

Renovations At Shoals

MUSCLE SHOALS – Renovations to the façade of Shoals Hospital began last week according to hospital officials.

“The front of the hospital, which includes the main entrance, has experienced ongoing deterioration in recent years, and this had led to problems in various locations of the south entrance of the property,” said Robert Pettus, Director of Facilities Management for Shoals Hospital.

He said the project would begin with the removal of bricks from the front façade, beginning at the top of the facility and working its way down. The project would also include replacing the flashing as well as restoring and replacing the windows.

“We anticipate the work to last through 2015 and continue into the first quarter of 2016,” he said. “But so much of the timeline depends on the weather and our patient census.”

“Our goal is to ensure that patient care goes uninterrupted and that safety remains our goal,” said Chief Quality Officer Beth Loften. A temporary corridor is being constructed along the front sidewalk entrance to ensure safe passage for entrance and egress from the facility, Loften said.

Batten and Shaw Construction Management based in Nashville has been contracted to complete the work. The company specialized in renovations at healthcare facilities like this one.

Nominations Open Now

SHOALS - Each year one outstanding individual is selected as Shoals Citizen of the Year and is honored at the Shoals Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting. The Shoals Chamber is now accepting recommendations for this award.

Guidelines for Shoals Citizen of the Year:

1. The recipient must have made outstanding contributions to the Shoals area by either time or resources in promoting the best interests of the community as a whole.

2. The recipient may be chosen based on contributions for a lifetime of service, several years of service, or one preceding year of service.

3. The recipient may not

See SHORTS... on Page 3



Volume 131 Number 13

January 14, 2015

POSTAL PATRON

Courier Journal

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Wishing it Forward

Local Recipient Touts Benefits of Make-A-Wish Program

FLORENCE – In two years Rebecca Bush's life has changed dramatically. However, the 17-year-old will tell you, “Everything has happened for a reason.”

A brain tumor halted the things she loves most: high school, cheerleading, weekend hangouts with friends... everything a teenage girl would consider normal. Instead, Rebecca's normal became brutal chemotherapy, a handful of life-saving procedures on an operating table and 18 months of treatments. An seemingly endless routine. Good days turned bad. Bad days turned worse. Eventually, good days would return. In 2014 Rebecca got the chance for a temporary escape. Make-A-Wish® Alabama granted her wish of traveling to



Rebecca Bush, right, and her sister Christy, enjoying time in Hawaii through Make-A-Wish. Courtesy Photo

Hawaii and visiting Pearl Harbor. “The idea of warm beaches, travel and new adventures were enough to pick up her spirits at times when she was hooked up to IV drips of chemo and a room full of young, bald, ill

See WISH... Page 6

Your Help Needed to Count the Homeless



SHOALS - The HCCNWA will conduct an annual homeless survey during a three day period from Thursday, January 29 - Saturday, January 31. This survey is to count all persons experiencing homelessness in Lauderdale, Colbert, Franklin, Winston, Marion and Lawrence Counties. The survey asks where these citizens spent the night during the 24-hour period between Thursday, January 29 -

Friday, January 30. For this effort, we anticipate needing as many as 100 volunteers. Most volunteers will participate on a team to

See HOMELESS... on Page 13

Rain Can't Stop These Winter Blues

by Tyler Moses and Katherine Sweet

ROGERSVILLE-The Alabama Catfish Trail had its first annual “Winter Blues” catfish tournament Saturday, January 3 on Wheeler Lake near Rogersville. Despite the rain and wind, thirty-two boats representing eleven states hit the water early that morning.

After a full day of very wintery weather, the winners were Bink and Janet Fox of Ohio. They brought in an impressive 151.9 pounds of

See BLUES... on Page 6



Third Place Winners from Missouri Courtesy Photo

Inside this Issue

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- Soap Preview
- Knight's Korner
- Ask Dr. Webb



- Computer Skeptic
- Pet Connection
- Dave Ramsey



- Adopt-A-Friend

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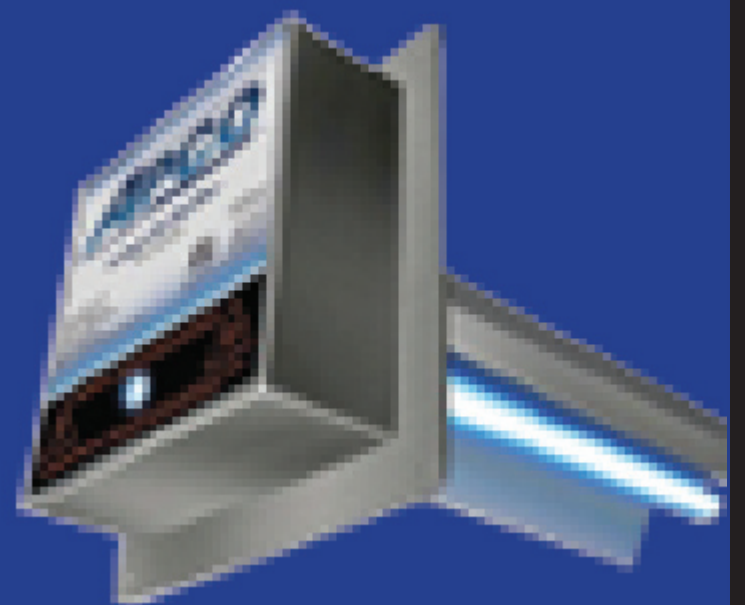
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FLORENCE HOUSING AUTHORITY
INVITATION FOR BIDS
VACANCY PREPARATION

Florence Housing Authority is hereby soliciting bids for the preparation of the interior of vacant dwelling units for occupancy at Cherry Hill Homes.

The Authority will receive sealed bids at the Central Office of Florence Housing Authority, 110 South Cypress Street, Suite 1, Florence, Alabama, 35630-5551, until 10:00 AM local standard time on Tuesday, January 27, 2015. "Faxed" bids and bids received after this date and time will not be considered and will be returned unopened.

A pre-bid conference and on-site inspection tour will be held at 10:00AM local standard time on Wednesday, January 20, 2015 at:

Cherry Hill Homes, Management Office
 452 Cherry Hill Homes
 Florence, AL 35630

Following the pre-bid conference, bidders will be extended the opportunity to inspect typical units of each development. Conference attendance is not a mandatory prerequisite for bidders.

Copies of the Bid Specifications may be obtained from and completed bids may be mailed to:

Florence Housing Authority
 Attn - Erika Gautney, Procurement
 110 S. Cypress Street, Suite 1, Florence, Alabama 35630
 (256) 740-5205

Florence Housing Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any informalities in the bids. All material submitted becomes the sole property of Florence Housing Authority and will not be returned.

FLORENCE HOUSING AUTHORITY
 Shaler S. Roberts, III - Executive Director
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Shorts...

Nominations Open Now

Continued from Page 1

currently hold a political office.

4. The recipient will be chosen based on quality of service rather than quantity of recommendations made on his or her behalf.

5. The recipient must be a member of the Shoals Chamber of Commerce.

A recommendation form may be picked up at the Chamber office at 20 Hightower Place in Florence or is available online at www.shoalschamber.com. Recommendations must be received at the Shoals Chamber office by March 5, 2015. The recipient will be honored at the Shoals Chamber's Annual Meeting on Thursday, March 19 at the Marriott Shoals Conference Center.

leader. Dale did an outstanding job as acting superintendent of Natchez Trace Parkway and has shown a great ability to work with park partners and community leaders. We know he will be a great leader for one of our most significant and iconic Civil War parks."

"Although the Revolutionary War established the nation, we are defined as a people mostly by the struggles endured during the Civil War," Wilkerson said. "There were almost 24,000 casualties at the Battle of Shiloh, more than all the



Wilkerson

previous U.S. wars combined to that date. This is truly a place of honor, one of the hallowed grounds in the United

States."

In his current position, Wilkerson is responsible for management of the parkway's business operations across Mississippi, Alabama, and Tennessee. He retired from the United States Air Force in 1994. His military decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal (with oak leaf cluster), Air Force Achievement Medal (with oak leaf cluster), the National Defense Service Medal (with bronze service star), and the Humanitarian Service Medal.

Wilkerson received a Bachelor of Science degree from Mount Olive College in Mount Olive, N.C., and a Master of Business Administration degree from Campbell University in Buies Creek, N.C.

New Shiloh Superintendent

ATLANTA - The National Park service last week announced that Dale Wilkerson has been selected as the next superintendent of Shiloh National Military Park headquartered in Shiloh, Tennessee. Wilkerson has served since 2007 as the administrative officer at the Natchez Trace Parkway in Tupelo. He will begin his new assignment in early February.

"We are very fortunate to have Dale coming on board as the superintendent at Shiloh," said Southeast Regional Director Stan Austin. "In his 20-year Park Service career he has proven himself to be a dedicated and effective

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How to Ruin a Nation

First read the following passages: **Jeremiah 18:8 & verse 17, Jeremiah 32:33, 2Chronicles 7:14, 2Timothy 3-1-7, & John 17:17** for starters. Did you read them? 1. Abandon and or question truth. Pontius Pilate did in John 18:38 (The word **truth** is in the bible over 230 times). Rome fell in case you forgot. 2. Ridicule absolutes as old-fashioned. 3. Attack the home and families and traditional marriages. 4. Never spank or say no to children for fear of warping their values. 5. Fill the schools with these undisciplined, unrestrained folks and let the teachers handle the problem we refused to address. 6. Send them on to colleges and blame all the failures they have on bad teachers or the system has failed them. 7. Ignore churches and preachers and other Christians and accuse them of judging and being hypocrites. 8. Blame all of your heartaches and problems on everyone else. 9. Refusing to call sin, sin and owning up to your own sin. 10. Promoting any style of living as freedom of choice, no matter of how perverted or corrupt it may be. 11. Make gods of our choice and set our own standards and absolutes. 12. Only pray and call upon God when all else fails. 13. Refuse to let anyone try to put their Christian or Bible (trash) on you.

