# Area Saturation by Direct Mail

February 2, 2022

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

# Supplies for **Girls Ranch**

MUSCLE SHOALS-First Metro Bank is again hosting a donation drive for the Alabama Sheriff's Colbert County FAME Girls' Ranch until March 3.

This is the third year for First Metro to sponsor this drive for residents at the local non-profit organization.

Items needed include Tylenol, Advil, Midol, Melatonin, cold medicines, Lysol, laundry detergent (scentfree preferred), fabric softener, dryer sheets, cleaning supplies, snacks, juice, body wash, Secret or Degree deodorant, body lotion, shampoo/conditioner, Chapstick, hair products, and gift cards.

Both First Metro Bank locations in Muscle Shoals, and offices in Tuscumbia and Russellville are drop-off sites for

donated items.
The FAME Ranch in Russellville is one of four such ranches in Alabama providing Christian, family-style residential homes for Alabama's young women in need. This allows them to grow spiritually and physically into productive, responsible, and happy young adults.

First Metro Bank is proud to help positively impact these young ladies. All donations are greatly appreciated!

# Wilson Gets Nod at FSB

FLORENCE – First Southern Bank has hired Todd Wilson as its new Business Development Officer & Vice President,

See SHORTs... on Page 2

FREE FURNACE CLY JOURNACE CLY COURT JOURNACE CLY COUNTRY OF THE PROPERTY OF TH or Heat Pump Air Handler With Qualifying NEW AC System Call for details. Offer expires 2/28/22. 256.381.7195

Volume 138 Number 15

# **A Huge Day in MS**

Northwest Alabama and beyond with direct mail, total market overage

MUSCLE SHOALS - Governor Ivey made a couple of brief stops in Muscle Shoals last Thursday to

help celebrate some good economic news. Dura Automotive

System's celebrated the grand opening of its new state-of-the-art

manufacturing facility with a Shoals Chamber of acility with a Shoale Commerce ribbon cutting.

Production facility

will house proprietary

**POSTAL PATRON** 

E-O-N-T-O UR-

**Automotive Systems** 

advanced robotics and forming and joining technologies to create lightweight structures including those used for electric vehicle battery systems. The \$59 million investment is projected

to employ almost 300 people.

"I had several calls with governors

See A HUGE DAY.... Page 3

# The Tigers

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

American Standard.

FLORENCE-The eighth class of the the Burrell Slater Athlete Hall of Fame

will be inducted Friday, February 4 at the Burrell-Slater H.S. Gymnasium. Honorees are William Houston, Harry Barnett. and '55-'56 Boys Basketball team. The schedule for 2022 class induction is as

Friday,

February at 6:30pm. Doors at the newly-renovated Burrell Gym open at 6pm.

follows:

See BURRELL... on Page 11

#### **Rollout Gets Attention** Houston

FLORENCE-The city of unveiled Florence a new brand image week based last the collective insights and feedback received from the city leaders and Florence residents.

City leaders identified opportunities to raise public awareness about Florence as a destination. A key part of this

initiative was to craft a strong brand image that would be recognizable and representative of the city as a whole. To guide the effort, city officials and residents of the city were engaged early in the process.

Birmingham-based branding and design firm, Tatum Design, was hired to create

See BRANDING... Page 9

# side this Iss

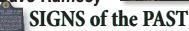


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- Dave Ramsey





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

## Shorts...

### Wilson Gets Nod at FSB

Continued from Page 1

operating at the main office on Court Street in Florence.

Wilson graduated from the University of North Alabama with a bachelor's degree in computer information systems.

He has excelled in positions with Wells Fargo

Financial in Gadsden (2004-2006) and Regions Bank in Florence (2006-2020) with



Wilson

several promotions to management positions in lending, commercial relationships, and strategic planning.

Wilson is committed to bringing the same success and drive to his new position.

"Todd has a long history of great success working with businesses and individuals in the Shoals," said First Southern Bank President and CEO, Joe Beaver. "He will be a great addition to our commercial lending team, and we are very excited

to have Todd join the First Southern family!"

# Comment on US 72 Project

FLORENCE — The public has until February 14 to comment on a proposed plan for sanitary sewer system upgrades and extensions to provide sewer service to commercial areas along U.S. 72 and the proposed Lauderdale County Agricultural Event Center.

Agricultural Event Center.
The comment period
is required because the
city is seeking federal
funding through the
U.S. Department of
Commerce's Economic
Development
Administration.

The assessment is required by the National Environmental Policy Act and National Historic Preservation Act.

Florence Gas, Water and Wastewater Department Manager Mike Doyle said the comment period is standard with a project funded by a federal grant.

The project will consist of upgrades to an existing lift station, a road bore, installation of a 12-inch force main, and gravity sewer lines.

The city applied for \$1,672,895 in funds through the Economic Development Administration's Economic Adjustment Assistance Program in October. If the grant is awarded, the Agricultural Center Board would be responsible for providing \$716,955 in matching funds.

# Stowe on the Culture of Tea

TUSCUMBIA – "The History of Tea and Tea Culture" will be the subject of a talk and tea tasting presented by **Jennifer Stowe** at Belle Mont Mansion, 1569 Cook Lane, Tuscumbia on Saturday, February 19 at 2:30pm. The event will include tea refreshments and an optional tour of the historic home built circa 1828.

Stowe is founder of Mid-TN Tea Association. She is a nationally recognized professional speaker whose topics include all



Stowe

aspects of tea and tea etiquette, herbs, and health. Tickets

are available in advance for \$15. Reserva-

tions are required. You may purchase through EventBrite or by credit card by calling Belle Mont at 256-381-5052. A limited number of tickets will be available at Fiddledee D! gift shop in downtown Tuscumbia. Proceeds benefit operations and preservation of the museum. Masking is encouraged during the talk and seating , which is limited, and will be socially distanced.

For more information, call 256-810-1683 or bellemontmansion@gmail. com.

See SHORTs... Page 5







RED LOVESEAT, \$50. ROUND glass-top kitchen table/chairs, \$100. 2 Round-glass end tables, \$50/both. 2 table lamps, \$40. Art decor chifforobe, \$200. 256-383-

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# A Huge Day in MS...

**Continued from Page 1** 

and senators and all it took was 90 seconds on the phone with Governor Ivey for me to decide Alabama was the location for DURA," saidb Chris Charlton, CEO of Charlton Inc, part of the contingent representing DURA at the event.

The new Muscle Shoals facility is the latest investment by the Michigan-based global automotive in supplier support vehicle technology transformation toward electrification. This addition to their family of 31 worldwide sites will be home to DURA's first lightweight structures manufacturing facility in North America.

Ivey's party then stopped at the Northwest Alabama Regional Airport celebrate Contour Airline's new commercial flight schedule between Müscle Shoals and Charlotte-Douglas Airport North International Charlotte, Carolina. The direct flights to American's hub in Charlotte will provide Shoals residents with access to cities all around the world. The airline will offer 24-weekly roundtrip flights using a 30-seat Embraer ERJ-135 aircraft.

Contour Airlines was selected last week for a 31-month contract under the U.S. Department of Transportation's Alternate Essential Air Service

(EAS) program.
Ivey, Contour
Matt Chaifetz, CEO and Robert Congressman Aderholt were all on hand for the event.



FLORENCE YARD SALE, 35581 Co Rd 8, off Hwy 43, Thurs. Fri. & Sat. 8am-4pm, Leather Reclining Sofa, Queen Bed & matching nightstand, 3-pc. Patio Set, Cor-ner TV Stand, Misc. Household items, EVERYTHING MUST GO!

FLORENCE MOVING/ YARD SALE, 7405 Benji Rd. **Evergreen Estates** Sat. 7am-2pm.

Furniture, Tools, Various items for inside & outside, & more!

