

FUN, ENTERTAINMENT & INSPIRATION

Volume 149 JANUARY 2021

ALABAMA REAL ESTATE FOR SALE



386± Acres • Coffee County

Frontage on Highway 141 a few miles north of Danley's Crossroads. Potential home sites with electricity and county water available. This is managed property with rich row cropland, planted pines (loblolly and longleaf) and hardwood bottoms along spring-fed streams. Excellent hunting with abundant wildlife! L-1600819 • \$636,900



564± Acres • Pike County Hunting and fishing paradise - this outdoor

retreat has it all! Includes a three-bedroom, 2-1/2 bath, two-story modern log home, 25± acre managed trophy bass lake, two-story boat house, food plot openings, and well-maintained interior roads. Diverse habitat includes mixed mature timber, beautiful hardwood bottoms. and planted loblolly pines. L-1000365 • \$1,650,000

SALE PENDING

67.97± Acres • Pike County

Located on US Highway 231 about 3-1/2 miles south of Troy. Average daily traffic of approximately 18,000 vehicles. Property may be divided. L-1800562 • \$375,000



155.7± Acres • Pike County

Located in the Monticello Community with frontage on paved County Road 6643. Managed timberland with 140± acres planted in loblolly pines ranging from about four to eighteen years old. Electricity and county water available. Interior roads, established food plots, and



spring-fed streams. Excellent hunting! L-1800506 • \$366,000

70± Acres • Pike County

Was 93± Acres •Sold 23 acres...70± Acres available Located on the south side of Brundidge with

frontage on the east side of four-lane Highway 231. Buy the whole tract or separate parcel(s). Parcel 1: 27± acres inside Brundidge City Limits. offered for \$81,000. Parcels 2 and 4: Two 22± acre parcels just south of the City Limits each offered for \$55,000. L-1500265 Parcel No. 3 (Sold)



This wooded tract located west of Samson, Alabama, joins Geneva State Forest (Alabama's largest state forest with over 7,000 acres), and Flat Creek runs through the east side. The diverse forest includes mature loblolly and longleaf pines, oaks, and many other species of trees. This property has interior roads and established game food plots. L-1900117 • \$450,000



otentia



For property details, please contact:

Randall Thompson • Real Estate Broker

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What happens when a frog's car won't start? It needs a jump and if that doesn't work he's gotta get it toad.

Laughs and Liffles.com Published Since 2008

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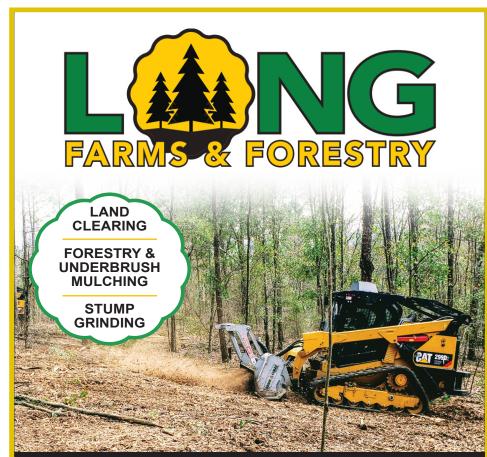
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Langhs

My PAST is the reason that I PRESENTLY know that I don't want a FUTURE without God.

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It turns out that when someone asks you who your favorite

child is, you supposed to pick one of your own.

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Laughs and Lifts provides laughter in clean jokes & cartoons, witty and wise one liners, encouragement through uplifting articles based on God's word and teachings of Christ Jesus, and entertainment with Sudoku, Recipes, Puzzles & More.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

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Contributors: Wallace Kennedy, Jr. Pastor Josh and Kayla Sims Tric Glenn Parrish Claybank Master Gardeners



and Wills.com Published Since 2008

My wife didn't order anything from Amazon yesterday so the postman knocked on the door to see if we're okay.

Before having a child the most important thing to ask yourself is : "Am I ready to watch the exact same cartoon on repeat for the next 4 years.

To be sincerely honest, in my humble opinion without being sentimental or biased and of course without offending anyone who thinks differently from my opinion but rather looking into this serious matter with perspective distinction and without condemning anyone's point of view, I honestly think and believe that I have nothing to say on this issue. ~ Politician or Lawyer

My wife and I got stuck in an elevator and when we got home, we told the story to our children. They just looked at us and said," Sooo...did you get out?" My wife and I looked at each other and decided right then to stop contributing to their college fund and use that money for our enjoyment!





