Shoals NW Alabama's Largest Circulation!

Pancakes on the Horizon

FLORENCE - The Florence Kiwanis Club will host its 68th Annual Pancake Day Friday and Saturday, March 8-9 at the Florence/Lauderdale Coliseum.

Kiwanians serve all-youcan-eat pancakes and sausage Friday, March 8 from 6am-7pm and Saturday, March 9 from 6am-1pm.

Advance tickets are \$8, or \$7 each for group sales of ten or more tickets. Tickets at the door are \$9 each. Children 12 and under are \$5 at the door.

Tickets are available from any member of the Florence Kiwanis Club or at the door. For tickets call **Beth Haddock** at 256-810-5252, or any other Florence Kiwanis member.

The coliseum address is 702 Veterans Drive in Florence.

More information about Kiwanis Pancake Day and Florence Kiwanis Club is available at www. florencekiwanis.com.

Poole Joins FirstBank

FLORENCE-A veteran local business professional has taken a position as Sr. Mortgage Banker at FirstBank.

Debbie Poole is excited to bring three decades of mortgage experience with her

to the FirstBank family. Poole is a lifetime resident of Florence. She began her mortgage career in 1988 and understands the ins and outs from both the client side

Poole

and the mortgage lending side. That perspective enables her to provide great long-term relationships with clients and realtors alike.

FirstBank started as Farmers State Bank in 1906. Jim Ayers and his business partner saw that the power of community banking was growing in 1984. Ayers acquired the bank that grew through organic growth and a community banking philosophy.

FirstBank now has more

than 1400 associates and 75 offices Tennessee, North Alabama, and North Georgia

See SHORTs... on Page 2



Ray Miller Buick - GMC Bentley Automotive Oakley Auto Sales **National Advance Auto Sales North Alabama Auto Sales EZ-Ride Auto Sales** Jeff Elledge Auto Sales

219 West Tennessee St. Florence, AL 35630

Number 17

Volume 135

256-764-4268

February 20, 2019

Courier Journal

RETURN ADDRESS



History's Idea

FLORENCE - Dr. Tom Osborne, Professor Emeritus of History at UNA, brings one of his college courses, the History of Race, to the community through a free series at the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library.

This series of classes is about the history of the idea of race. The concept of race has been one of the most consequential ideas for millions of people all over the world in the last several centuries. Yet, it has almost

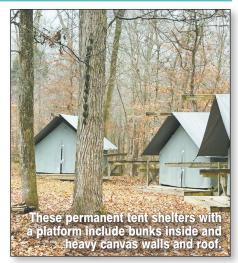
See HISTORY... on Page 7

Westmoreland Like

A New Camp

FLORENCE – Camp Westmoreland just outside Florence has been a Boy Scout landmark for generations. However, upgrades and repairs at the facility have not always kept up with need. Consequently, the camp began to show serious deterioration a few years ago. The beautiful reservation land with more than 4,000 ft on Shoal Creek was replete with the aging facilities and

maintenance had been largely ignored.
The Florence Kiwanis Club stepped up.
Initially, they built 10-12 permanent
tent shelters. Then they took on the
major effort of rebuilding three old Adirondack shelters that had been built in the 1930's. The next year, Kiwanian Ron Paulus started building six new Adirondack shelters of his own design.



POSTAL PATRON

Those have since been completed and donated to Camp Westmoreland, providing a total of 81 bunks. A group from Crosspoint Church of Christ added handicapped-accessible ramps on two of those shelters.

He also provided an eight-sided pig pen that the Scouts get in and play dodgeball below the knees (termed a GaGa pit), and built 39 bird houses that have been put up on the reservation by the local AKtion Club.

Another Kiwanian, Mike Broder, also

See CAMP... on Page 6



Educators, Industry Reps Converge on Shoals Campus

SHOALS--Northwest-Shoals Community College hosted an Alabama FAME (Federation for Advanced Manufacturing Education) program kick-off breakfast for approximately 75 education and business/industry representatives last week on the Shoals Campus. Attendees heard from the Alabama Community College System (ACCS) Director of Career and Technical Education, Art Rousseau; NW-SCC President, Dr. Glenda Colagross; and other college representatives.

The Alabama FAME program incorporates Associate an Science Degree of Applied Science Degree (AAS) in Industrial Systems Technology and two years

See FAME... on Page 9

Inside this Issue



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- **Computer Skeptic**
- Dave Ramsey
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Shorts...

Poole Joins FirstBank

Continued from Page 1

including service financial centers mortgage operations across the Southeast.

For more information, please contact Poole at 256-394-1257 or dpoole@ firstbankonline.com.

SC Campaign Registration

SHOALS -Local Administrative Review Committee of the Northwest Alabama region is requesting applications from local charitable health and human care agencies of federations to apply for participation in the 2019 State Combined Campaign (SCC). The State Combined Campaign will begin in September 2019 and is designed to allow state employees to give to recognized local and statewide charities.

Charitable agencies desiring to participate in the 2019 State Combined Campaign should apply by the deadline of February 28. Please contact Niles **Floyd** at 256-764-5892 or email him at cfcshoals@ uwshoals.org for an application or questions.

See SHORTs... on Page 3

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To reserve a Consignor number, Volunteer Spot or More info, Call Ginger at 256-762-2914 or email gingert42@gmail.com www.reruns4weeones.info



On February 8, my scared and very skittish cat escaped from his carrier at the Center Star Vet. He ran behind the building and then out into the field on the left. *If anyone finds him, please* call or text Mrs. Wilson at 256-412-0489.

His brother and sister and I miss him so much!



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Shorts...

Continued from Page 2

UNA Dept Has

NASHVILLE — Country Radio Broadcasters, Inc. (CRB) presented a \$25,000 scholarship endowment to the UNA Department of Country Radio Seminar's opening ceremonies in Nashville last week.

that have a TV/Film/ Radio or Music Business program are eligible for the CRB's annual award. Dr. Butler Cain, chair of the Department of Communications, applied last fall and was notified of UNA's selection in January. "This scholarship

endowment will provide our department with a significant opportunity to recruit talented students who want to study mass communication and radio broadcasting in particular," Cain said. "We are grateful to Country recognizing our academic department with this gift and helping us ensure a bright future for audio and radio programming.'

According to its website, CRB is a 501c3 nonprofit industry service organization created to provide a platform and structure for education and growth for the country music format.

"These types of awards provide invaluable opportunities for our students and help spotlight the work they do every day," said Barbie Terry, UNA interim AVP for Advancement. "A scholarship is often the difference in a student coming to college or not, and CRB is helping us pave the road for more students,"

at Pet Smart

Charities, a division of the PetSmart Company,

See SHORTs... on Page 10

\$25,000 Grant

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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 Florence-Lauderdale Public Library Friends Bookstore's Half Price Sale continues through the entire month of February. Bookstore volunteers are restocking every day, so even if you've already shopped, there are even more books, records, movies, and magazines on the shelves that you're sure to love.

Monthly Covered Dish Lunch and Program at the Zip City Community Center, 10511 Hwy 17, Florence, on Thursday, February 21 at 11:30am. Please bring a covered dish. Everyone

Hand and Hand Support Group Meeting (All Cancers) on February 21 at 6pm at ECM East Community Room, 2111 Cloyd Blvd, Florence.

Everyone is invited to come and share their journey. Light refreshments.

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

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

Please see our Facebook page for more Information

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,

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.

