

219 W Tennessee St. Florence, AL 35630 256-764-4268

MAPCO Now on Pine St.

FRANKLIN, TN-- The MAPCO convenience store at 1315 N Pine St. in Florence has reopened following a full rebuild. The Pine St. rebuild is part of MAPCO's continuous endeavor to create a place where guests can and recharge with quality products and superior service at a value that is relevant to them.

The 1,280 sq. ft. location now boasts a bright, modernized design with natural light throughout the store and in the restrooms. While the sitting area is temporarily closed to comply with social distancing guidelines, there is free in-store Wi-Fi, a roller grill serving a selection of hot food, healthy options, a new bean to cup coffee machine and a cappuccino machine, along with a host of merchandise for guests to stock up while they refuel.

The store raise and rebuild completes the refresh that began last year with new pumps and a new fuel canopy with LED lighting for more visibility at the store. It is one of 343 MAPCO stores throughout the southeastern U.S.

Run-Offs, No Crossovers

SHOALS – Voters who are going to the polls next week are reminded that Alabama passed a law in 2017 that prevents crossover voting.

That means whichever party primary a voter participated in, they have to stay with that

See SHORTS... on Page 6

Volume 136 Number 37 July 8, 2020

Courier Journal

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POSTAL PATRON

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RETURN ADDRESS 219 W. Tennessee St. Florence, AL. 35630 256-764-4268

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Changes at Easterseals

New Location and Administrator

MUSCLE SHOALS-- Alabama Department of Summer 2020 is an exciting time at the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center in Muscle Shoals.

June 26 marked the organization's move to its brand-new facility at 1615 Trojan Drive.

The new building houses Easterseals Speech Therapy and Vocational Services programs, the Adult Vocational Rehabilitation offices of the

Rehabilitation Services, and Robin Irwin Physical and Occupational Therapy Services.

Easterseals Work Center has a new location at 2827 Avalon Avenue in the Muscle Shoals Industrial Park.

In addition, Easterseals welcomes a new executive administrator to lead the organization into the next decade. Jerry Groce of Russellville brings a professional lifetime of experience and success in



Groce

See REHAB... on Page 6

Are You Prepared For The Hot Alabama Summer? Take advantage of our...

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\$69⁰⁰

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AL HVAC 51114 AL PLUMBING MPPS 3489 AL ELECTRICAL 91889

For information about advertising in this spot, call 256-740-4701

Easterseals Rehabilitation Center has moved into its new home at 1615 Trojan Drive in Muscle Shoals, one block off of Avalon Ave. just south of the former facility.

Photo illustration: Courier Journal Staff



Thankful for Una's Full Life

FLORENCE – Una, the beloved female mascot of the University of North Alabama, passed away peacefully Tuesday morning after a brief illness at the George M. Carroll Lion Habitat on the UNA campus. She was 17.

Una was born in 2002 in New Hampshire. She and Leo moved into the George H. Carroll Habitat in 2003. Una and Leo have represented the university since then as mascots, appearing at events early on in their tenure and celebrating birthdays with the community. Una is the first female African lion mascot for UNA.

A memorial will be planned for Una later this year.



MORE INSIDE

Inside this Issue



Ray Miller Buick / GMC
Oakley Auto Sales
National Advance Auto Sales
Jeff Elledge Auto Sales

- Computer Skeptic
- Ask the Attorney
- Guest Op-Ed: Black History
- Hocus Focus



- Tribute to Una
- Athletic Support
- Medicare Minute
- Savvy Senior
- Junior Whirl



- Virtual Job Fair
- Adopt-A-Friend
- Dave Ramsey
- Soap Updates

SIGNS of the PAST

Online Only:

- Pet Talk
- Web Poll
- Outdoors

Mystery Photo **WIN A MEAL FOR 2** at PAPA'S CANTINA



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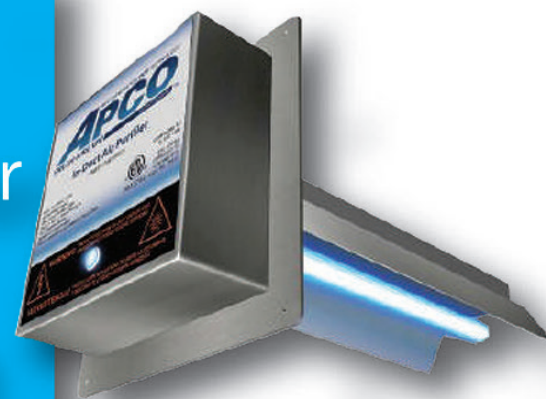
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LOST CAT!! LARGE ORANGE male, neutered, from Cedar Townhomes, June 21. **REWARD!** 256-767-6321.

FREE KITTENS TO A Good Home, 3 males, tiger striped, Call 256-616-1981 Moulton area

WE BUY WORKING AND Non-Working appliances at Bernie's Used Appliances, 4306 Huntsville Road, Florence, AL 256-767-0909.

KENMORE REFRIGERATOR, RUNS COLD, \$100. •Chest Deep Freezer, freezes, \$100. 256-974-1087.

SEWING MACHINE REPAIR, MOST makes & models. Free estimates. Ken's Sewing Center, 256-381-0161.

BIG COUNTRY'S LAWN SERVICE. Grass cutting, pressure washing. Free estimates, flexible payment. Greg, 256-412-8772.

NISSAN: SENTRA SV, 2009 \$4,200. Great shape, 2nd owner, high highway miles, 29mpg. 256-355-0961.

GUTTER GUARD SPECIAL, GUTTER Clean Out ,Gutter Guards, Seamless Gutters. Gutter Works 256-394-3497

JR. LAWSON TREE SERVICE-tree trimming, stump grinding, removal. Licensed/ bonded, free estimates, 256-856-7028

BUYING BATTERIES \$5 AND up! Holt's Radiator & Automotive, 607 Tyler Ave., Muscle Shoals. 256-381-5341

2002 CHEVROLET BLAZER, ASKING \$1,100 OBO. Also have a 2008 Hundai Accent Transmission, asking \$830, call 256-224-2687

GUNSMITHING CERAKOTE, REFURBISHING, TRIGGER WORK, etc.
 We also sell/trade guns, ammo, holsters, magazines, etc. Special orders welcome.
Shotglass Guns Inc.
 Just off Cloverdale Rd., Behind Bama Pools, 256-349-5051

FORD: FOCUS, 2008 \$9,450. Limited, white with black leather. 83K actual miles, NEW TIRES. 256-527-2125.

2003 HITCHHIKER II 5TH WHEEL LS Deluxe Series Camper, in great condition, \$10,500, 256-229-5256

RED LINE YOUR ADS. SEE PAGE 6

HOME IMPROVEMENT AND BUILDING: siding, additions, garages, painting, decks, Free Estimates. 256-383-3218

BUICK: REGAL LIMITED, 1983 \$5,500. Creme color. Well Kept and one owner. IMMACULATE! Car was babied. 256-856-7047.

VACUUM CLEANER REPAIR, MOST makes & models. Free estimates. Ken's Sewing & Vacuum Center, 256-381-0161.

MANSELL ROOFING, DISCOUNTS TO Veterans, and Seniors, all work guaranteed, Free estimates, 256-383-3218

2005 SUZUKI C50, MANY extras, 38K miles, \$2,700 obo. 256-627-8021.

MANSELL ROOFING, DISCOUNTS TO Veterans, and Seniors, all work guaranteed, Free estimates, 256-383-3218



REDUCED!!! 3 DAYS ONLY!! 2010 Kubota M96SD with loader, 4x4, 96 HP, Extra Clean, \$23,500 internet - take \$19,800. 256-810-7238.

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Barnes Health Care Pharmacy 221 N. Court Street Historic Downtown Florence 256-764-3961

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Yard Sales

An exclusive listing of the better sales in the Shoals area.

To list your sale, fill out the form on page 6.

WE MUST receive your ad by Friday prior to the Wednesday release date. (8 days before a Saturday sale)

TUSCUMBIA: 103 CALIFORNIA DRIVE Sat. 7AM-Until. Various items, Coach purses included.

FLORENCE YARD SALE, 7305 Dalewood St., Bellemeade Sub. off Hwy 72, Sat., 11th. If rain sale will be Sat, 18th

ST. FLORIAN YARD SALE 331 Spring Cove Rd.

Take Hwy. 47 past Happy Hollow Bridge Sat. 7 am-until? Collectibles, toys, child's antique china tea set, furniture, framed pictures, beautiful mirror, oil lamps & electric lamps, Nikon 35mm camera with case & flash, large set Noritake China & much more!

TUSCUMBIA MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE, 4265 Hawk Pride Mountain Rd., (3.4 miles off of Hwy 72 West) Fri. 6 am-until? and Sat. 6 am - 2 pm, Tools, Household, Furniture, Clothes, etc. Too much to list!

MUSCLE SHOALS: 204 MELISSA Dr., Sat. 7am-2pm. Some furniture, teen clothing, misc. household items and more!

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

FLORENCE 4-FAMILY CARPORT SALE 2302 Belview Rd. (Off Cloyd Blvd) Fri & Sat 7am-2pm Cut Glass, Furniture, Household items, Toys, Jewelry, etc.

MUSCLE SHOALS: 300 WEST Richton Avenue Fri. and Sat. 7AM, **3 Family Sale!**

RV/TOY HAULER EN-CLOSED 6X12. Full Kitchen-AC. 1-axle. \$4,995. 256-980-4666.

WANT TO BUY: BRINDLE BOXER PUPPY. 256-353-8158 (DECATUR)

JR. LAWSON TREE SERVICE- tree trimming, stump grinding, removal. Licensed/ bonded, free estimates, 256-856-7028

BUICK: LUCERNE CXL, 2008 \$5,495. Aqua grey with grey leather, 151K miles, Nice and Clean! 256-867-5192.