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Studies show that 99% of Stan's are not "The man".



We are all manufacturers in a way... √ making good... √ making trouble... \checkmark or making excuses. What are you manufacturing? "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin" (James 4:17).



Forgive others not because they deserve forgiveness, but because you deserve peace... Amen!



The most popular item at Walmart is bananas. They sell more bananas than any other single item they have in stock.

Five Times More

History and statistics shows that lightning strikes men five times more often than women.

"I'm not sure which pants to wear today - smarty or fancy?"

Laughs

JANUARY 2021 Page 6 and Liffis.com Published Since 2008 You have \$400. Your daughter texts... She needs \$200 and your son texts that he needs \$150. How much do you have left?

Me: \$400 & 2 unread messages

That Was A Threat

I think the girl at the Airlines check-in just threatened me. She looked me dead in the eye and said, "Window or aisle?" I laughed in her face and replied, "Window or you'll what?"

Meeting Others

It is said that when the famous American columnist Dorothy Parker first came to work at The New Yorker, she found herself isolated and lonely in her small office there. Never one to be ignored,

she managed to convince one of the janitors to paint the word "MEN" on the door to her office. After that, she said, she met lots of new people, and all of them male, too. "Only one thing," she added, "they always seemed to be in a hurry."

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Blond to parts store... I need a new dipstick. This one doesn't reach the oil.



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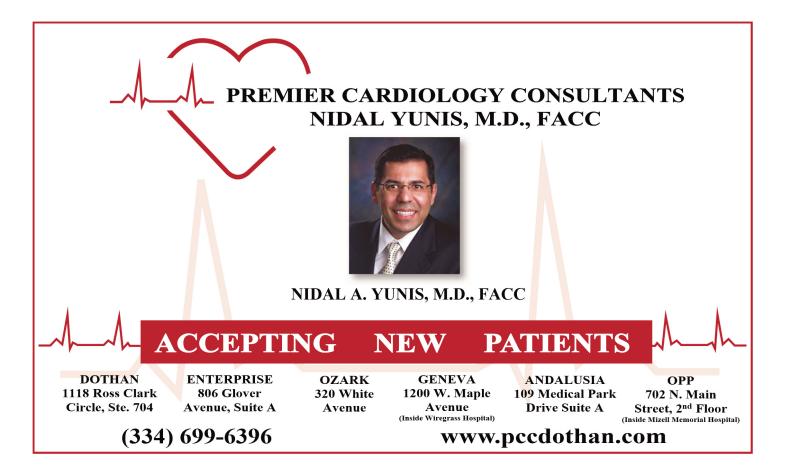






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Langhs

Just because you can't see the air doesn't mean you stop breathing. And just because you can't see God doesn't mean you stop believing.



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PASTOR JUSTIN DAVIS

Hand Gun **Navigation**

The pilot was sitting in his seat and pulled out a .38 revolver. He placed it on top of the instrument panel, then asked the navigator, "Do you know what I use this for?" The navigator replied timidly, "No, what's it for?" The pilot responded, "I use this on navigators who get me lost!" The navigator proceeded to pull out a .45 and place it on

his chart table. The pilot asked, « "What's that

for?"

sir," the "To be honest navigator replied, "I'll know we're lost before you will."

Zombie Apocalypse

What would happen if the United States 💽 were ever attacked by zombies? There is no need to worry as the US Government has a plan in case such a thing were to happen. In 2011, the Pentagon revealed a **Counter-Zombie Dominance** Plan, also known as

CONPLAN 8888-11.



Burying Nuts

Squirrels bury their nuts in the ground. They will also dig fake holes in the ground to trick any potential thieves.

Shark pregnancies last up to four years.



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The OK Corral



Shootout at the OK

Corral! That expression or quote has been heard in movies and even in real life conversation. Was this a real event? Did it take place? It did. It took on October 26, 1881, in Tombstone, Arizona.

The Shootout at the OK Corral was a 30 second gunfight in which the Earp brothers (Wyatt, Morgan, and Virgil) and Doc Holliday took on the 5 members of the Clanton-McLaury gang.

I'm Exhausted

A businessman dragged himself home and barely made it to his chair before he dropped exhausted. His sympathetic wife was right there with a tall cool drink and a comforting word. "My, you look tired," she said. "You must have had a hard day today. What happened to make you so exhausted?" "It was terrible," her husband said. "The computer broke down and all of us had to do our own thinking."