FLORENCE GARAGE SALE. 731 Brandenburg Dr., Fri. 7am-6pm and Sat 7am-2pm. House-hold, gift items, Movies, Music, Adult & small boy's clothing

HILLSBORO: 5125 CO. RD. 170 Fri. 9AM-2PM, Sat. 9AM-12PM, House, Garage, Outbuildings are pack full. EstateSales.net for pho-

MAP ID # 492



### Taste Buds

Adults have between 2,000 and 8,000 taste buds on their tongue. Each bud has 50 to 150 taste receptor cells that report the sense of taste to our brain. Our taste buds play an important role in our health, motivating us in our diet.

encourage you to love? Unfortunately, my

taste buds push me toward sweets. I can

What foods do your taste buds



Bigham

devour a pack of Oreos in no time at all. Some people are turned toward salty items like pretzels or mixed nuts. Then there are those who crave the sour taste of a lemon.

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\$125/1 Hour Session

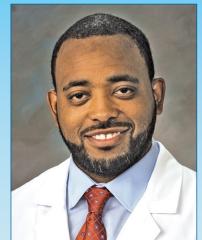
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Rising



All of us at Bama Aluminum are grateful for your support. 2022 looks to be equally challenging but we will never stop working for you! Thanks, Darrell Curenton



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The Batting Brigade Quilt Guild meets every 2nd Monday at 9:30am at Edgemont Methodist Church, 1330 Eauclaire Ave in Florence. Everyone interested in Quilting

Tuscumbia Parks and Recreation is conducting baseball and softball registration thru February 28. For more information call 256-386-5655.

#### Activities at The Club

Square Dance Beginners Lessons, \$20 per month, will be 6-8:30pm on first Monday of the month at The Club/Florence Senior Center, 450 Country Club Drive

Social Dance, \$5 per person, will be 6:30-8:45pm Tuesday nights, door open at 6pm.

Joints in Motion Exercise Class, no

charge, 9:30am Tuesday and Thursday. Bingo, 10:15am Wednesdays. More info: 256-760-4620 Nominations are now open for the Walk of Honor, located in the beautiful River Heritage Park. The Walk of Honor recognizes individuals of Florence and Lauderdale County who have achieved

national or international acclaim. Areas of national or international accomplishment include, but are not limited to, agriculture, art, athletics, business, education, government, humanities, literature, medical, military, music, public service, religion, or science and technology. Procedures for submitting a nomination are as follows:

Visit the www.florenceal.org >

government > Mayor Andy Betterton > Walk of Honor > Nomination Form to print a copy

Pick up a Walk of Honor Nomination Packet from the Mayor's Office 102 South ourt Street - Suite 200, Florence, AL

Completed nomination forms and any additional information can be dropped off at the Mayor's Office or sent via email to MayorBetterton@florenceal.org

Want to list your event in Community

The Childhood Classics exhibit is on display at Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts and the Florence-Lauderdale Library through March Childhood Classics is 100 years of original illustration from the Art Kandy Collection. Exhibit made possible by the Alabama State Council on the Arts, the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library Foundation and the Kennedy-Douglass Trust.

"We Rocked the World" - The Colbert County Tourism Bureau will sponsor a monthly music event titled "We Rocked the World - Muscle Shoals Music: Songwriters in the Round," every third Thursday throughout this year at the Fizz Restaurant inside the Clarion Inn, 4900 Hatch Blvd., Sheffiled. The event is 7-9pm and is free

The Ritz Theatre's romantic comedy Want to list your event in Community
Notes? Email your information to
editor@CourierJournal.net.

The Dita Interact Statistics Collection
film series is the perfect Valentine's
celebration for sweethearts, friends, and
rom-com lovers. This series will be an opportunity to watch three romance film

favorities on the big screen.

• Friday, Feb. 11, 7pm: 10 Things I Hate About You (1999), starring Heath

Ledger and Julia Stiles

Saturday, Feb. 12, 7pm: You've Got Mail (1998), starring Tom Hanks and Meg Ryan

See NOTES... page 18



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# Shorts...

**Continued from Page 2** 

# Irvine Joins UNA V'ball

FLORENCE -- Abby Irvine, who served last season as a graduate assistant coach at Liberty University, has joined the University of North Alabama staff as an assistant volleyball coach.

UNA Head Volleyball Coach, **Tristan Johnson**, said the former University of Houston setter will be a great addition to the Lions' staff.

"Abby comes very highly recommended by some of the best volleyball coaches in the country," Johnson said. "Her experience playing at the highest level, along with her time spent within the ASUN will serve her well.

Irvine assisted with all aspects of running the Liberty program.

Irvine completed her four-year career at Houston in the 2020-21 season, helping the Cougars win the American Athletic Conference (AAC) West Division title as a senior. Her career stats include 2,364 assists, 161 kills, 924 digs and 74 service aces in 396 career sets played.



Irvine

She was a four-year member of the AAC All-Academic Team. A native of Willis,

Texas,
Irvine graduated from
Houston in 2020 with a
bachelor's degree in health
and a minor in psychology.
She was pursuing a
master's degree in biblical
studies at Liberty.

# AMHoF Again a Fan Favorite

TUSCUMBIA-After a long hiatus, the Alabama Music Hall of Fame is once again in the limelight of tourist attractions among travelers and music lovers. The December issue of *Convention South* magazine listed the museum as one of the top attractions in the state through a poll from the

very popular "Readers Choice Awards." Nestled in the magazine's article of "Meeting Planners to Watch in 2022" were the favorite attractions as selected by readers.

"When the pandemic began, it was necessary to remain relevant in the tourism market by continuing to advertise, remain open with many new safety precautions and procedures, and just keep playing the music," said According to Executive Director, Sandra Burroughs. "One thing we have all learned during the past two years is that travel and vacationing are crucial to building and maintaining economic industry and also for us all, psychologically. Music partnered with travel eases the mind and relaxes the body," she added.

Visitors from as far away as Wisconsin, Pennsylvania, and Washington state say they came to visit because they have always wanted to see where so much legendary music was recorded. Because it was a smaller populated area, they felt it was a safer environment.

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#### **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 72,703 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: written form to:

#### 219 W. Tennessee St. Florence, AL 35630

or email to:
editor@courierjournal.net

well in advance of the planned event. The Editor reserves right to shorten, edit, reword or omit submissions as seen fit. All information submitted for publication becomes property of the Courier Journal. Information published does not necessarily reflect an opinion or endorsement by the Courier Journal, members of its management, or its staff. Advertisers are responsible for Advertisers are responsible for all content and claims in their advertising.

## **DEADLINES:** Issues Published Every Wednesday

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# **Hughston Seeks Colbert DA Post**

**Hal Hughston** 

TUSCUMBIA - Tuscumbia attorney Hal Hughston, III qualified in January to run for District Attorney of Colbert County in the Republican Primary.

Current District Attorney Bryce Graham has announced he is not seeking re-election.

An experienced attorney, Hughston said safety will be his top priority.

"If elected Colbert County District Attorney, my top priority will be to keep you safe," Hughston said. "I will hold criminals accountable for their actions, and I will offer rehabilitation for those who need it. I will make sure victims

of crime receive the justice and the respect they deserve in court."

Hughston is a native of Tuscumbia and played football for Deshler High School and Samford University before graduating from Mississippi College School of Law in 2008. He is the third generation of his family to practice law in Colbert County.

Hughston serves as the City Prosecutor and Attorney for Tuscumbia, prosecuting more than 14,000 cases in the past fourteen years. As a criminal defense attorney, Hughston has been involved with more than 350 felony cases in just the last five years, including numerous capital murder cases. He also has a diverse law practice that includes personal injury, family, business and corporate law.

Hughston is married to Kimberly Nesbitt Hughston, daughter of Shawn and

the late Steve Nesbitt, who left a legacy of community involvement and service.

Kimberly, grew up in Muscle Shoals and graduated from Muscle Shoals

High School and Auburn University. She earned an MBA from the University of North Alabama, and is the Director of the Small Business Development Center

The Hughstons reside in Tuscumbia with their two young children. They are involved in the Shoals community, serving on various boards and in civic organizations, and are active

members of First Presbyterian Church in Tuscumbia.

