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Auchly Subs at Chamber

SHOALS—Barry Auchly officially became Interim President of the Shoals Chamber of Commerce on March 1. He replaces Steve Holt who resigned effective February 29.

Prior to accepting this position, Auchly retired from American Wholesale Book Co (Books-A-Million) in Florence where he worked for nearly twenty years. He previously held management positions in Green Bay, WI for three years at a privately held retail chain and for May Department Stores for nineteen years.



Auchly

Auchly is a native of St. Peters, MO and holds a B.S. degree in Business from Fontbonne College. He has served on local boards for United Way, YMCA, the Executive Board of the Shoals Chamber, and the NW AL Regional Airport Authority.

Auchly's personal interests include flying airplanes and hang gliders, boating, water and snow skiing, hunting, motorcycling and scuba diving.

Auchly and his wife Brenda have three children and three grandchildren. Their two boys and grandchildren live in the Shoals and their daughter resides in Savannah, GA.

Deadline for Garden Seeds

SHOALS—Community Action Agency of Northwest Alabama's Gerald Williams Cooperative Garden Program is closing in on deadline. Free vegetable seeds, plants and fertilizer are provided for qualifying local residents wishing to grow their own gardens. The sign-up deadline is March 18.

Applicants must reside in Lauderdale or Colbert county and must not exceed defined gross monthly income levels. Lauderdale and Colbert residents should call 256-386-3798 from 1-4pm Monday-Friday. More income information is inside this issue. Remember, the deadline to apply is Friday, March 18.

On Watch for IRS Scams

SHOALS—The Better Business Bureau of North Alabama is being flooded by reports of the IRS phone scam. Remember that the Internal Revenue

See SHORTS... on Page 2



Local Career Tech students take part in the 10th Annual NW-SCC welding competition
NWSSC photo

Skills Showcased

MUSCLE SHOALS – Local high schools students demonstrated their skills in the 10th Annual Welding Competition and the Fourth Annual Cosmetology Skills Competition recently at Northwest-Shoals Community College's (NW-SCC) Shoals campus.

The secondary technical/vocational schools competed in cosmetology skills and welding skills competitions. The welding competition featured

four contests: 7018 (stick welding), 6010 (stick welding), Flux-Core (wire welding), and Torch. Each school will be divided between Dual Enrollment/Dual Credit, Non Dual Enrollment/Dual Credit, and Agriculture department students. The cosmetology skills competition featured four contests: Cosmetology, Men's Hair Design, Esthetics, and Nail Care.

See SKILLS.. on Page 6

Awards for Flor-Ala Staff

FLORENCE – The Flor-Ala and the Roar-Ala ranked among the top five student publications in the region at the 2016 Southeast Journalism Conference recently at Austin Peay State University in Clarksville, Tennessee.

These two student-led publications at the University of North Alabama competed against 35 colleges and 441 entries in the SEJC's annual Best of the South competition.

Roar-Ala magazine, which the Flor-Ala staff produces and distributes annually to incoming students through

the university's incoming student SOAR program, ranked fourth for Best College Magazine.

The Flor-Ala ranked fifth for Best College Newspaper.

The following Flor-Ala student

See FLOR-ALA... on Page 16

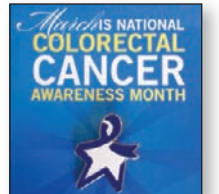


Screening Should Begin at Age 50

SHOALS—Among cancers that affect both men and women, colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths in the United States. Every year approximately 140,000 Americans are diagnosed with the disease and more than 50,000 people die from it. The good news is colorectal cancer is highly preventable by getting screened beginning at age 50. At least 60% of deaths from this cancer could be avoided with early detection.

March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month and the Endoscopy Center at ECM Hospital encourages local residents to discuss the benefits of screening test options for the disease with their attending physician. "Risk increases with age with more than 90% of colorectal cancers occurring in people age 50 and older," said ECM Endoscopy Nurse Manager, Terrie McAnally. "Precancerous polyps and colorectal cancer don't always cause symptoms.

See SCREENING.. on Page 5



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• Dave Ramsey

• Rent-To-Own #2

• Outdoors

• Pet Talk

• Mystery Photo

• Web Poll

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BONELESS SKINLESS
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1.39 LB.

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Cake Mix **4/\$5**

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Baked or Grillin' Beans **2/\$4**

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FLORIDA
Strawberries **2.99** 1 LB.

SUNKIST
Navel Oranges **3/\$1**

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Slaw Mix **99¢** 14 OZ.

SHORTS...

On Watch for IRS Scams

Continued from Page 1

Service (IRS) will NOT contact you by phone. These callers are claiming that the IRS is pursuing a lawsuit against you and that you must make a payment immediately. If you do not answer, they will leave you a message warning you that this is your last notice from them and urging you to call back immediately.

Over the past year it has been determined that the callers are based overseas. They are disguising their phone numbers to appear as though they are in the United States. There are hundreds of phone numbers that these scammers are using with area codes from all over the country.

Your BBB encourages you to always screen your phone calls and to ignore any calls from numbers that you do not recognize.

If you receive one of these calls or voicemails, keep these tips in mind:

- Don't send any money. The IRS will not ask for payment over the phone, especially by money order or prepaid debit card. If you owe money to the IRS, they will send you a letter in the mail.

- Just hang up and don't call back. It is tempting to get the last word, but you may end up giving scammers information they can use later.

- Never give out your personal information or banking information. Caller ID spoofing makes it very easy for callers to pretend to be someone else. Be very skeptical of anyone who calls asking for money or personal information.

- Visit BBB Scam Tracker at bbb.org/scamtracker/northern-alabama/ to report the scam and to find out about other known scam.

Found: small black cat with orange splotches found in the Heritage Village area, Florence. 256-436-1121

MITSUBISHI: LANCER ES, 2014 \$10,988. cloth, automatic, 47k, financing available. Call 256-810-0283 or 256-764-3351.

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SMALL DOG, 10-15 LBS., black w/white paws, found in Spring Creek Drive area behind GHS. Must describe collar. 256-226-7197.

ADVANCE LAWN CARE FREE estimates. 256-483-9730.

On The Mountain
MountainTheater.org
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See SHORTS...on Page 11

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VOLKSWAGEN: PASSAT, 2014 \$13,988. Wolfsburg leather, 44k mi. Financing available. Call JD, 256-577-1056 or 256-764-3351

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VERTIBLE, Hardtop.** 87,800 miles, leather, heated seats, \$8,500. 256-275-2144

FORD: FUSION, 2013 \$11,998. cloth, power windows, locks, 79k. Financing Available. Call Hoke, 256-740-1297 or 256-764-3351

DRIVEWAY GRAVEL SPECIAL 22% off, \$129., load delivered www.shoalsdirt.com 256-740-7406

MITSUBISHI: LANCER ES, 2015 \$12,962. Cloth, auto 15k mi. Financing available. Call Shannon 256-412-1551 or 256-764-3351

CLASSIFIED FORM ON PAGE 6

**1988 FLEATWOOD SOUTH-
WIND RV,** low miles, good condition, sleeps six comfortably, includes washer/dryer, \$6,200 OBO, Must See! 256-648-7690 after 3 pm.



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**ONE DAY SALE!
FRIDAY, MARCH 18**

FAMILY PACK
Ground Beef
1.69 LB.

BONE-IN
Sirloin Chops
89¢ LB.

FAMILY PACK CHICKEN
Thighs or Drumsticks
59¢ LB.

MIXED
Party Wings
1.69 LB.

COTTAGE BRAND
Bacon SLICED BACON
1.49 12 OZ.

CAROLINA PRIDE
Bologna or Hot Dogs
89¢ 12 OZ.

Coca Cola
Products
4/\$9 .5 L - 6PK.

GOLDEN FLAKE
Cheese Curls or Puffs
1.19 6 OZ.

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Chips
5/\$1 1 OZ.

BEST CHOICE
Vegetable Oil
1.99 48 OZ.

BEST CHOICE 4 LB. BAG
Sugar
3/\$5

BEST CHOICE 14.5-15 OZ.
Corn, Peas or Green Beans
49¢

BEST CHOICE 24 OZ.
Ketchup
89¢

BEST CHOICE 8 OZ.
Shredded or Chunk Cheese
2/\$3

IDAHO 10 LB.
Potatoes
2/\$5

YELLOW 3 LB.
Onions
2/\$3

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99¢ LB.

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9am-Noon, 1-4pm

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Entry Numbers Given Out At 8:30am.
 See EstateSales.net for pictures.

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Community Notes

Free Garden Supplies to qualifying low-income households in Colbert and Lauderdale. Call 256-386-3798, 1-4pm, Monday-Friday through March 18. A program of Community Action Agency Northwest Alabama.

Glendale Church of Christ Wednesday Night Series 7pm each night, located at 8000 County Road 200, north of Florence.

March 16 - Ed White
 March 23 - Stan Dean
 March 30 - Wayne Wood
 April 6 - First Wednesday Singing
 April 13 - Wayne Kilpatrick
 April 20 - Chris Moran
 April 27 - Bill Bagents
 Please come and bring a friend. Everyone welcomed.

The Next Quarterly Meeting of the Northwest Alabama RC&D Council has been scheduled for Tuesday, March 22 beginning at 10am at Muscle Shoals City Hall, 2010 E. Avalon Ave. Registration will commence at 9:30am and the meeting will end at 11:30am with lunch following. An agenda will be distributed prior to the meeting.

Please RSVP your attendance by Wednesday, March 16, by calling 256-383-1446 or emailing mleighrcd@gmail.com.

Central Volunteer Fire Department Fish Fry, March 17, 4-7pm. Fish, shrimp and chicken catered by Swamp John's. Eat in or carry out. Plates \$10. Proceeds go to fire department

Pilot Club of Florence is accepting registration for its Spring bus trip to New Orleans until Monday, April 4. Trip is Monday, May 2 - Thursday, May 5. Cost \$498, includes room, transportation, eight meals and fees to all shows and museums. More info, 256-757-0722 or 321-266-7543.

WE CARE After School Ministry of Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church in Central Heights is still enrolling students. Contact Melissa at 245-483-2559 for more information.

Confronting Violence - Improving Women's Lives - at Florence-Lauderdale Public Library

• Incarcerated Women: Domestic Violence and U.S. Prison Writing with Dr. Yaschica Williams and Dr. Katie Owens-Murphy Thursday, March 17 at 5:30pm.

Dr. Yaschica Williams and Dr. Katie Owens-Murphy will examine pathways that lead women who are victims of domestic violence to end up in prison. The presentation will also examine the ways in which the U.S. penal system exacerbates and even replicates the trauma of abuse through a discussion of Kim Wozencraft's 1993 novel, *Notes from the Country Club*.