Introduction to GSA Schedules to Get on GSA Multiple Award **Schedules** takes place Wednesday, February 27 from 8:30–10:30am at the Shoals Chamber of Commerce, 20 Hightower Place in Florence. Presented by Mr. Joe Myers, Customer Service Director with the General Services Administration (GSA) Federal Acquisition Service (FAS)

GSA Schedules are fast, easy, and effective contracting vehicles for both customers and industry partners. For GSA Schedules, GSA establishes longterm, government wide contracts with commercial companies to provide accass to millions of commercial products and services at volume discount pricing.
Topics that will be discussed include:

GSA Multiple Award Schedules

(MAS) and other GSA programs

• Determining if MAS is right for you

• Submitting an offer

- Competing after award
 Maintaining the contract
 There is no cost to attend, but

please RSVP for planning purposes. For additional Information, please contact Phillip Marks at 256-765-4668, pomarks@ una.edu or Lindsey Killen at 256-765-

See NOTES... page 34

4721. lkillen2@una.edu



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DEADLINE: Friday 5pm



Camp Westmoreland...

Continued from Page 1

built and donated an Adirondack to his design. Both of these individuals plan to build and donate more, and the club is now providing funds to assist.

Kiwanis members rebuilt the old trading post in 2017. And the kitchen has been totally updated. Other local volunteers have also been busy painting, clearing campsites, and a multitude of other good things. Last year the NRA awarded a major grant for a new rifle range. For his efforts, Paulus

Week

been honored by the

BSA with the highest award given a non Scout - The Heart of an Eagle. However, he shuns any personal credit for the work, insisting that a lot of people with several groups can take pride in the improvements over the past few years.

The important aspect is that a beautifullyrestored Westmoreland BSA Reservation is once again available for regular unrestricted use and is easily accessible to the Scouts of Northwest Alabama, Southwest

> Tennessee, and Northeast Mississippi.



LEFT: Craft Hut

BELOW: This Adirondack Shelter measures 12' x 20', has 15 bunks, and is now handicapped accessible.



Courier Journal

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Monday - Friday

8:00am - 5:00pm

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City

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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 large 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: written form to:

219 W. Tennessee St. Florence, AL 35630

editor@courierjournal.net

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History of Race...

Continued from Page 1

idea with a history.

To say that it has a history is to say that it has changed; it has not always and everywhere been the same. To most of us race seems a self-evident feature of humanity, but it has changed over time. There was a time before the idea of race existed. There was a later time when it was thought to determine all of history. At times race was all; at other times race

was nothing.

Developments in the sciences and politics have had profound effects on the idea of race. Yet because it is a shape-shifter of an idea, race has proven amazingly adaptable. Race has survived through scientific and cultural revolutions from the Enlightenment to Darwinism to Mendelian genetics to DNA and from the establishment of European colonies to the world of today.

This is not a course in race relations, prejudice, or slavery and segregation, and it is not limited to the history of race in the United States. It is a broadly conceived history of one of the most significant and influential ideas of our civilization.

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never been presented as an It is an idea which affects us all because it labels and groups us in ways that define our identity. Race is a powerful idea, but is it even real?

Assorted Topics from Week to Week

The class will be on Mondays from 5:30-6:45pm from March 11-May 13. The following topics will be covered:

March 11 - The **Surprising Origins of the** Idea of Race

March 18 - Encountering the Other: Expansion and Conquest

March 25 - Typology: Natural History and Race April 1 - Enlightenment: Racializing History and Anthropology

April 8 - Race is All: **Gobineau to Grant** April 15 - Darwinism,

Genetics, and Eugenics April 22 - The Boasian Shift in Anthropology April 29 - The Death

of Typology: the Modern Synthesis to DNA May 6 - The Alchemy of

May 13 - The Zombie Walks: Culture, Race, and Identity

No registration necessary for the classes, and everyone in the community is welcome. The library is located at 350 N Wood Áve in downtown Florence.

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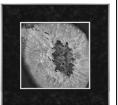
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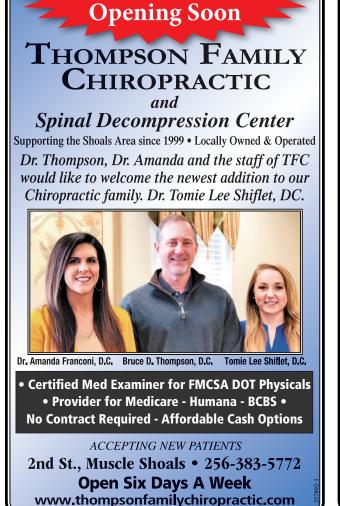
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FAME Program...

Continued from Page 1

paid industry experience. Students will be selected by sponsoring companies.

"The FAME program is not just a trend," Cologross said during her welcome. "It integrates students directly into our local workforce through our sponsoring companies. This will help the college companies. and our local business and industry partners to work together to produce qualified employees like never before."

The FAME program is ideal for students who have a high interest in a STEM Technology, (Science, Engineering and Math) who have field or participated in activities such as the Best Robotics Competition. Enrollees will begin working with their sponsoring company during the summer prior to the start of their coursework in the fall. Starting wages are very competitive, and students have the potential for performance-based raises and bonuses throughout the program.

"FAME is led by business and industry," stated Rousseau during his presentation. want our companies to take ownership of the program."

For more information on the FAME program at NW-SCC, email fame@ nwscc.edu or contact Leslie Tomlinson at 256-331-8040.

SKILLS TRAINING CENTER

Companies had opportunity to visit an open house of the new MSSC (Manufacturing Skill Standards Council) Training Center following the FAME kick-off.

The MSSC industry-led and federally recognized assessment, training, and certification system focused on the skills and knowledge needed by manufacturing today's workforce. Through a partnership with the ACCS and MSSC. Alabama students may now be certified as a Certified Technician Production through (CPT) the completion of approved coursework and training.

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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WEATHER TECH FLOOR MATS, Clay in color, fits 2015-2017 Nissan Moreno, \$75, 256-476-1046.

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FLORENCE: 8215 CO. RD. 189 YARD SALE, FRIDAY FEB. 22nd, 12:00 to 5:00 p.m. Central Community, Hwy. 20. Turn left on 106, end of road turn left, house INSIDE AND OUTSIDE SALE. MAP ID # 1920

BABY GRAND PIANO, KIM-BALL, good condition, regularly tuned. Moving, unable to take. \$1,200. 256-381-3936.

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BABIES: SHIH-TZU PUPPIES. 2 females, \$350 ea. 4 males, \$300 ea. Shots and papers. Miniature Doberman, 1 female, 1 male, both for \$400. 256-460-9136.

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new \$299, sell for \$150.

Frigidaire refrigerator, stainless steel look, \$150. Toolbox, All tools including metric. \$450.

Black electric drill and bits,

paint grinder, power sander, \$300. Weber gas grill, 6 months old, \$275.

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Press Operator Trainee

TIMES DAILY

Times Daily has an immediate opening available for a full-time Press Operator Trainee. The ideal candidate will have a mechanical aptitude with a mechanical work history. Candidate must be able to work a flexible schedule including nights and weekends. Qualified candidates will have great attention to detail, a willingness to learn and be mechanically inclined. Starting pay is commensurate with experience.

Mail or drop off application or resume at 219 West Tennessee Street, Florence, AL 35630, or email to hollie.colella@timesdaily.

Help Wanted, need energetic worker to help with special needs girl, Spring Valley area. Call 256-627-1785 for details.

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Shoals Infectious Disease Consultants

Florence, AL is recruiting for the upcoming Clinic opening in March 2019,

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Please send resumes attention Human Resources chadmin@florencema.com

MAINTENANCE

A dependable handy/maintenance person needed for Oak Terrace Apartments. If you are interested call 256-263-8689 or come by during office hours Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m. at 705 Shoemaker Drive, Tuscumbia, AL 35674.

Production Supervisors

Wayne Farms Prepared Foods in Decatur, Alabama is looking for **EXPERIENCED** Production Supervisors for 1st and 2nd shifts.