1997 TIFFIN ALLEGRO BAY diesel Pusher motorhome. Really nice with only 68000 miles. 256-762-4313. \$18,900

ANTIQUE DINING TABLE WITH Six Chairs, \$300 obo Call 256-565-3482 Decatur area

LOOK

KIA OPTIMA LX 2015 Pearl white with gray interior. 56k miles. Excellent Condition. Asking \$10,600, obo. 256-702-6210.

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SEVERAL ROLLS OF UPHOLSTERY materials, \$25 a roll. Call 256-229-5189. Lexington area

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I BUY JUNK AND repairable vehicles and catalytic converters. Call Michael 256-702-8400

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2005 Chrysler Sebring 81K/Miles \$800 Down + \$70/week	2011 Nissan Maxima 111K/Miles \$1,500 Down + \$80/week	2006 Dodge Magnum 197K/miles \$1,200 Down + \$70/week	2006 Mercury Mountaineer 180K/Miles \$1,200 Down + \$70/week
2003 Ford Ranger 215K/Miles \$600 Down + \$70/week	2003 Ford Explorer 198K/Miles \$1,000 Down + \$70/week	2003 Chevrolet Tahoe 193K/Miles \$1,200 Down + \$70/week	2010 Honda CRV 159K/Miles \$1,500 Down + \$80/week
2008 Ford Fusion 168K/Miles \$1,200 Down + \$70/week	2007 Toyota Highlander 218K/Miles \$1,200 Down + \$70/week	2013 Chevy Cruze 178K/Miles \$1,200 Down + \$70/week	2011 Lincoln MKX 202K/Miles \$1,500 Down + \$90/week

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FENCES & DECKS: We Build, years of experience. Call for bids. Greg 256-335-7663

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WANTED: MARS HILL BIBLE School Yearbooks 1955-1958 Also **Rogers High School** Yearbooks 1958-1959, 256-740-7379

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ETHAN ALLEN FURNITURE: CURIO/CHINA cabinet, \$400 obo. China cabinet, \$600 obo. Roll Top Desk and Chair, \$800/excellent condition. 256-627-8021.

GENERATOR, PREDATOR, 6000 WATT, \$375. Only ran for 6 hours. 256-980-4666.

LOOKING TO BUY USED .32cal, .380cal, or 9mm pop-up barrel pistol with bottom clip. 256-446-3483 (Ford City, AL)

LOOKING TO BUY USED .223cal mini-14 rifle. 256-446-3483 (Ford City, AL)

CHEVROLET: MALIBU, 2015 \$11,000 obo. Only 42K miles, grey, **SUPER CLEAN,** cloth. 256-702-5099.

WESTERN AUTO WIZARD TILLER, chain drive, \$225, 256-383-1074 Tuscumbia

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BUYING BROKEN WASHERS AND Dryers. No Front Loads, 256-275-7699.


FISH TANK, 20 GALLON Complete set up, just add fish, \$70, 256-766-4900, Florence area

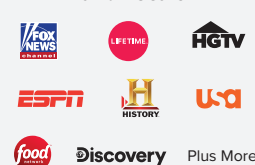

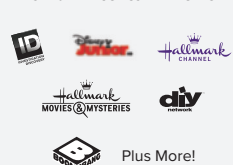
LOOKING FOR A MALTESE or Cockapoo dog, one to two years old. Call 256-446-9982

SNAKE PROOF BOOTS SIZE 9.5-10, 15" tall, \$90, 256-702-1194 Florence

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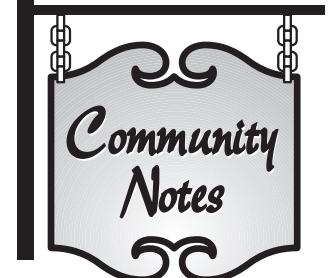
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COMMUNITY NOTES may be submitted for non-profit, civic or church-related events and published free of charge AS SPACE IS AVAILABLE in the Courier Journal. Community Notes must be submitted in writing by 3pm Friday for consideration in the following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

- Email to editor@courierjournal.net;
 - Look for "Submit News" on our website at www.courierjournal.net.
 - Fax to 256-760-9618;
 - Mail to 219 W. Tennessee St, Florence, AL 35630; or
 - Bring in person.
- All properly submitted Community Notes which are dated will be posted weekly at www.courierjournal.net. We do our best, however, there is no guarantee that this free information will be published in the paper. Visit our website for a complete list of community notes. If your item MUST appear in the paper a certain week, we suggest you also place a paid ad by calling 256-764-4268. That way it will be in at least one area of the paper. When your community note is published, your event will have coverage in two different locations.

Singing at Muscle Shoals Church of God, 1700 Firestone Ave. on July 11 at 7pm and July 12 at 10:45am with Micheal Knight and Redeemed from Georgia

Cloverdale Community Center will not have lunch in July.

Third Saturday Night Singing hosted by Meet Jesus at the Crossroads Church, located at the corner of County Roads 7 and 8 in Florence, at 7pm on July 18 featuring Alabaster Voice come on out and join us.

Richardson Cemetery of Waterloo Needs Your Help with donations to keep the cemetery mowed. If you have loved ones there we would appreciate any donations. Send donations to: Farmers & Merchants Bank, Waterloo for Richardson Cemetery.

Ekklesia Ministries Summer Feeding Program for Kids and Teens is underway at various locations throughout the Shoals area. Areas serving food - Oakhill Apartments, Blake Apartments, Long Lowe Apartments, Manning Homes, Ekklesia Church, Florendale Apartments, Hermitage Knolls, Sheffield Jr. and High Schools, L.E. Willson, Threadgill Health Depart., Colbert County Band, Common Ground, and Community Action Partnership.

At every site the meals will be hot nutritious meals that are packed to GRAB-and-GO. Lunch and snack will be available to children to take with them.

The July meeting of the Shoals Writers Guild is canceled. The Guild will reconvene when the library resumes hosting meetings.

Scam Alert! Florence Utilities received reports of a scam recently. Someone pretending to be with the Florence Utilities may ask for payment through PayPal or bank account information and threaten to cut off service for non-payment. Florence Utilities says it DOES NOT call customers to ask for payment information and WILL NOT come to your house to evaluate an account. If you have any concerns about your utility account, please call Customer Service at 256-760-6512. If you are ever in question about a scam call or someone at your door, call your local Police Department or 911.

The Shoals Artist Guild will have a meeting on Friday, July 17 at 9am at McFarland Park. For those who will attend, we are asking that you bring your own lounge chair and mask. We will be asking for your input on future ventures. We will also be discussing positions in our Guild and upcoming shows.

We are asking members to please attend. Please bring your questions and ideas.

Shoals Artist Guild Meeting - We are planning a meeting on Friday, July 17, 2020, at 9:00 AM, at McFarland Park. For those who will attend, we are asking that you bring your own lounge chair and mask. We will be asking for your input on future ventures. We will also be discussing positions in our Guild and upcoming shows.

We are asking members to please attend. Please bring your questions and ideas.

See NOTES... page 10

3579940-1

SIBERIAN HUSKEY PUPPIES
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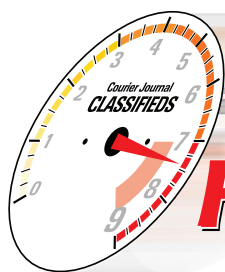
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Shorts...

Run-Offs, No Crossovers

Continued from Page 1

party during the runoff on July 14.

If you voted in the Republican primary, you can participate in the GOP runoff. If you voted in the Democratic primary, you can vote for Democratic candidates in the runoff. What you can't do is crossover and vote in the other party's runoff next week.

If you're an independent, you had to choose a party during the primary and you must stay with that party on July 14. Those who didn't vote in the primary are free to cast a ballot in either party's runoff.

None of the crossover prohibitions exist in the November general election. Voters may cast a ballot for whomever they want in the general election, no matter which candidate or party they supported in the primaries.

Deadline for Absentees

MONTGOMERY-In order to protect the safety and well-being of our voters, Secretary of State, **John Merrill**, encourages those who are concerned about contracting or spreading the coronavirus to apply for and cast an absentee ballot.

The deadline to submit an absentee ballot application is Thursday, July 9. The deadline to return an absentee ballot to the Absentee Election Manager is the close of business Monday, July 13. The last day to postmark an absentee ballot is Monday, July 13.

Absentee ballot applications can be downloaded online at <https://www.sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes/voter/absentee-voting> or requested from the local Absentee Election Manager's office.

Colbert County: **Mark R. Eady**, 256-386-8511.

Lauderdale County: **Missy Homan**, 256-760-5728.

Voters may also contact the office of the Secretary of State at 334-242-7210 to request an absentee ballot application.

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8:00am - 5:00pm

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Rehab...

Continued from Page 1

the field of social services administration to his new position. Groce was the Regional Manager over eleven DHR County Directors in North Alabama before joining Easterseals.

Groce takes over the leadership position from the retiring Danny Prince. Prince served as the Easterseals' administrator for 19 years, and his retirement is well-deserved.

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Can I Stop Social Security if I Go Back to Work?

Dear Savvy Senior,
I lost my job last month because of the coronavirus crisis. With little savings, I've been thinking about starting my Social Security benefits early to help me get by. But my question is, if I find a new job can I stop my Social Security benefits and restart them at a later date so they can continue to grow?

Almost 63

Dear Almost,

Yes, there are actually two ways you can stop your Social Security retirement benefits (once you've started collecting them) and restart them at a later date, which would boost your benefits. But in order to do this certain rules and conditions must be met. Here are your options.

Withdraw your benefits: One way to pause your Social Security benefits is to simply withdraw your Social Security application. But this must be done within 12 months of starting your benefits and you'll also have to repay what you've received so far. If you choose this option, Social Security will treat your application for early benefits as if it never happened.

To withdraw your benefits, you'll need to complete Form SSA-521 ([SSA.gov/forms/ssa-521.pdf](https://www.ssa.gov/forms/ssa-521.pdf)) and send it to your local Social Security office. Also be aware that you can only withdraw benefits once in a lifetime.

