

**UNA Lands 3 on  
Academic All-  
District Team**

FLORENCE—University of North Alabama football standouts **Sam Contorno, Corson Swan, and A.J. Vang** have been named to the College Sports Communicators Academic All-District football team.

Selected by College Sports Communicators, the teams recognize the nation's top student-athletes for their combined performances on the field and in the classroom. Academic All-District® honorees advance to the CSC Academic All-America® ballot that will be announced in late December.

Contorno, a redshirt sophomore kicker from Tuscaloosa has a 4.0 grade point average as he pursues a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Interior Architecture and Design. He previously graduated from UNA in the summer of 2022 with a Bachelors of Business Administration in Management.

Swan has a 3.67 GPA as he pursues a Masters degree in Sport Management. He previously earned a Bachelor's degree in Exercise Science / Applied Exercise Physiology from UNA.

Vang was an Academic All-District selection in 2021 as well. He has a 4.0 as he pursues his Masters in Education. He previously graduated from UNA with a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice.

See SHORTS... on Page 2

Volume 139 Number 7

December 7, 2022

POSTAL PATRON

**Courier Journal**

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TUSCUMBIA HOSTING  
**Dickens' Spirits**

TUSCUMBIA—Scrooge, Marley, and all the familiar faces from Charles Dickens' beloved holiday classic, *A Christmas Carol*, will return to downtown Tuscumbia on Saturday, December 11 from 10am-4pm. They will join merchants and townspeople to present "It's a Dickens Christmas, Y'all." In its eleventh year, this signature holiday event adds a spirited touch to the season and brings a hint of "Merry



Ole England." to this historic town. Dickens Christmas is centered along Main Street and there is no admission. Donations are accepted at some events to offset costs.

Expect to find snow falling in the pocket park and to visit with Santa Claus or his English counterpart, "Father Christmas." The Clydesdales, Clyde and Pride, will return to provide the highly popular carriage rides. The shops and eateries of Tuscumbia will offer holiday specials and food trucks and vendors will be on hand. Costumed

See DICKENS... on Page 8

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**Bake Sale Items Often Sell Out Pre-Sale Day**

FLORENCE—Volunteers who offer their home baked goods for Chloe's Fund's Bake Sales have become well-known for their specialty items. Those items are often sold out before the day of the Bake Sale. Those can

See CHLOE'S BAKE SALE... on Page 13

**Lowry's Christmas Carol Perspective**

**FRIDAY  
Dec. 9  
7pm**

FLORENCE – In the spirit of Charles Dickens, storyteller Tim Lowry interprets the world's most beloved ghost story, Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, with heart-felt sincerity and no small dose of his

signature side wit. The effect is dramatic and more than magical. Fans of the show describe it as an unforgettably unique experience. Instead of frightening his listeners, Lowry uses humor to invite them into another place and

time to remember, reflect, and resolve.

United Way of Northwest Alabama and the Shoals Storytelling Festival

See LOWRY... on Page 11



Courtesy photos

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE**

**Automotive Inside**



Ray Miller Buick-GMC  
Advance Auto Sales  
Jeff Elledge Auto Sales

- Computer Skeptic
- Ask the Attorney
- Adopt-A-Friend
- Game Day Winner
- Puzzle Whirl

- Soap Updates
- Savvy Senior
- Hocus Focus
- Dave Ramsey
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- Christmas Coloring
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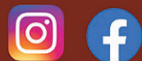
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# Shorts...

Continued from Page 1

## HCU's Spring Grad Level Scholarships

FLORENCE— Heritage Christian University is pleased to announce full-tuition scholarships for all graduate-level students for the Spring 2023 semester. Thanks to generous donors, new and returning graduate students can benefit from this unprecedented opportunity. These scholarships are available for the Spring 2023 semester and are available to distance learning and on-campus students.

"We want to offer full-tuition scholarships for those impacted by the recession who may be struggling during the current economic climate," said HCU's President, Dr. Kirk Brothers. "Everyone should be able to further their education, and we can help. Our graduate program has been growing by leaps and bounds, with the past six semesters breaking attendance records. To God be the Glory!"

Registration is open at



Clockwise from left: Zaquan Kemp, Dr. Keli Brothers, and Taylor Poole discuss enrollment options at HCU.

www.hcu.edu. Interested applicants may contact a member of the HCU Admissions team by emailing admissions@hcu.edu or by calling 256-766-6610.

## Four on ALL ASUN Offense

ATLANTA— University of North Alabama sophomore running back, **ShunDerrick Powell** of Hoxie, Ark., has been named ASUN Conference co-Offensive Player of the Year and heads a list of four members of the UNA offense named to the 2022 All-ASUN Conference football team. Joining Powell on the all-conference team, as selected in voting by the league's head coaches, are tight end **Corson Swan** of Spanish Fort, AL., and offensive linemen **Cam Watson** of Madison, MS., and **A.J. Vang** of Goddard, KS.

Powell is ranked among the FCS leaders in seven categories and is a finalist for the Walter Payton Award as

the FCS Player of the Year. He set a UNA single season record with 1,508 rushing yards and scored 18 touchdowns. His 160.1 all-purpose yards per game is also among the nation's best and 10 of his 18 touchdowns were from 30 yards or longer.

Swan caught 24 passes for 339 yards and two touchdowns and finished his career at UNA with 71 catches for 1,092 yards and eight touchdowns. He is just the fourth tight end in Lion football history to have 1,000 career receiving yards. He previously earned Academic All-District honors for the College Sports Communicators.

Vang and Watson helped clear the way for a UNA offense that averaged 28.5 points and 388 yards per game this season. Vang was a three-year starter for the Lions and started 25 straight games at UNA. He also previously earned Academic All-ASUN and Academic All-District honors. Watson also started 25 straight games for the Lions.

More SHORTS... on Page 7

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Music to begin at 6:30pm

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Come take your picture with Santa and Mrs. Claus



**Courier Journal**

# Yard Sales

An exclusive listing of the better sales in the Shoals area. To list your sale, use the classified form on page 8. WE MUST receive your ad by Friday prior to the Wednesday release date. (8 days before a Saturday sale)

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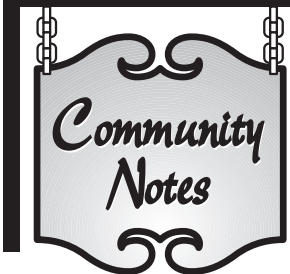
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COMMUNITY NOTES may be submitted for non-profit, civic or church-related events and published free of charge AS SPACE IS AVAILABLE in the Courier Journal. Community Notes must be submitted in writing by 3pm Friday for consideration in the following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

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

All properly submitted Community Notes which are dated will be posted weekly at www.courierjournal.net. We do our best, however, there is no guarantee that this free information will be published 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.

"Hi Neighbors of the Shoals" meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 10:30am in the Florence Public Library. (Dec. 5) We are a women's social group. The group welcomes all ladies who are currently residents of the Shoals area. Come join us! Contact Berta Birch, 256-777-3119, for further details.

Area Christmas Parades still ahead - December 6—Sheffield, 6pm • December 8—Cherokee, 6pm and Florence, 7pm • December 15—Tuscumbia, 6pm

Volunteers who offer their home baked goods for Chloe's Fund's Bake Sales have become well-known for their specialty items. Those items are often sold out before the day of the Bake Sale. Those can include specialty platters, cakes, cookies, pies, and more!

Public Notice and Opportunity to Comment - The Lauderdale County School System is attempting to locate any child with disabilities, ages 0-21, who may be living in the Lauderdale County School District and who are not currently in a school program.

Anyone knowing of a child, who may be in need of Special Services, is asked to contact Mrs. Kim Meeks, Director of Special Education at 256-760-1324 between the hours of 8am and 4pm, Monday-Friday. All information will be kept strictly confidential.

Those holiday goodies can be preordered, so don't miss out on your favorites. Chloe's Bake Sale coordinator, Lisa Wilson Rim, will post the menu on the Florence Lauderdale Animal Services Facebook page December 7. She can also text the menu to you; contact Lisa at 804-240-6880 (she's local) or Direct Message her on Facebook to receive the Chloe's Fund Holiday Bake Sale menu. The deadline to pre-order the baked

See NOTES... page 7

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# Notes...

Continued from page 4

goods is Wednesday, December 13. You can also show up at the Florence Lauderdale Animal Services building on December 17 from 10am-1pm and take your chances that volunteers were inspired and baked more than was

preordered. FLAS is located at 3240 Roberson Road in Florence. There will be some wonderful holiday goodies waiting for you!

**Santa & Singing at Old Grace takes place** Friday, December 9 at 700 N Montgomery Ave, in Sheffield. Join Santa Creel & Mrs. Claus for a sing along with the Cane Creek Cliff Dwellers. Santa & Mrs. Claus will arrive at 6pm and will be available for photos 6-7:30pm. Music

will begin at 6:30pm. Tickets will be sold at the door: \$5 adults, 12 and under free.

**2022 Florence Christmas Parade** presented by Bank Independent on Thursday, December 8 at 7pm in Historic Downtown Florence. Rain date Saturday, December 10.

**LifeSouth Blood Drives for December**

- Wednesday, December 7, 7:30am-3:30pm - Red Bay High School
- Thursday, December 8, Noon-6pm - Walmart, Cloverdale Rd, Florence
- Friday, December 9, 9am-3pm - Florence Police Department
- Saturday, December 10, 9am-4pm, It's a Dickens Christmas Y'all - Downtown Tuscumbia
- Sunday, December 11, Noon-6pm - Buff City Soap, Florence
- Monday, December 12, 11am-5pm - Pathway Eye, Rogersville
- Tuesday, December 13, 9am-6pm - Helen Keller Hospital, Sheffield
- Wednesday, December 14, 11am-5pm - Lexington Public Library

**Mike Farris: Soul of Christmas '22** - Mike Farris Sings! The Soul Of Christmas" delivers everything you want in a holiday show; high energy soul, and great classic ballads. With Grammy, Dove and Americana Music Award winner Mike Farris and his world-class 12 piece band, the experience of "Soul Of Christmas" is unlike any other and is absolutely guaranteed to get you into the spirit of the season! Join the Muscle Shoals Music Association at the Historic Shoals Theatre as we celebrate the Soul of Christmas with Mike Farris and legendary special guests from the Shoals Music Industry.

Proudly Powered By the Muscle Shoals Music Association and Singing River Media.

Friday, December 9 at 7pm, Doors open at 6pm | Show Starts at 7pm at The Shoals Theatre, 123 N. Seminary St., Florence.

General Admission: \$25 VIP: \$50 (Includes Front Seating, Meet & Greet, and signed Mike Farris Poster)

Food and Beverage will be available for purchase.

**The Ritz Theatre in Sheffield is hosting our Polar Express family event and a series of Christmas movies in December.**

Ritz Christmas Movie Schedule:  
"It's a Wonderful Life" Friday, December 9, 7pm Tickets \$10  
"Christmas Vacation" Tuesday,

December 13, 7pm Tickets \$10  
"The Polar Express" Family Holiday Event December 16 and 17 at 6pm - Includes trolley ride with Santa, cookies and hot cocoa, ornament decorating, and the film-- Tickets \$18, MUST be purchased in advance at tennesseevalleyarts.org or at 256-383-0533

"Elf" Tuesday, December 20, 7pm. Tickets \$10  
Disney's "A Christmas Carol" Thursday, December 22, 7pm Tickets \$10

Purchase tickets at tennesseevalleyarts.org or at the door. (all except Polar Express)

**Christmas at Ivy Green**, 300 North Commons W, in Tuscumbia Saturday, December 10, from 8:30am-4pm. Beautiful live holiday decorations adorn the historic birthplace and home of America's First Lady of Courage, Helen Keller. Sponsored by the Council of Local Garden Clubs. Admission is charged. Info: 256-383-4066

**A Deibert Christmas** on Saturday, December 10, 1-3pm at Deibert Park, Darby Drive and Cox Creek Parkway, Florence. "A Night Before Christmas" storytime and photos with Santa Manley outside the Deibert Park Barn.

