devil's tools in getting these things are: 1. Religion. 2. Money. 3. Fame. 4. Power. 5. Education. 6. Politics. 7. Sports. 8. Pleasures. 9. Music. 10. Drugs. Seeing most of us react to what we see, hear and feel, Satan's ruse is working perfectly. We live in a divided nation that's possessed with the devil's tools listed above, and have no thoughts about death, Christ or eternity. Read Satan's end in: **Revelation 20:10** "And the devil that deceived them (EARTH) was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever." That's where he wants you.

Where are the great men that once graced this world like Moses, Joshua, Daniel, the Apostle Paul, and the women like Hannah in 1 Samuel, and Eunice and Lois in 2 Timothy, who through prayer stopped the mouths of lions and changed the course of nations, and caused God to change his mind about judgment and destruction? Isn't there out there any men and women willing to spend just 5 minutes two or three times a day to pray for this land not to perish? Moses' intervention caused God to change his mind and Joshua's intervention caused God to stop the universe for almost a whole day. See Exodus 32:14 & Joshua 10:12-14. Have we gotten so selfish that we have lost sight of people we know and love dying and spending eternity in the lake of fire? **Mark 8:36-37** "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?" What are you trading for your soul?

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Letters...

Cell Phones are an Issue

Continued from Page 12

crossings resulting many collisions each year.

All conditions listed above lead to a deadly combination to a cellphone and texting addicted public who like to use the nice straight areas for that purpose. Make one mistake and you're injured, dead, or you have killed or injured someone else.

I think if many of the deadly wrecks in the country are investigated, you'll find some type of cellphone use by the driver in many cases. With today's technology there should be some way to disable certain cellphone functions with GPS positioning while moving by the cellphone manufacturers. If not, maybe some type of multi-billion dollar class action lawsuit on behalf of wreck victims against cellphone manufacturers might get their attention.

Roger Henry
Russellville

General Business Item (a) - Ordinance to increase sales tax - should be removed from the minutes. At the January 15 meeting, citizens asked that the vote be delayed until the return of the missing member. The council did not grant this courtesy! If removing the minutes from the agenda will change nothing, then the vote of January 15 should be appealed!

One question is - Will removal of the resolution eliminate the pay adjustments for our Police and Fire Departments? The answer is no! The funds needed for the adjustments make up 1.6% of the total budget. This is based on a \$60,000,000 regular budget. Surely areas are available that could be cut by 1.6% in the Regular Budget or in the Special Fund Budget.

The Council has been silent on the real increase from 8.5% to 9.5%. This increase will be more than 1%. It is 1¢, but that equals an 11.8% increase. This increase will raise \$9 million

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Sales Tax Must Be Our Vote

Editor:

The increase in the Florence sales tax, approved by a 5-0 vote (one member sick) at the January 15, 2019 Florence City Council meeting, must face one more vote prior to the tax becoming law. This vote will take place at the February 5 council meeting. If like prior meetings, there will be a resolution to approve the minutes of the January 15 meeting as part of the Consent Agenda.

Hopefully, one council member or more will ask that the minutes be removed from the consent agenda. Then item 13.

Public Notice

NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed on said property under The Self Service Storage Act. The undersigned will sell at public sale by competitive bidding on **Thursday the 28th day of February, 2019 at 10:00 AM on Lockerfox.com.** Said property is **iStorage Florence, 4121 Florence Blvd, Florence, AL, 35634 Lauderdale County**

Hinds, McKala 102 Misc HHG, mattress, boxes, dresser.

Purchases must be paid for at the time of purchase by cash only. All purchased items are sold as is, where is, and must be removed within 48 hours of the sale. Sale is subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party. Dated this 12th Day of February, 2019 and 19th Day of February, 2019.

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Cat & Kids

by Cathy Turner

“Who’s It To?”

Ask my friends – I hate soccer. No, really, I love soccer. It just makes me nervous! There’s so much work for so little scoring. It doesn’t make sense, if you run faster than your opponent, you will be ruled off-side. The line judges wear shorts in the cold and they never get to talk. Yellow cards and red cards are given so arbitrarily. And the pros are always wallowing around pretending to be severely injured, then they get up and run for the next 45 minutes.