Suspend your benefits: If you aren't eligible for withdrawal, but you've reached your full retirement age and have not yet reached age 70, another option is to voluntarily suspend your retirement benefits. With the suspension option you don't have to repay the benefits you've received, and you can restart them anytime you wish, or they will be automatically be reinstated at age 70. (See [SSA.gov/planners/retire/ageincrease.html](https://www.ssa.gov/planners/retire/ageincrease.html) to find your full retirement age.)

By suspending your benefits you'll earn delayed retirement credits, which means your benefit amount increases for every month of the suspension. Your payment will go up by two-thirds of 1 percent monthly or 8 percent annually. A benefit of \$1,500 monthly, for example, increases by \$10 for each month you have benefits suspended.

You can request a suspension by phone (800-772-1213) or in person at your local Social Security office.

Working and Collecting Benefits

If you start collecting Social Security and you do go back to work, but your income is modest, you may want to continue drawing your benefits while working at the same time. But if your earnings are higher, it makes sense to stop your benefits.

Social Security has a "retirement earnings test" that says if you're under your full retirement age and you earn more than \$18,240 in 2020, Social Security will deduct \$1 from your benefits for every \$2 you earn over that amount. Those who reach full retirement age in 2020 a less stringent rule applies. In this case, \$1 gets taken out for every \$3 you make above \$48,600 until you reach the month of your birthday.

It's also important to know that if you were to lose some or all of your Social Security benefits because of the earning limits, they aren't lost forever. When you reach full retirement age, your benefits will be recalculated to a higher amount to make up for what was withheld.

Also, if you do decide to work and collect Social Security benefits at the same time, you need to factor in Uncle Sam too. Because working increases your income, it might make your Social Security benefits taxable.

Here's how this works. If your combined income is between \$25,000 and \$34,000 as an individual or between \$32,000 and \$44,000 as joint filers, you will pay tax on up to 50 percent of your Social Security benefits. If you earn above the upper limit of these ranges, you will pay tax on up to 85 percent of your benefits. To help you calculate this see the IRS publication 915 at [IRS.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p915.pdf](https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p915.pdf).

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Housekeeping Openings!

Hampton Inn & Suites on Court Street is now hiring for Housekeeping. Apply in person at 505 S. Court St. No phone calls, please.

RED LINE YOUR ADS. SEE PAGE 6

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The TimesDaily has an immediate part-time opening within our inside classified sales team located in Florence.

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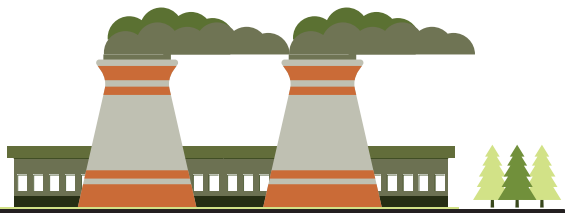
JOB POSTING FOR FAMILY DEVELOPMENT COUNSELOR

Community Action Northwest Alabama has an opening for a full-time Family Development Counselor to provide crisis intervention and counseling in the areas of energy and housing in a fast-paced work environment. Bachelor of Science (BS) or Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) with 2-years experience in human service work. No inquiries please.

Resumes taken through July 15, 2020. Please email to administrator@caanwv.org • Mailed/dropped off to:

COMMUNITY ACTION NORTHWEST ALABAMA
745 Thompson St. Florence, AL 35630

Laborers' Local Union 366 will be conducting Pre-Employment Eligibility Testing For Upcoming Nuclear Plant Outage Starting \$20.58 /hour



Please call for appointment
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Earn \$800 to \$1400 Extra Cash!

If you're looking to jump start your savings or pay a few bills, here is your chance.

The Decatur Daily is now accepting applications for carriers in the following area:

- **Decatur**
Contact: Laura
256-345-4840
- **Hartselle/Cullman**
Contact: Mabelle
256-227-7807
- **Moulton Town Creek**
Contact: Betty
256-612-3699
- **Priceville/Somerville**
Contact: Greg
256-497-0515

Community Notes...

Continued from page 4

LifeSouth Community Blood Centers can now test all eligible blood donors for COVID-19 antibodies.

The antibody test conducted by LifeSouth is authorized for use by the FDA and detects if someone has developed antibodies to COVID-19. A positive test result may indicate past exposure and some immunity to the virus. This antibody test is not a diagnostic test and will not determine if the person currently has the virus.

LifeSouth encourages donors to make an appointment to donate over the coming weeks.

For additional information, call LifeSouth toll-free at 888-795-2707 or visit www.lifesouth.org.

Donors must be at least 17 or 16 with parental permission, weigh a minimum of 110 pounds and be in good health. A photo ID is also needed.

Kindergarten 2020-21 Registration Now Open for Sheffield! If your child will be five years old on or before September 1, 2020, you must register him or her for kindergarten for the upcoming 2020-2021 school year.

Registration is simple! Go to Sheffield.Schoolmint.net and click on the "new student" button. (If you already have a child attending Sheffield City Schools, you can use the account you already have.)

From there you will enter your child's information which will include uploading some documents including their birth certificate, social security card, and you driver's license and two proofs of residency.

For assistance you may contact our counselor, Ms. Williams via email, phone, or text: mwilliams@sccs.k12.al.us or 256-285-2334.

The 16th Annual Swampers 5K and 1 mile walk/run has been postponed until Saturday, August 1. (Previously scheduled for Saturday, April 25) This race is sponsored by Shoals Civic League and is the largest event of its kind in the Shoals area with over 800 applicants last year. The August race will follow all guidelines as in the past years, with packet pickup and finish line at Muscle Shoals Middle School. To register for the race at reduced rates, go to swampers5k.com

Benefit Singing for Ms. Janice Cody hosted by Meet Jesus at the Crossroads Church, corner of County Roads 7 and 8 in Florence on August 8 beginning at 6pm with Joyful Noise and One Voice. We will be taking up nonperishable items also feel free to come out and join us.

The Day by Day, a grief support group for bereaved parents/grandparents, meets Sunday, July 12 at 2pm at Cross Point Church, Cox Creek Pkwy, in Florence. For information, email debbiec2414@aol.com.

Country Oldies Dance Hall Open Again located at 110 Town Plaza, 500 N. Montgomery Ave., Sheffield. Every Friday and Saturday night 7-9pm. Come twist, line dance, buckdance, or your choice. Best in country music. Everyone welcome!

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.

The American Red Cross has seen an outpouring of support from blood donors

in response to the coronavirus outbreak. During this uncertain time, the Red Cross continues to encourage healthy individuals to schedule and keep donation appointments in the weeks ahead to ensure a stable supply throughout this pandemic.

Each Red Cross donation center follows the highest standards of safety and infection control, and additional precautions have been implemented to ensure the health of Red Cross donors, employees and volunteers.

Healthy individuals who are feeling well are asked to make an appointment to donate later this month and after by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, using the Red Cross Blood Donor App, calling 1-800-RED-CROSS or enabling the Blood Donor Skill on any Alexa Echo device.

A blood donor card or driver's license or two other forms of identification are required at check-in. Individuals who are 17 years of age in most states (16 with parental consent where allowed by state law), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in generally good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

Did you know that there are 250 children who can't live at home in our community each month? These children

can't live at home because the very people who are supposed to protect and care for them are not able to do so. These are the children in foster care. These are the children that need someone to stand up for them when it feels like no one cares. These are the children that need a CASA Volunteer.

Please consider becoming a Volunteer Advocate for local children who need a caring and committed adult to speak up for their best interest. Call the Shoals CASA office at 256-765-0041 or check out the agency's website for more information www.shoalsCASA.org.

The NACOLG SeniorX Medication Assistance Program Supplies Free And Low Cost Medications For Anyone In Alabama With A Disability Or A Chronic Illness Regardless Of Age That Requires Daily Medication. Medicare Recipients May Also Be Eligible.

For More Information Contact Nacolg SeniorX Today. There Is No Charge For This Service. Paula Pardue at 256-389-0529 or 1-800-Ageline (1-800-243-5463)

This Program Is In Partnership With The State Of Alabama And Alabama Department Of Senior Services

The Keller Hospice Promise Foundation assists patients and families with essential, non-hospice related expenses they are

unable to afford themselves—such as rent and utility bills, emergency repairs, personal care items, and food assistance. The foundation also provides funding for patient's last wishes, burial assistance, and community projects like bereavement camps for children and educational outreach programs for end-of-life care.

When you make a donation to The Hospice Promise Foundation, 100% of your donation goes directly to patients and families in need because we are a 100% NON PROFIT FOUNDATION.

Donations can be sent to Barbie Johnson, Volunteer Coordinator, 1404 East Avalon Avenue, Suite C, Tusculumbia, AL 35674. Or contact the volunteer coordinator to answer any questions or pick up any donations: 256-314-1204 or email: Barbara.Johnson3@lhcgroupp.com.

Hospice Volunteers Needed - Veterans, Students, Retirees, everyone with an hour a week to share with someone in your community. Specific needs: Male veteran to visit WWII vet, Florence area. Hairdresser/Barber in all areas. alan.jordan@comfortcarehospice.org. 256-269-2100 Comfort Care Hospice, Sheffield.

See NOTES... page 30

I'VE BEEN TRYING REALLY HARD TO AVOID ICKY HUMANS FOR A WHILE. I

try to do my grocery or Lowes shopping in the mornings when it's not crowded. I have barriers in my office that keep 10 feet between myself and clients. I have fans blowing in my lobby to simulate the outdoors. I wash my hands, use hand sanitizer, wipe down all incoming computers with alcohol, and of course I wear a mask because I don't want to infect others in case my precautions aren't enough. Because what person in their right mind would refuse to wear a mask in public? That would be really silly, right? RIGHT?



Jim Fisher

AVOID ICKY GROSS HUMANS

by "The Computer Skeptic"

But I still have to go forth into the wild to purchase provisions from time to time. One of the things that have bugged me about shopping is that I still have to touch that germ-laden credit card swiper that the nasty person in front of me just touched. So I decided to finally utilize the technology built into my smartphone to handle payments without touching stuff. I don't know why I've done without it for so long.