Men who wear glasses are so fine. Come here handsome. No! OVER HERE



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Laughs



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He knew everything, but that's all.



CHICKEN AND WILD RICE

Ingredients

- 4 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 3 celery ribs, cut into 1/2-inch pieces
- 2 carrots, cut into 1/2-inch pieces
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 1/2 teaspoons finely chopped thyme
- Salt
- Pepper
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 cup wild rice (5 ounces)
- 2 quarts chicken stock or low-sodium broth
- 2 cups water
- 4 cups bite-size pieces of roasted chicken or turkey
- 1 cup heavy cream

Directions

Step 1

In a large saucepan, melt the butter. Add the celery, carrots, onion, garlic, thyme and a generous pinch each of salt and pepper and cook over moderate heat, stirring occasionally, until the vegetables just start to soften, about 10 minutes. Sprinkle the flour over the vegetables and cook, stirring, until evenly coated and lightly browned, about 3 minutes.

Step 2

Add the wild rice to the saucepan and gradually stir in the stock and water. Bring to a boil, then simmer over moderately low heat, stirring occasionally, until the vegetables are tender, about 30 minutes. Add the chicken and simmer, stirring occasionally, until the wild rice is tender, 10 to 15 minutes longer. Stir in the cream and season with salt and pepper. Ladle the soup into bowls and serve.

CREAMY TOMATO BISQUE

Ingredients

- 3 tbsp. unsalted butter
- 1 tbsp. olive oil
- 1 1/2 c. chopped yellow onion (1 large)
- 3/4 c. chopped shallots (2 large)
- 1 c. chopped leek, white and light green parts only (from 2 large)
- 3 (28-ounce) cans crushed tomatoes



- 4 c. whole milk
- 2 c. heavy cream
- 1/2 tsp. saffron threads
- 1/4 tsp. crushed red pepper flakes
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- Grated Parmesan and chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley, for garnish

Directions

1. Heat butter and oil in a large pot or Dutch oven over medium-low heat. Add

onion, shallots, and leek. Cook, stirring occasionally, until tender, 8 to 10

minutes. Add tomatoes, milk, cream, saffron, and red pepper flakes. Bring to a boil over high heat. Reduce heat and simmer, uncovered and stirring occasionally,

until flavors are blended and soup is slightly thickened, 30 to 40 minutes. Season

with salt and pepper.

2 Serve hot, garnished with Parmesan and parsley.

GINGERY MEATBALL

Ingredients

- 1 lb. ground pork
- 2 green onions
- 3 clove garlic
- 1 piece peeled fresh ginger
- 2 qt. lower-sodium chicken broth
- 8 oz. snow peas
- 3 c. Cooked white rice

Directions

Arrange oven rack 6 inches from broiler heat source. Preheat broiler on high. Line large rimmed baking sheet with foil.

In medium bowl, combine pork, green onions, garlic, ginger, and 1/2 teaspoon each salt and pepper. Form mixture into bite-size meatballs (about 1 inch each); arrange in single layer on prepared baking sheet. Broil 5 to 7 minutes, or until browned.

Meanwhile, in covered 5-quart sauce pot, heat broth to simmering on high. Uncover; add snow peas, rice, and broiled meatballs. Reduce heat to medium; simmer 5 minutes, or until meatballs are cooked through and snow peas are tender.

No matter how big a hammer you use, you just can't pound common sense into stupid people.



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CHICKEN ALFREDO LASAGNA

Ingredients

- 1 tbsp. extra-virgin olive oil
- 1/2 medium onion, • chopped
- 3 stalks celery, • chopped
- 4 cloves garlic, minced ٠
- 2 tsp. freshly chopped thyme
- 1/2 tsp. crushed red pepper flakes •
- Kosher salt •
- Freshly ground black pepper ٠
- 3 tbsp. butter ٠
- 3 tbsp. all-purpose flour ٠
- 8 c. low-sodium chicken broth •
- 1 lb. chicken breasts (about 3), cut into thirds ٠
- 8 oz. lasagna noodles, broken into 2" pieces ٠
- 1/3 c. heavy cream •
- 1 shredded mozzarella •
- 1/4 c. freshly grated Parmesan, plus more for serving •
- 4 c. loosely packed spinach
- 1 tbsp. chopped parsley, for serving •

Directions

1. In a large stock pot over medium heat, heat oil. Add onion and celery and cook until slightly softened, 3 to 4 minutes. Add garlic and thyme and cook until fragrant, about 1 minute. Season with chili flakes if using, salt, and pepper.