Hughston's father, Hal Hughston Jr., and grandfather, Harold Hughston, both served as circuit court judge in Colbert

The Hughstons have a family tradition of serving this community, and I would be honored to have the opportunity to continue that tradition by serving as your Colbert County District Attorney," Hughston said.

For more information, contact Hal Hughston at Hal4DA@gmail.com



or visit www. halfordistrictattorney. com. Or, find him on Facebook at hal4da.

Paid advertorial by Friends of Hal Hughston, 304 North Water Street, Tuscumbia, AL 35674







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# PRODUCE















# **Branding Rollout...**

**Continued from Page 1** 

the logo and tagline based on what they saw in the city and feedback from Florence officials and residents.

The new logo and "Live For More" tagline was designed to emphasize the area's spirit, character, and future.

The new logos feature an exclamation point made up of the "I" and "o" letterforms integrated into the word "Florence." with the tagline, "Live For More."

The exclamation point represents the unexpected wow factor that people experience when they visit Florence, and discover there is so much to offer for a small town. That feeling is what Tatum hoped encapsulated in this unique logo.

The new logo symbolizes the passion, logo love, delight, and pride of Florence residents - all reflected in the logo's exclamation point. It's the city's promise of what people will experience here. The primary brand colors were inspired by the natural beauty of our city - the Tennessee River, the trees, foliage, green spaces, parks, and trails. The first step of the

official rebranding process was meeting with city leadership. The goals and objectives were laid forth by Mayor Andy Betterton and the Florence City Council. Following initial meetings, these comprehensive

community survev then crafted and was distributed to the residents of Florence. Hundreds of community surveys were collected. The community's input and feedback from the surveys were utilized as the guide for the new brand.

One of the primary insights from the community was that the city of Florence has a lot to offer. The city is not just one thing. It's many. The unique combination of the river, downtown, University of North and Alabama, many other elements set the city apart as a dynamic, unexpected destination. The most popular phrase community members used to describe the city of Florence was "Alabama's Best Kept Secret." insight revealed This an opportunity to awareness inside raise and outside of the city.

In spite of the advance planning, the branding immediately had its detractors who primarily voiced opinions on social media in the days that followed.

City spokespeople were quick to emphasize that new brand will not replace the existing city seal that will be used on official city business. However, it will become a part of a family of logos. This family of logos will serve the multiple needs and audiences as our community grows and moves forward.

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### The Colbert County Commission

will be accepting employment applications for

#### WATER TECH I

Starting pay is \$20.86/hr
Plus Health Insurance and Other Benefits

Job Description and Application are available at the Alabama Career Center 500 South Montgomery Ave., Sheffield Deadline for applications is February 11, 2022.

Colbert County Commission is an equal opportunity employer.

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25. Apply in person at 122
N. Royal Ave., Florence, between 8 am and 4 pm, Mon.Fri. (No phone calls please)

# BUDGET INN HOUSEKEEPERS

\$9 to \$10 per hour Average is 20 hours per week Apply in person: 1238 Florence Blvd.

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#### ELECTRICAL PROJECT MANAGER

Please email resume to am.electric@hotmail.com

# Magnolia Adult Home Care Full-time + Part-time Caregivers Needed

Competitive Pay To Apply, Visit MagnoliaAHC.com/jobopportunities or Call 256-627-2208 for more information

#### Part-time Production Worker

Day and Night Shifts available

TimesDaily has an opening for entry level positions in our Packaging Department. Candidates must be reliable and able to work flexible work schedules. Must be able to work weekends and Holidays. This is a physical, fast-paced position that involves continual lifting, standing and bending. Must be able to lift and carry up to 40 pounds. Team work. Must be 18 years of age

work. Ivius: 50 or older.
Applications can be picked up at TimesDaily, 219 West Tennessee Street, Florence, AL 35630 FFOC

# PAINTERS + HELPERS

Willing to pay **TOP PAY** for the right candidates. Must have transportation. Possibility for lead position. Local positions available. 256-275-6287.

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Les Mare Pet Salon 256-389-9004. Monday-Friday 10AM - 2PM for calls.

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# Lawrenceburg Graphic Packaging

THE CITY OF SHEFFIELD

will begin taking applications to fill one vacancy for a

Police Officer - Certified/Non-Certified

at 8am on Tuesday, February 1

and will continue to accept a "Pool of Applications"

for future applicants until further notice.

Applications may be obtained in person from the

City Clerk's office and the City's Facebook page.

The completed application must be returned to the City Clerk's office,

600 North Montgomery Avenue, Sheffield, Alabama.

The City of Sheffield is an equal opportunity employer.

has immediate openings for

# Assistant Machine Operators and Forklift Operators

These openings will be 12-hour night shift, 7pm-7am.

Entry Level Starting Wage is \$17.57/hr.

Plus \$1.13 shift differential with potential to advance to an

Experienced Machine Operator with wages up to \$26.54/hr. \*Wages above do not include shift differential of \$1.13 for 12-hour night shifts.

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- Click Apply Now at top of Job Posting

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Graphic Packaging is an Equal Opportunity Employer. All candidates will be evaluated on the basis of their qualifications for the job in question. We do not base our employment decision on an employee's or applicant's race, color, religion, age, gender or sex (including pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic identity, genetic information, disability, veteran/military status or any other basis prohibited by local, state, or federal law

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College can take 2-4 years and cost thousands of dollars to attain the same skills you can learn through on-the-Job Training with SET, and **WE PAY YOU.** 

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experience formal classrooms will not give you.

SET is now accepting applications for our CNC Mill and CNC Lathe and manual machine operations. This training that can immediately provide hands on experience while you are getting paid to work with one of the industries most successful die and tooling manufacturers.



Requirements: Strong Math Skills: 3 ½ day work week with 12-hour schedules; Day and Night availability; Computer literate; mechanical aptitude; enthusiastic willingness to learn hands-on and succeed; meet production standards.

# Southeastern Extrusion & Tool, Inc. 512 Staples Drive, Florence Alabama, 256-766-6421

Submit resume to hr@set-tool.com or apply in person

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# **Production Manager**

- CNC Machining
- Management Experience
- Strong Communications
- Good Math Skills
- CNC Lathe a Plus

510 Staples Drive Florence, Alabama

> **Equal Opportunity** Employer

#### Part-time Non-CDL **Truck Driver**

The TimesDaily has a position available for a Part-Time Non-CDL Truck Driver. The ideal candidate must have an excellent driving record and a clean MVR (motor vehicle report) as well as proof of personal auto insurance. Candidate must pass a DOT physical, be able to lift up to 50 pounds, and be capable of driving up to 8 hours at a time. Must be able to work flexible schedules including days, nights, weekends, and holidays as needed.

Please email resumes to hollie.colella@timesdaily. com

Applications may be picked up at 219 West Tennessee Street, Florence, AL 35630.

### Calvary Baptist Church

in Tuscumbia is looking to hire a

#### **Full Time Ministry/Publications Assistant**

Must be proficient with computers

Please email resume to: tweeks.calvary@gmail.com

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### The Colbert County Commission will be accepting employment applications for HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE HELPER

Starting pay is \$12.60/hr
Plus Health Insurance and Other Benefits

Job Description and Application are available at the **Alabama Career Center** 500 South Montgomery Ave., Sheffield Deadline for applications is February 11, 2022.