But I truly loved the game of soccer when our sons were playing it. This game calls for finesse, accuracy, stamina, cooperation and strategy. When playing, our boys looked like gazelles with long, power strides. They had hard heads for scoring, and played with stealth to steal the ball and stop their opponents. Our sons developed so much and learned from playing soccer. They learned to play through the rain. They learned to help their opponent get off the ground. They learned to follow through – give your work more than one touch. Soccer teaches you about teamwork.

You learn to work triangles – move as a unit. You have to make quick decisions, talk to each other and know where your teammates are. Making good passes is essential. You can’t just guess or hope. You can’t pass to nobody. You can’t just pass. Such a good lesson. This came to mind the other day when in a conversation with our son Randall. Something was said that prompted him to share that while playing soccer in high school, he said, “Who’s it to?” so many, many times. “Who’s it to?” Who is your target? Directed action. “Who’s it to?” Who are you passing

to? Focused aim. “Who’s it to?” Specific goal.

When trying to be a team, you can’t hope to work together. You have to work together. Each person talking to the next person being specific, direct, goal oriented - communicating clearly to work together. “Who’s it to?” What are you trying to accomplish and from whom do you need assistance? I hear of husbands and wives who are not good at this – communicating what they expect or need from each other. Why wait to see if he is going to help plan vacation? Make an appointment to do it together. I see this lack of sharing, or resolving conflict or saying who is responsible in the workplace also. Instead of going to the person who is lacking – a general announcement is made that everyone needs to follow the safety rules. Then no one ends up taking responsibility, because the person the announcement was made for never realized it was for him. I call this the splatter paint approach. Passing to nobody or to the wrong somebody. “Who’s it to?”

It takes courage, skill and conviction to want to be a good unit. Husbands and wives, mothers and daughters, fathers and sons, families have to make good passes to stay together. To pronounce, “This is for you – I need you to do your thing now. It’s your turn. Here’s your assist. Go! Go!” shows care, concern and interdependence. For us to be the best unit that we can be, you need to know where I am (and I you). You need to let me know what’s coming (and I you). You need to let me know what you need from me (and I you). Pass me the ball with a shout. Then we can run together.

I love soccer.

Email comments or suggestions to CatnKids1@gmail.com

MidGard Self-Storage will hold a public sale to enforce a lien imposed on said property, as described below, pursuant to the Alabama Self-Service Facility Act, Alabama Code 8-15-30 to 8-15-38, on **FEBRUARY 20, 2019 at 12:00 PM** located at **2708 W. Mall Drive, Florence, AL 35630**. Management reserves the right to withdraw any unit from sale. Registered or motor vehicles are sold “As Is / Parts Only,” no titles or registration.

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DARRETTE COLBURN	1403	HOUSEHOLD ITEMS
SHERRY JOLLEY	2107	HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

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Letters...

Sales Tax Must Be Our Vote

Continued from Page 23

a year, \$45 million over five years!
The increase from 8.5% to 9.5% must be voided. One reason for the voiding is that the increase has not been fully explained to the citizens of Florence. It is my personal opinion that all tax increases must be placed on the ballot.

Bill Smoak
Florence

Media, Truth Parting Ways

Editor:

Are you familiar with the term coup d'état? It is the "sudden decisive exercise of force in politics" which ends up looking like a

hostile or violent take-over. Many people have been throwing around the "coup" term with regard to how the progressives (actually "regressives") are treating President Trump. There is a coup in progress today, but it is not against the President because he doesn't rule over the people of the United States. If he doesn't serve us, we get rid of him by election every four years. No, the coup underway today is against us, the citizens of the U.S. It's being waged with the force of lies by the very news media and elected representatives that are supposed to bring us the truth and serve and protect us.

You've probably heard of the Covington, KY students by now. They showed up in Washington, D.C. to participate in the March for Life, and after the event, while they waited at their bus stop to be picked up, were confronted by radical "regressives" from two different groups.

These boys, teenagers, were attacked and verbally abused by adults just because of the light color of their skin and for the clothes they were wearing. This ordeal went on for about two hours. However, most of our illustrious news media took 30 seconds of this incident completely out of context and told us lie after lie about the events, pretending that it was the teenagers who had done something wrong.