2. Add butter and stir until melted. Stir in flour and cook until no longer raw, 2 to 3 minutes. Add broth and chicken and bring up to a simmer. Add noodles and cook until chicken is tender and noodles are cooked through, 12 to 14 minutes. Remove chicken and shred, then return to pot.

3. Add heavy cream, mozzarella, and Parmesan and stir until incorporated, then stir in spinach until wilted. Serve topped with more Parmesan and parsley.

CHEDDAR SEAFOOD CHOWDER

Ingredients

- 6 bacon strips, chopped •
- 2 celery ribs, finely chopped •
- 1/2 cup chopped sweet • orange pepper
- 1 small onion, finely chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- ٠ 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 can (14-1/2 ounces) chicken broth •
- 2 cups 2% milk •
- 2 medium red potatoes, cubed JANUARY 2021)(ang)a

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- 1 teaspoon seafood seasoning •
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 pound uncooked medium shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 1/2 pound bay scallops
- 1-1/2 cups shredded cheddar cheese

Directions

1. In a large saucepan, cook bacon over medium heat until crisp. Remove to paper towels with a slotted spoon; drain, reserving 2 tablespoons drippings.

2. In the drippings, saute the celery, orange pepper and onion until crisp-tender. Add garlic; cook 1 minute longer. Stir in flour until blended; gradually add broth and milk. Bring to a boil; cook and stir for 1 minute or until thickened.

3. Add the potatoes, seafood seasoning and salt; return to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer for 10-15 minutes or until potatoes are tender.

4. Add shrimp and scallops; cook and stir for 3-4 minutes or until shrimp turn pink and scallops are opaque. Stir in cheese until melted. Garnish each serving with bacon.

TORTELLINI SOUP

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 ounces pancetta or bacon, finely diced
- 1 medium onion, finely chopped
- 3 garlic cloves, minced •
- ٠ 1 can (49-1/2 ounces)
- chicken broth
- 2 teaspoons Italian seasoning
- 1 package (9 ounces) refrigerated cheese tortellini
- 1 can (28 ounces) crushed tomatoes in puree
- 8 ounces fresh spinach, rinsed and chopped
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 cup freshly shredded Parmesan cheese Directions

1. Heat the oil in a Dutch oven over medium heat. Add pancetta. Cook until crisp. Add onion; cook 3-4 minutes or until tender. Add garlic; cook 1 minute longer. Add broth and Italian seasoning; bring to a boil and simmer for 5 minutes.

2. Meanwhile, cook tortellini according to package directions; drain. Add cooked tortellini to soup mixture. Stir in crushed tomatoes and simmer 5 minutes. Add spinach and cook just until wilted. Season with salt and pepper. Garnish with Parmesan cheese.



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BILLHOLLIDAY@WHOLLIDAY.COM 549 DEAN CHURCH ROAD • OZARK, AL 36360 A man goes to the doctor with a swollen foot. After a careful examination, the

doctor gives the man a pill big enough to choke a horse. "I'll be right back with some water, " the doctor tells him. The doctor has been gone a while and the man loses patience. He



hobbles out to the drinking fountain, forces the pill down his throat and gobbles down water until the pill clears his throat. He hobbles back to the examining room. Just then the doctor comes back with a bucket of warm water. "Okay, after the tablet dissolves, soak that

foot for about 20 minutes."



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Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant." - Robert Louis Stevenson

OAKVIEW MANOR

asked, "What did you gain by regularly praying to God? The man replied, "Nothing... But let me tell you what I lost; Anger, Ego, Greed, Depression, Insecurity, and Fear of Death.

Once a man

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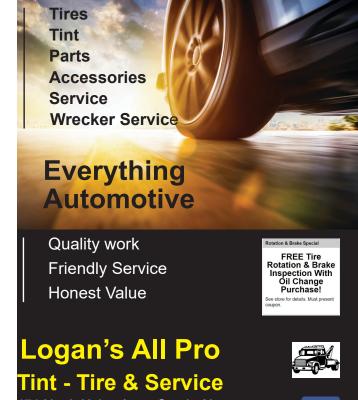
There was a snake that crawled over a sharp saw and was cut. In



anger the snaked wrapped the saw with its thick body and proceeded to squeeze the life out of the saw.

