

UNA Names Program for Abroms

FLORENCE – The Master of Accountancy program in the College of Business and Technology at the University of North Alabama has been named for Abroms & Associates, P.C.

Martin R. Abroms is a UNA graduate who founded the company and is its current President. The gift is a nod to Abroms' years as a student and his tenure as a member of the UNA Board of Trustees. He has previously endowed scholarships at UNA to support accounting students.

"We are excited to make this investment," Abroms said. "We are confident it will pay big dividends in the years ahead by allowing the university to

See SHORTS... on Page 2

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One-Night Board/Affiliate Match at Appreciation Dinner

FLORENCE – United Way of Northwest Alabama will host a Donor Appreciation Dinner on Thursday, February 24 at 6pm at the Marriott Shoals Conference Center Singing River Room. United Way has

postponed two years of Campaign Kickoffs and Annual Meetings because of the pandemic. TNT Fireworks is sponsoring the event, allowing for a modest ticket cost of only \$20.



UNITED WAY DINNER... on Page 33

UNA ATHLETIC CLUB DINNER

Legendary Walton to Speak

FLORENCE-- Collegiate and NBA basketball legend, and current sports broadcaster Bill Walton, will be the featured speaker at the North Alabama Lions Athletic Club's 2022 Lion Pride Dinner and Auction. Marriott Shoals Conference Center will host the event on August 11 at 5:30pm. Sponsorship and meet and greet packages for the event are available immediately. Tables of eight are on sale for \$1,200 each, while individual tickets will go on sale this summer, if available.

Bill Walton, top, with Larry Bird and the Celtics in the 1980's.



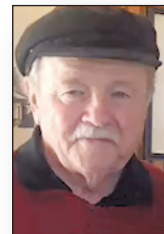
"We had a terrific response last year with Pete Rose as the keynote speaker at our Lion Pride Dinner,

See WALTON... on Page 8



Discovering the Hero in Haiti's Night of Fire

FLORENCE--Retired UNA professor and Haitian Historian, Dr. Thomas Ott, was learning about his family's tumultuous history over the centuries in a foreign land at the age when most of us are just getting to know our back yard. That history includes a family hero, a slave on the French side of the author's ancestors, and a participant in the world's greatest slave



Ott

rebellion who did the unthinkable in risking his life. Ott has invested many thousands of hours researching what transpired long ago and how lives today have been shaped.

Tom Ott's "Saturday and The Witch Woman" is a novel of remembrance, the true story of Haiti, its war for independence, and a courageous slave named Saturday.

See PROCEEDS... on Page 12

Discussion & Book Signing with Dr. Tom Ott
Saturday and the Witch Woman
6:30pm Tuesday, February 22 at Pickett Place in Florence
ALL Proceeds to the work in Haiti



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Advance Auto Sales
Jeff Elledge Auto Sales

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- The Truth in Love
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- Athletic Support

Independent Investing

- Dave Ramsey
- Pottery Class
- Medicare Minute
- Junior Whirl



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Shorts...

Program for Abroms

Continued from Page 1

attract and graduate even more top-notch individuals who want to obtain their MAcc and become CPAs."

The other shareholders at Abroms & Associates, P.C., are also providing support for this gift, including Barry Jacobs, Heather Kilpatrick, Kayla Hoofman, and Agenda Davis. The CPA firm has a long history of support for the UNA accounting program through its multi-year funding of accounting awards to deserving students.

Florence Gets Planning Award

FLORENCE – The Office of Planning and Community Development for the City of Florence recently received the prestigious **Audrey Nelson** Community Development Achievement Award through the National Community Development Association (NCDA) in Washington, D.C. The honor was for the creation and implementation of Florence First, an economic program created to provide financial relief from the impacts of the COVID-19

funding to an industry that has defined our corner of the world and to further our goal of supporting economic recovery," Bailey added.

The Audrey Nelson Community Development Achievement Award recognizes exemplary and innovative projects and programs funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant programs.

"The vision for both programs was to use our resources to reduce job loss and closures by providing relief for small local business owners from the financial impacts of the pandemic," said **Lyndsey A. Borden**, Assistant Director of Community Development. "These small businesses are foundational to keeping our community and economy running strong."

The Audrey Nelson Award recognizes exemplary and innovative projects and programs funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The NCDA is a national organization representing local government agencies that administer federal community development programs.

Apply for Syed Foundation Scholarship

SHEFFIELD – The Syed Scholarship Foundation is proud to announce that their annual scholarships will increase from \$1,000 to \$2,000 in 2022. Shoals area high school seniors may apply for these scholarships if they aspire to work in the healthcare field. Students are selected based on their application and letters of recommendation.

Dr. **Faizullah Syed** passed away unexpectedly in May of 2019. The Syed family and several members of the community formed the Syed Scholarship Foundation to preserve Dr. Syed's legacy yearly through these scholarships. **Pathan Syed**, Syed's oldest son, said "I'm sure dad would be very happy knowing his name helps the study of medicine." Applicants can apply at www.syed-scholarshipfoundation.org.

See SHORTS... Page 7



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<p>Chicken Drumsticks 99¢ Lb.</p> <p>Chicken Thighs \$1.19 Lb.</p>	<p>Chicken Wings \$2.59 Lb. (Flaps Or Drumsticks)</p> <p>Whole Chicken Fryer \$1.49 Lb.</p>	<p>Popcorn Chicken 2 Lb. Bag \$3.89</p> <p>Cooked Buffalo Wings 2 Lb. Bag \$9.99</p>	<p>Chicken Leg Quarters (10 Lb. Bag) \$4.99</p> <p>Farm Raised Catfish Fillet \$6.49 Lb.</p>

pandemic to small businesses. Florence

First provided relief to 69 small businesses across nine industries for fixed expenses resulting in reduced job loss and business closures.

"Florence First is an extraordinary example of how federal funding administered through local governments can increase economic stability and boost economic recovery to mitigate the impact of crises on communities," said **Melissa H. Bailey**, Planning Director and program creator.

"As we navigated the global pandemic, we discovered the arts and entertainment industry was expected to have the most long-term economic disruption with unemployment rates more than 1.5 times that of the national rate. Therefore, born from Florence First, Florence ROCKS! was presented to provide

INDEPENDENT INVESTING

Don't Talk Yourself Out of Saving



Saving for retirement can be an abstract concept. It's something we all know we should do, but the farther away we are from it, the easier it is to delay making it a priority – especially when we have other financial commitments on the horizon. If you find you are talking yourself out of saving for retirement, consider reframing your thinking.

"Retirement is a long way off." It's easy to get wrapped up in your current financial obligations, telling yourself that you'll prioritize your retirement next year. However, like many worthy aspirations, building a retirement nest egg takes time and discipline. If your golden years seem far away, remind yourself of the power of saving early. Time allows you to tackle your retirement goals in smaller increments with the potential for compounded growth. Retirement will likely come faster than you think, and you'll thank yourself later for planning ahead.

"I'll prioritize retirement after paying for my child's education." With the rising costs of college, it's understandable if you want to help your child obtain a quality education. However, although it may feel like you're letting your children down if you don't make paying for their tuition your top financial goal, saving for retirement should take priority. If your retirement savings come up short, you won't have the ability to apply for scholarships, grants, or financial aid to help bridge the gap like your child might for college.

"I can't afford to save." If this phrase comes to mind, give your self-talk a flip. Instead, think "I can't afford not to save". Setting aside even a small amount of money each month can make a big difference, as your assets can grow with the benefit of compounding. If you are able, consider increasing your monthly contribution to continue to build your nest egg.

"My family will help me." Perhaps you're expecting a generous inheritance or hoping that your adult kids will provide a financial cushion if you experience unexpected expenses later in life. Wishful thinking is not a strategy. Regardless of who you believe may come to your aid, it's best to take your financial security into your own hands. Life is full of uncertainties that could impact the bank accounts for both you and your family members. Knowing your future is under financial control can give you and your family peace of mind.

Don't let these common mantras and negative self-talk undermine your retirement. With a consistent and well-informed approach to saving and investing, you'll be in a much better position to retire with confidence.

Consider working with a financial advisor to create a plan for your future. Together you can determine your savings targets and explore a wide range of strategies to meet your financial goals. It's time to talk yourself back into retirement.

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 fee-based 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.



INDEPENDENT INVESTMENTS GROUP

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Here's your special invitation to featured book signings by best-selling local author of **"From The Cotton Field to Capitol Hill"** **SHIRLEY NOEL ADKINS**

Friday, February 18
Florence-Lauderdale Public Library

Monday, February 28
Muscle Shoals Public Library
from Noon-2pm each day

Books are available for purchase or bring your previously purchased book.

Shirley looks forward to seeing you at her signings!

Community Action Agency of Northwest Alabama's Gerald Williams Cooperative Garden Program

FREE vegetable garden supplies to help qualifying local residents wishing to grow their own gardens

Sign up through March 25

Participants in the program must:

- **Reside** in Lauderdale, Colbert or Franklin Counties
- Must not exceed monthly gross (prior to take-out, see below)

Maximum monthly incomes

- Single person in household – \$1,610
- Two-persons in household – \$2,178
- Three-persons in household – \$2,745

For each additional person in the household add \$567 per month

Deadline to Apply is March 25

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

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Community Notes

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

- Email to editor@courierjournal.net;
- Look for "Submit News" on our website at www.courierjournal.net.
- Fax to 256-760-9618;
- Mail to 219 W. Tennessee St, Florence, AL 35630; or
- Bring in person.

All properly submitted Community Notes which are dated will be posted weekly at www.courierjournal.net. We do our best, however, there is no guarantee that this free information will be published each week in the paper. Visit our website for a complete list of community notes. If your item MUST appear in the paper a certain week, we suggest you also place a paid ad by calling 256-764-4268. That way it will be in at least one area of the paper. When your community note is published, your event will have coverage in two different locations.

United Way is looking for volunteers who can help answer our 2-1-1 line. Training will be provided for volunteers and you can help from the comfort of your own home! Please visit <https://www.uwnval.org/volunteer-opportunities> to submit your information!

PUBLIC NOTICE The Colbert County Conservation of Soil And Water will hold its monthly board meeting: Thursday, February 17 at 7am, at Two Fat Sister's Restaurant, 1606 US 72, Tusculmbia.

All are welcome to attend. Dutch Treat if you choose to eat breakfast. Any questions or comments, please call: Brooke Pate 256-383-4323 EXT# 3

Applications for Arts Alive 2022 - This year's festival takes place on May 21st and 22nd. You can read all the details about this year's event and apply at <https://www.zapplication.org/event-info.php?ID=10035>

The Bating Brigade Quilt Guild meets every 2nd Monday at 9:30am at Edgemont Methodist Church, 1330 Eauclaire Ave in Florence. Everyone interested in Quilting is welcome - from beginners to expert

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

Best-selling local author Shirley Noel Adkins will host two special book signings in the coming weeks for her book, "From the Cotton Field to Capital Hill" Friday, February 18 from noon-2pm at the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library and Monday, February 28, also from noon-2pm at the Muscle Shoals Public Library.

Books are available for purchase or bring your previously purchased book. Shirley looks forward to seeing you at her signings!

Join us for a hike through the North part of the Cane Creek Canyon Nature Preserve on Saturday, February 19 at 9am located a 251 Loop Road, Tusculmbia.

This hike is open to any women interested in joining! For distancing purposes, we only have a limited number of spots available. It will be approximately 4-5 miles in distance with elevation changes. We will be exploring the North Preserve and hiking to Karen's Falls. This is our second time to hike the North Preserve, so get ready for some exploring!

This is a donation-based hike, and you are encouraged to contribute however

much you feel comfortable with in order to reserve your spot. All donations will go back to the League of Outdoor Women for future programming.

Due to the pandemic, we are asking everyone to conduct an honest self-screening before arriving at Cane Creek. For more info: leagueofoutdoorwomen@gmail.com

"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, Tusculmbia on Saturday, February 19 at 2:30pm. The event will include tea refreshments and an optional tour of the historic home, which was built circa 1828.

Jennifer Stowe is founder of Mid-TN Tea Association. She is a nationally recognized professional speaker whose topics include all aspects of tea and tea etiquette, herbs and health.

Tickets are available in advance for

See NOTES... page 17



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Shorts...

