

**One of Best
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SHEFFIELD – Bank Independent was recently named as one of the Best Companies to Work for in Alabama. This annual program is in its thirteenth year - created by *Business Alabama* magazine and Best Companies Group.

This is the third consecutive year that Bank Independent has made the list. This recognition joins the previous honors already received this year. Bank Independent was ranked #36 in the Top 100 Most Loved

Workplaces by *Newsweek* Magazine, American Banker Best Banks to Work For (fourth consecutive year) and Forbes Best-In-State Banks (third consecutive year.)

“We are excited to once again be on the list for Best Companies to Work For in Alabama,” said Bank Independent CEO, **Rick Wardlaw**. “All the honors received this year are proof that we are doing right by our team members.



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Serving Northwest Alabama and Beyond

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State Career Workshops

Northwest-Shoals Hosts Event for Active Duty, Veterans, Families



MONTGOMERY-- Northwest-Shoals Community College will host one of the 30 resource workshops that are planned for Alabama’s active-duty military, veterans, and their families at community colleges across the state. This is possible due to a sponsorship from the Alabama Association of Resource Conservation and Development Councils (RC&D).

The Alabama Community College System (ACCS) Military

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and Veterans College and Career Workshops will take place beginning Tuesday, January 24 through Tuesday, February 28 at community colleges across the state. The workshops will engage military

See WORKSHOPS... on Page 11

Spring Youth Registration

FLORENCE– Florence Parks and Recreation Department is conducting registration for Youth Baseball, Youth Soccer, and Youth Softball programs through February 24.

Youth Baseball is open to age groups 3-12. You may register online at www.florenceal.gov.

See SHORTS... on Page 2

Singleton Reflects on 50 Years

By **Bernie Delinski**
Times Daily Staff Writer
Initially published Sunday, January 8

FLORENCE — More than half a century has passed since that Friday night football game in September in 1972, and Rick Singleton’s face still lights up when he talks about being at a Central High School parking lot for his first outing as a reserve deputy in Lauderdale County.

“I remember that first night parking

cars for that ballgame very vividly,” said Singleton, who was not quite 21 at the time. “I was just in hog heaven. It was hot and dry and dusty. The parking lot was dirt. I was sweating and that dirt was sticking to me and I was loving every bit of it. It felt like I was on top of the world.

“That first night I parked cars, a deputy asked why I was doing it. I told him because one day I want to be sheriff. So I

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Singleton
Dan Busey
Times Daily

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- Soap Updates
- Puzzle Whirl

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- Dave Ramsey
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Shorts...

Spring Youth Registration

Continued from Page 1

FPARD.com. Registration Fee is \$35 per player. For more information, contact **David Dolan** at ddolan@florencial.org or 256-718-5091.

Youth Soccer is open for boys and girls ages 4-13. Registration is \$45 and includes a team shirt. You may register online at www.FPARD.com. For more information, contact **Augie Erbe** at aerbe@florencial.org or 256-718-5087.

Youth Softball is open for ages 5-12. You may register online at www.FPARD.com. Registration Fee is \$35 per player. For more information, contact **Zach Tverberg** at ztverberg@florencial.org or 256-718-5054.

Agency Call at United Way

FLORENCE – United Way of Northwest is now accepting Letters of Intent from health and human service agencies for the 2023 - 2024 funding cycle. All nonprofit organizations that have 501(c)(3) status within United Way of Northwest Alabama's service area of Colbert, Franklin, Lauderdale, and Marion counties are welcome to submit a Letter of Intent.

Agencies that are interested in applying for funding should include the following information in their letter:

1. What is the name and purpose of your program?
 2. What area of interest does your program address? (Health, Education, Financial Stability)
 3. The amount of financing requested (for a one-year period)
 4. Provide the number of people in each county (Colbert, Lauderdale, Franklin, Marion) your program serves.
 5. Provide a copy of your IRS determination letter.
- Over the last year, United Way of Northwest Alabama has worked alongside our community to develop and implement a more

impactful funding strategy. UWNWAL has always been part of ensuring dollars invested in communities create a lasting change. However, more donors want to see the measurable impact those investments are making on our community.