Dr. Yaschica Williams is an Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology and Family Studies at UNA.

• Documentary Screening: "The Mama Sherpas" Saturday, March 19 at 12:30pm.

In 2012, one in three babies in America were delivered by c-section, despite the World Health Organization's recommendation that Cesarean births remain below 15 percent. How can these disturbing trend be reversed? In recent years, the idea of a collaborative care practice where doctors and midwives manage women's care together has begun to gain traction in the United States. The *Mama Sherpas* is a feature-length documentary film about women receiving their maternity care through midwife-doctor teams. The documentary follows nurse midwives, the doctors they work with, and their patients to provide an investigative lens into how midwives work within the hospital system.

This screening and discussion is hosted by Safer Birth in Bama.

• **Confronting Violence in the Shoals:** The Creation of Safeplace, the Shoals Crisis Center, and One Place of the Shoals at 2pm Sunday, March 20. Representatives from local victim services agencies will discuss how they work together to provide help to victims of violence in the Shoals:

-Rachel Cabaniss Hackworth, Executive Director of Safeplace
 -Samatha Belville, Executive Director of Shoals Crisis Center/Rape Response
 -Angie Hamilton, Founder/Executive Director of One Place of the Shoals
 -Panel Moderated by Dr. Lynne Rieff, Professor of History, Director of the Center for Women's Studies at UNA

The Depression and Bipolar Support Group meets every Monday at 4:30pm at 749 Thompson St., Suite A, Florence. Questions? Call Jackie at 256-710-4664.

See NOTES... page 32



piggly wiggly

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1.89 LB.

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BONELESS BEEF
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BONELESS BEEF
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8.99 LB.

Boneless Country-Style Pork Ribs lb. **1.99**

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Gwaltney Wieners 12 oz. pkg. **1.09**

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Potatoes
2.79 10 LB. BAG

FRESH WESTERN
Lettuce
95¢ HEAD

RED MICHIGAN
Apples
2.99 3 LB. BAG

YELLOW
Onions
1.59 3 LB. BAG

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Ketchup
1.29 34 OZ. SQUEEZE BOTTLE

PIGGLY WIGGLY
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ARMOUR
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Peaches
 28 OZ. CAN
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ANGEL SOFT
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PIGGLY WIGGLY 1/2 GAL. PLASTIC JUG
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 4 PACK, 10 CT. CANS
2/\$4
 PIGGLY WIGGLY
Cheese Singles
 12 OZ. PKG.
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Kraft Barbecue Sauce
1.19 18 OZ. BTL.

QUEEN PILLOWTOP MATTRESS SET still in package, \$200. Full size, \$185. Kings, \$300. Delivery possible. Eric 256-710-7325.

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Screening

Continued from Page 1

However, when detected early the disease is very treatable," added McAnally. People with a family history of the disease may be encouraged to start testing at a younger age.

Many insurance plans and Medicare help pay for colorectal cancer screening tests. Check with your plan to find out which tests are covered for you. To find out about Medicare coverage, call 1-800-Medicare or visit www.medicare.gov.

If you would like more information regarding available tests and screens, you can contact the Endoscopy Center at ECM Hospital by calling 256-768-9598.


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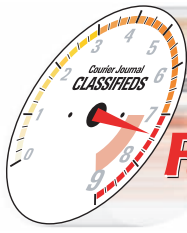


Alabama Central Credit Union
www.alabamacentral.org

  *Membership eligibility required. Must have at least 6 months of employment, minimum monthly income of \$1500.00, and 5% down payment. Maximum loan amount \$20,000.00 and maximum term of 60 months. Vehicle must be 2009 or newer. All loans subject to credit approval.

Courier Journal

Classifieds



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Attract the most attention and sell your items red line fast when you choose to Red Line your Classified Ad. THE FIRST LINE OF YOUR AD APPEARS IN RED CAPS, catching the eye of your buyer faster than any other classified advertising in the Shoals Area!

HOUSECLEANING for your office or home. Call 555-1234 for a free estimate. 15 years experience, Insured, References available.

TNValleyStuff.com

As an added bonus for our advertisers, all classified ads placed in the Courier Journal are also online at TNValleyStuff.com. This provides even greater impact than the 70,000 home circulation which the Courier Journal reaches every week.

- Private Party Rate** 3 LINES for 1 item Prepay - No REAL ESTATE, FIREWOOD, or TICKETS - 1 vehicle per ad. Each additional line - \$1.25 - CASH DISCOUNT - 4 Weeks/3 LINES for 1 item \$13.50 - Each additional line - \$5.00 no credits..... **\$4⁵⁰** Week
- Commercial Rate** 4 LINES Prepay - applies to all REAL ESTATE and anyone engaged in sale of goods/services on a recurring basis or for profit, licensed or not. 1 vehicle per ad. Each additional line - \$1.25 CASH DISCOUNT - 6 Weeks/4 lines \$35.00. Each additional line - \$7.50 **\$7⁰⁰** Week
- Yard Sales** 5 LINES Prepay Each additional line - \$1.25 YARD SALES - An exclusive listing of the area's better sales prominently placed **\$11⁰⁰** Week
- Employment** 5 LINES Prepay Each additional line - \$2.25 EMPLOYMENT - Looking for employment or Businesses looking for employees **\$12⁵⁰** Week
- Private Party Auto Rate** Up to 8 LINES for 4 weeks. Prepay Each additional line - \$2.00 **\$15⁰⁰**

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➔ **HOW MANY WEEKS?** Multiply the number of weeks - X - the cost of the ad.....

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MAILING ADDRESS:

Courier Journal, 219 W. Tennessee St., Florence, AL 35630

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Questions? Call our office at 256-764-4268.

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Phone-in Ads MUST be Charged to Credit/Debit Card! NO EXCEPTIONS! NO REFUNDS!

DEADLINE: Friday 5pm

Skills...

Continued from Page 1

Seventeen schools and Career Tech centers in NW Alabama participated. The judges were from business and industry partners.

SKILLS COMPETITION WELDING AGRICULTURE DEPTS.

1. Maria White - LCHS
2. Micah Dalrymple - Colbert Hgts
3. Ethan Shores - Elkmont

TORCH

1. Fabian Lopez - LCHS
2. Tyler Patterson - Muscle Shoals Career Academy
3. Pierce Dolan - Phil Campbell

FLUX CORE

1. Cody Johnson - LCHS
2. John David Rhea - Central
3. Allen Lawson - Winston County Technical Center

6010

1. Ben Neyman - Allen Thornton Career Technical Center
2. Zach Shikles - Haleyville
3. Gabriel Crane - Winston County Technical Center

7018

1. Garrett Brown - Central
2. Mylan Gann - LCHS
3. Madisen Overholser - Allen Thornton Career Tech Center

DUAL CREDIT/DUAL ENROLLMENT - TORCH

1. Skyler Rusin - Muscle Shoals Career Academy
2. Jesse White - Central
3. Colton Harrison - Allen Thornton Career Tech Center

FLUX CORE

1. Austin Hill - Allen Thornton Career Technical Center
2. Skyler Staten - Muscle Shoals Career Academy
3. Milton Fernandez - Russellville

6010

1. Jonah Sprinkle - LCHS
2. Cody Morgan - Phil Campbell
3. Jackson Somers - Muscle Shoals Career Academy

7018

1. Jarod Davis - Muscle Shoals Career Academy
2. Colton Byrd - Allen Thornton Career Technical Center
3. Ben Cook - Florence

SALON and SPA Cosmetology

1. Haley Mitchell - Allen Thornton Career Tech Center
2. Blanka Aquire - Franklin County Career Tech Center
3. Jordan Bell - Winston County Tech Center

MEN'S HAIR DESIGN

1. Heath Hood - Winston County Tech Center
2. Savannah Rennicker - Winston County Tech Center
3. Caitlyn Brewer - Central

NAIL CARE

1. Lesly Garcia - Franklin County Career Tech Center
2. Alanis Welch - Franklin County Career Tech Center
3. Jacqueline Nix - Muscle Shoals Career Academy

ESTHETICS

1. Haley Terry - Lawrence County Center of Technology
2. Michelle Wynn - Lawrence County Center of Technology
3. Iris Uptain - Franklin County Career Technical Center

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2 Ads 2 Weeks ONLY \$22

Courier Journal

Courier Journal

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John Steele

OFFICE HOURS:
Monday - Friday
8:00am - 5:00pm

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DEADLINES: Issues Published Every Wednesday
INSERTS - 5 pm Thursday
DISPLAY ADS - 5 pm Thursday
CLASSIFIED ADS - 5 pm Friday unless otherwise specified

219 W. Tennessee St.

Florence, AL 35630
256-764-4268
Fax: 256-760-9618

Your Courier Journal is published for total saturation, direct-mail delivery every Wednesday to 70,173 Shoals area and surrounding homes. It is Alabama's Largest Weekly-Mailed Direct, and enjoys a larger circulation than all local subscriber based newspapers combined.

EDITORIAL POLICY: Your Courier Journal accepts a variety of news releases, photos, stories, Letters to the Editor and upcoming community, church or civic events for publication as space permits. Please submit all materials in written form to:

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

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Celestial Thoughts

I believe the story I'm about to tell you wasn't just for joy in my life, but to share with you. It is a real life example of God's promise to us. I sent my best friend what I call "a little happy" in the mail the other day. It was in the form of a Starbucks gift card to cheer her up. As it turns out, I received a card in the mail the very next day from an acquaintance of mine who wanted to brighten my day. Inside the card was a gift...you guessed it, a Starbucks gift card.

Here comes the interesting part: It was worth more than the one I sent my friend. I thanked God for His goodness and for giving me a generous heart to share with others. "...give and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over... For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you." Luke 6:38

Dawn N.

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I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Phil. 4:13 NKJ

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RED LINE YOUR ADS. SEE PAGE 6

ASK THE ATTORNEY



Thomas McCutcheon

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

Q I was injured by a driver who has a revoked license when they ran a stop sign. Their insurance company says they may not have insurance because of the revoked license. The other driver was driving a borrowed car that had insurance. Is it true that there may be no insurance for my broken leg and lost wages?

Jasmyn, Tuscumbia, AL

A A revoked license does not cancel insurance. However, there are situations where people are such bad drivers that they are "excluded drivers". If someone is driver excluded from the insurance on the car that caused the accident, then there is no insurance coverage. Exclusions from coverage of named drivers are valid in Alabama.

The next thing a lawyer would look for is whether or not the person that owned the car was aware of how bad a driver the person that caused the accident was. Alabama allows a lawsuit against a person who allows someone drive their car if they know (or should know) that this person is likely to cause an accident. The most common facts that give rise to this type of suit is letting someone who has been drinking borrow a car. The same would hold true for someone loaning a car to someone under the influence of drugs. If a person has reason to know that the person borrowing their car is impaired and the impaired driver hurts someone, the owner of the car can be held liable.