Continued from Page 2

NASANA Gets Doris Day Nod

SHOALS—The Doris Day Animal Foundation has provided a grant to NASANA to support their work in preventing unwanted births through their spay and neuter assistance program.

"When we learned about NASANA and its work in reducing local euthanasia rates, we knew we wanted to help," said Dr. T. Robert Bashara, CEO of the Doris Day Animal Foundation. "DDAF funds other 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organizations helping animals and the people who love them. The volunteers at NASANA are doing good work, and we're proud to be able to support their excellent efforts."

"The grant will help us pay for spay/neuter surgeries for approximately 100 animals," said Pat Maguire, President of NASANA. "We heard for many years of the great work that Doris Day Animal Foundation does, and we knew that they would be a great organization to work with. We are so thankful that they believe in our mission and want to help."

(DDAF, www.DorisDayAnimalFoundation.org), a national non-profit organization founded by the legendary actress, singer and animal welfare advocate,

The Doris Day Animal Foundation was founded in 1978 with the mission to help animals and the people who love them.

NASANA is a 501(c)(3) organization that assists residents of Lauderdale, Colbert, and Franklin counties who receive either Food Stamps or Medicaid to have their animals spayed and neutered. Their mission is to help reduce the overpopulation of unwanted animals that keep the local shelters overcrowded or are left to fend for themselves and possibly die.

For more information, contact NASANA through their website, nasana.org, their Facebook page, www.Facebook/nasana or at 256-415-5499.

EMERGE LEADERSHIP SHOALS

Initiative for Leadership

SHOALS—The Shoals Chamber of Commerce announced that the application process for its newest leadership initiative, Leadership Shoals EMERGE, is now open.

Emerge is designed to develop tenacious young professionals in the Shoals who will continue to cultivate our entrepreneurship, business, and education-focused region. It is an extension of the Leadership Shoals program that targets the next generation of professionals.

This 10-month course will consist of monthly sessions where participants will learn about history, culture, politics, poverty, education, and economic development in the Shoals. Additionally, participants will build their interpersonal leadership and communication skills through the exposure they gain from their peers throughout this network.

The first Emerge class will feature 18-22 participants, all of whom will be sponsored by a member-business of the Shoals Chamber. This program is open to all 21-35 year old professionals in the Shoals.

Applications will be open until Monday, February 28.

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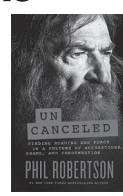
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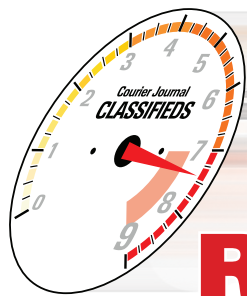
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Walton...

Continued from Page 1

and we expect another sellout crowd for 2022," said Lions Athletic Club vice president Dan Penny. Considered one of the best all-around post players in basketball history, Walton played collegiately for coach John Wooden and the UCLA Bruins, winning three consecutive national college player of the year awards (1972-1974), while leading UCLA to NCAA championships in 1972 and 1973. That run included an 88-game winning streak.



Walton

After being selected as the first overall pick in the 1974 NBA draft, Walton led the Portland Trail Blazers to an NBA championship in 1977, earning the NBA Finals Most Valuable Player Award that season. He was named 1978 NBA Most Valuable Player and later won another NBA title with the Boston Celtics in 1986. Walton was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 1993. He was named to the NBA's 50th and 75th anniversary teams.

Walton's professional career began to be significantly hampered by multiple foot injuries requiring numerous

surgeries. He sat out the 1978-79 season and was then signed by the San Diego Clippers, for whom he played four injury-plagued seasons.

His career was rehabilitated during two seasons with the Boston Celtics at the end of his career as a backup center behind Robert Parish. Walton earned the NBA Sixth Man of the Year Award in the 1985-86 season, winning his second championship that same season.

After retiring from the NBA, Walton embarked on a second career as a sportscaster, working both as a studio analyst and color commentator, mostly for ESPN, with stints for several other networks and teams. He earned an Emmy Award in 1991.

Walton is a noted fan of the Grateful Dead, as a self-described "Deadhead", and often mentions them in his broadcasts. He has hosted several podcasts and satellite radio programs featuring the music of the Grateful Dead.

To become a sponsor or purchase a table to the 2022 Lion Pride Dinner and Auction, contact Megan Dye at 256-765-4615 or email smlovelace@una.edu.



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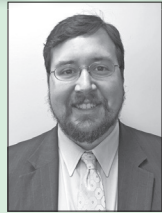
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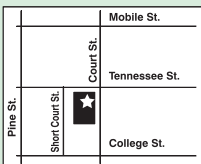
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Proceeds for Works in Haiti...

Continued from Page 1

Ott will discuss that remarkable Haitian story hidden for half a century during a special book signing and fundraiser for Liberte' Ministries at Pickett Place in Florence on Tuesday, February 22 at 6:30pm.

Saturday's real name was Kwanbe Ansong (born on Saturday, Seventh Born Child). In hopes of avoiding being given a slave nickname, he chose an easy term, Saturday, and it stuck.

"I started finding out about my history at an early age when my Aunt Nadine talked with me in South Carolina," Ott recalled. "From the time I was a boy, I would pick up bits and pieces."

The Haitian war of independence began in flames on August 22, 1791. On that night known as the "Night of Fire" over 100,000 slaves rose up against their hated French overlords, burning every plantation, and executing every French man, woman, and child they could find. Saturday dared save the lives of the master's two young white children, smuggled them to safety and fostered them over a period of 40 years.

Delivered through a series of letters, Ott accurately describes the history and social landscape of Saturday's time, telling the true version of his life, not just what plantation masters and their families wanted and even demanded hearing.

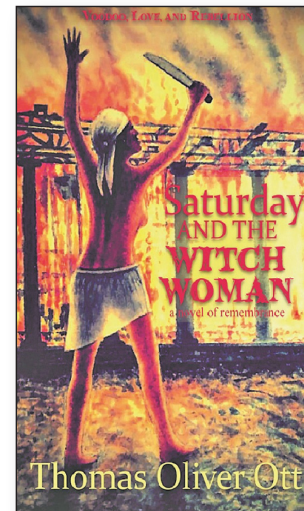
Despite being a slave, Saturday was not only literate, but was widely read and spoke seven languages. Two were African (Ewe and Yoruba). Two were Afro American (Haitian Creole and Lowcountry Gullah). And three were European (English, French, and Spanish).

Even as he unfolds his life's story, Saturday recognized the danger of releasing it during his lifetime, even to his "boys." Thus, it was not until Saturday's death in 1850 that Philip Chartrand, the older of the children, learned the true story of Saturday and the Witch Woman.

"I have written two books about Haiti, the first



Children at an Haitian Elementary School overseen by Liberte' Ministries



was about the revolution that was published in 1973."

Ott earned his Ph.D. in Caribbean History from the University of Tennessee long before that publication. The Haitian Revolution 1791-1804 still stands as one of the paramount books on that subject. Ott retired from the University of North Alabama in 2010 to write the story of Saturday and the Witch Women (Alicia Wahl)

"I inherited a lot of my mother's belongings when she passed away in 2003 including materials about Saturday and other relatives," Ott said.

Saturday was my grandmother Catherine's, personal attendant when she lived there.

About Liberte' Ministries

Liberte' Ministries (Liberty in French) began work in Haiti in 2010.

The ministry is overseen by the Petersville Church of Christ in Florence and a board of directors.

"We have a 4-year School of Biblical Studies, two elementary schools with 580 students, a vocational program for women, and an orphanage. Harry's Home orphanage provides a great environment for the children we serve and they are the recipients of any funds raised at this event, said Arvy Dupuy, one of the Liberte' volunteers here in Florence.

"We are a 501c3 in the US and have no paid staff here or leased offices. Everyone is a volunteer, meaning 100% of funds raised go directly to services in Haiti." Members of the local team visit Haiti several times a year to ensure that things are going as planned and the children are safe. We have a variety of Haitian staff that overlap to insure the safety, security, and well-being of the children we serve as well.

"Dr. Ott has graciously offered to pay for the books from his publisher, so that 100% of the proceeds from this event go to the children," Dupuy added.

For more information on the Ott book signing or the overall work of Liberte' Ministries, please email jay@liberteministries.org, visit the website at www.liberteministries.org, or mail to Liberte' Ministries c/o Arvy Dupuy 6870 County Road 200, Florence, AL 35633.

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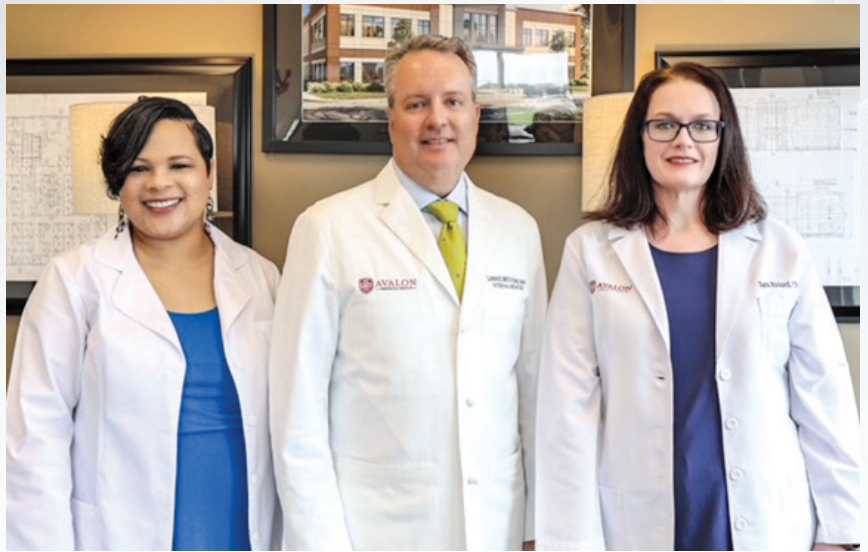
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Commentary

They Are Clowns with Inaccuracies

Fortunately, gone are the days when all the news content we received either on TV or radio was filtered by the big three networks before it reached the public. Decades ago the divide between perspectives was not nearly as wide and civil discourse was possible. Yet, those who would want to challenge a claim or present an alternative perspective had few resources at their disposal.

That is even more of a reason to be thankful for the internet and independent journalists who are not bound to the groupthink that is now so pervasive in traditional media circles. We now have the ability to search out information that is unfiltered by an ever-increasing progressive journalistic agenda and weigh-in to numerous platforms ourselves with relative ease.

Now we can also rely on independent journalists with resources who can check the Alphabet-filtered "facts" and automatic retorts of 'misinformation' against some truths that traditional media doesn't want to engage.

It has been the best avenue for balance since

See **INACCURATE CLOWNS...** on Page 24

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

In A Few Words



TOM MAGAZZU
Editor

Courier Journal

THIS WEEK

in the *Shoals*

February 16, 2022

Happening
THIS WEEK

Pottery is the Focus for February

FLORENCE—The Florence Indian Mound Museum is hosting a series of elementary-age programs where students can explore the early history of the Shoals through hands-on learning exercises. Programs cover a wide range of topics within Native American history. Each program includes a creative component with hands-on learning, and all events are free.

The program Saturday, February 19 at 10am will focus on Native American pottery and will explore Woodland and Mississippian period pottery forms. The program is on. Visit www.florencealmuseums.com/young-learners to sign up.

The Florence Indian Mound Museum is located at 1028 S. Court St. Call 256-760-6427 for more information.



Poitier
Movie Database

Poitier's Presence

Three Film Tribute to Legendary Actor Hosted by the Ritz

SHEFFIELD - The Ritz Theatre will honor the legacy of beloved film legend Sidney Poitier with a series of film screenings and discussions. The films – *Stir Crazy*, *In the Heat of the Night*, and *Raisin in the Sun* – will be shown February 17–19 at 7pm. Each event will also include an introduction or discussion by a local scholar or critic. Tickets are \$10 each and are available at tennesseevalleyarts.org or at the door.

This event will memorialize Poitier who died Jan. 6, 2022, and it will commemorate his February birthday and Black History Month.