Sponsored by Florence Parks and Recreation and the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library.

**Community Christmas Play: "The INN Keeper"** presented by Alta W. Morrow and the Community Players on Saturday, December 10, 5pm at W.C. Handy School, 1050 Pruitt St., Florence. Doors open at 4pm.

Refreshments will be served. All are welcome to attend this free event.

**Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts is pleased to present the Shoals Piecemakers Quilt Guild Exhibition** that continues through December 16. The Piecemakers Challenge theme for this year is "Baskets". In conjunction with this exhibit, a display of historic quilts from Pope's Tavern and the

Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts' collections can also be enjoyed.

The mission of the Shoals Piecemakers Quilt Guild is to stimulate interest in quilting. The guild provides educational programs at all levels of quilting. They strive to provide a source of encouragement and friendship to all those interested in quilts and the art of quilt making. All interested individuals, from beginners to professional, are welcome at the meetings of the Shoals Piecemakers. The guild meets every second Monday evening at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, located at 1900 Darby Drive in Florence.

The Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts is open to the public free of charge Monday - Friday from 9-4 and on Sundays from 1-4. The art center is located at 217 E. Tuscaloosa St. in Florence. Please call 256-760-6379 for more information.

See NOTES... page 15

# Shorts...

Continued from Page 2

## Poetry, Music Return to St. Johns During Dickens Event

TUSCUMBIA -While taking a walk in 2014 during a stay in Tuscumbia, professional New York actor **Ronald Rand** discovered St. John's Episcopal Church. At the time it was in need of some TLC. Paint was flaking and repairs were needed. Since the church had no active congregation and was dependent upon donations for its upkeep, Rand proposed a poetry reading with music, such as he had seen presented in other creative communities. And so, the annual "Poetry and Music at St. John's" was born.

This year's reading of assorted poems with a Christmas theme, will be presented by community leaders on Saturday, December 10 at 2pm during, "It's a Dickens Christmas, Y'all." Holiday music will be performed by **Tommy Quinn**, playing carols on the 1880's Packard pump organ original to the church. Quinn will also provide vocals along with soloist **Julie**

**Slosser**. There is no admission charged, but any offered donations will help to provide building maintenance.

**Mary Settle Cooney**, former executive director of the Tennessee Valley Art Association, assembled the group of readers this year. Some new faces, including **David Hope**, will be reading for the first time.

"Mr. Hope is a well-known educator and theatre arts director across the Shoals and beyond", she said. "He was instrumental in the development of the Tennessee Valley Art Association's SummerStock at the Ritz, and the Ritz School for the Performing Arts. Mr. Hope will join other community readers with his interpretation of the classic **Clement Clarke Moore** poem, *A Visit from St. Nicholas*, also known as *The Night Before Christmas*."

**Ninon Parker**, trustee of St. John's Church, expressed gratitude to Cooney for organizing the event, and to Rand for his continued leadership.

St. John's Episcopal Church was built in 1852 and is the earliest example of Carpenter's Gothic architecture in Alabama preserved in its original state.

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**Weekly Quiz • Topic: Plants**

- Sleeping Sickness is caused by 2 germs (protozoa), usually carried by the tsetse fly in the rural areas of which continent.**  
A) Europe B) Australia C) South America D) Africa
- Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, caused by the bacteria Rickettsia rickettsii is carried by ticks. Only in Rocky Mountain States can one become infected by these bacteria.** True or False
- Yellow Fever, an acute infectious viral disease, can be transmitted to humans by animals. Humans spread this disease to other humans by mosquitoes.** True or False
- Malaria is a serious and sometimes fatal disease caused by a parasite that commonly infects a certain type of mosquito that feeds on humans.** True or False
- Bubonic Plague (Black Death) decimated an estimated 30-60% of Europe's human population in the 14th Century. The bacteria responsible were carried by fleas on rats.** True or False

Answers: 1) D 2) False 3) True 4) True 5) True

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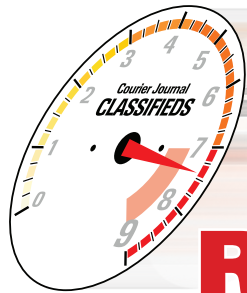
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## Dickens...

Continued from Page 1

Victorian characters and carolers will also stroll the streets.

The morning gets underway with kids and Mighty Mouse for breakfast at Superhero Chef's with Mickey Mouse's version of *A Christmas Carol*. Special events for kids and adults will take place throughout the day. You may also "Strut Your Mutt" for Best Dressed Dickens Dog prizes at 12:30pm in the pocket park! Bring a bag of dog food to donate to the Colbert County Humane Society.

Trolley Tours (as long as seating is available) will be routed through the historic district to view approximately 50 participating and lavishly decorated porches. Maps will be available for following along in cars. The porches will remain decorated through the end of December for self-guided viewing.

The Winter Art Market of locally created arts and crafts for sale will also be open at the Tennessee Valley Museum of Art Spring Park will be illuminated at dusk with lights and the dancing waters of the fountain show set for hourly displays. Train rides will be offered for family fun until 8pm.

Dickens Christmas is sponsored by Tusculumbia Retail Development a volunteer group dedicated to building the business community with promotions and public events. TRD is indebted to many participating groups and to the "Friends of the Fezziwigs," who make this family-friendly holiday event possible.

For more information and the complete schedule call Colbert County Tourism at 256-383-0783 or follow on Facebook: 11th Annual It's A Dickens Christmas Y'all.

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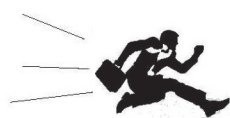
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# Lowry...

Continued from Page 1

have partnered to present Tim Lowry this Christmas season at 7pm on Friday, December 9 at Singin' River Live on East College St. in downtown Florence. All funds raised for this special event will be used to enroll local preschool children into Dolly Parton's Imagination Library, a program that provides free, age-appropriate books to children from birth until their fifth birthday.

Lowry has traveled from coast to coast presenting the Dickens classic in theaters, restaurants, churches, libraries, and living rooms. He has surpassed the author himself for number of performances with over 127 shows to

his credit, including the National Storytelling Festival in 2014.

Of course, everyone knows that *A Christmas Carol* is a ghost story. However, Lowry manages to give the ghosts their due while addressing other themes from the novel that run the full gamut of human experience. He comments on the passage of time, the importance of family, the pleasure of music, the significance of weather, and the joy that comes from feasting abundantly on delicious food.

Tickets for the show are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children under 10. They are available by visiting [www.uwnwal.org](http://www.uwnwal.org) or by calling 256-764-5892.

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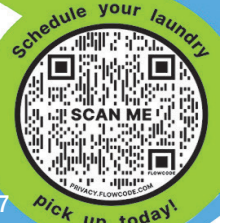
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## Courier Journal ADOPT A FRIEND

The animals you see here are currently in local animal shelters or rescue facilities. Adoption fees vary and include having your new friend spayed or neutered, if necessary. Help us help these and other animals by adopting a new friend today.



Meet **BRINDLE BEAR**, he is 3 yrs old, 62 lbs, heartworm negative and neutered. Talk about pretty markings, this boy is very handsome. He isn't much for photos but loves walks. He is good in his crate but would be better at home being loved by you. **FOSTERING IS FREE. THE ADOPTION FEE IS \$85** and includes heartworm test, current vaccines, spay/neuter and microchip. Please call or come by Florence Lauderdale animal services 256-760-6676 to meet this all around amazing dog.



Talk about a HAM!! **MOTHER GOOSE** is 3 yrs old, 58 lbs, female, heartworm negative and spayed. She is the cutest!! If you love a big lap dog, then this girl is perfect for you. She is very calm and loving. She will snuggle with you or go outside for a walk. Being with you would be her favorite thing. Mother Goose is good in her crate and would be a fantastic dog to add to your family. She is extremely tired of the shelter life and would love to go home with you. **FOSTERING IS FREE. THE ADOPTION FEE IS \$85** and includes heartworm test, current vaccines, spay/neuter and microchip. Please call or come by Florence Lauderdale animal services 256-760-6676 to meet this amazing girl.

Meet **TIA**, she is about 2 years old, 37 lbs., spayed, heartworm negative and she is very good crated. Her favorite pose is a belly rub pose. She is a funny girl that will make you laugh! Tia absolutely loves affection and would love you. **FOSTERING IS FREE. THE ADOPTION FEE IS \$85** and includes heartworm test, current vaccines, spay/neuter and microchip. Please call or come by Florence Lauderdale animal services 256-760-6676 to meet this all around amazing dog.



Meet **BAMA**, he is big and beautiful! He is 2 yrs old, 48 lbs., neutered and heartworm negative. Bama walks great on a leash and would be perfect for an outdoor lover. He was calm in his crate, a lot of noise going on around him doesn't seem to disturb his naps. He would love a family or foster who let him nap on the sofa, or play outside. Bama has such beautiful markings, and extremely handsome! **FOSTERING IS FREE. THE ADOPTION FEE IS \$85** and includes heartworm test, current vaccines, spay/neuter and microchip. Please call or come by Florence Lauderdale animal services 256-760-6676 to meet this all around amazing dog.

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## Chloe's Bake Sale...

Continued from Page 1

include specialty platters, cakes, cookies, pies, and more!

Those holiday goodies can be preordered, so don't miss out on your favorites. Chloe's Bake Sale coordinator, Lisa Wilson Rim, will post the menu on the Florence Lauderdale Animal Services Facebook page December 7. She can also text the menu to you; contact Lisa at 804-240-6880 (she's local) or Direct Message her on Facebook to receive the Chloe's

Fund Holiday Bake Sale menu. The deadline to pre-order the baked goods is Wednesday, December 13. You can also show up at the Florence Lauderdale Animal Services building on December 17 from 10am-1pm and take your chances that volunteers were inspired and baked more than was preordered. FLAS is located at 3240 Roberson Road in Florence. There will be some wonderful holiday goodies waiting for you!

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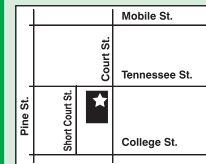
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Commentary

# McVie Was What Music Should Be

Like so many baby boomers, I have enjoyed listening to many female pop and rock artists over the years, aside from the bluesy, folk feel of the 60's and early 70's. Artists like Ann and Nancy Wilson of Heart, Pat Benatar, Stevie Nicks, Grace Slick, Tina Turner, and Kate Bush were some favorites. That list also includes the unassuming Christine McVie, a British keyboard player, vocalist, and two-time Grammy winner who passed away unexpectedly last week at the age of 79.

A long-time, albeit less-celebrated band mate of Stevie Nicks, McVie was an integral part of the post-blues version of Fleetwood Mac. She was the group's keyboardist and co-lead vocalist from 1970-1998 and again after an extended semi-retirement from 2014-2022.

McVie was a classy, elegant, dignified musician/singer/songwriter with a penetrating, soulful voice. She penned meaningful lyrics with no trash talk. She presented no glitz, pretentiousness, costumes

See MCVIE... on Page 39

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

# in the Shoals

# THIS WEEK

December 7, 2022

## Happening THIS WEEK

### Time Out for Theater Welcomes You to

# Prancer

SHEFFIELD - The Ritz Theatre is hosting two public performances of the play *Prancer* on Saturday, December 10 at 2pm and 7:30pm. The play is a production of Time Out for Theatre, the Ritz's children's theatre program. Tickets are \$10 each and are available at [tennesseevalleyarts.org](http://tennesseevalleyarts.org).