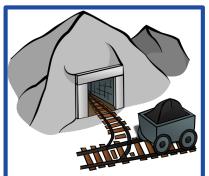
With each angry squeeze it felt more pain but continued because it wasn't going to let the saw get away with the pain it caused it. The snake, refusing to let go of the saw, eventually died; not knowing the whole time, he needed to let go of the initial pain and focus on its future and where it was going. Instead, the snake, unfortunately, lost its life and didn't even see it coming.

Control your anger, forgive those that hurt you, and don't give people or things power over you. It can ultimately kill you.



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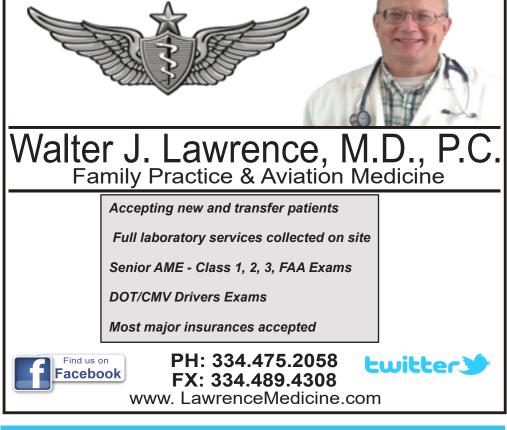
The first roller coaster was used to transport coal down a hill. After people found that it could reach speeds up to 50 miles per hour, tourists asked to ride on it for a few cents.

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Laughs

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"The man who ask a question is a fool for a minute. The man who does not ask is a fool for life" CONFUCIUS



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"Strive not to be a success, but rather to be of value." Albert Einstein

Laughs

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Half the lies they tell about me are true!





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For those of you who received a book from me for Christmas, they are due back to the library Tuesday.

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Cosmonauts Are Packing Heat

Up until 2006, Russian Cosmonauts carried firearms with them up in space. It wasn't so much to use them up in space. It's more so in case they are needed upon return when they land in the Siberian Wilderness.

You Just Can't Out Sick Her!! I told my Mother in Law I was having prostate trouble.. She said me too!

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Astronaut is a compound word derived from the two Ancient Greek words "Astro" meaning "star" and "naut" meaning "sailor". So, astronaut literally means "star sailor".



Mom: What did you do at school today? Mark: We played a guessing game.

Mom: But I thought you were having a math exam? Mark: That's right.

A preposition must not be used to end a sentence with.

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A NEW SEASON

By: Wallace Kennedy, Jr.

I really love the changing of the seasons: Winter, Spring Summer, and Fall. Each one has special characteristics and their own beauty that can be appreciated.



Our lives are like seasons, we appreciate the good and learn from the not so good ones. Our brother Paul gives us a very important principle that can enable us to make the very best of our new season. *Philippians 3:13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before.*

One of the key points Paul makes is: We must forget those things which are behind! You may be asking yourself, "How can I forget my failures, hurts, disappointments, and bad decisions?" All of us certainly will remember the pandemic (COVID19). Here is my take away from this, we must NOT allow what happened in the past to weight us down as we move into our New Season.

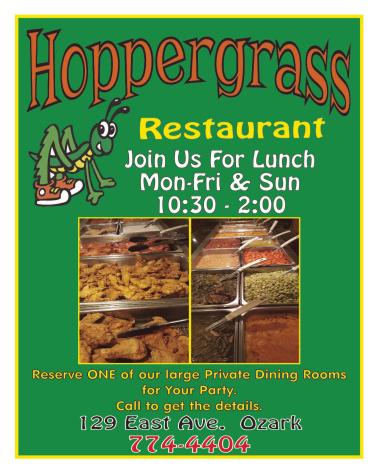
We must approach our New Season with a purpose in mind, and that is: *We must press* toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in anything ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you. Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing. Philippians 3:14-16 None of us can change what happened in the past, but we all can make a difference how our New Season will turn out.

Stay focused, *Heb 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith;* Don't get distracted, discouraged nor allow what has happened make us quit. Fight the good fight of faith. Our better days are in front of us.