There are three main players in the touchless payment processing game: Google Pay, Apple Pay,

and Samsung Pay. They all use a technology called Near Field Communications (NFC) to securely transmit credit card information from your phone or smartwatch to a credit card terminal. The terminal must support NFC and will usually display a little symbol that looks like sound waves.

Samsung phones use NFC as well as a cool technology called magnetic secure transmission (MST). MST gives your phone the ability to simulate the magnetic strip found on the back of a credit or debit card. This allows your

phone to work with older credit card terminals.

To use this feature, simply launch either Apple Pay (for iPhones) Google Pay (for all android devices), or Samsung Pay (for Samsung brand phones). These apps are already on your phone. The app will ask you to simply take a picture of your credit card. Your phone will recognize the numbers on your credit card, ask a couple of simple questions, then you're set. You can scan in all of your cards. They will all appear on your phone just as they do in your wallet.

The next time you go shopping, instead of inserting your credit or debit card, you simply launch the app on your phone, scroll through your credit cards, tap the one you want to use, then hold your phone close to the terminal and watch the

magic happen. Those of us with smartwatches can simply tap our watch, choose a card, and hold our wrist close to the terminal.

This technology is a lifesaver for those dummies among us who sometimes go grocery shopping, collect a buggy full of stuff, then discover they walked out of the house without their wallet. I mean, who would do such a silly thing? Well, this dummy, is who. As long as you have your phone, you can still do your shopping.

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

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Commentary

Majestic Loss for UNA, the Shoals

Although 95% of us only know Leo III and Una at the University of North Alabama from a distance, it is easy to take pride in their prominent position on campus and in our community. No other school across the country can match having two live lion mascots.

Bevo XV at the University of Texas, and Ralphie the Buffalo at the University of Colorado may come close simply because they are out front and active at football games.

However, there is nothing as magnificent and majestic as those two muscular creatures at the top of the food chain relaxing outside the state-of-the-art George H. Carroll Lion Habitat as they watch your every move.

The UNA family suffered a heartbreaking loss last week as 17 year-old Una passed away peacefully in her habitat after a brief illness. Leo and her human/parent caregivers, Anne and Dan Howard were at her side.

"All of us at UNA are saddened by Una's passing," said UNA President Ken Kitts. "She and her brother, Leo, are part of the UNA family, and we mourn her death. We also are grateful for the many years she had representing the University as part of the lion mascot duo as well as to Anne and Dan Howard for the gracious care they have provided, and continue to provide, to

See MAJESTIC... on Page 13

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

In A Few Words



TOM MAGAZZU
Editor

Courier Journal



JULY 14-16



Take Part in the Virtual Job Fair

SHOALS-The Shoals Chamber of Commerce is collaborating on a Virtual Job Fair with North AlabamaWorks!, other local chambers, economic developers, and educational partners to assist dislocated workers and other job seekers to connect with in-demand job openings.

Those individuals laid-off due to COVID-19 also qualify for no-cost trainings and certifications funded from the government for dislocated workers (your tax dollars at work!). The Upwards Career & Training Fair (virtual job fair) seeks to match job seekers interested in upskilling/reskilling and finding a fulfilling career with employers



See UPWARDS... on Page 16

in the Shoals

July 8, 2020

Happening THIS WEEK

Guest Commentary

Insults to Black History

Many whites are ashamed, saddened, and feel guilty about our history of slavery, Jim Crow, and gross racial discrimination. Many black people remain angry over the injustices of the past and what they see as injustices of the present. Both blacks and whites can benefit from a better appreciation of black history.

Often overlooked or ignored is the fact that, as a group, black Americans have made the greatest gains, over some of the highest hurdles, in a shorter span of time than any other racial group in history.

For example, if one totaled up the earnings and spending of black Americans and considered us as a separate nation with our own gross domestic product, we would rank well within the top 20 richest nations.

A black American, Gen. Colin Powell, once headed the world's mightiest military. Black Americans are among the world's most famous personalities, and



Dr. Walter E. Williams
John M. Olin Distinguished Professor of Economics at George Mason University

THE FLORENCE/LAUDERDALE TOURISM BOARD will host a regular business meeting on Thursday, July 9 at 9am in the Visitor Center Gallery. Florence/Lauderdale Tourism Board meetings normally take place on the first Thursday of each month and are open to the public. For additional information, call 256-740-4141.

THE MEETING OF THE SHOALS WRITERS GUILD scheduled for July 18, has been canceled. The Guild will reconvene when the Florence Public library resumes hosting meetings.

THE CLOVERDALE COMMUNITY CENTER will not have lunch in July.

DAY BY DAY, A GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP for bereaved parents/grandparents, meets Sunday, July 12 at 2pm at Cross Point Church, Cox Creek Pkwy, in Florence. For more information, email debbiec2414@aol.com.

THERE WILL BE A SINGING at Muscle Shoals Church of God, 1700 Firestone Ave. on July 11 at 7pm and July 12 at 10:45am with Micheal Knight and Redeemed from Georgia.

See HISTORY... on Page 20



The most recent Courier Journal's as well as back-issues in Page-Flip form are always available on the link at

www.CourierJournal.net

The most recent issues of Kidsville News! in Page-Flip form are always available at

www.kidsvillenews.com/lauderdale/view-current



YOUR Letters

Your Courier Journal welcomes tastefully presented letters to be published as space allows. Letters may refer to timely matters of local, state, or national interest or any topic of concern or interest. **Letters must include name, address and phone number for verification.** (Only name and town will be published.)

Letters subject to editing. Please limit letters to 400 words. All letters become the property of the Courier Journal and may not necessarily reflect opinions of the Courier Journal staff, its advertisers, or a majority of readers. Please submit typed or neatly written letters to:

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

Gen. Lee Was Not a Good Person

Editor:

Regarding George Pate's letter praising Robert E. Lee on June 24, (Lynching His Legacy), not only was Lee a slave owner, his slaves referred to him as the worst man they had ever seen.

When two of Lee's slaves escaped and were eventually caught, they were whipped. Lee told the man whipping them to lay it on hard, then to pour brine in the wounds to make it burn.

Robert E. Lee was not a good person.

Dwight Patterson
Florence

If we understand these important concepts, we can solve many of our long-standing social problems...



A Spiritual Danger

Dear sir,

All religions have central teachings and principles. The "oneness of humanity" is the central principal of the Baha'i Faith. This principle is the one around which all other of

its teachings revolve, and has led to over one hundred years of effort on the part of the Baha'is to develop this understanding within our own community and to bring to human awareness the oneness of the human family.

America has a central place in the development of this necessary worldwide understanding. If we ignore the racism that is a part of our own history, then we and the world with us are exposed to "physical, moral, and spiritual danger". Viewed through this lens, the present derangement of our society is a long overdue reckoning with what the unity of humanity really means for us and for our future as a human race.

There is no other country which can be seen as a microcosm of the diverse populations of the earth. No other country can demonstrate the value and

See LETTERS...on Page 19

Commentary

Majestic...

Continued from Page 12

our lions." UNA has housed a live lion on campus since Leo I lived in his enclosure beginning in 1974. A few months after his passing in January 1988, Leo II came to campus. He was voted "Second Best Mascot" by Sports Illustrated in 1997.

As a former Vice President at UNA, Dan Howard was instrumental in obtaining the sibling cubs after Leo II passed away in early 2000. He and Anne took on the monumental emotional and financial commitment of arranging for initial funding and ongoing support for the Lions. This is necessary because no state or federal education dollars may be used for hosting or upkeep of the Lion mascots.

The \$1.3 million habitat was built based on AZA (Association of Zoos and Aquariums) guidelines. Every advocacy, health, recreation, and safety aspect was thoroughly covered, if not exceeded. So much so, that the habitat received 15



consecutive 100% ratings from the U.S. Department of Agriculture during unannounced annual inspections. And the Howards have made care of the Lions THE priority in their lives since day one.

Local artist, Jeanne Summerhill, has been a volunteer caregiver for the Lions since they came to their new habitat 17 years ago. The emotional bond she shares with them is evident in the hundreds of paintings she has created that feature the pair.

UNA graduate, Brandon Kutz, also has been volunteering with the lions for two years and they have been very comfortable around him.

Una was born in 2002 in New Hampshire.

She became the first female African lion mascot for UNA when she and Leo III moved into their brand new on-

campus habitat in 2003.

My wife and I are very fortunate that we were able to visit with the cubs early in life and have seen them often on campus since. When Leo III and Una were new in town and waiting to occupy a completed habitat, we were allowed to invade their space for a few minutes. It was hard to fathom how a pair of 25 pound playful, non-stop, energetic muscle balls could completely ravage the ground floor of their new parents' house in such a relatively brief time.

Petting that unusually coarse hair that helps deter pests in their native Africa, seeing those gorgeous golden/hazel eyes close-up, and having a paw haphazardly swipe across your arm in play when it could only do minimal damage are all thrills of a lifetime.

Since arriving on campus in 2003, Una and Leo have

represented the University as mascots at events early in their tenure, engaged thousands of visitors at the habitat and on the Lion Cam, and celebrated birthdays with the community.

"Una's passing was peaceful, and her brother and primary caregivers were at her side," said Dr. Brandon Fisher, one of the two local veterinarians who provide care for Una and Leo. "It has been a remarkable part of my career to be able to care for Una since she was a cub, to watch her grow and to see her very distinctive personality develop."

A memorial will be planned for Una later this year. Leo is expected to have a time of mourning his sister. All four of his caregivers will also be there for him.

"Leo is in very good health for an African lion that is almost 18 years old," said Dr. Matt Connolly. "We have done a full health assessment on him which did not reveal any abnormalities. We fully expect him to mourn his sister and will continue to monitor his appetite and activity closely during this time."



Leo III will continue in his service as UNA's mascot. He will still need monetary support and he will need a lot of visits at the campus habitat to help pass the time.

It was an honor to watch the pair mature into such an adorable and admired part of our community.



Photos Courtesy UNA.edu



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Like Yard Sales? See page 3!



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 JA32U2FU2GU000828
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Upwards...

Continued from Page 12

who provide family-sustaining wages of at least \$9-\$10.