We offer competitive salary and benefits (401K, medical, dental, vision, 2-wks paid vacation). Manufacturing experience strongly preferred. To apply, ~visit

https:// goo.gl/kBGfhy ~or email: Sommer.Walker@ waynefarms.com

Request for Qualifications for Engineering Design Services Colbert County, Alabama (the "County") seeks responses to this Request for

Qualifications "RFQ" for engineering design services to be performed at certain locations within the County including, but not limited to, Colbert Alloys Park and Rose Trail Park. The County has applied for funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund through the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA). The Selection of a firm to provide such engineering design services is with the aim of entering into a contract based on requirements stipulated and imposed by ADECA. Please call Kathy Polk, County Administrator, at 256-386-8500, or by email to kpolk@colbertco.org to receive pertinent RFQ documents, including instructions on the proper submission of proposals in response to this RFQ. Proposals will be accepted until 4:30 P.M. on February 28,2019 and must comply with the terms of the RFQ to be considered.

Shorts...

Adoption Event at Pet Smart

Continued from Page 3

began a National Adoption Weekend in all store locations in 1994. As a result, more than 8,000,000 homeless animals have been adopted! Florence-Lauderdale Animal Services (FLAS) will participate in this upcoming event February 22-24. Many of the available dogs and cats will be at the PetSmart store located at 107 Cox Creek Parkway in Florence. Representatives of FLAS will also be onsite during the event. The event schedule includes Friday from 2-6pm, Saturday from 4-6pm, and Sunday from 2-5pm. The Adoption Fee for all

FLAS animals is currently \$25 which includes rabies shots and spay/neuter.

If you have any questions, please call Cheryl Jones, Director of the Florence Lauderdale Animal Services, at 256-653-7561 or email her at cjones@florenceal.org

Tax Holiday for **Severe Weather**

MONTGOMERY -Alabama will observe its eighth annual Severe Weather Preparedness Sales Tax Holiday this weekend. The Alabama Retail Association encourages Alabamians to restock emergency supplies in homes, workplaces, and vehicles during this three-day tax holiday. Certain emergency preparedness items will be exempt from the state's 4% state sales tax, and in some cities and counties, local taxes are waived on those items as well. Most local cities and towns are participating. It means shoppers can save as much as 10% on these items in some areas of the

From 12:01am on Friday, February 22 - midnight Sunday, February 24 the tax-exempt items include

the following priced at \$60

Flashlights, lanterns Battery-powered or handcrank radio

> First-aid kits Cell phone charger Two-way radios Manual can openers Tarps and plastic

Batteries

sheeting **Duct tape** Fire extinguishers Tie-down kits, bungee

cords or rope Other tax-free items include coolers, ice packs, plywood, window film and smoke/fire/carbon monoxide detectors. Portable generators and power cords costing \$1,000 or less are also tax free.

For a full list of tax-free items, go to alabamaretail.org/ alabamasalestaxholidays.

Alabama is one of three states with a severe weather preparedness sales tax holiday in 2019. The others are Texas and Virginia.

Alabama Retail recommends having enough supplies in emergency kits to last 72 hours following a disaster. For information on what items to include in emergency kits, as well as steps to take before and after disasters, visit ready.

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LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

we may be on the verge of something extraordinary. It is not often that I get to be the first to report such good news. It is my profound privilege to

inform you that our government might actually be on the verge of not screwing something up for a change.

Robocalls have been the bane of my office experience for years and they have progressively gotten more irritating and frequent. The phone companies have known this but have refused to do anything about them. Estimates are that by sometime this year, 50% of all calls will be

spam or robocalls. I don't know

about you, but that is already the



by "The Computer Skeptic"

There was a time when you could screen calls effectively using only your caller ID because caller ID reliably informed you of who was calling. But robocallers, telemarketers, and scammers get around Caller ID defenses with what's called spoofing, which is when a bogus name or number shows up on your Caller ID screen. Ît's relatively easy to do and very hard to prevent.

Some of us use apps on our smartphones. I wrote about the Hiya app a few months ago. It's very effective and free.

However, there are no "apps" for most office and home phones so those are wide open for exploitation.

That is about to change. In November of last year, the chairman of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) sent warning letters to all the major carriers telling them to block spam calls or the FCC would start breaking kneecaps. The technology is supposed to roll out sometime this year.

The technology that the FCC wants carriers to implement is called STIR and SHAKEN which

stands for Secure Telephony Identity Revisited and Secure Handling of Asserted information using to KENs. I think it's kinda weird that someone sat around and played with acronyms until they found one that makes absolutely no sense at all.

They way this will work gets really complicated, but the down-and-dirty of it is that each caller and answerer will be associated with a "certificate." This is not a certificate that you can hang on your wall. This is a digital certificate generated by the phone companies on your behalf that essentially says, "Hi there! I am a real human!" Those certificates will be stored on a central computer out there in the cloud. If you don't have a verified certificate, you don't get to make a call.

One major problem with this technology is that there are

roughly 4,000 phone carriers just in the US. For this thing to work, almost all of them will have to participate. The price tag for implementing this everywhere will be incurred by someone, and that someone is probably you and me. But it is something that has to be done. There's still plenty of time for the FCC to mess this up, but I'm glad they are

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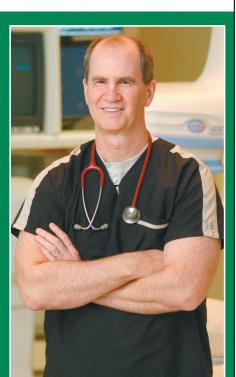
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Guest Opinion-Editorial

The Establishment Press:

What They Are Not **Telling You About** the Border

HAROLD

PEASE, Ph.D

History and Political

Science Instructor at

Taft College / Expert

on US Constitution

Feb.

flew to El Paso, Texas to see for myself what was going on at the border at the height of the partial government shutdown standoff between Pelosi/Schumer and President Donald Trump.

I wanted to interview those on the ground who really knew; thus, bypassing entirely the Republican presses that said we were in a border crisis and the Democrat presses that said we weren't and that we do not need a wall. El Paso, over 800,000 population, and Juarez, Mexico, over 1,400,000, one north of the border, the other south, seemed to be an ideal location to ask the

This is what I learned. Mexican cartels rather than the Mexican government control entry into the United States. They are the de facto government south of the border. Cartels have carved up the important crossing locations, and migrants do not get into the United States without first paying at least \$100 per person to the controlling cartel. They enforce their rules.

Agents do not seek out illegal aliens as they once did. Aliens come to them. Perhaps 80%

See BORDER... on Page 24

Courier Journal

noals

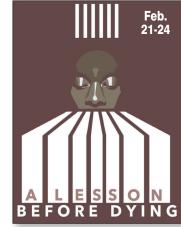
UNA THEATRE EXPLORES A

Hard Lesson on Race

FLORENCE - The UNA Theatre program is widely celebrated for its unflinching examination of racism in mid-20th century America. In that same spirit, the George S. Lindsey Theatre presents, A Lesson Before Dying Thursday-Saturday, February 21–23 at 7:30pm and Sunday, February 24 at 2pm.

Based on Ernest J. Gaines's best-known and respected novel, Romulus Linney's, A Lesson Before Dying, is inspired by the real-

See LESSON... on Page 27



The Trio at the Hall

TUSCUMBIA-The Thompson Trio comes to the Hall of Fame lobby, Thursday, February 21 at 6:30pm as part of the attraction's Black History Month events.

Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 on the day of the event.
The Harvey Thompson Trio

is a talented ensemble featuring Harvey Thompson Sr. of Muscle Shoals Horns fame, and his son Harvey Thompson Jr. The trio will be performing hits that include many anthems of the Shoals area pioneered in part by the Muscle Shoals Horns. Thompson Sr. is a founding member of the Muscle Shoals Horns and has played with Elton John, B.B. King and Bob Seger. He toured most recently with Lyle Lovett. He was inducted into the Alabama Music Hall of Fame in 2016 with the Muscle Shoals Horns. Harvey Thompson Jr. has performed or recorded with artists such as Percy Sledge and Dennis

For more information, call the Alabama Music Hall of Fame at 256-



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movement in our area. They

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to solve discrimination issues

calmly. Through this they met

and entertained leaders in the

Movement at the Rosenbaum

were active in the formation of

public libraries in Florence that

were available to both whites

and blacks. Alvin Rosenbaum

will discuss "Civil Rights at

the Rosenbaum House" on

His 45-minute talk will take

Sunday, February 24 at 1pm.

place in the auditorium next to

the ticketing area followed by a

tour of the Rosenbaum House.