See **POITIER...** on Pg 30

BEST-SELLING LOCAL AUTHOR, SHIRLEY NOEL ADKINS, will host two special book signings in the coming weeks for her book, *From the Cotton Field to Capitol Hill*. One is Friday, February 18 from noon-2pm at the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library and the other is Monday, February 28 from noon-2pm at the Muscle Shoals Public Library. Books are available for purchase or bring your previously purchased book. Shirley looks forward to seeing you at her signings!

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, Tusculumbia 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 aspects of tea and tea etiquette, herbs and health. Tickets are available in advance for \$15. Reservations are required. Purchase through Event Brite 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. Proceeds benefit operations at 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.

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YOUR Letters

Your Courier Journal welcomes tastefully presented typed or 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
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Fight for Freedom

Editor:

Recently several hospitals have been in the hot seat for denying transplants to those unvaccinated from Covid-19. Those are objections that must be taken seriously.

Until the CDC's definition of vaccine was modified last year, Covid-19 shots couldn't accurately be classified as vaccines.

Furthermore, side effects like myocarditis factor into peoples' decision.

For a hospital to refuse organ transplants solely on vaccination status is contemptible and just plain cruel.

If we remain silent, what other freedoms will we lose?

John Folkwein
Florence

I also doubt anyone wants to die because of a disease when that could possibly be avoided...



Back to the Parents

Dear Editor,

The letter from Dan Waterman in your February 2 issue (*Agenda Falls Far Short*) states misinformation as a means to back his point of view.

He stated that the GOP Legislative Caucus for 2022 includes "pay raises for government workers." Yet, he goes on in his letter to say that we Alabamians need to improve our schools. In fact, the GOP Legislative Caucus does not include pay raises for "government" workers, but for "teachers and public education staff

See **LETTERS...** on Page 18

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**You may bring a resume by Town Hall
 between 8am to 5pm Monday -Friday
 or email to lexingtonwater@bellsouth.net**

GENERAL LABOR

**Southern
 PLASTICS & INVENTORY CONTROL, LLC**
 Southern Plastics & Inventory Control, LLC is currently accepting applications for
**•General Laborers +
 •Plastic Welder**
 Starting pay is \$16/hr with benefits. Rate increase after 3 months of employment.

Print applications online at:
www.SouthernPIC.com or
 apply in person at:
**1830 Amos Drive
 Muscle Shoals, AL 35661**

**•Experienced Groomer
 •Kennel Technician**

Well established grooming salon looking for experienced groomer and kennel technician. Fun and fast-paced work atmosphere. If interested, call for interview at
 Les Mare Pet Salon
256-389-9004.
 Monday-Friday
 10AM - 2PM for calls.

Part time House Keeper/
 Dog Keeper
 care for multiple animals
 and perform various
 cleaning duties.
 Pay- \$14.00 per hour
NON SMOKING HOUSEHOLD
 St Florian area
 You must call to schedule
 an interview
 Please call between
 9:00am and 4:00pm
 256-764-3335
 Monday - Friday

**HOUSEKEEPING
 PART TIME**

Work every other weekend 5am-1pm

**ACTIVITIES
 PART TIME**

Lauderdale Christian Nursing Home

Apply in person • No phone calls

2019 County Road 394, Killen

Located in Greenhill off Hwy 43 N (turn by Fuel Co onto County Road 394)

Notes...

Continued from page 4

\$15. Reservations are required. You may purchase through Event Brite 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.

7th Annual Chili Cook-off - Warm up your taste buds for the 7th Annual Shoals Chili Festival at Singin' River Brewing Co! located at 526 E. College St., Florence on Saturday, February 19, 4-7pm. Your favorite local restaurants battling to cook the best chili in town while raising money for a charity of their choice!

Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$20 day-of. Ticket price includes samples from chili vendors while supplies last.

Memories with Alan Flowers and 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 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.

Singing River Squares meets each Monday night at The Club/Florence Senior Center, 450 Country Club Drive in Florence. Square Dance fees are \$21/mo. and are due on the first Monday of each month. Beginner Lessons will be announced 4 weeks before they begin so you can make plans to join us. Beginner lessons are progressive and it is important to try and attend each week. Families, singles, couples are invited. The Club is an alcohol, drug, tobacco, weapon free facility. Mask are optional. Caller Kevin Cozad, Centerville, AL. For more information, please call Fran at 256-760-6420.

Activities at The Club

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: 256-760-6420

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 Court Street - Suite 200, Florence, AL 35630.

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 Notes? Email your information to editor@CourierJournal.net.

See NOTES... page 26

MASONRY WORK: BRICK, BLOCK, fieldstone, all types. Excellent work. Call Mark, 256-394-2820

FRENCH PROVINCIAL TABLE & six chairs \$300 or swap for living room set. 843-605-5805 Athens

STORAGE AUCTION

Deaton Mini Storage, 101 Gann Blvd, Tuscumbia, AL 35674 will hold a public auction to enforce a lien imposed on said property, as described below, pursuant to the Alabama Self-Service Storage Facilities Act.

Management reserves the right to withdraw any unit from sale.

**Online auction from 2/16 until 2/23 at
<http://www.storageauctions.com>**

NAME	STORED ITEMS
Chiquita Owens	Furniture, misc items
Chad Murray	Washing machine, tent, misc items



Brazilian Waxing - \$60 | Spray Tans - \$30
Skin Tightening Medical Facials With Medical Equipment - \$75/Session

Full Eye Lash Extension Sets \$150
Cavi-Lipo - Removes stubborn fat • Improves circulation
 • Contours & firms body • Reduces cellulite appearance
\$125/1 Hour Session

Brazilian Butt Lift (BBL)
 • Non-invasive • Enhances shape • Tightens & tones • Lifts buttocks up to 70% - **\$180/Session**

1609 Lee St. | Rogersville | 256-667-1515

The Shadow of Death

Hebrews 2:15 "And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage." Saved folk will get most of what I say here, but lost folks may not. This phrase above is in KJV 20 times. In: **Psalms 23:4** "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me." A shadow is an unclear image of the real thing. Notice the psalmist saint had no fear of evil even through the valley of the shadow of death.

The Anesthesia yesterday kept me asleep and unaware of my surgery and its goings on around me. Kind of like what happens when a saved person leaves this world. My body was still alive so my soul and Spirit stayed with me, but had my body ceased, it would sleep, but my soul and Spirit would have gone on to be with the Lord. Notice: **John 11:11** "These things said he: and after that he saith unto them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep." **John 11:25-26** "Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live: And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?"

Notice Lazarus was raised from the dead. Physical passing for the saint is not death, but everlasting life. The transition is totally controlled by Almighty God for the saint. **1 Corinthians 15:55-57** "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." **Philippians 3:21** "Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself." Salvation delivers one from the fear of death. Has Christ delivered you?

Beacon Baptist Church

Bill Bishop, Pastor • Rogersville • 256-247-7733

1.2 miles north from red light on Hwy. 207 on left
 Sunday services at 10am and 11am and 6pm

Visitors welcome!

Letters...

Back to the Parents

Continued from Page 14

as well as a bill to provide a longevity bonus for education retirees." So, let's be specific and understand that the proposed raises are not for all government workers. Working in the schools is harder and more dangerous each year. We need to attract back our teachers who have left, and attract new, good

teachers. Our retirees have not had a Cost of Living raise since 2007. - I'll do the math for you; that's 15 years. Mr. Waterman calls Critical Race Theory a "pointless distraction" and claims the Caucus is not proposing any help for education, but he is absolutely wrong.

Mr. Waterman says the Caucus is only making it easy to carry concealed weapons. In fact, the Caucus is in favor of allowing Alabamians to carry firearms "without first having to pay a gun

tax in the form of permit fees." The difference this year is the creation of a database of people prohibited to possess a firearm. Personally, I would hope that database is as complete as possible with the names of all who should not carry weapons based on both their mental as well as felonious backgrounds.

Mr. Waterman does not quote his source when he claims that Birmingham is ranked 177th out of 182 cities in which to raise a family. I checked out *Niche's 2021 Best Cities*

to *Raise a Family* and they rate Birmingham (Jefferson County) very well. Wallethub did a study of 182 cities, so I'm thinking he used this site; but why didn't he quote his source? It may have something to do with this site's ranking Portland, Oregon as #26. With all the extensive violence and devastation due to rioting in that city, I find that ranking questionable, and, therefore, the other Wallethub rankings as well.

It seems that the only programs of worth to Mr. Waterman are government giveaways: "help the working poor stand taller," "improved medical services for expectant mothers and newborns," "removing sales taxes on groceries would help alleviate the oppressive burdens on the backs of the working poor and improve their lives."

I would love it if no one on this earth were poor. It would have been easier for me years ago not to have worked hard in school and not to have trained for a career in education that provided me with a modicum of security in my adult and retired life. It all goes back to parents, not the government: Train your children to work hard in school to be the best they can be, and then to get training to get a good paying job with benefits..

Jessie Ann Young
Florence

What Good Comes of It?

Editor:

The term, "CANCEL CULTURE" has been used frequently in the media in the past months. However it has not been very well explained as to what the objective or purpose this term has, or what it is expected to mean or accomplish.

As I understand it, "Cancel" means to 'cross out', 'to make void', 'render invalid', or 'to make opposites equal'.

"Culture" is defined in various ways; as in cultivating soil, plants, or animals, the products of growth, development, or improvement by education or training, enlightenment, or refinement resulting in the manner of living, and develops in various types of civilization from one generation to another. These backgrounds result in a culture and growth of this civilization.

Happiness can be found in every culture by people in every status of life. Those living in rented three story wooden tenements will still use clothes lines outside after washing laundry, those in trailer parks, or gated communities, and every culture in between.

Some cultures are based on the origin of families, and get along well mixing with other cultures. Each local culture does well within itself!

Some cultures are based on sports, occupation (farming or military), hunting or fishing, or belief system (Muslim, Jew, atheist, or Christian, etc.). All do well with their choice of cultural connection until "outside entities" begin to force unwanted changes. Placing pressures and rules which tend to limit freedom of choice in the culture desired.

Is this where the Cancel part of the phrase is going? To change, cross out (eliminate) as in concentration camps or worse? To say a person's business or occupation is non-essential, even though it is important to you, is "cancel culture"? There is no employment that is non-essential.

The attempt to make "opposites" equal has never worked, and has caused many wars. It cannot work, we have seen this over and over in socialist, communist countries, and kingdoms. Will the king work for the same wage as the baker, sales person, doctor, or farmer?

Meditate a while on this, what does Cancel Culture mean for us? And...what good can come of it?

Jake Van Dyke
Florence

See LETTERS...Page 34

LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF ALABAMA, COLBERT COUNTY

NOTICE OF ABANDONED AND UNCLAIMED MOTOR VEHICLES

Notice is hereby given that on **March 19, 2022 at 11:00 am**, the following motor vehicles will be sold at public auction for cash. The auction will be held at **Smitty's Wrecker Service, 212 Industrial Dr., Muscle Shoals, AL 35661**. Smitty's Wrecker Service will accept proof of ownership should anyone care to submit same, Monday through Friday between the hours of 9am and 5pm until the day of the sale. Vehicles may be viewed starting **March 17, 2022** between the hours of 9am and 5pm.