The play was written by Greg Taylor and directed by Suzanne Reese-Mills. It is based on the classic Christmas film, *Prancer*. The play follows young Jessica Riggs, whose family has fallen on hard times. Yet, he keeps her belief in Santa Claus and the idea that there are miracles in the world.

When an injured reindeer

appears in Jessica's backyard, she believes it is Prancer. While she is nursing the creature back to health, the whole community of Three Oaks eventually learns about Prancer, causing big problems for Jessica as she tries to return the reindeer home.

See PRANCER... on Page 31



Evie Frith, L, one of two young girls playing the lead character of Jessica, with William Freeman, puppeteer for the play.

Courtesy photo

OLD GRACE VENUE PRESENTS SANTA & SINGING on Friday, December 9 from 6-8pm at 700 N. Montgomery Ave., Sheffield. Join us in welcoming Santa Creel and Mrs. Claus and a sing along with The Cane Creek Dwellers. Santa and Mrs. Claus will arrive at 6pm. Music will begin at 6:30pm. Tickets will be sold at the door, Adults \$5, Children 12 and under Free. Come take your picture with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

A COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS PLA ENTITLED, "THE INN KEEPER" will be presented by Alta W. Morrow and the Community Players on Saturday, December 10 at 5pm at W.C. Handy School, 1050 Pruitt St. in Florence. Doors open at 4pm. Refreshments will be served. All are welcome to attend this free event.

## NORTH ALABAMA

### BASKETBALL

**MEN**

**WED. DEC. 7 • 6PM**

**vs Alabama State**

**Flowers Hall**

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### BASKETBALL

**WOMEN**

**THUR. DEC. 8 • 6PM**

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A DEIBERT CHRISTMAS ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1-3pm at Deibert Park, Darby Drive and Cox Creek Parkway, Florence. "A Night Before Christmas" storytime and photos with Santa Manley outside the Deibert Park Barn. Sponsored by Florence Parks and Recreation and the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library.

## 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.

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 219 W. Tennessee St.,  
 Florence, AL 35630  
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 • FAX- 256-760-9618

### Stay and Be Strong

Editor:

I wrote this untitled poem a few weeks ago because a friend of ours asked us to pray for her sister's son who is still a young adult, is bipolar, and recently mentioned suicide.

I asked her to give this to her sister to hopefully help her son realize that all is not lost, that we are all here for a purpose, and no matter how hard it may seem at times, we should never give up.

Sometimes I lose,  
 sometimes I win,  
 sometimes I fall to  
 temptation and sin.  
 When I'm depressed

I try not to frown,  
 My faith in Jesus  
 picks me up when I'm down.  
 I can't run from life,  
 I must be strong,  
 because life is exactly  
 where I belong.  
 God put me here  
 to do his will and be strong.

Merry Christmas to all. Please care about each other.

Paul Sabatino  
 Florence

### Prison Troubles

Editor:

In recent weeks, the *Times Daily* carried articles about inhumane conditions in Alabama prisons that led to work stoppage and protests by families. The causes are long-standing - overcrowding and insufficient prison staff. Politically motivated lengthy sentences and

See LETTERS... Page 21

... overcrowding, abuse by guards,  
 and sexual assault are pervasive ...





# Notes...

Continued from page 7

**"It's a Dickens Christmas, Y'all" returns to downtown Tusculmbia** on December 11, from 10am - 4pm, with Dickens characters and carolers along Main Street throughout the day. Expect "snow", carriage rides, trolley tours, Victorian dancers, and food vendors at this free event. Special events (some with modest admission charges) include Breakfast with Mighty Mouse, Poetry and Music at St. John's Church, Milk and Cookies with Tiny Tim and a Holiday High Tea at Locust Hill. New this year is a Parade of Porches in the Historic District. Dickens Christmas is sponsored by Tusculmbia Retail Development, Inc. For more information, call 256-383-9797 or 256-383-0783 or follow on Facebook - 11th Annual It's A Dickens Christmas Y'all.

**The Combined Choirs of Florence First United Methodist Church and Florence First Cumberland Presbyterian Church** presents two performances of "The Mystery and the Majesty" a Christmas Cantata by Joseph Martin on Sunday December 11.

The first performance is in the Sanctuary of Florence First United Methodist Church at 11am. The second performance is in the Sanctuary of Florence First Cumberland Presbyterian Church at 5pm. All are welcomed and invited. There is no charge for attending the performances.

**Courtland's Christmas Open House** takes place on Sunday, December 11 from 1-4pm. Five historic homes plus the Courtland Presbyterian Church will be featured this year. Tickets are \$5, children 12 years old and under will be free with paid adults. Tickets will be cash only and sold at the gazebo in the park.

Homes include the David and Sharon Coffey Home (the former Joe Wheeler Elementary School 1936-1963); the Gilchrist-Terry-Gaudin-Orr Home, built c.1830,1912; the Campbell-Gilchrist-Norwood-Reed Home, built c.1850; the Lile-Ashford-Green-Weeks Home, built c.1850 or later; the Tweedy-Norton-Morris-Thompson Home, built c.1825, 1910, 1988; and the Courtland Presbyterian Church was built c.1859-68.

**Following the tour, which ends at 4pm, a community gathering in the park will be held in the park square. Singing featuring the Orr Sisters and people from other churches will fill the air. Everyone is invited to join! This event is sponsored by the Courtland Community Revitalization Committee.**

**Councilwoman Kaytrina Simmons cordially invites you to her annual Holiday Fellowship Dinner** on Sunday, December 11, 2-4pm at Handy Recreation Center, 1105 Beale Street, Florence. Dine-in or Takeout Available

Contact 256-349-3879 for more details.

**Day by Day Grief Support Group will host the annual Candlelight Remembrance Service** for parents who have had children to die. The event will be held in the Cross Point church auditorium, 1350 Cox Creek Parkway in Florence Sunday, December 11 at 2:30pm. Family members and friends are invited to light candles in memory of the beloved child. First time attendees need to email anita.watkins@comcast.net.

Day by Day is an affiliate of the Riverbend Foundation.

**Christmas Dinner - Covered-dish dinner** for the Central Community Center will be at 6pm, December 12 at Pleasant Hill Church Life Center, 2705 County Road 222, in Florence.

**We Rocked the World - Songwriters in the Round: Holiday Edition** takes place December 15 at Alabama Music Hall of Fame, Hwy 72 W, Tusculmbia. The 2022 finale of the popular singer/

See NOTES... page 23

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 The TimesDaily has a position available for a Part-Time Non-CDL Truck Driver. The ideal candidate must have an excellent driving record and a clean MVR (motor vehicle report) as well as proof of personal auto insurance.  
 Candidate must pass a DOT physical, be able to lift up to 50 pounds, and be capable of driving up to 8 hours at a time. Must be able to work flexible schedules including days, nights, weekends, and holidays as needed.  
 Please email resumes to [april.estis@timesdaily.com](mailto:april.estis@timesdaily.com) or applications may be picked up at 219 West Tennessee Street Florence, AL 35630

**Part Time Maintenance Tech**  
 Gateway Management is currently seeking a part-time Maintenance Technician for our Sullivan Village apartments located in Tusculmbia, AL.

**Requirements:** Candidates must have verifiable maintenance experience along with general maintenance knowledge. Some HVAC knowledge preferred.  
**Pay:** Depends on experience. 20 hours per week.  
**Apply:** Call 256-978-5042 M-F to set up an interview or come by, 104 Carrie Lane, Tusculmbia  
 EOE

**Florence Housing Authority**  
 is seeking to fill vacancies for:  
**Assistant Property Managers**  
 The job description is located on our website. To apply and be considered for the position, download the job application from our website at [www.flohousing.org](http://www.flohousing.org) and email the completed application to [floaccounting@flohousing.org](mailto:floaccounting@flohousing.org)  
 No telephone calls. No hand delivered or faxed cover letters, resumes or other information will be accepted at Authority offices.  
**Applicant review will begin on Monday, November 21, 2022.**  
 Equal Opportunity Employer  
 515381-1

**The Colbert County Commission**  
 will be accepting employment applications for **TAG CLERK** in the Probate Office  
**Starting pay is \$25,325.22 per year**  
 With Full Benefits and State Retirement  
 Job Description and Application are available at the **Alabama Career Center**  
**500 South Montgomery Ave., Sheffield**  
**Deadline for applications is December 16, 2022**  
 Colbert County Commission is an equal opportunity employer.

**LiUNA! LOCAL 366**  
 Feel the Power  
**\$21.43 Hr**  
**RECRUITING NUCLEAR WORKERS**  
  
**GREAT BENEFITS + RETIREMENT**  
 Laborers' Local #366 is recruiting workers to work out at Browns Ferry Nuclear Plant  
 SCAN ME  
 Contact:  
 Laborers' Southeast Training  
 256-415-7452  
[liunalocal366.com](http://liunalocal366.com)  
  
 the nuclear e-learning connection  
 519118-1

**Quad Cities Taxi**  
 Is looking for **Taxicab Drivers, Wheelchair Van Drivers, and Dispatchers.** Day and night shifts. Must be 25. Apply in person at 122 N. Royal Ave., Florence, between 8 am and 4 pm, Mon.- Fri. (No phone calls please)

**SUPERVISOR**  
 Packaging Department  
 The Times Daily (TVM, Inc.) is a locally owned group of daily and weekly newspapers. We currently have an open supervisor position in our Packaging Department. You will oversee Packaging employees during daily production runs, ensuring these teams perform to quality standards and meet deadlines. While experience in newspaper packaging is preferred, we are also open to the insights someone might bring from another industry.  
 To be a good fit for this opportunity you will have:  
 Solid experience in a material-handling environment, such as packaging, distribution, warehousing, production, etc.  
**A demonstrated ability to:**  
 •Lead and direct the work of others with the ability to motivate employees; experience supervising part-time employees is a plus.  
 •Work in deadline-driven team environments and adapt to changing workloads.  
 •Good communication skills.  
 •Microsoft Office experience a plus  
 •Mechanical background or aptitude.  
 •Ability to work hands on with your team.  
 •Ability to work a flexible shift.  
 Resumes can be emailed to [april.estis@timesdaily.com](mailto:april.estis@timesdaily.com) or applications can be picked up at TimesDaily 219 West Tennessee Street Florence, AL 35630  
 EEOC

**Service One Transport**  
 Hiring Short Haul & Regional OTR CDL A Drivers  
 Good Home Time • Sign On Bonus  
 New Equipment  
 Apply on Tenstreet @ <https://intelliapp.driverapponline.com/c/serviceone>  
**256-314-5496**  
  
 515941-1

**CITY OF MUSCLE SHOALS – JOB OPPORTUNITY**  
**BUILDING PLANNING OFFICER**  
 Applications are available at the **City Clerk's Office, 2010 East Avalon Avenue, Muscle Shoals, Alabama,** between the hours of 7:45am and 4:30pm, phone number 256-383-5675.  
 Applications may be downloaded from our website, [www.cityofmuscleshoals.com](http://www.cityofmuscleshoals.com)  
**RESUMES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED IN LIEU OF APPLICATIONS.**  
**Application Deadline Date:**  
**Friday, December 16, 2022, 4:30PM**  
 A current job description is available at city hall and the website which details essential functions of the job as well as knowledge, skills, abilities and physical requirements necessary for successful job performance. Any offer of employment is conditional based upon the successful applicant's satisfactory completion of a job related physical examination, drug and alcohol testing.  
 The City of Muscle Shoals participates in E-Verify, in compliance with a federal law to verify the identity and employment eligibility of all persons hired to work in the United States.  
**THE CITY OF MUSCLE SHOALS IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER**  
 518398-1



# DAVE Says



by DAVE RAMSEY

## ARE DEBIT CARDS SAFE FOR ONLINE PURCHASES?

Dear Dave,  
I use a debit card for all my regular, day-to-day purchases. However, I use a credit card for plane tickets, big ticket items, or when I shop online because someone told me it's easier to dispute purchases when they're made with a credit card. Are you putting your checking account at risk by using a debit card for these types of purchases?  
Wendy

Dear Wendy,  
I don't know who this "someone" is, but they're a lousy financial advisor. The firm of Someone, They Said, and I Heard? That's a financial planning company you don't want to work with. A debit card has the exact same protections for fraud that a credit card has. It does

come out of your checking account, but the bank has to put it back once you dispute the charge and prove your dispute. It may take a day or two, but they'll get it done.