Admission is typically \$10 for

adults and \$5 for students and seniors. The House is located

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This event is free.

more details

House. The Rosenbaums

leaders in the Civil Rights

present his one man skit "Don't Hang Up" at the Sheffield Public Library on February 21, 6:30-8pm, doors will open at 6pm. Kirkman uses music to tell about the struggles and victories of one man determined to pass on his legacy to his granddaughter. This will be followed by an evening of music by Dr. Kirkman. This program is free and open to the public.

THE CLOVERDALE **COMMUNITY CENTER** at

17420 County Road 8, Florence will host an All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast on February 23 from 6-10am with bacon, sausage, butter, syrup, milk, juice, and coffee. Price is \$10 per person for AYCE in house or 1 carryout plate per person staked full for \$10 All proceeds benefit the Cloverdale VFD.





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:

by Mail or in Person 219 W. Tennessee St., Florence, AL 35630

• e-mail: editor@courierjournal.net • FAX- 256-760-9618

Editor-Courier Journal

Great Area Support

Editor:

I am writing to thank Shoals area residents for sharing the true meaning of Christmas with children in need this past holiday season. Because of the generosity of donors in northwest Alabama and across the United States, Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse, collected more than 8.8 million shoe boxes in 2018. Combined with those collected from other partnering countries in 2018, the ministry is now sending more than 10.6 million shoe box gifts to children suffering from poverty, natural disasters, war, disease and famine.

These simple gifts bring smiles to the faces of children around the world. Packed with fun toys, school supplies and hygiene items, these gifts bring joy and are a tangible expression of God's

Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than

157 million gift-filled shoe boxes to children in more than 160 countries and territories since 1993.

Although drop-off locations serving Florence shoe box packers are closed until November 2019, it's not too late for people to make a difference. Anyone can still pack a personalized shoe box gift online at samaritanspurse.org/ buildonline.

Information about year-round volunteer opportunities can also

"The U.S. is one

of the highest, if

not THE highest,

consumer of

child sex...

be found at samaritanspurse.org/ volunteerwithOCC.

Thank you again to everyone who participated in this global project. There are many who do so year after year. These simple gifts send a message to children worldwide that they are loved and not forgotten.

Dana Williams Samaritan's Purse Boone, N.C.

Resist for a Reason?

Editor:

While the Democrats claim that the crisis at the southern border is manufactured by the Trump administration, thousands of children are being trafficked into the US as sex slaves each year. These Democrats make such a fuss about the separation

See LETTERS... on Page 28

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EDITOR'S NOTE - The following article references an "Ask the Attorney" column dated November 28, 2018 that we at the Courier Journal selected to rerun as a fill-in piece over the Thanksgiving holidays. The piece was several years old and unfortunately had some outdated information. The law is updated here. We apologize for any inconvenience.

$oldsymbol{A}\mathsf{SK}$ THE **A**TTORNEY



Thomas McCutcheon

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

CORRECTION

A few weeks ago while I was out of town an old article that I had written some years ago concerning retirement benefits and divorce actions was reprinted.

A good friend of mine who practices divorce law informed me that the law had changed. Turns out they were right.

The article concerned widow's benefits and social security and that rule did not change. Basically, a widow who was married for more than 10 years and meets the disability requirements can draw off

her husband's earnings record. However, the law used to be in Alabama that retirement benefits were not subject to the jurisdiction of the court. In the early to mid '90s that law changed and the

court recognized "Qualified Domestic Relations Orders" otherwise known as a QUDRO, pronounced QUADRO. These are very detailed documents that specify a division of retirement benefits by amount or percentage as of a certain date.

In the article that I wrote before 2017, the law was that before retirement benefits could be divisible in Alabama a marriage had to exist for a period of 10 or more years. After the law changed in 2017, effective January 1, 2018, the rules eliminated the requirement that a marriage last at least 10 years. This means that any type of retirement benefits could be included in the marital estate unless expressly excluded by federal or state law.

I thank my learned friend for pointing out this change in the law as it is important to domestic relations lawyers. Thank you all for taking the time to read my column.

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

Please send the questions to: "Ask the Attorney,"

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"Knitting"

So my husband excitedly told me that he had signed us up for The Great Smoky Marriage

Retreat. When I reminded him that I was really busy at work, he told me about the marvelous riverside condo that he had already booked in Pigeon Forge. He talked right over me – he was ready to go. So I got ready to go.

We have been to this excellent – with great speakers. Dozens of topics. The previous retreat seemed to focus mostly on young marriages, few sessions devoted to empty-nesters, parents of married children and grandparents. One a week or so before the retreat, in the middle of the day, my husband sent me a if he meant to find a way was so deep. There were cry about not panicking at change, closing one chapter and writing

accepting your children's do to cultivate intimacy other and God, embracing the opportunities that lay ahead while you have more money! I cried a couple of times. Accepting

We also had fun. We laughed at the emcee, a 71 year-old preacher who could do stand-up comedy that his children give him. One year it was a stun gun, but this year it was a key finder. You put the clip on your keys and when you press the clicker, the clip beeps. He demonstrated retreat before and it was it, and then added that he was quite sure that this right before they take the

keys away. had not seen in years. But it was also good to discuss ideas and topics things that the presenters brought up - things that I had forgotten were on my mind and in my heart. text that said, "How can My husband and I had we get closer?" Truly, I moments of closeness thought to myself, "If we when our souls touched. I'm saying goodbye//I won't were any closer, we would This has always been my be in the same skin." But definition of intimacy. One speaker at the former to get closer, then I'd say retreat, I remember, that he did. This retreat well defined intimacy as I'm gonna lose you/ "in-to-me-you-see". But sayings that made me this year's presenter, Eric Owens, spoke of souls being knit together and loving your mate as you another, about taking love your own soul. He suggestions to CatnKids1@ pride in making it this far, gave a list of things to

timing, being older and which included spending wiser, filling life with each time together, not holding grudges, making an effort, being kind, having open communication, thinking of the other's well-being. After all of the discussion, I was once again thankful that I am close to my husband. Sometimes I take that for granted. It is a rare if he wanted. He tells commodity - intimacy annually about the gifts closeness. About the time that I was having these thoughts, the speaker shared the lyrics to a Meghan Trainor song:

"So I'm gonna love you like I'm gonna lose you/I'm gonna love you like I'm gonna lose you//In the blink of an eye/Just a whisper was the present you get of smoke/You could lose everything/The truth is you never know//So I'll kiss you It was fun to have fun. longer baby/Any chance that but this one had quite a We saw people that we I get/I'll make the most of the minutes/And love with no regrets//Let's take our time to say what we want/ Here's what we got before it's all gone/'Cause no, we're not promised tomorrow//So I'm gonna love you like I'm gonna lose you

> I'm gonna hold you like take you for granted/'Cause we'll never know when, when we'll run out of time// So I'm gonna love you like

> I'm gonna love you like I'm gonna lose you." So, get ready to go.

Email comments or





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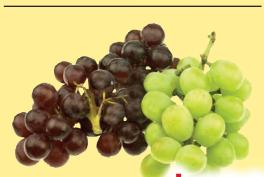


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Medicare Minute

Medicare Part A and B

Before we begin talking about Medicare Part B I would like to clear up something that was in last week's article concerning Medicare Part A. As I stated in the article Part A has a deductible of \$1,364 per benefit period. I also stated that if you paid into Medicare for 40 quarters that Part A was free to you. I was referring to the fact that you would not have to pay a premium to Medicare for Part A, not that it would exclude you from paying the deductible.