Now you know why the discussions, committees, programs, self-helps, verbal rhetoric, education, religions, cults, and other attempts by man to cure the sin problem have failed. God has warned us in: **Jeremiah 3:13 "Only acknowledge thine iniquity,** that thou hast transgressed against the LORD thy God, and hast scattered thy ways to the strangers under every green tree, and ye have not obeyed my voice, saith the LORD." Sin is a taboo word in secular systems today. Is that word (sin) too hard for you? How can God Almighty bless a nation and turn us around when we refuse to acknowledge our sin and Him? Sin has killed this country and destroyed our families, churches, schools and our futures. Washington can't fix anything. We have a sin and a character problem. The answer is available. God can fix it. Man up, deal with your sin, confess your sin to God, tell Him you need help and ask the One who shed his blood for you, Jesus Christ, to forgive you and save your soul.

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Community Notes

COMMUNITY NOTES may be submitted for non-profit, civic or church-related events and published free of charge as space is available in the Courier Journal. All properly submitted Community Notes which are dated will be posted weekly at www.courierjournal.net. Visit our website for a complete list. Community Notes must be submitted in writing by noon Friday for consideration in the following week's issue. Fax to 256-760-9618; mail to 1828 Darby Drive, Florence, AL 35630; bring in person; email to editor@courierjournal.net; or "Submit News" on our website at www.courierjournal.net.

Connection Ministries presents Barbara Fairchild and Roy with Branson at On the Mountain Theater January 17th at 7pm. Our first bus trip Grand Ole Opry at the Ryman, January 30th/31st, for info phone 256-383-3594.

Food for Christ - Rhodesville Methodist Church. More info call 256-810-8694.

Florence Parks & Recreation/The Club (where boomers and seniors come together as one), offering an activity that will not only challenge you but get you stepping in time. Square Dance Classes are sponsored by the Singing River Squares on Friday nights, 7-8:30pm, at The Club, 450 Country Club Drive, Florence, AL 35630, for more information please call the Club M-F 8am-5pm. 256.760.6420.

Florence Parks & Recreation/The Club (where boomers and seniors come together as one), offering chair exercise classes Joints In Motion! There is no charge for these classes. M/W/F 8:45-9:30am, at The Club, 450 Country Club Drive, Florence, AL 35630, for more information please call the Club M-F 8am-5pm. 256.760.6420.

Florence Parks & Recreation/The Club (where boomers and seniors come together as one), offering nutritional lunches Monday-Friday for those over 60 years. Lunches are based on age and not need. Suggested donation \$1 for lunch. For those that no longer drive we also provide transportation for those wanting to partake of our activities during the morning hours through lunchtime. Suggested donation \$1. For more information please call the Club M-F 8am-5pm. 256.760.6420.

Petco is partnering with PAWS to help save animals by the sale of their PETCO calendar. It's a great calendar with lots of coupons and the proceeds go to help PAWS save more animals! Stop by PETCO today!

Get Out of Town Series at the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library. Our annual travel series returns for 2015! Each week, a local traveler will present on a country or region outside of your usual vacation spots. Haiti: Sunday, January 18, 2pm

Florence-Lauderdale Public Library Computer Classes for January and February. Class registration is done on a first-come, first-serve basis with limited seating. Beginners may sign up for a 4-week series, while intermediate and advanced level classes are offered as one-time topics depending on your interests. We'll also help you with your new tablet with our Tablet Series in February. Register by calling 256-764-6564 ext. 27 or emailing classes@fpl.org.

Internet Searching Wednesday, January 14, 10-11:30am Various websites will be viewed and explained, including information regarding weather, maps, health, and news, so that users become familiar with navigating from one website to another and searching for basic information. A variety of search engines will be explored as well.

Skill Prerequisites: Mouse, Keyboard Intermediate Series eBooks and eReaders

Thursday, January 15, 1:00-2:30pm Bring your eReader device with you to learn how to check out eBooks from our library's collection; become familiar with the basic ins-and-outs of your device.

Skill Prerequisites: Active Email Account, Mouse, Keyboard, Basic Internet

*Participants must bring their eReader, library card, and be able to log in to their Amazon or iCloud account.

Microsoft Windows 7 versus 8 Friday, January 16, 10-11:30am

Have you upgraded your computer operating system lately? Are you overwhelmed by the changes that have been made? Learn the differences between Windows 7 and 8 and how you can complete your daily tasks in the new system. Skill Prerequisites: Windows,



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PIGGLY WIGGLY FROZEN Crinkle Cut French Fries
5 LB. BAG
3.99

PIGGLY WIGGLY ALL VARIETIES Shredded Cheese
8 OZ. BA.
2/\$4

PIGGLY WIGGLY Sweetmilk or Buttermilk Biscuits
4 PK, 10 CT. CANS
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Why did the walls of Jericho fall down flat? "By faith the walls of Jericho fell down **after** they had been compassed about for seven days" (Hebrews 11:30) It was only **after** the Israelites had circled the city as God commanded them that the walls fell down flat. God commanded them to circle the city and by faith they obeyed.

Let's apply the same thought to our own salvation. By faith I obey the commandments of God to be saved.

I am saved **after** I repent. "God commands all men everywhere to repent?" (Acts 17:30) Salvation comes **after** I obey God and repent.

I am saved **after** I confess. "...if thou shalt confess with my mouth Jesus as Lord, and shalt believe in thy heart that God raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved: for with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation." (Romans 10:9-10) Salvation comes **after** I obey God by confessing His Son.

I am saved **after** I am baptized. "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that disbelieveth shall be condemned." (Mark 16:16) Jesus plainly teaches that salvation comes **after** belief and baptism. Acts 2:38 teaches that one's remission of sins comes **after** one repents and is baptized. "And Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins;..." Salvation from my sins comes **after** I obey God and wash my sins away in baptism. (See Acts 22:16) This command is not given only to the Jews, but also the Gentiles. "For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ." (Galatians 3:27) I am in Christ **after** I am baptized and not before. I put on Christ **after** I am baptized and not before. This is what the passage clearly teaches.

Salvation comes **after** we obey God's commands, not before we obey them.

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|------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
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| 99 Chevy Tracker | 2CNBJ13C3X6914340 | Hwy. 72 / Denton Rd. |
| 02 Ford Taurus | 1FALP52U0VA273405 | 4048 Co. Rd. 41 / Hawk Pride Mtn. |
| 79 Chevy Caprice | 1N69G9S130154 | Sterling Blvd. / Avalon Ave. |
| 95 Oldsmobile Cutlass | 1G3WH12M4SD346699 | Ridge Dr. / Broad |
| 04 Ford Ranger | 1FTYR14U94PB14703 | Sheffield, AL |
| 99 Dodge Durango | 1B4HS28Y6XF542632 | Sheffield, AL |
| Honda Elite Moped | | Hatch / 30th St. |
| 94 Pontiac Grand Am | 1G2NE1539RM561128 | Sheffield, AL |
| 03 Toyota Echo | JTDBT123235034526 | Mitchell Hollingsworth |
| 01 Audi A4 | WAUDC68DX1A146997 | Co. Rd. 200 / Co. Rd. 81 |
| 99 Ford Explorer | 1FMYU22E2XUB01180 | Veterans Dr. / Seminary St. |
| 02 Honda Accord | 1HGCG668X2A057376 | Hwy. 17 / Co. Rd. 224 |
| 98 Cadillac Deville | 1G6KD54Y6WU747472 | Simpson St. / Bellmeade |
| 75 Ford F350 | F37YUX03972 | 1051 Co. Rd. 61 |
| 93 Jeep Grand Cherokee | 1J4FT68S4PL519811 | Veterans Dr. / Walnut St. |
| 99 Ford Explorer | 1FMYU22X0XUA54362 | Mitchell / Bluff |
| 04 Ford Taurus | 1FAPP53U34A130930 | Helton Dr. / Bradshaw Dr. |
| 99 Saturn SL2 | 1G8ZK5274XZ190619 | Cox Creek |
| 96 Chevy GMT-400 | 1GCEC19M9TE118967 | Kolby Lane |
| 94 Nissan Pathfinder | JN8HD17S7RW215765 | Cloverdale Rd. / Cox Creek |
| 99 Chevy Silverado | 1GCEC14V1XZ159060 | Broadway / Office Depot |
| 95 Nissan Maxima | JN1CA21D8ST628979 | Hines Tire, Florence |
| 95 Chevy Corsica | 1G1LD55M8SY290186 | Florence Library |
| 07 Hyundai Elantra | KMHDU46D07U156934 | Jackson Hwy. / McGee St. |
| 98 Oldsmobile Bravada | 1GHD113W4W2724781 | Co. Rd. 15 / Co. Rd. 137 |
| 90 Ford Escort | 1FAPP919XLW136848 | St. Florian Gas |
| 89 Toyota Supra | JT2MA70J2K0126419 | Florence, AL |
| 99 Ford Crown Vic | 2FAFP74W3XX178080 | Royal Ave. / Huntsville Rd. |
| 91 Volvo 740 | YV1FA884XM2505495 | Chisholm Rd. / Gresham Rd. |
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Wish...

Continued from Page 1

patients all around her," Rebecca's mother, Wendy, said. Rebecca's Hawaii trip in March 2014 was all she had hoped for and more. The family of four took in all the sights and sounds that they could. "What an awesome job you all do in making a sick young girl's dream vacation come true," Wendy said.

Now back home in Florence, Rebecca's treatments appear to have been successful and her tumor has stabilized and has even shrunk. Now during her check-ups at the local hospital, Rebecca is spreading the word about Make-A-Wish Alabama and the power of a wish.

"Becca is now able to promote your wishes to other sick children at the hospital and use that as encouragement in their treatments," Wendy said.

"Wish children and wish families tell our story better than anyone and this is a

true testament of that," said Bryant Somerville, Make-A-Wish Alabama Director of Communications and Marketing. "To be able to grant Rebecca a moment in time that she and her family will never forget is one thing. But to have her pick up the torch and let it shine on, and to be a voice for our organization...that means more to us than anyone will ever know."

Rebecca is continuing her treatment while doctors keep an eye on her tumor with the hopes that it will remain stabilized. In the meantime, the high school senior is looking forward to her normal life with college planning, getting back on her cheerleading team at school, and, of course, spreading the Make-A-Wish message wherever and whenever she can.

"The Make-A-Wish mission is one that is of immense importance. State of mind and the ability for these children to have something to look forward to doing gives them a chance to forget about some of their problems," Wendy said.

Blues...

Continued from Page 1

fish anchored by the big fish of the tournament which weighed 76.2 pounds.