The 2023-2024 funding cycle will be the first phase of moving into the impact funding model. Funding is open, and encouraged, for all nonprofits serving our 4-county area, regardless of whether they have previously received funding.

Organizations invited to submit a full application will be required to attend a mandatory training meeting at a date in February to be determined.

The letter of intent will be due Friday, February 3, 2023 and can be submitted via email to kerry@uwshoals.org or by mailing the letter of intent to 205 W College Street, Florence, AL 35630 Attention: **Kerry Del Pizzo**.

Over 3,600 Toys Shared

SHEFFIELD – Over 3,661 toys and \$1,278 in cash were donated in the 12th Annual Bank Independent Toy Share drive between November 10 and December 2.

All donations were distributed to local children in need through partner organizations across North Alabama in time for the holidays. Bank Independent donated an additional \$11,000 to Toy Share partner organizations to match the \$11,000 seven customers won during the Seven Weeks of Winning and Giving sweepstakes.

Since Toy Share started in 2011, over 40,000 items and over \$45,000 in cash have been donated to the families in our local communities. The total economic impact has surpassed the \$1 million mark.

"Our community partners are on the ground every day and best positioned to help people in need," said **Macke Mauldin**, President and CEO of

See SHORTS... on Page 5

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<p>Ground Beef \$2.59 Lb.</p> <p>Beef Patties \$2.59 Lb.</p>	<p>Boston Butt-Pork Roast \$1.79 Lb.</p> <p>Baby Back Spare Ribs \$2.49 Lb.</p>	<p>Sirloin Pork Chops \$1.69 Lb.</p> <p>Country Style Pork Ribs \$1.69 Lb.</p>	<p>Beef Chuck Roast \$4.99 Lb.</p> <p>Pork Neck Bones \$1.49 Lb.</p>
<p>Chicken Drumsticks 99¢ Lb.</p> <p>Chicken Thighs 99¢ Lb.</p>	<p>Whole Chicken Wings \$1.99 Lb.</p> <p>Mixed Chicken Wings (Drumetts and Flaps) \$2.59 Lb.</p>	<p>Boneless Chicken Breast \$1.99 Lb.</p> <p>Chicken Leg Quarters \$5.99 10 Lbs.</p>	<p>Farm Raised Catfish Fillet \$6.99 Lb.</p> <p>Whole Catfish \$5.99 Lb.</p>

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Fri., Jan. 20th, 9am-2pm
Numbers given out at 8:30am
Sat., Jan. 21st, 9am-2pm
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Sun., Jan. 22nd, 1am-3pm

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Saturday, February 11, 2023 • Sale Starts 9am