Medicare Part B is the part of Medicare that is billed when you receive services as an outpatient by a Medicare approved provider, such as your primary care physician (PCP) or specialist. Although a visit to your doctor is the primary way that you will use Medicare Part B, it also covers many other services. We will discuss the other services in next week's article.

If you are turning 65 in 2019, Medicare Part B will have a premium of \$135.50/mo. Because there is a premium attached to Medicare Part B this coverage is optional. This means you are not required to enroll in Medicare Part B. There are two important things to remember about Part B being optional. First, if you opt out of Part B you will have no coverage under Medicare for your outpatient services. Second, if you decide at a later date to enroll in Part B there can be a late enrollment penalty applied that will last as long as you live and have Part B. There are exceptions to the late enrollment penalty that we will discuss in future articles.

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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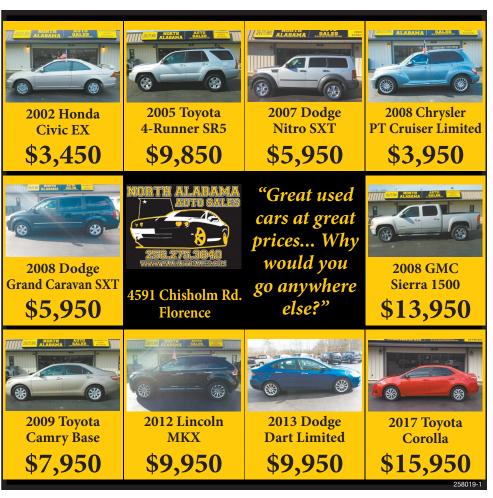
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Guest Op-Ed

Border...

Continued from Page 12

of illegals are referred to as OTM's (Other Than Mexican). When Mexicans are caught, they are simply returned to Mexico. However, the OTM's have the right to have a judge hear their cases. Thus, they remain until that happens.

Caravans are a new We were phenomenon. told these are financed by billionaire George Soros. organize groups and instruct perspective migrants in their rights. After crossing Mexico, these people approach the border in small groups of nine to twenty and immediately sook a border patrol vehicle. seek a border patrol vehicle to approach and surrender, "Here I am!" They know that they will be taken to a holding center and cared for. These centers designed for 80-90 migrants now hold 200-250. They are so

crowded that there exists virtually no room between migrants.

They know they will be released into the general population after receiving an NTA (Notice to Appear) before a judge. However, they also know not to appear as 90% will be sent home because they do not qualify for asylum. But now that they are in the United States, the game changes to "hide and seek" until the United States changes its laws. Why? One officer told us that they were awaiting the expected "paradigm shift." He did not explain what he meant, but I inferred that Trump will be removed from power and their group enormity will force a path to full citizenship. He added, "When this hope of being able to stay is removed this incentive—the flood will end."

Agents invited us to visit three unsecured areas within thirty miles of where we were. One was Mount Cristo Rey located between the two cities but between the two cities but a good distance within the U.S. side. It was identified as a place of danger. The sign posted on the 12-foot-wide well-trod trail going up the hill to the statue warned, "If you're going to tour Mt. Cristo Rey, please contact police department contact police department at (575) 589-6600 or at 1000 McNutt Rd." Why would an area within the country and close to Border Patrol headquarters be too dangerous for Americans to visit without first notifying police? Because it is also a corridor for drug and human trafficking between the two countries and you might disappear, be raped, or robbed.

second was construction site on the U.S. side of the border accessed by an opening in an 18 foot-tall border wall with no visibly mounted cameras through which construction trucks and workers frequently passed. An almost dry Rio Grande River just south of the construction site had no barrier of any kind to prevent a crossing from either side and then through this opening.

A third site was some 25 miles west of El Paso. This was the connecting point between a high fence, perhaps 18 feet, and a four or five-feet high fence thereafter. The much shorter fence was designed to stop only automobiles and Mexico was easily accessed from both sides over the top or sliding under it. I had one foot in Mexico and another in the United States simultaneously. Picture very large steel X's every ten feet with three horizontal cross beams connecting them. This fence was said to continue this way for some distance west but replaced with mere barbed wire thereafter.

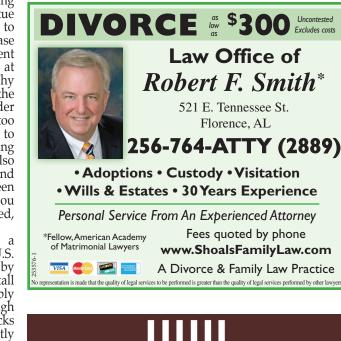
The fence was marked as having been built in 2008, but it was no barrier to drug or human trafficking, or to coming across unnoticed at will. We were totally alone for a solid hour before we saw a helicopter flying the line. There was no evidence of technology either, and we were but 20 miles from one of the most populated areas on the entire border.

We also learned that often the countries from which immigrants come do not want them back as they were happy to rid themselves of their impoverished or criminal class. Twenty years ago the border could be controlled by 5,000 agents, and now 35,000 agents are required. Even U.S. troops are needed to assist.

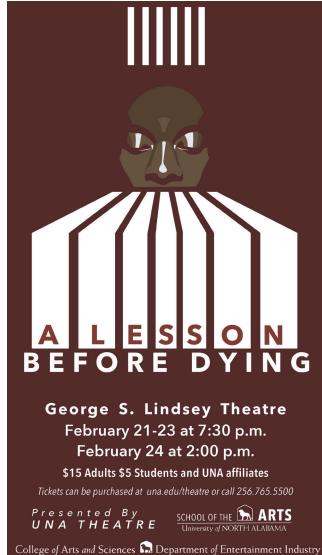
No one argued that this was not a very serious crisis, nor that a border wall was not critical in ending it. Border patrol agents confirmed, "there is no border security outside a

Dr. Harold W. Peasearold Pease is a syndicated columnist and an expert on the United States Constitution. He has dedicated his career to studying the writings of the Founding Fathers and applying that knowledge to current events. He taught history and political science from this perspective for over 30 years at Taft College. To read more of his weekly articles, please visit www. LibertyUnderFire.org.









by DAVE RAMSEY

ZERO PERCENT INTEREST?

Dear Dave,

I know you're against financing purchases. However, is it okay to finance things like furniture at zero percent interest?

Detrick

Dear Detrick,

We just finished an extensive study of more than 10,000 millionaires. Not a single one of these folks said they became rich by borrowing money to buy things at zero percent interest. Since none of those millionaires gave credit for their wealth to zero percent interest financing, and since we know banks charge interest on loans, how is it you think these people are loaning money at "zero percent interest?"

Is it possible the pricing of the item has the interest rate built into it? I think the chances of that are pretty high. If not that, companies offering this kind of financing have very accurate and highly researched data that tells them the vast majority of people who take out zero-percent loans don't pay off the loans in the specified period of time. Do you know what happens if you don't live up to the terms of those contracts? It becomes a regular loan, and they back charge you for the interest.

So, on average you're paying for it all. I don't know why you'd want to play with snakes, Detrick. Snakes bite, and some of them can kill you. Avoid debt like the plague. It destroys your most powerful wealth-building tool—your income.

—Ďave



EXPLAINING THE ENVELOPES

Dear Dave,

I've listened to you for a little while, but I was wondering about the envelope system you recommend. How does it work? Danielle

Dear Danielle,

Don't let the word "system" intimidate you. It's just grandma's old-fashioned, common sense way of

budgeting money.

Back in the day, many people were paid in cash at their jobs. Then, they would take the money home and divide it up into different envelopes. The envelopes held cash for different categories in their budgets—food, clothes, rent, and other bills and such. When a particular envelope was empty they stopped buying that item, because the money budgeted for that category was gone. If you wanted a dress, but the clothing envelope was empty, you didn't buy a dress that month.

It's just a simple cash system that, combined with doing a written monthly budget, will help keep you from overspending!

