An ACS Road to Recovery

FLORENCE- Getting to and from medical treatments is one of the greatest concerns cancer patients face during treatment. The American Cancer Society provides free rides to those greatly-needed treatments through its Road To Recovery® program.

The Society is currently looking for volunteer drivers in Colbert and Lauderdale counties so that all patients can have transportation when they need it. Estimates indicate over 26,000 Alabama residents will learn that they have cancer this year. However, getting to their scheduled treatment may be a challenge.

"One cancer patient requiring radiation therapy could need anywhere from 20 to 30 trips to treatment in six weeks," said ACS program manager, Heather Adams. "A patient receiving chemotherapy might report for treatment weekly for up to a year. In many cases, a patient is driven to hospitals or clinics by relatives or friends, but even these patients must occasionally seek alternative transportation. That's where the Road to Recovery program comes in."

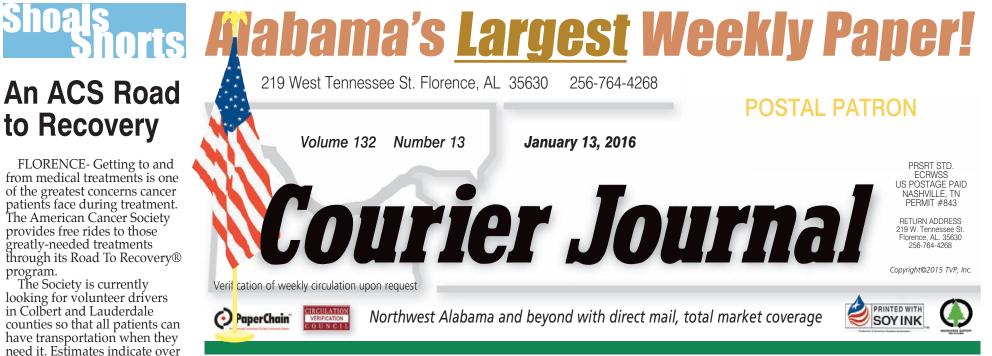
"The program not only helps patients, but is also rewarding for the volunteer. Several of our drivers have volunteered for a number of years," Adams added. For additional information about the Road To Recovery program or to volunteer, call 1-800-ACS-2345 or visit cancer.org.



Joint Camp at Keller

SHEFFIELD-Helen Keller Hospital will host "Joint Camp" on Tuesday, January 26 from 9–11:30am. This program is an educational camp for those who are seeking or needing orthopedic surgery options

Joint Camp is an opportunity to learn about the orthopedic surgery process in a relaxed and informal environment. The program is designed to



Warren New Florence Historian



Warren

FLORENCE — The Florence City Council last week appointed Billy Warren to fill the position of city historian. Warren retired after the fall semester as curriculum director for Florence City Schools. The volunteer post had been vacant since the death of Bill McDonald in 2009.

"I see it as a resource position," Warren

said last week of the appointment. "I would not have accepted

it if this had been a paid position. I see it as strictly a volunteer thing. Bill McDonald did it that

See WARREN... Pg. 6

Loretto Artifact Show Fossils, **Relics**, & Coin

LORETTO This year's Tennessee Loretto,

Arrowhead Show takes place at the Burke Civic Center, at 300 Park St. on Saturday, January 16 from 8am-3pm. Admission is free. Indian arrowheads, fossils, Civil War relics, old bottles, coins, pocket knives, and other antiques will be in display.

If you have any artifacts or other antiques, you can bring them to the show. Experts will

A Bank of Tennessee note produced by Toppan, Carpenter & Co. (1851-1861) found in a Pulaski, TN. home locked up since 1965. Courtesy photos

Rhinoceros skull said to be about 14,000 years old found in the South Dakota Bad Lands.

be on hand to appraise your artifacts or tell you what you have.

Also attending this year will be Dennis Bushey, artifact

See RELIC... on Page 6



AMHoF Celebrates Gospel Music Event Amen To That!

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TUSCUMBIA–Much of today's music is rooted in the rich gospel traditions of the Black church. In recognition of Black church. In recognition of these traditions, the Alabama Music Hall of Fame will present the second Annual Black History Month event Celebrating Gospel Music at 5pm Sunday January 31 at Muscle Shoals High School Auditorium. The music from these choirs will stir your soul and make you want to shout and make you want to shout for joy," said Hall of Fame manager Dixie Griffin.

From Mega Stars like Nat "King" Cole, Percy Sledge, Dinah Washington, Sun Ra, Candi Staton, Martha Reeves, Wilson Pickett, Eddie Floyd, the Commodores, and the Temptations, to behind the scene geniuses W.C. Handy, John T. "Fess" Whatley and William Levi Dawson, black Alabamians have made exceptional contributions to the American Culture of Music. Performing during the

See GOSPEL... on Page 6

reduce anxiety and help make orthopedic surgery a positive, successful experience.

Attendees will be led through an overview of Helen Keller Hospital's state-of-theart surgery center. They will be educated on pre-surgery conditioning, nutrition, post-surgery expectations, rehabilitation options, and more. The program is free, but seating is limited. Please call 256-386-4747 to reserve.





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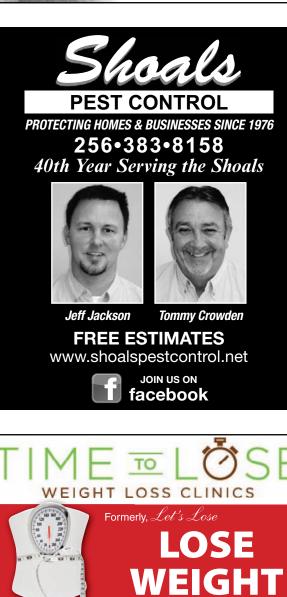
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4 cylinder, 3 door, \$3,500 OBO. 256-764-2307 01-20



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VFW Sheffield Post 4919 will have **a dance** every Friday and Saturday Night. The doors open at 6pm, the band starts at 7pm.

this kind of dialogue while respecting all those involved. Class will meet at 10am in

conference room. The church is located at 1330 Eauclaire Ave., Florence.

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Book Talk/Signing: "Strife Yet Hope" by Debbie Maydee Saturday, January 16,

Local author Darlene Maydee will talk about her autobiography "Strife Yet Hope" In her book, she discusses the struggles she has faced—such as her father's terminal illness, an abusive marriage, and multiple surgeries—and how her faith in God helped her persevere. For more information, call 256-764-6564, ext. 28.

• The X-Files Premiere Party Sunday, January 24: party starts at 6pm, premiere viewing starts at 9pm

It's been over 13 years since Mulder and Scully made us want to believe on our TV screens. Now, "The X-Files" is returning for a 6-episode event. Watch the premiere on our big screen with other X-Philes! Join us starting at 6pm for screenings of favorite episodes, activities and games, and X-Files themed snacks and drinks from Bookmarks Coffee Shop. At 7pm, Dr. Cheryl Blake Price will lead a discussion exploring how "The X-Files" uses and changes conventions of detective fiction. Then, we'll all watch the premiere on our big screen at 9pm.

For more information about events, call 256-764-6564, ext. 28.

See NOTES... page 10

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Legendary Comedian **Killer Beaz Returns to** the Shoals Theatre

FLORENCE-L e g e n d a r y comedian Killer Beaz will be performing live at he Shoals he at Theatre on January 16. A comedic favorite the area, in Killer Beaz will light the up Saturday stage evening at

7:30pm with his brand of Laugh out Loud comedy.

Killer Beaz can be heard regularly on WQLT and on the syndicated Rick and Bubba Show. He is currently touring the country to support his most recent release, "Don't Ever Touch Anybody You Don't Know!" The CD is on the Warner Brothers label, which is also home to the Blue Collar comedians, and is now available for purchase at iTunes, Amazon, Wal-Mart, Google Plus, Rhapsody and eMusic.

"I love my job!" said Beaz. "I just love making people belly laugh, and seeing the room absolutely erupt in laughter and fun, it's fun to me."

With thousands of radio, television and stage appearances, Beaz has been entertaining audiences for over two decades.

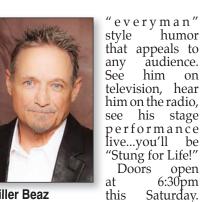
He has received reviews such as:

"Killer Beaz lives up to his name, "Killing" his audience, night after night, show after show!" - Entertainment Today/Las Vegas, NV

"Beaz is 'Killer!" -Rolling Stone Magazine

"Beaz's style goes far beyond your Larry the Cable Guy type of humor in a way that makes him utterly relatable for just about anyone.' -UNDER THE GUN **REVIEW/SPIN MEDIA**

Beaz delivers а high-energy, edgy, and



Killer Beaz

Tickets can be purchased at www. killerbeaz.com or at the door the night of the show.

"everyman"

him

performance

'Stung for Life!"

Doors

open 6:30pm

Saturday.

humor

on

audience.

Killer Beaz is a favorite guest of several nationally syndicated radio shows. Beaz entertains millions of his fans on a regular basis. USA Today says he is a "Star rising in the South!" numerous He's made appearances on Showtime, Entertainment Tonight, Comedy Central, E!, A&E, CNN, ÉSPN, CMT, GAC. He has also been featured on radio shows such as Bob & Tom, John Boy & Billy, Rick & Bubba, Bob & Sherry, Big D and Bubba, WTF with Marc Maron, Taste of Country Nights, SIRIUSXM Blue Collar iHeart Radio, Radio, SIRIUSXM Comedy Channels and SIRIUSXM NASCAR Radio.

Stay social with Killer Beaz at www.killerbeaz. twitter.com/ com, killerbeaz, and Facebook. com/killerbeazcomedy



How was the ark floated without water? How could Noah have been saved from the destruction of the wicked world without God's use of water in His plan for Noah's salvation? How can we hope to be saved without the water that God put in His plan of salvation for us today?

The Bible explains how God used water for the salvation of Noah and how He uses it for our salvation today in I Peter 3:20-21.

"Who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water. There is also an antitype which now saves us--baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ."