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JH4DB1650MS009262	1991 ACURA INTEGRA	JHMCG56442C008005	2002 HONDA ACCORD
1G1JC52F647183033	2004 CHEVROLET CAVALIER	KMHCN4AC4BU583288	2011 HYUNDAI ACCENT
1G1ZG57B48F180768	2008 CHEVROLET MALIBU	SALSK25498A148317	2008 LAND ROVER SPORT
2CNLD63F056017970	2005 CHEVROLET EQUINOX	JM1EC4354S0403932	1995 MAZDA MX-3
1G1AK18FX87247745	2008 CHEVROLET COBALT	2MEFM74W6XX720905	1999 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS
1GCCS14Z1R8216928	1994 CHEVROLET S-10	3MAPM10J2NR611401	1992 MERCURY TRACER
1GCCS19Z0S8261888	1995 CHEVROLET S-10	4M2CU91ZX8KJ20160	2008 MERCURY MARINER
1GCEK14V4YE370605	2000 CHEVROLET SILVERADO	1Z7HC28KX7S109578	2007 MITSUBISHI RAIDER
1C3CDZAB1CN102425	2012 DODGE AVENGER	1N4AB41D6TC805887	1996 NISSAN SENTRA
1C6RD7KT5CS195766	2012 DODGE RAM 1500	1N4AL11D65N912800	2005 NISSAN ALTIMA
2D4FV48V45H648353	2005 DODGE RAM 1500	1N4AL2AP2CN492420	2012 NISSAN ALTIMA
1FA6P0H77E5400970	2014 FORD FUSION	1N4BL4EVXKC189761	2019 NISSAN ALTIMA
1FADP3F20JL299454	2018 FORD FOCUS	1GKEC13T41R223233	2001 GMC YUKON
1FAFP25185G192338	2005 FORD 500	1GTCS19Z3S8504593	1995 GMC SONOMA
1FAFP34N95W190842	2005 FORD FOCUS	2GTEC19H3S1560002	1995 GMC SIERRA
1FTDF15N8HNB01649	1987 FORD F-150	4M2ZU52P8WUJ23849	1998 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER
1FTDX1762VNC79796	1997 FORD F-150	4T1BF12B6TU130336	1996 TOYOTA AVALON
1FTZR15X4XTA37490	1999 FORD RANGER	4T1BG22K4WU242317	1998 TOYOTA CAMRY
3FAHP08118R272490	2008 FORD FUSION	4T1BG22K9WU204050	1998 TOYOTA CAMRY
3FAHP0HA0BR247491	2011 FORD FUSION	4T1BK46K08U064784	2008 TOYOTA CAMRY
MAJ3S2FE1KC252868	2019 FORD ECOSPORT	5TB3N32151S193959	2001 TOYOTA TUNDRA
1GTEV14H8HF707465	1987 GMC PICKUP	JT4RN81A4N0102567	1992 TOYOTA PU
2HKRL1858XH507732	1999 HOND ODYSSEY	JTDBR32E530002601	2003 TOYOTA COROLLA
5FNYP28757B009609	2007 HONDA PILOT	2T1BR12E6WC044158	1998 TOYOTA COROLLA
		3VW2K7AJ7EM254695	2014 VOLKSWAGEN JETTA

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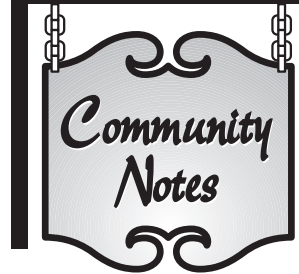
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COMMUNITY NOTES may be submitted for non-profit, civic or church-related events and published free of charge AS SPACE IS AVAILABLE in the Courier Journal. Community Notes must be submitted in writing by 3pm Friday for consideration in the following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

Florence Camerata is launching its 17th year as an accomplished volunteer community chorus serving the Shoals area. "It's a Grand Night for Singing" is the theme of this concert, and will feature songs from Broadway, the movies, and other show venues... but music choices will not be limited to only this genre.

Rehearsals will resume on Thursday, January 26 at 6:30pm in the choral room at UNA.

Rehearsals will continue on Thursday nights with the concert being planned for Thursday, March 23.

Please visit our Facebook page for up to date information, or call 256-810-9512.

Shoals Artists Guild Meeting Friday, January 20, 10am-Noon at the Southall-Moore House, next to the Kennedy-Douglass Art Center, Downtown Florence. For more info, contact Carolyn Wear, 256-710-6854.

Registration Open – The Muscle Shoals Parks and Recreation Department is taking registration for

Youth Track and Field through March 10. This is for ages 7-12 and the age cutoff date is June 1. Fee: \$35. For information, call Lee McIntyre, 256-386-9270.

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. The hours are: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9am-5pm; Tuesday and Thursday 9am-7pm; Saturday 9am-3pm; Sunday 1-5pm.

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

LifeSouth Blood Drive Dates
Tuesday, Jan. 17 Colbert County Health Department, 9am-3pm, Sheffield.

Wednesday, Jan. 18 Listerhill Credit Union, 10am-4:30pm, Russellville.

Thursday, Jan. 19 Cricket Wireless, Noon-6pm, Russellville.

Friday, Jan. 20 Franklin Homes, 7am-3pm, Russellville.

Saturday, Jan. 21 Boutique 72, 10am-4pm, Tuscumbia.

Sunday, Jan. 22 Walmart, 10am-4pm, Florence.