Colbert County Commission is an equal opportunity employer

### **EXPERIENCED CNC MILL OPERATOR**

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#### Full-Time **Press Operator**

The TimesDaily is seeking a printing press operator to join our northwestern Alabama printing facility. Responsibilities include but are not limited to:

-Performing standard set up of printing press

Performing standard set up or printing press

Operating the press

Making adjustments to maintain quality control

Performing preventative maintenance and repairs

Hands-on experience with a Goss Urbanite or DGM 850 is a plus, but not required. We are ready to hire and will train for the position. This position offers benefits including:

- •401(k) matching •Medical Insurance
- Dental Insurance
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- ance
  •Disability Insurance
  •Additional Insurance Coverage
- Options
  •Flexible Spending Account
  •Paid Time Off (Vacation, Holidays, Sick Time)

Qualified candidates will be available to work nights, week-ends. Applications are available at the

TimesDaily 219 West Tennessee St. Florence, AL 35630 or questions or resumes may be emailed to hollie.colella@ timesdaily.com



#### **SUPERVISOR Packaging Department**

Packaging Department

The Times Daily (TVM, Inc.) is a locally owned group of daily and weekly newspapers. We currently have an open supervisor position in our Packaging Department. You will oversee Packaging employees during daily production runs, ensuring these teams perform to quality standards and meet deadlines. While experience in newspaper packaging is preferred, we are also open to the insights someone might bring from another industry.

To be a good fit for this opportunity you will have:

Solid experience in a material-handling environment, such as packaging, distribution, warehousing, production, etc.

A demonstrated ability to:

Lead and direct the work of others with the ability to motivate employees; experience supervising part-time employe

- others with the ability to motivate employees; experience supervising part-time employees is a plus.

  Work in deadline-driven team environments and adapt to changing workloads.

  Good communication skills.

  Microsoft Office experience a plus
- A plus
   Mechanical background or aptitude.

  Ability to work hands on with
- vour team
- •Ability to work a flexible shift.

Resumes can be emailed to hollie.colella@timesdaily.

or applications can be picked up at TimesDaily, 219 West Tennessee Street, Florence, AL 35630

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305 S. Montgomery Ave., Sheffield Office Hours: 8am-4pm Mon.- Fri.



# **Burrell Athletic HoF...**

**Continued from Page 1** 

Tickets are \$25 each and are sold ONLY IN ADVANCE. There will be no door sales and no reserved tables. All committee members have tickets for sale. Committee members include Anita Cobb, Sue Reeder, Beverly Perkins, John Humes, Billy Simpson, Joe Duster, and Dave Smith (chairman).

#### **BRIEF BIOS OF INDUCTEES**

#### **William Houston:**

Houston played on Burrell's last championship football team of the 1950's. He was an outstanding football and basketball player. He routinely scored 20 points or more for the Tigers and was a consistent rebounder and team leader. Houston is still a regular golfer in Michigan where he resides.

#### **Harry Barnett:**

Barnett played football and basketball. Harry was noted for his rugged style of play on the basketball floor and the football field. He possessed sure hands and was a devastating blocker in football. He caught 47 touchdown touchdown caught passes in his three varsity years.

Barnett averaged 12 points and double-digit rebounds in basketball. Harry is currently a minister in Lithonia, GA.

#### **Burrell-Slater Bovs H.S. Basketball Team** 1955-56:

The '55-'56 team was the first Burrell boys team to win N.A.H.S.A. preseason and season tournament championships. Burrell represented North Alabama in the Tuscaloosa, AL District Tournament.

Their season record was 31-5. Six players attended college, two played college basketball, and t players received PhD's. two

The Tigers' coach was Jesse Taylor (Fairfield, AL), a Miles College graduate who is now deceased.

Burrell Slater The Athlete Hall of Fame was organized in 2013 after several years of discussion. The first Induction Class was in 2014. There was no induction class in 2021 due to Covid-19.

**AT TOP Burrell's First Boys Tournament** Championship Team 1954-1955. N.A.H.S.A. Preseason and Postseason **Tournament** Championships. They were the **District Tournament** Representative for North Alabama in Tuscaloosa.

L-R (kneeling) **Charles Armstead,** John Humes, James McCall, Joe Naphier, and James Ford. L-R (standing) Coach Jesse Taylor, Funrow Cole, Emmitt Horne, Lee Otis Johnson, Ellis Houston, Paul Lambert, and Principal William H. Lewis. Courtesy photos



## **Guest Commentary**

# In Remembrance of **Brigadier General** Charles McGee

ur nation lost a leader, warrior, and one of America's famed Tuskegee Airmen on January 17 when Brig. Gen. Charles McGee made his last takeoff The Heritage

Foundation.

at the of age of 102. McGee was born in Cleveland, Ohio on Dec. 7, 1919. He moved frequently with his father's work throughout Ohio, Florida, West Virginia, Iowa, and Illinois. Along the way, McGee entered the Boy Scouts, rose to the rank of Eagle Scout, and was accepted into the engineering program at the University of Illinois.

World War II broke out before **JOHN VENABLE** he finished his degree, and Senior Research McGee enlisted in the Army Air Fellow - Heritage Corps on Oct. 26, 1942. McGee Foundation was accepted into a group of African American volunteers who were sent for flight training to Tuskegee Army Air Field

in the heart of the segregated south. Most of the nearly 15,000 volunteers

who went to Tuskegee didn't finish flight school and went on to become navigators, bombardiers, air traffic controllers, and

#### See BRIG. GEN. MCGEE... on Page 28

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

# Courier Journal

# hoals

# **The Past 30 Years**

### Stevenson's Oil. Watercolor Work

TUSCUMBIA- Nationally acclaimed Florence artist, Tim Stevenson, will be exhibiting artwork from throughout his career in Tim Stevenson: The Past 30 Years, on view February1-March 12 at the Tennessee Valley Museum of Art. The exhibition includes his early watercolor paintings through his oil paintings of the last few years, providing an engaging overview of his evolution as an artist.

Stevenson paints in a representational style, which means his work depicts real-life objects, landscapes, and people. Even though Stevenson has been a working artist for over 50 years, this exhibition includes his work from 1978 to 2020. This time



his current style of painting, and it is also the period of his artwork that still survives.

"Prior to 1978, I had done a lot of what would fit into the Surrealist category," said Stevenson, "along with some abstract work, most of which I doctroyed in the spring."

of 1978, a sort of personal revolution.

In 1978, he started teaching himself how to paint with watercolor and began the artistic evolution that led to his successful career as a

#### GRAPHIC NOVEL **ILLUSTRATION** - Matt

Swan and Jason Behel will teach fundamental drawing skills and illustration at 11am February 5 at Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts, 217 E. Tuscaloosa St., Florence. All supplies and equipment will be supplied. Workshop is free, however registration IS required at www.florencealmuseums.com

#### **EXPLORING THE POWER** OF PICTURE BOOKS -

Jamie Campbell Naidoo will lead the interactive session on the literary award Caldecott and other illustrator awards at 5:30pm, on Tuesday, February 8 at the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library, located at 350 N. Wood Ave

#### **MEET AND GREET WITH** TIM JAMES 2022 Alabama Gubernatorial Candidate, on Tuesday, February 1, 5:30pm at The Rock Christian Bookstore, 310 N. Montgomery Ave. in Sheffield.

TUSCUMBIA PARKS AND **RECREATION** is conducting baseball and softball registration thru February 28. For more information, please call 256-386-5655.



neatly written 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 are 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.

by Mail, in person or mail slot **Editor-Courier Journal** 

- 219 W. Tennessee St., Florence, AL 35630 e-mail: editor@courierjournal.net
- FAX- 256-760-9618

# **Too Many Plea Deals**

Editor:

I think one of our problems with our justice system is too many lazy

Instead of trying to get true justice they take the easy route of a plea bargain, the beneficiary of which is the perpetrator and the loser of which is the victim. Case-in-point, the recent killing of four innocent people in the Waffle House in Nashville.

Why does the man who killed these people deserve to live even in a prison. These people and their families get no justice with a life behind bars plea deal or a DA who refuses to seek the death penalty because this is the easy way for him to handle the case. We need more DA's with some gonads.

**Barry Lee** Rogersville

All of chapters 13 and 14 are about how to handle their safety from this horrible disease...

#### **How Was it Handled?**

Editor:

With a virus going around, should we as Christians wear a mask to protect ourselves and others?

Let's take a trip in the Bible to the book of LEVITĪCUS chapters 13 and 14. They had a problem with a disease that was primarily airborne and had a death rate of less than 1/10 of 1%; not a very high rate of death but a bad disease.