Now, Noah was saved by his faith (believing obedience to the will of God). The Bible says, "By faith Noah, being divinely warned of things not yet seen, moved with godly fear, prepared an ark for the saving of his household, by which he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness which is according to faith." (Hebrews 11:7) We also are saved by our active, obedient faith. The question remains, "What action are we to take by faith for our salvation?" The answer to this question was given in the apostles' first gospel sermon. The guilty wanted to know what action God required of them. They were told to repent and participate is God's plan to use water to forgive their sins, "Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." (Acts 2:38)

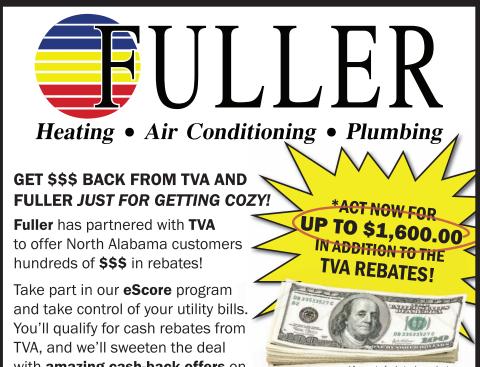
When Saul wanted to become a Christian and serve God, he was told, "And now why are you waiting? Arise and be baptized, and wash away your sins, calling on the name of the Lord." Acts 22:16

God has chosen water, in the act of faith that we know as baptism, as a requirement for our salvation and forgiveness by the grace of God through Jesus. (Mark 16:16)

How was Noah saved without water? He wasn't. Neither can you and I be saved without being baptized to have our sins washed away by the blood of Jesus Christ. It is the action of faith that God requires. Why not obey God's plan of using water for His purpose? Noah did.

Dwight McGee Beulah Church of Christ, Anderson, AL 256-335-4764

Reilline It - See Page 6



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Warren...

Continued from Page 1

way and that is how it should be."

Warren has been instrumental in shaping the Florence community. He was involved in the creation of the Main Street program, Historic Preservation, Inc, and the annual Renaissance Faire. He also writes monthly columns on local history the award-winning children's publication, *Kidsville News!* He leads walking tours of historic downtown areas and has been a valued local resource assisting in numerous local

historic projects. The City Council voted unanimously in favor of Warren's nomination.

"I don't know a person in this city who is any more respected or qualified to fill this position," Council President Dick Jordan said. "Over the years I have really come to respect Billy Warren because of his love of the city and historic preservation."

"Everything I see him doing has always had an education element to Councilman Andy Betterton said. "Teaching is his focus. He is an absolute treasure for this area."

Warren will have an office in the Florence-Lauderdale Government building.

Relic... **Continued from Page 1** restorer: Dickey, Jerry

artifact authenticator; and Charles Moore, author of "Come Tell Me How You Lived.'

The Loretto Band Boosters will have concessions and specialty plates for sale to raise money for the band.

Gospel...

Continued from Page 1

show will be St. Paul Choir, Russellville, Howell Sledge of Leighton, Rev. Jerry Reeves and The Galilee Missionary Baptist Church of Leighton, James Brown Gospel Choir of Tuscaloosa and The Gospel Imperials of Huntsville.

The emcee for "Amen to That" is the talented Sheffield native, Dr. Eric Kirkman.

Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for students, and under six is free. They are available at the Alabama Music Hall of Fame, 617 U.S. 72 West in Tuscumbia, or by telephone at 256-381-4417

All proceeds will go to fund the Alabama Music Hall of Fame.





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

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it since it is easy, free, and simple. Look up the song I Need Thee Every Hour by Sam Robson on YouTube. If God has given you ears to hear and eves to see, this will truly bless you. I was listening to this as I got ready for the day recently. In a moment of true worship to God, I lifted my hands at the crescendo, smiled, and sung along - just as my 16 year old daughter passed by laughing at me. I hope you enjoy the experience of the song as much I do and may it fill up your cup. Dawn N.

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I went to court and the Judge found me 90% disabled. Now I get checks from workers compensation but my Social Security amount was cut in half. I really didn't benefit from my workers compensation case. Šocial Security says it's because I am receiving workers compensation that they cut my social security check. Why did they do that?

Thomas **McCutcheon**

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

are so I can only tell you that you are experiencing a social security off-set. When you reach retirement age for social security purposes, which is a moving target

depending on what year you were born, the off-set will cease. The rule for an off-set is based on the idea that we don't want people who don't work to do better, meaning make more money not working than working. Social Security rules provide that you can only receive

80% of your pre-injury earnings and above that amount your Social Security is decreased to the extent that the Social Security Administration believes to be 80% of your pre-injury earnings. Social Security can and will completely cut off your Social Security payments if necessary.

You are receiving payments from two different sources. Social Security law contains the off-set. Workers compensation in Alabama is based on 2/3 of your average weekly wage capped at approximately \$755.00 per week. Social Security is based on how much you paid in and for how long. You are receiving permanent partial disability benefits from workers compensation. Permanent partial payments are capped by the legislature at \$220.00 a week. When you add both your Social Security and your workers compensation payments together, they may not combine to total more than 80% of your pre-injury wages.

Lawyers who settle workers compensation cases by agreement can include language that can prevent or minimize the Social Security off-set, but a judge has no power to do so. I know that seems odd, but all a judge can do in a worker's compensation case is decide a percentage of disability from 0 to 100% disabled. The amount of money that results from that determination is then paid weekly until paid in full. The Court has no power to prevent an off-set. This can greatly affect the negotiation strategy for a worker's compensation case.

Oddly enough, the fact that a Social Security judge found you disabled has no real bearing on a Circuit Court State judge finding you disabled. The two systems use different rules and Social Security looks at all of your health issues that affect your ability to work while worker's compensation typically only considers issues caused by an on-the-job injury.

Buckle up and drive safely.

Please send the questions to:

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facebook: McCutcheon and Hamner, P.C.

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• On Jan. 26, 1500, Spanish explorer Vicente

Yanez Pinzon, who had

Columbus' first expedition

the coast of Brazil during a

voyage under his command,

the first European explorer

• On Jan. 25, 1759, Scottish poet Robert Burns

is born. The day is still

Burns Night" feasts,

celebrated by Burns fans

with high-spirited "Robert

featuring haggis and other

Scottish delicacies, as well

toasting and speechmaking.

• On Jan. 29, 1936, in

Cooperstown, New York,

the Baseball Hall of Fame

elects its first members:

Honus Wagner, Christy

Matthewson and Walter

Johnson. Today it has

elected 278 individuals,

including 225 players, 17

• On Jan. 30, 1948,

Mohandas Gandhi, the

in New Delhi, India.

Assassin Nathuram

Godse was hanged

in 1949

against

the wishes

of Gandhi's sons, who

world's chief advocate of

non-violence, is assassinated

managers, eight umpires and

28 executives and pioneers.

Tv Cobb. Babe Ruth.

as enthusiastic drinking,

to the New World, sights

commanded the Nina

during Christopher

to do so.

argued that the execution stood against everything

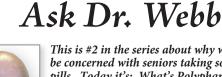
Gandhi believed in. • On Jan. 31, 1950, President Harry Truman publicly announces his decision to support development of the hydrogen bomb. The discovery of a Soviet spy in the U.S. nuclear program forced Truman to approve massive funding to build the world's first "superbomb."

• On Jan. 27, 1965, the Shelby Mustang GT 350 is launched. The Shelby, a Mustang modified for racing, featured a 306 horsepower V-8 engine and today is a valuable collector car.

• On Jan. 28, 1973, a cease-fire goes into effect in Saigon, Vietnam, but military operations quickly resumed after each side claimed the other had violated the truce. What resulted was an almost endless chain of retaliations, averaging 2,980 combat incidents per month.

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1965 Ford Mustang Shelby GT350



Dr. Robert Webb

This is #2 in the series about why we should be concerned with seniors taking so many pills. Today it's: What's Polypharmacy and why seniors need to be treated differently.

Polypharmacy is defined as *the use of multiple medications* or the administration of more than are clinically indicated; some authorities define it as *when more than four* drugs are taken.

Research reports seniors feel better and live longer when on fewer drugs. Although drugs have helped many patients, taking too many produces more side-effects and fewer benefits. <u>Over 500 studies support this and the following</u> is a sample of concerns:

• Polypharmacy increases the risk of needing a nursing home, more difficulty walking, more illnesses and hospitalizations, and dying sooner than expected.

- When those over 80 years of age have a drug reaction, 25% will need admission to hospital.
- Up to 52% of seniors take at least one Potentially Inappropriate Medication [PIM] (see below).
- 71% of Adverse Drug Reactions [ADR are side-effects] are potentially avoidable. The following factors increase this risk: 1) Having over five chronic conditions (diabetes, heart
 - disease, Parkinson's, etc);
 - 2) Taking more than 12 doses of drugs each day;
 - 3) More drugs means more risk on 2 meds, there's a 6% risk; on 5, it's 50%; and on 8 meds, 100% will have an ADR! 4) A history of a previous reaction; or, being underweight, over age 85, or having chronic kidney disease.

Seniors are not simply 'older' adults. As we age, our metabolism changes, altering the drugs' effects. It is inappropriate to apply drug research done on middle-aged people to elders, because seniors have more drug-related problems-such as falls/fractures, confusion, delirium, and malaise ["don't feel good"].

Next: #3. Drugs to avoid: Beer's List of Potentially Inappropriate Medications [PIM's].



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@hofts.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 Hospice of the Shoals.

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01-20

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Notes... **Continued from page 4**

The last few copies of Memories of Coffee High School 1917-2004 are available at PSI on Court Street in downtown Florence put together by Rose Sullivan, a former yearbook sponsor at Coffee. It is compiled from all 87 Coffee Pot annuals. Parts of all decades are included with sections such as Sports, Clubs, Faculty, Who's Who, and more... Too much to mention. The hard back book has 110 pages of memories, \$45. If you can't get to Florence, mail a check payable to Rose Sullivan, 313 Government Blvd., Muscle Shoals, AL 35661. She will get one in the mail immediately.

Gospel Singing - Saturday, January 16, 7pm, at the Cloverdale Community Center with The Voices of Victory from Tupelo, MS. Heavenly Blessed will backup. Everyone welcome for a good time of fellowship.

Shoals Democratic Club 2016 Meeting - Monday, January 18, dinner at 6pm, meeting at 6:30pm at Operating Engineers Hall, Dr. Hicks Blvd., Florence. Donations accepted for meal. Please bring desserts and drinks.

Cloverdale Neighborhood Watch **Meeting** - Monday, January 18, 7pm at Cloverdale Community Center.

The Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP) and the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) will host a Public Meeting from 9:30am-3pm on January 20 to obtain input regarding special education services. Participation by concerned citizens at this meeting provides an opportunity to identify issues and unmet needs relative to educational services for children with disabilities throughout the state. Comments from the public will be received from 1–2pm. Alabama Industrial Development Training Center (AIDT), 15

Technology Court, Montgomery, AL Alternative participation will available through WebEx. A request for access information in order to listen to the proceedings via computer, and if desired, to offer any comments during the scheduled public comment time period of 1-2pm should be made by e-mail to Ms. Susan Goldthwaite (sgoldthwaite@alsde. edu). Interpreter services for the hearing impaired will be available at this meeting.

Written comments may be sent to Ms. Goldthwaite either by mail at ALSDE, Special Education Services Section, Post Office Box 302101, Montgomery, Alabama 36130-2101, or by e-mail at sgoldthwaite@ alsde.edu.

For directions to the AIDT conference room, please contact Mr. Ray Glasscock by calling 334-242-8114, or by e-mail at rayg@alsde.edu.

Monthly Covered Dish Lunch and **Program** at the Zip City Community Center, Thursday, January 21 at 11:30am. Please bring a covered dish. Everyone is welcome.

Fourth Saturday Breakfast at the Zip City Community Center, January 23 from 6:30-9am. Menu includes eggs, sausage, bacon, biscuits, gravies, grits, juice and coffee. Adults \$6, children under 10, 20 percenter under for Center prepare \$3. Proceeds used for Center expenses. Everyone is invited.

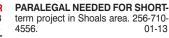
January is the time of year that we begin to consider ways to live better, and women of all ages have perhaps more priorities to balance than ever before. Celeste Coffman, an Associate Licensed Counselor under supervision of Alicia Kelly, LPC-S, will host "Organization & Productivity for Women" on Saturday, January 23 at Mosaic: A Wellness Place, 1801 N. Wood Avenue in Florence at 1:30pm and advance tickets are required. Ticket cost is \$50. Women who attend will spend time reflecting on their goals and achievements from 2015 while making plans for an even better 2016. Coffman will provide guidance in setting priorities and managing goals, as well as multitudes of tips for organizing meals, children's schedules, work and more. Interesteo parties may read more about this event at buy tickets at https://goo.gl/JL7wrr

ENPLOyettes

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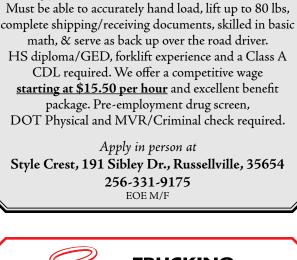
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Florence Parks and Recreation Department/The Club (Florence Senior Center), 450 Country Club Drive in Florence will host two free nights of modern western square dance lessons Monday, January 25 and Monday, February This is NOT like the square dance you experienced in school. Fun, healthy, hobby for men, women, kids, couples and singles. New friendships set to music. Give it a try. Hosted by The Singing River Squares. Caller/Instructor: Chuck Bermele. The Club is an alcohol/drug free facility. For inquiries call 256-760-6420 or 256-767-7946

See NOTES... page 30

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Commentary

12

Speaking Softly with a Small Stick

resident Obama's executive

action on gun control grabbed

In A

Few

Words

TOM MAGAZZU

Editor

a lot of attention from media brownnosers last week since they are completely on board with anything that can whittle away at your 2nd Amendment rights. My inbox was full of accolades from just about every leftleaning news outlet and

columnist. The reality is that nothing really changed with regard to the law. Most right-thinking people don't agree with "any gun for anyone, regardless. However, the topic is very sensitive in nature and requires discussion by someone trustworthy to satisfy our

concerns. This president may be sincere in his beliefs, but he is anything but trustworthy.

His wishes supersede everything. In addition, the left is never satisfied with one or two small steps on any reform. They won't be on this topic, either.

Last week's comprehensive media event was complete with a heavy Twitter push with #StopGunViolence. During the speech the White House tweeted several dozen false or misleading claims about guns.

The NRA is always portrayed as this generation's primary domestic facilitator of murder and mayhem. The President continued to promote the premise that gun registration loopholes and ineffective background checks

See SPEAKING... on Page 25

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



Courier Journal

SHEFFIELD-The Tennessee Valley Art Association's Ritz Cinema Society will screen the documentary "Art and Craft", Sunday, January 17 at 3pm at the Ritz Theatre in Sheffield.

The film focuses on the personality and history of Mark Landis of Laurel, Mississippi who used his talent to duplicate the painting styles of some of the Worlds most notable artists. But Landis did not sell his work. Posing as a philanthropic donor for more than 30¹ years, he gave his forgeries to more than 46 credible art institutions in 20 states. A tenacious curator discovered the decades-long ruse and exposed Landis' legacy as a counterfeiter. Sam Cullman, Jennifer Grausman, and Mark Becker direct, "Art and Craft." Admission is \$8 for adults, \$5 for students

Sam Phillips

FLORENCE-Acclaimed music historian and author Peter Guralnick comes to Florence-Lauderdale Public Library January 14 at 6pm to talk about Sam Phillips: The Man Who Invented Rock 'n Roll, his new book about the

Florence native who founded Sun Records. During this special event, Guralnick will

in the

For Tickets call the Ticket Office 256-765-5466 or email Ticket Mgr. Jenn Sharp at jlsharp1@una.edu





the Tennessee Valley Museum of Art, 256-383-0533. Tickets will also be available online at ritztheatre.ticketleap.com and at the door. The box office opens at 2:30pm.

be interviewed by Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and author Hank Klibanoff. The

See PHILLIPS... on Page 20

King Jr. Unity Breakfast on Monday, January 18 from 8-10am at the Shoals Conference Center. The theme is, Reforming the Criminal Justice System in America. The speaker is the Honorable Helen Shores Lee, Circuit Judge, 10th Circuit, in Jefferson County, Alabama. Tables of ten are \$275. Individual tickets are

NEW ROCK CHURCH

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ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT

GROUP meets Thursday, January 14 at 6pm at Muscle Shoals Public Library History Room, at 1918 East Avalon Ave. in Muscle Shoals. It is sponsored by a partnership of liberty Baptist Church and C.A.R.D. (Coalition of Alzheimer's and Related Disorders) of Northwest Alabama. Call 256-810-5518 for more information.

and Tennessee Valley Art Association members. For tickets or additional information, contact

Library Hosts Discussion of



Recertified. and What?



home. Almost any residence has access to cable, broadcast, or satellite TV with a variety of channels which give a clear picture of a failed foreign policy. Our friends do not trust us and our enemies do not respect us. That seems more like an F than an A+. I have been in negotiations in the Middle East and recognize how difficult it is. However, Hussein has lost every point and is placing our country and allies at risk with his incompetence in dealing with our enemies.



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

Editor:

After reading the article, "IEDC: Holt is Recertified," I can't help wondering where all of the high quality jobs Holt

and others are bringing to the area are? I'm sure he, Forrest Wright at SEDA, local mayors, and many other public officials make a pretty good living, some of which taxpayers support. It's time they started doing something. The Shoals NEEDS jobs or companies that employ a good numbers of people and pay a decent wage.

Every week or so we hear of good jobs coming into Huntsville or Decatur. The Florence area needs that too, and there is plenty of space for them. It's time these highly-skilled developers AND city officials start doing something to earn their pay and help the citizens in this and surrounding areas.

Shirley Woods Waterloo

prove that violent crime is much higher in areas where gun control laws are strictest.

Which Cave is His?

Dear Sir:

I am writing to comment on a letter by Mr. Joe Fairer (The President Gets an A+) in the December 9 issue of the Courier Journal.

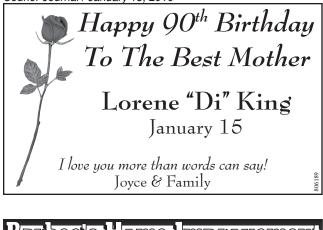
He awards Hussein an A+ in foreign policy. I assume that this is intended as satire. If not, I would be very interested in the grading standard that he uses and the location of the cave that he calls Jimmy Wayne Cosby Rogersville

The Truth is the Truth

Editor:

I have had the pleasure of listening to our President talk about gun control

See LETTERS... on Page 20





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area

UNA Hosts Honor Festival at Norton

By Carole Maynard UNA Dept of Music

FLORENCE– The UNA Department of Music "UNA strin will host the UNA Honor currently r Orchestra Festival on January 15 and 16. This event, in its second year, will bring together 80-100 talented string students from Alabama, Tennessee and Georgia.

Once again led by Shoals Symphony at UNA music director Dr. Daniel Stevens, the festival has grown exponentially over the first year, leading to the formation of a second string orchestra this year.

"I'm pleased with the overwhelming response to our Honor Orchestra event," said Stevens. "The formation of a second Festival orchestra, the Orchestra, under the baton of Etowah Youth Orchestra conductor Michael Gagliardo, has led to the need to audition students for entrance into each group."

The top 42 students who audition are invited to play in the Honor Orchestra, directed by Dr. Stevens. These students have the unique opportunity to sit side-by-side with the professional musicians professional musicians of the Shoals Symphony at UNA at the Honor Orchestra Concert on Saturday, January 16.

"Any time that we can open the door for emerging, talented students to gain insight from experienced musicians, it creates a win-win situation for all

involved," said Stevens. One thing Dr. Stevens wants Honor Orchestra participants and audience



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WE ARE ALL FAMILIAR WITH those "self checkout" kiosks at major retailers. You use a laser reader to scan barcodes, manually input some items such as fruits and vegetables and bag the stuff yourself. Many avoid them but I use them all the time

because I enjoy interacting with robots more than humans. However, I don't know much about them and I bet you don't, either. So as I am wont to do in these articles, I'm

going to delve into something that I know nothing about in an attempt to understand it.

First, I've always been curious how "secure" these things are with regards to theft. Why can't someone simply swap labels or "accidentally" not scan an

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CHECK THIS OUT

by "The Computer Skeptic"

item and place it into their bag? There are some who replace the barcode of an expensive item with that of, say, a bag of fruit. The fact is, it happens all the time. One market study found that theft is about 5 times higher with self checkouts than using a cashier. Another study found that, despite the losses, the cost of additional theft is generally seen as preferable to the cost of manned checkouts. Technology to prevent this kind of thing include cameras that monitor your every move, RFID computer chips and scales but, at the moment, nothing beats the watchful eye of the store

01-20

employee that is trained to look for suspicious behavior. Pretty soon, we will see "tunnels" instead of touchscreen kiosks. You'll simply dump all your items on a conveyor and the computer will scan it all in an instant.