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PRAYER OF APPLICATION TO THE HOLY SPIRIT. You who solve all problems, who light all roads so that I can attain my goal. You who give me the Divine gift to forgive and to forget all evil against me and that in all instances of my life You are with me. I want this short prayer to thank You for all things and to confirm once again that I never want to be separated from You, even and in spite of all material illusion. I wish to be with You, eternal Glory. Thank You for Your Mercy toward me and mine. The person must say this prayer 3 consecutive days. After 3 days the favor requested will be granted even if it may appear difficult. This prayer must be published immediately after the favor is granted without mentioning the favor. cvf

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ASK THE ATTORNEY



Acetaminophen Class Action

We have had several people ask us about the class action suit involving Tylenol. However, it's not only Tylenol that's included in this class action. This article will provide the general criteria to help determine if you may have a claim.

The ideal time frame for these claims is when the minor child was either born or diagnosed between 2013-2020, which is when the relevant medical literature surfaced. Regardless, we still investigate cases that fall outside that time frame. We are currently investigating cases where the mother of the injured child took at least one of the following throughout her pregnancy (must include use during second and third trimesters):

Tylenol®, Generic Acetaminophen, NyQuil®/DayQuil®, Alka-Seltzer Plus®, Robitussin®, Generic Paracetamol, Excedrin, Mucinex, Goody's

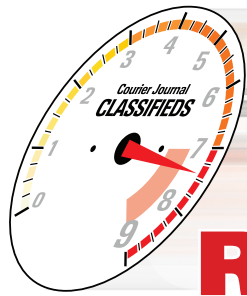
We are investigating the following injuries as a result of using the above products:

Autism/ASD, Kanner's Syndrome, Childhood Disintegrative Disorder, ADHD, Asperger's Syndrome, Pervasive Developmental Disorder, Not Otherwise Specified (PDD-NOS)

We **cannot** investigate cases where:

- The mother does not have custody of the child and/or is not the representative or is not willing/able to pursue the claim on the injured child's behalf, **OR** the mother is not the legal guardian of an incapacitated child, **OR** the mother is deceased and the next of kin is not willing to pursue the claim on her behalf.

See ATTORNEY... pg 10



Courier Journal

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*one line is approx. 30 characters

Form for ad details

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Continued from Page 1

BancIndependent. Inc.. "The decision to match 'Seven Weeks of Winning' funds with 'Seven Weeks of Giving' gave us the opportunity to make an even bigger impact." The Bank partners with charitable organizations across their 7-county footprint to distribute Toy Share donations. Toy Share is the last of four annual Share drives as part of Bank Independent's Helping Hands Foundation.

at Northwest-Shoals. He knows our community. He works with youth and high school track and field athletes and knows how important it is for our area athletes to have an opportunity to compete at a collegiate level without having to leave home."

Wells is a native of Phil Campbell and current varsity boys' track and field coach and junior high boys' basketball coach for Phil Campbell High School. He also teaches seventh and eighth grade special education. Wells is a 2005 alum of Phil Campbell High School. He then attended NW-SCC prior to graduating from UNA with a Bachelor's degree in Physical Education and a Master's from West Alabama in Special Education.

Wells to Lead Patriots CC

PHIL CAMPBELL -- Northwest-Shoals Community College Patriots Athletic Director, Taylor Franks, last week announced the hiring of Mark Wells as coach for the new men's and women's cross country teams.

"Coach Wells is a great fit for what we are trying to build in the Patriot athletics program," said Franks. Coach Wells is the fabric of the community. He lives there, works for Phil Campbell High School, and attended the Phil Campbell campus

Patriot cross country teams will join other Alabama Community College schools in competing under the umbrella of the Alabama Community College Conference (ACCC) beginning in August.

Each cross country team will have five scholarships available as well as walk-on opportunities. Anyone interested in being a part of the Northwest-Shoals Cross Country teams should visit nwsc.edu/athletics or email Coach Wells at mark.wells@nwsc.edu.