We have a disease today that is basically airborne and a death rate between 1 and 2% How did God have them handle their disease?

See LETTERS... on Page 22

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**DECORATIVE HALF MOON THREE** Drawer Chest \$100, 256-577-1597 Florence

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# Having Real Peace

My, what a price we are having to pay for doing things our way. Financial freedom is not peace. The peace that eternally satisfies has to start from within us. Where does peace come from? The bible says about people and the world: Isaiah 59:8 "The way of peace they know not; and there is no judgment in their goings: they have made them crooked paths: whosoever goeth therein shall not know peace." Romans 3:17 "And the way of peace have they not known:" But about God the bible says: Isaiah 45:7 "I form the light, and create the says: Isaiah 45:10 "I form the light, and create the says: I form the say

darkness: I make peace, and create evil: I the LORD do all these things." National unrest, financial distress and the worst spiritual confusion lack of sound reasoning I have ever seen in my short lifetime. 4200 religions in the world. Now I know I am not going to turn the world around with these short messages, but God can turn your world around if you will listen to Him. If you insist on your way and your wickedness, here's what to expect from God: Isaiah 48:22 "There is no peace, saith the LORD, unto the wicked." No peace, no rest or satisfaction.

But if you should decide you are sick of your ways, you have an alternative. Turn to the word of God. John 14:27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." Jesus Christ said that. Romans 5:1 "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:" Romans 10:9&10&13 "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Friend, make your peace with God first, then the God of peace will be with you.

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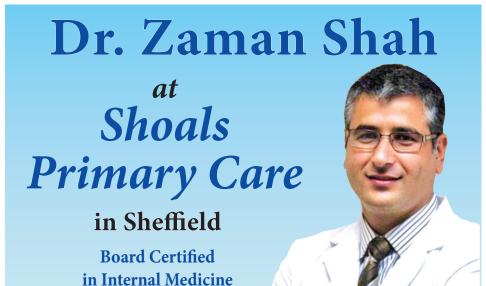
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### **Financial Planning Fundamentals**



Financial planning can help you gain a better understanding of where you are at financially, how to prepare for challenges that may be ahead, and how to plan for where you want to go. If you do not have a financial plan prepared for you or your family, a financial advisor can help. Here are the typical steps of the planning process:

Goal setting. In this foundational step, your financial goals take the spotlight. This is your opportunity to identify what you hope to achieve during your lifetime and when you'd like to get there. For example, you may want to own a home in three years and start a family in five years. Or you may want to return to school to pursue an advanced degree, which may incur short-term costs but help you earn more in the longterm. Or you may want to retire early and travel the world. In order to achieve any of these goals, you need to name them first.

Fact-finding. During this phase, you will gather numbers to see how things add up. Your financial advisor may ask questions to calculate your personal balance sheet, which estimates your net worth based on assets and liabilities. Your income, spending habits, monthly bills and outstanding debts all need to be laid on the table. The price of future goals needs to be quantified, so you can determine what you need to save to afford them. If your goals don't match the reality of your financial circumstances, one or the other needs to change.

Plan creation. A comprehensive financial plan plots how to reach personal and professional goals within the context of actual income and expenses. With a clear line of sight into your financial status, you can look for opportunities to trim unnecessary expenses and redirect money toward your goals. Your financial advisor may also provide investment strategy, asset allocation, and portfolio recommendations based on your individual goals and personal risk tolerance to help optimize your finances

**Strategy implementation.** This is where things get real. If your plan requires you to save a certain amount of money each month, then it's up to you to make it happen. If reaching your goals means you need to increase your income, now's the time to put in the extra effort to get that promotion or switch fields to pursue increased compensation. Your financial advisor can help you select savings vehicles that are suited to your investment goals.

Ongoing plan reviews. Ideally, your financial plan is a dynamic document that is adjusted periodically to reflect your life circumstances. Your financial advisor will recommend at least one annual meeting to check in on your progress toward your goals and fine-tune your financial plan.

Financial planning takes work, but the process can be very rewarding. Larger goals become easier to attain when you can take small steps to reach them. It's never too early or too late to put a financial plan in place. A financial advisor can help you create your plan and manage your investments to help you realize your life goals.

Timothy Wakefield is a Financial Advisor with Independent Investments Group, a financial advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, LLC. In Florence, Alabama. He specializes in feebased financial planning and asset management strategies and has been in practice for 7 years. To contact Timothy, call 256.765.3637 or email Timothy. Wakefield@ampf.com.



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# Notes...

#### **Continued from page 4**

• Monday, Feb. 14, 7pm: Sabrina (1954), starring Audrey Hepburn and Humphrey Bogart The three films will be shown on The

Ritz's big screen, complemented by the romantic ambiance of the historic theatre setting. Concessions, including wine, will be available, making for a romantic date night or fun evening out with friends.

Tickets are \$10 each and available to

purchase now at tennesseevalleyarts.org or at the door.

The Help Center in Florence we will be open on the 3rd Saturday of each month on a permanent basis. The volunteers felt they could better serve volunteers reit triey could better serve their Saturday clients if they made the change to be open on 3rd Saturday every month to help avoid confusion. Hours are 8:30-10am - for food distribution ONLY. Saturday hours are for families who are unable to come from 8:30-noon on Monday. Wednesday or Eriday. on Monday, Wednesday or Friday.

Friends - The St. Francis Project will present a concert of songs from the golden age of Broadway into the 21st century at 2pm on February 20 at the Shoals Theatre, 123 N. Seminary St., Florence. Many of the original cast, who participated in these musical during 60 years of productions of the Florence Summer Music Theater, Zodiac Players and Coffee and Bradshaw High Schools,

will return to the stage.

Tickets are \$25 for orchestra and \$15 for balcony and may be purchased through the Shoals Theatre box office, online at theshoalstheatre.org, First online at theshoalstheatre.org, First Methodist Church of Florence, First Presbyterian Church of Florence, St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, and Trinity Episcopal Church. All proceeds benefit The St. Francis

Community Outreach Project.

A book signing and fundraiser to support Liberté Ministries is set for 6:30pm Tuesday, February 22 at Pickett Place in Florence. Liberté Ministries a local charity supporting Haitian missions, a school and an orphanage. Author Thomas Ott is a historian of Haitian culture who wrote the true story.

Haitian culture who wrote the true story

of Haiti in its war for independence and a courageous slave named Saturday.

Ott will be signing and discussing his book, "Saturday and the Witch Woman," and 100% of proceeds that night will go toward the missions.

In the bloody war where thousands died, Ott details the account of how Saturday dared to save two white children. Out of fear, the story was kept secret for over 50 years. Picket Place is located at 438 North Seminary St. in Florence

Black History Vibes - The University of North Alabama and the Entertainment Industry department present Black History Vibes - a jazz fusion tribute to Jimi Hendrix on Thursday, February 24, 7-9pm at The Mane Room, 310 N. Pine

"Charlotte's Web" The play will be presented March 2-5 at Ritz Theatre, 111 W. Third St, Sheffield

The Alabama Record Collectors Association proudly presents its 41st Annual Record & CD Show on Friday, March 4 and Saturday, March 5 at the Main Exhibition Hall of Gardendale Civic Center in Gardendale, AL.

Show hours are 2-8pm on Friday and 9am-5pm on Saturday. The public is invited to attend. Regular admission is only \$5 per day. A special \$10 Early-Bird Admission is available on Friday beginning at 11am.

Additions show information is on website at www.alabamarecordcollectors. org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/AlabamaRecordCollectors. Questions or info requests may be emailed to alabamarecordcollectors@ gmail.com.

Directions: Take I-65 to exit 271 Fieldtown Rd, then 0.8 miles East to Main St., turn right and go 0.6 miles. Gardenale Civic Center is on the left at

#### See NOTES... page 30

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# HOW MUCH DIRT, AND HOW MUCH HOUSE?