God bless you and keep you in His care Happy New Year



and Hills.com Published Since 2008



Unfortunately most idiots tell you it (Clothes and Food) comes from Walmart Without farming / agriculture they'd be naked & hungry. ~ Nick Snellgrove



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Wake up Sleeper

Pastor Josh and Kayla Sims

Congratulations, you have made it through 2020 and are now embarking on a new year full of fresh opportunities. Hopefully, 2020 has taught us many lessons and one being to not take this time we have together lightly. I was having a time of prayer a few weeks back



I felt the Lord share something with me, and I want to share it with you as well. See in my prayer time that day I dozed off. Now I know that doesn't seem like a very "preachery" thing to do, but just remember I am human. When I woke up a few minutes later, I began to apologize to the Lord and this scripture from the book of Matthew came to mind. Matthew 25:45 says, "Then He came to His disciples and said to them, "Are you still sleeping and resting? Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of *sinners."* Yikes, that stings a bit. See Jesus took Peter, James and John along to go and pray. Jesus stopped at a place and told the three to wait and watch (pray) while He went a little further by himself. Jesus returned to them 3 times finding them asleep each time then waking them up on the third time, because He was about to be arrested and His trial was to begin. I want to share with you today the importance of the church to be awakened. The commands of Jesus to reach the world with His gospel still rings true today and I'm afraid that the church has become complacent in our mission. Maybe 2020 was the wake up call the church needed to rise to the occasion and carry the Mission of Jesus to those who are looking for HOPE. Friend are you asleep? Wake Up! The Kingdom of Heaven is near and we have a job to do in 2021. I want to leave you with Romans 13:11-14. 11:And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. 12: The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. 13:Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. 14:But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.

Faith Christian Center



Pastor Josh and Kayla Sims 853 Lakeview Road in Ozark (Behind Gilland Ford). https://faithozark.church

"Success is not defined by obtaining everything you want, but by appreciating everything you have."



THE FIRST WOMAN PRESIDENT

The year is 2024 and the United States has just elected the first woman, An Ariton High School Purple Cat and University of Alabama graduate, as President of the United States, Susan Baker. A few days after the election the president-elect calls her father and says, 'So, Dad, I assume you will be coming to my inauguration?' 'I don't think so. It's a 30 hour drive, your mother isn't as young as she used to be, and my arthritis is acting up again.' 'Don't worry about it, Dad, I'll send Air Force One to pick you up and take you home. And a limousine will pick you up at your door.'

'I don't know. Everybody will be so fancy. What would your mother wear?'

Oh Dad, replies Susan, 'I'll make sure she has a wonderful gown custom-made by the best designer in New York .'

"Honey,' Dad complains, 'you know I can't eat those rich foods you and your friends like to eat.' The President-to-be responds, Don't worry Dad. The entire affair is going to be handled by the best caterer in New York , I'll ensure your meals are salt free Dad, I really want you to come. So Dad reluctantly agrees and on January 20, 2025, Susan Baker is being sworn in as President of the United States. In the front row sits the new president's Dad and Mom. Dad noticing the senator sitting next to him leans over and whispers, 'You see that woman over there with her hand on the Bible. becoming President of the United States.' The Senator whispers back, 'Yes I

Laughs

do.'

Her Dad says proudly, ' Her brother played football at The University of Alabama.'

> JANUARY 2021 Page 22 and Liffes.com Published Since 2008

Only Robinson Crusoe had everything done by Friday.

Claybank Master Gardeners

Happy New Year Gardeners,

Are you ready to start a garden? December and January are the best months for our Wiregrass Area planting zone (zones 8a and 8b) to sow seeds for hardy spring blooming plants, and to plant new fruit trees and bare-root roses and shrubs, giving the



roots time to get well established before spring leafing out and flowering. Having had several nights of below freezing temperatures already, our pineapple plants (in large pots) didn't get covered in time, but mercifully they are not "belly-up" yet. They'll lose their original leaves but new leaves are already showing up. ***

already showing up. *** It's not too late to plant winter and spring blooming bulbs for daffodils, tulips, paperwhites, snowbells, and irises, among others. Did you know there is a free Alabama Gardening Calendar online at www.aces.edu? You can also get a wonderful chart showing the optimal temperatures for seed germination for most vegetables from the www.aces.edu website. Ask for ANR-1061, either online or at the Extension office for your county.***

If you have not yet discovered the wonderful Dothan Area Botanical Gardens or Landmark Park, you are missing two local treasures of inspiration and delight. Every season they offer educational and interesting programs the whole family will enjoy. The Dothan Eagle posts their upcoming events, as well as Facebook and their own home websites, dabg.com and landmarkparkdothan.com. Also check out at Vivian B. Adams School in Ozark. They have beautiful tunnel houses providing fresh vegetables and volunteer opportunities. Look up on Vivian's Garden on YouTube and Facebook. *** 2021 Master Gardener classes will be offered online and live on location, beginning February 4th through April 29th, 2021. Call your county Extension Office for details.***