—Dave

* Dave Ramsey is CEO of Ramsey Solutions. He has seven best-selling authored 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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Beware Of Covetousness

Luke 12:15 "And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth." It's wanting something that you don't have that someone else does and you are willing to give up or do whatever it takes to get it. It may cost you your home, family, marriage and maybe your life. We see about Achan in: Joshua 7:21 "When I saw among the spoils a goodly Babylonish garment, and two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold of fifty shekels weight, then I coveted them, and took them; and, behold, they are hid in the earth in the midst of my tent, and

the silver under it." Achan and his family's end: Joshua 7:24-25 "And Joshua, and all Israel with him, took Achan the son of Zerah, and the silver, and the garment, and the wedge of gold, and his sons, and his daughters, and his oxen, and his asses, and his sheep, and his tent, and all that he had: and they brought them unto the valley of Achor. And Joshua said, Why hast thou troubled us? the LORD shall trouble thee this day. And all Israel stoned him with stones, and burned them with fire, after they had stoned them with stones." What a price to pay for stuff that we all will leave behind.

Achan, like Eve in the garden of Eden, had eye trouble, and he went against the rules of engagement set down before the battle by Joshua and the lord. Notice in: 1 Timothy 6:7 "For we brought nothing into this world, and it is certain we can carry nothing out." 1 Timothy 6:10 "For the love of money is the root of all evil: which while some coveted after, they have erred from the faith, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows." Notice it's not the money, but the love for it. This sin is another one of the devil's snares. We leave all at the grave. We all will give an account to God for what he has given us and the opportunities we had. No coming back and doing life over. Only what we have done with and for the Lord Jesus Christ will last. At judgment, the bottle, the high, the dope and the sin all will be a witness against you. You had better get saved, now.

Bill Bishop, Pastor

Beacon Baptist Church

Rogersville • 256-247-7733

1.2 miles north from red light on Hwy 207 on left Sunday services at 10am and 11am and 6pm Visitors welcome!

Lesson... **Continued from Page 12**

life case of Willie Francis – a

young black man wrongly convicted of murder and sentenced to death in the segregated American South. The story takes place in the fictional town of Bayonne, Louisiana. It is narrated by Grant Wiggins, an African-American teacher from the local plantation school.

The audience will be given a glimpse into pre-Civil Rights' education, segregation, and social

expectations.
"We wanted a play that would educate the audience and the cast," said Charlton James, Artistic Director of the UNA Theatre program. "I saw the world premiere at the Alabama Shakespeare Festival. For a long time, I felt the story was one that needed to be told, but I had to wait for the right cast. This year's group of actors are right for this play, and they're ready for it. This production has brought to the forefront the depth of talent and dedication the theatre students have at UNA.'

First-year theatre major, TaShauna Jenkins, has been completely immersed by the process of bringing *A Lesson*

Before Dying to the stage.

"Performing this play has felt like we're telling the stories of people who didn't get a chance to tell their stories. It won't be like watching a play, it'll be like watching somebody's life," Jenkins said.

The performance is made possible by the University of North Alabama Theatre program, School of the Arts and the Department of Entertainment Industry.

Tickets can be purchased at una.edu/theatre, by contacting the Department of Entertainment Industry at 256-765-4342, or by stopping by the School of the Arts Box Office on 126 W. Tombigbee St. – Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for 17 and under and students/faculty/ staff/alumni.

This production includes adult language and content and is recommended for an audience of high school age

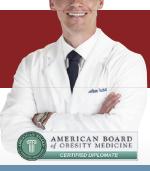
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Public Notice

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

Joshua Frost 317 Misc 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 20th day of February, 2019.





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500 N. Montgomery Ave., Sheffield

Letters...

Resisting for a Reason?

Continued from Page 12

of children from the adults claiming to be their parents at the border for processing. They then ignore the fact that many of those children are not with their parents, but are being brought to the US by criminals for immoral purposes.

Timothy Ballard, an ex-Dept. of Homeland Security agent, who is now founder and CEO of Operation Underground Railroad, an organization dedicated to rescuing children from sex trafficking, said, "Human trafficking is the fastest growing criminal enterprise on the planet with millions of child victims in its clutches."

His organization rescued a young girl who was 13 when she was kidnapped from her village in Central America. She was then trafficked to New York City where she was raped 30-40 times a day. According to Ballard, "The U.S. is one of the highest, if not the highest, consumer of child sex. As such, traffickers know they will become very wealthy by getting their enslaved children into our country. We do these traffickers a great favor by leaving our border virtually wide open."

I wonder how many of those politicians who resist the President's efforts to control the illegal entry through the border are themselves consumers of the child sex trade.

Euell White Florence

Saved Now and Always

Courier Journal Editor:

Many people blindly follow what is taught from a pulpit without questioning whether the teaching follows what God chose to have recorded of His words and actions, and what Jesus specifically said in the New Testament concerning

See LETTERS... on Page 30

FIRST DIAGNOSIS OF CAN-CER Benefits Ages 15-70 Benefits paid directly to you. No hospitalization or treatment

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The Utilities Board City of Muscle Shoals Water & Wastewater Department will accept sealed bids on the following piece of equipment until 3:30pm on Thursday, February 21, 2019. The equipment listed may be inspected at the Wastewater Plant next door to the office at 2001 Wildwood St. Muscle Shoals. 256-386-9262 This item will be SOLD AS IS.

1995 FORD 545D TRACTOR FRONT END LOADER • 1 YARD BUCKET **SERIAL # A434456** FIRE DAMAGED

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Joseph Tuminski 213 PlayStation Game, Movies, Dishes, Rug, Decorative Boxes, Twin Size Sleigh Headboard and Footboard

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 20th day of February, 2019.

HOCUS-FOCUS HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.



5. Wall outlet is missing. 6. Boy's glass is missing. Differences: 1. Baby's shirt has stripes. 2. Picture is different. 3. Curtain covers window, 4. Boy's bowl is larger.

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

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Do I Need to File a Tax Return This Year?

Dear Savvy Senior,

What are the IRS income tax filing requirements for retirees this tax season? My income dropped way down when I had to retire last year, so I'm wondering if I need to file a tax return this year.

Retired Ron

Dear Ron,

Whether or not you are required to file a federal income tax return this year actually depends on several factors: how much you earned last year (in 2018); the source of that income; your age; and your filing status.

Here's a rundown of this tax season's IRS tax filing requirement thresholds. For most people, this is pretty straightforward. If your 2018 gross income – which includes all taxable income, not counting your Social Security benefits, unless you are married and filing separately – was below the threshold for your filing status and age, you may not have to file. But if it's over, you will.

Single: \$12,000 (\$13,600 if you're 65 or older by Jan. 1, 2019).

Married filing jointly: \$24,000 (\$25,300 if you or your spouse is 65 or older; or \$26,600 if you're both over 65).

Married filing separately: \$5 at any age. Head of household: \$18,000 (\$19,600 if age 65 or older).

Qualifying widow(er) with dependent child: \$24,000 (\$25,300 if age 65 or older).

To get a detailed breakdown on federal filing requirements, along with information on taxable and nontaxable income, call the IRS at 800-829-3676 and ask them to mail you a free copy of the "Tax Guide for Seniors" (publication 554) or see *IRS.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p554.pdf*.

Check Here Too

There are, however, some other financial situations that can require you to file a tax return, even if your gross income falls below the IRS filing requirements. For example, if you earned more than \$400 from self-employment in 2018, owe any special taxes like an alternative minimum tax, or get premium tax credits because you, your spouse or a dependent is enrolled in a Health Insurance Marketplace (Obamacare) plan, you'll need to file.

You'll also need to file if you're receiving Social Security benefits, and one-half of your benefits plus your other gross income and any tax-exempt interest exceeds \$25,000, or \$32,000 if you're married and filing jointly.

To figure all this out, the IRS offers an interactive tax assistant tool on their website that asks a series of questions that will help you determine if you're required to file, or if you should file because you're due a refund. It takes less than 15 minutes to complete.