In truth, they behaved themselves admirably, but now they and their parents have received death threats, bomb threats, verbal abuse, etc., even to the point of closing their school down. When it comes time for them to apply to college, they may still have a hard time overcoming what's been written about them online. This is what is in store for anyone who dares to take a stand for the American way of life as the founders envisioned it.

If now is not the right time to make your life right with God and stand for truth, when will it be the right time? The coup is against you, the citizens of the U.S., the ruling body. It is your power the regressives and the news media must steal. What's your move going to be? They are already making theirs.

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Words That Define Us

You may or may not know the name, William Archibald Spooner. He lived from 1844 to 1930 and was quite well known in England. He was a minister and mainstay at Oxford University for many years. However, history records his legacy not so much as a minister or university lecturer, but for a peculiar quirk in his speaking. He often jumbled his words in a comical fashion whether preaching or lecturing. He was so prone to do so that his name was used to coin the word “spoonerism.”

A “spoonerism” is when a speaker “accidentally transposes the initial sounds or letters of two or more words, often to humorous effect.” There are many speaking blunders accredited to Spooner. Whether they are all legitimate or not, no one knows for sure. But here are a few of the more popular ones: “The Lord is a shoving leopard” for “The Lord is a loving shepherd;” another, “You have hissed all my mystery lectures” for “You have missed all my history lectures,” and the perennial favorite, “It is kisstomary to cuss the bride” for “It is customary to kiss the bride.”

Each time I read one of these it causes me to smile- - but in all honesty it also brings a little pain too. As a public speaker I have made my fair share of speaking gaffes and I know how easily these mistakes can be made. But I do hope these faux pas will not define me when I am dead and gone.

Thinking about spoonerisms made me consider how there are individuals throughout history who have their character defined by a few words they spoke. For example, who is not familiar with Patrick Henry’s “Give me liberty or give me death?” or with Truman’s “The buck stops here.”

The same is true with some statements made by individuals in the Bible. Consider the words of Joshua. As the Israelites were settling into the Land of Canaan, Joshua stood before the leaders of the tribes and spoke courageously, “Choose you this day whom you will serve... but as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord” (Joshua 24:15).

Other defining statements are also recorded in the Bible that are not at all flattering like those of the Roman Governor, Felix. When he was presented with the Good News that would have taken him to heaven he responded: “Go away for now; when I have a more convenient time I will call for you” (Acts 24:25).

So, I wonder, what words have you and I uttered that would define us spiritually? Would they be more in line with those of Joshua... or Felix?

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by DAVE RAMSEY

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Joseph

idea. You can even help her find a part-time job if she doesn't have one right now, so she can pay off her debt and get out of this mess.



But leave the payments to her. My guess is by the time she finishes working her tail off to pay this debt she will have learned a lesson she'll remember for the rest of her life!

—Dave

* Dave Ramsey is CEO of Ramsey Solutions. He has authored seven best-selling books, including The Total Money Makeover. The Dave Ramsey Show is heard by more than 14 million listeners each week on 600 radio stations and multiple digital platforms. Follow Dave on the web at daveramsey.com and on Twitter at @DaveRamsey.

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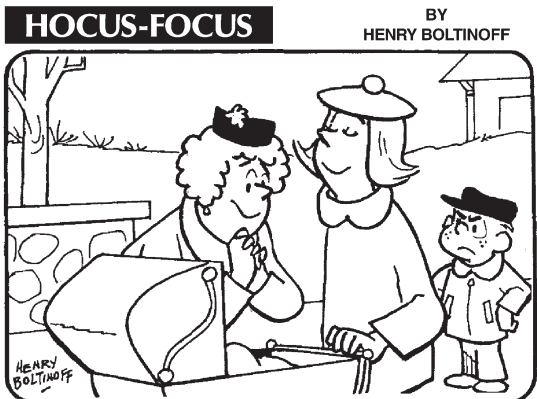


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SIGNS OF THE PAST

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(Continued from other side)