I've always felt just a bit guilty for using these metal robots instead of a meat person. I have the feeling that the cashier two aisles away is silently cursing me for using the robot instead of securing her job. Turns out that that ancient claim that was debunked way back when robots started building our cars. New technology

resulted in efficiency which resulted in an explosion of car manufacturing that employed millions more meat people. According to economists, this kind of technology decreases costs, which increases demand, and ultimately results in higher employment.

One of my frustrations with these things is when I scan vegetables. For example, if I want to purchase fresh zucchini, I have to perform a search using the touch screen. The problem with that is that I cannot spell zucchini, so it takes a while to bag that item.

Technology is coming to the rescue here with the advent of robots that can visually recognize the difference between a zucchini and banana and between me and

a string bean. Other new technologies coming down the pike include the ability to completely

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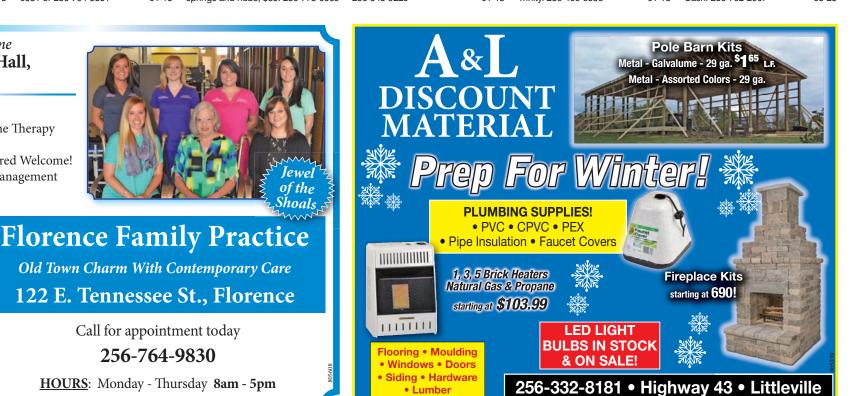
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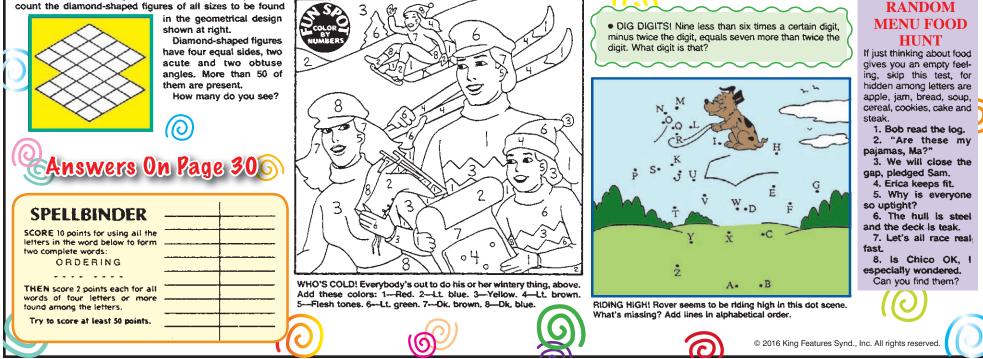
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by Hal Kaufman STONE WALL! Let's go on a diamond hunt. Object is to







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The Top 5 New Year's **Pet Resolutions for 2016**

The new year is online reservations at over accommodations across the upon us. It's time to take a look back on the past year and determine what we might want to change, do better or accomplish in 2016. For pet parents much of this reflection applies to the lives they share with their pets.

TripsWithPets.com surveyed pet parents and asked them what resolutions they've made for 2016 relating to their pets.

Here are the top five 2016 Pet New Year's Resolutions. 1 - Healthier Diet: Feeding their pets better quality food is at the top of pet parents list this year! They've been doing their research and are wanting to do all they can to ensure their little ones live a long, happy and healthy life. Whether it's gluten-free, grain-free, dairy-free, soyfree, corn-free, raw food, unprocessed food, or probiotics - pet parents are coming for you in 2016! 2 - Daily Walks: Whether

it's a walk through the park, a stroll around the neighborhood or a jog along hiking trails, 26% of pet parents surveyed plan to get outside each day and move with their pets this year. They cited exercise, maintaining their pack leader status, and bonding as their motivation for walking their pooch more often.

3 - More Outings: More car rides, doggie bakery visits, beach outings, and family vacations, are among the activities that respondents said they are resolved to doing more of with their four-legged family members. Getting out and spending some quality time with their pets to make that bond even stronger is at the top of many pet parents minds this year!

4 - Socialization: As more pet parents opt to take their pets on more outings, there comes the need to better social them. Fifteen percent of pet parents polled are committed to helping their shy, skittish, or fearful pet become more comfortable around people, other pets, and in public places.

5 - Training: A close Ending

9/30/16

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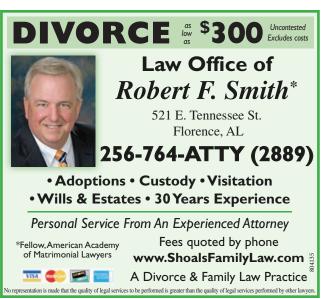
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COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES AND EXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

	FOR THE FISC	AL YEAR ENDED SEP	IEMBER 30, 2015			EXIBIT F-II-A
		GOVERNM	ENTAL		FIDUCIARY	
FUND TYPES DESCRIPTION	GENERAL	SPECIAL REVENUE	DEBT SERVICE	CAPITAL PROJECTS	EXPENDABLE TRUST	TOTAL (Memo Only)
REVENUES						
STATE REVENUES	22,082,068.72	347,543.69	323,412.45	647,263.55	0.00	23,400,288.41
FEDERAL REVENUES	2,478.00	5,080,360.10	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,082,838.10
LOCAL REVENUES	16,479,424.26	1,662,630.89	10,848.93	3,164,965.18	1,113,837.03	22,431,706.29
OTHER REVENUES	271,487.00	125,694.30	0.00	0.00	0.00	397,181.30
TOTAL REVENUES	38,835,457.98	7,216,228.98	334,261.38	3,812,228.73	1,113,837.03	51,312,014.10
EXPENDITURES:						
INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES	22,777,202.26	3,620,146.01	0.00	444,617.27	257,690.44	27,099,655.98
INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES	7,059,567.27	812,186.33	0.00	404,513.37	483,178.75	8,759,445.72
OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE	4,895,180.87	29,338.37	0.00	155,064.15	14,971.62	5,094,555.01
AUXILIARY SERVICES	1,734,510.93	3,075,055.12	0.00	0.00	77,813.62	4,887,379.67
GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES	1,169,511.25	117,813.50	0.00	40,716.58	0.00	1,328,041.33
CAPITAL OUTLAY	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,432,460.24	0.00	3,432,460.24
DEBT SERVICES						
PRINCIPAL	0.00	0.00	901,481.30	423,318.68	5,391.14	1,330,191.12
INTEREST	0.00	0.00	1,255,600.63	10,617.70	862.65	1,267,080.98
OTHER DEBT SERVICES	0.00	0.00	6,790,931.55	0.00	0.00	6,790,931.55
OTHER EXPENDITURES	270,397.89	244,834.62	0.00	0.00	196,681.48	711,913.99
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	37,906,370.47	7,899,373.95	8,948,013.48	4,911,307.99	1,036,589.70	60,701,655.59
OTHER FUND SOURCES (USES):						
TRANSFERS IN	235,179.22	927,245.34	2,520,903.15	1,400,000.00	51,449.71	5,134,777.42
OTHER FUND SOURCES	185,605.49	0.00	7,200,000.00	364,799.25	0.00	7,750,404.74
TRANSFERS OUT	910,861.00	185,099.32	0.00	3,920,903.15	117,913.95	5,134,777.42
OTHER FUND USES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL OTHER FUND SOURCES (USES)	(490,076.29)	742,146.02	9,720,903.15	(2,156,103.90)	(66,464.24)	7,750,404.74
EXCESS REVENUES & OTHER SOURCES						
OVER(UNDER)EXPENDITURES & OTHER FUND USES	439,011.22	59,001.05	1,107,151.05	(3,255,183.16)	10,783.09	(1,639,236.75
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE - OCT 1	6,706,202.81	1,198,605.70	334,120.60	13,488,838.77	471,823.19	22,199,591.07
ENDING FUND BALANC - SEP 30	7,145,214.03	1,257,606.75	1,441,271.65	10,233,655.61	482,606.28	20,560,354.32
RENCE CITY SCHOOLS						
School Warrants Series 2009-A		n Warrants Series 2015			ation Warrants, Series 20	012
Service Schedule	Debt Service So			Debt Servic		
d.	Period	•		Period	•	

Period Ending Principal Interest Total 9/30/16 105,000.00 165,708.75 270,708.75 Period Principal Ending Interest Total 9/30/16 1,240,000.00 810,000.00 2,050,000.00 00.00

EXIBIT E-II-A

cousin of socialization, training comes in as the fifth most popular pet resolution of 2016. We all can't have the perfectly mannered pet, but a good number of pet parents plan to devote the time to curb some notso-favorable behavior. From teaching Rover not to bark at house guests and drag you while on walks to practicing better recall (getting your dog to come when called) and training your cat to stay off kitchen counters...pet parents are ready to put on their pet whisperer hat!