The date for the first event will be July 14-16. Tentative plans are to offer similar opportunities in mid-August and mid-September.

This event will be marketed across North Alabama, and job seekers from across north Alabama are expected to take part.

THERE IS NO COST TO PARTICIPATE

Employers (or training providers / schools) should register via UpwardsAlabama.com and upload information to build their Virtual Booth. Employers (or training providers / schools) will select the county(s) where they have a physical presence.

[NOTE: The site will save your information so you do not have to re-enter it for every event; you can edit it; you are not obligated to participate in every event.]

Each employer (or training provider) will need to prepare and upload the following:

- One video welcoming job seekers to your virtual booth and explaining more about your company (or training provider / college)
- At least one specific position for which you are hiring and a job description in any format (Companies)
- Up to three specific interview questions that align with the company culture or the specific position (Companies)
- A description of your company (or school / organization), including the mission, vision, values, and potential opportunities

to grow

• A company logo
Training providers and colleges will provide at least three educational tracks job seekers may want to consider. N AL WORKS will also make specific changes on the form to suit respective educational offerings and certifications.

Employers who provide family-sustaining wages (generally \$9- \$10/hr. are eligible for OTJ training reimbursement from the state.

The virtual fair will be live all three days and will contain information pertinent to the job seeker. The employer will need to commit to being available for the event chat with prospects during the following days & times:

- Tues, July 14 1-4 pm.
- Weds, July 15 2-4pm 7-8pm optional
- Thurs, July 16 9am-noon

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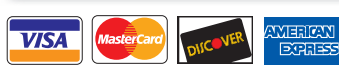
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FORD CITY FOODLAND River Road • 7am-10pm • 256-446-5842

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ROGERSVILLE Rogersville Shopping Ctr. • 7am-11pm • 256-247-1805

Letters...

A Spiritual Danger...

Continued from Page 12

benefits of overcoming racism and truly moving forward as a united society. Baha'is understand this as the mission that has been given to the United States by the one God of the universe, and one that will bring spiritual and material prosperity to our people.

If we understand these important concepts, we can solve many of our long-standing social problems. It does, however, require laying aside our prejudices and coming to terms with a history that has delayed our material and spiritual development as a nation.

Jacqueline Osborne
Florence

A Repetition of History!

Editor:

The revolution has begun here in the South. Government leaders are helpless. City government is cyber-attacked. What do our elected representatives do? Pay ransom to hackers with good reputation of honestly upholding their demand. Paid by Insurance money? Guess what, insurance costs will go up to cover! We will pay for their incompetence.

A leftist group is offended by a historical statue which not only is a reminder of the past, but respectfully points out where we are today. What do our elected officials do? They ignore the majority of citizens! Instead of having backbone and leadership and protect history and heritage of Alabama, they acquiesce to the Leftist demands. Of course, they

fear, the mob may decide to tear down the statue.

Will moving a statue from normal daily viewing be the end of their demands? Perhaps they will want Pope's Tavern torn down as it was reportedly once leased by a slave owner. That it was utilized as a hospital for civil war troops? Change the name of Wilson Dam? There are many other places, names, etc., which some elitist finds offensive. What will our elected leaders do then? What other revisions of history and ignorance of technology will Florence/Alabama citizens have to pay for?

Social justice reform, revision of history, threat of violence, divisive politics, fear, restriction of religion, and stimulus checks are the path leading us to socialism. The goal of Socialism is Communism. History repeats itself.

John Lee
Florence

Covid-19 Hiss

Letter to the Editor,

All throughout the United States is a sense of disapproval about everything that used to mean so much to the American people of all colors and races. Some of the outcries and demands would have not been a thought in the minds of Americans in the times I grew up in. I had family and friends WHO knew what the words courtesy, dignity, loyalty, and respect meant.

If someone were to act

back then in the manner that is displayed by some of our citizens now, they would have been declared domestic terrorists and dealt with accordingly.

It seems that when a person of authority even makes a suggestion on how to approach or solve a problem, in present times, it is either taken as a joke or blown out of proportion by the media or some radical group.

It seems to be the trend of the present to either ignore or destroy any reasonable method of resolving a problem either domestic or foreign. I have seen with my own eyes people entering and leaving businesses without face masks. When you enter some businesses that have lines and/or spots on the floor to designate a 6 foot interval between customers, these efforts to establish local social distancing are being completely ignored.

We are facing a pandemic that has never been dealt with before and some of our citizens are treating it like it is some kind of joke. If it is a joke, it is not too funny to hear that the covid-19 virus is killing

See LETTERS...on Pg 27

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Name	Unit#	Contents
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Barnett, Angela	I-1	Household Misc.
Beckwith, Charles	K-8	Household Misc.
Davis, Mark	M-33	Household Misc.
Fountain, Brad	A-51	Household Misc.
Haynes, Tiffany	A-44	Household Misc.
Morris, Nichole	P-16	Household Misc.
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CLASSIFIED FORM ON PAGE 6

Guest Op-Ed – Dr. Walter E. Williams

History...

Continued from Page 12

a few black Americans are among the world's richest people such as investor Robert F. Smith, IT service provider David Steward, Oprah Winfrey, and basketball star Michael Jordan. Plus, there was a

black U.S. president. The significance of these achievements cannot be overstated.

When the Civil War ended, neither a slave nor a slave owner would have believed such progress would be possible in less than a century and a half—if ever. As such, it speaks to the intestinal fortitude of a people.

Just as important, it speaks to the greatness of a nation in which such gains were possible. Nowhere else on earth could such progress have been achieved except in the United States of America.

The issue that confronts us is how these gains can be extended to about one-quarter of the black population for whom they have proven elusive. The first step is to acknowledge that the civil rights struggle is over and won. At one time black Americans did not enjoy the constitutional guarantees as everyone else. Now we do.

While no one can deny the existence of residual racial discrimination, it is not the major problem confronting a large segment of the black community.

A major problem is that some public and private policies reward dependency and irresponsibility. Chief among these policies is the welfare state that has fostered a 75% rate of out of wedlock births and decimated the black family that survived Jim Crow and racism.

Keep in mind that in 1940 the black illegitimacy rate was 11% and most black children were raised in two-parent families. About 25% of poverty is found in female-headed households. The poverty rate among husband-and-wife black

families has been in the single digits for more than two decades.

Black people can be thankful that double standards and public and private policies rewarding inferiority and irresponsibility were not a part of the 1920s, '30s, '40s, and '50s. If there were, there would not have been the kind of intellectual excellence and spiritual courage that created the world's most successful civil rights movement.

From the late 1800s to 1950, some black schools were models of academic achievement. Black students at Washington's Dunbar High School often outscored white students as early as 1899. Schools such as Frederick Douglass (Baltimore), Booker T. Washington (Atlanta), P.S. 91 (Brooklyn), McDonogh 35 (New Orleans), and others operated at a similar level of excellence.

Self-destructive behavior that has become acceptable in predominantly black schools is nothing less than a gross betrayal of a struggle paid with blood, sweat, and tears by previous generations, to make possible today's educational opportunities that are being routinely squandered.

I guarantee that blacks who lived through that struggle and are no longer with us would not have believed such a betrayal possible.

Government should do its job of protecting constitutional rights. After that, black people should be simply left alone as opposed to being smothered by the paternalism inspired by white guilt.

On that note, I just cannot resist the temptation to refer readers to my "Proclamation of Amnesty and Pardon," which grants Americans of European ancestry amnesty and pardon for their own grievances and those of their forebears against my people so that they stop feeling guilty and stop acting like fools in their relationship with Americans of African ancestry.

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Williams holds M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in economics from UCLA, a Doctor of Humane Letters from Virginia Union University and Grove City College, Doctor of Laws from Washington and Jefferson College and has served on the faculty of George Mason University since 1980.

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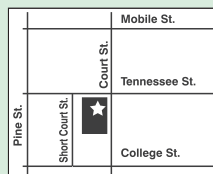
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DAYS OF OUR LIVES
 Sonny bolstered Justin on the morning of his father's wedding. Kayla learned about a major crisis as she was getting ready for her ceremony. Xander confided in Jack about Sarah. Justin pressed Hope for answers. Kayla couldn't help but think of her past with Steve. Victor defended Xander to Sarah. Steve made a big announcement to John and Marlena. Victor, Justin and Sonny shared a warm moment before the ceremony began. Justin stunned Kayla with a huge confession. Kayla was faced with a tough decision. Marlena comforted John as he mourned Steve's departure. A familiar face returned to Salem. Kayla confronted Steve. Justin was shocked by what he saw at Adrienne's gravesite. Rafe delivered stunning news to Lucas and Kate. John and Marlena learned that Allie was pregnant. Claire offered to help Ben with a very special task for the wedding. *Wait to See: Vivian asks Kate for a favor. Eli and Lani bask in their newlywed bliss. Gabi gets an unpleasant surprise when she drops by Jake's apartment.*

GENERAL HOSPITAL
Until production resumes, "GH" is replaying special episodes from years past. This week's episodes featured highlights of Sonny (Maurice Benard) and Michael Corinthos (Chad Duell) from 2008 through 2016: Michael took a bullet intended for Sonny. Michael confessed to killing Claudia and was later sentenced to prison. Sonny visited Kristina in the hospital. Sonny told Kristina about Parker.

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Athletic SUPPORT

by Eli Cranor



Vulnerability is key in uncertain times

Dear Athletic Support: My daughter had her first softball tournament of the summer last weekend. It felt so good to be back out on the field, but things were definitely different. I don't know if it was the masks all the girls were wearing or what, but my daughter just didn't seem as sharp as usual. It was like she was distracted. Or maybe she was just rusty from the long break. Do you have any suggestions on how I can get my daughter back on track? I've tried taking her out to the field and getting some extra swings in, but that doesn't seem to help. I guess what worries me most is that some of the other girls haven't skipped a beat. It's like they're just as good as they were before the shutdown.



— **Wishing For A Cure**
Dear Wishing: All kids process trauma differently. Some internalize it. Some lash out. Others don't seem to be phased at all. But the truth is, they're all impacted one way or the other.