Surveying and planning for a second Muscle Shoals Canal began in 1871 under the U.S. Corps of Engineers. Construction began in 1875, with the Army engineers working directly under the Federal Government. The original canal was widened and the 17 Locks, over a distance of 14.5 miles, were reduced to nine with a total lift of 85 feet. Each lock was 60 feet wide by 284 feet between sills. Three additional locks were added, one at the Colbert Shoals, south of Florence, and Locks A and B that provided a channel around the shoals at the mouth of the Elk River. Lock One was at the easternmost point on the canal, on the west side of the mouth of First Creek, west of Rogersville. Lock Nine was at the westernmost point of the system, east of the modern-day Wilson Dam. An aqueduct, 845 feet long and 60 feet wide, was constructed over the mouth of Shoals Creek to avoid the water flowing into the canal. A rail track was built alongside the canal and a locomotive towed the boats through the canal. Lock Six at Killen was the headquarters for the canal. Lieutenant George W. Goethals was assigned to the Muscle Shoals Canal project to expedite its completion. It was opened for navigation on November 10, 1890. Goethals was promoted to captain and given command of the Engineering District at Florence. He was in charge of Tennessee River improvements from Decatur to Waterloo until his transfer from Florence in October, 1894. In early 1907, Major General Goethals was appointed chief engineer over construction of the Panama Canal. The Muscle Shoals Canal continued to operate until construction of the Wilson Dam began in April, 1918, with over 27 years of service.

HISTORICAL MARKER LOCATION:
near McFarland Park Lighthouse
34.7849°N, 87.6744°W

This second system of canals to bypass the muscle "shoals" was successful from 1890 to 1918, until construction of Wilson Dam made canals around the shoals unnecessary. George Goethals "cut his teeth" designing this lock system which later led to Goethals being appointed chief engineer of the Panama Canal by President Theodore Roosevelt.

~ Courtesy David Curott ~ author of "Signs of the Past" and "More Signs of the Past"

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1115 PLANTVIEW DR., 16X18, 3 bdrm/2 ba., \$425 Rent/\$300 Deposit.
1075 PLANTVIEW DR., 2 bdrm/2 ba., \$375 Rent/\$300 Deposit.

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SHEFFIELD HOME FOR RENT SHEFFIELD: 4 bedroom, 1.5 bath, \$650 per month, \$650 deposit, \$650 pet deposit. Call Paul 256-335-9782 Cypress Realty

WAREHOUSE: MUSCLE SHOALS, FOR Lease or Sale. Up to 50,000 sq. ft., on approximately 3.78 acres. Call K&H, Inc. 256-349-0000

NORTH FLORENCE: FOR RENT 2 bedroom Apartments. Appliances, Washer/Dryer connections. \$450-\$500 plus deposit. 256-762-7879.

SHEFFIELD, HOUSE FOR RENT, 1611 27th St., 3 bdrm, 1.5 ba. \$475 rent/deposit. Rear carport, exterior storage. 256-764-3137.

TOWN CREEK: APARTMENTS IS accepting applications for 1, 2 and 3 bdrm. Rent based on income. Equal Housing Opportunity. 256-685-3360

SHEFFIELD, HOUSE FOR RENT, 504 W. 6th St. 3 bdrm, 1.5 ba. \$475 rent/deposit. **256-764-3137.**

FLORENCE, HOUSE FOR RENT, 105 S Main Street. 3 bdrm, 2 ba, \$450 Rent/Deposit. **256-764-3137.**

5,000' WAREHOUSE ON AVALON Ave., Muscle Shoals. \$1,000 month/rent **256-764-3137.**

HOUSE FOR SALE- COLBERT Heights, 135 Pine Ridge Road 3 bdrm., 2 ba., 2.5 acres, \$135,000. 256-383-8265.

NO DEPOSIT SPECIAL/WAC: LION'S DEN EFFICIENCY APTS. \$450 rent/\$300 deposit Includes electric, cable, internet, water/sewer and garbage. **256-764-3137.**

TUSCUMBIA: HWY 43 SOUTH MOTEL ROOMS. fridge, microwave, TV, full size bed. Weekly-\$200. 256-383-3318

FLORENCE: HOUSE FOR RENT, 128 N. Franklin. 2 bdrm, 1 ba. \$475 rent/deposit. **256-764-3137.**