I've used a debit card for decades, and I haven't owned a credit card since way back in my dumb-with-money days. I've never had any problems using a debit card, and I'm not going to make the mistake of playing around with debt ever again.

I hope you won't either!  
— Dave

Dave Ramsey is an eight-time #1 national best-selling author, personal finance expert, and host of The Ramsey Show, heard by more than 18 million listeners each week. He has appeared on Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Today Show, Fox News, CNN, Fox Business, and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people take control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for Ramsey Solutions.

# STRANGE but TRUE

• In 2020, a lightning bolt extending a total of 477.2 miles spread across Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas, setting a new world record for the longest flash.

• Rubber bands last longer if you refrigerate them.

• Rooms at the Null Stern ("zero star") Hotel are situated in repurposed nuclear bunkers and include open-air mountain rooms with equally zero walls. The designers obviously weren't kidding about that rating.

• In 2002, NASA intern Thad Roberts stole a safe full of moon rocks so he and his girlfriend could have "sex on the moon." Their otherworldly romantic encounter backfired when they later tried to sell the \$21 million worth of rocks. Roberts was caught and sentenced to eight years in prison.

• And speaking of romance: Tinder's not just for

humans! Well, not at the Dutch zoo that created a "Tinder for orangutans" to help a female named Samboja find a breeding partner. The primate was shown photos of potential mates from an international breeding program on a tablet, but unfortunately her mother got hold of it ... and smashed it to pieces.

• Poet W.B. Yeats and magician Aleister Crowley were such bitter rivals in the world of the occult that Yeats once kicked Crowley down a flight of stairs for being a proponent of "black magic."

• Only humans have chins.

• In 2012, the police chief of Vaughn, New Mexico, stepped down because his own criminal record prevented him from carrying a gun. That left just a drug-sniffing dog named Nikita as the only certified member of the town's police department.

• Trained pigeons can tell the difference between paintings by Pablo Picasso and Claude Monet.

Thought for the Day: "What you get by achieving your goals is not as important as what you become by achieving your goals." -- Zig Ziglar


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CASE KNIVES, 25 Vintage Knives. Call or text for pictures \$650. 256-335-2001

### McCaig's Garage

Late model and low mileage motors and transmissions. 90 day guarantee. Call Gary McCaig, 256-332-5366.

Trek Comfort Bikes, male and female, storage rack, helmets, tools. \$500 256-366-6965



## DAY by DAY

Grief Support Group for Bereaved Parents/Grandparents


# Annual Candlelight Remembrance Service

## Sunday, Dec. 11 2:30 pm

**Cross Point Church**  
1350 Cox Creek Pkwy., Florence, AL

*"Gone Is The Life,  
But Never The Light"*

First time Attenders need to email  
[anita.watkins@comcast.net](mailto:anita.watkins@comcast.net)



Light a candle, share love, honor the lives of children who have died.

## Fearing The Bible

Does it scare you to death? Yes. So, the world says let us change it and make it more reasonable and understandable, not to offend everyone and use our modern vernacular and we'll portray God as a love guy that won't hurt anyone. Motive; money; and it's easier to change words than to change our selves. So they did. 250+ versions! The God that the revisors have projected to Laodicean preachers is one of love, goodness, understanding, and certainly would never send anyone to a burning hell. After all, we aren't really that bad. So, religionists say, ignore the O.T. and books like Revelation, and let us interpret the troubling texts for you because after all, we are qualified. We know the languages and are educated. Lost people by the millions are swallowing that gas bag and trailing blind leaders straight into the lake of fire. Never trust anyone with your soul that has spent years getting brain-washed into cultish dogma that cannot save a dead skunk. You read that bible yourself. God wrote it, ask Him to open your eyes to the truth of it.

**2 Timothy 3:16** "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness." **Genesis 40:8c** "Do not interpretations belong to God?" **John 14:26a&b** "But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things," St. Paul said: **Galatians 1:11-12** "But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man, neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ." Most religionists are in a maze, and are in for the money. **Isaiah 66:2c** "but to this man will I look, even to him that is poor and of a contrite spirit, and trembleth at my word." Is it real to you, and does it make you tremble? Get saved and it will. All this hypocritical talk about finding truth and then teaching folk how to reject it. God knows what you're doing. Payday soon.

**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!

## DEALER ONLY AUCTION OF ABANDONED & UNCLAIMED VEHICLES

Cars are for parts only! VEHICLES MUST BE PAID FOR THE DAY OF SALE TONY COUCH - AUCTIONEER, AL LICENSE NUMBER 657 ALL VEHICLES SOLD AS IS • NO WARRANTY • ALL SALES FINAL • CASH ONLY No titles offered!

### Saturday, December 17, 2022 • Sale Starts 9am

VIN	YEAR/MAKE/MODEL		
1G4HP52K234183825	2003 BUICK LESABRE	3FADP4BJXGM175847	2016 FORD FIESTA
1G4HR53L6PH479964	1993 BUICK LESABRE	1HGCG165XYA079704	2000 HONDA ACCORD
5GAER23738J283257	2008 BUICK ENCLAVE	5FNRL18684B059656	2004 HONDA ODYSSEY
1G6DW677460156446	2006 CADILLAC CTS	SHSRD68555U303081	2005 HONDA CR-V
1G1BF5SM5H7141789	2017 CHEVROLET CRUZE	JNKCA31A31T007400	2001 INFINITI I30
1G1ND52J316106284	2001 CHEVROLET MALIB	1J4GL58K63W582075	2003 JEEP LIBERTY
U1G1PC5SHXB7236843	2011 CHEVROLET CRUZE	5XYKT4A68EG540109	2014 KIA SORENTO
1G1ZU64824F165719	2004 CHEVROLET MALIBU	KNAFB1213Y5844495	2000 KIA SEPHIA
1GNDS13S972271319	2007 CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER	KNAFZ4A81E5104077	2014 KIA FORTE
1GNEC13Z54J203986	2004 CHEVROLET TAHOE	4JGAB54E71A283733	2001 MERCEDES BENZ
2CNDL13FX66082541	2006 CHEVROLET EQUINOX	2MEFM74WXW695702	1998 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS
2G11Z5SAXG9197698	2016 CHEVROLET IMPALA	2MELM75W0VX702852	1997 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS
2GCEC19V2Y1386082	2000 CHEVROLET SILVERADO	1N4AL11D94C120134	2004 NISSAN ALTIMA
KL1TD56607B134197	2007 CHEVROLET AVEO	1N4AL21E27C178945	2007 NISSAN ALTIMA
2C3HC56GXXH253266	1999 CHRYSLER LHS	1N4AL21E39N467923	2009 NISSAN ALTIMA
2C4RC1BGXCR313534	2012 CHRYSLER TOWN & COUNTRY	1N4AL21E39N554608	2009 NISSAN ALTIMA
1D4HR38N63F501862	2003 DODGE DURANGO	1N6AD0ER8DN753779	2013 NISSAN FRONTIER
2B7JB21ZXXK527821	1999 DODGE RAM 2500	4N2DN1110VD811746	1997 NISSAN QUEST
1B3ES42Y2WD575584	1998 DODGE NEON	JN8AZ08T47W508752	2007 NISSAN MURANNO
1B3LC56B09N555381	2009 DODGE AVENGER	JN8AZ08W05W404749	2005 NISSAN MURANO
1B4GP44G7WB512213	1998 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN	1G3NL52F63C259106	2003 OLDSMOBILE ALERO
1B7FD14T7GS019006	1986 DODGE RAM	1GTRITEX9BZ213779	2011 GMC SIERRA
1502B3KA43G97H656128	2007 DODGE CHARGER	1N4DL01D91C156067	2001 NISSAN ALTIMA
2D4FV47V27H831688	2007 DODGE MAGNUM	1G2NWX1E23C209640	2003 PONTIAC GRAND AM
3D7KU28W13G776029	2003 DODGE RAM	4T1BF12B4VU151429	1997 TOYOTA AVALON
25004B3AG52H35E037764	2005 DODGE STRATUS	4T1BF28B0YU106294	2000 TOYOTA AVALON
1FDWE45FXH8A80853	2000 FORD ECOLINE BUS	4T1BF28B73U283319	2003 TOYOTA AVALON
1FADP3F23DL142022	2013 FORD FOCUS	4T1BF3EK0AU111883	2010 TOYOTA CAMRY
1FADP31N66W165399	2006 FORD FOCUS	4T1BG22K1WU354394	1998 TOYOTA CAMRY
1FMNU42L91EC87900	2001 FORD EXCURSION	5YFBURHE9GP408403	2016 TOYOTA COROLLA
1FMZK01135GA00366	2005 FORD FREESTYLE	JTLTK324054010629	2005 TOYOTA SCION
1FTBR10T0HUD18686	1987 FORD RANGER	3VW2K7AJ8FM233601	2015 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA
1FTYR10U41TA16087	2001 FORD RANGER	3VWBB21C41M473886	2001 VOLKSWAGEN BEETLE
1ZVBP8AM6C5239299	2012 FORD MUSTANG	3VWDX7AJXBM337317	2011 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA
1ZVFT80N975263187	2007 FORD MUSTANG	3VWSK69M43M040009	2003 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA

NOTICE OF DEALER ONLY AUCTION: SIMPSON'S WRECKER SERVICE gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles on December 17, 2022, 09:00 AM at 835 RICKWOOD RD, FLORENCE, AL 35630-1567, pursuant to subsection 32-13-3 of the Alabama Statutes. SIMPSON'S WRECKER SERVICE reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.

## SIMPSON'S WRECKER SERVICE

835 Rickwood Rd., Florence, AL



**Annual Enrollment Period Oct 15-Dec 7**



**Got MEDICARE?  
Got Questions??  
Got Options!**

Let's talk, because you've...

Humana  BlueCross BlueShield of Alabama  
aetna  Mutual of Omaha  
UnitedHealthcare **AND MORE!**

Your LOCAL Medicare Plans Specialist  
**Marie Lewey**  
**256-366-3132**  
Marie@AlabamaHealthGuidance.com



**CKC AND AKC SIBERIAN Huskie** puppies, ready Nov. 28th, \$700. Males and Females. Shots/Dewormed/Vet Checked. Parents on site. 256-606-4144.