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

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CLASSIFIED ADS - 5 pm Friday unless otherwise specified

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Your Courier Journal is published for total saturation, direct-mail delivery every Wednesday to 66,500 Shoals area and surrounding homes. It is Alabama's Largest Weekly-Mailed Direct, and enjoys a larger circulation than all local subscriber based newspapers combined.

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

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

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



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Medicare Minute

"Signing up for Medicare Part 2"

Most Americans qualify for Medicare by turning 65 but there are other ways to qualify such as being disabled, having End Stage Renal disease (ESRD) or ALS. Today we are going to look at how you would sign up if you are disabled.

If you are under the age of 65 and disabled, you will automatically be enrolled in Part A and Part B after you have received Social Security or Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) benefits for at least 24 months. If you are disabled, covered by your or your spouse's group health plan and wish to stay on that plan, my suggestion is to contact the plan and confirm that you can remain on the plan even though you have Medicare. This may allow you to delay your Part B until a later date.

You are eligible for Medicare if you have End Stage Renal Disease and you've worked the required amount of time under Social Security, RRB or as a government employee OR you're already getting or are eligible for Social Security or RRB benefits OR you're the spouse or dependent child of one of the previous requirements. You should contact Social Security or the RRB for the amount of time worked to be eligible for Medicare.

If you're under 65 and have ALS your Medicare benefits should begin the first month you start receiving your Social Security or RRB benefits. Again contact Social Security or RRB for a list of the benefits.

Whether it's SSI or RRB disability, ESRD or ALS, I would encourage you to NEVER voluntarily leave your current health plan until you have covered all your bases with your current plan and Medicare. In most cases once you leave you cannot go back!! If you are faced with any of these 3 situations and need additional assistance feel free to contact our office.

If you have any questions about this or any other aspect of Medicare feel free to call us at 256-648-5710 or visit our office at 885 Florence Blvd. Alabama Health Guidance is an independent insurance agency and does not represent Medicare or any other government agency.



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The City of Sheffield will begin taking applications for **POLICE OFFICER** Certified/Non-Certified

Applications will be accepted beginning **Tuesday, January 17 at 8am** through the close of business **Friday, January 27, 2023 at 4:30pm**. Applications with job description may be obtained in person from the **City Clerks' Office** and the **City's Facebook page**. The completed application must be returned to the City Clerk's Office, **600 N. Montgomery Ave., Sheffield**

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RESUMES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED IN LIEU OF APPLICATIONS.
Application Deadline Date: **Friday, Jan. 27, 2023, 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.

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Courier Journal

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See the Classified Form on page 6 for details.

ASK THE ATTORNEY

Continued from page 5

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Workshop...

Continued from Page 1

active duty guardsmen, reservists, retirees, veterans and their dependents on the local services and programs available to them through Alabama's community colleges. These services include access to veteran's service officers, veteran's educational benefits, apprenticeships, career services, mental health support, and credentials.

The NW-SCC workshop takes place Tuesday, February 21 in building 110 on the Shoals campus at 10am and will include lunch. To register for the

workshop, please complete the form at nwscce.edu/community-matters.

"The resources available to Alabama's military community are valuable benefits of which our service members, our veterans, and our families should be aware," said Maj. Gen. Sheryl E. Gordon, Adjutant General of the Alabama National Guard.

"I am excited to see so many of these programs brought to light."

Jimmy H. Baker, Chancellor of the Alabama Community College System, said the veterans' workshops are among many efforts by the System to collaborate with associations who are already working successfully to strengthen communities.

"Public community colleges were created many years ago to provide veterans with an opportunity to gain training closer to their homes, Baker said. "The partnership with Alabama RC&D confirms that together, we can continue to serve those who have served our country."



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Commentary

Donalds is Solid GOP Discipline

Now that more and more Black people are getting bored with almost 60 years of the Johnson administration's unfulfilled promises, those blacks who are still sticking close to the Democratic political plantation are getting a little testy. I can see why.

More and more Black and Hispanic Americans are tired of being classified as helpless victims by those who supposedly represent them.