If your daughter's softball game is showing signs of regression, it could mean a couple things. First, she might really be struggling with the fears and uncertainties surrounding COVID-19.

If this is the case, then you're right, there's no amount of extra batting practice that's going to snap her out of this funk. Your daughter just needs time. Time to process all the changes that have occurred in her young life over the last few months.

She might also need to talk to you. You'd be surprised how far a ten-minute conversation can go, especially when kids are trying to deal with something like COVID-19.

Even if you don't have all the answers,

or you're not sure what you believe when it comes to the pandemic, talking to your daughter is still a good idea. It's okay to be vulnerable in front of you kids. In fact, sometimes it's just what they need to hear.

After you've had your talk, I have a feeling your daughter's game will change for the better. She'll be able to get back to being a kid again without having to worry about the unknown.

If, however, you find that she's still struggling, I'm afraid there's no amount of talking that's going to snap her out of this funk. The prognosis is simple — your daughter just doesn't like softball as much as she used to.

Over the last few months, I've heard from more than one concerned parent where this has been the case. Their child takes an extended break from sports due to COVID-19, and then, when it's time for sports to get going again, the child has lost interest.

There's absolutely nothing you can say in this situation. When a kid is ready to quit — they're ready. Period. Back when I was coaching, I knew when a player was coming into my office to quit. I could see it in his eyes every time. I tried everything I could to get those players to stay on the team, but it never worked.

You can — and should — try talking to your daughter about why she's lost interest in softball. But in the end, if she's ready to quit the team, she's ready to quit. And honestly, that's okay. There's a lot of worse stuff that could happen.

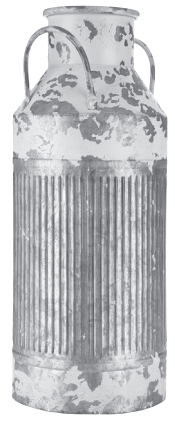
Eli Cranor is a former professional quarterback and coach turned award-winning author. Send questions for "Athletic Support" to eli.cranor@gmail.com or visit elicranor.com.

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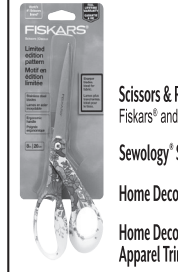
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SIGNS OF THE PAST

BATTLE OF TOWN CREEK

A strong Union column from Corinth commanded by Brig. Gen. Grenville M. Dodge invaded the Tennessee Valley in April, 1863 to create a diversion while a brigade mounted on mules and commanded by Col. Abel D. Streight tried to march through northern Alabama and cut the Western and Atlantic Railroad near Rome, GA. Col. Phillip D. Roddey's CSA Cavalry fought stubborn delaying actions but was driven out of Tusculum on April 23. After Brig. Gen. Nathan B. Forrest and his cavalry arrived at Town Creek on April 27 to reinforce Roddey, Dodge advanced to keep the Confederates busy while Streight's raiders left Tusculum via Russellville on their expedition. Meanwhile, Forrest and Roddey formed a defensive line on the east side of rain-swollen Town Creek. The battle opened at 7 a.m. on the 28th with a furious artillery duel between the 18 Federal guns and the 8 Confederate guns. By 3 p.m., Dodge's troops succeeded in crossing the creek using the railroad bridge and footbridges.

(Continued on other side)

SPONSORED BY THE COLBERT COUNTY HISTORICAL LANDMARKS FOUNDATION ALABAMA HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION 8007

Location: 34.6912°N, 87.4617°W
 11850 Old Hwy 20, Leighton, AL

Confederate Brig. Gen. Forrest and Col. Roddey faced the Union's Brig. Gen. Dodge at Town Creek as Dodge advanced across North Alabama on April 28, 1863. The marker describes the 18 Federal guns vs the 8 Rebel guns. The next day Cornyn's Cavalry burned the La Grange Military College: "and everything that would ... aid the Confederacy".

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

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RED LINE YOUR ADS. SEE PAGE 6

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Medicare Minute "Qualifying for Medicare"

When I began working with Medicare health plans a few years ago it became obvious to me that people aging into Medicare were joining a health insurance program that they really didn't understand. Although the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) do all they can to educate Americans about the benefits of Medicare it still isn't enough for them to fully understand what they have as far as medical coverage through the federal government. Over the next few weeks we're going to discuss the basics of and what is covered under Medicare. But first let's look at how Medicare started.

On July 30, 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed into law the bill, Title XVIII of the Social Security Act, which led to the establishment of Medicare. The original bill included Part A (Hospital Insurance) and Part B (Medical Insurance). Today we know these 2 parts as "Original Medicare". In the beginning Medicare was created to provide health insurance to people 65 years of age and older, regardless of income or medical history.

Over the past five decades changes have been made as to who qualifies for Medicare. In addition to people over the age of 65, Medicare now covers people under the age of 65 who are permanently disabled and have been receiving Social Security Disability Insurance for 24 months. Also anyone at any age can receive Medicare if they have End Stage Renal Disease or ALS.

Although Medicare provides medical coverage for those who qualify it is not 100% coverage!! We often hear "once I go on Medicare my medical insurance worries are over." Medicare has deductibles and coinsurance that the Medicare beneficiary is responsible for unless the beneficiary has additional coverage to supplement Medicare. If you have questions regarding any aspect of Medicare or Medicare health plans feel free call us at Alabama Health Guidance (256-648-5710), stop by our office at 885 Florence Blvd (Four Lane Shopping Center) or email me at ikey@alabamahealthguidance.com. Alabama Health Guidance is an independent insurance agency and is not affiliated with Medicare or any other government agency.



Ikey Fowler

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357792-1

Courier Journal Mystery Photo

of the week!

WIN A MEAL FOR 2 at

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Downtown Florence

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Enter at www.courierjournal.net

Last week's winner is **Kristie Angel** of Florence who correctly guessed "St. Michael's Catholic Church" St. Florian

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

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COOK'S
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20-22 OZ.
RED BARON PIZZAS

2/\$7

8 OZ.
KRAFT CHEESE BARS OR SHREDS

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AUNT SHERRY FROZEN CORNBREAD MUFFINS

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GATORADE

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LIPTON GREEN TEA

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6 PACK, 1/2 LITER BTLs.
COKE PRODUCTS

4/\$11

8 PACK, 12 OZ. BTLs.
COKE PRODUCTS

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BRICK HOUSE FOR SALE: 1,379 sq. ft., on two acre lot, 4956 Co. Rd. 236, Town Creek, AL. 2 bedroom, 1 bath, sunroom, with detached two car garage. Call after 5 pm leave message, 256-685-3675 or 256-446-5550.

SHEFFIELD APT FOR RENT: 907 N. Columbia Apt c 2 bdrm., 1 ba., \$425 Rent, \$300 Deposit. 256-764-3137.

FLORENCE APT FOR RENT: 800 Sannoner Ave., 1 bdrm., 1 ba., \$350 Plus \$25/Water, \$300 Deposit. 256-764-3137.

TUSCUMBIA: 303 GANN BLVD 6000 sf building for lease. office, docking bay, 220 service and bathroom with 16' ceilings in warehouse located in small industrial part. \$1,300/mo. First and last required to move in. Henry Heredia. 909-744-7354 - call or text

OWNER FINANCING: 3 BEDROOM, 2 bath, Colbert Heights, Tuscumbia 256-383-5996 or 256-263-8716

DOWNTOWN FLORENCE APT.: TOMBIGBEE Court Apts. 2 bdrm., 1 ba, Multi-level style with balcony, pet friendly with breed restrictions, security gate, \$625 rent with Water Inc. \$300 Deposit. 256-764-3137.

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DOWNTOWN FLORENCE APT: TOMBIGBEE Court Apt. 1 bdrm., 1 ba., Multi-level style with balcony, pet friendly with breed restrictions, security gate, \$575 rent with Water Inc. \$300 Deposit. 256-764-3137.

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

Rent to Own: 256-349-0000

1030 Hwy. 20, Tuscumbia - 14,000 Sq. Ft. - 3.6 acres - Commercial Bldg. - \$550K For Sale or Lease

For Sale

125 County Road 608, Rogersville • 3 bedroom-2 bath • \$179,000
Commercial Building Cox Blvd, Sheffield • \$119,000
322 Columbus Ave, Florence • 3 BR- 2 BA • \$119,000
County Road 61 Florence • 22 acres • \$350,000

New Construction

825 Co. Rd. 112, Florence • 3 BR - 2 BA - Unfin. bonus room • \$209,000
Joan Lane - Killen 3 BR - 2 BA • \$199,000

For Rent: 256-762-4201

701 Dearborn Ave, Muscle Shoals 2 Bedroom - 1.5 Bath-Townhomes • \$695 Monthly • \$400 Deposit • \$30 Application Fee
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FOR LEASE: Brand new 1,200 square-foot office & shop \$975 a month - Cox Blvd - Sheffield
615 Geneva Ave, Muscle Shoals Approx. 3,500 Sq. Ft. • \$1,750 a month -Includes Utilities
Office Space, 615 Geneva Ave Muscle Shoals Starting at \$275/Office

★ ★ ★ ★

3308 17TH AVENUE 3 Bdrm/1 1/2 Bath home, totally renovated for immediate occupancy. Totally new kitchen--cabinets and all stainless steel appliances--two new HVAC units, new water heater, new electric panel. Hardwood & ceramic tile floors. All new bath fixtures, including whirlpool tub. \$109,500. Call 256-710-5093 for appt.

FLORENCE APT FOR RENT: 738 1/2 Tombigbee St. Garage Apt. 2 bdrm., 1 ba., \$325 Rent, \$300 Deposit. 256-764-3137.

FLORENCE APT. FOR RENT: 504 E. Irvine Avenue, Apt A3 1 bdrm., 1 ba., Upstairs, \$300 Rent, \$300 Deposit. 256-764-3137.

★ ★ ★ ★

RIDGE AVENUE BELVIEW HEIGHTS ---2 adjoining lots with double car garage with upstairs apartment **\$55,000 256-381-3416**

INTERESTED IN YARD SALES! See page 3.