**FREE CEDAR TREE, YOU** cut it. 256-353-1895 or 256-566-2895

**LOOK FOR THE SMS** Code on automotive listings. Text the SMS CODE to 27414 \*Msg & Data Rates May Apply: Ts & Cs and Privacy Policy: <http://auto-conx.com/terms>

**2008 SAMSUNG 52" FLAT** screen TV, excellent condition, needs work on picture. 256-724-2334.

**BUY/REPAIR and SELL USED APPLIANCES:** 4306 Huntsville Road, Florence, 256-767-0909 (Bernie's)

**TOYOTA: SEQUOIA PLATINUM EDITION,** 2010 \$19,950. 1 owner, all options, grey with grey leather, nice Michelin tires, just serviced. **SUPER CONDITION.** 256-527-2125.

**THANK YOU** for reading the Courier Journal!

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
The Colbert County Conservation of Soil And Water will hold its monthly board meeting

**Thursday, December 15 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**

508054-1



**McClish Builders**  
Licensed and Insured  
**Nelson A McClish, Owner • 256-627-7002**  
Alabama Homebuilders License #27376  
McclishBuilders@yahoo.com

508054-1



**Courier Journal** **CHRISTMAS**  
**Coloring Contest**  
**2022**

**Kidsville** 

Entrant information must be completed to qualify.

First Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

**3 Age Groups: 2-4 • 5-7 • 8-10**

Entry Deadline: **THURS., DEC. 15 NOON**  
Winners will be announced in the Courier Journal Dec. 21st issue & the December Issue of Kidsville News.

*Drawings are judged by our staff on the basis of talent of the child's age ability.*  
**IT MUST BE COLORED BY THE CHILD.**

Winners are not selected at random. One entry per person. One winner per family. You may also download and print this entry form from our website: [www.courierjournal.net](http://www.courierjournal.net)

**TOP 3 WINNERS IN EACH AGE GROUP RECEIVE:**



**Truman Stuffed Animal & Kidsville News! Pens**  
from Courier Journal



**Happy Meal from McDonald's in Colbert Co. & Russellville**

**Mail or Bring Entries to: Christmas Coloring Contest • Courier Journal • 219 W. Tennessee St. • Florence, AL 35630**





Home-Owned, Home-Operated

3 DAY SALE

These Special Items DEC. 8-10 ONLY



Family Pack NEW YORK STRIP STEAKS \$6.99 Lb.



Family Pack TOP ROUND STEAK \$4.79 Lb.

Preferred Angus Beef BONELESS TOP ROUND ROAST \$3.99 Lb.



Fresh GROUND ROUND 85% Lean - Family Pack \$3.99 Lb.



YOO-HOO FRIDGE PACK 12 Pk. 11 Oz. Cans \$4.99



FOLGERS CLASSIC ROAST 19.2 Oz.

\$7.99



Pillsbury READY TO EAT CINNAMON ROLLS 4 Ct.

\$4.99



Van Camp's PORK AND BEANS 15 Oz. Can

88¢



CAPRI SUN Fruit Punch 30 Ct.

\$7.99



Top Chick CHICKEN TENDERS 2 Lbs.

\$6.99



Golden Ripe PINEAPPLES Each

2/\$3

These Special Items DEC. 8-10 ONLY



California Red, White Or Black SEEDLESS GRAPES Lb.

\$1.99



Eastern Red Or Golden Delicious APPLES 5 Lbs.

\$3.99



U.S. #1 Russet POTATOES 5 Lbs.

\$2.99



Baby Cut CARROTS 2 Lbs.

\$2.99



Easy Peel SHRIMP 31/40 2 Lbs.

\$9.99



Prairie Fresh Assorted BONE-IN PORK CHOPS Family Pack

\$1.79 Lb.

Baking With Food Club



COCONUT FLAKES 14 Oz. 2/\$5



MARSH-MALLOWES 16 Oz. 2/\$3



EVAP-ORATED MILK 12 Oz. 4/\$5



SWEETENED CONDENSED MILK 14 Oz. 2/\$4



Roma TOMATOES Lb.

\$1.99



Georgia SATSUMA ORANGES 2 Lbs.

\$3.99



Yellow Or Zucchini SQUASH Lb.

\$1.49



Collard Or Turnip GREENS 1 Lb. Bag

\$2.99



PIE FILLING 20-21 Oz. \$2.99



STUFFING 6 Oz. 4/\$5



GRAHAM PIE CRUST 6 Oz. 2/\$3



BAKING CHIPS 11-12 Oz. 2/\$5



Faygo COLAS Or FLAVORS 12 Pk. 12 Oz. Cans

3/\$12



Ragu PASTA SAUCE 23-24 Oz.

2/\$4



Sauer's MAYO 30 Oz.

\$2.99



Domino SUGAR 4 Lbs.

2/\$6



Kraft CHEESE Shreds, Cracker Cuts, Cubes Or Chunks 7-8 Oz.

3/\$8

AD GOOD DEC. 7-13, 2022

Quantity Rights Reserved • None Sold to Dealers • WIC & Food Stamps Accepted Not Responsible For Typographical or Pictorial Errors





<b>Maxwell House COFFEE</b> 24-30 Oz. <b>\$8.99</b> Maxwell House K-CUPS <b>\$6.99</b> 10 Ct.	<b>Hunt's SNACK PACKS</b> 4 Pk. <b>4 / \$5</b>	<b>RUFFLES</b> 7-9 Oz. <b>2 / \$7</b>	<b>CHEETOS OR FRITOS</b> 7-8 Oz. <b>2 / \$8</b>
<b>Betty Crocker CAKE MIX OR BROWNIE MIX</b> 15-19 Oz. <b>2 / \$3</b> Betty Crocker FROSTING <b>3 / \$5</b> 12-16 Oz.	<b>Gold Medal FLOUR</b> 5 Lbs. <b>2 / \$7</b> Bryan CHILI <b>2 / \$5</b> 15 Oz.	<b>TORTIYAHS!</b> 12 Oz. <b>2 / \$6</b>	<b>Blue Bell ICE CREAM</b> Pints <b>\$2.79</b>
<b>Nabisco SALTINES, TRISCUTS OR WHEAT THINS</b> 8-16 Oz. <b>2 / \$6</b>	<b>Hunt's TOMATOES</b> 14 Oz. <b>4 / \$5</b> Rotel TOMATOES <b>4 / \$5</b> 10 Oz.	<b>Mtn. Dew, Sunkist, Sierra Mist Or PEPSI</b> 6 Pk .5 Liters <b>4 / \$13</b>	<b>Mtn. Dew, Sunkist, Sierra Mist Or PEPSI</b> 12 Pk. 12 Oz. Cans <b>\$5.99</b>
<b>CAP'N CRUNCH OR LIFE CEREAL</b> 10-13 Oz. <b>2 / \$6</b>	<b>Northern TISSUE</b> 6 Rolls Or Brawny <b>\$8.99</b> PAPER TOWELS 4 Dbl. Rolls <b>2 / \$6</b> Spam LUNCHEON MEAT <b>2 / \$6</b> 12 Oz.	<b>Lipton TEA</b> 12 Pk .5 Liters <b>\$5.99</b>	<b>BUBLY</b> 8 Pk. 12 Oz. Cans <b>3 / \$11</b>

## DAIRY & FROZEN

<b>Land 'O Lakes BUTTER</b> 13-16 Oz. .... <b>\$4.99</b>	<b>Red Baron PIZZA</b> 17-20 Oz. .... <b>2 / \$8</b>
<b>Food Club SOUR CREAM</b> 16 Oz. .... <b>2 / \$4</b>	<b>Eggo WAFFLES</b> 11 oz. <b>2 / \$6</b>
<b>Wide Awake CREAMER</b> 32 Oz. .... <b>2 / \$7</b>	<b>PictSweet Air Fryer Or Grilling VEGETABLES</b> 13-14 Oz. .... <b>2 / \$7</b>
<b>Food Club CREAM CHEESE</b> 8 Oz. .... <b>2 / \$4</b>	<b>Banquet MEGA BOWL</b> 13-14 Oz. .... <b>\$2.99</b>

## MEAT

<b>Preferred Angus Beef TOP SIRLOIN STEAK</b> lb. .... <b>\$3.99</b>	<b>Williams Hot Or Mild SAUSAGE</b> 1 lb. Roll ..... <b>2 / \$7</b>
<b>Prairie Fresh BONE-IN CENTER CUT PORK CHOPS</b> Family Pk. lb. .... <b>\$2.49</b>	<b>Bryan Thick Or Regular BACON</b> 12 Oz. .... <b>2 / \$7</b>
<b>Kentucky Legend Quarter Sliced BONELESS HAM</b> lb. .... <b>\$5.99</b>	<b>Eckrich Original LITTLE SMOKIES</b> 14 oz. <b>2 / \$6</b>
<b>Bryan Original WIENERS</b> 12 Oz. .... <b>2 / \$4</b>	<b>Land 'O Frost Bistro LUNCH MEAT</b> Asst. 6-8 Oz. .... <b>2 / \$9</b>

## BEER & WINE

<b>White Claw HARD SELTZER</b> 12 Pk. Cans <b>\$16.79</b>	<b>Miller High Life BEER</b> 12 Pk. Cans Or Bottles <b>\$10.49</b>
<b>Stella Artois BEER</b> 12 Pk. Cans Or Bottles <b>\$17.99</b>	<b>Sutter Home WINE</b> 1.5 Liters <b>\$9.99</b>

## DELI & BAKERY

<b>Mrs. Stratton's Asst. POTATO SALAD OR COLESLAW</b> <b>\$2.49</b> 16/14 Oz.	<b>European White Or Wheat SUB ROLLS</b> <b>\$3.49</b> 6 Pk.
<b>Shirley's NO BAKE COOKIES</b> <b>\$3.79</b> 9 Ct.	<b>FRIED CHICKEN</b> 2 Legs, 2 Thighs, 2 Wings & 2 Breasts <b>\$7.99</b> 8 Pk.

**Not Available At All Locations!**

**AD GOOD**  
**DEC. 7-13, 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



# Letters...

## Big Prison Troubles

Continued from Page 14

low parole rates make the situation worse.

The stories noted:

- The US Justice Dept is charging the state with unconstitutionally cruel and unusual punishment due to violence and not enough medical, mental health and other staff.

- A former officer reported that the Alabama Corrections Dept is not in control of any prison in the state.

- Alabama voters last month approved a ballot measure that will change the constitution to prohibit slavery and involuntary servitude as punishment for crime.

The *New Yorker* magazine in October provided more background in an article titled "The Stunning Neglect and Racist Politics Behind Alabama's Prison Strike".

Problems of overcrowding, understaffing, violence, and corruption are fundamental to our carceral system. These exist in every jail and prison across the United States.

However, the author noted that in Alabama prisons the troubles are on steroids. For example,

- deaths have increased more than 50%

- suicide and drug use are rampant

- overcrowding, abuse by guards, and sexual assault are pervasive

- overrepresentation of Black people prevails

- drug-related deaths doubled this past year. Drug problems persist because of unwillingness to admit that the main source of contraband trade is staff.

Tell our representatives that even prisoners deserve to be treated decently and humanely.

Dan Waterman  
Killen

## Who is Here to Help?

Editor

Where are the helpful people?

When I was growing up,

See LETTERS... Above

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# LETTERS...

Continued from Below

if someone needed help, all the neighbors would be there for them.

My husband and I are both disabled and he is a veteran.

We have someone to sponsor us and buy the materials for a new front porch with a roof, but we can't find anyone willing to volunteer their time and build it for us.

I have had both knees replaced and a shoulder replacement.

My husband fell coming in the door and I have fallen a couple of times. With winter weather coming on, we desperately need a new porch with a roof. I still have to go get groceries. My husband is on home oxygen and Hospice.

If I fall and break something, I don't know what we will do.

Thank you for helping veterans and the elderly.