About TripsWithPets.com TripsŴithPets.com is premier online pet friendly

travel guide -- providing

5/50/10	333,000.00	12,102.50	007,702.50		5/50/10	105,000.00	105,700.75	270,700	5.75	5/ 56/ 10	1)2 10)000100	
9/30/17	615,000.00	53,863.75	668,863.75		9/30/17	110,000.00	164,795.00	274,79	5.00	9/30/17	1,280,000.00	
9/30/18	635,000.00	33,233.75	668,233.75		9/30/18	110,000.00	163,227.50	273,22	7.50	9/30/18	1,335,000.00	
9/30/19	655,000.00	11,298.75	666,298.75		9/30/19	110,000.00	161,027.50	271,02	7.50	9/30/19	1,390,000.00	
TOTALS 2	2,500,000.00	171,178.75	2,671,178.75		9/30/20	690,000.00	153,027.50	843,02	7.50	9/30/20	1,550,000.00	
					9/30/21	705,000.00	139,958.75	844,958	8.75	9/30/21	1,625,000.00	
Apple Lease					9/30/22	715,000.00	126,640.00	841,640	0.00	9/30/22	1,710,000.00	
Debt Service Sch	edule				9/30/23	730,000.00	111,277.50	841,27	7.50	9/30/23	1,800,000.00	
Period .					9/30/24	745,000.00	94,125.00	839,12	5.00	9/30/24	1,890,000.00	
Ending Prin	cipal Int	erest T	otal		9/30/25	765,000.00	75,622.50	840,622	2.50	9/30/25	1,975,000.00	
9/30/16	113,116.21	12,747.15	125,863.36		9/30/26	785,000.00	55,855.00	840,85	5.00	9/30/26	2,065,000.00	
9/30/17	119,319.67	6,543.68	125,863.35		9/30/27	805,000.00	34,581.25	839,58	1.25	9/30/27	2,050,000.00	
TOTALS	232,435.88	19,290.83	251,726.71		9/30/28	825,000.00	11,756.25	836,75	5.25	TOTALS	19,910,000.00	_
				TOTA	ALS 7	200,000.00	1,457,602.50	8,657,602	2.50			
QSCB Funds												
Debt Service Sch	nedule			Series 2014 P	SFA Bonds (Lev	araged)	Pro	gress Bank	- Band Booster		Period	
Period				Debt Service S		ciageuj		ot Service Se			Ending	
Ending	Principal I	nterest	Total	Period	Seriedule			iod .	lieuule		9/1/16	5
0	•				Principal	Interest			Principal	Interest	9/1/17	
9/30/16	0	28,590.44	28,590.44	9/30/16				1116 1	meipai	interest	9/1/18	
9/30/17	0	28,590.44	28,590.44	9/30/17	,	,		9/30/16	5,125.73	1,120.97	9/1/19	
9/30/18	0	28,590.44	28,590.44	9/30/18	,	,	36.94	9/30/17	5,383.24		9/1/20	
9/30/19	0	28,590.44	28,590.44	9/30/19	206,666.4	16 88,2	25.83	9/30/18	5,658.66		9/1/21	
9/30/20	0	28,590.44	28,590.44	9/30/20	216,296.0)8 78,6	85.10	9/30/19	5,941.23		9/1/22	
9/30/21	0	28,590.44	28,590.44	9/30/21	227,407.	67.5	92.52 TO	TALS _	22,108.86		9/1/23	
9/30/22	0	28,590.44	28,590.44	9/30/22	,	,	35.13	=	,	,	9/1/24	
9/30/23	0	28,590.44	28,590.44	9/30/23	,	,	85.15				9/1/25	
9/30/24	0	28,590.44	28,590.44	9/30/24	,	,	05.53				9/1/26	
9/30/25	0	28,590.44	28,590.44	9/30/25	,	,	59.24				9/1/27	
9/30/26	1,533,000.00	7,147.76	1,540,147.76	9/30/26	,	,	57.40				9/1/28	
TOTALS	1,533,000.00	293,052.16	1,826,052.16	TOTALS	2,465,182.3	,					TOTALS	-
-												1

Total Total Principal Interest 2.244.167.68 1.199.808.96 2,321,554.57 1,123,648.82 2,284,547.35 1,035,476.67 948.443.60 2,367,607.69 2,456,296.08 852,753.04 749.216.71 2,557,407.18 2,663,888.65 640,865.57 2.781.110.86 525.503.09 2,899,073.81 403,220.97 3,017,777.50 284,422.18 4.589.296.09 160,635.16 2.855.000.00 65.331.25 11,756.25 825,000.00 33,862,727.46 8,001,082.27

713,500.00

659,000.00

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513.075.00

429,700.00

341,950.00

249,700.00

162.950.00

92,475.00

30,750.00

5,361,350.00

2,048,500.00

2,049,000.00

2,142,450.00

2.138.075.00

2,139,700.00

2,141,950.00

2,139,700.00

2.137.950.00

2,157,475.00

2,080,750.00

25,271,350.00

20

Letters... The Truth is The Truth

Continued from Page 12

and climate change. Let's look at climate change first. look at climate change first. What was originally called "Global Warming" is now "Climate Change" although the rhetoric is unchanged. Thousands of scientists, including the founder of the Weather Channel, have asserted that the changes in weather are natural in weather are natural events that are unaffected by human behavior. This does not play well with the politics or business of the global warming boom.

The former vice-president has made millions of dollars promoting global warming and related business interests. Of course anyone who stands opposed with scientific evidence backing their position is called a liar. control. Gun The Democrats love this. Their position is more government control and additional spending to take the right to own guns away from honest citizens while refusing to enforce the laws that would incarcerate those who commit criminal acts with guns.

Statistics prove that violent crime is much that higher in areas where gun control laws are strictest. Since facts do not support the President's position he calls those opposed to his position, liars. Sound familiar?

I have owned and enjoyed hybrid autos for the fuel economy while understanding that the total carbon footprint of a hybrid car is not much different from one powered by fossil fuel. This is due to the manufacturing and

disposal of the batteries. I am also a gun owner with a license to carry a firearm. I think anyone who uses a gun while committing a crime should be put in jail for a long time with no chance of parole. Enforcing laws that are already on the books would take care of that.

Of course if you think like I do, you are a liar... because Obama said so!

Jim Brasfield Florence

American Voter Sees Failure

1979 CHEVROLET IMPALA, 2 door, \$3,500. 256-412-092. 01-20

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without title. 256-394-1984 STAINLESS COLT GOLD CUP National Match Enhanced Model, \$1,200. 256-762-8025. 01-13 \$1,200. 256-762-8025.

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2004 SUBURBAN Z71, 4X4, FULLY loaded, \$8,950. 256-998-6383 01-20 **2012 MITSUBISHI ECLIPSE GS,** 63k, \$11,977. Financing. Call Hoke 256-740-1297 or 256-764-3351 01-13

_etters...

American Voter Sees Failure

Continued from Below

establishment Republican Party. The American people are fed up with a President who continually violates established Federal Law, and the Republican controlled Congress does absolutely nothing. From his failure to enforce the Immigration Laws passed by Congress to his use of ÚS taxpayer dollars for his own junkets to his release of prisoners from Gitmo to trade for the deserter Bergdahl. Then his blatant abuse of the NLRB to the executive orders which he has used to refine our country and our economy. Barack Obama has been the worst President of this country that I have ever seen. Looking forward to the 2016 election, I see a Republican Party that is focused on infighting within the party rather than the Presidency! I am not a Trump supporter; rather a Ted Cruz supporter, and the longer the GOP focused on destroying Donald Trump's campaign by any means the closer they draw to electing Hillary Clinton (Satan herself). The American people cannot understand why the GOP Congress has not tried to bring letters of IMPEACHMENT against Dictator/President this who is set on destroying America.

The Republican party is doing very little to win the White House and even less to support the American people who are absolutely FED UP with the way this party is functioning. What evangelical conservative Christians are looking for is a candidate who speaks his mind, and who is not afraid of the corrupt politicians who are more concerned about being elected President than doing what is right for the American people. My Bible tells me, "A double-minded man is unstable in all his ways." Candidates like Marco Rubio, a member of the gang of eight, wants blanket amnesty for people in America who are here ILLEGALLY. Now that he is running he has changed his tune!

In 1968 when I voted for the first time I voted as a Republican. I have done so in every election since! My concern is that most republics have only lasted about 250 years, and unless the Republican Party starts ending the corruption and waste, America is DOOMED! I hope some of these candidates who are more concerned about getting elected POTUS than standing up for the American people will get out of the race. They are certainly not doing anything to continue the principles this country was founded on.



Courier Journal Power Page

01-20

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Editor:

I recently sent a letter to RNC chairman, Reince Priebus. I explained that I am a 68 year old collegeeducated man who wanted to share a perspective of what the average American who is deeply concerned about the direction of our country and the Republican Party! The salient points are below.

The reason people are so strongly supporting what Donald Trump is talking about is because they are fed up with the Federal Government and the

See LETTERS... Top Right

*PACKAGE OFFERS: Base package prices include Instant Bill Credit for 12 months. Customer must, at point of sale, activate and maintain a qualifying programming package and Auto Bill Pay. After 12 mos., then prevailing rate for base package applies (currently: \$49.99/mo. for SELECT) unless canceled or changed by customer prior to end of the promotional period. ^GENIE HD DVR UPGRADE OFFER: Includes instant rebates on one Genie HD DVR and up to three Genie Minis with activation of the SELECT Package or above; OPTIMO MAS Package or above; or any qualifying international service bundle, which shall include the PREFERRED CHOICE programming package A \$99 fee applies for Wireless Genie Mini (model C41W) upgrade. Free upgrade offer requires a Genie HD DVR and at least one Genie Mini. \$99 fee applies for single-room setup. Whole-Home HD DVR functionality requires a Genie HD DVR connected to one television and a Genie Mini, H25 HD Receiver(s) or a DIRECTV Ready TV/Device in each additional room. Limit of three remote viewings per Genie HD DVR at a time. Visit directv.com/genie for complete details. < GENERAL TV SERVICE TERMS: Subject to Equipment Lease Agreement and DIRECTV Customer Agreement. Must maintain a base TV package of \$29.99/mo. or above or international service bundle. Advanced Receiver fee (\$15/mo.) required for all HD DVRs. TiVo service fee (\$5/mo.) required for TWo HD DVR from DIRECTV lease. There is a fee of \$6.50/mo. for each receiver and/or Genie Min/JDRCTV Ready TV/Device on your account. \$19.95 Handling & Delivery fee may apply. Non-activation charge of \$1.50 per receiver may apply. Taxes not included. Programming, pricing, terms and conditions subject to change at any time. Installation: Standard professional installation included in up to four rooms only. Custom installation extra. Applicable use tax adjustment may apply on the retail value of the installation. Visit directv.com/legal or call 1-800-DIRECTV for details. To access HD programming, HD television required. Number of HD channels based on package selection. ©2015 AT&T Intellectual Property. All Rights Reserved. AT&T, Globe logo, DIRECTV, and all other DIRECTV marks contained herein are trademarks of AT&T Intellectual Property and/or AT&T affiliated companies. All other marks are the property of their respective owners