This cause of action is known as "negligent entrustment" and it includes the idea that the owner knew that the driver was incompetent, inexperienced and/or reckless and proof that this driver legally caused harm to another.

Talk to a good personal injury lawyer and always remember to notify your insurance company of the accident. Occasionally, insurance companies will claim they were not notified of a claim for uninsured motorist coverage, and this just creates a needless problem in your claim for insurance that you paid for. *Buckle up and drive safely.*

Please send the questions to: "Ask the Attorney," P. O. Box 38, Florence, Alabama 35631 or visit our website at www.mhatt.com

facebook: McCutcheon and Hamner, P.C.

We will not print your full name in the article. We will not be able to return any written or preprinted items which are submitted.

No representation is made that the quality of legal services to be performed is greater than the quality legal services performed by other lawyers.

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EASTER, SUMMER, ST. PATRICK'S AND ITEMS LABELED THE SPRING SHOP™ ARE NOT INCLUDED IN HOME ACCENTS SALE.

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| <p style="text-align: center; color: red;">Items Labeled the spring shop™</p> <h2 style="text-align: center; color: red;">40% OFF</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statuary • Garden Planters • Gazing Balls • Garden Wall Decor & More | <p style="text-align: center; color: red;">Summer Toys & Decor</p> <h2 style="text-align: center; color: red;">40% OFF</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">Includes Little Wishes®</p> | <p style="text-align: center; color: red;">PlaySide CREATIONS</p> <p style="text-align: center; color: red;">Summer Crafts & VBS</p> <h2 style="text-align: center; color: red;">30% OFF</h2> | <p style="text-align: center; color: red;">Easter Party, Crafts & Decorations</p> <h2 style="text-align: center; color: red;">40% OFF</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plush Animals • Paper Plates & Napkins • Home Decor • Baskets • Plastic Eggs & More <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">DOES NOT INCLUDE CANDY OR FABRIC.</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center; color: red;">Floral Most Categories Listed</p> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">DOES NOT INCLUDE SEASONAL DEPARTMENT OR ITEMS LABELED "FLORAL ACCENTS™"</p> <h2 style="text-align: center; color: red;">50% OFF</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stem Naturals <small>CHOOSE FROM BOUQUETS, STICKS, PODS, GRANS, FILLERS & GRASSES. DOES NOT INCLUDE FEATHERS.</small> • Potted Trees & Floor Plants <small>4 ft. - 8 ft. ALWAYS THE MARKED PRICE*</small> • Flowering & Greenery Bushes <small>DOES NOT INCLUDE POTTED TREES.</small> • Floral Stems <small>INCLUDES ALL FLORAL & GREENERY STEMS. DOES NOT INCLUDE FEATHERS.</small> | <p style="text-align: center; color: red;">Furniture ALWAYS</p> <h2 style="text-align: center; color: red;">30% OFF</h2> <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">THE MARKED PRICE*</p> | <p style="text-align: center; color: red;">St. Patrick's Day</p> <h2 style="text-align: center; color: red;">30% OFF</h2> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decorations • Party Supplies • Crafts & More! <p style="text-align: center; font-size: small;">DOES NOT INCLUDE FABRIC.</p> | <p style="text-align: center; color: red;">Needle Art</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yarn Bee® Effervece™ 4.49 4 oz. • Soft Secret™ 3.33 4 & 6 oz. • Packaged Quilt Battings & Pillow Forms 30% OFF • Baby Bee® Baby Yarns <small>CHOOSE FROM HUSHABYE, SWEET DELIGHT & SWEET DELIGHT POMP.</small> 4.22 3 & 4 oz. |
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John 3:3

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Submitted by Kenneth Haddock

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The Cart Before the Horse

You have heard the expression, "putting the cart before the horse." This is the way some religionists try to get people saved. They put baptism, good morals, the payment of honest debts, attendance at church services, and just about every other kind of work for the Hell-bound, Hell-deserving sinner to do in an effort to get saved. This is "putting the cart before the horse." A person will work *after* salvation, *not before*. We work because we love God!

If you can visualize in your mind's eye a horse trying to push a well loaded cart up a steep grade, you will get a little of the picture of "Works-Salvation." Picture in your mind a cart with a sign on it reading, "I'm working for my salvation!" Then, picture in your mind a sign on the horse reading, "I'll never make it this way!" There will be your answer to works for salvation!

Perhaps some of you have heard Evangelist A. H. Stewart tell how, when greatly concerned about his soul, he was told to believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and trust Him as Saviour, but he thought that way was far too easy. He went about it according to his own idea - he joined a church, sang in the choir, and became quite a worker. He hoped in all these things to obtain peace with God, but there was no peace!

One day, while he was reading the parable of the sower in his Bible (Luke 8:4-12), he came to the words, "Then cometh the devil, and taketh away the Word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved." Stewart put down his Bible and said, "Will you look at that! Even the devil knows a man will be saved if he will believe!" And that day he settled it, turned to Christ, and trusted Him as Saviour.

Yes, God saves men (and women, and little children at the time of accountability) when they believe; He saves all sinners, no matter what their condition, when they trust His Son.

"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt be saved, and thy house" (Acts 16:31).

-George C. Peterson From Maranatha

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SHORTS...

Create the WC Handy Poster

Continued from Page 2

FLORENCE—The Music Preservation Society, Inc. (MPS) announces its 2016 Handy Festival Design Competition. Artists of all ages are invited to participate in the contest to have their creation be the featured design on 2016 W.C. Handy Music Festival Brochures, official posters and t-shirts, and other marketing materials. The winning artist(s) will receive a cash prize of \$500. Entries will be judged on merit, suitability as a visual image, originality, and how well the design reflects the spirit of the festival. Designs must be original, copyright-

free creations and should include the W.C. Handy Music Festival name, dates (July 22 - 31), and primary location. Deadline for entries is April 8 at 5pm. The winner will be notified by April 22. Entry forms are available by calling the Handy Festival office at 256-766-7642 or online at www.WCHandyMusicFestival.com. For further information, call 256-394-8674 or email ToriBailey@aol.com or SaySomething888@gmail.com.

A Lighting of the Fountain

FLORENCE – With the warm temperatures lately, it feels as if spring has sprung on the University of North Alabama campus. But to officially kick off the season the UNA Student Government Association (SGA) has decided to start a new campus tradition, "Light the Fountain."

UNA's "Light the Fountain" will take place Monday, March 21, at 7pm, and will run until about 9pm.

Harrison Fountain, as it is known, has become a signature piece on UNA's campus. Each year, when the fountain is turned on, students and visitors alike know that warmer weather is on the way; and because of that, the SGA decided to make the event a new tradition that will last for years to come.

For this inaugural lighting ceremony, Dr. Donald and Laura Harrison ('55), the patrons who provided the university with the fountain, will be in attendance to turn on the water and lights and kick-off the new tradition.

UNA's "Light the Fountain" is open to the public. For more information, call UNA Student Affairs at 256-765-4223

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- In Greek Mythology, Prometheus bequeathed humanity:
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- Ulysses, a legendary Greek King and a hero in the epic poem, "The Odyssey", was composed by:
 A.) Bocephus, B.) Homer, C.) Jethro, D.) Abner
- Who was the Greek God that ruled Mount Olympus?
 A.) Hades, B.) Poseidon, C.) Apollo, D.) Zeus
- The 10th paired cranial nerve (coming directly off the brain), Vagus, is a Latin word meaning:
 A.) Lost, B.) Wandering, C.) Desert, D.) Toga
- "Achilles Heel" implies:
 A.) Weakness, B.) Pain, C.) Fracture, D.) Invulnerability

Answers: 1: C 2: B 3: D 4: B 5: A

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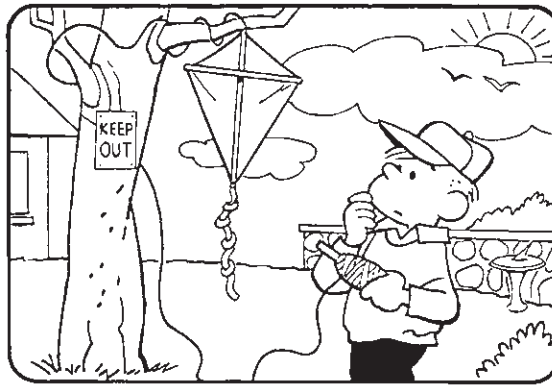
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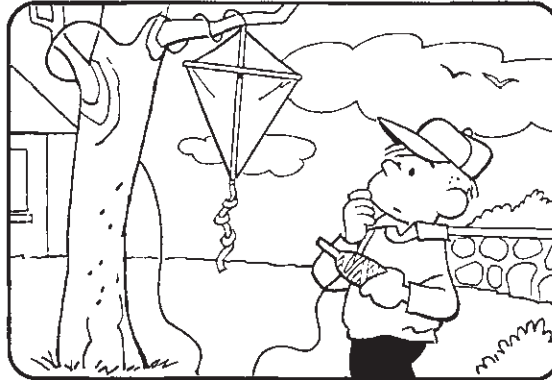
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The federal policy imposed by the U.S. Department of Education that a biological male has the right to use a bathroom/locker room designated for biological females is almost beyond comprehension.

It is all based on one's perceived gender at the time and has nothing to do with physical attributes.

Neither basis of proof nor any concrete evidence of personal commitment is required. No one has to prove they indeed are "a woman trapped in a man's body" as is often claimed. There has to be no proof of hormone treatments, breast implants, psychiatric analysis, nothing. It is free access to restrooms, showers, and dressing areas not meant for biological males in spite of any objections by legitimate, biological females. Age is also of no concern. Minor biological females in public schools dressing for or showering after gym class cannot object to a biological male walking in on her and staring and staying as long as he wants. The student has no say and neither do her parents.

Even gender-neutral facilities can provide transgendered individuals with areas to undress away for females who may not want to be exposed to males in public. That is not adequate because the transgendered may still feel ostracized. It's an example of the Department of Education creating a twisted law

See ANTI-FEMALE... on Page 21

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

In A Few Words



TOM MAGAZZU
Editor



Hacienda Misteriosa

An Artist's Eyes

FLORENCE - Works by Kay Coop will be on exhibit at Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts in Florence from March 15 - April 26. The exhibition includes paintings in watercolor and acrylic by this artist from Memphis, Tennessee.

Coop works primarily in watermedia and is particularly drawn to high value contrast, bright colors, and strong shapes. Subject matter varies widely but for this exhibition she will include works from at least two series of works.

See EYES.. on Page 15

Tables of 10 Cause

SHOALS - The 610 Project, a Shoals-based nonprofit dedicated to sustainable development of communities in Haiti, is hosting a fundraiser at the Marriott Shoals Conference Center on March 18.