Claybank Master Gardeners meetings resume on January 21st at 11 AM at Hoppergrass Restaurant in Ozark, 129 East Ave., across from Milky Moos. Visitors are always welcome. Come buy your lunch if you wish and enjoy learning from other gardeners. Questions? Call the Dale County Extension Office at (334) 774-2329 to verify date and time. Happy Fall gardening, folks!

xtension

Dee Gilbert, Claybank Master Gardeners



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In the 1980s, A&W tried to compete with the McDonald's Quarter Pounder by selling a 1/3 pound burger at a lower cost. The product failed, because most customers thought the 1/4 pound was bigger. This is why I don't argue online.

A woman ordered 12 bees and the beekeeper gave her 13. She said."You gave me an extra bee sir." He replies, "That's a freebie"

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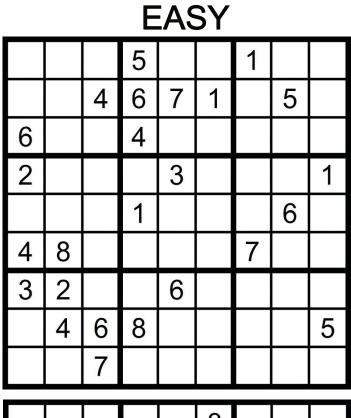
The fact is that there is no satisfying fear or insanity, no matter what you do, it will never be enough.

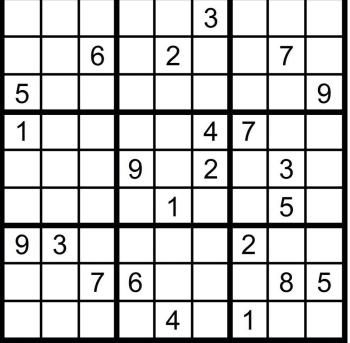
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I love the LORD, for he heard my voice; he heard my cry for mercy. - Psalm 116:1

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Financial advice with Dave Ramsey

Patience, determination...and time

DAVE SAYS

Dear Dave,

One of my resolutions this year was to start living on a budget, and gain control of my money. I never realized how easy it would be to get discouraged early on. Can you give me some encouragement to help make my financial resolutions stick in 2021? ~ Collin

Dear Collin,

The secret to making a goal into a reality is getting started. It's really that simple. You also have to be realistic and accept the fact that nothing—especially things you've never done before—works out perfectly the first time around. That leads to the next step, which is patience. Most people think about losing 20 pounds, and immediately feel it needs to happen in the next month or so. It doesn't. And mostly likely, it won't. Like almost everything else worth doing, it's something that requires sacrifice and focus each day over an extended period of time. Crash courses are usually painful and rarely work out well. But once you've done something a few times, it becomes an easier and easier part of your daily routine. Pretty soon, it's not a chore or something you're afraid of.

Making a budget and gaining control of your finances works the same way. When you first create a money plan, it probably won't work out exactly as you hoped. That's okay. It will barely work the second month, but it won't be as scary, because you've already done it once. By the third month, you'll have a much better feel for it, and your stress levels will go way down because you already know the basics. It just takes determination, patience, and intensity to get through the rough patches that go along with starting anything new.

A new year is just around the corner, Collin. Don't fall into the same old trap. Give yourself a little grace, but keep your eyes on the prize. Start preparing yourself now. You've got plenty of time to begin laying out a plan, and have a solid budget ready when January 1st arrives. It may feel like things are beginning slowly, but you can make this happen if you'll just stick with it!

—Dave

* Dave Ramsey is a seven-time #1 national best-selling author, personal finance expert, and host of The Dave Ramsey Show, heard by more than 16 million listeners each week. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Today Show, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business, and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people regain control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for Ramsey Solutions.

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nswers on page

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Henry Ford

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Self-Annihilating Sentence 2: A little pain never hurt anyone.



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A tom cat and a tabby cat were courting on a back fence at night.

The tom leaned over to the tabby and purred..."I'll die for you!"

The tabby gazed at him from under lowered eye lids and asked. "How many times?"



PSA: If you see a road sign that says "Survey Crew Ahead", they actually are NOT looking for your SURVEY **CREW** AHEAD opinions.....I know that now.

Husband: Honey, broke the kitchen. a glass coming am broom urgent. **IOU** S come OU can on TOOL

I'm 80. I won't be around in the year 2072. I'd be 131 years old.