Dear Dave,

My wife and I own a small catering business. We have a few big corporations as clients, and our company has been very successful over the last two or three years. Now,

PRIMARY CARE



we are planning to build a house. I was wondering what you think about how much should be spent on the land itself versus the construction of the actual house.

Lee

Dear Lee, When the whole thing is your best life!

done, the payment you end up with shouldn't be more than 25% of your take-home pay on a 15-year, fixed-rate loan. The ratio of land to house can vary, and that part's up to you. If you're buying a big piece of land, you're probably going to have a higher ratio of land cost to home cost than if you bought a simple lot and put a really nice home there.

Generally, a standard subdivision lot is going to be around 20% of the total price. If you spend \$100,000 on the lot, you'll end up with a total project cost of about a half-million. Now, keep in mind that's just a fairly standard ratio.

It's not a rule.

The only rule here is my rule about mortgage payments. Again, no more than 25% of your takehome pay on a fixed-rate, 15-year note. Otherwise, you can end up house poor. And when you're house poor, it takes away your ability to save, build

if you can afford it, Lee. But it's not worth it if it's financially stressful and prevents you from living

- Dave

Dave Ramsey is a seven-time #1 national bestselling author, personal finance expert, and host of "The Ramsey Show," heard by more than 20 million listeners each week. He has appeared on "Good Morning America," "CBS This Morning" "Today" For "CBS This "Today," Fox Morning," "Today," Fox News, CNN, Fox Business, and 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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#### THIS IS A SUBJECT THAT I'VE TOUCHED ON BEFORE

but the world did not read what I wrote so the problem is getting even worse. This column will surely put an end to the worldwide problem and we can all get back to talking without

scratching each other's faces off. The cancer of misinformation and disinformation is even more contagious than the Omicron variant. It is literally threatening



Jim Fisher

democracies all over the planet. We have to cure this cancer before it's too late. To cure the problem, we must understand the problem.

According to Merriam-Webster,

### MIS VS. DISINFORMATION

by "The Computer Skeptic"

misinformation is "incorrect or misleading information." This includes honest mistakes made when someone does not have all the facts. You know, the kind of stuff that Uncle Goober says about vaccines causing an eyeball to grow on your forehead. Úncle Goober, bless his heart, doesn't mean to spread that lie, he's just a victim of misinformation. And perhaps a little dumb.

Disinformation is more sinister. Merriam-Webster's definition is "false information deliberately and often covertly spread (as by the planting of rumors) in order to influence public opinion or obscure the truth," Government propaganda is a

type of disinformation. Other examples come from politicians, discredited medical "experts" who have found a way to cash in by lying to people, and your average cable news network talk show host.

Here's a mnemonic device to help you remember the difference: Misinformation is misleading. Disinformation is a

Like so many other things in our lives today, this pandemic of mis-and-disinformation is going to get worse before it gets better. I grew up assuming that ubiquitous computers would make all of us smarter. To my dismay, the Information

Age--where anyone can know anything about anything in seconds--seems to have ushered in a dystopian world where up is down, right is wrong, and nutty people are way too eager to share their outlandish ideas with the world. Seriously, people who believe in a flat Earth, fake moon landings, and political conspiracies used to hide in the corners of society only speaking to like-minded people out of fear of being laughed at. Now, these psychopaths and con artists have been given a virtual megaphone on social media and have zero qualms about discussing the benefits of drinking urine to prevent cancer.

Our cherished freedom of speech combined with the internet has given nutty people the illusion of being authoritative and worth listening to. That power has given them the ability

to infect millions of others with their perfectly rational arguments of how our government is run by shape-shifting lizard overlords bent on subjugating us into a New World Order. All this rubbish has primed our nation (and others) for a civil war.

So where do we go from here? Civil war is not an option in my mind but it is in many other minds. That's not acceptable. My next column will deal with solutions to this cancer on our society. Until then, please don't drink pee.

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



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### **FIRST AMENDMENT** TO THE CONSTITUTION

"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or the of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."

There are five separate rights in the First Amendment, speech, religion, press, assembly, and the right to petition the government. Before agreeing to accept the

Constitution, the Founders of our democratic republic demanded that these freedoms be protected by an amendment to the original document.

There's no citizenship requirement for First Amendment protection. If you're in the U.S., you have freedom of speech, religion, press, assembly and petition.

The First Amendment favors no political party. It can be used to push for social and political change, or to oppose change. The First Amendment is for everyone.

Where people get balled up about the First Amendment is prayer in schools. The disconnect comes from a lack of understanding both the purpose and intent of this Amendment. It is both freedom OF religion AND freedom FROM religion.

The following quote from the Supreme Court explains the principle.

"The question in this case is whether the prayer practice of the town of Greece by doing too little to reflect the religious diversity of its citizens, did too much, even if unintentionally, to promote the 'political division along religious lines' that 'was one of the principals against evils against the First Amendment was intended to protect.' Lemon v. Kurtzman, 403 U.S.602, 622 (1971).

The town of Greece, New York failed to make reasonable efforts to include prayer givers of minority faiths, with the result that, although it is a community of several faiths, its prayer givers were almost exclusively persons of a single faith.

Buckle up, drive safely, and as always, your referrals are appreciated! 256-764-0112

Please send the questions to: "Ask the Attorney,"

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#### TINTING Letters...

### **How Was it** Handled?

**Continued from Page 12** 

someone symptoms, he would get tested. God told the priests how to test them. În chapter 13: 45-46, when someone was infected he had to do certain things.

#1) he had to put a covering upon his upper lip. Nowadays we call it a

mask.
#2) he was to cry out unclean, unclean. That way people knew not to get close to him. Nowadays we call it social

distancing.

#3) he was to dwell alone. These days we call it quarantining.

In chapter 14: 33-47 we see that even someone's house that was contaminated had to be cleansed or torn down.

All of chapters 13 and 14 are about how to handle their safety from this horrible disease.

God's people took seriously and still God's followed these rules in Jesus' time.

Luke 17: 11-15 we see that the lepers who approached Jesus stood "afar off". The disease 'afar off". had was called

leprosy.
The disease we have is called covid.

Let's all take a tip from the Bible and be safe by wearing a mask and keeping a little distance from each other.

**Steve Cox** St. Joseph, TN

### **Agenda Falls Far Short**

Editor:

Times Daily The highlighted the new Republican legislative agenda called "standing tall for Alabama". Proposed features include reduced taxes for small business and farmers, pay raises for government workers, and expanded Internet and broadband in rural areas.

However, as the paper concluded, the agenda falls far short of addressing the basics of poverty, health and education that can improve lives and help the working poor stand taller. Instead of making it easier to carry concealed weapons, why not expand Medicaid, help rural hospitals, anđ provide improved medical services expectant mothers and newborns.

The state GOP opposes mandates for vaccines and masks to control COVID while thousands die, and our hospitals are overwhelmed.

Removing the sales taxes on groceries would help alleviate the oppressive burdens on the backs of the working poor and improve their lives. Federal assistance makes

that possible.

Instead of censoring school curricula history with pointless distraction about critical race theory, the legislature should look meaningful wavs improve Alabama from 47th in state school

Instead of dangling red meat for the base, we need a legislative program that will broadly lift our quality of life, economic opportunities, and voting access. (Alabama ranks 41st among best states to live, and Birmingham ranks 177th out of 182 cities in which to raise a family.) Such indicators guide business on where to invest and create jobs. They are vital to our wellbeing.

Dan Waterman Killen

See LETTERS... on Page 29

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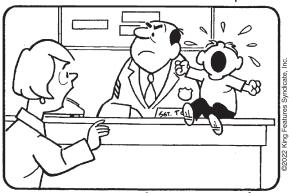
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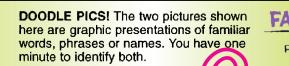
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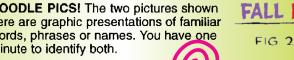
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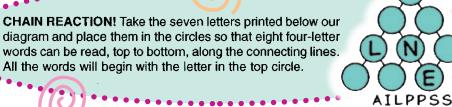


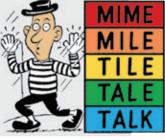
FALL PRIDE













#### **Don't Get Boxed In!**

You have five minutes to get out of this challenge. In this type of problem you are given a word that must be changed into another word in a series of moves. During each move, you must change one letter in the previous word, so as to form a new word. In our example, we changed MIME to TALK in four moves. See if you can change the following words in four moves each.