The goal of "Tables of 10" is to generate enough funding to break ground on the 610 Project's school for 250 students in Les Cayes, Haiti. The school is also designed to provide space for adult vocational training and microenterprise workspace for a group of seamstresses supported by The 610 Project.

Tickets for the 7pm dinner are \$150 and include hors d'oeuvres at 6pm by Chef Garien Shelby. The dinner is six courses and includes limited wine. Its theme is "6 Chefs, 6 Courses, 1 Cause."

See 610 PROJECT... on Page 21



The610Project.org

H&R BLOCK'S 6TH ANNUAL COMMUNITY GIVE-BACK DAY is Saturday, March 19 from 10am-5pm at 161 Cox Creek Parkway in Florence. The event will include a bouncy house, animal adoptions, fire safety from the fire department, child fingerprinting from the police department, and a silent auction. There are over 60 auction contributors. With your donation you can sample food from Olive Garden, CiCi's Pizza, Texas Roadhouse, and Logan's Roadhouse. All proceeds from this annual non-profit event go to buy breakfasts and lunches for local school children whose families are traveling for medical treatment.

It's Family Fun Night

FLORENCE - Riverhill School in Florence is hosting its first International Family Fun Night on Friday, March 18 from 6-8pm on the campus of Riverhill School. The event will take place in the St. Michael's Gym. The evening promises to offer the Shoals community

a wonderful night of cultural diversity, celebration, and entertainment.

This event will feature a performance by the African Core Drumming Group, a Riverhill student-led

See FAMILY FUN... on Page 15

THE AMERICAN LEGION COLBERT COUNTY MEMORIAL POST 31 will celebrate its 97th birthday at a dinner to be held on Monday, March 21 at 6:30pm in the Tuscumbia Church of Christ Annex located at 118 N. Main St in Tuscumbia. Members are requested to bring a covered dish or dessert and bring their spouse/friend. The Post will furnish the meat, bread and drinks. The entertainment will be provided by Steve White and Jamey Copeland who are both singer/songwriters from the Shoals area. Copeland spent 35 years in radio and is a former studio owner. He is also an accomplished musician on several instruments. White has played with numerous bands, the last being the '65 Mustang Band, appearing at the Helen Keller Festival for five years as a singer and guitarist. Please come and celebrate! For more information, please call 256-577-6968.

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

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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: Editor-Courier Journal

by Mail or in Person
219 W. Tennessee St., Florence, AL 35630
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Thanks for the Phone

Editor:

Thank you to the person who found my daughter's cell phone March 5 and left it at the McDonald's on Cox Creek Pkwy. Thank you also to the McDonald's employee(s) who kept it until we could return to pick it up.

I hope this good deed comes back to you.

Tina Parker
Florence

Office for Minority Need

Editor:

I would like to commend Gov. Robert Bentley on keeping his commitment

and recognizing the need for an office devoted solely to the needs of minorities.

Hopefully, with the creation of the Governor's Office of Minority Affairs, problems which disproportionately affect people of color will be lessened and eventually eliminated throughout the state.

Quinton T. Ross Jr.
Senate Minority Leader
(D-Montgomery)

My Good Samaritan

Dear Editor:

I met a Good Samaritan while shopping recently at Walmart in Muscle Shoals. I do not know her name; she and her husband were in the register line behind me as I attempted to check-out my cart of groceries. I became frustrated

and embarrassed when the clerk said, "Your check will not go through". My husband had endorsed the check and my name was not on that particular bank account. I told the clerk that we had not had problems like this before. She said, "Your husband will have to come in and give us his indication number."

I said, "He is home in bed." I did not know what to do next.

Suddenly, the cashier starts ringing up the young couple groceries that were in line behind me. This confused me even more. I said, "Miss, you have not voided my transaction." She replied, "No need to, this lady is paying for your groceries."

I had been searching though my purse for some other means to pay for my groceries and had not noticed what was happening. This humanitarian gesture from this couple, whom I have never

See LETTERS... on Page 29

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Eyes...

Continued from Page 14

Journey via an Artist's Eyes features watercolor paintings of windows and doorways from across the world. The Southern Map Series includes acrylic paintings of things typically seen on road trips from the past using copies of an old southern map as a canvas.

Coop is a signature member of the Tennessee and Missouri Watercolor Societies, a Platinum Star Artist in the Memphis Germantown Art League, and a member of Artists Link. She has exhibited her award winning works across the country from San Diego to Rhode Island.

Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts is located at 217 East Tuscaloosa Street and is open free of charge from 9am-4pm, Monday-Friday.

Family Fun

Continued from Page 14

Mexican Hat Dance, and a yoga demonstration by Iris Williams. Numerous other family fun activities will be offered. Attendees will witness traditional costumes and cultural displays and will be invited to taste delicious international food samples from our Riverhill community.

Riverhill School is an independent, co-ed Pre K2 - 6th grade school located at 2826 County Road 30 in the St. Florian community.

Riverhill families are partnering with UNA students and other community organizations to provide this free event.

For more information on sharing your culture or volunteering at the event, please contact Riverhill School at 256-764-8200.

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Flor-Ala...

Continued from Page 1

staff members also received honors at the SEJC awards banquet:

- Former Page designer **Shilo Cupples**, Best Newspaper Page Layout Designer, first
- Editor-in-Chief **Kali Daniel**, Best News Graphic Designer, second
- Former Associate Sports Editor **Kadin Pounders**, Best Sports Writer, third
- Managing Editor **Jasmine Fleming**, Best Opinion/Editorial Writer, eighth

UNA Student Media Adviser Scott Morris said the SEJC does not have contest divisions based on enrollment, so The *Flor-Ala* competed against several much larger universities from across the Southeast.

"The UNA community can be proud of these talented students as they work hard throughout the year to produce 30 newspaper editions and a magazine while maintaining the florala.net news website and several social media channels," Morris said. "Rather than taking time to celebrate after Friday night's awards, our students said they needed to finish writing stories for the next edition of The *Flor-Ala*. This is typical of their dedication."

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Commentary

Anti-Female

Continued from Page 14

to accommodate an equally twisted mindset.

Ironically, it claims to follow Title IX, the federal law that prohibits discrimination based on sex in schools.

The law sacrifices the comfort and safety of all females to avoid discriminating against a miniscule group that is unqualified for Constitutionally-protected status. Racial discrimination for example is barred by the 13th, 14th, and 15th Amendments, civil rights acts dating back to the end of the Civil War, and numerous rulings by the U.S. Supreme Court dating back almost as far. The transgendered are not covered by the U.S. Constitution in any manner. The federal policy also breaks countless state and local peeping, voyeurism, and exposure laws.

I remain unconvinced that unequal pay for equal work is as much of a gender-based concern as some would have us believe. However, eliminating the rights of females to draw a line with regard to their personal safety and what they perceive as male intrusion favors male rights over female rights.

The most puzzling element of the whole situation is that we are hearing nothing from so-called women's rights or gender equity groups. It is a no-brainer that this should be a defining moment for female independence. Instead, it lowers women to the status of property in some aspects - with no authority over their personal situation. They are a pawn to someone else in the room. One would think the feminist leadership should be demanding meetings with every legislator in DC and coming very close to taking hostages at knife-point to sound the alarm on this situation. Not a peep... ur, a, sorry. Not a sound.

The policy is sanctioned close-range voyeurism and visual rape. Ajury last week awarded Erin Andrews \$55 million in damages because one man took the liberty of filming her at a distance in her hotel room without her consent. The award was termed a victory for all sex crime victims by a noted anti-sex crime advocate.

Is there a great deal of difference in the two situations?

As humiliating as it was, I would say the DOE policy is much more intrusive and puts women in much greater personal danger than anything Ms. Andrews experienced.

For some strange reason our warped society wants to allow and even celebrate biological males self-identifying as female. Those assertions, no matter how substantive or outlandish, should never invalidate the civil rights of biological females.

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0011-1

610 Project

Continued from Page 14

Participating chefs include Zacharian Chanin of

The Factory, John Melton of Sheraton Westin, Kyle Ogden of 360 Grille, Alan Phillips of Red Clay Epicurian, Josh Quick of Odette, and Garien Shelby and Ashley Terry of Marriott Shoals



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The 610 Project is currently raising funds for three smaller projects, including a bike-share program sponsored by The Spinning Spoke of Florence, and a *From the Attic to the Island* music education program, in which old musical instruments can be donated to Haitian children, and an education sponsorship program that supports the education and feeding of children from extreme impoverished situations.

"Our donors are primarily concentrated here in the Shoals, but we have support from outside the area, as well," 610 Project founder Melissa Daniel Bain said. "Overall the 610 Project is very community driven.

The model is something like a sister city-type adoption program in which one community rallies to serve and empower another."

Bain traveled throughout Haiti working for a non-government organization and developed a passion for its people and their struggle. In the past twelve years, Haiti has endured four hurricanes or tropical storms that killed thousands and left hundreds of thousands homeless, and suffered a magnitude 7.0 earthquake that took upward of 300,000 lives.

"The country is naturally beautiful and its people are resilient, proud and vibrant," Bain said. "I fell in love with the place and saw traces of the Shoals in it."

Bain said her years of nonprofit work in Haiti convinced her that it has the power to heal itself. However, it is in dire need of education.

"I believe education is integral to breaking the cycle of poverty," she said. "So we're building a school and investing in the education of a generation. The Shoals is a generous community full of passionate, creative people. We have the ability to make a real difference.

Tickets are available online at www.the610project.org/tables-of-ten-event/ or at the Marriott Shoals, or from any 610 team members

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HOUSEPLANTS CAN CLEAN INDOOR AIR



Courier Journal

Gardening is a rewarding hobby that can pay a host of dividends, both for the planet and the people doing the gardening. Healthy plant life can help clean the air by absorbing carbon dioxide and various air pollutants,

while the act of gardening can help gardeners combat stress.

Published in 2011 in the Journal of Health Psychology, a study from researchers in the Netherlands found that gardening promotes relief from acute stress. In the

study, two groups of participants were asked to complete a stressful task and then instructed to either read indoors or garden outdoors for 30 minutes. After 30 minutes, the latter group had lower levels of the stress hormone cortisol and even reported being in a better mood than the group instructed to read indoors.

But gardening does more than just provide gardeners with a reason to spend some time relaxing outdoors in an effort to relieve stress. Gardeners who raise certain plants may be able to bring those

benefits with them when going inside as well.

According to an article published in the journal Environmental Health Perspectives in October

2011, houseplants can work wonders when it comes to improving overall health, removing toxins from air, soil and water by metabolizing some toxic chemicals and releasing harmless byproducts while sequestering such toxins by incorporating them into plant tissues.