WATERLOO MOBILE HOME for rent: 11456 Co Rd 14. 16'x 65', 2 bdrm, 1 ba. \$450 rent/deposit. Fenced backyard, river view, next to Brush Creek Park. **256-764-3137.**

APARTMENTS FOR RENT. DOWNTOWN Florence. 160 E Tombigbee St. 1 & 2 bdrm/1 ba. \$575/\$625 rent. Balcony, security gate. **256-764-3137.**

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2624 & 2628 Hough Rd.- 1000' (\$900), 1500' (\$1,250 mo).
2410A Rosedale St.-1800' (\$1,500 mo). *Avalon Ave. (Shoals)- 7600' (\$2,500 mo.)*
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SEE PAGE 6 for details.



FLORENCE, COMMERCIAL PROPERTY FOR RENT. Former beauty shop with 7 washing sinks, 7-10 styling stations. 3525 Cloverdale Road. 2000', \$1,250 rent. **256-764-3137.**

NEW RIVER ROAD ACRES: A New Subdivision off River Road, 1,300 sq. ft. minimum one level. First Five Lots are Discounted! Don't Miss This! Call De-Wayne Crumley at Cypress Realty Group 256-762-3808. Will build to suit.

LEIGHTON HOUSES FOR RENT. 256-764-3137
2110 Mullins Hill Rd. 3 bdrm, 1 ba, \$475 rent/deposit.

OWNER FINANCING: 222 GARFIELD Ave., Florence, 2 bdrms., 1 ba. New HVAC, plumbing, cabinets, appliances, windows, etc. \$79,900, or \$7,500 down and \$795 per month. K&H inc. 256-349-0000

FURNISHED GUEST-SUITES NIGHTLY or monthly. One or two bedrooms, all inclusive. Park Place, 256-386-5504.

FOR SALE FLORENCE: 732 Riverview Dr., 3 bdrm., 2 ba. Appx. 2,200 sq. ft. New HVAC, needs some work. \$78,000. K&H inc. 256-349-0000

FLORENCE: HOUSE FOR RENT. 327 S. Patton St. 2 bdrm, 1 ba. \$400 rent/deposit. Shop, Fenced backyard. **256-764-3137.**

HOUSE FOR RENT, FLORENCE. 209 Foy Avenue. 2 bdrm, 1 ba, \$475 rent/deposit. **256-764-3137.**

BANKHEAD FOREST LOT FOR sale: Owner financing available, \$10,000, 256-648-1365

FLORENCE, HOUSE FOR RENT: 915 Royal Ave. 3 bdrm, 2 ba. \$600 rent/deposit. **256-764-3137.**

15 ACRES IN TUSCUMBIA. Great house site with power, water, and septic. Close to town. \$110,000. Call 256-412-8956.

SINGLE FAMILY FIXER UPERS For Sale in the Shoals/Florence area. Call or text Leo at 256-274-1007 for details.

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AUCTION

Auction
Saturday, Feb. 23
9:00 AM
2100 Hwy 101
Rogersville, AL





21,000+ Sq ft. Multi-purposed steel building and 28 acres in 2 tracts Formerly Hwy 101 Dealers Auction & Southern Star Stockyards. Currently houses offices, checking counters, deli or restaurant, 200 seat amphi-theatre, 4 lanes auto auction ready, 400 car, paved, parking, completely fenced for security.

Partial list of equipment and personal property - 50 sofas, couches, loveseats (matching sets and mis-matched), 2 Lund tractors (approximately 100 hp tractors), generators, trailers, bushogs, tools, computers, knick-knacks, pumps, too much to list... Consignments accepted with auctioneers inspection.

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CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

Saturday — February 23 — 9:00am

Auction Site: 9195 Hwy 17 (Chisholm Hwy), Florence, AL
Bailey Auction House (next to Zip City Volunteer Fire Dept.)