- 1. LESS to MORE
- 2. OUST to REND
- 3. PEST to GONE
- 4. RUBE to GENT
- 5. SALT to LICK







# **Medicare Minute**

## "Medicare Part A Part 1"

On a Medicare card Part A will have the word "Hospital" beside it. Because of that Medicare Part A is most commonly known as the inpatient or hospitalization part of Medicare. This means when a Medicare beneficiary is admitted into the hospital most of the services that are received are filed under Medicare Part A. This sounds simple but sometimes it's not.

Medicare Part A has a deductible of \$1,556 per benefit period. Notice two things here. First is the deductible of \$1,556. If you are admitted into the hospital and had Original Medicare only, you would owe the first \$1,556 of your stay. This deductible covers hospital services, including semiprivate rooms, meals, general nursing, drugs as part of your inpatient treatment, and other hospital services and supplies.

The second thing to notice is the term "benefit period". This tells you the deductible is not an annual deductible but could hit you more than once in a calendar year. A "benefit period" begins when you are discharged from a hospital or skilled nursing facility and ends when you haven't received any inpatient care for 60 consecutive days. If you are admitted as an inpatient after the 60 days of no inpatient care a new benefit period begins, meaning another \$1,556 deductible. Also if you are confined to the hospital for 60 consecutive days your deductible will cover you but on the 61st day you will begin paying a coinsurance.

The good news is for most Medicare beneficiaries Part A is free. Free meaning you don't pay a premium for it. The reason for this is while you are working you pay 1.45% of your pay check into Medicare. If you did that for 40 quarters you're entitled to Part A for free. Next week will discuss the other benefits of Medicare Part A.

If you have questions regarding any aspect of Medicare or Medicare health plans feel free call us at Alabama Health Guidance (256-648-5710), stop by our office at 885 Florence Blvd (Four Lane Shopping Center) or email me at ikey@ alabamahealthguidance.com. Alabama Health Guidance is an independent insurance agency and is not affiliated with Medicare or any other government agency.





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### 30 Years...

#### **Continued from Page 12**

representational painter. "I had a long road ahead of me in learning how to communicate in a representational style," said Stevenson.

"It wasn't until encountered the Dutch masters of the 17th century (such as Vermeer and Rembrandt) that I began to make headway, both in terms of style and also in learning what stories I wanted to tell."

Museum visitors will be able to see this progression of subject matter as explored Stevenson the types of stories he wanted to tell through his art. Early on, Stevenson painted "friends, cousins, their dogs, buildings, and so forth, along with local and regional nature." The



exhibition includes three early paintings that depict people he knew during that time period.

Over time, travel and life experiences caused him to shift focus, and his "horizons expanded to an

emphasis on the broader world." In the late 1980s, he opened a retail business in Georgia that sold oriental rugs, which led him to develop a rug series. He also began painting still life after seeing the "Dutch masters" around 1990. Since moving back to the Shoals area, Stevenson said, "Nature in general has had my attention, and still does.

Much of his more recent work features landscapes, interior paintings, and the occasional still life.

Throughout these different periods and varying subject matter, Stevenson's goal remained the same. has want to express what it feels like to be alive in a particular place at a particular time," he said. 'As this show is going on, I am formulating new directions and new ways to express that feeling."

Museum hours for this exhibition are Tuesday-Friday 9-5 and Saturday 10-5. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for students, and TVAA members are admitted free. To learn more tennesseevalleyarts. org or call 256-383-0533.

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Guest Commentary - John Venable

# Brig. Gen. McGee...

**Continued from Page 12** 

mechanics. Just 932 became pilots, and of those, 355 went on to fly fighters. But they were Tuskegee Airmen, one and all.

McGee earned his pilot's wings and was commissioned as a second lieutenant on June 30, 1943

Upon completion of fighter training, he was assigned to the 332nd Fighter Group in Italy for combat operations in February 1944. At first, the group flew P-39 airplanes, then P-47s, and finally P-51s—all painted with distinctive red tails and trim that identified them as Tuskegee Airmen.

The group's mission was to protect heavy bombers that were attacking targets from Italy to Poland. On occasion the group was directed to attack targets of opportunity on the ground.

Its record in both roles became legend, and bomber groups learned quickly that the "Red Tails" would stay with them throughout their missions. Just 27 bombers were shot down during the 179 escort missions the Tuskegee Airmen flew, compared to an average of 46 bombers for the other fighter groups.

The number of targets the Red Tails destroyed was equally impressive. During escort missions, the group's pilots destroyed 112 enemy fighters in the air. One of those, a Focke-Wulf 190, was destroyed by McGee himself while escorting a formation of B-17s over Czechoslovakia. The group destroyed another 150 aircraft on the ground, along with 600 rail cars, 350 trucks and other vehicles, and 40 boats and barges.

But the costs were high. One in four Red Tail fighter pilots would be lost in combat—66 were killed in action and another 32



were taken prisoner after being shot down.

At the end of the war, the majority of surviving Tuskegee Airmen returned to their civilian lives. However, McGee loved the thrill of flying too much to get out of the service, and when the Korean War broke out, he returned to combat duty.

By 1950, the age of jet fighters had arrived, but McGee was assigned to a ground attack squadron flying critical close air support missions in the P-51 Mustang. While the F-86 jets flying air-to-air missions got most of the glory, the risks associated with the air-to-ground role were much higher and Mustang squadrons suffered the heaviest attrition rates—more than double that of any jet fighter.

But it was in those highrisk environments that McGee thrived. He flew 100 combat missions in Korea and was promoted to major.

By the time he went to Vietnam, McGee had pinned on lieutenant colonel and was selected to command and lead the 16th Tactical Reconnaissance Squadron. In that role, he flew 172 combat missions in the unarmed RF-4 photo-reconnaissance aircraft.

By the end of his career, McGee had risen to the rank of full colonel and had amassed 6,308 flying hours and 409 combat missions, ranking him third among all fighter pilots who flew in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam.

In spite of the years of racism and the discrimination he faced throughout his life, McGee's love of America was contagious, and anyone who was graced

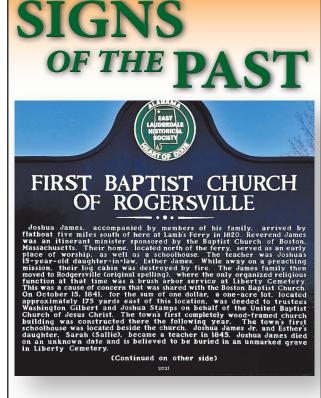
Brig.Gen. Charles McGee was recognized at age 100 by President Trump at the 2020 State of the Union address. Heritage.org

with his presence came away loving our nation that much more.

Charles McGee was an incredible airman, a warrior, and—in every sense—an American hero. He was promoted to the rank of brigadier general by President Donald Trump on Feb. 4, 2020, and received several standing ovations that same night at the State of the Union address for a life incredibly well-lived.

Here's a nickel on the grass for an absolute legend. Godspeed, Gen. McGee.

John Venable served 25 years in the Air Force. He is a senior research fellow for defense policy at The Heritage Foundation.



**Location**: 34.8266°N, 87.2918°W 222 College St, Rogersville

Side 1 describes the origins of this church going back to the arrival of missionary Joshua James in 1820. Side 2 describes the successive buildings culminating in a 1960 service in the adjacent building. The current sanctuary was occupied in 1992. This marker was erected last year by the East Lauderdale Historical Society.

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



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### Letters...