Clean indoor air is important for everyone, but especially so for those people who suffer from respiratory ailments like asthma. In fact, the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology considers indoor air filtration an essential part of any strategy to improve respiratory health. But filtration systems and air purifiers are often not enough, and those who want the air in their homes to be as clean as possible may benefit from introducing certain houseplants into their homes. The following are a handful of plants that can help to improve indoor air quality.

• **ALOE VERA:** Aloe vera might be most often associated with hand creams and hand soaps, but the aloe vera plant, a succulent that even novice gardeners should have no problem growing, can clear indoor air of formaldehyde and benzene, two common byproducts of chemical-based cleaners many people use in their homes.

• **SPIDER PLANT:** Spider plants are resilient, and that makes them great houseplants for busy men and women who tend to be forgetful when caring for their plants. In addition, spider plants are pet-friendly and can be used to combat benzene, carbon dioxide, formaldehyde and xylene.

• **ENGLISH IVY:** NASA researchers exploring the possibilities of long-term space habitation found that certain houseplants were more effective at cleaning air inside energy-efficient, nonventilated buildings than others. One such plant was English ivy, which can effectively combat the formaldehyde found in certain household cleaning products.

• **BAMBOO OR ARECA PALM:** Bamboo palms also found their way onto NASA's list. Bamboo palm plants thrive indoors, where they are especially effective at filtering out

the chemicals benzene and trichloroethylene. This plant also happens to convert a lot of CO₂ (carbon dioxide) to O₂ (oxygen) during the daytime. *Tip:* When selecting an Areca palm look for plants with larger caliber trunks at the base of the plant. Plants that have pencil thin stems tend to topple over and are quite difficult to maintain.

• **MOTHER-IN-LAW'S TONGUE:** This plant works in the opposite to Areca Palm. It converts CO₂ (carbon dioxide) to O₂ (oxygen) at night, making it ideal to have several in your bedroom. *Tip:* While this plant has high tolerance level, it does not like to be in soggy soil. Sagging leaves does not mean that it needs more water but maybe just short of sunlight.

Gardening has been proven to be a soothing hobby that can help gardeners reduce stress. But the health benefits of gardening can extend indoors as well.

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Cat & Kids

by Cathy Turner

Give 'Em a Sign

I just spent three days and two nights in the company of our grandbaby, Ruby. Needless to say, I have done a lot of grinning over the past few days. She is coming into her own. She has learned how to furrow her brow. I think she thinks with this makes us change our mind. She also has some words that you have to recognize. But most interesting, right now, is her use of sign language.

Our daughter, Lora, started right off with signs. Ruby learned through repetition. Every time when she was about to nurse her, Lora would sign "milk" to Ruby. The sign for an orange is to squeeze your hand in front of your mouth like you are squeezing an orange. If you squeeze your

hand in front of your chest, instead, it means milk - as if you were milking a cow. I learned this difference when I was at a University of Tennessee ball game with an interpreter friend of mine. She corrected me while laughing. I thought I was signing, "Go Big Orange!" but because of the wrong hand placement, I was signing, "Go Big Milk!" But I digress.

These days Ruby, who recently, turned one, signs "milk" when she wants to nurse. While we were keeping her, I ended up sleeping with Ruby because she is used co-sleeping with her mom. The first night she really missed her mom, because she still nurses in the night. Of course, Lora had left milk for her. In the

middle of the night this little baby would become wakeful, turn over, open her eyes to find me and then sign for milk. It was crazy. She would take two or three large sips and go straight back to sleep. Now, my rule, in my head, with my children, was when they could ask for it, it was time to wean them. That worked for me, but that's a whole different discussion for a different time. I was just amazed at Ruby's use of this sign.

Ruby also knows the sign for the word "eat". This sign is made by pinching all the fingers of one hand together and tapping your lips. Ruby uses this sign adamantly, sometimes with her furrowed brow. She doesn't tap her mouth lightly when she is hungry. She taps with intensity. And sometimes when you are feeding her the least favorite thing, she will wave it away and look at what she wants and then sign "eat" fervently. I mean with attitude. She has got this stuff down. She totally understands the concept of signing and uses these signs passionately and correctly - and has been for a little

while. When she is signing you can tell that she likes being able to communicate and us get it.

It's a wonder to me that little people catch on to so many things. Ruby points the remote to the TV. She walks around moving her mouth with her mom's phone on her ear. She touches your face if she knows that you have hurt yourself. At her birthday party, unprompted, Ruby personally greeted each short guest as they came into the room. She would walk over to them, try to get eye contact and touch them on the arm or chest. Her best little friend, she kissed on the forehead.

Y'all, we teach our children how to be, through our actions, even when they are toddlers. We have got to act the way we want them to act. They are what they see over and over. They get it. And the teaching starts immediately, whether intentional or unintentional. The question is: What do you want them to learn?

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Soap Opera Preview

THE BOLD AND THE BEAUTIFUL Steffy was forced to defend her relationship with Wyatt to a doubting Thomas when he called her out on her feelings for Liam. Wyatt went out of his way to prove to his father that he was more than qualified to take his brother's place. Deacon was worried that he would become an accessory to Quinn's crime if he didn't go to the authorities. Meanwhile, Quinn took extreme measures to eliminate any evidence. *Wait to See: Light is shed on a secret tryst.*

DAYS OF OUR LIVES Maggie became suspicious of Summer. Brady attempted to resume a special moment with a distracted Theresa. Rafe worked with Eduardo in the search for John. Deimos paid Maggie a visit. Chad and Abigail honeymooned with Thomas in Chicago. Claire and Belle tried to resolve the tension between them. Meanwhile, Shawn and Lani grew even closer. Determined to forget what Chase did to her, Ciara threw the ultimate birthday bash. Dario learned what happened to his father. *Wait to See: Steve makes a connection with Kayla.*

GENERAL HOSPITAL Sonny came through for Ava and Kiki. Griffin was eager to learn more about a Port Charles resident. Dante filled Valerie in on his progress with Lulu. Laura feared that the other shoe was about to drop. Julian made a move to ensure Crimson's failure. Alexis tried to create a comfortable atmosphere for Kristina. Sam put the brakes on her relationship with Jason. Obrecht made a case for Franco, who stood firm in his beliefs. Julian had to think fast when Nina and Maxie nearly discovered his plan. Lomax demanded that Olivia and Alexis drop the lawsuit. *Wait to See: Laura learns the origin of the key that Helena left her.*

THE YOUNG AND THE RESTLESS Phyllis didn't understand why Jack was being so hard on Billy. Victor refused Victoria's pleas to make amends. Later, he told Nikki that Noah's bad luck would never end until he broke up with Marisa. Adam told Chelsea that he was severing ties with his father once and for all. Jack insisted that Billy was playing a dangerous game by going up against Victor. Sage asked Shawn to move in with her and Nick after her apartment was burglarized. As Noah's trial began, Nikki reminded Elise of their agreement. *Wait to See: Phyllis spins out of control.*

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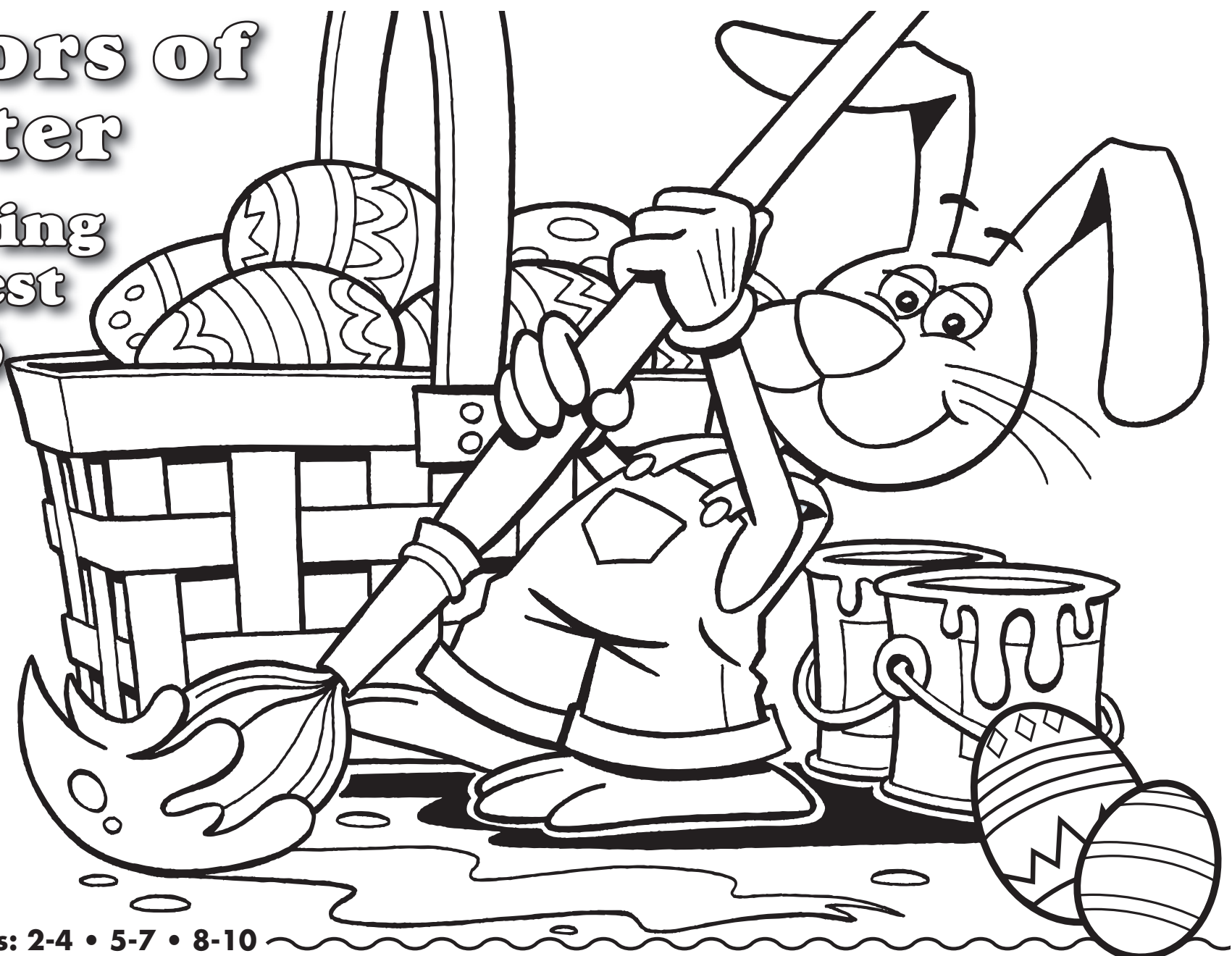
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Letters...

My Good Samaritan

Continued from Page 14

met before, shall remain with me for the rest of my life.