HEAVY EQUIPMENT — FARM EQUIPMENT — VEHICLES — BANK REPOS

PARTIAL LIST: Case Backhoe; Dump Trucks; Farm Tractors, 12-Row John Deere Planter; 6030 John Deere Disk; 1010 John Deere Field Cultivator; 410 John Deere Do-All; I-8 Chisel Plow; 6500 John Deere Sprayer; 9500 John Deere Combine; TW-30 Ford Tractor [2]; 8600 Ford Tractor; 1570 Case Tractor; Massey Ferguson Tractor; Grain Wagon; 7200 6-Row John Deere Planter; M&W Grain Cart; '90 Chevy 2-Ton Truck; '74 Ford 2-Ton Truck; '93 Chevy 1-Ton Truck; '96 Chevy Truck; '08 Chevy 3500; Great Plains 20' 3-Pt Hitch Trailer; '95 GMC 3500 Diesel Truck; 1,000 Gallon Nursery Tank; 2016 Big Tex 40' Gooseneck Trailer; Bobcat Attachment Sweeper; Box Blades 3-Pt Hitch; Grater Blades 3-pt Hitch; Woods 6' Bush Hog 3-pt Hitch.

Taking Consignments now through Thursday, February 21, 9am to 5pm each day. No consignments received on Friday, February 22nd, please. On-site security provided. Management reserves the right to refuse any item for sale. Auction company is not responsible for accidents, theft, or damage to equipment. Loaders for load out will be available through 5:00pm Monday, February 25th. **MORE EQUIPMENT IS BEING ADDED DAILY.**

NO BUYERS PREMIUM — NO INTERNET BIDDING — ALL ITEMS SELL "AS-IS WHERE WAS" WITH NO WARRANTIES FROM SELLERS — NO FEE FOR A "NO SALE"

For more info or to consign, call Tony Couch 256-740-9901 or Dickie Joe Bailey 256-856-1510.
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Mystery Photo of the week!

Courier Journal



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Enter at www.courierjournal.net

Last week's winner is Clay Isom of Tuscumbia who correctly guessed "Community sign on Frankfort Road, Tuscumbia"

One entry per person. Winners will be announced each week in our paper and on our website. Winners can pick up their Gift Certificate at the Courier Journal office beginning Wednesdays after 12 Noon.

Don't miss this huge auction! More info and pictures available on auction.zip.com ID #10125

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We're back in all local schools this week with a fun-packed February Issue!

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Courier Journal

Soap Opera Preview

THE BOLD AND THE BEAUTIFUL Flo gave back as good as she got when Zoe pressured her. While informing Steffy that Hope was back at work, Brooke took the opportunity to query her about Taylor's connection to Phoebe's birth mother. Donna, Katie and Brooke planned a morning to spend with Hope at the cabin. Wyatt pointed out

the similarities between Kelly and Phoebe. Zoe updated Xander about meeting Flo and her frustration that there were still so many unanswered questions. Brooke and Liam urged Hope to open up about her feelings. Liam was surprised when Hope asked if they could visit Phoebe together. *Wait to See: Zoe plans to confront Flo one last time.*



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 <p>08 Jeep Wrangler Unlimited Sahara \$14,750</p>	 <p>256.275.3840 www.naautosales.com</p> <p>4591 Chisholm Rd. Florence</p> <p><i>"Great used cars at great prices... Why would you go anywhere else?"</i></p>		 <p>2009 Cadillac STS \$7,900</p>
 <p>2009 Chevrolet Equinox LS \$6,950</p>	 <p>2012 Volkswagen Jetta Base \$5,950</p>	 <p>2013 Dodge Charger SE \$11,950</p>	 <p>2013 Ford Flex SE \$13,950</p>

DAYS OF OUR LIVES Abigail confided in Jordan about her encounter with Ben. Rex and Sarah recommitted to their relationship. John confided to Roman that Leo might be his son. Abigail discovered that Charlotte was missing. Brady and Stefan both offered Chloe a place to stay. Sarah tried to make amends with Eric. Chad lashed out at Ben before desperately searching for Charlotte. Jack tried reaching out to Abigail. JJ and Haley shared their first kiss. Ciara attempted to trick her captor. *Wait to See: Eve pressures Jack to use Haley's secret to his advantage.*

GENERAL HOSPITAL Anna received a surprise visit. Franco took Aiden ice skating. Sasha surprised Nina. Jason brought Carly up to speed. Obrecht was curious about Maxie's influence over Peter. Ryan made Franco his pawn. Charlotte went on an outing with her sister. Nina had a dramatic change of heart. Maxie questioned Peter's hesitation. Franco was put in a precarious position. Ava was stunned. Sonny shared his concerns with Alexis. Drew received some good news. Kim leaned on Julian. Spinelli shared his findings with Jason. Alexis was caught off guard. Ryan set his sights on a new victim. *Wait to See: Sam spends Valentine's Day with another man.*