MUSCLE SHOALS APT. FOR rent: 415 Roosevelt Ave., Apt B 2 bdrm., 2 ba., \$575, \$300 deposit, exterior storage room. 256-764-3137.

★ **LIVING ESTATE** ★

AUCTION

9:AM SATURDAY JULY 18th

House & 15 acres offered in 3 Tracts
Also selling Car, Household Items & Personal Property
2564 County Road 363, Lexington, Alabama in the Greenhill Community

Real Estate Sells at 9:AM





Seller: Mr. J. T. Green

Tract #1, This Neat Split Level, Cut Stone and Siding Home has three bedrooms and one bath on the upper level. The Middle Level has a Formal Living/ Dining Area with Cut Stone Fireplace, Sunroom with ceramic tile floors, Entry way and Kitchen with Oak Cabinets, built-in stove top, oven, microwave & dishwasher. There are hardwood floors under carpet in part of the 2 upper levels of the house. The lower level has the 2nd Bath, Laundry Room, Office and a Large Den. The house has central heat and air unit, decks around the sunroom area, concrete patio, concrete driveway and attractive landscaping. Its sits on 5.2+/- acres with a Detached Shop, and a nice yard with large oak and other shade trees.

Tract #2 is 1.4+/- fenced acres directly across the street from the House Tract.

Tract #3 is 9+/- acres mostly wooded and lies 225 north of the House Tract. The tracts will only be offered separately and not in combination.

Call Shane at 256-757-8898 for Your Private Viewing. Note: Real Estate sells first then Furniture, Kitchen Items & Personal Property! Visit our website!!!



See more @ www.shanealbright.com

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SEE PAGE 6 FOR DETAILS



Seller: Kimberly Peppers

AUCTION

10:AM FRIDAY JULY 17th

3 Bedroom, 2 Bath Brick House
w/ Attached 2 Car Garage and Storm Shelter
95 Franklin Estate Dr., Russellville, Alabama

"Fixer Upper House"



The seller inherited this property and is offering it at Public Auction! Great opportunity in this fixer upper house. It needs a few repairs and a little cleanup. If you've been looking for a project for investment or a place to live...well this is it.

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Estate

34 ACRES OF ROW crop. Located on County Road 51. \$5,000/acre. Call 256-762-8782 (Rogersville).

TUSCUMBIA: 3 BED-ROOM, 1.5 ba., \$650 per month \$500 deposit, Call 256-446-9982.



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REAL ESTATE AUCTION!
SATURDAY, JULY 18th • 10AM
6056 US HWY 72 W, ATHENS, AL.
LIMESTONE COUNTY



Listing Auctioneer: Weston Stewart
Ranch Mobile Home – 3 Bedroom – 2 Bath – Spacious Living Room & Kitchen Combination – Stove & Dishwasher – Office – Laundry Room – Central Heat & Air – Attach Carport & Storage Room – Detach Garage/Carport – Breezeway & Large Deck

DIRECTIONS: From Hwy 72, Rogersville, AL. travel East for 5.1 miles. Destination will be on the right. **Look for our Holland signs!**

PARTIAL LIST OF PERSONAL PROPERTY: 20x8 FT Trailer w/ 7,000 LB Axle • Electric Wheel Chair & Charger • Bass & Accessories • Dobro • Lift Chair • 2 Small Flat Screen TV's • China Cabinet • Antique China Cabinet • Hand Saws • Large Saw Blades • 2 Large Tool Boxes • Upright Freezer • Queen Sleeper Sofa • Craft Books • Computer Table • Dining Table & Chairs • Tools • Needle Craft • Plastic Canvas • Yarn • Old Books • Needlepoint Kits • Serving Baskets • Book Stands • Playboy Glasses • Large Platter • Bowls • Diesel Mechanic Tools • Wheelbarrow • 4 Ton Body Frame Repair • Hand Tools • Pressure Washer • Router • Honda EX 1000 Generation • Hand Tools • Pressure Washer • Tow Bar for Car • Drill Press • Air Jack • Yard Wagon for Lawn Mower • Craftsman Sander • Wood Clamps • Levels • 5 PC Bedroom Suite • Open & Box End Wrenches

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Personal Property: Cash or check with proper identification the day of the sale. 10% BUYERS PREMIUM ON PERSONAL PROPERTY. All items sold "as is" with no warranties expressed or implied. Please make arrangements to remove your property the day of the sale.

Information contained herein believed to be correct but not guaranteed. Announcements made the day of the sale supersede any printed material.

Agency Disclosure: Auctioneers are acting as agents for the seller only. 2020

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FLORENCE: HOUSE FOR RENT: 38 S. Broadway 3 bdrm., 1 ba., \$500 Rent/Deposit. 256-764-3137.

FLORENCE APT. FOR RENT: 1634 Shenandoah Rd., Apt. B 2 bdrm., 1 ba., \$400 Rent, \$300 Deposit. 256-764-3137.

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or call 256-740-5201
for more information



★ LIVING ESTATE ★

AUCTION

9:AM SATURDAY JULY 11th

5 Acre Mini Farm, 3 Bedroom Main House
2 Bedroom Guest House, Barn 30'x50' Shop
Honda Gold Wing Trike, Bass Boat, Kawasaki Mule, Truck Trailers, Tractor, Tools, Household Items, Antiques & Much Much More!!!

2281 County Road 33, Killen, Alabama

Real Estate Sells at 9:AM



CALL THE AUCTION OFFICE 256-757-8898

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Letters... Covid-19 Hiss

Continued from Page 19

hundreds of citizens daily and remains to spread like wildfire throughout the great United States of America.

I don't want to sound as though I support tyranny, but it may take marshal law to restore some kind of order to our great nation and its citizens. I hope that some of the people that have acted in a manner that was inappropriate at the time, see themselves on television or hear themselves on the radio think for an instant and ask themselves the simple question: "Did I act in a manner that displayed courtesy to others, did I act with dignity, did I show loyalty to my nation, and did I display self respect and respect for others in my actions?" I know that some people will say the environment or heredity has to do with the development of bad and good actions and manners, but every individual should have the self respect to act civilized and controlled.

Thanks to all of the essential personnel who have worked so diligently to save lives and property in these troubled times. I also thank the personnel that make a conscious effort to wear your face masks and gloves, when needed, in public buildings and outings. Hopefully, there will be a vaccine available soon to rid the Covid-19 virus.

John Futrell
Sheffield

The Year of 2020

Editor:

In February 2020, China sent the world a gift
It was really mean

We opened up a lethal virus
Better known as Covid-19.

We were told it wasn't serious
Like the Flu, it would just go away
Over 90,000 people in the US have died
This is just the month of May.

Nursing Homes were hit very hard
On family could no longer rely
All alone and helpless
Many of them would die.

March we had a global shut down
Unemployment at all time high
We were told if we open back up
Thousands more would die.

We know we must go to work
We should do what they ask
Stay six feet apart
Never forget your mask.

If you think it is a conspiracy
Just another political fight
Are you willing to risk your family
Just to prove you are right.

Covid-19 doesn't know if you are
republican or democrat
It really doesn't care
It has no respect for anyone
It will strike anyone, anytime, anywhere.

Take the Covid-19 very serious
It will not go away
Until we find the right vaccine
Covid-19 is here to stay.

Little children were immune
That's what doctors told us at the start
Now they find they were wrong
Covid-19 is targeting children's hearts.

Parents keep your children home
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Barbara Casteel
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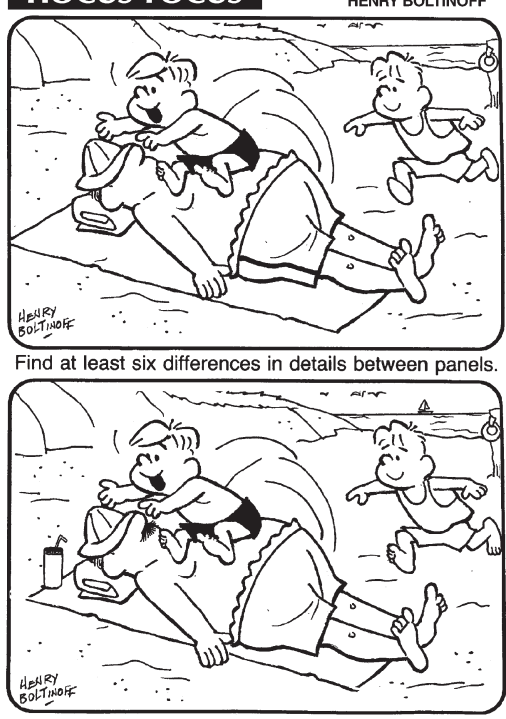
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Find at least six differences in details between panels.

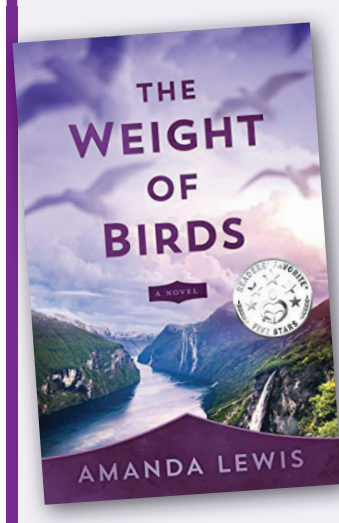
Differences: 1. Boy is barefoot. 2. Blanket is narrower. 3. Man has mustache. 4. Water bottle has been added. 5. Swim trunks have no stripe. 6. Boat is on horizon.