The Bible speaks of the importance of being a Good Samaritan. That day I experienced this blessing from two strangers to whom I wish to express my gratitude in this letter to the editor.

Their act of kindness shall never be forgotten. God Bless You Both!

Louise Lenz
Leighton

Science IS Driving the RPS

Editor:

A recent opinion piece entitled, "RFS Should be Based on Science, Not Politics," (March 9) makes some dubious assumptions and perpetuates long-dispelled myths about biofuels. The argument the author makes fails to live up to the title he gave his piece, as the Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) is indeed based on science.

The RFS continues to be a win-win for the American people. It reduces toxic emissions, cleans the air we all breathe, and improves our environment. Here are just a few examples of the science that the RFS is based on and why it is the most successful energy policy enacted in the last 40 years.

An independent analysis by the Argonne National Laboratory found that ethanol reduces greenhouse gas emissions by an average of 34% compared to gasoline when you factor in the highly controversial indirect land use change calculations.

When land use change is removed, they found that

ethanol reduced greenhouse gas emissions by an average 44%.

When the RFS was enacted in 2005, America imported 60% of its fuel and today we import only 24%. The fact that ethanol makes up 10% of our nation's fuel supply and independent retailers across the nation are adopting higher blends, such as E15 is clear proof that biofuels, such as ethanol are reducing our dangerous dependence on foreign oil.

Every gallon of clean-burning ethanol that we produce in this country decreases the demand for foreign oil and keeps our money here at home where it can create American jobs. The production of more than 14.7 billion gallons of ethanol in 2015 displaced the need for 527 million barrels of oil.

In 2015 we spent nearly \$180 billion -- about \$500 for every man, woman and child in this country -- on crude oil imports.

The RFS has cut annual consumer expenditure globally between \$700 billion to \$2.6 trillion. That is \$0.50 to \$1.50 per gallon less for gasoline, according to recent analysis by energy economist, Dr. Philip K. Verleger.

Science and data should be the determining factor in how to move forward with a sound energy policy that improves our environment, creates jobs, provides consumers with choices at the pump and reduces our dependence on foreign oil. The facts behind the science are indisputable. They show that biofuels and the policies that support them are helping make our nation more secure when it comes to our economic, energy and environmental policy.

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Randall on Real Estate

News & Tips on the Shoals Market



Rent To Own Part 2

Last time we compared and contrasted Contract for Deed and Lease with Option to Buy contracts, concentrating on the Seller. This time we'll look at things from a Buyer's point of view. As I said before, I am not an attorney. I can simply tell you what I believe to be true based on my years of experience in real estate. Before signing a contract of any kind, it is very important to consult an attorney.

One misconception about both types of contract is that one or the other requires more of a down payment. This is untrue; the amount of the down payment is negotiable. Speaking of the down payment, there IS a difference in the way the down payment is viewed. In a Lease with Option to Buy situation, the down payment is considered to be a non-refundable security deposit. That is definitely in the Seller's favor.

In a Lease with Option to Buy contract, the Buyer cannot claim interest paid on tax returns. That can mean thousands of dollars, so don't underestimate this disadvantage. You also cannot claim homestead, so if you are responsible for paying property taxes that can also be a very big deal. Finally, you do not have any equitable interest in the property, so you cannot refinance. The way it has been explained to me is that the completion of the sale must be considered a purchase instead of a refinance.

If you are thinking that a Contract for Deed is more favorable for the Buyer, you just might be on the right track. In a Contract for Deed, you can claim homestead on the property, meaning much lower property taxes. You can claim interest paid on your tax return. You can also obtain homeowner's insurance on the property, to protect your investment and the contents inside. Finally, you gain equitable interest in the property.

The one thing that both option have in common is that they both allow you to obtain a house without conventional financing. Whichever you end up with, remember that any terms of the contract could be negotiated so that they are mutually beneficial to both the Buyer and the Seller. Never be afraid to ask to negotiate a term that you cannot meet or do not feel comfortable with. The worst that can happen is that the other party says no, but you'll never know unless you ask.

Good luck! - mr

Please feel free to send your questions.

Rest assured I will only use your first name when I answer your questions. Email to: questions@mikerandallhomes.com or mail to:

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358 MARY LEE DR. For Sale, 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, hardwoods, ceramic tile, carpet, 2,350 sq. ft., 2 car garage. \$189,000. 256-710-8120

4 BDRM. 4 BA. 4 minutes from the bridge, beautifully laid out/ updated, possible in law suite owner financing, 256-483-7968

28X56 SOUTHERN HOMES DOUBLEWIDE, Cherokee. \$60K. 3 bdrm, 2 ba. Energy Star appliances. Will need to be moved. 256-394-9770.

Eik River Village Apartments
Rogersville, AL

7450 Co. Rd. 91
We Offer:

2 BR, 1-1/2 BA,
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Application Fee \$15

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Real

SOUTHERN OAKS VIL-LAGE A great place to call home! Now leasing 2BR apartment homes from \$445, 3BR from \$520. Call or stop by, 1301 Hermitage Drive, Florence, 256-766-5730. Vouchers Welcome. Equal Housing Opportunity.

FLORENCE: 1011 BELLE-MEADE AVE. FOR RENT- 2 bdrm. duplex. Washer, dryer, stove, refrigerator included. \$425 mo., \$300 deposit. No pets. 256-627-1674.

FLORENCE: 510 HIGH ST. Apartments, \$325 rent plus \$25 water, \$300 deposit. Central heat and air. 256-764-3137

FLORENCE/ NEAR UNA: 1028 ATLANTA St. Charming 2 bdrm. 1 ba. appliances. \$700 month. 256-415-1645

CENTER STAR: APARTMENTS, 3 bdrm., 2 ba., \$475 rent, \$300 deposit. Central heat and air. 256-764-3137

BY OWNER MOBILE HOME with shed on about 1 acre of land, Greenhill. \$25,000 OBO. Call 256-443-5052

HUNTSVILLE ROAD HOME FOR Sale, Florence, 3 Bdrm. 2 Full Ba. large family room, large separate living room, vinyl siding, new kitchen cabinets, on Huntsville Road, \$49,900. 256-366-1256

2 BDRM. 1 BA. HOUSE FOR sale. Florence, fenced back yard. Appraised \$63,000. Appliances included. Asking \$60,000. 256-415-1331

1 OR 2 BDRM. apt. nicely remodeled, quiet residential area, on the creek, credit check/ no seciton 8, Jen. 256-765-2100

I BUY HOUSES! FAST Closings! Regardless of condition. Call today 256-667-0035 Shane Kilby Capstone Realty

Fieldcrest Apartments

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256-229-9460

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Laundry Facilities Included • Family Complex

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Absolute Auction

Friday, March 18 • 10am

2 Houses – Car – Truck – Household Items

127 Monroe Street, Courtland, Alabama

The C. G. "Bill" Reding Estate



This estate consists of 2 houses on adjoining properties. The Main house is a brick rancher with colonial styling. It has 3 bedrooms and 2 1/2 baths, a large two car attached garage, a detached 3 car garage/

shop building and a concrete driveway. The rental house is a 3 Bedroom, 1 Bath with a carport and is currently rented for \$300 per month. The rental unit is subject to a 3 month notice. The real estate will be offered at 10:00am as two separate tracts then back as a whole. Immediately following the real estate auction we will be selling the car, truck, furniture and household items. Lunch and restrooms will be available so bring a lawn chair and plan to come and stay the day!

List Of Items Selling: 2001 Chevrolet LS Extended Cab Pickup 2WD, 192,183 Miles, Cloth Seats, Toolbox, Custom Wheels, 1997 Cadillac Deville, Leather, Loaded, 97,725 Miles, 5'X7' Single Axle Utility Trailer, Several Ladders, Misc. Tools, Patio Furniture, Wicker Furniture, Home Comfort Cook Stove (Wood Burning), Dining Table & 6 Chairs, China Cabinet, Oak China Cabinet, Pine China Cabinet, 3 Pc Bedroom Suite (Full Size "Canon Ball"), 2 Sets of Matching Chest of Drawers & Dressers, Triple Dresser, Corner Cabinet, Frigidaire Refrigerator, Amana Microwave, GE Washing Machine, Kenmore Dryer, 2 Matching Sets of End Tables, Recliner, Misc Table Lamps, Kitchen Wares, Large Set of Pfaltzgraff Dishes and Serving Pcs, Singer Sewing Machine, Portable Air Tank, & Much More!

NO BUYERS FEES!!! What you bid is what you pay!!!!

See more at www.shanealbright.com Auction held Rain or Shine!

AUCTION TERMS: Real Estate: A 20% down payment is due by the purchaser at end of auction. The balance is due on or before May 18th 2016. The sellers will provide a general warranty deed and 2016 property taxes will be prorated at closing. Title insurance is available at Purchasers cost. All other closing costs will be paid by the purchaser. Homes built prior to 1978 may contain lead based paints. In accordance with federal law all potential buyers will be allowed 10 days prior to the auction to have the home inspected at their expense. A form will be signed day of auction waiving this right. All property is being "SOLD AS IS- WHERE IS" with no warranties expressed or implied. In all transactions Shane Albright Auctions and its agents are acting as agents for the sellers only.

Personal Property: Payment in full day of auction by cash or good check. All items sold "AS-IS WHERE-IS" and must be removed day of auction so bring a truck or trailer and help to load.

DIRECTIONS: From the intersection of Highway 20 and Jackson (At RKM Courtland Chevron) go south on Jackson 1 mile, turn left onto Jefferson Street and go 1 block, turn right onto Monroe and go 3 1/2 blocks to Auction on the right.

Watch for the SHANE ALBRIGHT AUCTION SIGNS!!



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COLBERT COUNTY:

- 120 River Rd., 3BR, 1BA \$500
- 105 Chappell Rd., 3BR, 2.5BA \$1500

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or Phillip Patterson
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Laundry Facilities on Site • Family Complex

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Estate

FLORENCE: HICKORY HILLS ON Chickasaw Dr. for rent, 3 bdrm. 2 ba. home for rent in Hickory Hills on Chickasaw Dr. \$1,100. per month, \$1,000. deposit. www.rentshoals.com, Knight & Humphries, Inc. 256-766-6992.

KENDALE GARDENS, CUSTOM 3 bdrm., 2 ba., 2,500 sq. ft. home, 1.25 acres, by river, \$185,000. 256-443-8734

EVERY HOME EVERY WEEK!

More Real Estate on Following Page

KILLEN, COZY STARTER HOME, affordable monthly payment. 3 bdrm., 2 ba. brick, subdivision. 1-800-836-6506 ID# 2001

RENT OR RENT TO OWN, Florence/Killen, 1-2 bdrm. apts., 1-6 bdrm. homes, 256-762-7340 or 256-335-9495.