THE YOUNG AND THE RESTLESS Victor theorized that JT was still alive and working to terrorize their family, prompting Nick to try to track him down. Sharon received a mysterious email claiming to have evidence proving that Victor was the murderer. Abby saw through Mia's games and demanded to know her true motivation. Kyle assured Lola that she -- not Summer -- was the only woman for him, but her insecurities continued to linger. Fen realized that he missed his time slot at the LP showcase, where Ana had taken his place and earned rave reviews. *Wait to See: A dangerous alliance is exposed.*

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WEE SWAP

2019 Spring/Summer Consignment Sale

Consignor Drop-Off

February 16.....10am-4pm
February 17.....1-6pm
February 18.....10am-8pm
February 19By Appointment Only, 12 noon-6pm

Public Sale

February 23 - March 9
Mondays-Saturdays..... 9am-6pm
Sundays..... 1-5pm
Saturday, March 9.....9am-12:30pm
March 2.....Starts 25% Off
March 6.....Starts 50% Off
(Consignor Pick up: March 10, 1-5pm).

NEW ADDRESS: 1520 Florence Blvd. behind the Bowling Alley and next door to Planet Fitness.

View Full Calendar at www.weeswap.com
Email us at: Info@weeswap.com



Wee Swap 2019 Spring/Summer Sale
February 23rd-March 9th
1520 Florence Blvd

Public Notice

NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed on said property under The Self Service Storage Act. The undersigned will sell at public sale by competitive bidding on **Thursday the 28th day of February, 2019 at 10:00 AM on Lockerfox.com.** Said property is **iStorage Florence, 4121 Florence Blvd, Florence, AL, 35634 Lauderdale County**

Hinds, McKala 244 Clothes, HHG.

Purchases must be paid for at the time of purchase by cash only. All purchased items are sold as is, where is, and must be removed within 48 hours of the sale. Sale is subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party. Dated this 12th Day of February, 2019 and 19th Day of February, 2019.



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Notes...

Continued from pg 7

The Florence Parks & Recreation Dept. will be conducting online registration for Adult Softball through March 6. Register online now at www.fpard.com. We will be taking ream registration for Men, Men Church, and Co-ed Leagues. Team fee is \$400. For more information, contact Nicole Lambert at 256-760-6628.

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Program February 12 at 6pm in the North Alabama Medical Center Meeting Room in Florence. Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Wildlife Biologist Matt Brock will discuss this disease and answer questions. There is no cost to attend. Contact: number: 256-383-4376. Hosted by: Lauderdale County TREASURE Forest Association, Colbert County Forestry Planning Committee, Franklin County Forestry Planning Committee, Lauderdale County EMA, North Alabama Medical Center

FORD: RANGER, 2008 \$8,500. 3.0 V6 XL, 42,000 miles, White, Vinyl seats and floors, AM/FM, Fiberglass shell, Reese Hitch, 6' bed with spray in liner, Chrome Wheels, Runs and drives well. 256-810-1841 Phil Campbell

MEN'S DOCKERS, BROWN, 34/30, \$25. White floral 6-piece comforter, set, full, \$28. 256-227-4010.

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Hugs & Mugs - Loving the Widowed for all widows, widowers and a guest on February 14 at Faith Church Gym, 3601 Florence Blvd, Florence. Serving 11am-1pm. Free choice of 4 soups, drink and dessert. Door prizes, gift for the widowed, plenty of hugs. Entertainment provided by The Harvey Thompson Trio. Sponsored by the Faith Church Classics.

The Shoals Chapter of the Order of St. Luke will meet in the Sheffield Room at Park Place, 501 N. Montgomery Ave., Sheffield, Thursday, February 14 at 2:30pm. Wendy Sellers will teach on "Living the Abundant Life." We believe that God heals spiritually, physically, and emotionally. All are welcome.