Second place went to Bruce Paulk and Gary Bishop of Tennessee who brought back a total of 135.6 pounds. Third place went to John Nordyke, Russel Stamps, and Aaron Herring of Missouri, who caught 127.9 pounds worth of catfish. David Shipman, Brooke Wilkins, and Keith Wilkins of Mississippi took fourth place with 112.0 pounds.

States represented in the tournament included Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi, Georgia, Missouri, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, and West Virginia. The majority of participants came from outside Alabama.

Daniel Parsons, the

director of the tournament, considered the event a huge success.

"We want to thank every person who participated. Alabama Catfish Trail is dedicated to the growth of catfish competition in Alabama."

The Alabama Catfish Trail started its second year on a great note with this tournament. Anyone interested in fishing any of the six tournaments remaining in this year's schedule should contact Parsons, at AlabamaCatfishTrail@gmail.com for more information.

REMAINING 2015 CATFISH TRAIL SCHEDULE

| DATE | LAKE |
|------------|---------------|
| March 14 | Wilson |
| April 11 | Jordan |
| May 2 | Bankhead |
| July 25 | Logan Martin |
| August 15 | Wheeler |
| October 24 | Alabama River |

For rules and to register visit www.AlabamaCatfishTrail.com

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Cat & Kids

by Cathy Turner

The Birthright

We are making preparations for the baby girl who is coming!

Christmas was great fun. My sisters, their husbands, our children, my husband and I were together for the first time in a while. We gathered up and broke in our daughter's and son's-in-law new house with windows. They had been living in the bunker - a makeshift apartment which actually was a storefront beside our daughter's business. They lived there to save money. A year ago, they could not imagine being in such a sweet house for Christmas with a baby on the way, but blessings come!

And so Christmas was warm and glowing (could have been the fire pit we gave them over which we made s'mores), and it was sweet and filling. But the day after Christmas was even better. My sisters and I (basically the three grandmothers) had a baby shower that consisted of taking our daughter to Target and buying all the big need things off her registry - and we got some little things too, like a little red dress. Then we went home and made a circle of chairs in the baby's room and let the daddy-to-be open all that we had gotten. Afterward, he put together the crib. I put together the play yard. Everyone cleared the room of the move-in boxes and clutter. We hung red curtains and we decided where to hang the

red clock, the red-framed Snoopy I cross-stitched for our daughter's nursery in 1987 and the Stevie Wonder with red etchings that our son-in-law painted years ago. We decided where everything would go. We made preparations and it was joyous.

Physical preparations are easy to make to prepare for a baby, but spiritual preparation has to take place long before the baby comes. Generations. Parents grounded. Spiritual. This notion came ringing through in a recent blog post written by our expecting daughter:

"Sweet unborn baby, you are steppin' into some kinda story. So epic and yet so personal. Jesus loves every stitch of your tiny being. And He also wants to use you as a critical piece of His redemption plan for the nations. You've got access to power, kid! Power that the evil one will try to steal from you as soon as you step out. But don't worry, literally hundreds of people are praying for you, "that your faith may not fail", including Jesus Himself (Luke 22:32)! Crazy, huh? You are an object of love, Precious One. Plain and simple. Your job is simply to accept it and give it away. You see, there's no need to be stingy

See CAT... page 9

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Ask Dr. Webb



My grandmother said her parents died from the "old person's friend" and she hopes she will also. What is it and why is it their 'friend'?

A hundred years ago, in the days before antibiotics, the most common cause of death was pneumonia. The doctor, on a house-call, made the diagnosis, prescribed *tincture of laudanum* [opium], and the patient would die peacefully in a few days or a week.

It was called the "old person's friend" because: grandpa or grandma was becoming increasingly frail, tired, hurting most of the time, had to have help for some personal care, couldn't help the family on the farm any more, thought they were a burden to the family, and just generally were no longer enjoying life. They were truly suffering – and ready to go!


So pneumonia would take them out of their misery.

But, today, what do we do? We prescribe an antibiotic, which may stop the pneumonia, but doesn't really do much for their comfort. We interfere in a natural process, which only serves to prolong their suffering.

Why do some families insist that their elderly parents take antibiotics? There are many reasons, all well documented in studies and books, but it often comes down to "guilt" – the adult children feel they haven't been there for mom/dad, haven't done enough for them, and let what others say—"you can't let your mom die yet"—get to them! They can't let go of the memory of that functioning and available parent, a memory which they should hold onto but not let it mask the reality of a suffering elder.

In general, the more we interfere in a natural process, the more pain and suffering we cause. Thus, your grandmother has likely lived a good life and is tired and looking forward to the next life, with no more pain and misery – so, if you love her, when her time comes don't get in her way, let her go!

Two good books which discuss this issue are: Dr. Monica Murphy-Jones' *"It's OK to Die"*, and Chaplain Hank Dunn's *"Hard Choices for Loving People"* [you can buy it at Hospice of the Shoals for their cost, \$1.].



256-767-6699

Ask Dr. Webb is a bi-weekly article sponsored by Hospice of the Shoals as a community service to answer questions about hospice care and end of life issues. Please submit questions to ssimpson@hofs.org or call 256-767-6699.

Dr. Robert Webb has focused his practice on geriatrics and palliative care since 2003. He is the Medical Director at Glenwood Healthcare as well as the Medical Director at Hospice of the Shoals.

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Continued from page 7

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The West Lauderdale Water Authority routinely monitors your drinking water for Total Coliform bacteria. We collect 15 routine samples monthly. We had (2) two samples returned positive with coliform bacteria in the month of October, 2014.

Coliform bacteria are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more than the allowed number of samples and this was a warning of potential problems.

Upon further investigation and testing West Lauderdale Water Authority determined that both positive results were localized to only one residence.

West Lauderdale Water Authority pulled a total of (8) eight additional samples over the next two week period with all additional samples both upstream and downstream testing negative for any contaminants. All samples pulled during the months of November and December also were negative for any contamination.

With this determination the West Lauderdale Water Authority feels that the source of the contamination has been identified and all measures are being taken to insure the source of the contamination has been corrected.

Please contact Linda Lack at the office of West Lauderdale Water Authority with any questions or concerns you may have.

The office is located at 3353 County Road 200, Florence. The phone number is 256-766-8787.

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| 1994 CHEVY CORSICA | BLUE/GREEN | 1G1LD55M7RY292862 | 2001 HONDA CIVIC | BLACK | 1HGEM22251L118325 |
| 2002 CHEVY VENTURE | MAROON | 1GNDX03E22D104805 | 2004 KIA OPTIMA | BLACK | KNAGD126045363401 |
| 1997 DODGE CARAVAN | BLUE/GREEN | 2B4GP4433VR280464 | 1995 MERCURY COUGAR | BLUE | 1MELM62W9SH637915 |
| 1995 FORD CONTOUR | MAROON | 1FALP67L5SK223157 | 1994 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS | WHITE | 2MELM75W6RX665649 |
| 1998 FORD EXPEDITION | WHITE | 1FMFU18L0WLB58459 | 1994 MITSUBISHI MIGHTY MAX | GREEN | JA7LS21G3RP011316 |
| 1994 FORD RANGER | WHITE | 1FTCR14X8RPB03140 | 1999 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX | SILVER | 1G2WP12K6XF346558 |
| 2004 FORD RANGER | WHITE | 1FTYR14U34PB64240 | 2001 SATURN | BLACK | 1GBJU54F52Y504319 |
| 2005 FORD RANGER | WHITE | 1FTYR10U35PA80281 | 2012 VOLKSWAGON JETTA | SILVER | 3VWDX7AJ2CM077321 |
| 2005 FORD TAURUS | SILVER | 1FAPP53U15A259945 | 2001 VOLVO S60 | RED | YV1RS58D112064991 |

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Commentary

Scott More Than a Hip-Hop Legend

Sports fans are aware of the recent passing of ESPN SportsCenter anchor, Stuart Scott.

Scott passed away January 4 of cancer-related complications. He was only 49 years old.

Scott joined ESPN in 1993 as the host of *SportsNight* being launched on the new ESPN2 network. He eventually transitioned to *SportsCenter* and became very popular for several personal catch phrases and what many describe as his ability to reach young people in the black hip-hop culture. The narrative seems to be all about how his edginess and risk-taking with terms that engaged the young black community.

That may be the case for the current generation. I do agree that Stuart stands tall among his generation of sports anchors, but not because he is black or he is the man who first helped young blacks connect with sports reporting. I would contend that the person of color who made the biggest initial impact in reaching minorities with sports reporting came along about twelve years earlier.

Fred Hickman was actually the pacesetter in the area of black sportscasters. He and the late Nick Charles owned the evening sports news ratings head-to-head in the early 80's. Those two paired on CNN would cause many otherwise faithful ESPN watchers to physically get up and go change the channel to

See SCOTT... on Page 14

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

In A Few Words



TOM MAGAZZU
Editor

Courier Journal

THIS WEEK

in the

Shoals

January 14, 2015

Happening THIS WEEK

AND NOW THEY HAVE BEEN

Unearthed

LORETTO - Thousands of years ago ancient man came to North America in search of food and shelter. Some believe he came from Asia while others think he may have come from Europe. One thing is for sure - some settled in the Tennessee Valley.

He liked what he found: Limestone bluffs and caves for shelter, virgin forest which provided wood for fire, shelter, and boats. He also found abundant game for food and clothing, fish, fresh water, and eatable plants, nuts, and fruits, and good knappable flint from which

to make weapons and tools.

Today we don't have much evidence of that habitation except the earthen mounds, obscure villages, and camp sites. From these sites occasionally will be found an arrowhead or stone, flint, or bone tool. These artifacts left behind

See ARTIFACTS.. on Page 24



Loretto Tennessee
Artifact Show
Burke Civic
Center
January 17
8am-3pm

THE DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. 8TH ANNUAL BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT "Keeping the Dream Alive" takes place Friday, January 16 from 4-8pm and Saturday, January 17 from 10am-8pm at Mt. Moriah Primitive Baptist Church, located at 818 West Irvine Ave. in Florence. The event is sponsored by New Rock Church of God in Christ Youth Department, County Road 6, Florence. Everyone is invited to participate. fraternities, sororities, bands, local choirs, cheerleaders, and twirlers are encouraged to be a part of this year's halftime show. For additional information, please call Yolanda Johnson at 256-263-8070, Keachia Nwosu at 256-348-5384 or Tweet Watson at 256-394-4600.