You can access this tool at *IRS.gov/filing* – click on "Do I Need to File?" Or, you can get assistance over the phone by calling the IRS helpline at 800-829-1040. You can also get face-to-face help at a Taxpayer Assistance Center. See *IRS.gov/localcontacts* or call 800-829-1040 to locate a center near you.

Check Your State

Even if you're not required to file a federal tax return this year, don't assume that you're also excused from filing state income taxes. The rules for your state might be very different. Check with your state tax agency before concluding that you're entirely in the clear. For links to state tax agencies see *Taxadmin.org/state-tax-agencies*.

Tax Preparation Help

If you find that you do need to file a tax return this year, you can get help through the Tax Counseling for the Elderly (or TCE) program. Sponsored by the IRS, TEC provides free tax preparation and counseling to middle and low-income taxpayers, age 60 and older. Call 800-906-9887 or visit *IRS.treasury.gov/freetaxprep* to locate a service near you.

Also check with AARP, a participant in the TCE program that provides free tax preparation at around 5,000 sites nationwide. To locate an AARP Tax-Aide site call 888-227-7669 or visit *AARP.org/findtaxhelp*. You don't have to be an AARP member to use this service.

Send your senior questions to: Savvy Senior, P.O. Box 5443, Norman, OK 73070, or visit *SavvySenior.org*. Jim Miller is a contributor to the NBC *Today* show and author of "*The Savvy Senior*" book.



Letters...

Saved Now and Always

Continued from Page 28

exactly who He is and what His followers should believe.

Scriptural review indicates several instances where God is noted as being unchangeable (Numbers 1Samuel 12:19; 15:29; Psalm 55:19; Malachi 3:6). If God were changeable, His promises would be unreliable. Since Jesus Christ was also God, His words also unimpeachable. Therefore, anything in Scripture appearing different from Jesus' own words either is being misrepresented or misunderstood.

There are those who teach one can lose their salvation. The very foundation of that teaching is hinged on the 6th chapter of Hebrews, teaching one can truly be saved and then lose that salvation. For those who disbelieve "Once saved, always saved," I have a few questions: How do they get their souls out of Jesus' and God's hands and their names erased from heaven? Can those individuals repent and be saved again without crucifying Jesus again as

Scripture teaches would have to happen?

In John 14:6 Jesus plainly states, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me." And in John 10:28-29, Jesus states, "I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one can snatch them out of my hand. My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all. No one is able to snatch them out of the Father's hand." Therefore, if I have truly repented of my sin, and I have, and I backslide into sin, as I and all others have, we have not lost our salvation. We have put ourselves in a position to be continually reminded by Holy Spirit of our sins, to lose much of the joy of our salvation, and to find our reward in heaven lessened, but not lost.

1 John 2:19 refers to those "who leave us were never with us" meaning they were never saved and were hypocrites all along.

Therefore, my opinion continues to be "once saved, always saved" because of Jesus' promise.

Floyd Price Florence

See LETTERS... on Page 33



The animals you see here are currently in local animal shelters or rescue facilities. Adoption fees vary and include having your new friend spayed or neutered, if necessary. Help us help these and other animals by adopting a new friend today.

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This is **JERSEY MIKE**. He is a 2 year old Lab/Hound mix. Mike is super smart and an active boy. He won't do well left alone in a kennel. He likes human contact and stimulation. Kids and a big yard would be perfect. He gets along great with other dogs and doesn't seem interested in cats. Mike is fully vetted and HW Neg.

you're interested in meeting Mike please contact Helping Hounds of the South at HelpingHoundinSouth@AOL.com.



I'm **TOMMY.** I was born October 27, 2018. I'm a very playful kitty. I love my human but can be independent as any cat can. I'm litter box trained. I'm working on my vetting and will be neutered when I'm of age. If you're interested in adopting me, please call PAWS at 256-383-0690!

Precious **LEXI** is looking for an indoor home where she will get tons of love and attention. She was left behind by her owners when they moved. She had been heartbroken and living on her own. She is now fixed and vetted and ready to live her forever life with a wonderful family. Please contact Casa Canine Pet Rescue at 256-263-0589 for more information



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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

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FLORENCE APT. FOR RENT: 421 N. Cypress St. 1 bdrm., 1 ba. NEAR UNA, recently renovated, Refrigerator, stove, laundry facility, \$400/mo., 256-412-9866.

SHEFFIELD: 1508 CRESTLINE AVE., 2 bdrm., 1 ba., \$400 month, \$200 deposit. 256-757-0369

909 KENNARD ST. 3 bedroom, 1 bath, as is, needs repairs. \$6,000. 931-242-5690.

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

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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: 1 BDRM, 1 ba, washer/dryer, garage parking. Behind Florence High School. \$375 rent/ deposit. 256-627-7551, 256-627-7552.

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TUSCUMBIA: RENT TO OWN: House, 130 Rose St., newly remodeled, central heat/air, 3 bdrm., 2 ba., \$3,000 down, \$730 month. 256-412-5448.

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

HOME FOR LEASE: 309 N. Cypress St., Near UNA, 4 bedroom, 2 bath, central heat/air, Section 8 welcome, \$695 per month, \$500 deposit, 256-764-3162 or 256-335-4554

Lake Wilson

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ETAGERE WROUGHT IRON WITH glass shelves \$75, serious buyers leave message 256-714-5879.

CHEVROLET: TRAILBLAZER, **2002 \$2,800**. Red, V6, automatic, St. Florian, 931-242-5690



The contents of the following storage units at Second Street Storage and Ridge Point Storage in Sheffield, AL will be sold at auction on Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 10am.

Debts may be settled in full by owner prior to date of sale

ue.	
NAME	<u>UNIT#</u>
Jeff Gilbert	92
Katie Orr	211
Mark Weaver	127
Crystal Lefan	23 R.P.
Brenda Butler	134
Keith Williams	29
Shelia Willis	162
Jerry Hall	85 & 90
Jazz Evans	128
Amber Montoya	189
Edward Armstead, Jr.	27
Keith Hunt	105



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BOLD THE **AND** THE BEAUTIFUL Hope confessed to her mom that Phoebe reminded her of Beth. Reese and Flo worried about Zoe's next move. Wanting to prove his loyalty to Wyatt, Bill offered him his job back at Spencer Publications. Hope shared with Brooke her vision for Kelly and Phoebe's future and that it involved Liam. Sally didn't trust Bill's offer to Wyatt and was further Wyatt stunned when suggested that his father revive Spectra Fashions. Katie told Bill that Thorne left her because he felt she wasn't over Bill. Justin and Donna spent time together playing matchmaker for Bill and Katie. Wracked with guilt, Hope attempted to convince Liam that he belonged with Kelly and Phoebe. Wait to See: Flo feels shaken after meeting Hope Logan.

DAYS OF OUR LIVES

Chad surprised Abigail with a spontaneous proposal. A manipulative Diana toyed with John and Marlena. Leo struck back at Sonny and Will. Eli and Lani exchanged belated Valentine's gifts. Abigail and Chad made a life-changing decision. JJ urged Jack not to say anything about Haley's immigration status. Eli brought Sonny and Will into the police station for questioning. Marlena blasted Leo for lying. Abigail and Chad left Salem after tying the knot in front of their loved ones. Stefan unleashed his rage as he realized he lost "Gabby" for good. Eve overheard Melinda and Haley fighting over their secret. Wait to See: The visit her. Wait to See: The person who set the cabin on Newmans plan their defense. fire is finally revealed.