Nancy Johnson  
Florence

## The US Flag in Church

Editor:

It was an interesting editorial on a Christian news site. The writer, a pastor, made the unilateral decision to remove the American flag from his church's worship center. He said the flag promoted "Christian nationalism" and was inappropriate since ultimate allegiance belongs to the Lord. He insisted the flag was in competition with the church's mission.

Of course, he faced some blow-back. I imagine long-time members were first to criticize their pastor, followed by the congregation's veterans. But he stood firm. At least as of that writing he yet retained his job.

It reminded me of some blow-back I got for removing a Bible.

The previous pastor kept a large Bible on the pulpit at all times. He called it "the church's Bible," and he read his text from it every week. It was cumbersome and in my way. I preferred to use my own Bible, and sometimes another translation, so I removed it. Only one lady berated me afterwards, so I guess all in all I was unscathed.

Later a friend told

See LETTERS... Page 39



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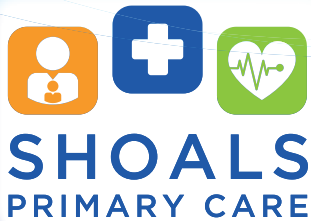
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ARE YOU LOOKING TO BUY A NEW COMPUTER FOR YOUR FAVORITE GEEK THIS CHRISTMAS? Do you get as overwhelmed as I do when shopping for one? The choices are often overwhelming but I can offer some foundational advice on where to begin.

I suggest coming up with a budget and then buy as much computer as you can within that budget. Plan to spend \$500 to \$700 for a family computer. Add at least \$100 for a laptop computer. Gaming computers are a complicated subject. We see lots of sad clients who spent \$700 at some



Jim Fisher

# DIGITAL CHRISTMAS 2022

by "The Computer Skeptic"

online shop for a computer that is not powerful enough to play their games. I suggest you consult with a professional before buying a gaming computer.

When buying a new Windows 11-equipped computer, RAM is ultra-important. 6 gigabytes (GB) of RAM is okay for grandma, 8 GB is better, and 16 GB is best. Hard drive size doesn't matter as much as it used to because most of our stuff is now stored in the cloud instead of on our computers. 256GB is

the minimum. You need more if you store lots of pictures or videos. Most new computers will come with fast, reliable "solid-state" or "SSD" hard drives. Ultra-cheap computers may still come with old, slow, "mechanical" hard drives. Avoid those.

Apple "Macintosh" computers tend to have the most reliable hardware and best technical support but you will pay dearly for a computer made by Apple. Apple does have excellent US-based technical support if you need

that service. If you are looking to save money and still get the job done, stay with a PC from a leading manufacturer.

In our experience, there is no "best" brand of desktop computer. All brands are pretty reliable these days. Durability is another matter. Each manufacturer sells junky low-end systems. Each manufacturer sells higher-end systems. You generally get what you pay for so let price be your guide.

Be sure the computer has a 1-year warranty. Some manufacturers try to slip in a mere 90-day warranty. Steer far away from extended warranties and "protection plans." They are almost pure profit for retailers and rarely worth the price. While I'm at it, don't let the big box retailers pressure

you into buying anti-virus software or ANY extras for that matter--especially the snake oil they sell to you as "computer optimization." That is simply a rip off. Windows 11 has built-in antivirus that is quite effective and 100% free.

If you need a printer, keep in mind that most inkjet printers are junk these days. If you have any problems with them, you usually have to throw them away. Laser printers are far more reliable but more expensive. Happy holidays!

Jim Fisher owns Excel Computer Services in Florence. Reach him at [www.ExcelAL.com](http://www.ExcelAL.com)

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## Notes...

Continued from page 15

songwriter series will be hosted by Billy Lawson. The concert will feature renowned artists Mark Narmore, Bobby Tom-berlin, and Tess Frizell. Doors open at 6pm and show starts at 6:30pm.

Tickets are \$15 and are available online on the Event Calendar: [www.colbertcountytourism.org](http://www.colbertcountytourism.org)

**55th Annual Turkey Shoot** on Saturday, December 17, 7am until we run out of shooters at Knights of Columbus, Langer Hall, 4051 Co. Rd. 30, St. Florian. All ammunition provided. Shotgun rounds, .22cal rifle rounds, .22 pistol rounds. We have ham rounds.

Concession stand will be open. Youth friendly. Fun for the entire family.

**Pawlday with the Grinch!** Join the Grinch and his four-legged friends on Saturday, December 17 from 4:30-6:30pm at the Florence Lauderdale Animal Services building, 3240 Roberson Road in Florence. Enjoy balloon animals, candy, and lots of fun taking free photos with the green one. It's time to cheer up the Grinch - it's the holidays after all!

to sponsor one or more of these children who do deserve a beautiful Christmas or would like more details call or write me. Debbie Dixon, P.O. Box 2234, Florence, AL 35630. Phone: 256-443-1297. Tax ID# 27-2001583.

Sponsoring entails buying 3 gifts for each child sponsored.

**Public Notice - Lauderdale County Board of Education, Special Education Department** - Special Education records for students who graduated or should have graduated during the year 2016 and 2017 are going to be destroyed

in January 2023. Persons interested in receiving their records should contact the Special Education Department at 256-760-1324 before December 16, 2022.

**Free! Fun! Stretch and Tone Exercise class.** Tuesday and Thursday 9-10am. Killen Senior Center, 227 J.C. Mauldin Hwy. Killen, 256-757-1792.

**Chapel Hill Church of Christ welcomes you each week** at its 10:30am Worship with New Preacher, Larry Kilpatrick. Chapel Hill is located on Hwy 72, just west of Tuscumbia.

**The Alzheimer's Caregiver Support Group meets** at the Florence Lauderdale library at 2pm every 3rd Monday of each month. All caregivers are welcome. We all need encouragement.

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

See NOTES... page 34

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### Lauderdale County Board of Education Special Education Department

Special Education records for students who graduated or should have graduated during the year 2016 and 2017 are going to be destroyed in January, 2023.

Persons interested in receiving their records should contact the Special Education Department at 256-760-1324 before December 16, 2022.

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- #C40 Frankie Hollis (Katherine Sue Smith), 105 Momma K Way S Apt 2604, Tuscumbia, AL 35674

Auction will be held at [www.lockerfox.com](http://www.lockerfox.com) and will end on or after 11:45 AM CST on 12/20/2022.

**What's under your hat? The Tangled Tale of Hats and Hair** continues through December 27 at the Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts.

Our hats and hair speak about our culture and our histories. They illustrate protest and rebellion, mourning and loss, celebration, and happiness. They protect us, defend us, announce us. They communicate who we want to be; they speak to where we are from. Our hats and hair signal our interests, our fashion sense, and who we are. This exhibit looks at hats and hair in our corner of the state through time.

Explore the styles, accessories, and products that Shoals residents have used to express themselves over several hundred years. From bone hair pins used by Native Americans to Victorian hair extensions; from military headwear to straw boaters and bonnets; and from pompadours to purple hair.

This collaborative exhibit features artifacts from Pope's Tavern, The Florence Indian Mound Museum, the Frank Lloyd Wright Rosenbaum House, and Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts, Alabama Department of Archives and History, the Florence High School Collection, Belle Mont Plantation, and local Shoals residents. Special thanks to Dr. Cheryl Price of the University of North Alabama and her Victorian Literature class for their assistance in identifying objects in this collection.

The Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts is located at 217 E. Tuscaloosa St. in Florence and is open to the public with no admission fee Monday - Friday from 9am-4pm and on Sundays from 1-4pm. 256-760-6379.

Want to list your event in Community Notes? Email your information to [editor@CourierJournal.net](mailto:editor@CourierJournal.net).

**Christmas for Kids** - It's that time again. We are in need of sponsors for children during Christmas. These children have one or both parents in jail or prison.

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Speaking The

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Ephesians 4:15

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## Why ~ A Great Question

WHY do we do the things we do? WHY do we care about other people? WHY are we willing to go out of our way to lift others up, to encourage those who are discouraged?

WHY do we work faithfully at our jobs? WHY do we strive to be a good neighbor, great citizen of our great country, or work hard to be a true and genuine friend?

More importantly, WHY should we diligently strive to please Jehovah God? God created all things, including man. He is God, we are the created. We wisely want to do what our Creator requires of us.

WHY are we interested in living the way our Creator desires? It is a fact: our life on earth is brief (James 4:14). Death is coming to everyone (if the end of the world has not come first) according to Hebrews 9:27. But this verse of Scripture also states "and after that the judgment". Since we will stand before our Heavenly Father in judgment, to be judged by the words of Christ (John 12:48), then we must realize we should live as the JUDGE desires in order to be blessed in eternity.



WHY should we endeavor to reject sin and anything displeasing to Almighty God? Sin is the transgression of the law of God (1 John 3:4). Sin is damning (if we do not turn from that sin in repentance)! Sin separates us from God (Isaiah 59:1-2). God hates sin (Proverbs 6:16-19). The wages (price we pay for) of sin is death (Romans 6:23).

God has provided a way to rid ourselves of sin and live a blameless life. WHY is that important? Because the Word of God declares that nothing that defiles (sin) can enter heaven (Revelation 21:27).

Conclusion: we want to please God, live as God desires of us so when we are judged by Him, we will hear Him say "Well done faithful servant."

### Searching The Scriptures...

Can we know what we must do to be saved?

(Answer, last week: In hell, we will be tormented forever, in a lake of fire and brimstone; forever separated from Almighty God.

### One Final Thought To Consider...

Nothing can separate us from the love of God (Romans 8:35-39).



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:

**Church Of Christ at Cedar Grove**

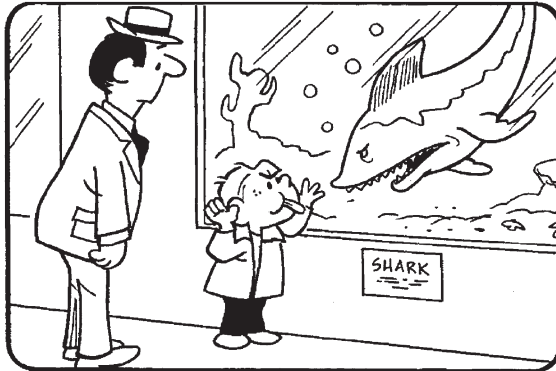
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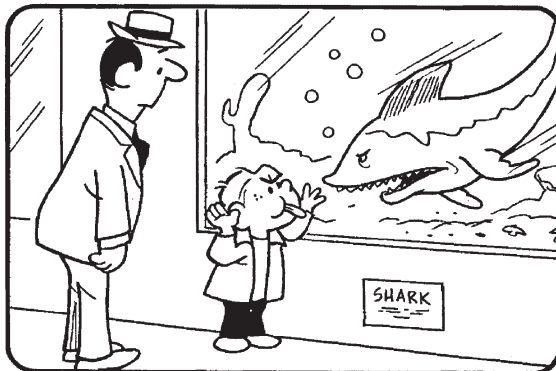
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### HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLITNOFF



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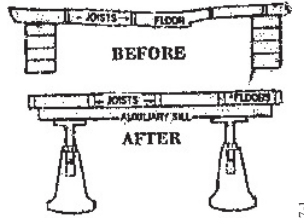
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# 306

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Courier Journal

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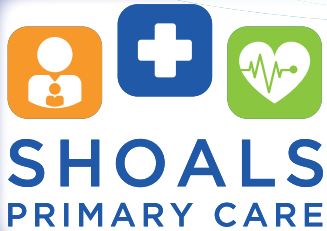
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**Medicare Minute**  
**"Prescription Drug Plans 3"**

Last week we discussed prescription drug plan premiums, deductibles and coinsurance. This week we will continue to look at Medicare prescription drug plans by looking at copays, formularies and provider networks. When choosing a prescription drug plan these six things are very important to consider.