YR/MAKE/MODEL	VIN#	TAG#	COLOR	TOWED FROM LOC
2009 Pontiac G6	1G2ZG57B594157024	4787AH3	Silver	Milksprings Rd
Yamaha 4 WHEELER			Green	2nd St
2003 Chevrolet 1500 Pickup	1GTEK19T83Z158640	FGB327	Black	Almond & Parson
2000 Ford Mustang	1FAPP4047YF252746	N/A	Red	Montgomery & 3rd
2000 Yamaha Motorcycle	JYAVP11E5YA004788		Black	Florence Blvd
2005 Buick Rendezvous	3G5DA03E45S533501	41JG656	Gold	2nd & Helena Dr
2009 Yamaha Motorcycle	JYAVM01E59A130976		Black	Veterans & Commerce
1999 Ford E150 Van	1FTNE24LXXHA86288	41HF641	White	Gargis Lane
2010 Ford Fusion	3FAHP0HAGAR126608		Red	Allboro Rd
2006 Ford Taurus	1FAHP53UX6A178713		Green	Cox Creek & Mars Hill
1994 Cadillac DeVille	1G6KD52B9RU227592	JIM5852	Red	Longshore
1997 Jeep Cherokee	1J4FJ68S8VL510922		Green	LaGrange Rd
1992 Chevrolet Blazer	1GNNT13W4N2212983			Grimes Landscaping
2008 Pontiac G6	6G2ER57798L151397	20DL445	Gray	Helen Keller Hospital
1994 Toyota Pickup	JT4UD10D7R0002338	33CP659	White	Veterans & Iron Side
2004 Chevrolet Van	1GNDX03E94D144513	N/A	Gold	43 & Vandiver Hollow
1992 Dodge Dakota	1B7FL26X1NS640828	20CT569	Green	Straddard
2003 Ford Windstar	2FMZA51403BB97611	8494AZ8	Gray	804 Valley Crest Dr
1999 Acura TL	19UYA2259XL011982	41HA724	Black	North Jackson & Mcgee
2011 Toyota Camry	4T1BF3EK0BU154587	20DA350		Pine & Tennessee
2006 Pontiac Gr& Prix	2G2WP552461293951		Red	Woodward
1995 Chevrolet Astra	1GBDM19W8SB20336	41CY290		1900 Shade
2009 KIA Borrego	KNDJJ742X95018611	TWK268	Silver	Bluff & Veterans
2006 Mazda Tribute	4F2CZ04106KM00353		Blue	Ben Brocato Auto
1999 GMC Yukon	1GKEK13R0XR500086	952WGW	Bronze	Henderson Point Rd
2010 Chevrolet Impala	2G1WA5EK4A1140114		Gray	Florence Blvd
2003 Ford Windstar	2FMZA514X3BA98407		Gold	Cox Creek & Darby
2013 Ford Fusion	3FA6P0HR8DR 135022	8172AM4	White	B & L Transmissions
2014 Ford Fusion	3FA6P0HD5ER188041	41FS747	White	Plum/Terrece
2009 GMC Acadia	1GKER23D29J 120593	41GY604	White	Roxie Dr
2006 Chrysler PT Cruiser	3A8FY68B26T349001	41GZ975	Gray	Shell Florence Blvd
2018 KIA Optima	5XXGT4L37JG258745	TC9A85	Blue	Clemons Auto
2003 Jeep Cherokee	1J4GW58N43C501755	N/A	Blue	Brooks School
1999 Chrysler 300	2C3HE66G6X8H814435	20DD797	Gray	1810 John R
1991 Ford Explorer	1FMDU34X9MUD86085	41H6743	Black	229 Wakesmith Dr
2016 Audi A4	WAUA7HFF7G1050647	CGQ082	Silver	Chisholm Rd
1999 Nissan Maxima	JN1CA21D0XT813499	4505BH6	White	Perry & Lincoln
2003 Honda Accord	1HGCM725XA006750	20CW552	Black	Avalon Ave & Wilson Dam
2002 Pontiac Bonneville	1G2HX54K524212528	3407BH0	Maroon	Thomas Airport Rd
2005 Ford Escape	1FMYU03115DA13766	TSB8654	Blue	Vanderbilt & Baldwin
2006 Nissan Altima	1N4AL11D96N414009	8249H6	Silver	Sweetwater
2000 Honda Civic	1HGEJ8143YL078738	20DH859	Black	27 & 15TH ST
2000 Chevrolet Blazer	1GNCS13W3Y2113090	44LB812	Gold	County Rd 580
2007 Ford Edge	2FMDK39C77BA40459	20DM598	Red	Cox Creek & Huntsville Rd
2000 GMC Yukon	1GKEK13T5Y J159053		Gold	Huntsville Rd & Helton
2005 Cadillac CTS	1G6DC67A350112022	1401BH2	Black	962 CR 2
2003 Honda Accord	1HGES25753L037664	41DP939	Black	Chisholm Rd
1997 Dodge Stratus	1B3EJ46X2VN602814	20DC351	White	Veterans Park
2005 Dodge Durango	1D4HD48D05F544141	3AF4591	Silver	Ford & Michigan
2011 Nissan Maxima	1N4AA5AP7BC840620	41GT593	Black	501 W Brighton Ave
1992 Mercury Gr& Marquis	2MECM75W1NX704416	41CD578	Silver	6th & Harding
1996 Suzuki Motorcycle	JS1SK42A2T2101608	N/A	White	2nd & Detroit
2009 Kawasaki MULE			Green	Fairgrounds Rd
2007 Ford Taurus	1FAPP56UX7A131234	41CT235	Gray	Cloverdale Rd
2005 Honda Accord	1HGCM56715A037595	58D1M75	Green	Forest Hills School
2004 Mazda Tribute	4F2YZ94104KM05284		Silver	Chisholm & Pike
2006 Toyota Tundra Pickup	5TBDT44176S510993	46AF623	Black	Cox Creek

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT SENIORx

The NACOLG SENIORx Medication Assistance Program supplies free and low cost medications for anyone in Alabama with a disability or a chronic illness regardless of age that requires daily medication. Medicare recipients may also be eligible.

For more information contact NACOLG SENIORx today. There is no charge for this service.

1-800-AGELINE (1-800-243-5463)

Paula Pardue

256-389-0529

This program is in partnership with the State of Alabama and Alabama Department of Senior Services



FOODLAND
Marketplace



Home-Owned, Home-Operated

**Preferred Angus Beef
T-BONE STEAK
Family Pack**

\$7.99 Lb.

**Preferred Angus Beef
BONELESS
CHUCK ROAST**

\$4.99 Lb.

**Prairie Fresh
WHOLE BONELESS
PORK LOINS
Family Pack**

\$1.99 Lb.

**Sweet
STRAWBERRIES**
1 Lb. Pk.

\$2.79

**Sweet Red Or White
SEEDLESS GRAPES**
Lb.

\$1.99

**U.S. #1 Russet
POTATOES**
5 Lbs.

2/\$5

**Slicing
TOMATOES**
Lb.

\$1.29

**Fresh
ASPARAGUS**
Lb.

\$2.49

**Washington State Red
Delicious, Granny Smith
Or Braeburn APPLES** Lb.

\$1.39

**Cara Cara Navel
ORANGES**
3 Lbs.

\$5.99

BLUEBERRIES
Pkg.

\$3.99

**Choice
EYE OF
ROUND ROAST**

\$4.99 Lb.

**Prairie Fresh
BONELESS
PORK CHOPS
Family Pack**

\$2.99 Lb.

**for
Dinner**

**Old El Paso
DINNER KITS**
9-12 Oz.

2/\$5

**Old El Paso
TACO SAUCE**
9 Oz.

2/\$5

**Old El Paso
TACO
SHELLS**
4-7.4 Oz.

2/\$3

**Old El Paso
SEASONING
MIX**
6 Oz.

2/\$5

**Niagara
WATER**
24 Pk.
1/2 Liters

2/\$6

**PictSweet PAN
Select Varieties
Roasted & Grilling
VEGETABLES**
11-20 Oz.

2/\$6

**Food Club
Granulated
SUGAR**
4 Lbs.

2/\$5

**RAGU
PASTA SAUCE**
24 Oz.

2/\$4

**Borden
CHEESE Shredded,
Sliced Or Chunk**
8 Oz. Or 12 Oz. Singles

4/\$9

**Swave
BATH TISSUE**
12 Rolls

\$4.99



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AD GOOD FEB. 16-22, 2022

Quaker OATS
42 Oz.



2/\$7

Food Club K-CUP COFFEE
12 Ct.



2/\$6

Coffeemate CREAMER
16 Oz. **2/\$6**

CHEETOS OR FRITOS
7-9 Oz.



2/\$7

Ruffles POTATO CHIPS
7-9 Oz.



2/\$6

Pearl Milling Company SYRUP
24 Oz.



2/\$6

Pearl Milling Company PANCAKE MIX
2 Lbs.



2/\$5

Quaker CHEWY GRANOLA BARS
6-8 Ct. **2/\$6**

Golden Flake POTATO CHIPS
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10-15 Oz.



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24 Oz.



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Jiffy MUFFIN MIX
8-8.5 Oz. **69¢**

Blue Bell ICE CREAM
Pints



5/\$10

Dr. Pepper, Sprite, Mello Yello Or COCA-COLA
6 Pk. 1/2 Liters



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Food Club APPLE JUICE
64 Oz.



2/\$4

Food Club BEANS OR PEAS
15 Oz.



59¢

BODY ARMOUR
16 Oz. **2/\$3**

Dr. Pepper, Sprite, Mello Yello Or COCA-COLA
12 Pk. 12 Oz.



\$5.49

Dasani PURIFIED WATER
24Pk. 1/2 Liters



\$5.99

DAIRY & FROZEN

Food Club CHEESE SINGLES 8 oz. 2/\$5	Marie Calendar's CREAM PIES 32-40 Oz. \$5.99
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Blue Bonnet MARGARINE 1 Lb. 99¢	Food Club WAFFLES OR PANCAKES 10 Ct. 2/\$4
Daisy COTTAGE CHEESE 16 Oz. 2/\$5	Marie Calendar's BOWLS 11 Oz. 2/\$5

M-E-A-T

Johnsonville Assorted BRATS 12-14 Oz. 2/\$7	Oscar Mayer BACON Regular Or Thick 1 Lb. \$7.99
Zeigler JUMBOS 16 Oz. \$2.69	Field Quality SLICED CHEESE 3 Lbs. \$9.99
Zeigler Original SMOKED SAUSAGE 16 Oz. \$4.99	Zeigler Garlic CHUB BOLOGNA 16 Oz. \$3.49
Smithfield Orig. SAUSAGE LINKS OR PATTIES 12 Oz. \$3.29	Claussen ASSORTED PICKLES 20-32 Oz. 2/\$7

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Miller Lite Or Coors Light BEER 24 Pk. Cans Or Bottles \$22.99	Miller High Life BEER 12 Pk. Cans Or Bottles \$9.99
Bud Light NEXT BEER 12 Pk. Cans \$14.99	Stella Rosa WINE 750 ML \$11.99

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Panera At Home SOUPS 16 Oz. \$3.99	Mrs. Stratton's Party POTATO SALAD 3 Lbs. \$5.79
Ma's YEAST ROLLS 12 Ct. \$5.99	FRIED CHICKEN 2 Legs, 2 Thighs, 2 Wings & 2 Breasts 8 Pk. \$5.99

Not Available At All Locations!

AD GOOD FEB. 16-22, 2022



Prices Good At These Locations ONLY!

KILLEN 1161 Hwy. 72 • 7am-11pm • 256-757-2002
FLORENCE 1708 Darby Dr. • 7am-10pm • 256-767-2227
MUSCLE SHOALS 3001 Woodward. • 7am-11pm • 256-381-7277
 3413 Woodward Ave. • 7am-11pm • 256-978-6093
SHEFFIELD Foodland Plus • 106 Towne Plaza • 7am-10pm • 256-381-6552

TUSCUMBIA 103 West 1st Street • 7am-11pm • 256-383-9425
FORD CITY FOODLAND River Road • 7am-10pm • 256-446-5842
ELGIN CROSSROADS ELGIN Forest Plaza • 7am-11pm • 256-247-1958
ROGERSVILLE Rogersville Shopping Ctr. • 7am-11pm • 256-247-1805

Medicare Minute

“Medicare Part B”

Before we begin talking about Medicare Part B I would like to clear up something that was in last week's article concerning Medicare Part A. As I stated in the article Part A has a deductible of \$1,556 per benefit period. I also stated that if you paid into Medicare for 40 quarters that Part A was free to you. I was referring to the fact that you would not have to pay a premium to Medicare for Part A, not that it would exclude you from paying the deductible.

Medicare Part B is the part of Medicare that is billed when you receive services as an outpatient by a Medicare approved provider, such as your primary care physician (PCP) or specialist. Although a visit to your doctor is the primary way that you will use Medicare Part B, it also covers many other services. We will discuss the other services in next week's article.

If you are turning 65 in 2022, Medicare Part B will have a premium of \$170.10/mo. Because there is a premium attached to Medicare Part B this coverage is optional. This means you are not required to enroll in Medicare Part B. There are two important things to remember about Part B being optional. First, if you opt out of Part B you will have no coverage under Medicare for your outpatient services. Second, if you decide at a later date to enroll in Part B there can be a late enrollment penalty applied that will last as long as you live and have Part B. There are exceptions to the late enrollment penalty that we will discuss in future articles.