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		\$8,998.		
availab	ole. Call	Shannon	256	-412-
1551 o	r 256-764	4-3351	0	1-13

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	IEVRO			

cloth, 121k, \$11,448. Financing. Call Brandon 256-710-4598 or 256-764-01-13 3351

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Philip Goodale Florence

21





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1997 CHEVROLET MONTE CARLO LS, 6 cyl. \$2,850. 145k mi., 256-247-6004 www.capautosales.com 01-13

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condition, leather, sunroof, brand new tires. \$5,500. 256-686-3689. 01-13

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DAVE

WANTED FISHING BOAT/ MOTOR

Says 01-27

GOALS LIMITING ONE ANOTHER

by DAVE RAMSEY

Dear Dave,

My husband and Ι are currently renting an apartment for \$1,200 a month. Together, we bring home about \$7,000 a month, and we'd really like to buy a house soon. Right now we have about \$10,000 in debt on a boat along with ongoing stable bills, food and upkeep for our three horses. What price range of houses should we look at in our situation? Michelle

Dear Michelle,

Homeownership is a great goal, but first you two need to clean up your debt and build an emergency fund of three to six months of expenses. After that, I want you to save up enough for a down payment of at least 10 to 20 percent. When buying a home on a mortgage, I always recommend the monthly payments be no more than 25 percent of your monthly take-home pay on a 15-year, fixed-rate loan.

Now, let's get to the other issues. You have some things in your life that are pulling at you financially. At some point, you may have to take a long look at the situation and ask the hard question, "What is more important to me: horses and boats or home ownership?" Getting rid of that boat, or finding new homes for one, two or all of vour horses, would bring in some cash to put toward your debt and cut down on at least some of the animal maintenance.

Anyway, that's how I would look at it. My wife and I both are big fans of boats and horses. But we like boats more. One reason is because they don't eat as much! I can't get mad at you about either one, but right now you've got three things pulling at you as money and business, and financial priorities — home CEO of Ramsey Solutions. ownership, a boat and three horses. They're all pulling York Times *best-selling* at you, and they're pulling *books*. The Dave Ramsey

Courier Journal / January 13, 2016

Dear Patrick,

I truly doubt that I can explain it to your satisfaction, but here goes. First, the credit card company did not give you a free trip to Europe. They're not going to lose money on transaction after transaction, year after year. The fallacy is that you feel like you've outsmarted a multi-billion dollar company that studies human behavior at incredible levels. You maybe, possibly came out ahead against them during that particular calendar year, but even

that's debatable. Over the course of your life, you'll spend more when using credit cards as opposed to cash. There's plenty of research proving this to be fact. If you use a credit card repeatedly with the idea that you're getting a free trip to Europe because you're building up your miles, you spend more. An example would be McDonald's. When they started taking credit cards years ago, they found that the people using them spent 47 percent more.

In a good way, you are very unusual. You're not playing over in the stupid zone like most people who use credit cards. But both I and the credit card companies have found that, on average, your behavior would put you in a class of less than onehalf of one percent of their customers. Can 0.5 percent of people handling snakes manage not to get bitten? Sure. But that doesn't mean I'm going to start recommending snakes! —Dave

Dave Ramsey is America's trusted voice on CEO of Ramsey Solutions. He has authored five New



Alabama's Largest Direct Mail Weekly

& Canvas Art

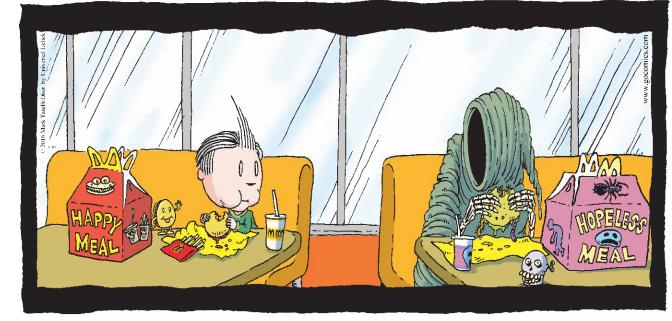


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BY MARK TATULLI





THE BOLD AND THE BEAUTIFUL The tension between Brooke and Bill was palpable as they began working together at Spencer Publications. Rick offered Sasha a position in his company. Nicole filled Maya in on how her friendship with Sasha had always been of a competitive nature. Meanwhile, Sasha had aspirations of obtaining more than just a job at Forrester Creations. Katie assured Rick that Brooke could be trusted around Bill. Because Nicole had selflessly sacrificed so much of herself for him and Maya, Rick made a sacrifice of his own. Nicole's insecurity got the best of her when she witnessed how much attention Zende was receiving from other females. Sasha's hopes got dashed. Wait to See: A oncesolid marriage comes to an end.

DAYSOFOURLIVESChad proposed to Abigail. Rafe offered to help a traumatized Victor comforted Hope. Maggie over Daniel's death. Steve was stunned when Ava revealed the story behind the baby pictures. Andre learned the truth about Chad. Theo found a cruel message inside his locker. Melanie returned to Salem to help plan her father's funeral. Nicole had a difficult time dealing with Daniel's death. Eric was wracked with guilt over his actions. Eduardo gave John key information about his mother. Andre became suspicious of Hope. Eric and Brady shared an intense confrontation. Later, Brady had an odd dream involving Nicole. Caroline described another disturbing vision she had about Victor. Wait to See: Hope confesses to murder.

GENERAL HOSPITAL Johnny put his master plan with Valerie into motion. Carlos made a heartfelt appeal to Sabrina. Lulu's guilt got the best of her as she started to realize that there was no simple solution to repairing her and Dante's marriage. Anna sought out Robert for help. The success of Crimson's green issue put the tax-dodging Julian on edge. Alexis nixed the idea of having an engagement party. Johnny's plans for Valerie put her life in jeopardy. Incriminating photos of Johnny and Lulu turned up at the PCPD. Hayden was torn between acting on her head or her heart. Wait to See: Kristina makes a confession. THE YOUNG AND

AND THE RESTLESS Kevin turned down Victor and Jack's offers to invest in his project. The tension was thick between Noah, Luca and Marisa at Newman Enterprises. Michael delivered surprising news to Jack. Lily confronted and slapped Hilary over how she was treating Devon. Meanwhile, Devon told Cane he couldn't bring himself to walk away from Hilary. Victor warned Noah of the importance of sticking to their plan and not losing his cool. Cane informed Lily that he wasn't ready to move forward with their relationship. Victor scolded Nikki after finding out that she was on a lunch date with Neil. Mariah was shocked at how bravely Kevin stood up to Jack and Victor. Wait to See: Kevin smells a con.

GREAT FOR SECURITY - REAL bright yard light, works good. \$100. 256-286-3101 01-13

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 JETTA
 SE,

 leather, all power, 45k, \$11,988.
 Financing.
 David 256-415-0331 or 256-764-3351 01-13

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CLEAN TOPSOIL DUMP TRUCK loads Big/Small Delivered and spread. 256-740-7406 www.ShoalsDirt.com 01-13

2012 MAZDA6 I SPORT, CLOTH, locks, 67k, \$10,456. Financing call Matt 256-810-0283 or 256-764-3351 01-13

2006 FORD TAURUS SEL, 113K miles, leather seats, V6 automatic, \$4,000. 256-483-9322 or 256-247-0988 01-20

2011 HARLEY DAVIDSON FLHTCU two-tone, merlot/black (Ultra Classic). 6,803 miles, stored under cover, full history, many extras. \$15,500. 256 348-5898 01-20

DAVE'S HOME REPAIRS- Sheetrock repair, plumbing, carpentry, electrical, tile, painting, decking, siding, pressure washing References, Quality work. 256-702-2983

2012 FORD FUSION SE, LEATHER, power, 88k, \$11928. Financing available. Call Hoke 256-740-1297 or 256-764-3351 01-13





Red The It - See Page 6



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pet connection

CROSSPET?

Fitness training for your dog (or cat) includes balance work, stretching, tricks and aerobics

By Kim Campbell Thornton Universal Uclick

The holidays are over, you're back at work or school and you're still enthusiastic about your New Year's resolution to get in better shape. I think most of us commit to some version of that resolution every year: to exercise more, take up a new activity, eat right. Include your pet in that fitness resolution, and

flowing (especially if he has been crated for any length of time), some active stretches such as downward dog (a play bow) and a counter stretch such as "frog dog" for groin muscles. A trick such as "wave" or "high five" is a good

stretch for limbs and shoulders. Complete the warmup with some sits and downs and a rubdown to get the blood flowing.

Balance exercises to build a strong core (think "pupilates") include sitting up on the hind legs; walking a plank — a board placed atop two balance discs so it's a little wobbly when the pet crosses it; or standing on single or multiple balance discs. Core exercises can also be as simple as having your pet stand or walk on a sofa cushion or inflatable bed. "Dogs need core strength to keep their spine and pelvis healthy and happy," Dr. Otto says. "A lot of dogs end up losing their lives because of hind end weakness. Bad hips and bad backs are big causes of euthanasia." Balance work doesn't take long. Spend three to five minutes daily practicing these exercises with your pet. If your dog has a long back or doesn't have good control, be cautious and go slowly with difficult exercises such as "sit pretty.'

Courier Journal

a precious black & white loves people! The Pet of the Week which includes spay or neuter & rabies! To learn more, call the Colbert Shelter at 256-381-4073.

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.

Courier Journal / January 13, 2016



girl! She is adorable and so sweet!!! She is great with other dogs and SPECIAL ADOPTION FEE IS \$15,



Hi! I'm KATRINA & I'm the sweetest Boxer girl you'll ever meet! My favorite thing to do, besides getting treats, is giving you hugs. I like to play with other dogs but I'm happiest when I'm with my human. And I love kids too! Won't you please take me home? I'm currently enjoying life in rescue in Sheffield, AL until I find my forever home! I'm 3 years old, spayed and fully vetted! **ADOPTION FEE \$75,** giant

crate included with adoption. Please call, text or leave a message Michelle Ray, 256-762-6111 for inquiries about Katrina only.