Youth Artistic Renderings Accepted

FLORENCE - Entries for Artistic Renderings of Youth at the Kennedy Douglass Center for the Arts are currently being accepted. The deadline for entry is February 20. This is a juried exhibit of art work open to 7th-12th grade students from Colbert, Franklin, and Lauderdale counties. The exhibit opens March 3 and runs through

April 10 at Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts in Florence.

The exhibit and competition is coordinated by area art teachers. Schools may participate or students can enter on their own. Each student can enter up to three works. Entries are juried and, if accepted, are eligible for ribbons awarded in different

grade level groupings. Works must be original and can be in any medium.

All 2-dimensional entries must be matted or framed.

For more details on entry rules call Mary Nicely at 256-760-6379. Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts is located at 217 East Tuscaloosa Street and is open from 9am-4pm Monday-Friday at no charge.

AUTHOR CHRISTINE BROADUS will be speaking at First Assembly of God in Muscle Shoals at 10:30am Sunday, January 18. She will discuss her autobiography, "Wading Through Deep Waters," which spans more than a hundred years. The writer shares the impact that her grandparents had on her life from the time they became believers and through her church work. Christine's husband, Reverend Stan Broadus will be speaking in the 6pm service. His has experience in church planting, missions. He is the founder of the WJIA FM radio station in Guntersville. The church is located at 1800 Gusmus Avenue. For more information, please call 256-383-6540.

MARCH ON FLORENCE is Monday, January 19 in Wilson Park at 11am. The rally is to reclaim the dream of Martin Luther King, raising awareness of police brutality nationwide, and protest the lack of indictments in the killings of unarmed black people.



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Huntsville, AL



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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

by Mail or in Person
219 W. Tennessee St., Florence, AL 35630
• e-mail: editor@courierjournal.net
• FAX- 256-760-9618

How's That Working?

To the Editor:

In response to "Word Rightfully Divided," in the *Courier Journal*, January 7, 2015: Mr Bishop in his letter seems to have built a religion that God didn't. He uses only Paul and his call to the Gentiles. This is built on one word, grace, and if that be the case, a lot of us mixed-race Samaritans would be left out in the cold. Thank God that's not the case. Ephesians 3:6 in part, "that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body." Now grace and faith only came about in the 1500's - long after the day of Pentecost. Back then they baptized for the remission of sins. Then they split into more than twenty major branches. My communion, my baptism, is not fleshly works. It is being obedient to what was ordered. John 3:5 "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God." Study that grand old book of James,

the Amos of the New Testament, the Proverbs of the New Testament, a letter of Christian principles. James 2:24 - "You see then that a man is justified by works, and not by faith only."

A closing note on once saved. On the day of judgement, should it be God's will, someone as unworthy as me is welcome to the kingdom of God, I will thank my Heavenly Father for the privilege of being part of His blood-purchased church, at that time Jesus will give it back to the Father. And some can ask Judas Iscariot, "How that once saved, always saved is working out for him?"

Gene Neese
Killen

Telling What Happened

Dear Editor:

I will NEVER understand why girls or boys do not report being sexually molested or raped until months pass or

“

The rules on who should be allowed to donate blood should focus on the welfare of patients rather than the feelings of potential donors.

years or even 30 years later.

Have their parents not told them that if anyone other than mom, dad or a doctor touches their private parts, they are to tell what happened to them and by whom?

Perverts don't know the difference between right and wrong and they don't care or want to know the difference.

Irene Billingham
Florence

See LETTERS... on Page 14

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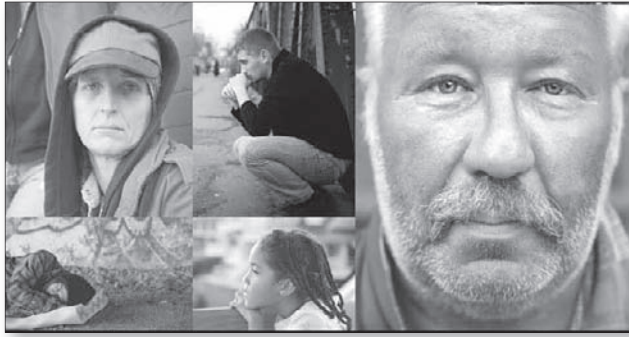
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2-1/2 YEAR OLD MALE ENGLISH Setter, FDSB certified, dew claws removed, \$50. 256-366-3986. 01-21



Homeless...

Continued from Page 1

conduct the street surveys with persons experiencing homelessness (living on the streets, in shelters, or precariously housed). Other volunteers can help with registration of teams, help with survey events put on by different organizations,

or help collect warming items to be given out during the survey.

Prior to the event, all volunteers will be trained with a team captain chosen for each county. Every effort will be made to make sure that each volunteer can work in the county in which he or she resides. If you are a concerned citizen with time to volunteer, your help will be cheerfully accepted. You will not be asked to donate anything other than your time and will be adequately prepared to conduct the survey properly. This is a wonderful chance to help your community.

The HCCNWA has coordinated the Point-in-Time Survey here in northwest Alabama for the last five years. This Point-in-Time count takes place all over the country on the same night in January. The Council is made up of local governments, non-profit agencies, community organizations, and faith-based programs that take part in the nation's Housing and Urban Development Continuum of Care Program for ending homelessness.

You can sign up to volunteer or contact us for more information at <http://homelesscarecouncil.com/hccnwa>. Or you may call the Homeless Care Council at 256-764-5892.

Additional information can be found on our Facebook Page at [facebook.com/HCCNWA](https://www.facebook.com/HCCNWA)

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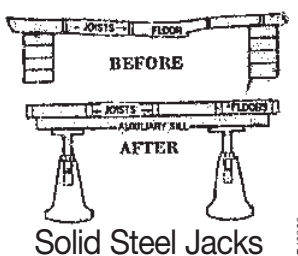
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Commentary

Scott...

Continued from Page 12

CNN Sports Tonight at 11pm eastern. It was the best of athletic perspectives at a time when blacks were on the court and field, but few were behind the mic.

Charles was the veteran with the charm and the classic good looks. Hickman brought the enthusiasm and an edge we all appreciated. The talented Hickman also received numerous nominations and was twice named CableACE award winner as the best sports host (1989 and 1993).

Granted, Scott's command was exceptional and he was a much better person overall when it came to his presence on and off the air. Several co-workers reported that Hickman wasn't always as prepared as he could have been. In addition, for whatever reasons his temper was short and he often treated others poorly when he was off the set.

That was never the case with Scott. He seemed to include everyone. If he were going to grab a sandwich or a quick workout, he was apt to grab anyone he saw at work and see if they wanted to join him. He was respected tremendously - as a talent and as a person by his coworkers and his superiors at ESPN. Even after Scott

was diagnosed with cancer in 2007, he worked as hard as anyone and always pushed the focus to others. Feeling poorly on the set was never relayed to those in the viewing audience. Even after spending a week in the hospital in July 2014, undergoing four surgeries with tubes and wires "running out of EVERY part of his body" and too physically exhausted to stand, only three days later he walked up a set of stairs on his own and gave a memorable six-minute speech at the ESPY Awards. He remained a pillar of strength to others until the end.

Through the years, when ESPN SportsCenter came on and viewers saw that Stuart Scott was a host, we knew we were in for a good show with plenty of entertainment and some great phrases. I looked forward to his rendition of the day's athletic events, but never was it based on his color.

Too often we narrowly focus on how people and their words translate to or influence the various ethnic and racial communities. To do so in Stuart Scott's case diminishes his impact, his reach, and what he meant to his profession, his millions of fans, and the large community of cancer survivors. It shortchanges the breadth of his following which went far beyond the narrow thread of hip-hop culture.

Letters...

Continued from Page 12

FDA: To Protect, Not Appease

Editor:

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has decided to lift the ban on blood donations from men who have had sex with men. The freedoms that many have fought to

secure, are being eroded, the drive to appease the homosexual lobby and the feelings of men who have sex with men takes priority over the nations protection from deadly disease. Men who have had sex with other men represent about 2% of the U.S. population, yet account for at least 62% of all new HIV infections in the U.S.

Homosexual activists say both the existing ban and anything short of a total lift of the ban stigmatizes gay and bisexual men. People born in England during certain years are banned from donating blood because of Mad Cow Disease. Should we lift that ban? Homosexual advocacy groups claim 'safe sex' will stop the spread of HIV/AIDS. However, a study released by the Centers for Disease Control found that nearly two-thirds of gay men who know they have HIV/AIDS are still engaging in unprotected sexual relationships. The rules on who should be allowed to donate blood should focus on the welfare of patients rather than the feelings of potential donors. The mission of our military throughout its history has been to provide security for our nation. Now its mission is providing equal opportunity employment. The Food and Drug Administration whose mission has been to protect the health of our citizens has been changed to appeasing the homosexual.

Euell White
Florence

See LETTERS...on Page 22

ASK THE ATTORNEY



Thomas McCutcheon

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

Q I was hit in a parking lot by a man who was on his cell phone and not looking at all when he backed into me. He was still on his cell phone when he got out of the car. The police would not make a report because it was on private property and I only have liability insurance. It really makes me mad that he was on his cell phone and not looking. How can I prove that?

Monica, Russellville, AL

A Parking lot accidents really cause problems for people who don't have full coverage insurance. I am not suggesting that everyone should have full coverage insurance. In fact, I spoke to a young lady who had bought a 12 year old Jaguar and was paying \$200 a month for full coverage insurance. Those cars can be bought for \$5000 and I don't know that the math works out to pay full coverage for a car that can be replaced

relatively inexpensively.

Property damage only cases that have less than \$5000 in damage to the car should go to small claims court. It is not economically feasible to hire me to go to small claims court for a \$2000 or \$3000 case. By the time you pay the attorney's fee, your net result isn't enough to pay for the repairs for your vehicle. Small claims court is designed for non-lawyers to prepare reasonably well with common sense evidence and witnesses and present their case to a judge who makes a decision, in writing, typically after the parties leave.