FLORENCE 1406 MARTIN ST., For Sale, 2 bdrm., 1 ba., 1406 Martin St., \$18,000. 256-412-8601

MUSCLE SHOALS. PRICED TO SELL, house in nice neighborhood, 5 bdrm., 3 full ba., attached and detached garage. call 1-334-798-2578.

TWO BUILDING LOTS 2.25 acres each, perked and power. \$20,000 each OBO. Greenhill 256-443-5052

TOWN CREEK: APARTMENTS IS accepting applications for 1, 2 and 3 bdrm. Rent based on income, no credit check. Equal Housing Opportunity. 256-685-3360

FLORENCE: CEDAR ARMS APARTMENTS, 1 bdrm. 1 ba. \$300. rent plus \$25. water, \$300. deposit. Central heat/ air. 256-764-3137

ZERO DOWN PAYMENT. FREE list of homes. 1-800-836-6506 ID# 1024

FLORENCE: 3 BDRM., 2 ba., house \$1,000 month, no pets; Killen: 5 bdrm., 2 ba., house \$750 month; Killen: 2 bdrm., 1 ba., apartment \$350 month. Butch Collins Properties, 256-710-2443

FLORENCE: LION'S DEN APARTMENTS, \$450/\$550 rent, \$450 deposit. Rent includes all utilities, cable, WiFi. 256-764-3137

PRICED TO SELL. NORTH of Cherokee, 3 bdrm., 1 ba., one acre, close to river and Riverton Rose Trail. 256-359-6471.

NORTH FLORENCE: 3 BEDROOM HOUSES. Appliances, \$525 - \$550 plus deposit. 256-764-3986

LAKESIDE HIGHLANDS 3 BDRM., 2 ba., living rm., den, large kitchen, large laundry, completely remodeled, hardwoods, ceramic tile, granite. \$149,900. 256-683-2335

CORNER OF JACKSON HWY and Woodward Ave. Great college student. \$425. per month, \$400. deposit. www.rentshoals.com. 256-766-6992 K&H, Inc.

CREEKSIDE LOT, RESTRICTED, located in Anderson, AL; \$8,500; 4 lots for \$25,000. 256-431-5510.

FLORENCE: FOR RENT, 202 Baker Dr. nice 3 bdrm. 2 ba. home, hardwoods, basement, convenient to downtown Florence, \$850. month, \$850. deposit. www.rentshoals.com 256-710-1632, 256-766-6992 Knight & Humphries, Inc.

SHEFFIELD: COLBERT SQUARE APARTMENTS, 2 bdrm., \$295 rent, \$250 deposit. Central heat and air. 256-764-3137.

ONE ACRE UNRESTRICTED, owner financing, \$2,000 down near Rogersville, AL. 256-431-5510.

BUTTERFLY MEADOWS 350 CHESS Lane Tuscumbia, for sale, 3 bdrm. 2 ba., dining, eat-in kitchen, fenced backyard, new roof, new unit, camper and boat carport. 256-483-8722

MUSCLE SHOALS OFFICE SPACE. Approx., 5,000 sq. ft. and large conference room, 1,250 per month. K&H Inc., 256-349-0000

FOR SALE TWO ACRES Central area. Water meter, septic tank, driveway, \$25,000 256-412-1092

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

BRICK HOME FOR SALE Muscle Shoals, 3 bdrm. 2 ba., 1,800 sq. ft., \$130,000. 256-394-6148 or 256-436-5525

TUSCUMBIA, 3 BDRM., 2 ba., brick home, large fenced backyard, very clean. Great neighborhood. \$89,900. 256-338-5302

MUSCLE SHOALS: FOR RENT, Nice 1 and 2 bdrm. apartments in Muscle Shoals. Must have good references. No pets. No smoking. \$425. -\$550. monthly. www.rentshoals.com. Knight & Humphries, Inc. 256-766-6992

FREE FORECLOSURE LIST. DISTRESS, bank owned, short sales, bank foreclosures. 1-800-836-6506 ID# 1025

DECATUR: 3313 Sexton Rd. SE 24,000 sq. ft. building for lease or sale, with 6,000 sq. ft. approximately office space available. Available immediately. For more information please call 256-318-6550.

FLORENCE: 211 N. PATTON, 2 bdrm., 1 ba. apartment, \$375 rent, \$300 deposit. Central heat and air. 256-764-3137.

NORTH FLORENCE, 2207 SHADE Ave., 3 bdrm., 1 ba., central heat and air, Section 8 welcome, \$595, \$500 deposit. 256-764-3162.

TUSCUMBIA: COLONIAL GARDEN TOWNHOMES, 2 bdrm., 1.5 ba., \$425 rent, \$300 deposit. Central heat and air. 256-764-3137.

2 BDRM., 1 BA., central, new roof, storage garage, fenced backyard. 1202 31st St., Sheffield. \$48,500. 256-415-9217. May help with closing.

FOR SALE, 1323 DAYTON St., Florence, \$7,500., needs work, K&H Inc., 256-349-0000

20 ACRES ELK RIVER view and access, near Hwy 72, Rogersville, AL, \$99,000. 256-431-5510

TOWN CREEK, 138 COLLEGE Street, 3 Bdrm., 2 Ba., brick, on 1.5 acre lot, 4 car detached garage, 1 outbuilding, chain link fence around property. 256-314-2090.

FLORENCE: MC-CORKLE'S LOFTS, 2 bdrm., 2 1/2 ba. \$1,200 Rent, No deposit special. Stainless appliances, granite countertops, security system, washer/dryer furnished, 1,100 sq. ft. 256-764-3137

KILLEN: BRICK, ZERO DOWN. Cozy family home, built in 2002. 3 bedroom, 2 car garage. 1-800-836-6506 ID# 1001

RANCH STYLE BRICK HOME One Acre Hwy. 207 Rogersville By Owner Appointment Only \$138,500 256-702-2660



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Commercial Real Estate Auction

Saturday, March 26 • 10am

4 Properties Located in Muscle Shoals & Tuscumbia, AL

• 70 Acres of undeveloped property Joining Davis Estates, Tuscumbia, This property fronts Keller Quarry Road in Sheffield and has access potential form Davis Drive, in Davis Estates Tuscumbia.

• 2.48 Acre Vacant Corner Lot with over 480 feet fronting HWY 43 & 230 foot on Fairgrounds Road! High Traffic Count! Traffic light corner by the North Alabama Fairgrounds!

• Commercial/ Office Building on corner lot, fronting Gardiner Ave in Tuscumbia one block off HWY 72.

• Commercial Building on Corner lot, Waverly Ave & John R Street, Muscle Shoals, one block east of Woodward Ave & 3 Blocks north of Avalon Ave, Triple fenced lot, Former Grand Rental Building.



All Real Estate will be sold at 10AM under the big tent by the North Alabama Fairgrounds, Just south of Lowes. Check out our website at www.shanealbright.com!

Call Shane Albright 256-710-8400 or Ben Phillips 256-710-9683

AUCTION 12:00 NOON • Saturday March 26th

Selling Restaurant Equipment, Memorabilia, 2 Enclosed Trailers and much more!
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2010 model 8.5 x 20 Enclosed Trailer Dual 3500lbs axles V-nose ramp side walk through side door, 2004 model Enclosed Trailer 6 x 10 single Axle, POS System Four Bay, "Pitco" Deep Fryer, Steam Pans, "Northlake" Refrigerated Prep Table, 48in Prep Table, "True" 8ft Kegerator 6 Tap, 4ft Open Front Cooler, "Anets" Single Bay Deep Fryer, "Lancer" Fill Station, Chest Type Freezer, 6ft S.S. Work Table with Two Shelves, 36in Flat Grill, "True" Salad Bars 4ft and 5ft, 6 x 8 Knockdown Cooler, 3ft wide 2ft tall Equipment Table, S.S. Table, 3 sets of Bakers Scaffolds, Cres-Core Hot Hold Warmer, 2 Wire Shelves, 5 Sets of Warming Lamps, 5 Gravy Warmers, 6 - 5ft Stainless Steel Tables, 3ft Plastic Budweiser Ice Chest, 5 Boxes of Coca-Cola Restaurant Cups (Plastic), 5 Boxes Of Draft Beer Glasses, 2 Boxes of Shot/Whiskey Glasses, 2 Boxes of Martini Glasses, Coors Light Draft Beer Glasses, Box of Misc Glasses, Small Box of Wine Glasses, 4 New Indoor Light Fixtures, New EXIT Light in box, "Kenmore" Microwave, Bar Stools and Chairs, Restaurant Smalls, Several Pieces of Misc Furniture, 4 x 6 Large Bevell Mirror in Nice Frame, Drop Front desk, Pump Organ, Small Vanity, 4 - 24 x 36 Restaurant Tables, Table tops, Booth Wall Mount Tables, Table Tops, 3 Coin Candy Machines, Metal Signs, Framed Prints, Framed Movie Posters, Wooden Picture Frames, File Cabinets, "Bear Bryant" Platter, Old Wooden "Dr Pepper" Box, Barn Wood Tables and Benches, "Flexible" Flyer Snow Sled, Electrical Panels



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Real Estate

Continued from the previous page.

FLORENCE: TOMBIGBEE COURT #2, 1 bdrm., 1 ba. apartment. \$550 rent, \$300 deposit. Balcony, security gate, central heat and air, 256-764-3137

LAKE CABIN AND MOTORHOME hookups, Town Creek, 1 bdrm. could sleep 8/10, private gate, pier, boat ramp, \$650/ mo. 256-335-9495.

2708 COLE AVE. FOR RENT, Florence, 2 bdrm., 1 ba., \$400. per month, \$500. deposit. K&H Inc., 256-349-0000

SHEFFIELD: HOUSE FOR RENT 2 bdrm. 1 ba. central unit, storage building, free lawn care, no smoking, \$500/ month, \$400 deposit. 256-810-9275

LEXINGTON: NEW APARTMENTS FOR RENT \$550. a month, Annie Lane, Lexington AL. 2 bdrm. 2 ba. Call Mark Tucker 256-762-6771 or Tracy Rhodes 256-710-2856.

TN. LAND, LAND, LAND! For sale by Owner. 5 acre tracts and larger tracts. Over 500 acres of beautiful land divided, open and wooded, 3 miles south of Pulaski, TN. Public water and electricity. Terms available. Please call 256-937-6699

CHEROKEE: 2 BDRM. HOUSE off Rose Trail past Cherokee, \$425/ month, \$300 deposit. 256-446-9982

MUSCLE SHOALS: WOODGATE APARTMENTS, 1 bdrm. 1 ba. 2 bdrm. 2 ba. \$400/ \$550 rent, \$300 deposit. Stainless appliances, ceramic and wood floors, central heat and air. 256-764-3137

CLOVERDALE, CO. RD. 141 89 acres farm land, half tillable, year round stream. Road frontage. Public water. \$1,950 an acre. 256-426-9351

NORTH FLORENCE: FOR RENT -2 Bedroom Apartment, Appliances, Washer/ Dryer connections. \$425 plus deposit. 256-764-3986

44.5 ACRES, FENCED, WOODS and pasture. 5 miles east of Wise Alloys, off Second St. on Hidden Hollow Rd. \$3,600 per acre. 256-446-5733 or 256-415-5733.