A copay is a fixed amount you pay for each individual prescription. Copays can vary depending on the tier of your prescription. Typically the lower the tier, the lower the copay. A tier 1 drug usually has a lower copay than a tier 2 drug, tier 2 drugs have a lower copay than tier 3, etc. Because different plans may categorize drugs in different tiers it's a good idea to know how your plan treats your prescriptions.


The prescription drug plan's formulary will tell you two important things. First, it will tell you if the prescription you are taking is covered under the plan. Second, it will tell you the tier of the prescription. Knowing the tier of your prescription is important in determining the copay. For example, Plan A may list your prescription as a tier 2 whereas, Plan B may have it as a tier 3. This should tell you that Plan A will have a lower copay on your prescription than Plan B. It will also tell you if your drug will fall in the deductible phase of the plan.

The plan's provider network is a list of pharmacies that accepts the plan. All pharmacies do not accept all plans so if you have a particular pharmacy you would like to use check to make sure they accept your plan. You can do this by simply asking your pharmacist. Also, pharmacies are listed as "preferred" and "standard" under some plans. In this case a "preferred" pharmacy may have lower copays than a "standard" pharmacy.

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](mailto:ikey@alabamahealthguidance.com). Alabama Health Guidance is an independent insurance agency and is not affiliated with Medicare or any other government agency.



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**SIGNS OF THE PAST**



**CONFEDERATE RETREAT AT THE TENNESSEE RIVER**

After the battles of Franklin and Nashville, the defeated Confederate Army of the Tennessee retreated southward in severe winter weather. At Old Bainbridge near here on December 26, 1864, its soldiers began to cross the Tennessee River on a pontoon bridge. On the morning of December 28, North Carolina and Texas troops, the last brigade of the rear guard, crossed over, ending the campaign.

"They did their work bravely to the last"—  
Union General George H. Thomas

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*Location: 34.7908°N, 87.5635°W  
Bainbridge Rd, 1/3mi N  
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This retreat of the weary Confederate Army of Tennessee occurred less than 4 months before the end of the Civil War.

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

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# Soap Opera Preview

**DAYS OF OUR LIVES** spiral. Kristen tried Eric found himself to make inroads with going into a downward Brady. Leo stirred

up some drama for Sonny and Will. Alex misread a situation between Stephanie and Chad. Chanel made an unpleasant discovery at Sweet Bits. Eric and Paulina ended up in jail together. EJ had a surprising offer for Nicole. Johnny was tempted to tell Gabi the truth. Jada confided in Rafe. Eric hired Sloan to be his lawyer. Johnny comforted a distraught Chanel. Abe was pressured to step down as mayor. EJ received an unexpected visitor. Eric and Nicole had it out. Gabi made a request to Wendy. Stefan questioned Li about Johnny and Wendy's trip to Jakarta. Chad talked to Sonny about his feelings for Stephanie. Wait to See: Alex and Stephanie get romantic. Xander is trapped when Justin insists on helping him. Bonnie struggles to deal with the trauma caused by her kidnapping.

**G E N E R A L HOSPITAL**  
Michael and Willow had a frank discussion. Britt shared her plans with Austin. Robert and Laura put their heads together. Valentin pressed Felicia for information. Sonny pressured Dex. Elizabeth called Esme's bluff. Ava advised Trina. Spencer received a gift. Alexis sought out Curtis. Jordan received an invitation. Cody opened up to Dante. Terry sensed something was off with Britt. Victor delivered a surprise. Finn questioned Nikolas. Felicia received some worrisome news. Sonny issued a threat. Martin pleaded with Liz. Nikolas was put on the spot. Ava visited Ryan. Sonny put Dex on notice. Wait to See: Nina tries to make inroads with Josslyn. Finn is shocked by what he sees. Spencer jumps to the wrong conclusion.

**THE YOUNG AND THE RESTLESS**  
Victor demanded answers from Chance. Diane invited danger

into the Abbott home. Nick made a shocking discovery. Daniel kept a secret. Billy lifted Chelsea's spirits. Sally

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felt backed into a corner. Jack gave Phyllis an ultimatum. Audra seduced Noah. Tucker revealed an alliance. Victor took measures to protect Nikki. Nick tested Summer. Kyle lost patience with Ashley's vendetta against Diane. Wait to See: Jack calls Jeremy Stark's bluff. Chance makes a bold move. Nate has a change of heart.

# Prancer...

Continued from Page 14

*Prancer* features a cast of local children, adults, and a life-sized puppet of Prancer, handmade by the staff of the Tennessee Valley Art Association, which runs The Ritz. "Puppetry is acting at its core," said William Freeman, the lead puppeteer for the show. "It's my job to get you to suspend disbelief, to believe that an inanimate

object is in truth, real." The two public performances follow a week of field trip performances, which have sold out. Families are encouraged to purchase tickets for the public shows in advance to ensure their seats. Audiences can expect a show that is magical, entertaining, and touching.

"Puppetry in many ways is a dying art form," said Freeman. "I hope that you will come out and help support it and the rest of the cast. They have worked very hard to bring you a fun, funny, and heartwarming Christmas tale."

For more information about the Tennessee Valley Art Association, which runs the Ritz Theatre and the Tennessee Valley Museum of Art, call 256-383-0533 or visit [tennesseevalleyarts.org](http://tennesseevalleyarts.org)

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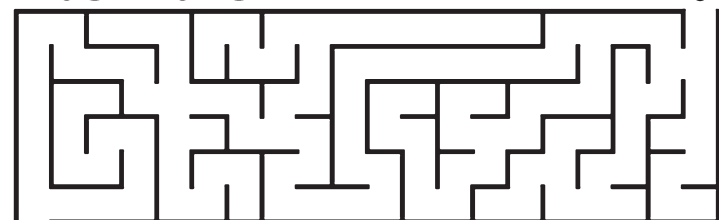
Joe W/S

## Even Exchange by Donna Pettman

Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

- |                       |             |                     |             |
|-----------------------|-------------|---------------------|-------------|
| 1. Circle of flowers  | W _ _ _ _ _ | Mouthful of air     | B _ _ _ _ _ |
| 2. Enthusiastic       | E _ _ _ _ _ | Place a bet         | W _ _ _ _ _ |
| 3. Bullwinkle, e.g.   | _ _ _ S _   | Roger or Mary Tyler | _ _ _ R _   |
| 4. Coastline          | _ _ O _ _   | Segment             | _ _ A _ _   |
| 5. Beverage container | _ O _ _ _   | Confrontation       | _ A _ _ _   |
| 6. Subject matter     | _ _ P _ _   | Pick-me-up beverage | _ _ N _ _   |
| 7. Alter              | _ _ _ G _   | Unintended          | _ _ _ C _   |
| 8. Dish               | P _ _ _ _   | Election day list   | S _ _ _ _   |
| 9. Look for           | _ E _ _ _   | Clothes stiffener   | _ T _ _ _   |
| 10. Beg               | _ _ _ D _   | Skirt fold          | _ _ _ T _   |

## Kids' Maze



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## WORD LADDERS

Can you go from MAGIC to MENDS in 6 words?  
Change one letter for each rung in the ladder.

magic

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

mends

**Answers on  
Page 38**

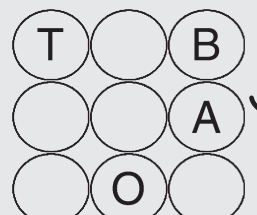
# Puzzle Whirl

## MINI SUDOKU

		4	2	5
6	5	4	3	
4				
	6		4	
		3	5	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 6-box square contains all of the numbers from one to six.

## WORD SPIRAL



Fill in the missing letters to reveal the nine-letter word that starts at one of the four corners and moves clockwise around the perimeter before ending in the center.



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## Savvy SENIOR

### How to Buy Over-the-Counter Hearing Aids

*Dear Savvy Senior,*  
I'm interested in getting some of the new over-the-counter hearing aids that just became available a few months ago. Can you offer any tips to help me with this?

*Straining to Hear*

#### Dear Straining,

The new FDA approved over-the-counter (OTC) hearing aids that started rolling out this fall are a real game changer for the roughly 48 million Americans with hearing loss. Adults with impaired hearing can now walk in and buy hearing aids at a pharmacy, big box chain, consumer electronics store or online, without a prescription and without consulting an audiologist.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved this new class of hearing aids to lower prices and improve their availability.

About a third of people ages 65 to 74 and half of those over age 75 have hearing loss severe enough to affect their daily life. Yet about 80 percent of people who would benefit from hearing aids don't wear them, according to the National Institutes of Health, primarily because of the hefty price tag.

Traditional hearing aids ordered through an audiologist cost anywhere from \$1,000 to \$7,000 a pair and are not covered by most private insurers and traditional Medicare. The new OTC hearing aids range from \$200 up to \$3,000.

#### Who Should Get Them?

OTC hearing aids are specifically designed for adults (18 and older) who have mild to moderate hearing loss. You don't need a hearing exam or prescription to buy them, and they are designed so you can fit and tune them yourself.

Do you have mild to moderate hearing loss? The specific signs are having trouble hearing or understanding conversations, especially in noisier environments, over the phone, or if you can't see who's talking. Or, if you need a higher volume of TV, radio or music than other people, or have to ask others to speak more slowly, louder or repeat what they said.

If, however, your hearing problem is more severe than that, for example, if you also have trouble hearing loud sounds such as power tools or motor vehicles, or if you struggle to hear conversations in quiet settings, then your hearing loss is considered more significant than over-the-counter aids are intended to address.

To help you get a basic sense of your hearing problem, you can take an app-based test like *Mimi* ([mimi.health](http://mimi.health)) or *SonicCloud* ([soniccloud.com](http://soniccloud.com)).

If you find that your hearing loss is significant, you'll need to work with an audiologist or hearing instrument specialist to find a hearing aid that works for you.

#### What to Look For

To help you choose a good OTC hearing aid that meets your needs and preferences, here are some important points to keep in mind.

**Return policy:** It can take weeks for your brain to adjust to hearing louder sounds through a hearing aid, so be sure to choose a brand that offers at least a 30-day free trial period, or money back return policy. The FDA requires manufacturers to print their return policy on the package.

**Set up:** Many OTC hearing aids require a smartphone or computer to adjust and operate the devices to your specific needs, while others have the controls on the device. This will also be labeled on the box. Choose one that fits your preference and comfort level.

**Battery:** The package also should tell you what kind of battery the device uses. Some of the older versions of hearing aids have replaceable batteries, but many of the newer ones have rechargeable batteries that come in a charging case, where you charge them up every night.

**Customer support:** Some companies offer unlimited customer support to help you adjust or fine-tune your hearing aids, while others might limit support or charge extra. Be sure you check.

For more information, including product reviews, see the National Council on Aging's OTC hearing aids buyer's guide at [NCOA.org/adviser/hearing-aids/over-the-counter-hearing-aids](http://NCOA.org/adviser/hearing-aids/over-the-counter-hearing-aids).

Send your senior questions to:  
Savvy Senior,  
P.O. Box 5443,  
Norman, OK 73070,  
or visit [SavvySenior.org](http://SavvySenior.org).  
Jim Miller is a contributor to the  
NBC *Today* show and author of  
"The Savvy Senior" book.