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



Ikey Fowler
885 Florence Blvd. • 256-648-5710
(Four Lane Shopping Center)



LAWN SERVICE: GRASS CUTTING, Leaf Removal & Spring Clean-up, flexible payment. Call Greg, 256-412-8772.

I BUY JUNK AND Repairable Vehicles, Call Michael 256-702-8400

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

ROOFING - LEAKS REPAIRED, chimneys flashed, valley repair. All work guaranteed. Free estimates. 256-383-3218

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

MASONRY WORK: BRICK, BLOCK, fieldstone, all types. Excellent work. Call Mark, 256-394-2820

CADOODLE PUPPIES Collie/Standard Poodle (2 wks. old) \$500. Taking Deposits 256-668-3335

AUTO & TRUCK HEADLINERS INSTALLED. Most colors in stock. BMW's and Jaguars welcome. Remote Service Available. 256-483-2923. Cloverdale, AL.

GUNSMITHING Cerakote, Refurbishing, Trigger Work, etc.



Shotglass Guns Inc. Just off Cloverdale Rd., Behind Bama Pools 256-349-5051

HAVE YOU SEEN KIDSVILLE News! Yet? It's the Shoals' fun, family newspaper for parents, teachers and kids K-6th grade and IT'S FREE! Kidsville News! is delivered in the classrooms. Copies may also be obtained at any local library, several area merchants that cater to kids and the Courier Journal business office, 219 W. Tennessee St., Florence.



AVALON
— MEDICAL GROUP —

2410 E. Avalon Ave
Muscle Shoals

www.avalonmedicalshoals.com

256-386-0808



Don Heinkel, M.D.
Heather Fritts, CRNP and a team of caring professionals

Family Practice

Luke 10:27

Welcoming new patients for primary care.

Office Hours

Monday–Thursday 8am–5pm • Fridays 8am–Noon

Turning 65?
Time for MEDICARE?

Next Class @ Chamber of Commerce:

Thursday, Feb. 17th
11 am–Noon

Educate before Enrolling

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A CLOSE FRIEND OF MINE, "SALLY," was recently enjoying a quiet Saturday morning when her phone rang. The caller ID read, "Lauderdale County Sheriff's Dept." The deputy informed Sally that there was a warrant for her arrest for missing jury duty. They knew her address, what kind of car she drove, and other details that "proved" to Sally that these people were legitimate. They informed her that, due to court system covid restrictions, she had to make a \$900 dollar cash payment immediately or they would



Jim Fisher

A CLOSE CALL WITH THE LAW

by "The Computer Skeptic"

throw her in jail. She was given the address of a local convenience store where she was to meet the deputy for the exchange. She was commanded to not tell anyone about this or she would be thrown in jail.

Okay, I know some of you are saying, "How could anyone possibly fall for that?" But these people are good. Once they get a good hook into the "fear" section of your brain, rational thought takes a back seat and scammers can play you like a puppet.

Her husband, also a close friend of mine, was just

starting his first cup of coffee when he heard his wife, clearly in distress, talking on the phone with the deputy. She made an urgent "zip your mouth" motion to him as she was gathering up her keys and purse. She very briefly explained to him that she had to transfer some money or she was going to be arrested. Before my friend could even take a sip of coffee, she was running out the door. He tried to stop her to ask what the heck was going on but it was too late: She had already taken the bait and left her husband standing in his underwear in

the driveway. Her husband tried calling to let her know it was a scam to no avail.

Sally retrieved \$900 from the ATM and proceeded to a shabby convenience store in Seven Points, Florence. She pulled into the parking lot and that's when the terror thankfully released her and rationality took over again. Sally relayed to me that it was at this point that "This is a scam" entered her mind. She sat there for a moment mulling over the consequences of simply driving off and finally did just that - drove off.

I suspect the scammer would have met her, introduced himself, taken her \$900 cash, and promised that the warrant would be removed from her record.

However, the scammer very well could have actually "arrested" her and Very Bad Things could have happened.

In case you don't know, caller ID can be faked. The sheriff or police will never phone you to request money in exchange for un-filing an arrest warrant; they will simply show up at your home or office, unannounced, and arrest you. So if you receive a call like this, call the police and let them handle it.

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

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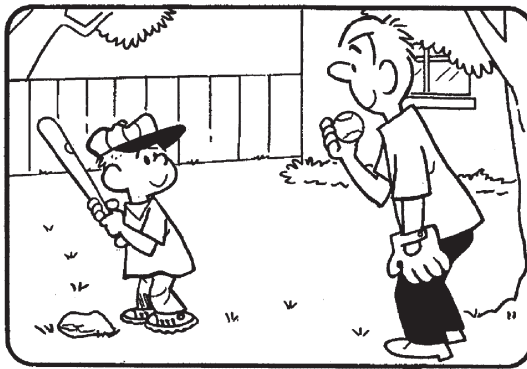
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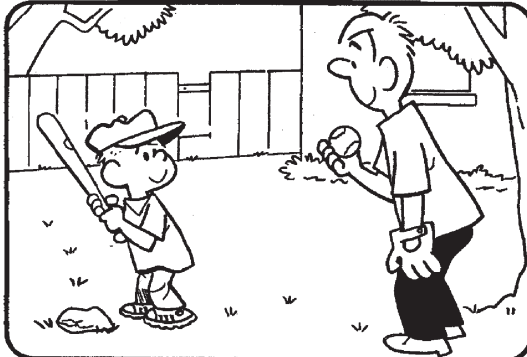
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Cap is different. 2. Shirt is slimmer. 3. Fence board is missing. 4. Arm is lowered. 5. Pans are missing. 6. Glove is different.

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 The Colbert County Conservation of Soil And Water will hold its monthly board meeting
Thursday, February 17 at 7am
 at **Two Fat Sister's Restaurant**
 1606 US 72, Tuscumbia
 All are welcome to attend.
 Dutch Treat if you choose to eat breakfast.
 Any questions or comments, please call:
Brooke Pate 256-383-4323 EXT# 3

RETIREMENT NOTICE
Danny J Martin, M.D.
 announces his retirement from
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Logos

The recent coverage about Florence's new logo certainly has been widespread. Social media, news coverage, city council meetings, and phone calls have been used to voice various opinions about the new logo. One thing's for sure: the interest about logos provides an opportunity for me to tell you about another logo. The one belonging to Affinity Hospice.

Affinity Hospice's logo is the DRAGONFLY. The dragonfly represents transformation. A terminal illness *refines* our character. It *defines* our outlook on life. It allows us to *shine* during the most challenging time of life. The dragonfly—transformed from a water bug, can never return to being a water bug. Likewise, it is our aim to change out of our old body with its sicknesses into a new body fashioned by the Lord (Philippians 3:20-21).

Do you have a loved one needing hospice care? Look no further. Remember the dragonfly. The logo of Affinity Hospice.
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Commentary

Inaccurate Clowns...

Continued from Page 14

“America’s Truth Detector” was on the radio in his prime.

But suddenly we are finding limits on our first amendment rights.

Now we must worry about the growing filter of left-friendly tech companies choking off that open channel of communication and idea exchange with arbitrary reasoning.

Instead of real information seeing the light of day, anything that goes against the prevailing medical, social, political, or law enforcement narrative, it is automatically considered rumor, ill-gotten, unfounded, or conspiracy laden. All because it apparently was not filtered appropriately or given the proper cloak of progressive perspective early on.

Don't we just love the 24/7 American clown shows we know as mainstream media news?

Copycat themes and terms have been shared for decades in leftist circles where original thought is often in short supply. If a specific term or phrase surfaces, you can count on it being repeated dozens if not hundreds of times within a few news cycles.

I'll never forget what the most humorous example may be. As the media was fawning all over global warming's leading man, Al Gore, during the 2000 presidential campaign, they were convinced his charm, looks, platform, personality, and his "gravitas" would easily out distance George Bush in November. Once it surfaced, almost every

reference to Gore included the descriptive, gravitas. It was the amateur hour of lazy journalism.

Jeff Zucker's sudden exit as CNN's President along with his more-than-friendly colleague opened the door for yet more details on how high New York governor Andrew Cuomo's connections were within the company. That continues the negative PR onslaught brought on by brother, Chris, producers who justified pedophilia, the public genitalia-grabbing lawsuit against Don Lemon, and more. CNN is little more than a TV gossip tabloid a notch below *Inside Edition*. To think how we ever trusted them for factual information is mind-numbing.

News organizations parading video journalists live discussing peaceful protests in the summer of 2020 with fires burning, cars overturned, assaults, and people hurriedly fleeing retail locations with arm loads of goods in the background don't exactly inspire public confidence in accuracy.

But they know a Pearl Harbor, 9-11 type national disaster when they allocate hours and hours to the one-year observance of January 6. All that January 6 nonsense deserves a clown rating of 5. And we are here to award it.

There is still a lot we have not covered-- from this past week alone. The pace of ignorance and stupidity in 2021 is just too much to keep up with. But, don't worry, we'll be awarding dozens of fertilizer bags and clown ratings to worthy recipients in the weeks and months ahead.



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RED LINE YOUR AD SO EVERYONE CAN SEE IT! See page 8.

SIGNS OF THE PAST

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BURRELL HIGH SCHOOL
BURRELL-SLATER HIGH SCHOOL
1903-1969**

This school, named for Burrell Academy, formerly in Selma, Alabama, was given to Florence by the American Missionary Association. In 1903, Burrell Normal School opened and served African-American students in grades 1-12. In 1937, the Florence City Board of Education assumed its operation and changed the name to Burrell High School. In 1951, it was moved to the Slater Elementary School building on South Court Street and its name was changed to Burrell-Slater High School. That building burned in 1958. In 1960, the present building opened on this site and served students until it closed because of integration in 1969.

*Location: 34.7961°N, 87.6829°W
corner N. Cherokee & W. College Sts, Florence*

Burrell served the African-American community from 1903 till 1969. First it was an elementary school for the training of teachers, hence the name NORMAL School. Then it became a High School in 1937 until desegregation in 1969. Today it serves as the Burrell-Slater Community Education Center and also houses memorabilia for Florence schools.

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

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Notes...

Continued from page 17

"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., Sheffield. The event is 7-9pm and is free.

The Help Center in Florence will be open on the 3rd Saturday of each month on a permanent basis. The volunteers felt they 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 Friday.

Landscaping Pruning Class is Tuesday, February 22, 9-11:30am at the Colbert County Courthouse, 201 N. Main St., Tuscumbia. Pre-registration through Colbert County Extension Office by February 18 at 256-386-8571. Free workshop, bring pruners.

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 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. Pickett Place is located at 438 North Seminary St. in Florence.

Authors Bill and Laura Bagents will be discussing and signing their book, "Corrupt Communication: Myths That Target Church Leaders" on Tuesday, February 22, from 6:30 - 8pm in the Overton Memorial Library on the campus of Heritage Christian University, 3625 Helton Drive, Florence. All are invited to attend.

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 St., Florence.

Florence Camerata will resume rehearsals on Thursday, February 24 at 6pm in the choral room at UNA. Preparations will begin for our Spring Concert, themed "An Evening at the Theatre," which is scheduled for Thursday evening, April 21. New singers are encouraged to join us!

For more information please contact Gail at ggjohn@yahoo.com.

Free Baseball Clinic Sponsored By Colbert Heights Dixie Youth on Saturday, February 26, 9am-12pm at Colbert Heights Elementary School, 1551 Sunset Dr., Tuscumbia.

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.

Little Golden Books Storytelling - Join Jessica Hill to learn more about the history of Little Golden Books at 5:30pm on Monday, February 28 at the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library, 350 N. Wood Ave.

See NOTES... page 38

Spring, the time for new beginnings (and new season premieres).

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Soap Opera Preview

THE BOLD AND THE BEAUTIFUL Taylor confronted Brooke while at the same time Steffy confronted Hope about Brooke's betrayal. Deacon fueled Ridge's rage as the two engaged in a fight of epic proportions. Sheila gloated about Brooke's infidelity, giving Taylor her full support. As she strived to calm the situation, Ridge reached his breaking point with Brooke. Hope and Liam attempted to comfort a distraught Brooke. Steffy begged her father to end things with Brooke once and for all. Deacon told an ecstatic Sheila all about how Brooke defended him in his brawl with Ridge.