Internationally acclaimed poet, Bonnie Roberts, will be inducted into the Shoals Writers Guild as a honorary member on Saturday, February 16. Bonnie is a native of Lauderdale County and has a vast biography with accreditations of her work in the US and Europe. The Shoals Writers Guild is honored to add Bonnie to its honorary member roster that includes: Billy Warren; Dr. George Makowski; Lee Allen Freeman; Glyndell Clemons; Cheris Isom, and Peter Garalnick. The induction with take place at the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library at 350 N. Wood Avenue in Florence at 10am. The Shoals Writers Guild meets the 3rd Saturday of each month at the library. Membership applications are available on their Facebook page. For more information, please email shoalswritersguild@gmail.com

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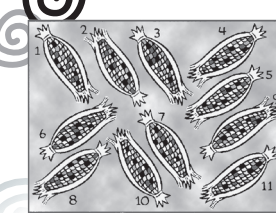
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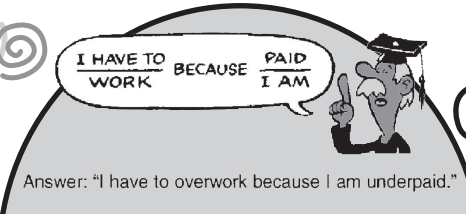
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Junior Whirl Answers

by Charles Barry Townsend Illustrated by David Coulson

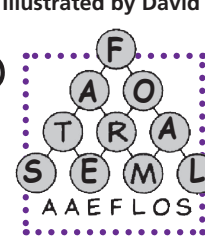


Answer: Ears 2 and 8.

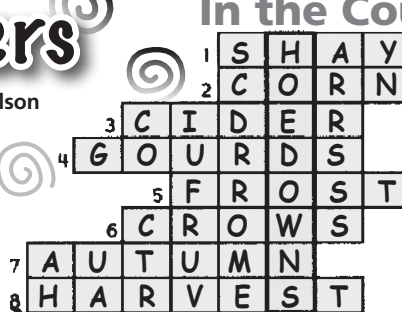


I HAVE TO WORK BECAUSE PAID I AM

Answer: "I have to overwork because I am underpaid."




Answers: F, A, O, T, R, A, L, S, E, M, L, A, A, E, F, L, O, S



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ASK THE ATTORNEY



Thomas McCutcheon

Ask the Attorney is sponsored by local attorneys, McCutcheon & Hamner, P.C., as a service to the residents of NW Alabama.

ON THE JOB INJURIES CAUSED BY THIRD PARTIES

Often clients who are injured on the job have both workers compensation and personal injury claims. Examples include, a truck driver injured in a motor vehicle accident, a factory worker injured by a defective product or construction workers injured by another contractor's employee. In those cases the injured employee has the absolute right to workers compensation benefits. That includes the right to have their medical bills paid and to have temporary total disability payments while they can't work paid by their employer.

Alabama Code §25-5-11 shifts the burden of compensation to the third party (the person whose fault it was) by requiring that the money received be used to pay back the employer. Even if the employee who is injured does not seek to sue or recover benefits from the party who caused the injury, the worker compensation carrier may sue that third party and is given an additional six months to do so.

If the money recovered exceeds the amount of the workers compensation claim, the employer shall owe no further benefits.

Remember that these are two different types of damages. Workers compensation is very specific in that it pays 2/3 of your average weekly wages while a person can't work and will pay for a permanent injury, but workers compensation does not pay for the loss of enjoyment of life. That means that if you can't go see your children play ball or bowl or golf and because you are injured on the job, you don't get a dime for it. On the other hand, if somebody runs a red light, a jury can and will take into account the things the injured person liked to do before and how the injury affects their ability to enjoy life both in general and the specific things that they no longer can do as a result of their injury.

Remember, the law in Alabama gives the injured worker's employer the right to a credit for the amount of damages that they collect from someone other than their employer.

There are ways to use these principles to benefit the injured person.

Buckle up, drive safely and as always, your referrals are appreciated! 256-764-0112

Please send the questions to: "Ask the Attorney," P. O. Box 38, Florence, Alabama 35631 or visit our website at: www.mhatty.com facebook: McCutcheon and Hamner, P.C.

We will not print your full name in the article. We will not be able to return any written or preprinted items which are submitted.

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