Hi there. I'm EVE and definitely the lady you've been waiting for! I'm a lab mix was born April, 2005. Yes I'm a little older but I still have lots to give. I'm very laid back. I do great with other dogs and children. I'm living in an apartment now but it wouldn't take anything to get me house trained with the proper fenced in back yard. I'm spayed, up to date on my shots, and micro chipped. If you're interested in being my forever family, please call PAWS at 256-383-0690



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proprioception, or body awareness. Learning to back up, fitting all four feet in a box and spinning in both directions are all skills that can help to build this ability.

Exercises for building strength and proprioception include walking up hills or walking sideways up hills. Backing up a hill strengthens the rear end while backing down a hill strengthens the front end. Other good strength exercises are "pushups" — repeated sits and downs — rolling over in both directions, crawling and trotting through the rungs of a ladder on the ground.

"Fit dogs have muscle tone," Dr. Otto says. "Just being thin isn't enough."

To find a class, do a web search for "fitness class for pets." You can find classes for puppies, seniors and people and pets of all fitness levels.



petouzz Pacemaker gives dog new leash on life

A 7-year-old bulldog named Joe is the first canine recipient of a state-of-theart pacemaker, a small device that helps to control abnormal heart rhythms. The human-grade pacemaker, implanted by Auburn University veterinarian SeungWoo Jung, stimulates more of the heart than older models more commonly used in dogs. Older-style pacemakers regulated only the heart's bottom chamber, while newer models regulate top and bottom chambers. Manufacturers have made the devices available to veterinary cardiology programs at low or no cost.

• Max and Bella top the list of most popular pet names of 2015, followed by Charlie and Buddy for male dogs and Lucy and Daisy for females. The trend toward human names for pets has been going strong for several years (last year, 49 percent of pet lovers chose "people" names for their dogs and cats), but pop culture is a force as well. "Star Wars" fans are naming pets Chewbacca, Yoda and Wicket, not to mention Luke and Leia. And who wouldn't name a Lab Boba Fetch? "Harry Potter" aficionados name pets Luna or Dobby as well as variations on the scarred wizard himself: Harry Pawter or Hairy Potter, anyone? · When foxes nearly wiped out a colony of fairy, or little, penguins on Australia's Middle Island, the flightless birds were rescued by an unusual savior: a Maremma sheepdog named Oddball. The uninhabited (except by penguins) island was invaded by foxes, who crossed to it from the mainland during low tide and feasted on the tiny penguins, which stand only 8 to 12 inches high. A chicken farmer suggested that his Maremma, a guardian breed, be used to protect the birds. That was 10 years ago, and the experiment was a success - the fairy penguin population has risen to 200. Currently, two dogs named Eudy and Tula patrol Middle Island, and a new puppy is in training to start work this year. – Dr. Marty Becker, Kim Campbell Thornton and Mikkel Becker

ou'll improve his health, performance and longevity, says veterinary sports medicine specialist Cindy Otto, DVM.

My cavalier Harper and I started a little early with this resolution when we attended a working dog fitness class last November, led by Dr. Otto. The exercises we learned are often taught to working dogs and canine athletes to help them stay agile and teach them body awareness, but any pet can benefit.

"I think pet dogs benefit even more because often they're bored to tears, they're fat and they don't have anything to mentally stimulate them," Dr. Otto says. "I think the whole process, especially training and working with your dog, changes your relationship."

A pet workout isn't that different from one you might do for yourself. It includes a warmup, stretching, balance exercises for core power, strength training and a cool down. You can take a fitness class with your dog or learn some simple strategies to work with him on your own, using equipment you may already have or can build easily.

A warmup is as simple as walking your dog around for a few minutes to get the blood

Another important aspect of fitness is what's known as

Dogs and cats can benefit from "core" and strength training.

Distributed by Universal Uclick. (800) 255-6734.

Commentary...

Speaking... Continued from Page 12

are the cause of all terrorism and mass killings. He's nothing if not an opportunist.

founders gave The enough importance to our right to bear arms as to cite it second in the Bill of Rights just after our freedom of speech. Our founders despised misuse of government power. They envisioned the dreadful possibilities. An unarmed citizenry is a very compliant one.

The 2nd Amendment is a last preventative measure against tyrannical overreach, exactly the kind of overreach this President seems to enjoy.

There are several points we need not forget. I'm sure the President

was touched, but that tear running down his cheek for innocent victims of gun crimes was grossly misplaced. He has had several chances to defend millions of the youngest lives from innocent premeditated deaths far more insidious than a bullet. He spit on ALL those

show registration loophole is pure grandstanding. Anyone in the business of selling firearms knows that being licensed and conducting background checks is already law. Existing laws need better enforcement.

Online firearm sales are not as frequent as they would have us believe. Online outlets and retailers with an online presence are still bound by existing laws. Purchased items are not sent directly to the buyer. They must be sent to a dealer holding a federal firearms license in the state of the purchaser, a third party holding bay of sorts. The purchaser is not allowed to take possession of the firearm until a federal background check is completed.

President The has personally orchestrated a precipitous drop in the prosecution of gun crimes. The inner city communities are the areas most racked by drug trafficking and gun violence in addition to being the primary areas he claims to support. Obama has ordered federal prosecutors to ignore congressionallymandated minimum sentencing guidelines for drug traffickers, some of the most ruthless criminals opportunities. in America, who use Obama's citing a gun guns as the collection and in America, who use

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enforcement tool of choice. The lax guidelines have resulted in early release of over 40,000 convicted felons, many of which are already involved in other violenť crimes.

It seems that this president doesn't want to reduce gun crimes as much as he wants to reduce black incarceration rates.

difficult It is to understand how otherwise smart people think that enacting laws specifically to control lawbreakers does anything to change the behavior of those lawbreakers. Most notably, those who want to kill others or create news with a firearm don't recognize any law of deterrence. They will find a firearm one way or another, even if they have to stab someone else to death in order to get it. As is always the case, gun control laws only impact law-abiding citizens - who are not the problem. It will be interesting to see how gun permit requests spike over the next 90 days.

No U.S. President has the authority to usurp through executive order what is outlined in the Bill of Rights.

What should be the most terrifying prospect for us is that he and those in his camp think he should have that authority. And this is a first step to establishing such authority for a future President.

Almost as terrifying should be the fact that the gun control lobby wants to mandate mental health background checks on anyone purchasing a gun. Furthermore, they want to be the arbiters of what constitutes limited incapacity in that regard. You can bet your backside that senior citizens, military conservatives, veterans, Biblical Christians, tea-party members, and supporters of Israel will be among those most strenuously evaluated. Progressives work their

tails off to keep firearms from the hands of felons; yet they want all felons to have unregistered and unqualified access to the voting booth.

Their decisions could be equally as skewed there, just not as deadly.

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Darrell Brewer, Owner - Former Manager of Molly Z's

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Retiline It - See Page 6

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Parkinson's Disease: Recognize Early Onset Symptoms

Classic motor symptoms, writing can be impacted. movements and reflexes, called bradykinesia, are Parkinson's. help identify the disease diagnosis may motor conditions present themselves.

Since Parkinson's is a chronic and progressive neurological disease, symptoms are often mild other detect, according to the The cramped, and letters tend Movements may different for some patients a pen and write. than others and may progress at different paces. limb. Tremors usually begin of posture may develop. repeated symptoms of

disease. Dopamine controls is a tremor between the unable to stand up straight. neurologist.

movement disorder. walking, talking and when the limb is at rest. symptoms.

to look for and discuss with get out of a chair. a doctor.

• Tremors take place in a

• Pace or activities slow more easily, may occur. such as tremor, rigidity Depression or anxiety down. Parkinson's disease and extreme slowness of may accompany other may reduce one's ability Changes in speech can to move and may slow begin, including hesitating The National Institutes down movements. An before speaking, slurring typically used to identify of Health says Parkinson's early symptom may be a words or speaking in a However, disease affects as many noticeable slowing down monotone voice. identification of other, as 500,000 people in the insteps or ability to react to more subtle symptoms may United States. An early something, like a ball being masked face. This describes help thrown one's way. Some a vacant or fixed stare and years before more obvious improve quality of life and with Parkinson's may drag lack of facial animation. delay the onset of greater their feet or shuffle as they motor issues. Here's what walk or find it difficult to increase.

• Micrographia and movements and functions People with Parkinson's handwriting can occur. Difficulty with may experience vivid at the onset, becoming issues occur. Those with unconscious movements, dreams and nightmares, more severe over time. Parkinson's disease may such as blinking, smiling as well as an inability Initial symptoms may be start experiencing changes or even swinging arms, to stay asleep. Daytime so subtle that they're even in their handwriting. may occur when a person drowsiness may also occur. difficult for specialists to Penmanship may look has Parkinson's disease. Michael J. Fox Foundation to be smaller than normal uncoordinated and stiff. mimic those of Parkinson's for Parkinson's Research. (micrographia). Individuals Increased salivation and may be caused by other Symptoms also may be may find it difficult to hold perspiration also may be conditions. indicators.

Tarkinson's disease movement and mood, so thumb and forefinger. Balance issues, such as is a neurological when dopamine is affected, Tremors usually occur greater incidences of falls or being able to tip over

• Speech can change.

• Others may notice a

• Sleep issues may Parkinson's disease can affect sleeping • Loss of automatic patterns and behaviors.

Parkinson's disease is be rare, and symptoms that However, if you or someone you • Poor balance and loss know is experiencing Dopamine loss is a in the hands or fingers and People with Parkinson's any of the ones described major contributor to may even mimic a pill- disease may hunch over here, speak with your the onset of Parkinson's rolling technique, which more and more and be general practitioner or a

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28

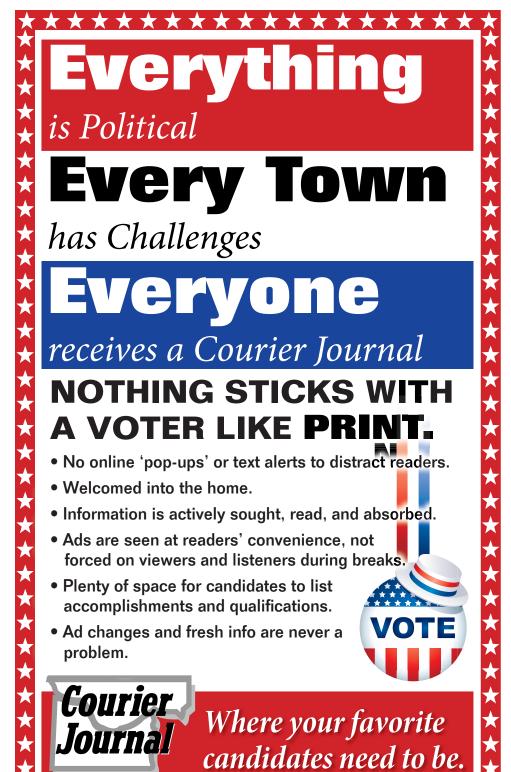
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Battle of The Giants

Back in the 1960's one of Logan was referring to was the Shoals Area's biggest football rivalries was the annual battle between the Russellville Golden Tigers and Colbert County Indians. The 1967 game was one of the greatest classics in this storied rivalry. Russellville had opened their brand new stadium the year before and came into the game with a perfect home record since the stadium's inauguration.