The insinuation is that none is bright enough to know that individualism usually pays dividends. Dedication, honesty, and dependability are quickly noticed in the business environment. Finding a job is not hard in 2023, and wages are usually up over previous years. Those traits are easily visible to supervisors, perhaps more quickly than at any other time in our lives and are often rewarded in today's job market.

In A Few Words



TOM MAGAZZU Editor

Conservative commentators like Thomas Sowell, Allen West, Larry Elder, Shelby

See DONALDS... on Page 30

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

Courier Journal

in the Shoals

THIS WEEK

January 18, 2023

Happening THIS WEEK

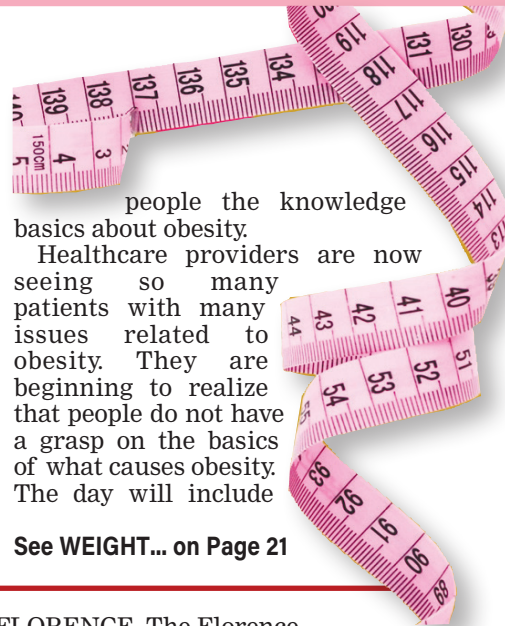
We'll Watch Our Weight

FLORENCE—With all the diets, folklore, TV commercials, and social media opinions regarding our weight and the prevalence of obesity in our community, the afternoon gathering on January 21 may help you sort things out.

Everyone in our community is welcome to attend Shoals Scale Back from 1-4pm in the Burrell Slater Gym.

The sole purpose of the meeting is to give

SCALE BACK January 21 1-4pm Burrell Gym



people the knowledge basics about obesity.

Healthcare providers are now seeing so many patients with many issues related to obesity. They are beginning to realize that people do not have a grasp on the basics of what causes obesity. The day will include

See WEIGHT... on Page 21

CLAY TO BRONZE AT THE KENNEDY-DOUGLASS CENTER FOR THE ARTS, 217 E. Tuscaloosa St., Florence, will have an exhibition by Huntsville sculpture Everett Cox from January 13 - March 10. There will be a meet-and-greet at 2pm January 29. The center is free and open to the public from 9am-4pm Monday-Friday and 1-4pm Sunday. 256-760-6379.

ENJOY HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE TENNESSEE VALLEY MUSEUM OF ART'S permanent collection Tuesday-Friday 9am-5pm January 10 - 24. Admission is free for this partial exhibition. (Note: not all galleries will be accessible, as staff prepares the spaces for this year's exhibitions).

THE SHOALS ARTISTS GUILD MEETING is on Friday, January 20, 10am-Noon at the Southall-Moore House, next to the Kennedy-Douglass Art Center, Downtown Florence. For more info, contact Carolyn Wear, 256-710-6854.

A NEW DIVORCECARE GROUP BEGINS January 11 at First Baptist Church in Center Star. Classes will meet from 6-7:30pm each Wednesday. Contact the church at 256-757-1310 for more information.

Childrens' Series is Focusing on Nanyehi



FLORENCE—The Florence Indian Mound Museum is hosting a series of children's programs that will explore 12 Native American figures of early Shoals history through their biographies, contributions, hopes, and accomplishments. Students will be given a passport with the 12 figures and they will receive a stamp for each program attended.