Wait to See: Thomas thwarts Brooke's efforts to contact Ridge. Ridge is grateful to Taylor for her unwavering love and support. Brooke faces off with Thomas.

DAYS OF OUR LIVES "Days" will return with new episodes on Feb. 21, after the conclusion of NBC's coverage of the Winter Olympics.

GENERAL HOSPITAL Terry's date didn't go as expected. TJ made a romantic gesture toward Molly. Ava and Nikolas celebrated Valentine's Day. Felix made a firm decision after hearing the latest from Carly. Spencer got a surprise. Carly explored her options. Nina sought out Britt to ask her a question. Michael and Willow grew very impatient. Austin threatened Victor. Brook Lynn and Chase helped each other through a painful moment. Nina crossed paths unexpectedly with Willow at General Hospital. Portia and Curtis made up for their canceled Valentine's plans. Joss was worried about Carly. Sonny ran into Michael. Finn was concerned about Liz. Brando tracked down Sasha at the Metro Court. Austin and Obrecht enacted their plan while Sam and Drew met on the pier. Laura, Felicia and Anna gathered at General Hospital. Maxie recovered from a nightmare. An unseasonable heat wave hit Port Charles. Laura visited Spencer at Spring Ridge. *Wait to See:* Victor interrupts Ava and Nikolas. Sam seeks out Austin and Obrecht. Britt overhears something and can't help but intervene.

THE YOUNG AND THE RESTLESS Adam

and Sally mixed business with pleasure. Sharon and Rey played Cupid. Mariah and Tessa found time for romance. Amanda received an intriguing invitation. Billy struggled with his new role. Abby discovered that Chance was keeping secrets. Victor recruited Adam to gather intel about Ashland. Nick

worried about Nikki. Victoria played hardball. Jack received a puzzling message. Lauren made a risky decision. Phyllis arrived home to a mystery. *Wait to See:* Michael shares damaging information with Victor. Nate and Elena discuss their future. Adam and Sally define their relationship.

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Ephesians 4:15

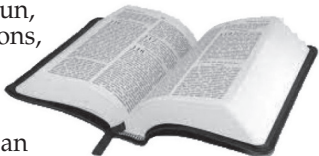
In Love

In a world of atheism, agnosticism and skepticism, in religious discussions, the question is often posed,

Why Believe In God?

Is there sufficient evidence to convince one to know there is a sovereign power, a Creator of all things? So-called scientists in years past have boldly declared "There is no God!" or "God is dead!" So, let's plunge into the subject and explore the evidence.

First, the UNIVERSE declares a Supreme Creator. The precision of movement in the earth, planets, moon and stars require a Designer. The earth's 23.5° tilt, position in relation to the sun, rotation of planets and moons, etc. - dare we even think that the solar system just happened? A rational human would never think an explosion in a junk yard would produce a functional automobile!



Second, the HUMAN BODY is proof that a Creator is the only sensible explanation for our existence. An average human heart beats over 100,000 times a day pumping about five quarts of blood throughout the body every minute. Lungs inhale and exhale 22,000 times a day. The ten major systems of the human body amazingly operate simultaneously with each other. Please explain how this marvelous human body could have possibly evolved over millions or billions of years of time? How could the multiple body systems have existed as they supposedly evolved over the years? How could a male and a female have evolved at precisely the same time? Is that not a foolish thought?

Third, the EARTH and the ELEMENTS prove a young creation (not an age of millions or billions of years). Certain essential elements are being used up at a certain rate. If the earth were billions of years old, these elements would no longer exist.

Many scientists, who in times past stood opposed to a belief in Jehovah God, are now embracing the existence of Almighty God, in view of the evidence. Friend, please accept the evidence (Acts 17:24-28). Acknowledge the Sovereign Creator of all things.

Friends, we are thrilled to examine the Scriptures with you. We would be honored to study with you further on these serious eternity-determining matters.



Elders of the Cedar Grove church (Newell Graham, Richard McLemore, Randy Baker, Paul Sain)

Questions, comments, or criticisms are welcomed. Responses may be sent to:

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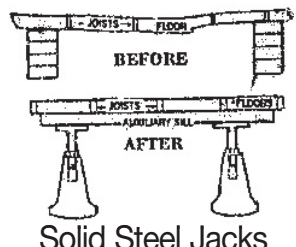
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Poitier...

Continued from Page 14

According to Lee Murkey, a local film critic who will introduce one of the movies at The Ritz, Poitier's importance to film and to African American history cannot be overstated.

"Sidney Poitier's talent was immeasurably great. However, it was the marriage of this talent and his love, care, and support of the civil rights movement that makes him an indispensable figure in both the realm of cinema and African American culture," said Murkey.

The first film in the series, *Stir Crazy*, will be shown on Thursday, February 17. This film stars comedy legends Richard

Pryor and Gene Wilder and represents Poitier's career as a director of comedy films. Arts and culture critic Vicki Basley Goldston will introduce the film.

In the Heat of the Night will be the second film on Friday, February 18. The film stars Poitier and Rod Steiger and tells the story of a Black detective from Philadelphia who helps with a murder investigation in small-town Mississippi. Film critic Lee Murkey will provide an introduction and lead a Q&A, exploring the history of Black policing in cinema.

The final film in the series will be *Raisin in the Sun* on Saturday, February 19. In the film, Poitier reprises the role he originated in

the Broadway production of the play by Lorraine Hansberry.

There will be an introduction and Q&A by Dr. Karla Zelaya, Assistant Professor of English at the University of North Alabama. She will discuss both Hansberry's play and how the performance fits into Poitier's career.

"Poitier carried with him a distinct dignity, a luminescent glow that was far too bright to be dimmed by the limitations imposed by the era in which he worked," said Murkey.

To learn more about the Tennessee Valley Art Association, which runs the Tennessee Valley Museum of Art and the Ritz Theatre, visit tennesseevalleyarts.org or call 256-383-0533.

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Junior Whirl

by Hal Kaufman



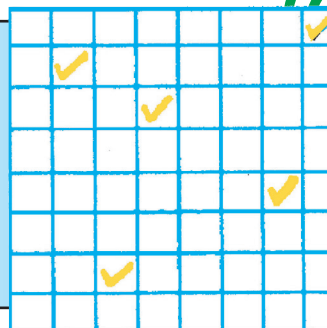
MODEL POSE! Which canvas bears the closest likeness to the model posed above? Check carefully before you decide.



PRODUCT LINE! Fire up your calculator. Pick a number from 1 to 100. Multiply by 11. Multiply this result by 9091. Alakazam, selected number appears before and after in final product.

CHECK MATES! You are asked to supplement five checks in the diagram at right with three more so that there will be one and only one check in each row across, down and in assorted diagonals.

Remember there are to be eight checks in all; no two in any row, including diagonals.
How quickly can you comply?
Time limit: Two minutes.



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PEN in hand, looking for answers? No holds are barred in correspondence below.

DEAR HAL: What would a chat with a butcher be like?
Dear Pal: Mostly chop talk.

DEAR HAL: I'm catering a dinner for nuclear scientists. What should I serve?
Dear Pal: How about fission chips.

DEAR HAL: What will mounting a horse from the wrong side do?
Dear Pal: It'll stirrup trouble.

DEAR HAL: Pains from my hip to my big toe are killing me. What should I do?
Dear Pal: Draw up a will to set your legatees.

Answers On Page 38

Athletic *by Eli Cranor* SUPPORT

“Pickup games causing trouble in neighborhood”



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Dear Athletic Support: A bunch of my son's friends live in our neighborhood. They're all in middle school.

They play all the sports. Our house is centrally located with a big lot in the back, and an extra-wide driveway. So, yeah, all these boys are over at our house all the time. I love it. I love that I get to watch my son interact with his friends. I like knowing right where he is and what he's doing. Mostly these boys just play sports. Football and baseball in the big lot, basketball in the driveway. There is one downside to all this, though. My wife and I are the only parents there to watch them. The boys play nice most of the time, except when they're playing football. One boy always ends up tackling all the others. He's a big kid. Rough too. I'm never really sure what to say to him. I mean, I'm not his parent, but it is my house. How in the world am I supposed to discipline somebody else's kid, or should I even discipline him at all?

— The Cool House

Dear Cool House: The last thing you want is for one of the kids to get hurt on your watch. If you let this big kid keep playing rough, that's what will happen.

The first thing you need to do is try talking to the big boy in private. Pull him aside before the other boys notice. Nobody likes being called out in front of their peers, middle school boys hate it even more.

When you talk to him, be clear about what you expect. Tell



him the rules of your house. Also, warn him what will happen if he breaks those rules. You would be well within your rights as a parent to keep this boy from coming to your house if he continues playing too rough.

There's a good chance his parents will call after your talk. Nobody likes it when their kid gets parented by another parent. So, this conversation might set off all sorts of alarms for the big boy's parents. Tell them you have to take the other kid's safety into consideration. Tell them how you gave him the private warning and told him explicitly what the consequences would be.

If the parents still don't like it — or the big boy keeps showing up — you have every right to notify the proper authorities. In the end, it's your house and you should do what you can to protect it.

Eli Cranor is a former professional quarterback and coach turned award-winning author. His debut novel, "Don't Know Tough," is available for pre-order wherever books are sold. Send questions for "Athletic Support" to eli.cranor@gmail.com

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Courier Journal

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Last week's winner is **Juan Gonzales of Muscle Shoals** who correctly guessed "Webster Elementary in Muscle Shoals"

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Quips & Quotes

FROM THE 'NET

Funnies, facts, photos, rumors, somber and thought-provoking info. (some factual, some not) from emails, forwards and websites.



On the 8th day - God created Seniors

Most seniors never get enough exercise.

In His wisdom God decreed that seniors become forgetful so they would have to search for their glasses, keys, and other things, thus doing more walking. And God looked down and saw that it was good.

Then God saw there was another need. In His wisdom He made seniors lose coordination so they would drop things, requiring them to bend, reach, and stretch. And God looked down and saw that it was good.

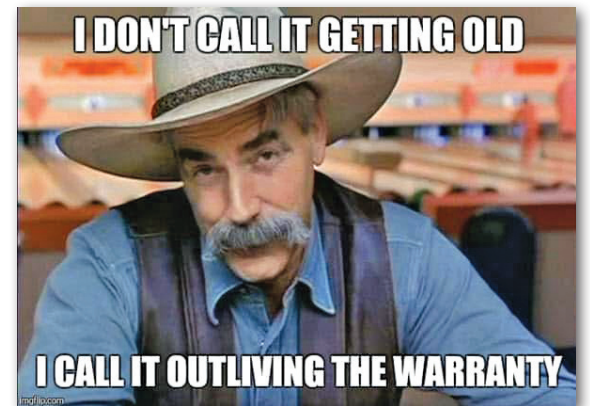
Then God considered the function of bladders and decided seniors would have additional calls of nature, requiring more trips to the bathroom, thus providing more exercise. God looked down and saw that it was good.

So, if you find, as you age, you are getting up and down more, remember it's God's will. It is all in your best interest even though you mutter under your breath.

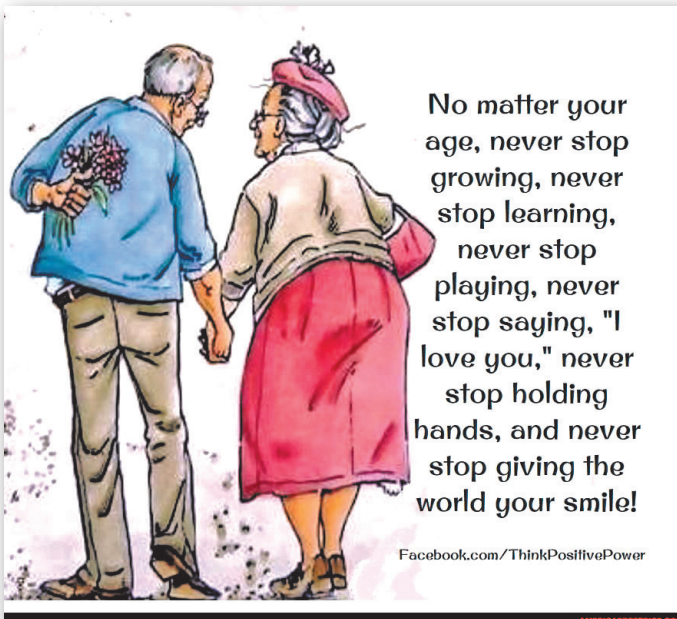


Betty White
 1922-2021

"You know you're getting old when you stoop to tie your shoelaces and wonder what else you could do while you're down there." -- George Burns



**Growing old is hard work...
 The mind says "yes" but, the body says "what the hell are you thinking?"**



Nine Important Facts to Remember as We Grow Older:

1. Death is the number 1 killer in the world.
2. Life is sexually transmitted.
3. Good health is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.
4. Men have two motivations: hunger and hanky-panky, and they can't tell them apart. If you see a gleam in his eyes, make him a sandwich.
5. Give a person a fish and you feed them for a day. Teach a person to use the Internet and they won't bother you for weeks, months, maybe years.
6. Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, lying in the hospital, dying of nothing.
7. All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.
8. In the 60's, people took LSD to make the world weird. Now the world is weird, and people take Prozac to make it normal.
9. Life is like a jar of jalapeno peppers. What you do today may be a burning issue tomorrow.