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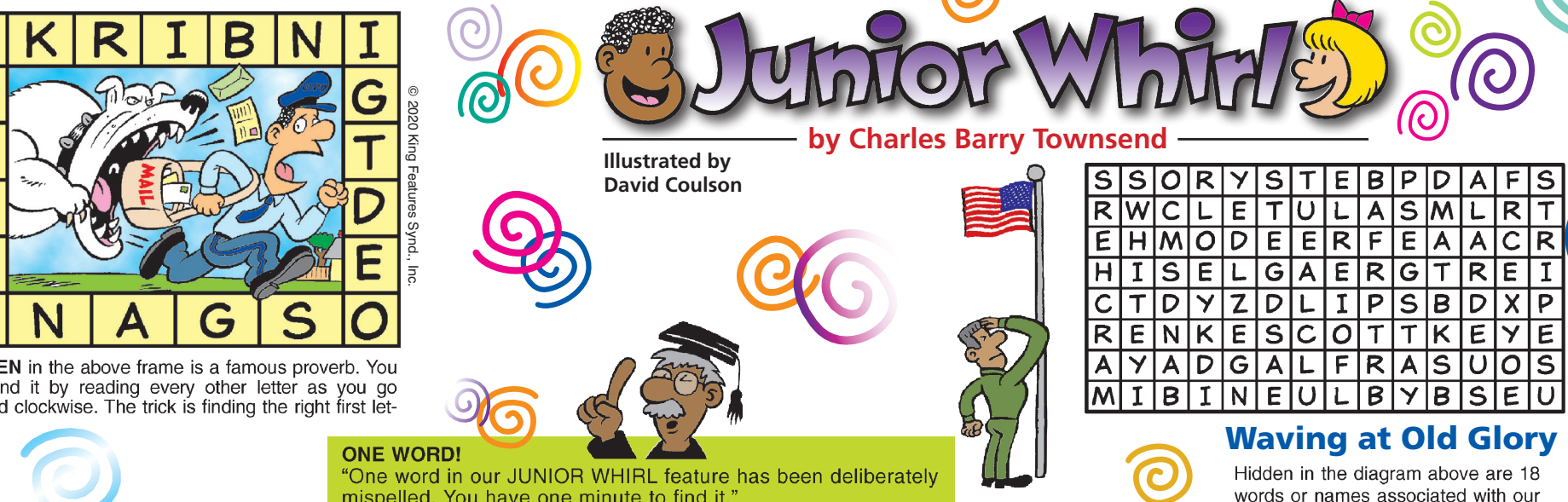
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Junior Whirl by Charles Barry Townsend

Illustrated by David Coulson



HIDDEN in the above frame is a famous proverb. You can find it by reading every other letter as you go around clockwise. The trick is finding the right first letter.

ONE WORD! "One word in our JUNIOR WHIRL feature has been deliberately misspelled. You have one minute to find it."

SNOW CONE SEASON IS HERE AGAIN! Below are two puzzle grids for you to fill in. Hints are given for each word. The words in Grid B contain the same letters as the corresponding words in Grid A.

S			
	N		
		O	
			W

GRID A

C			
	O		
		N	
			E

GRID B

1. Type of barge.
2. Single units.
3. Illuminating gas.
4. Start again.

1. Biggest are whales
2. Opposite of yeas.
3. Not any.
4. To grow smaller.

Answers On Page 30

Waving at Old Glory

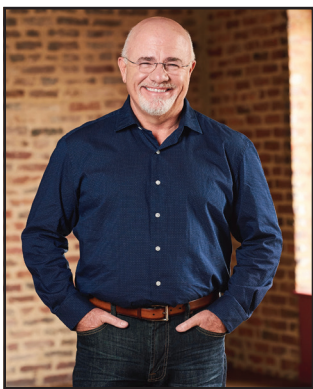
Hidden in the diagram above are 18 words or names associated with our flag. They can be read up or down, forward or backward, or even diagonally. The items to look for are:

AMERICAN BANDS	OLD GLORY PARADE
BETSY ROSS	RED
BLUE	SALUTE
EAGLE	(FRANCIS) SCOTT KEY
FLAG DAY	(JOHN PHILIP) SOUSA
FLAG POLE	STARS
FREEDOM	STRIPES
MARCHERS	WHITE

DAVE Says

by DAVE RAMSEY

EVALUATING INSURANCE NEEDS



Dear Dave,
Last year I got a divorce. I'm 32, a teacher and a single mom. I'm on Baby Step 2 right now, and I was wondering about life insurance. My son is only two, and if something happened to me, he would go to his father. His dad is in good shape financially and responsible with money, so how much life insurance should I have?
Christian

Dear Christian,
Well, you probably don't need the full 10 to 12 times your income like I recommend for

most people. The only dependent you have is also dependent upon his dad. And from what you said, his father seems perfectly able to take care of him.

I'd get a good term life policy equal to the amount that you'd like to supplement your son's care. The good news is you can get a couple hundred thousand in life insurance at your age for practically nothing.

If you get life insurance, make sure his dad—your ex—is not the beneficiary. The beneficiary should be a family trust, formed

upon your death, and the money would go into that trust for the benefit of your child. You set the terms of the trust. It should not be controlled by your ex. In a divorce situation, I would never name someone I'm not willing to be married to the trustee of my money on behalf of my child.

I'm so glad you're thinking about these things, Christian. It shows you're an intentional lady, a fine mom, and a good planner. Those traits will serve you and your son well!
—Dave

work, and we need good men and women in that profession right now.
—Dave

* Dave Ramsey is CEO of Ramsey Solutions. He has authored seven best-selling books, including *The Total Money Makeover*. The *Dave Ramsey Show* is heard by more than 16 million listeners each week on 600 radio stations and multiple digital platforms. Follow Dave on the web at daveramsey.com and on Twitter at @DaveRamsey.

ARE UTILITIES INCLUDED?

Dear Dave,
I just received a formal job offer in law enforcement. I'm debt-free, single, and I'd like to move out of a roommate apartment. I'll be starting out at \$34,000 a year, then moving up to \$38,000 after my probationary period. You have a rule that says to make sure rent or house payments are 25% or less of your take home pay. If I can find a place where utilities are included, do they figure into that amount?
Josh

Dear Josh,
It's really more of a guideline than a rule. The point of not letting your housing cost eat up more than 25% of your take home pay is to make sure you have money left over for other important things. It's hard to save and invest for the future when a huge chunk of your money is eaten up by rent or a mortgage payment each month. But no, utilities are not part of the one-fourth of your take home pay guideline.

At this point, it doesn't sound like you need anything fancy. Try to find a safe, quiet place to call home—somewhere you can relax and decompress when you're off duty. And thanks for entering law enforcement. A lot of folks are leaving your line of

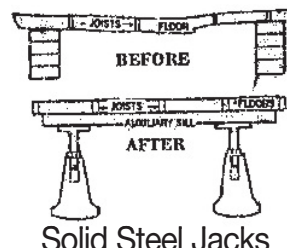
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Lean On Me

Bill Withers changed the lyrical world when he wrote and recorded "Lean on Me" in April, 1972. After reading this article, google the song and sit back and enjoy the melody. Pay close attention to the words. The song reminds us that whatever struggles we face, help is available. Lean on me!

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Withers observed "We all need somebody to lean on." That "somebody" is Good Samaritan Hospice. We're waiting for your call!

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Notes...

Continued from page 10

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Areas of need: Patient Volunteer, Administrative Volunteer, Craft/Hobbies Volunteer, Community Outreach/Event Planning/Fundraising Volunteer.

For more information contact: Keller Hospice LHC of Tusculmbia, 1404 East Avalon, Suite C, Tusculmbia. Phone 256-314-1204 or email Barbara.Johnson@LCHgroup.com.

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--Florence Landfill: 29485 County Road 14, Florence

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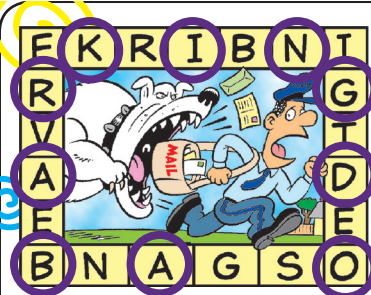
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Junior Whirl Answers Waving at Old Glory

by Charles Barry Townsend Illustrated by David Coulson



Answer: Starting with the "A" in the bottom rail: "A barking dog never bites."



Answer: The word "misspelled" is misspelled. I hope that you didn't find any others.

S	S	O	R	Y	S	T	E	B	D	A	F	S
R	W	C	E	T	U	L	A	S	M	I	R	E
H	M	O	R	E	E	F	F	A	C	R	E	
H	I	S	E	L	G	A	E	R	G	T	R	E
C	I	D	Y	Z	D	L	X	P	S	B	D	X
R	E	N	K	F	S	C	T	T	K	E	Y	E
A	Y	A	D	G	A	L	F	R	A	S	U	O
M	I	B	I	N	Z	U	L	B	X	B	S	E

GRID A GRID B

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 have to start paying child support to my ex-wife on August 1, 2020. I want to know if the payments are deductible? May I claim the child as a dependent?

Bradley, Leighton, AL

A No and maybe. Child support payments are neither deductible by the payer nor taxable to the recipient.

This is where a good divorce lawyer plays a very large role. If your federal and state combined tax rate is 25%, you have to earn \$1.25 for every \$1.00 you pay in child support.

The payer of child support may be able to claim the child as a dependent if the child lived

with the payer for the greater part of the year. If so, the payer is the custodial parent for federal income tax purposes. The custodial parent is generally the parent entitled to claim the child as a dependent under the rules for a qualifying child if the other tests for claiming the child are met. This should always be addressed in the agreement and ratified by the court.

If the payer is the noncustodial parent, then the payer may only claim the child as a dependent if the special rule for a child of divorced or legally separated parents applies.

That rule requires, in part, that the custodial parent sign and provide the noncustodial parent a Form 8332, Release/Revocation of Release of Claim to Exemption for Child by Custodial Parent. The non-custodial parent must, then, attach a copy of that release to his or her return in order to claim the child as a dependent.

When I did divorce work 30 years ago and the child support guidelines came into effect, I occasionally would negotiate agreements where the non-custodial parent could claim the child with an IRS Form 8332. My reasoning and argument was that in certain cases the parent who was paying was able to benefit substantially more by having the child as a deduction than a spouse who had little or no income. It just made financial sense to keep more money in the hands of the parents, divorced or not.

Buckle up, wash your hands and as always your referrals are appreciated!
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