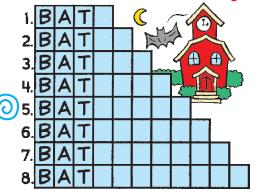
GENERAL HOSPITAL Franco felt very reluctant but later wanted to share his version of events. Charlotte confronted Spencer about the election tampering. Nina made an announcement. Willow was distracted by Brad. Alexis and Kim sat down to talk. Sam was very intrigued. Margaux overshared. Carly got the proof she needed and later butted heads with Ava. Stella ran into Marcus. Kristina invited Michael to lunch. Ryan made a move. Lulu sensed that something was off after receiving a call. Julian questioned Ava's allegiances. Nina surprised Valentin. Maxie and Peter struck out. Cameron was outraged. Ryan surprised Ava. Lulu sensed that something was off. Sonny grew suspicious of Robert. Jordan teamed up with Franco. Ryan threatened

THE YOUNG AND THE RESTLESS Furious Mia's continued efforts to interfere in her relationship with Arturo, Abby confronted her and physical ensued. Abby then used her influence to have a humiliated Mia thrown out of the club. Kyle chased after Lola after she left the cabin and had found him there alone with Summer. Arturo forced Kyle to save his apologies and leave his sister alone. Abby told Lola to fight for her man, but Lola decided instead to go for a walk to clear her head. Devon tried to convince Ana to sing again, but then came the news that Lola had been hospitalized after a fall and he wanted to go visit her. Wait to See: The

his brother. Wait to See: Carly confides in Jason.

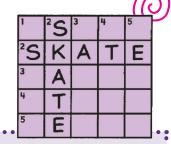
(c) 2019 King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Bats In The Belfrey



Don't go batty trying to figure out what these "bat" words are. To the left is a list of eight words, each of which starts with the word "bat." Using the following hints, see if you can hang them all up in five minutes.

- 1. A type of mat.
- 2. Needed in a relay race.
- 3. A flat-bottomed Louisiana boat.
- 4. Can be wet or dry.
- 5. A lounging garment.
- 6. A large army unit. Part of a castle's walls.
- 8 Free-diving deep-sea vessels.



by Charles Barry Townsend

DON'T SLIP UP solving this magic square puzzle. Can you find the five-letter words that match the definitions below? All words must read the same both across and

- 1. A short literary composition. 2. To glide on ice (given) 4. Very small items.
- 3. Group of Pacific islands.
- 5. Used in bread-making.



A CRUSTY PROBLEM! Hidden in the above frame is a famous proverb. You can find it by reading every other letter as you go around counter-clockwise. The trick is finding the right







Illustrated by David Coulson





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Letters...

Continued from Page 30

A Bright Future Through AOSF

Editor:

When we moved to Birmingham from Talladega County in 1993, my son attended a Birmingham public school where he was bullied. Because I could not afford to move or to send him to a private school, he had to continuously endure the bullying. As a result, he dropped out of school in

the 12th grade. Because he didn't have a high school diploma, he struggled to find a job.

A few years later I got custody of my grandson and grandaughter. My grandson also attended a Birmingham public school and he was bullied just as my son was years earlier. I decided to move from my home which I was purchasing to an apartment in Homewood so that my grandchildren could attend school in a better environment.

After becoming disabled in 2012, I had to move back to the neighborhood I left. Someone told me about the Alabama Opportunity Scholarship Fund and thank God they did. I applied and my granddaughter was accepted into the program to attend Central Park Christian School.

For the past five years, she has been thriving in a school where she is encouraged to get the best education possible. The scholarship has made it possible for my granddaughter to receive an education that will allow her to soar into the future.

My Granddaughter is only one of many students who rely on this scholarship to open doors to better educational opportunities that will lead them to a better future.

I encourage every legislator and supporter of this program to continue to support the scholarship program so that our children can get a quality education. We are educating our next governor, mayor, senator, lawyer, doctor, nurse, police officer, educator and even President. So, let's give them the best foundation we can. Their future depends on it!

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2001 FORD SPORT TRAC, 181k miles, red with gray interior, one owner, \$2,780 or best cash offer. 256-648-9737.

Notes...

Continued from page 4

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

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

Free garden supplies to qualifying in Franklin, Colbert, and Lauderdale

Sign up until March 15. Call between 1-4pm, Monday-Friday only. 256-248-

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

Programs for February 2019 February 22 – Rick Smith, Senior VP of Distribution at Books-a-Million - will discuss the economic strength and development of Books-a-Million

Florence Parks and Recreation/ The Club (Senior Center) presents 2019 travels to Niagara Falls/Toronto -Passport required. Saturday, June 23-29, 7 days 6 nights. \$689 double occupancy. Deposit due now \$75. Final payment April 16. This trip is open to the general

Call The Club 256-760-6642 or email fdavis@florenceal.org

The Florence Tree Commission invites the public to our annual Arbor Day celebration beginning at 10:30am on Thursday, February 21 in the Colonnade of the Florence/Lauderdale Public Library, 350 N. Wood Ave,

After the Arbor Day celebration, a commemorative tree will be planted nearby. After the tree planting, the Commission will offer some Dogwood seedlings for free to interested Florence

Fourth Saturday Breakfast at the Zip City Community Center, 10511 Hwy 17, Florence, February 23 from 6-9am.

Menu includes eggs, sausage, bacon, biscuits, gravies, grits, juice and coffee. Adults \$6, children 10 and under \$3. Proceeds used for Center expenses.

Bartholomew's Episcopal Church is having its annual soup/bake sale at 1900 Darby Drive in Florence on Saturday, February 23 from 9am-1pm.

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-

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Who's #1 In Your Life?

Suppose you are in a room filled with five hundred people. A photographer walks in and says, "Everybody move in close together. I am going to take your picture." So everyone bunches together and the picture is taken. He then pulls up the captured image on his camera and passes it around to anyone that wants to see it. When it gets to you, who is the first person you are going to look for in that crowd of 500 people? That's right- - you are

STAN DEAN going to look at yourself! You want to know if you look good. You want to know if you were smiling or if your eyes were closed and the like.

Whether we like to admit it or not, we are pretty good at looking out for ourselves. Apparently it in our nature, because the Bible says, "No one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it..." (Ephesians 5:29). And yes, some folks even like to talk about themselves. Toby Keith had a big hit song that contained the lyrics, "I wanna talk about me, wanna talk about I, wanna talk about number one, oh my me my, what I think, what I like, what I know, what I want, what I see...."

Loving ourselves is not a bad thing. In fact, Jesus taught us to "Love our neighbor as we love ourselves" (Matthew 22:39). However, it can become a bad thing if we become self-centered and start thinking more highly of ourselves than we ought to think (cf. Romans 12:3). An inflated ego spells trouble for anyone (Proverbs 16:18).

In the earthly ministry of Jesus He often had to deal with individuals that felt the plans they had made for their lives were more important than the plans God had for them. Although Jesus made it clear that everyone should develop a "God first" mentality (Matthew 6:33), there were those who continued to hold on to a "Me first" mentality. For example, Luke records that Jesus once made a direct plea to a man to follow Him. His answer was, "Let me first go...." He then made an appeal to another to follow Him who also replied, "Let me first go..." (Luke 9:59-61).

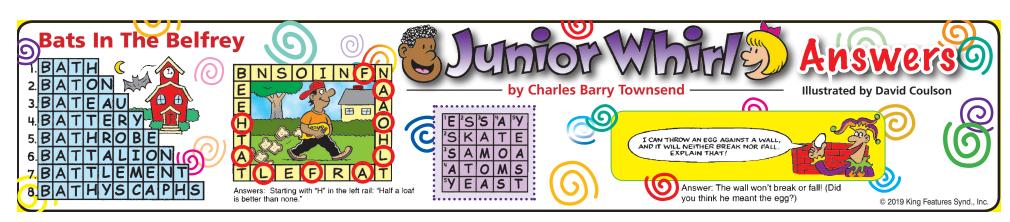
It is important for you and me to raise and honestly answer the question of "Who is #1 in my life?" We should keep in mind too that this is not a "Sunday" question. It is just as relevant Monday through Saturday. Equally important to God being #1 during worship time is Him being #1 in family, work, school, play, entertainment and every other facet of our lives.

So, who is #1 in your life?

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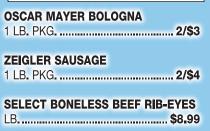
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