United Way Dinner...

Continued from Page 1

It is the United Way's hope that those who have continued to support the organization will be able to join them for a relaxing evening to thank supporters.

"We have scheduled and rescheduled events repeatedly over the last two years", said Board President, Terry Wicker. "We are elated to finally feel comfortable enough to invite people to come together. The board and staff of United Way of Northwest Alabama do not want to postpone thanking those who make what we do possible any longer."

Individuals and company representatives attending the event may contribute to this year's \$1.1 million campaign.

The United Way's campaign leadership chairman, Steve Hargrove, will speak at the event. Donor awards will be given to top campaign contributors. Board members and United Way affiliates will also

match new or increased donations made that night.

Executive Director, Jennifer McNulty added, "For the last two years, I've been saying that I cannot wait to meet people and I finally feel that I'm getting the opportunity. Between moving into our own building and this event, I'm excited to finally have the chance to thank our supporters in person. We are planning a low stress event to allow time for chatting, and I can't wait!"

Last year's campaign finished just under its \$1 million goal. "Hopefully, with the match and this event, we can move closer to our goal." McNulty said.

Tickets to the dinner are available on United Way of Northwest Alabama's website at uwnwal.org, or by calling 256-764-5892. That is also the number to call if your workplace has interest in the popular payroll deduction program.



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2G1WT58K969123808	2006 CHEVROLET IMPALA	BEIGE	2FAFP74W63X217495	2003 FORD CROWN VIC	GOLD
3GNFL3EK9DS508955	2013 CHEVROLET CAPTIVA	SILVER	2FALP71W3VX206349	1997 FORD CROWN VIC	WHITE
1GTBS14E7G2504767	1986 CHEVY S10	BLUE	3FAFP11332R202408	2002 FORD ESCORT	BLACK
3A8FY48B48T190893	2008 CHRYSLER PT CRUISER	RED	3FAHP08117R244445	2007 FORD FUSION	BLACK
1B3ES26C74D588332	2004 DODGE NEON	BLACK	3FAHP08Z18R261494	2008 FORD FUSION	BEIGE
1B3LC46J68N143997	2008 DODGE AVENGER	GRAY	1KGKC26JXTJ739932	1996 GMC SUBURBAN	GREEN
1B3HB28B57D138992	2007 DODGE CALIBER	RED	1HGFA16857L089004	2007 HONDA CIVIC	BLUE
1B3CB4HA4AD544668	2010 DODGE CALIBER	SILVER	2HGFA16919H335927	2009 HONDA CIVIC	BURGUNDY
1B7FL26X2NS546375	1992 DODGE DAKOTA	BROWN	JNKBV61E47M707207	2007 INFINITI G35	RED
1FAFP56205A205725	2005 FORD TAURUS	TAN	1J4GL48K76W128268	2006 JEEP LIBERTY	GRAY
1FDSX34L33EC39636	2003 FORD F350	WHITE	5XYKT4A66CG235429	2012 KIA SORENTO	WHITE
1FMPU15566LA55746	2006 FORD EXPEDITION	BROWN	JTHBF30G236012303	2003 LEXUS ES300	WHITE
1FTDX1720VNA73132	1997 FORD F150	SILVER	5LMEU68H54ZJ03805	2004 LINCOLN AVIATOR	WHITE
1FTEF15Y8RNB76934	1994 FORD F150	MAROON	1G2NE52E75M204876	2005 PONTIAC GRAND AM	BURGUNDY
			1G2ZH358864276917	2006 PONTIAC G6	WHITE

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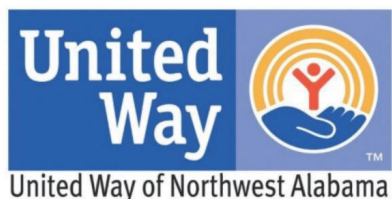
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Letters...

Continued from Page 18

To Decide for Ourselves

Editor:

In response to Miss Barnes pointing out "major differences" in safety precautions between leprosy and covid, (Problematic Analogy, February 9) I would say that of leprosy and covid being tested differently, I don't think so.

Most people get tested for covid for the same reason people got tested for leprosy. They had symptoms or were around someone who had the disease and wanted to know if they had it themselves.

There is a difference being that in Biblical times the person infected wore the mask and isolated themselves instead of others. However, the difference goes a little further.

In the Bible the person

who had possible symptoms got tested. It's not always so now. I personally know people who had symptoms, but refused to get tested. Yet, they continued to go out in public. Some of these people infected others.

When possibly infected people don't mask or isolate, the only recourse we have is to protect ourselves.

No one wants to be lonely and depressed. I also doubt anyone wants to die because of a disease when that could possibly be avoided.

In the end we can look at the world around us and also read LEVITICUS chapters 13 and 14 and decide for ourselves how to handle a contagious disease.

Steve Cox
St. Joseph, TN

Good Shoals Participation

Dear Editor,

Despite a global

pandemic, area residents shared the true meaning of Christmas with children in need this past holiday season.

Generosity throughout Northwest Alabama contributed to a successful shoebox gift collection season at Drop-Off locations for the Samaritan's Purse project Operation Christmas Child. Across the U.S., the project collected more than 9.1 million such gifts in 2021. Combined with those collected from partnering countries in 2021, the ministry sent more than 10.5 million shoebox gifts to children worldwide.

Through shoeboxes—packed with fun toys, school supplies, and hygiene items, Shoals area volunteers brought joy to children in need around the world. Each gift-filled shoebox is a tangible expression of God's love, and it is often the first gift these children have ever received. Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 198 million gift-filled shoeboxes to

children since 1993 in more than 170 countries and territories.

Information about ways area participants can get involved year-round can be found at samaritanspurse.org/occ or by calling (770) 777-9342.

Although local drop-off locations for gifts are closed until November, anyone can still be a part of this life-changing project by conveniently packing a shoebox gift online in just a few simple clicks at samaritanspurse.org/buildonline.

Emory Frie
Media Relations Team
Operation Christmas Child
Boone, NC

SCOTUS Has to Finish Job

Editor:

OSHA's announcement that they're dropping the emergency regulation that requires employers with 100 or more employees to fire unvaccinated

employees is little more than a shell game. What OSHA's really dropping is the emergency designation while promising the same regulation through normal regulatory channels, including public comment periods. This demonstrates incredible hubris by the Biden Labor Department as the Supreme Court injunction against the OSHA vaccine mandate was built around the lack of Congressional authorization for their action. Nothing has changed. Congress still has not OSHA authorized to act, therefore OSHA still lacks authority to even propose the rule, and they know it.

The Supreme Court should still finish the job by definitively stopping OSHA from moving forward with any regulation. The Commerce Clause, which OSHA is authorized under, does not allow for vaccine mandates, and OSHA has never had authority to compel employers to fire employees. OSHA's job is to determine if somebody stacked boxes

in the emergency exit, not to determine who gets to hold a job and who doesn't, and the Court should remind them of that fact.

Rick Manning
President
Americans for Limited Government
Fairfax, VA

Filibuster Has its Benefits

Editor:

US Senate Democrats on January 19 tried and failed to pass a one-time exception to the parliamentary delaying tactic known as The Filibuster. Majority Leader Charles Schumer (D-NY) put together half of a slam-dunk plan that should have passed with overwhelming support, but it didn't because, well, Joe Manchin (D-WV), Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ), and those darn Republicans.

See LETTERS... Page 37

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LULU is a 4 month old lab/pit mix. She suffered an injury that caused her to lose the function of her back legs. Fortunately, the vet believes she will make a full recovery. If you would like to give this special pup a place to recover and a loving home, please fill out the adoption application at Shoalspaws.com.



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ASK THE ATTORNEY

JURY CHARGES



Thomas McCutcheon

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

We were going to trial this week on a car wreck case but did not have enough jurors from which to choose a jury of 12. Alabama law provides that in a civil case there must be at least 24 people from which to choose. This group of people is called the venire. Just so you know, a jury of 12 is a petit jury and they decide civil and criminal cases in Alabama while it takes 18 jurors to form a grand jury which decides whether or not there is sufficient probable cause to bind someone over for a criminal trial.

One of the interesting things that lawyers do for a jury trial is provide the court with jury charges for the judge to read to the jury. The judge is in charge of the law and the jury is there to decide the facts of the case. Ultimately, the judge decides what law to give the jury that would apply in a particular case. If the lawyers believe the judge is in error, they may say so on the record and if things don't turn out well based on that ill advised charge, a reversal in the appellate court is possible.

When I started in the late '80s, the lawyers would gather paragraphs of law or quotations from the Alabama Supreme Court that they thought applied (and were helpful to their case) and urge the judge to read those to the jury as the law of the case. This led to errors and disputes.

The Alabama Supreme Court created a committee of judges, plaintiff lawyers, and defense lawyers who volunteer their time to produce instructions which accurately reflect the decisions and statutes of the courts and legislature of Alabama. These are known as the Alabama Pattern Jury Instructions. These are statements of the law that are approved by the Alabama Supreme Court.

The goal is that the jury clearly understand the issues, the law, how it decides facts, and how it uses the law to reach a verdict. The trial judge's responsibility is to communicate these things to the jury. The best practice for lawyers is to find the jury instructions that apply and put them in the case file before they really begin working on the case.

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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Letters...

Filibuster Has its Benefits

Continued from Page 34

Yes, you read the above correctly. For probably the first time ever, I (partially) agree with Chuck Schumer on something.

Let's start with the half he got wrong: He wanted the rules change to apply to only one piece of legislation: The Democratic Party's "voting rights" bill.

The part he got right was suggesting a reversion of Senate rules to require the old-fashioned "talking filibuster."

Until 1987 the filibuster required effort. To delay the body's vote on a bill with majority support, a Senator in the minority had to take the floor for debate and refuse to give it up.

So long as the Senator kept talking (standing, without leaning on the podium), it took a super-majority vote (at one time, 67 votes, now 60) to end debate. But if the minority left the debate floor vacant for even a moment, the majority could proceed to a vote on the bill.

These days, all a minority Senator has to do to stop a bill from coming to a vote is object, and if his or her party can marshal 40 or more votes against "cloture," it can leave the bill in limbo eternal by pretending the matter is still "under debate."

I'm firmly on record as favoring gridlock. In my

opinion, the less the Senate "gets done," the better off most Americans are. I'd support a constitutional amendment requiring a unanimous, or at least high super-majority vote, to pass any bill. It should be hard to subject 330 million Americans to legislative dictates.

However, I'm also in favor of requiring politicians to debate the bills they propose or oppose instead of just blocking consideration of those bills.

Senators spend millions getting elected to, and are paid \$174,000 per year to serve in, what Edmund Burke called a deliberative assembly. They should have to deliberate to secure victory or impose defeat.

The "talking filibuster" should be restored as a permanent Senate rule instead of offered up as a one-off workaround.

Thomas L. Knapp
 Director, William Lloyd Garrison Center for Libertarian Advocacy Journalism
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Community Notes...

Continued from page 26

Ham and Bean Day at the Elgin Senior Center on Monday, February 28, 11am-1pm. Eat in or carry outs available. The center is one block south of the red light in Elgin on Hwy 101.