**Continued from Page 22** 

### Healing and Friendship?

Editor:

Understanding humanity doesn't take a degree in business. What it does take is putting yourself in another's shoes and walking that long, hard mile. If you put your hand out to help another out of suffering and strife or put your hand out to shove someone back into their place, you know which side you're on. If you fan the flames of hatred and bigotry or fan the fires of healing and friendship, you've got a pretty good guess where you stand as

At no time did I ever say capitalism was bad, what I am saying is right now, today, every human is struggling to not slip further into poverty and destitution. There was no reason, other than avarice, for one extremely greedy rich man to buy enough shares in Dollar Tree to force them to raise their prices knowing full well that no one rich shops there, mainly those that need every penny they have to survive. What's a quarter, right? But it's not

Right about now, Americans are finding out that the previous

If you don't open your eyes to see you are being led by your nose hairs as the powerful bring out your baser instincts fueling your hatred and bigotry that every follower of Jesus strives to rise above, there will be an ugly surprise waiting at the end of your chapter. Yes, I'm a bleeding heart liberal that will give away my last dime to help someone less fortunate than myself. I'm very glad I'm me and I'm not

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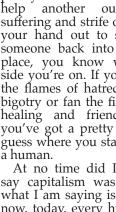
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just one quarter is it?

administration took away so many tax credits to the working class so said administration could give a permanent tax free break only to the wealthy and it would look like it was not the Republicans fault that you are paying more taxes. Remember, I told you when it happened. Mainstream economy has nothing to do with the stock market or GDP, It's how many quarters are in your pocket.





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# Notes...

#### **Continued from page 18**

Year of the Woman - The Shoals Symphony Orchestra will feature selections of classical works by female composers 3-5pm on February 27 at Norton Auditorium, 550 N. Pine St., Florence. Tickets: \$10 for ages 17 and younger; \$20-\$32 for adults. operations@ shoalssymphony.org.

"Funniest Man in America" James Gregory will perform at 7:30pm on March 12 at the Ritz Theatre, 111 W. Third St., ffield. Tickets \$35-\$55.

The primary election day for the State of Alabama is Tuesday, May 24,

The Elain Senior Citizens will have the Eight Senior Citizens will have their monthly Ham and Bean Day on Monday, April 25, from 11am - 1pm at the Senior Center. Immediately following at 1:15, there will be a political forum in the Senior Center auditorium. Any candidate on the primary ballot for the Elgin Crossroads precinct is invited to attend. The ballot is the same for most of eastern Lauderdale County.

Candidates can meet and greet the voters and have the opportunity to speak. Candidates are encouraged to call 256-483-7371 or 256-710-2049 if they plan to attend.

The public is invited for lunch, to meet the candidates, and hear what they have to say. Candidates, or their representative, wishing to speak please register at the door. Elgin Senior Center is located one block south of the red light in Elgin on Hwy 101.

Reunion of USS Kitty Hawk CVAI CY-63 - June 6-9, 2022 in San Diego, CA. For information, contact Jim Melka at lka@netins.net or 319-332-1632.

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at Northwest Shoals Community College and transfer scholarships to the University of North Alabama for Lauderdale and Colbert County students who meet certain criteria. Donate to Scholar Dollars at any participating financial institution the second Friday of each month.

LifesSouth is in emergency need for blood donors, as the national blood shortage continues, and asks don help by donating blood during their 4 k to School Blood Drive. Blood donors who give blood at any LifeSouth donor center or bloodmobile through Sunday, August 8 will help summer blood shortages, save lives, and receive a \$20 e-gift card as a

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To find a donor center or mobile blood drive near you, visit lifesouth. org or call 888-795-2707. Blood donors must be at least 17 or 16 with parental permission, weigh a minimum of 110 pounds and be in good health. A photo ID is required. LifeSouth donors receive a complementary cholesterol screening with each donation

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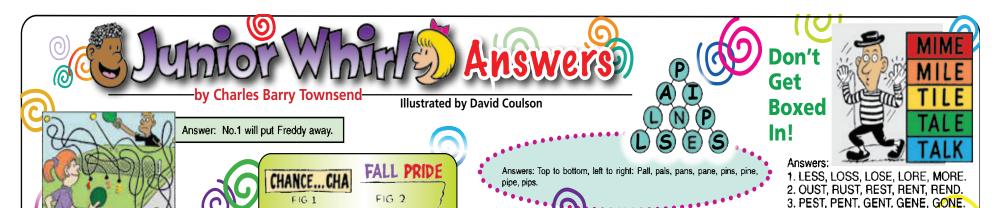
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**BEAUTIFUL** Ridge issued Deacon a dire warning. Douglas recounted the story of Brooke and Santa Claus to a stunned Thomas.

THE BOLD AND THE Carter was caught off-guard when Grace confronted him about kissing Paris. Ridge taunted Deacon Ridge and demanded answers. Carter became conflicted

when Grace threatened blackmail. Steffy saw an opportunity to reunite her parents in Douglas' story. Hope attempted to keep Brooke from spiraling out of control. Wait to See: Steffy utilized Charlie to corroborate Douglas' account of New Year's Eve. Carter and Paris have a heart-to-heart about where their relationship is headed. Ridge takes comfort in Taylor's company while Steffy plots to bring Brooke down.

DAYS OF OUR LIVES Chad and Kate attempted to figure out what happened Abigail. Meanwhile, Abigail realized that she wasn't the only one Kristen was holding captive on the deserted island. Craig came clean with Nancy. Chloe told Brady the truth about her father. Nancy was devastated by Craig's bombshell. Ben had a big surprise for Ciara. Julie felt unnerved by Johnny's Steve and Kayla visit. were happily reunited. Tripp shared his secret plans with Roman. Chanel inadvertently revealed the truth to TR. Wait to See: Paulina is alarmed when she hears about Chanel's encounter with TR. Allie is stunned when Nicole relays her suspicions about Tripp's mother. TR reveals his identity to Lani. NOTE: "Days" will be preempted for 2 weeks due to NBC's Olympics coverage starting Feb. 4.

GENERAL HOSPITAL Sonny was determined to make a grand gesture. Michael surprised Willow with a trip to Paris. Esme played the victim. Stella confronted Marshall. Family and friends gathered to celebrate Ned and Olivia's vow celebrate renewals. Brook Lynn asked forgiveness. Maxie plotted her next move. Chase and Dante reconnected. Finally alone, Sonny and Carly had a chance to talk. Spencer's loved ones gathered at Kelly's before his sentence began. Sam sought out Spinelli. Mac and Dante prepared to take Peter back to Pentonville. Sonny went to Charlie's see Phyllis. Laura confronted Victor. Esme wondered about Spencer. Esme Kristina encouraged Sonny. Felicia and Anna anxiously awaited word. Wait to See: Family and friends gather to celebrate Ned and Olivia's vow renewal. Obrecht questioned Nina's motives. Maxie was relieved.

YOUNG AND THE THE RESTLESS Victor gave Adam an ultimatum. Victoria got the upper hand. Sharon shared words of wisdom with Abby. Victor Nikki questioned Ashland's motives. Sally was blindsided by Chelsea. Lauren was skeptical of

Michael's new endeavor. Devon and Abby searched for common ground. Phyllis considered a change in scenery. Tessa came clean with Mariah. Victor shared suspicions about Victoria. Ashland with Michael gave Nate the third degree. Adam came to Sally's rescue. Wait to See: Mariah and Tessa celebrate their engagement. Noah puts his best foot forward. Abby and Chance are challenged as varents.

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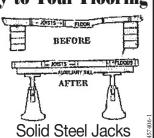
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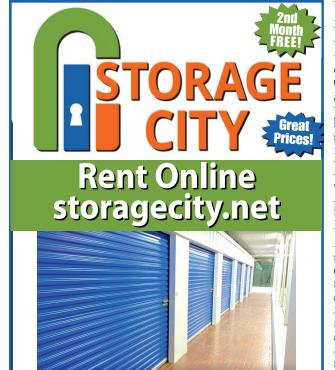
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