Small claims court does not automatically allow "discovery." Discovery in the legal sense means or includes depositions, written questions that are to be answered under oath and subpoenas. In a regular automobile accident case that we would handle, a case involving a person who was hurt, we would be very interested in obtaining the cell phone number and the carrier (AT&T, Verizon, Sprint) so that we could issue for a subpoena to find out whether or not the person at fault was either talking or texting at the time of the accident.

That brings up a point that should be made. We use repair bills, medical bills and the other side's phone records to prove our case. We photograph skid or scuff marks from the accident scene and we use the physical evidence from the damage to the vehicle for the jury to consider. The problem is people that are really hurt aren't out snapping pictures of the car that hit them and writing down the exact time of the accident. People who are doing those things probably are not hurt that badly.

You will be able to testify that you saw the person on the phone. You will be able to describe or show photographic evidence of where the impact on your car was. You will be able to testify as to your version of how the accident happened. You will need to know the value of your car before the accident and after the accident and you should have a person who regularly repairs cars to testify as to how much it will cost to repair your car present in court. Unfortunately, I do not believe that you will be able to prove, other than through your testimony, that the person that hit you was a distracted driver.

Buckle up and drive safely.

Please send the questions to:
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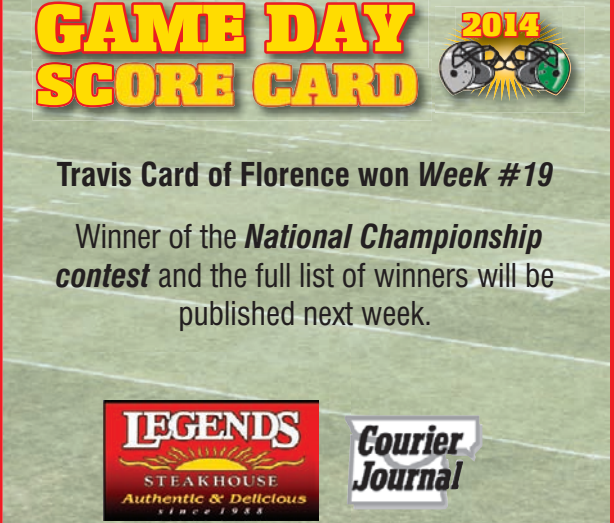
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Soap Opera Preview

THE BOLD AND THE BEAUTIFUL Rick was put on the spot when Maya asked him if he truly loved her or was he just using her to get back at Caroline. Regardless of Caroline's unwavering desire to reunite with Rick, Ridge advised her against fighting a losing battle. Ridge then pointed out to Caroline that there were no more reasons why they couldn't pursue a relationship together. Ivy and Aly connected through their family's history and shared some laughs at Rick and Maya's expense. Having reached a new crossroad in their relationship, Rick and Maya spent a romantic evening between the sheets. Carter was still reluctant to believe Maya's relationship was genuine. *Wait to See: Spencer Publications has new management.*

DAYS OF OUR LIVES Clyde dropped another bomb on Jordan about the death of her mother. Hope started to realize that she was not getting the full story from Aiden. A vengeful Eve was tempted to tell Jennifer that she had sex with JJ. John made a big career change. Eve suggested to Paige that they leave Salem. Melanie and Brady agreed not to tell anyone they were planning to date ... but the cat was out of the bag when someone caught them kissing. Nicole and Serena got into a heated exchange at the opening of Victor's new club. Wanting to get Brady out of her system, Theresa set her sights on a new man. Will tried to reach out to Paul. Adrienne spent time with Lucas and found herself laughing for the first time in ages. JJ made a stunning confession to his mother. *Wait to See: Nicole and Serena get into a physical altercation.*

GENERAL HOSPITAL Rosalie was in cahoots with someone who urged her to get Michael out of the old Spencer house. "Fluke" had a warning for Johnny. Nikolas questioned Helena about her underling and business partner. Sonny instructed Shawn to follow "Fluke" in order to determine his true identity. Anna encouraged Jordan not to blow her cover. Meanwhile, Sloane questioned Dante and Nathan about Anna's confidential informant. Despite Dante's warnings to stay away from his wife, Johnny had a business proposal for Lulu. Michael asked Lucas if he would be interested in running his new clinic. Elizabeth interrupted Jake as he prepared to carry out Helena's latest task. *Wait to See: Johnny runs into Maxie.*

THE YOUNG AND THE RESTLESS Kevin asked Mariah to be honest about what she wanted. Nick confided in Avery. Devon learned some surprising news about Neil and Hilary. Victor asked Jack why he was bringing up Adam's name out of the blue. Austin accepted a new job offer. Phyllis made a shocking

discovery. Nikki struggled with her sobriety and then lashed out at Victor. Adam feared Chelsea was slipping further and further away. Ashley wasn't happy to see Victoria show up to the lab with Stitch. Sharon made a fresh start. Lauren and Michael decided to tell their friends that Michael was battling cancer. *Wait to See: Avery reminisces about her past with Joe.*

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Redline It - See Page 6

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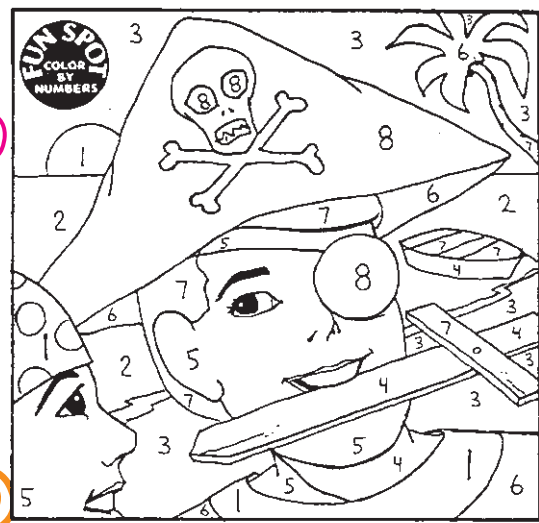
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|  <p>\$148* per month</p> <p>#8156A</p> <p>2007 Honda Civic EX 40 MPG!</p> |  <p>\$161* per month</p> <p>#8191A</p> <p>2011 Chevy Cruze LS Gas Saver, PW, PL</p> |  <p>\$165* per month</p> <p>#7294A</p> <p>2014 Nissan Altima 2.5 SV Why Buy New?</p> |  <p>\$187* per month</p> <p>#8432A</p> <p>2007 Chevy Uplander Room For All!</p> |  <p>\$192* per month</p> <p>#7959B</p> <p>2013 Ford Fiesta SE Like New, Gas Saver!</p> |
|  <p>\$192* per month</p> <p>#8540A</p> <p>2012 Ford Focus SE Great MPG!</p> |  <p>\$199* per month</p> <p>#8668A</p> <p>2008 Buick Lucerne CXL Great Ride, Clean</p> |  <p>\$201* per month</p> <p>#P7671</p> <p>2013 Toyota Corolla Dependable, Great MPG</p> |  <p>\$206* per month</p> <p>#P7595A</p> <p>2012 Chevy Cruze LS PW, PL, Nice!</p> |  <p>\$207* per month</p> <p>#8190B</p> <p>2012 Kia Forte EX Sporty, Sharp!</p> |
|  <p>\$207* per month</p> <p>#P7549A</p> <p>2010 Chevy Equinox LT 32 MPG, Nice</p> |  <p>\$222* per month</p> <p>#8532A</p> <p>2012 Nissan Altima 2.5S Like New, Only 37k Miles</p> |  <p>\$241* per month</p> <p>#8148A</p> <p>2014 VW Passat Loaded, Sharp!</p> |  <p>\$243* per month</p> <p>#8447A</p> <p>2012 Ford Fusion Hybrid 36 MPG Highway!</p> |  <p>\$255* per month</p> <p>#P7641A1</p> <p>2014 Mitsubishi Outlander Sport SE, Why Buy New?</p> |

*WAC. Max term available per vehicle

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Junior Whirl by Hal Kaufman

SAY WHAT! A distinctive hat, hairdo and style of furniture were inspired by Queen Anne, Empress Eugenie and Madame Pompadour, but not in that order. Who inspired what?



FUN SPOT
COLOR BY NUMBERS


WHAT HO! Yo, ho, ho — what have we here? Pirates acting up!
 Color by numbers: 1—Red. 2—Lt. blue. 3—Yellow. 4—Lt. brown. 5—Flesh tones. 6—Lt. green. 7—Lt. purple. 8—Dk. purple.

SPELLBINDER

SCORE 10 points for using all the letters in the word below to form two complete words:
 NITROGEN

THEN score 2 points each for all words of four letters or more found among the letters.

Try to score at least 50 points.



1 SO FRET **2 TE DING**

ANAGRAM PUZZLER

Letters indicated on each side of the blackboard above may be arranged (and rearranged) to form six separate words — three six-letter words on side 1, and three seven-letter words on side 2.


Side 1 definitions (at random):

- Less harsh.
- Stimulate.
- Smokey the Bear's domain.

Side 2 definitions:

- Torched, as tinder.
- Copy desk task.
- Curbing calories, for example.

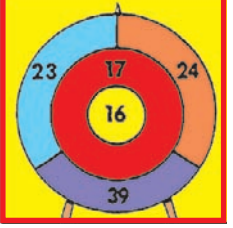
What are the words?



NET GAIN! Quickly, see if you can guess, on first try, which one of four possible paths the ball takes to score.

TAKE AIM! You are challenged to fire six shots at the target at right for a score of exactly 100. Strike any of the five designated target areas as often as necessary to achieve this goal.

Hint: Concentrate your fire on the two central portions of the target. Remember, you have six shots in which to score 100.



Answers On Page 30

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Letters...

Continued from Page 14

If There For The Team, Cheer!

Editor:

I have a major problem with parents, family members and students who go to sporting events and do nothing but act like they are at a church social.

If you go to support the team, then do so and let those kids know you are there and want them to play.

Last night I went to my son's basketball game and the crowd acted like it was the last place they wanted to be. Why bother having cheerleaders if they are just going to sit on the bench and gossip?

It's sad when I was the loudest person in the gym and I was sitting next to the cheerleaders. Parents complain that kids today have no respect, are a generation that thinks they should get everything handed to them, bad news and worth very little. Did they ever stop to think about how they treat those very kids?