APARTMENT: MUSCLE SHOALS, NICE 1 bdrm., central heat and air, washer/ dryer connections, \$430 per month, no pets. www.rent-shoals.com. K&H Inc. 256-766-6992

TUSCUMBIA: 501 Avalon Ave., A, 1 bdrm., \$325 rent, \$300 deposit. Window air conditioning, electric heat. 256-764-3137.

FLORENCE: SANNONER SQUARE APARTMENTS, 1 and 2 bedrooms. \$325/ \$400 rent plus \$25 water, \$300 deposit, window heat and air. 256-764-3137

CUTE N COZY, 2 bdrm., 1 ba., apartment, corner of Jackson Hwy and Woodward Ave. \$425 per month, \$400 deposit, www.rent-shoals.com, 256-766-6992 K&H Inc.

MAGNOLIA GARDENS APARTMENTS NOW taking applications! Brand New Remodeled. 1 and 2 bedroom units available. Senior high rise with new appliances, flooring, windows, kitchens, bathrooms. 256-740-5201

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BLACK LABS, MALE, AKC, 8 wks., shots and wormed, \$350 each. 256-627-9073.

TWO MAUSOLEUMS AT TRICITIES Memorial Gardens, \$5,200 each. 5 plots at Oakwood Cemetery in Sheffield, \$1,200 OBO. 256-810-3249

Registered Polled Hereford Bull, 4 yrs. old, great breeding bull, good color, nice, gentle, \$2,750. 256-483-6145

TWO PARAKEETS, LARGE CAGE and stand, \$75 256-764-0046 leave message if no answer.

FORD: MUSTANG, 2010 \$14,900. One owner, 52K miles, alloy wheels, V6 engine, cold air intake, dual Flow Master exhaust, 80% tread on tires. 256-710-0016.

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1987 16 FT. LOWES Aluminum Semi-V, 50 hp Johnson, \$2,000 256-483-0135

BMW: 325I, 2003 AUTO., air, leather, \$6,500. 256-710-8120

BMW: 325I, 2003 AUTO., air, leather, \$6,500. 256-710-8120

I TEAR DOWN BARNs, sheds, old houses and chicken houses and haul off items. 256-221-7814.

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Notes...

Continued from page 4

Kaitlyn Fennell, a junior at Florence High School, is collecting soda can tabs for her National Honor Society community project. The tabs will be donated to the cancer center's Sharing and Caring Fund to help patients undergoing chemo treatment with unexpected expenses. Soda can tabs can be dropped off at either of the Northwest Alabama Cancer Center offices, 302 W. Dr. Hicks Drive, Florence or 101 Dr. W. H. Blake Jr. Drive behind the Shoals Hospital. Any donations appreciated. I can provide jars for your business as well. Questions may be directed to 256-764-4200

rock with Lisa Hacker and the Bushwackers. Door opens at 6pm, band starts at 7.

Come Celebrate the Hope of Easter with The Village Baptist Church, 8600 Co. Rd. 200, Florence. Services at 8:30am and 10:15 am. Every visitor will receive a free copy of the book, "The Hope of Easter". More info: 256-767-2402

Play: "To Kill a Mockingbird" Based on the novel by Harper Lee, Adapted for the stage by Christopher Segel, Directed by Darren Butler with assistant director Katie Dalrymple, March 17, 18, 19 and 20, 7:35pm, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, matinee Sunday 2:05pm. Advance price \$15 adult, \$10 student. tvaa.net or 256-383-0533

See NOTES... page 33

VFW Sheffield Post 4919 Weekend dances, Friday night country western band The Backwoods Band starts at 7pm. Saturday night is more classic

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Community Notes...

Continued from page 32

2016-2016 OSR Pre-K Application for Brooks Elementary, Central, LCHS, Rogers, Underwood, Waterloo, and Wilson. Lauderdale County School System will be accepting applications for the First Class Pre-Kindergarten funded by the Office of School Readiness for the upcoming 2016-2017 school year. Applications will be available beginning March 1.

Pre-Kindergarten applications may be picked up at the elementary school office at which you are applying. The completed application must be returned to the same school. Applications will also be available at the Lauderdale County Board of Education, located at 355 County Road 61, Florence, and must be returned to the school at which you are applying in order to be included in the drawing. All completed applications must be submitted by 3pm on Thursday, March 24 at the school office.

Enrollment is non-discriminatory and open to all children. Children will not be denied participation due to race, color, national origin, gender, or disability. Based on current funding, there are 18 pre-k slots available at each school site except Central which has two sections with 18 slots each. The slots will be filled through a random drawing process on April 6, 7, and 8.

Children must be four years old on or before September 1, 2016 to be eligible for the program. A monthly tuition fee will be charged based on a sliding income scale.

For questions or more information regarding the Pre-K (4 year olds) application/process, contact Dr. Gina Baggett or Linda Barnett at 256-760-1300.

2016-2016 Pre-K Application for Cherokee Elementary, Colbert Heights Elementary, Leighton Elementary, Hatton Elementary, and New Bethel Elementary. Pre-Kindergarten applications may be picked up at the elementary school office at which you are applying.

Forms needed: Completed enrollment forms, copy of Social Security card, copy of Birth Certificate, original Blue card, and proof of Alabama residence.

A random selection drawing will be held. Families do not have to be present in order to receive placement. Acceptance to the program is through a random selection process. The registered applicant must meet residency requirements and complete the essential documents set forth by the program. The registered child must be 4 on or before September 1, 2016. Children will not be denied participation on the basis of income, sex, race, color, national origin or disability.

For more info, contact Pre-K Director, Dr. Gale Satchel at 256-386-8585 or email gsatchel@colbert.k12.al.us.

LifeSouth Blood Drives for February, ECM Center, 205 Marengo Street, Florence, 256-765-7038. The hours are: Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm; Saturday, 9am-3pm; Sunday, 1-5pm.

Keller Center, 1208 S Jackson Highway, Sheffield, 256-383-3535. The hours are: The hours are: Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm. Wednesday, March 16, 7am - 4pm, Webster Elementary School, 200 Webster Avenue, Muscle Shoals

Thursday, March 17, 11am - 7pm, Walmart, 517 West Avalon Avenue, Muscle Shoals

Friday, March 18, 11am - 7pm, Walmart, 3100 Hough Road, Florence

Saturday, March 19, 11am - 5pm, H&R Block, 161 South Cox Creek Parkway, Florence

Sunday, March 20, 10am - 5pm, The Shoals Flea Market, 65 Sportsplex Drive, Muscle Shoals

Monday, March 21, 11am - 5pm, Jerry Danson Honda, 250 Cox Creek Parkway, Florence

Tuesday, March 22, Noon - 6pm, Fred's, 4150 Florence Boulevard, Florence

Wednesday, March 23, 10am - 5pm, Bank Independent, 13566 Highway 43, Russellville

Thursday, March 24, 9am - 6pm, Walgreens Call Center, 521 West Avalon Avenue, Muscle Shoals

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

The Florence Parks & Recreation Department Senior Center, affectionately known as "The Club", located at 450 Country Club Drive off Savannah Highway, would like to invite those over 60 to join us for the Nutrition Program (lunch) Monday-Friday. Seating is limited so please sign in for lunch prior to 10am. Lunch is served at 11am. Suggested donation \$1. Morning and afternoon activities are available. The Club is an alcohol/drug free facility. For more program information please call 256-760-6420.

The Voices of Victory will be at the Cloverdale Community Center, Saturday, March 19 from 7-9pm. Everyone Welcome.

The Florence Parks & Recreation Department Senior Center, affectionately known as "The Club", located at 450 Country Club Drive off Savannah Highway, offers chair exercise classes in the morning and afternoon games of Rook, Rummy, Rummycubes, Dominoes, Chickenfoot Dominoes, Mexican Train, Horseshoes, Shuffleboard, and lunch at 11am.

Square Dance lessons on Monday nights and Social Dancing for 21+ crowd on Tuesday nights at 6:30pm, featuring The Browns. The Club is an alcohol/drug free facility.

For more program information, please call 256-760-6420.

Free Food and Free Clothes at The Village Baptist Church, 8600 Co. Rd. 200, Florence, 256-767-2402, on Saturday, March 19, 8-11am.

Singing River Squares. Friday Nights 6:30-9pm. The Florence Parks & Recreation Department, Senior Center, affectionately known as "The Club", located at 450 Country Club Drive, off Savannah Highway. Caller/Instructor: Chuck Bermele. The Club is an alcohol/drug free facility. For more program information please call 256-760-6420.

Florence Parks & Recreation, Fairground Rd Rental Facility is available for birthdays, reunions, showers, etc. For rental information, please call The Club, 256-760-6420.

Revival With Doc Shell at Grace Bible Church, 4660 Chisholm Rd, Florence, March 20-23, 7pm on Sunday Night, 6:30 pm Monday-Wednesday. 256-760-9700

Maud Lindsay Free Kindergarten located at 227 Enterprise St. will have registration Friday, March 18 starting at 8:30-10:30 am.

Children must be 4 yrs. old on or before Sept. 2 to attend. Please bring your child's birth certificate and blue immunization card to registration. For more information, please call 256-760-6421 Mon.- Fri., 8 am and 11 am. or go to Maud Lindsay Free Kindergarten on face book.

The Barnett Brothers Band will be at West Side Village Community Center, Hwy 99 in the Owens Community, Friday, March 18, 7pm. Admission is \$5. All ages are welcome. No smoking allowed, no drugs or alcohol permitted. Bring finger foods to share at break. For more information call 256-771-0586.

R.E.A.L. will have an indoor booth - Building 3 at the Shoals Flea Market - Saturday, March 19, 9am-7pm, and Sunday, March 20, 10am-5pm. Jewelry, treat jars, tug toys, fleece covered pillow dog beds, and much more.

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Participants must:

- Reside in Lauderdale or Colbert Counties
- Must not exceed gross monthly income as defined
- Maximum income of \$1,471 for single household
- Two-person households - \$1,991
- Three-persons - \$2,511

For each additional person in the household add \$520 per month

Deadline to Apply is March 18

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The Cooperative Garden program is a partnership of the Community Action Agency of Northwest Alabama, TVA Retirees, Bicentennial Volunteers Inc. and many others.

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