The game was actually a battle of two halves. The Indians, behind the offensive firepower of players like Dempsey Dickerson, Jimmy Isbell and the McCormack's: William, Dan and Roy dealt the Tigers defense misery in the first half. Russellville countered with top-notch players like Lanny Norris. Terry Pounders and Jeff Fuller.

Dan McCormack put Colbert County on top with a two-yard touchdown run on fourth down. William McCormack's extra point gave the Indians an early 7-0 lead. Pounders scored from one-yard out and Fuller added the extra point to tie the game at 7-7. Melvin Johnson's 17-yard touchdown run and the ensuing extra point game the Indians a 14-7 lead.

The classic battle had already made an impression on one Leighton youngster. Freshman Rodney Logan remembers the game vividly. "As a kid, it was certainly an exciting game," Logan said "and one thing I remember was a strange play right before halftime." The play

turned in by Russellville's Ricky Saint.

Saint picked up a fumbled punt and set sail for the end zone. Around the 25-yard line, Saint was hit and fumbled the ball. Russellville's Lanny Norris, who was trailing the play, scooped up the loose ball and took it in for a touchdown. Norris said "I remember the ball taking just the right bounce to me." Norris, who later played for Bear Bryant at

Alabama, said the play and reminded him later of the jerrywknight@comcast.net

"Punt, Bama, Punt" game against Auburn in 1972.

With the game now tied at 14, the Indians came roaring back. Dickerson hit Roy McCormack with a 41-yard scoring strike to give Colbert County a 20-14 halftime lead. The Indians stopped the Golden Tigers at their own 12-yard line midway of the fourth quarter.

With their ten-game winning streak on the line, the Golden Tigers would get one last chance. Bobby Burcham hit Joey Watson with a 15-yard scoring strike to tie the game at 20-20. The Indians defense blocked the extra point try and thus one of the most memorable games in this rivalry would have no winner. The tie would be the only blemish on the Golden Tigers 41-game unbeaten streak.

E-mail comments suggestions to:







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Reilling It - See Page 6



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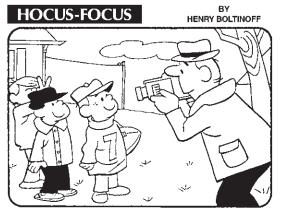
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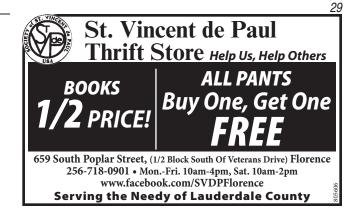
Phillips...

Continued from Page 14

New York Times calls Sam Phillips a "book so thoroughly steeped in its subject that it is almost an autobiography in the third person." The book was included in The Washington *Post's* Notable Nonfiction Books of 2015. Copies of Sam Phillips: The Man Who Invented Rock 'n' Roll will be sold and signed at the event.



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Notes... **Continued from page 10**

The Monthly Shoals Second Amendment Meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 26 at the Momma Jeans #3 restaurant on Cloverdale Road. We eat at 6pm and the guest speakers begin at 7pm. This month Shadrack McGill, a candidate for U.S. Senate, will be speaking and will be available for Q&A as well. The meeting is open to the public and free to attend. For more information please visit Shoals Second Amendment on FaceBook or contact Jeff Hopper at 417-527-2223.

Red Cross Blood Donations This

Holiday Season: Wednesday, January 27, 9am-2pm, Florence High School, The Dome Gym, 1201 Bradshaw Dr, Florence.

Donors can schedule an appointment at or get additional information at www. redcrossblood.org Teresa Becker 256-990-

5th Saturday Night Singing at 2nd Baptist Church, Sheffield, corner of 5th and Frankfort, Saturday, January 30, 6:30pm. Featuring Three in One. Everyone welcome.

Colbert County Animal Control needs volunteers at the Colbert shelter to help walk, play with, and love our shelter dogs keeping them acclimated to human love and contact for their eventual adoptions! Please join our team! We are completely full and desperately need more volunteers! We are open Monday - Friday, 10am - noon and 1:30-5pm. Parent required for those under 16 years old. 5010 Missouri Street, Tuscumbia 256-381-4073

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The Chapel on Oakwood is a wedding and event venue located in the heart of the Shoals. Originally built in the 1920s, the chapel features the original exposed wood beams and hardwood floors. The downstairs has been updated to offer spacious suites for both the bride and groom. Our sizeable lot is also a great place to host your outdoor reception.

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Northwest Alabama Reading Aides in conjunction with the American Stroke Assoc. and ECM Hospital sponsors a Stroke support Group for stroke survivors and their caregivers on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of every month at noon at the Reading Aides Office, 501 N. Seminary St. Please call Jim at 256-766-5709 for more info.

Is food a problem for you? Do you eat when you are not hungry? Do you binge, purge or restrict? Overeaters Anonymous Meeting Thursdays, 6pm, 505 N Seminary St, Florence. Contact person: Bill 256-335-2514. No dues, fees, diets, or weigh-ins

Highland Park Church of Christ is providing a Community Grief Support group during the months of December and January, free of charge.

Meetings are each Wednesday of December and January at 12noon. Meetings will last around 1-1½ hours. The final meeting will be on January 27, 2016. For more information, call the church office at 256-381-8311. Highland Park Church of Christ is located at the corner of Woodward Avenue and Geneva Avenue, Muscle Shoals. Group leaders are Cayron Mann, ALC & Becky Daugherty, ALC.

The Nutrition Program at The Club (Florence Senior Center) Will Be Closed until January 4. Our staff and friends wish you a Merry Christmas and hope you will spend 2016 with us at The Club during one of our many activities. Chair exercise classes, art classes, nutrition program, guest speakers, board and card games, square dance lessons, dance opportunities, shuffleboard, horseshoes, cozy concerts and more. Cozy Concert with John Tibbs, February 18. For more information, about activities please call 256-760-6420. The Club is an alcohol and smoke free facility.

Submissions for the 2016 George Lindsey UNA Film Festival are now open. The Lindsey Film Festival will hold its 19th annual event March 3-5 at the University of

North Alabama in Florence. Filmmakers and screenwriters can submit their work for consideration at Film Freeway: https://filmfreeway.com/festival/ GeorgeLindseyUNAFilmFestival . The cost for

submission is \$5 per film or screenplay. The George Lindsey UNA Film Festival accepts professional and student films in the narrative, documentary, and vanguard categories, as well as works by young filmmakers

For more information on the 2016 George Lindsey UNA Film Festival, Cynthia Burkhead at 256-765-4592 or lindseyfilmfest@una.edu.

Are you Interested in fostering an animal? Fostering gets cats and dogs out of the shelter and clears space for incoming animals. New foster homes are restricted to animals pending transport to a new home or rescue (usually 1-2 weeks), pregnant or nursing animals, and some special needs cases. If you are interested in fostering, please fill out the form at the following web link: https://secure.mailjol.net/allforms/ u/3275823d.php

Want a job? Want a better job? Get your GED! Free GED Prep classes are located near you. The program is open entry with new students starting classes weekly. For more information, call the Northwest-Shoals Community College Adult Education Program at 256-331-5440 or 256-331-5438.

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Veterans Charities Need Our Support

by Freddie Groves

Now that the holidays have come and gone, it's time to think about how we'll handle the new year -- and that includes what charities we'll support.

The big thing, as always, is to avoid the scammers. Unfortunately, when it comes to supporting veterans and active-duty endeavors, the scammers are out in full force, either pocketing the cash or misdirecting it.

Here are two sites to investigate to make sure you don't give money to a scam operation: Charity Navigator (www.charitynavigator.org) and GuideStar (www.guidestar.org).

One of the best and most worthwhile for-military charities I know of is **Operation Gratitude (www. operationgratitude.com)**. I've written about it before, coaxing you to send a few dollars when it's trying to hit a big goal, such as their next 100,000 packages. Now I'm asking you to consider regular monthly giving. Each \$15 you donate will get one box of goodies mailed to a service member.

The boxes are loaded with snacks, flash drives, toiletries, iPods, books, games, socks, comic books, T-shirts, hats, DVDs and players, batteries, puzzles ... and sometimes even the keys to a new vehicle waiting when the service emember gets home. If you check the photos and thank-you letters at the website, you'll see just how appreciated those boxes can be for service members far from home.

At the OpGrat website you can choose to send a check, sign up for monthly giving or even have it taken out on your credit card. It's up to you.

If you absolutely can't give money, can you write letters? Each box that's sent out includes a few letters, written by schoolkids, retired military, families ... everybody pitches in. Check the website (look under the Volunteer dropdown menu) for hints about the content of letters and where/how to send them.

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Future For The Saved

God has plans for the saved, born-again child of God. Romans 8:29 "For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren." 2 Corinthians 5:1 "For we know that if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens." Philippians 3:20-21 "For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change

our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself." 1 John 3:1-2 "Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not. Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when he shall appear, we shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is." Just as the devil's children will resemble him (serpent) (see the words of Christ in Mark 9:44 & 46 & 48), so will we resemble the image of our heavenly Father, who is Jesus Christ. See Hebrews 1:1-3.

Ephesians 2:6-7 "And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus: That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus." 1 Corinthians 2:9 & 12 "But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God." Dear born-again saint of God, you should thank Him every day for the tremendous future that is ahead for us. The lost are not so fortunate. My lost friends, when you pass into eternity, don't







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