Why should kids who play sports put much effort into the game if the very people who claim to support them don't. Just showing up isn't winning extra brownie points with those kids. They want to know you are watching them, know how many fouls they get, how many points they scored, how long they were in the games. You want them to stop giving up, then remember that if you aren't supporting them, aren't yelling as loud as you can, are just sitting in the stands chit chatting, YOU failed them first!

I challenge parents, family members, students, and friends of any student on the Waterloo basketball teams to come out and show they matter. The last home game of the season is January 27 at 6pm. If you want to know when they play up until then, please call the school and then show up! Do you remember when you were in school and wished that someone showed up for you? Don't let more kids feel that way.

I am a true fan and will cheer for our team until I have no voice left, and the score at the end of the four quarters mean little to me. It is the kids that count. You are more than welcome to come sit by me if you are afraid your screaming will get looks or being laughed at. I am usually near the cheerleaders on Waterloo's side (that would be the bleachers to the left as you enter the gym near the ticket area). It costs \$4 for Adults and screaming at ref's is great stress relief.

Let's show we can do more for the kids no matter what!!

Tracy Lieb
Waterloo

See LETTERS... at Top Right

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LETTERS... from Below

Why Complicate God's Message?

To the Editor:

Regarding Bill Bishop's letter of January 7, Word Rightfully Divided, Bill, Jesus gave us a very simple message when the Pharisee asked Him what he must do to gain life.

Jesus asked him what was in the "law" - how did he read it? And the Pharisee answered, "you must love the Lord your God with all of your heart, and all of your soul, and with all of your strength, and love your neighbor as yourself."

Jesus said, "this do and you will live."

Why complicate God's message to us. If we can do this, we gain life - our ultimate goal.

We do have a command to study in scripture which teaches us all things that we need to know in order to help others, to seek (successfully) everything that they need to fully equip them to help others by proving God and salvation to others; hopefully to all some day.

Everyone should read the Bible - a wonderful read.

Lola Van Gamache
Florence

Why Cutting Conservation?

Editor:

When thinking about the \$1.1 trillion spending bill passed by Congress last month, one might ask, what does Congress have against conservation?

They made huge cuts to conservation programs, such as the Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) that supports conservation practices on cropland, pastureland and rangeland, totaling \$402 million over ten years. This cut means 2.3 million fewer acres enrolled in the program. This anti-conservation spending bill also cut the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) by \$136 million for this fiscal year.

CSP is designed to reward farmers and ranchers who have a history of integrating conservation, EQIP will help them develop a conservation practice for the first time. So while they cut the conservation programs that help farmers and ranchers integrate risk management through conservation-based farming practices, they left intact the unlimited federal crop insurance premium subsidies and farm program payments that encourage risk taking and agriculture consolidation by the nation's largest and wealthiest farms.

This is an anti-farmer, anti-conservation bill that is representative of crisis-driven legislation stemming from a dysfunctional Congress. Join us and fight for annual spending bills that are forward-looking and create opportunity.

Traci Bruckner
Center for Rural Affairs
Lyons, NE

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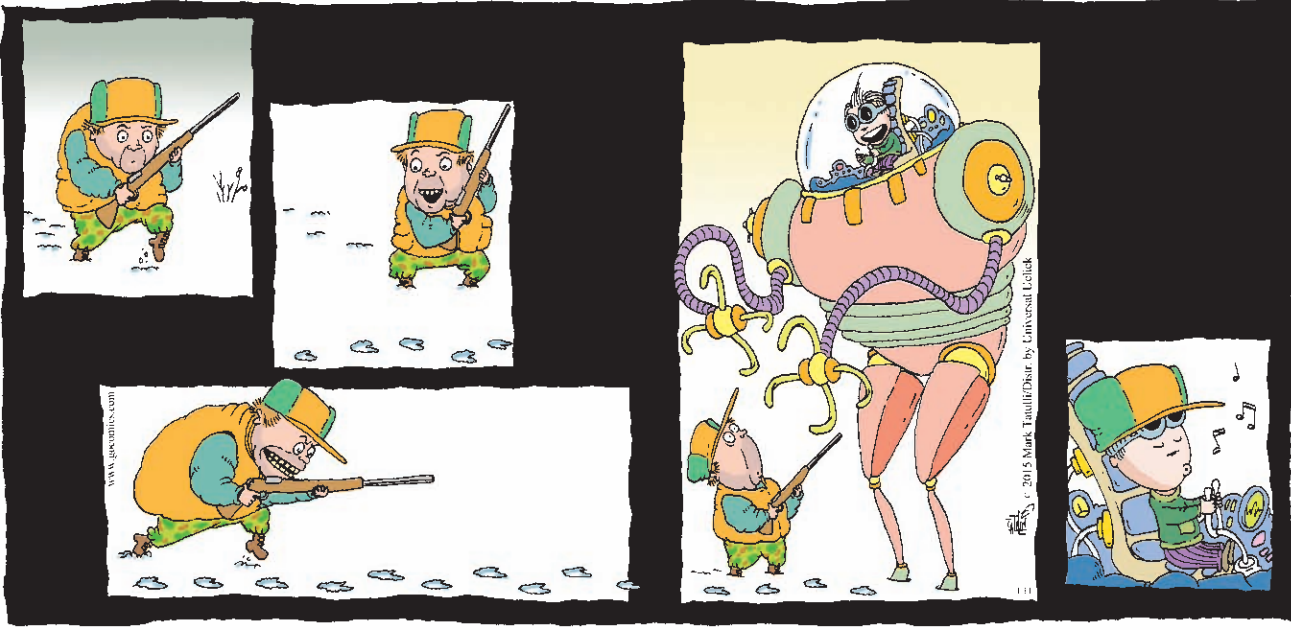
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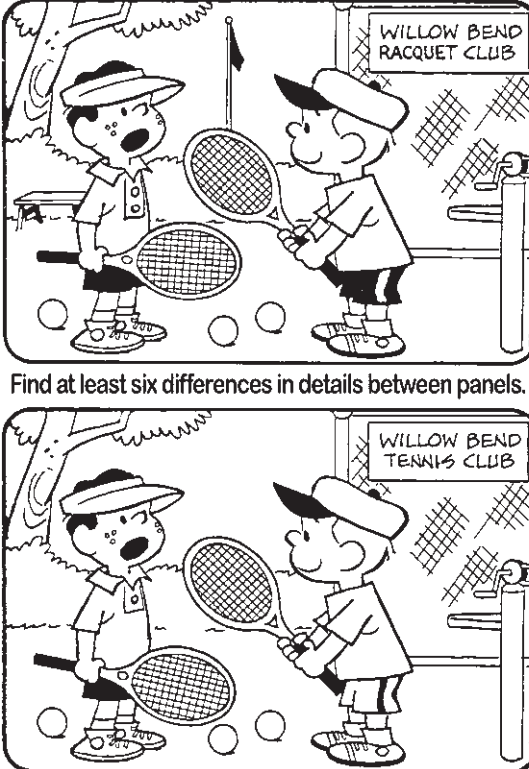
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Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Bench is missing. 2. Sign is different. 3. Racket is moved. 4. Flag is missing. 5. Sign is shorter. 6. Pants are different. 7. Button strip is shorter. 8. Racket is moved.

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Artifacts
 Continued from Page 12

many years ago have withstood various hazards to survive until they are found by someone. They have survived floods, fire, earthquakes, landslides, volcanoes, tree roots, farm machinery, and the assaults of mother nature.

If you are interested in these pieces of history, the Loretto Tennessee Artifact Show takes place at the Burke Civic Center Saturday, January 17 from 8am-3pm. Admission is free. If you have any artifacts, you can bring them to the show. Experts will be on hand to appraise your artifacts or tell you what you have. On display will be Indian artifacts, Civil War artifacts, coins, old bottles, fossils, and fur trade items.

This year the Loretto Band Boosters will have concessions for sale to raise money for the band trip to Florida.



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BACK IN JANUARY OF last year I decided to test my psychic powers by making some technology predictions for 2014. I am happy to report that my psychic powers suck. Perhaps that is a bit harsh as I managed to nail a few easy ones but I would certainly not ask me for stock tips. Here are some highlights:



Fisher

Last year I predicted, "This will finally be the breakout year for wearable computing devices such as watches, headsets and bracelets." This was way easy and of course I nailed it. Fitness bracelets are all the rage now and I recently purchased my first smartwatch. However, I predicted that Google Glass would enjoy

THE SYLVIA BROWNE OF NERDS

by "The Computer Skeptic"

"lukewarm" success.

Lukewarm was far too strong a word. Glass is "eyewear" that sports some computing power, a camera and a small screen that beams information straight into your eyeball. It's too early to call it a failure but the current incarnation of this device is dead. Neither Google nor I anticipated that people would react so negatively to the thought of people wearing a video camera on their head all the time. I still have hopes of Glass causing a revolution in niche industries such as medicine and aviation but you

troglydites ruined my geek party for now.

I predicted that Apple would release a smartwatch that would revolutionize the (then) burgeoning new smartwatch industry. Apple did "announce" one but it will not be released until at least March of this year. It appears to be super cool but no more "revolutionary" than current smartwatch offerings.

I predicted that not much would happen with regards to combining the television with your computer. Sure 'nuff, we are still streaming video through Netflix just like

we did in 2010 and doing our computing the same way we've done it for decades.

I predicted that 2014 would be the year for affordable home 3D printers. I totally hosed that one. The ability to print your own army men and Tupperware is still a few years off. Boo.

I predicted that Microsoft stock would fall from \$36 to less than \$30. It now trades at \$47. Oops! I also predicted Microsoft would offer an update that would make Windows 8 less horrible. They will do so but not until the fall of 2015. I predicted that Apple and Google stocks would increase by at least 25%. I nailed Apple but Google is down at least 10%. I predicted that Bitcoin would be worthless. One Bitcoin was worth about \$1000 last January. It now trades at \$300.

So, out of 10 predictions, I nailed 4 easy ones. I reckon that's better than your average psychic but I think I'll keep my day job. I'll test my abilities against in the next article.

Happy New Year!

Jim Fisher owns Excel Computer Services in Florence. Reach him at www.ExcelAL.com

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petconnection CAT TALK

Your cat's vocalizations and body language tell you and other cats what he's thinking

By Kim Campbell Thornton
Universal Uclick

When I was a kid, I loved Dr. Dolittle. I had a recording of the music from the 1967 movie, and I would sing along with it: "I can walk with the animals, talk with the animals, and they can squeak and squawk and talk to me."