## Notes...

Continued from page 23

**Food Pantry** at North Wood Methodist Church, North Florence. Call for appointment, 256-764-2111

**60 or older? Join us for lunch** Monday thru Friday at 11am for a one dollar donation. Our hours are 8:30am -12:30pm. Also if you would like to join Bingo every Tuesday and Thursday bring a small one dollar gift to play. Killen Senior Center, 227 J.C. Mauldin Hwy. Killen, 256-757-1792. See you soon!!

**Come Travel with The Club** (Florence Senior Center), *Diamonds in the Rough*. 256-760-6642. Our trips are open to the general public.

*Mackinac Island, May 14-20, 2023*, \$775 double rate per person, add \$219 for private room. \$75 deposit on signing up. Final payment 3/7/23.

*Mount Rushmore, the Badlands & Black Hill of South Dakota, Sept. 30-Oct. 8, 2023*. \$999 double rate per person, add \$286 for private room. \$75 deposit on signing up. Final payment 7/23/23.

#### Grief can be an overwhelming season to go through.

There is a monthly grief support group that meets on the third Friday of each month at 10am at First Baptist Church of Rogersville, 222 College Street. Come and share and let us pray with you for strength and comfort! These groups are FREE, open to the public, and include supportive materials. Another grief support meeting also takes place at 10am every first Tuesday at Cliff Haven Church in Sheffield. These groups are sponsored by Kindred Hospice. For more information, call 256-764-0873.

#### Activities at The Club (Florence Senior Center):

9am-3:30pm. Games: Rook, Chicken Foot, Mexican Train, Rummycubes, LRC, etc. Square Dance Monday 6-8pm. Social Dance Tuesday 6:30-8:45pm. Joints in Motion, (chair exercise class) Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday 9:30am. BINGO, Wednesday 10:15-11:15am. Lunch 11:30 Monday-Friday, for 60 years and older, donation \$1, Inspiration Rock Painting Friday 10:30-noon. Fishing Days at Deibert Park. Pool Room at Fairground. Masters Games are back! Fantastic Friday, BBQ meal \$15, music, dancing, games.

Trips: 2022 Biltmore, 2023 Mackinac Island, Memphis, Nashville, Mount Rushmore.

For more information on the fun at The Club, call 256-760-6420. This is an Alcohol, Drug, Tobacco, and Firearms-Free facility.

#### 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.

#### Schedule a Recycling Lesson for Your Classes!

Students will learn the many ways recycling affects our community!

Call 256-760-6495 to schedule a classroom lesson or tour of the Florence Recycling Center.

**The Help Center** - 621 South Court Street, Florence. A cooperative ministry of local churches in Lauderdale County serving our neighbors in need with utility, food, clothing, prescriptions, and dental.

Hours: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and 4th Saturday of each month 8:30am to 12pm.

Please bring a photo ID and proof of address.

If you have questions or need assistance call Help Center at 256-766-7663 or come by our Florence location

See NOTES... page 36

Save the Date!



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

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**REDLINE Your Ad! - See Page 8**

**NOTICE OF SALE**

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 256-488-0408

Personal property consisting of furniture, TV's, clothes, boxes, household goods, and other personal property used in home, office or garage will be sold or otherwise disposed of at public sales on the dates & times indicated below to satisfy Owners Lien for rent & fees due in accordance with Alabama Statutes: Self-Service Storage Act, Section 8-15-31. All items or spaces may not be available for sale. Credit or debit cards ONLY for all purchases & tax resale certificates required, if applicable. OWNER RETAINS THE RIGHT TO BID.

#F7 Londie and John Kent, 1165 Sunset Beach Florence, AL 35633  
 #F11 Connie Burnett, 106 South Water Street, Tuscumbia, AL 35674  
 #H3 Helena Davis, 1109 Central Ave, Tuscumbia, AL 35674

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# Notes...

Continued from page 34

during open hours. If you are interested in volunteering at Help Center come by during open hours to see which department you would like to serve. Come by and get plugged in!

**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

**You Are Not Alone!** Grief can be an overwhelming season to go through. Often the time it takes to process all of those feelings is multiplied simply because those who grieve have no one to talk to. You are not alone as you go through this difficult time! Let us help!

There is a monthly grief support group that meets the first Tuesday of each

month at 10am at Cliff Haven Church in Sheffield. Located at 1601 Andrews Avenue in Sheffield directly behind McDonald's near the O'Neal Bridge.

There is a second monthly grief support group that meets the third Friday of each month at 10am at First Baptist Church of Rogersville. Located at 222 College Street in Rogersville.

Come and share and let us pray with you for strength and comfort! These groups are FREE and open to the public. We will provide wonderful, supportive materials to take home to help with your healing process!

For more information call 256.764.0873.

These groups are sponsored by Kindred Hospice.

**Want a job? Want a better job?** Get your GED! Free GED Prep classes are located near you. The program is open entry with new students starting classes weekly. For more information, call the Northwest-Shoals Community College Adult Education Program at 256-331-5440 or 256-331-5438.

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

**Salem M. B. Church** invites everyone to come and worship with us every Sunday morning at 10am at 923 West Mobile St, Florence. 256-633-3382.

**If you played in a High School or College Band** and would like to get back to playing for fun, the Shoals Community Concert Band welcomes you. We are from all over the Shoals area, north Alabama and southern Tennessee, and range from High School students to retirees, at all levels of ability. We are especially seeking to build up our percussion and trumpet sections, but all instruments are welcome. Percussion equipment of all kinds is provided. It doesn't matter how long its been since you played and no auditions are required.

We usually meet on Tuesdays at 7pm at the Florence First Baptist Church Annex, 218 N. Wood Avenue, Florence, the old library building - enter from the side parking lot.

For more information, please contact James Ed Champion, Band Director. jchampion46@yahoo.com

See NOTES... page 38

# ASK THE ATTORNEY

## Buying and Selling Used Cars



**Thomas McCutcheon**

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

A bank or other lending institution will keep the title to an automobile until it is paid off.

In Alabama the only way to have a valid security interest in a motor vehicle is by a notation on the title.

Don't buy a car without seeing a clear title. You might consider going to the place holding the title and paying them directly for the car with the balance going to the owner who gives you a bill of sale. If you don't know who has

the title, don't buy the car.

If you sell a car you need to realize that what you say about the car can become part of the bargain. Representations about the car such as "it's never been wrecked" can come back to haunt you if it turns out the car has been wrecked. Even if you didn't know it had.

If you tell someone this is "a really good car" and it doesn't get them home, they can sue you and they might win. If you intend for there to be no further entanglements with the car, use the phrase "no warranty expressed or implied - as is where is".

Include the make, model, year, and VIN of the vehicle on the bill of sale. Both people need to sign the bill of sale. Plan on that so that you have either a way to make a copy or a photograph of the bill of sale which when it contains language regarding the warranty or lack thereof becomes a contract. Keep the copy or print the photo.

If you really want to seal the deal, you can add that the buyer has had an opportunity to inspect the car or have the car inspected and they are satisfied with its condition. Used cars have gone up in value and we're getting more and more calls about problems people are having with used cars that don't work as expected. Writing and signing goes a long way both morally and legally. If you buy a car without a warranty, consider having a mechanic inspect the car.

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

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

P. O. Box 38, Florence, Alabama 35631 or visit our website at: [www.mhatty.com](http://www.mhatty.com)

facebook: McCutcheon and Hamner, P.C.

We will not print your full name in the article. We will not be able to return any written or preprinted items which are submitted. No representation is made that the quality of legal services to be performed is greater than the quality legal services performed by other lawyers.



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# Real Estate

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**SHEFFIELD: 135 Kentucky Avenue** 3 bdrm. house for rent. Sheffield village area. \$1,100 per month. Security deposit equal to rent. Direct deposit for rent payment required. Criminal check. No Drug Users. Credit Check. Employment verification. 256-694-5069

**LARGE HOUSE WITH 3 acres** for sale. Five miles west of Tuscumbia. Older home, needs some work. Call for more information. 256-412-3365.

**PROPERTY FOR SALE** in Muscle Shoals, 3.45 Acres on Mary Mack St., Call 256-740-1960

**HIDDEN CREEK CAMP-GROUNDS OPEN,** for camping full hook ups. Event Room. 256-320-5097 info@hiddencreekcamping.com

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## Notes...

Continued from page 36

**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.uwnwal.org/volunteer-opportunities> to submit your information!

**LifeSouth is in emergency need for blood donors.** 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](http://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](http://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](mailto:editor@CourierJournal.net).**

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

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# Puzzle Whirl Answers



### Even Exchange answers

1. Wreath, Breath
2. Eager, Wager
3. Moose, Moore
4. Shore, Share
5. Bottle, Battle
6. Topic, Tonic
7. Change, Chance
8. Plate, Slate
9. Search, Starch
10. Plead, Pleat

### Kids' Maze Solution



### WORD LADDER Answer

MAGIC, MANIC, MANIS, MINIS, MINDS, MENDS

### Word Spiral Answer

BAROMETRY

### MINI SUDOKU Answer

2	5	6	3	1	4
3	1	4	2	5	6
6	2	5	4	3	1
4	3	1	6	2	5
5	6	2	1	4	3
1	4	3	5	6	2

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# Letters...

## The US Flag in Church

Continued from Page 21

me he'd had the same experience, but he put the large pulpit Bible on a stand on the communion table. When asked why, he explained he "wanted everyone to enjoy it."

He was much smarter than me.

So what about the flag? The Virginia pastor was unwise in my judgment. He picked a battle over an issue of his own making.

When we sing the National Anthem and salute the flag on July 4 or Veteran's Day, we're not worshipping America! We're thanking God for America and humbly asking his blessings on our nation. In our heart of hearts we understand our ultimate allegiance to God. As the Apostle Peter said so long ago, "We ought to obey God rather than man" (Acts 5:29).

I attended a Sunday evening service at a neighboring Baptist church last spring to hear a guest pastor from Nigeria. This man had been to Washington to lobby for his nation being placed again on the list of "Countries of Particular Concern." For some reason the Biden administration removed the CPC. According to our speaker, this designation

## Commentary

### McVie...

Continued from Page 14

controversy, cleavage, or outlandish outfits, and was relatively apolitical.

Bill Clinton chose, "Don't Stop" as his official campaign theme song in 1992, a brilliant move which helped draw the attention of a key voting block that year and also helped reunite the band.

It was McVie's voice that we remember on "You Make Loving Fun," "Over My Head," "Think About Me," "Hold Me," "Little Lies," "Don't Stop," "Say You Love Me," "Songbird" and "Everywhere" (popular on a current



Chevrolet commercial), and all of which she wrote.

McVie had several successful solo projects over the years, and one with Lindsey Buckingham in 2017 that did very well.

However, she was THE stabilizing force in an often turbulent and complicated history of one of the most legendary rock and roll bands of our time.

McVie suffered from scoliosis and persistent back problems. Yet, she was an active part of the band until just before her death.

Christine McVie may not have been among the most well-known rock and pop performers.

However, she will forever be among the most charming and well-respected.

mandates that American government recognize and protest persecution of Christians in Nigeria where hundreds have been killed for their faith.

Nevertheless, Nigerian flags were displayed in the Alabama sanctuary and smaller flags were for sale at the book table. Surely no one was worshipping Nigeria. The flag reminded us to pray for this nation

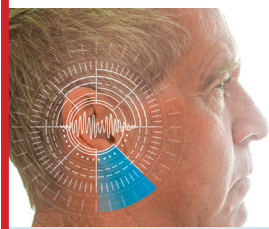
and for brave Christians who struggle.

I cannot believe that an American flag is somehow offensive in worship. At the very least it reminds us of our freedom to worship under the First Amendment, unlike our dear brothers and sisters in Nigeria.

Michael J. Brooks  
Alabaster



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