Well, at least you know there's the possibility you may still be voting.



No husband has ever been shot while doing the dishes.

Solution on Page 31

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very belligerent old man insisted on buying 1/2 head of lettuce. The very young protduce assistant told him that they sell only whole heads of lettuce.

Mexican Dishes

The man persisted and asked to see the manager. The boy said he'd ask his manager about it. Walking into the back room, the boy said to his manager: "Some old coot wants to buy half a head of lettuce."

As he finished his sentence, he turned to suddenly find the man standing right behind him, so quickly he added, "And this gentleman has kindly offered to buy the other half."

The manager approved the deal, and the man went on his way.

Later, the manager said to the boy, "I was impressed with the way you got yourself out of that situation earlier. We like people who think on their feet here. Where are you from, son?"

"Canada, sir," the boy replied.

"Well, why did you leave Canada?" the manager asked.

The boy said, "Sir, there's nothing but loose women and hockey players up there."

) hangha

"Really?" said the manager. "My wife is from Canada."

"Wow" replied the boy. "Who'd she play for?"



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Laughs

My 7 year old was saying his nightly prayers in a low voice. "I can't hear you," I whispered. He said firmly, "Wasn't talking to you."

priest, a rabbi and a Pentecostal preacher Aall served as chaplains to the students of Northern Michigan University in Marguette. They would get together two or three times a week for coffee and to talk "shop". One day someone made the comment that preaching to people isn't really that hard. A real challenge would be to preach to a bear. Well, one thing led to

another and before it was over they decided to do a seven-day experiment. They would all go out into the woods, find a bear and preach to it. It's now 7 days later and they're all together to discuss the experience. Father O'Flannery, who has his arm in a sling, is on crutches, and has various bandages goes first. "WellII," he says in a fine Irish brogue, "Ey wint oot into th' wooods to fynd me a bearr. Oond when Ey fund him Ey began to rread to him from the Baltimorre Chatecism. Welll, thet bearr wanted naught to do wi' me und begun to slap me aboot. So I quick grrabbed me holy water and, THE SAINTS BE PRAISED, he becam as gintle as a lamb. The bishop is cooming oot next wik to give him fierst communion und confierrmation."

Reverend Billy Bob speaks next. He's in a wheel chair, with an arm and both legs in casts and an I.V. drip. In his best fire and brimstone oratory he proclaims, "WELL brothers....you KNOW that we don't sprinkle......WE DUNK! I went out and I FOUND me a bear. And then I began to read to him from God's HOOOOLY WORD! But that bear wanted nothing to do with me. I SAY NO! He wanted NOTHING to do with me. So I took HOOOLD of him and we began to rassle. We rassled down one hill, UP another and DOWN another untill we come to a crick. So'se I quick DUNK him and BAPTIZE his hairy soul. An' jus like you you sez, he wuz gentle as a lamb. We spent the rest of the week in fellowship, feasting on God's HOOOOLY word." Next, the first two both look down at the rabbi who's laying in a hospital bed. He's in a body cast & traction with IV's and monitors running in and out of him. The rabbi looks up and says "Oy! You don't know what tough is until you try to circumcise one of those creatures."



Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. -Romans 12:11

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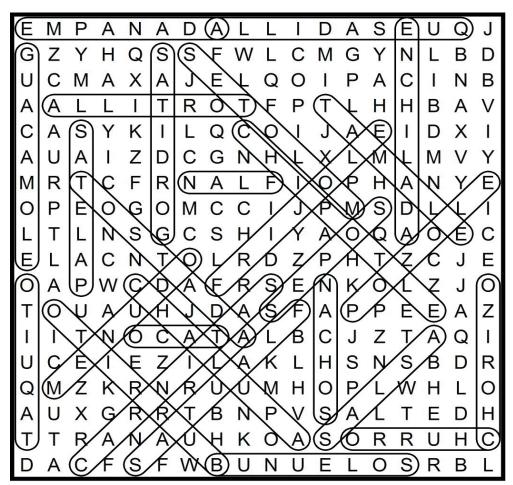
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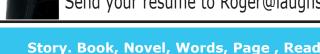
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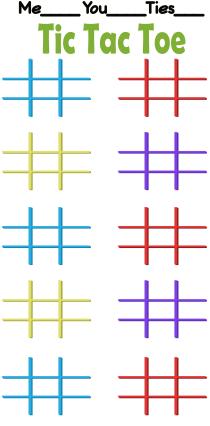
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