As Dr. Dolittle discovered from his wise parrot, Polynesia, most animal languages are a mixture of sound and movement. But Dr. Dolittle notwithstanding, it has been only recently that we have started to look at and understand communication and emotion in animals.

At the World Small Animal Veterinary Association conference, which I attended last September, veterinary behaviorist Dr. Kersti Seksel spoke on understanding feline communication. For communication to exist, she says, there must be a sender, a means of sending the message and a receiver.

"The receiver doesn't have to be present when the message is sent," Dr. Seksel says, "but the receiver does have to receive and understand the message. That's where most issues start."

Our cats are sophisticated communicators, despite not being able to speak English. Their vocalizations, for instance, are highly individualized

and specific. The sounds they use to communicate with each other, such as those between a mother and her kittens, are different from the vocal commands they issue to people. Owners, the ones who are paying attention, anyway, soon learn to recognize and interpret what their cats are saying.

Cats not only have a language they use only with humans, they also use different body language with humans than with other cats, Dr. Seksel says. Body language encompasses the position of the eyes, ears, tail and head, body posture and facial expression.

Communication between cats is subtle and quick. It often goes unnoticed by people. Often, owners think cats are getting along, when in reality violence is simmering just beneath the surface.

For instance, you might think that one of your cats has merely entered a room. But often, that cat has signaled to the other cat or cats in the room with a twitch of the ear or twitch of the tail that he wants something

— maybe the chair another cat is in or the food bowl he's snacking from — and he's in no mood to be trifled with. When the other cat gets up and leaves, in a seemingly casual manner, he's not being nonchalant. Cats leave the presence of aggressive cats very slowly because they don't want to draw attention to themselves, Dr. Seksel says.

When feline tension turns into an all-out fight, the combatants don't just kiss and make up. Cats can stay highly aroused for two to seven days afterward, Dr. Seksel says. She recommends separating cats for at least a week after a fight.

Scent is another way in which cats communicate, both among themselves and with people. When your cat gives you an affectionate head butt or rubs up against your leg, he's using pheromones secreted from glands in the cheeks, chin and paw pads to mark you as a member of his community. When he scratches, he's leaving pheromonal messages for other cats.

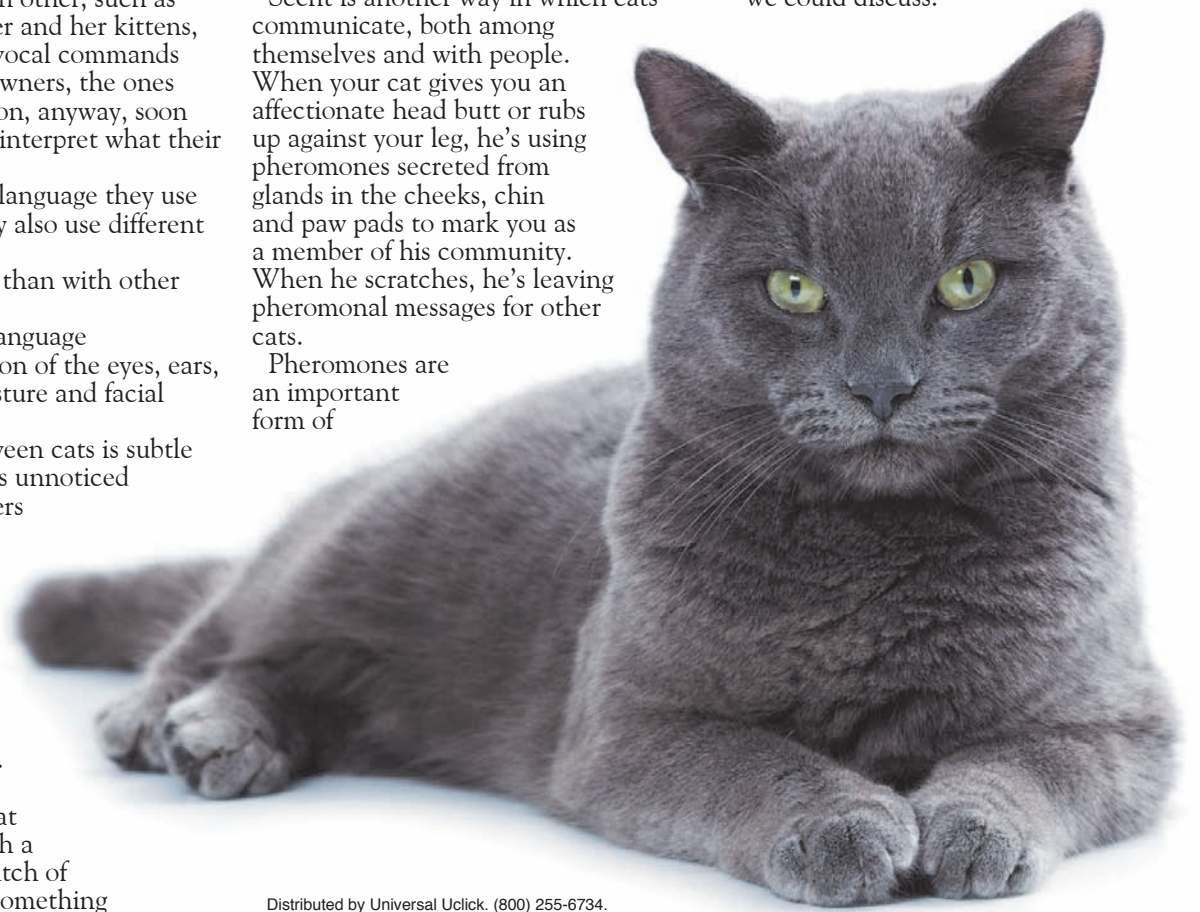
Pheromones are an important form of

communication between cats. Among other things, pheromones signal reproductive status and social rank and indicate danger.

"Veterinary hospitals are full of pheromones all the time because cats aren't happy to be there," Dr. Seksel says.

When you can learn to understand lingua felinica, you are well on your way to earning your cat's respect, not to mention heading off behavior problems before they become serious. And in the immortal words of Dr. Dolittle:

"If we could talk to the animals, learn their languages, think of all the things we could discuss."



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Grandparents, Keep Your Meds Up and Away From Young Children

Grandparents love spending time with their grandchildren. Grandbabies bring so much joy. However, it's not unusual for the curious, tiny fingers of youngsters to end up in places they shouldn't. Putting precious or breakable objects out of reach is important, and so is keeping medicines and vitamins up and away and out of sight of young children. More than 70,000 children end up in emergency departments each year after getting their hands on medicines left within reach. That's 165 kids -- or roughly four busloads of kids -- per day. Far too often, that medicine belonged to a grandparent. Where are young children getting their hands on medicines? From countertops and bedside tables, purses and pockets, and loose pills on tables or floors. Weekly pill minders can help you keep track of multiple medications, but they rarely have child-resistant features so a curious child can't get into the colorful medicines stored inside. "Grandparents and parents may not be aware of the danger



posed by leaving medications where young children can reach or see them," says Dr. Dan Budnitz, director of the Medication Safety Program at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). "A few simple steps -- followed every time -- can protect our children." So, grandparents, enjoy your precious time with your young grandchildren. But whether hosting them in your house or visiting at theirs, remember to store your medicines in a place they cannot access. Here are some tips from CDC's "Up and Away and Out of Sight" initiative:

- Keep all medicines and vitamins up and away and out of sight in a high cabinet or other place inaccessible to your grandchildren. If you think you may forget to take your medicines if they are not in sight, leave yourself a reminder on the refrigerator or somewhere you check daily.
- Never leave medicine or vitamins out on a counter or bedside table, even if you have to take the medicine again in a few hours.

- Always relock the safety cap on a medicine bottle. If it has a locking cap that turns, twist it until you hear the click.
- Never tell children medicine is candy so they'll take it, even if your grandchild does not like to take his or her medicine.
- Keep purses, bags or coats that have medicines or vitamins in them out of reach and sight of young children.
- Program the Poison Help number (1-800-222-1222) into your phone so you have it in case of emergency.

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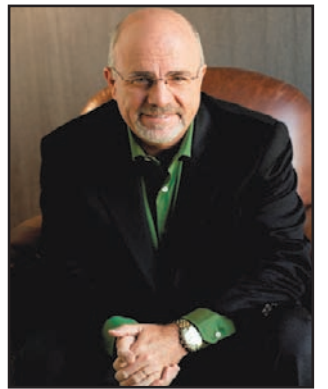
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SHARING AND PLANNING AS ONE!

Dear Dave,
How do I get my girlfriend to take a more active role in planning a family budget? We're getting married in a few months, and everything between us is great except for this one area. She seems to want me to handle the money, and make all the decisions.
David

Dear David,
Many marriage counselors will tell you if a couple comes to agreement on four major issues — money, kids, religion and in-laws — they have a greater chance of forming a successful and lasting marriage.

Try sitting down with her and explaining from your heart how important it is to you that she's involved in the budgeting process. I believe it's vitally important that financial decisions are made by husband and wife together — as one. Most women value communication in a relationship, and the process of doing a monthly budget together will be a wonderful sharing experience for the two of you.

Money isn't the most important thing in the world, David. But the way a couple handles money is representative of their dreams, passions and fears. It's also indicative of their vision for the future!
—Dave

Dear Steve,
It sounds like it's time for you to stand up and be a dad, my friend. Take action!

First, you need to have a talk with him where you apologize for doing a poor job of communicating in the past and about this situation in particular. Be gentle and loving, but also be firm that from this point on you're going to make him live up to his end of the bargain where the car insurance and cell phone are concerned.

Let him know with utter certainty you're going to shut off his cell phone and cancel his insurance the next time he doesn't have his share of the money when the bill comes due. Then, do it if he doesn't pay up on time!

You still have the control in this situation, Steve. You just have to exercise it. Your son may not like it at first, but you'll both benefit from the process.
—Dave

Dave Ramsey is America's trusted voice on money and business. He's authored four *New York Times* best-selling books: *Financial Peace*, *More Than Enough*, *The Total Money Makeover* and *EntreLeadership*. *The Dave Ramsey Show* is heard by more than 5 million listeners each week on more than 500 radio stations. Follow Dave on Twitter at @DaveRamsey and on the web at daveramsey.com.