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

March Hike + First Aid - Basic first aid knowledge can go a long way when exploring the outdoors. Learn the need-to-know info before hitting the trails!

From 9-11am on Saturday, March 5 at TVA Muscle Shoals Trails complex, 73 Thunder Road, Muscle Shoals, we'll be covering the basics of Wilderness First Aid and teaching you valuable skills when exploring the outdoors. The workshop portion will take place in the parking lot of the trail entrance. Following the workshop, we'll hit the trails from 11am-12:30pm.

This is a donation based workshop + hike and is limited in the number of available spots. Reserve yours today and develop the skills you need to be prepared.

Formoreinfo:leagueofoutdoorwomen@gmail.com

Sponsored by League of Outdoor Women.

The Childhood Classics exhibit is on display at Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts and the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library through March 25. 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.

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.

Additional 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. Gardendale Civic Center is on the left at 857 Main Street.

The Florence Kiwanis Club's Annual Pancake Days returns for a 70th year Friday, March 11 (6am-7pm) and Saturday, March 12 (6am-1pm) at the Florence-Lauderdale Coliseum. Advance tickets are \$8. Bundles of 10 or more in advance, \$7 each. At the door, \$10. Children under 12 are \$5 at the door. Advance tickets are available from Florence Kiwanis members or email kiwanisclubflo@gmail.com.

The Lauderdale County Sports Hall of Fame has announced the 2022 class. This years inductees will include Elmo Alexander, Cary Williams, Daniel Creel, Daniel Jackson, James Barksdale, Marcus Bodie, Emily Mason Stewart, Jay Stejskal, Troy Pettus, and Amanda Thompson Hunt. The banquet takes place Saturday,

March 12 at the Florence Conference Center at 6:30pm and tickets are \$35 each. Tickets are available at area schools or by calling Dennis Hargett at 256-762-9056 or Steve Harrison at 256-810-3460.

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

The primary election day for the State of Alabama is Tuesday, May 24, 2022.

The Elgin 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 CV41-CY-63 - June 6-9, 2022 in San Diego, CA. For information, contact Jim Melka at jmelka@netins.net or 319-332-1632.

Pay it Forward: Donate to Educate. Shoals Scholar Dollars is an Education Foundation raising money to pay tuition 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.

Lifesouth is in emergency need for blood donors, as the national blood shortage continues, and asks donors to help by donating blood during their Back 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 thank you for donating.

This year continues to be difficult for LifeSouth and blood centers across the country with the impact of the pandemic causing a decrease in blood donations, while the need to help patients in local hospitals continues to increase.

Regular blood donors who have not given recently and first-time donors can make a major impact by donating. One donation can save up to three lives.

Donate at the Center, 307 Veterans Drive, Florence. Schedule an appointment, 256-765-7038. www.lifesouth.org. The hours are: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9am-5pm; Tuesday and Thursday 9am-7pm; Saturday 9am-3pm; Sunday 1-5pm.

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.

Want to list your event in Community Notes? Email your information to editor@CourierJournal.net.

The NACOLG SENIORx Medication Assistance Program supplies free and low cost medications for anyone in Alabama with a disability or a chronic illness regardless of age that requires daily medication. Medicare recipients may also be eligible.

For more information, contact NACOLG SENIORx today. There is no charge for this service.

1-800-AGELINE (1-800-243-5463) Paula Pardue 256-389-0529

This program is in partnership with the State of Alabama and Alabama Department of Senior Services

Utility Assistance is Available for those in need who qualify. No Appointment Needed. Just submit the proper paperwork as directed. The State of Alabama now mandates the use of a Declaration of Household Income form. This form is to be completed by the person applying for assistance. It will include income information on each household member 18 and older. You may visit one of our offices to request a form or visit www.caanw.org for an application. Call 256-766-4330 for more information.

Want to see your Event here? Email your information to Editor@CourierJournal.net.

REAL Rehomeducate Adopt Love offers the following pet preventive care assistance for dogs and cats in Lauderdale, Colbert and Franklin Counties:

- Flea/Tick Control
 - HW Testing
 - HW Preventative
 - Vaccine
- Submit your Pet Wellness application from our Facebook page REAL Rehomeducate Adopt Love or website www.rehomeducate.webs.com

Lauderdale County Solid Waste - New Service Announcement - The Lauderdale County Solid Waste Department now picks up yard debris from county residents. This service is throughout the county only.

Residents who need our service and meet the requirements should call the Solid Waste office at 256-760-5878.

For more information see the advertisement in this issue.

City of Florence - Recycling Program:

Paper, cardboard, plastic bottles and jugs only (#1 & #2), aluminum cans, and steel cans are all recyclable. Residential curbside cart collection is provided within City of Florence limits. The Florence Recycle Center drop-off is available to everyone, 24 hours, 7 days a week.

Cardboard Boxes
Place large, broken-down cardboard boxes 3 feet away from your recycle and garbage carts. Remove all contents from each box before recycling as Styrofoam and plastic film are NOT recyclable.

Televisions/Electronics
Old TVs are not collected with curbside trash. They can be dropped off at two locations:

- Florence Recycle Center: 1200 Terrace Street, Florence
- Florence Landfill: 29485 County Road 14, Florence

Wrapping Paper
All paper is recyclable if it will tear. We encourage you to reuse ribbons and bows, but they are not recyclable.



AL#15059/53092

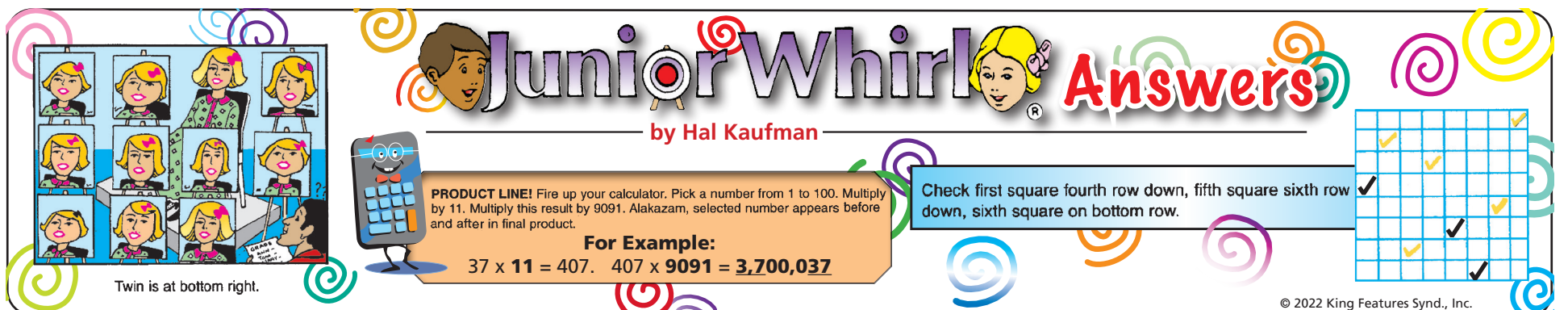
MPE SERVICES
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Full Restaurant Repair
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TVA EnergyRight QUALITY CONTRACTOR NETWORK
BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS



Junior Whirl Answers
by Hal Kaufman

PRODUCT LINE! Fire up your calculator. Pick a number from 1 to 100. Multiply by 11. Multiply this result by 9091. Alakazam, selected number appears before and after in final product.

For Example:
37 x 11 = 407. 407 x 9091 = **3,700,037**

Check first square fourth row down, fifth square sixth row down, sixth square on bottom row.

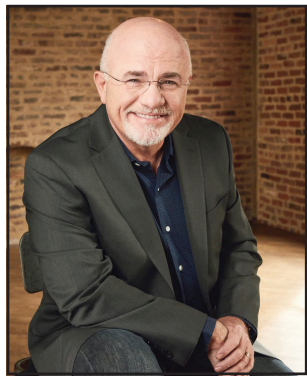
Twin is at bottom right.

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DAVE Says

by DAVE RAMSEY

IS IT A LOAN, OR IS IT A GIFT?



Dear Dave,
 We have \$15,000 in credit card debt. My husband works very hard, but only makes about \$25,000 a year. We're also living in a very old trailer right now, and I stay at home with our newborn. My dad told us he is willing to pay off our debt if we agree to get financial counseling together, and show that we are serious about doing better with our finances. What should we do?

Harper

Dear Harper,
 I wouldn't accept the

money from your dad if it's going to be a loan. If you really want to ruin family events, have debt to your parents. It twists you up inside. And it'll be especially hard on your husband. No matter what anyone else says, the borrower is *always* slave to the lender.

If it's going to be a gift, meaning there's no expectation of repayment, that's a different story. Still, I think your dad has a great idea in making the debt payoff contingent on you two going to

some kind of financial counseling, and making a proactive effort to change things, get out of debt and save money—for your child's future and for yours. I'd probably do the same thing.

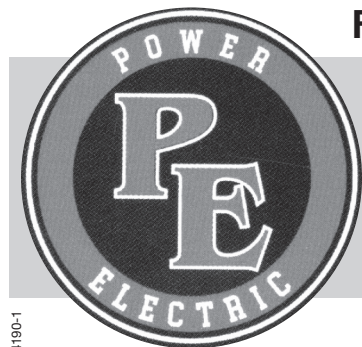
It doesn't sound like you're being crazy with your money, but it's tough to provide for a family on that kind of income. You and your husband need to sit down together, develop a monthly budget and a realistic five-year plan to improve his earning potential. Make it a date night. Hold hands, do something inexpensive you both enjoy, and let him know he can be anything he wants to be. Then, help him decide exactly what and where he wants to be in five years. What does he want to be making, and what feasible steps can he take educationally or in terms of job training to get there?

If you want to go to work at some point when your baby is a little older, that's fine. I completely understand the desire to be at home with a brand new baby. But hard work alone just isn't enough these days. You've got to boost your brain power and value in the marketplace, too. God bless you guys!
 — Dave

selling 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," 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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RICK'S BBQ LB. PORK BARBECUE \$5.99	KRAFT SALAD DRESSING 16 OZ. BTL. 2/\$5	MAXWELL HOUSE COFFEE 24.5-30.6 OZ. \$6.99	GOLDEN BAKE SANDWICH OR ROUND TOP BREAD 20 OZ. LOAF 99¢
MILO'S FAMOUS TEA GALLON JUG 2/\$5	BLUE BELL ICE CREAM 1/2 GALLON \$4.99 PINTS 2/\$3	FRESH STRAWBERRIES 16 OZ. PKG. 2/\$5	IDAHO POTATOES 4 LB. BAG \$1.99

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Reading and Comprehension

skills for elementary-age students are the key to eliminating poverty.

Courier Journal



Since 2006 *Kidsville News!* has helped the Shoals with better reading and comprehension skills. A recent PARCA study had 87% of High School graduates that are considered college and career ready, easily the top community ranking* in Alabama. AND THE ONLY COMMUNITY in Alabama with *Kidsville News!* in local elementary classrooms!

We are looking for a few *Kidsville News!* Friends to help us cover the cost of distribution to all area kids FREE OF CHARGE... So all local children can have that chance to learn and excel in school.

Call 256-740-4701 for more information.

Truman

*Best in Alabama according to PARCA Study - 2018

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REBATE \$550
+ Buick & GMC Financing \$250
+ Buick & GMC Loyalty (Crew Only) \$500
Up To **\$1,300 OFF MSRP**



2022 TERRAIN
REBATE \$750
+ Buick & GMC Financing \$250
+ Buick & GMC Loyalty \$250
Up To **\$1,250 OFF MSRP**



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18 Ford Explorer
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17 Ford F150
#21G-258A, Crew Cab, FX4, Nice Local Trade!

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19 GMC Canyon
#22G-022A, Crew Cab, SLE, 6 Yr./100K Limited Warranty!

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15 Chevy Silverado
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19 GMC Sierra
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#21G-321D, Crew Cab, Sunroof, Leather, Nice!

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#22G-026A, Crew Cab, Z71, 4x4, 1 Owner, Local Trade!

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20 Ford Explorer
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17 Yukon XL Denali
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#21G-326A, 4 Door, Leather, 1 Owner, 6Yr./100K Limited Warranty!

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ALL prices DO NOT INCLUDE tax, title & fees. Some photos for illustration purposes only.