BE THE DAD!

Dear Dave,
My son works, but he's 19 and lives at home. He's on my auto insurance and cell phone accounts, because we both get discounts on the plans. He's supposed to pay his share of these bills, but lots of times he'll say he doesn't have the money. He's a good kid, but what should I do to make an impression and teach him to be more responsible?
Steve

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Remembering 25 Years Later

The Shoals area recently completed another great high school football season that also marked the 25th anniversary of one of the area's "Greatest Game Classics". The Colbert County Indians traveled to Brundidge to play Pike County for the State Championship. Don Creasy's Indians were shooting for their third State Championship in ten years.

Pike County was the defending State Champions and the game had all of the makings of a classic battle. Colbert County entered the game with an undefeated 14-0 record and had posted playoff wins over Brooks, Hanceville, Deshler and Munford to reach the finals. The Indians were loaded with talent, led by junior running back Kenyatta Jones, who later would play a vital role in UNA's first two Division II National Championships.

Jones missed the opening playoff game against Brooks with an injury. Scott Stover took over the running back duties against the Lions, rushing for 183 yards while scoring four touchdowns. Jones returned to scorch Deshler by rushing for 249 yards, then demolishing Munford in the semifinals.

Munford had not given up a rushing touchdown in seven games during the season. Jones ripped their defense for 270 yards while scoring on runs of 66, 14, 80 and 1 yard in the 40-25 victory. The Indians took the early lead against Pike County when Stover scored from three yards out. Eric Lynch's extra point gave Colbert County a 7-0 lead. The Indians then marched 65 yards in nine plays, taking a 13-0 lead when Jason Clement hit Carlos Burnett with an 8-yard touchdown pass.

Pike County then scored 20 unanswered points to take a 20-13 lead in the third quarter. The Indians refused to surrender, going 72 yards in just six plays to cut the lead to 20-19 on Kenyatta Jones' 12-yard touchdown run. Colbert County had two more opportunities to win the game in the final 4:30 but Pike County's defense rose to the occasion, stopping the Indians bid for another State Championship.

The game also saw the Don Creasy coaching era come to an end. Creasy's 12-year record at Colbert County was an astounding 125-25-1 with two state championships and two state championship game second-place finishes.

E-mail comments and suggestions to: jerrywknight@comcast.net

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Notes...

Continued from page 4

Mouse, Keyboard
 Digital Cameras/Photos
 Tuesday, January 20, 3:30-5pm

This class will aid users in saving their digital photos onto the computer as well as organizing them into files and folders to be retrieved later. Users will acquire skills for editing their photos and sending them as email attachments. Skill Prerequisites: Mouse, Keyboard, Basic Internet, Active Email Account, Beyond Basic Level *Participants must bring their own cameras, smartphones, or tablets (along with USB cords) in order to access their pictures.

Advanced Email Part 1: Content Sharing
 Thursday, January 22, 1-2:30 pm
 Learn about how to share files and photos through attachments as well as how to share information through website links.

Skill Prerequisites: Active Email Account, Mouse, Keyboard, Basic Internet, Beyond Basic Level

Computer & Internet Security
 Monday, January 26, 10-11:30am

We will discuss antivirus software options as well as the basic definitions of firewalls and add-ons. We will demonstrate the process of cleaning out your internet browser history and cookies. Internet security tips when shopping and using a credit card will also be presented.

Skill Prerequisites: Mouse, Keyboard, Basic Internet

Advanced Email Part 2: Organization
 Thursday, January 29, 1-2:30pm

Acquire skills for efficiently organizing your email tasks with folders, contacts, filters, and calendars. Skill Prerequisites: Active Email Account, Mouse, Keyboard, Basic Internet, Beyond Basic Level

Monthly Covered Dish Lunch at the Zip City Community Center, Thursday, January 15 at 11:30am. Entertainment will be a musical program. Please bring a covered dish. Everyone is welcome.

Central Volunteer Fire Dept. Fish Fry on January 15, 4-7pm. Fish, shrimp, and chicken catered by Swamp John's. Plates \$10. Eat in or carry-out. Proceeds go to the fire department.

The American Legion Colbert County Memorial Post 31 will have its next monthly meeting on Monday, January 19 at 6:30pm at the Post meeting hall on Main St. in Tusculmbia. A meal and program will be provided. For more info, please call 256-577-6968.

What in the World Is Steampunk?
 Saturday, January 17, 12pm at the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library. You may have heard the word "steampunk" and wondered, "What in the world is that?" Learn more about this trend in books, film, and fashion during this event, which will include an introduction to steampunk, a book talk, and a fashion show.

The 6th Annual Lee-Jackson Banquet, sponsored by the Sons of Confederate Veterans, Col. Wm. A. Johnson Camp # 898, Tusculmbia takes place Saturday, January 17 at 6pm, at the Tusculmbia Church of Christ Annex, at 102

East 4th St.
 Main menu - Pork or Chicken, vegetables, w/ drink & dessert.
 Guest speaker is Carl Jones, 2nd Lt. Commander, SCV, Alabama Division, from Cullman, AL. Carl is a former U.S. Marine, historian, and contributing author for Abbeville Institute. A stirring speaker.
 Southern theme music by Lance

Underwood of Tusculmbia.
 The annual banquet event honors the birthdays of two great Americans, Gen. Robert E. Lee (January 19, 1807) and Lt. Gen. Thomas J. Stonewall Jackson (January 21, 1824).
 Please RSVP by calling 256-856-2381 or email staciekent@gmail.com

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| <p>GOLDEN BAKE WHITE OR WHEAT BREAD 20 OZ. LOAF</p>  <p>99¢</p> | <p>MOUNTAIN DEW OR PEPSI COLA 20 PACK 12 OZ. CANS</p>  <p>\$5.49</p> | <p>PLANTER'S MIXED NUTS 10.3 OZ. CAN</p>  <p>\$3.19</p> |
|---|---|--|

SHOP OUR FULL SERVICE MEAT DEPARTMENT
SPECIAL CUTS FREE OF CHARGE

**HEAVY WESTERN BONELESS BEEF
RIB-EYE STEAKS**



\$7.59
LB.

**HEAVY WESTERN BONELESS BEEF
CHUCK ROAST**



\$3.99
LB.

**FRESH LEAN PORK ROAST
BOSTON BUTTS**



\$1.59
LB.

**FRESH FAMILY PACK
DRUMSTICKS
OR THIGHS**



\$1.19
LB.

**BAR-S
BOLOGNA**



99¢
12 OZ. PKG.

**BRYAN COOKED, SLICED
HAM OR TURKEY**



\$2.29
10 OZ. PKG.

**TENNESSEE PRIDE PORK
SAUSAGE**



\$2.99
1 LB. PKG.

**SUNNYLAND HOTEL BRAND
BACON**



2/\$5
12 OZ. PKG.


DAIRY SPECIALS

| | |
|---|---|
| <p>SILK SOY MILK</p>  <p>\$2.99 HGL. CARTON</p> | <p>PILLSBURY GRANDS BISCUITS</p>  <p>99¢ 8 CT. CAN</p> |
| <p>SHURFINE CREAM CHEESE</p>  <p>\$1.39 8 OZ. PKG.</p> | <p>MINUTE MAID ORANGE JUICE</p>  <p>\$2.59 59 OZ. CARTON</p> |

FROZEN FOODS

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>BLUE BELL ICE CREAM</p>  <p>\$4.39 HGL. TUB</p> | <p>BLUE BELL MOOO BARS, FUDGE BARS OR KRUNCH BARS</p>  <p>2/\$5 12 CT. BOX</p> | <p>BANQUET POT PIES</p>  <p>4/\$3 7 OZ. PKG.</p> |
| <p>YELLOW OR WHITE MCKENZIE'S CREAMED CORN</p>  <p>5/\$5 20 OZ. CHUB</p> | <p>BIRDS-EYE VOILA SKILLET MEALS</p>  <p>\$3.29 21 OZ. PKG.</p> | |

**ALL VARIETIES
CHEF BOYARDEE
PASTA**




89¢
14.5-15.5 OZ. CANS

**BUSH'S BEST
KIDNEY OR
CHILI BEANS**



69¢
16 OZ. CAN

**SAUER'S
MAYONNAISE**



\$1.89
32 OZ. JAR

**MISSION PRIDE
SLICED PEACHES**



\$1.39
29 OZ. CAN

**KRAFT VELVEETA
CHEESY SKILLETS
DINNER KITS**



2/\$4
BOX

**MARTHA WHITE OR GLADIOLA
CORN BREAD
MIXES**



2/\$1
6-7 OZ. POUCH

**8 CT. TOASTER PASTRIES
KELLOGG'S
POP-TARTS**



2/\$4
BOX

**HUNT'S SNACK PACK
PUDDING**



89¢
4 CT. PKG.

**HORMEL
LUNCHEON MEAT
SPAM**



2/\$5
12 OZ. CAN

**FRESH GREEN
CABBAGE**



35¢
LB.

**FRESH EXPRESS PREMIUM ROMAINE OR
GREEN & CRISP
SALAD BLENDS**




2/\$3
9-11 OZ. BAG

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KETCHUP**



79¢
24 OZ. BOTTLE

**POST CEREAL
HONEY BUNCHES
OF OATS**



\$2.69
13-14.5 OZ. BOX

**WASHINGTON STATE
BARTLETT
PEARS**



\$1.19
LB.

**NEW CROP
RUSSET
POTATOES**



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10 LB. BAG

**PRE-PRICED \$1.99
GOLDEN FLAKE
POTATO CHIPS**



4/\$5
5 OZ. BAG

**SIERRA MIST,
MOUNTAIN DEW OR
PEPSI-COLA**



3/\$6
6 PACK .5 LITER BOTTLES

**KLEENEX COTTONELLE
DOUBLE ROLL
BATHROOM
TISSUE**



\$5.99
12 ROLL PKG.

**KLEENEX VIVA
PAPER
TOWELS**



\$5.99
6 REG. ROLL PKG.

**TIDE
PODS**



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14 CT. PKG.

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+ \$3,500 TOTAL ALLOWANCE - WITH \$1,000 LOYALTY OFFER



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