See SERIES.. on Page 29

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YOUR Letters

Your Courier Journal welcomes tastefully presented typed or neatly written letters to be published as space allows. Letters may refer to timely matters of local, state, or national interest or any topic of concern or interest. **Letters must include name, address and phone number for verification.** (Only name and town will be published.) Letters are subject to editing. Please limit letters to 400 words. All letters become the property of the Courier Journal and may not necessarily reflect opinions of the Courier Journal staff, its advertisers, or a majority of readers.

by Mail, in person, or mail slot
Editor-Courier Journal
 219 W. Tennessee St.,
 Florence, AL 35630
 • e-mail: editor@courierjournal.net
 • FAX- 256-760-9618

Lazy and Cowardly

To the editor:

I am convinced that if our forefathers who fought and won independence from England could come back today, we would have another "American Revolutionary War."

They would see that the government has become a gigantic monster that spies on everyone, including law-abiding American citizens.

They would see that the oligarchy is in control and that this government is far from the founders' regional intent. The US Constitution is not being revered and followed.

They would see the U.S. military

Also, has the amount of county spending within the city been considered? ”

has around 900 bases throughout the world, and that US troops are being used by the oligarchy to go into sovereign countries who have done nothing to our country.

They would see that the federal government serves the authority of the states!

They would see that American citizens are being taxed to death and many American citizens can barely make ends meet. Meanwhile,

the big crooked banks, big crooked corporations, and many politicians are living high on the hog.

They will see that many American citizens have become comfortable with the status quo and are too lazy or cowardly to do anything about it.

Janice Gross Williams
 Center Star

More LETTERS... on Page 23

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THOSE OF YOU WITH TEENAGERS IN YOUR CIRCLE of loved ones need to pay attention to this one. According to the FBI, there has been an alarming increase in teenagers, mostly boys, being extorted (aka "sextorted")

for money after being tricked into sending sexually explicit pictures. I hope you will take the time to understand how this works and share this information with your loved ones.

This horrible scam is believed to originate (as with so many other scams) in Nigeria which has a horrible



Jim Fisher

THE HOT GIRL SCAM

by "The Computer Skeptic"

reputation for not enforcing international laws against this kind of activity. The scammer will create a fake identity of an attractive teenage female on social media platforms such as Facebook and Instagram, or gaming platforms such as Twitch and Discord.

The "hot girl" scammers will then befriend teenagers, gain their trust through messages, get the hormones raging, then offer to exchange dirty pictures. This is the modern version of "I'll show

you mine if you show me yours." Once the scammer has collected a few pictures, they will then extort the teenager by threatening to send all the dirty pictures to their friends unless they pay a ransom, usually in the form of gift cards.

This has evidently happened to about 3,000 kids in 2022 which is a tenfold increase over previous years. The victims are mostly between 14 and 17 years old. About a dozen of those victims committed suicide.

So what can a parent or grandparent do to prevent this from happening to their loved one? Nothing new here; we have to keep a close eye on our kids and we have to let them know that this happens. So many of us parents are ignorant of the dangers that await our kids when we hand over the keys to the internet and let our kids freely roam around. Heck, even many of my very adult Facebook friends fall for hot girl scams. We ought to know better.

The good news is that you don't have to be a tech guru to protect your kids. There are free parental controls that can be implemented on almost all smartphones, tablets, and laptops. More advanced tools will inform you of literally everything your child does

on the internet. The details of how to do all this are a little much for this little column but the main thing you need to know is that these options exist and it's your job to figure out the best one to implement. I know I don't have to inform either of my readers that there will never be a substitute for a watchful eye from a loving parent, but here's your reminder.

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Evidence Of Salvation

It's God that does the saving. No where in the Bible does God put salvation in the hands of sinful men! A sinner trying to save a sinner is ridiculous. If you're trying to live and work and trust or have faith in yourself or church until death and hope you've pleased God enough to allow you into heaven, you're miserably lost. See **1 Corinthians 15:19**. If you could earn it, why did Christ die? **Acts 17:30** "And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:" **2 Corinthians 7:10** "For godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death." **Romans 5:1** "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:" **Romans 5:9** "Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him." **Romans 3:25** "Whom God hath set forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for the remission of sins that are past, through the forbearance of God;" Tell me, what is better than being justified and having peace with God? **2 Corinthians 5:17** "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." Repentance toward God (sorrow for sin) and faith in the blood sacrifice of Jesus Christ produces salvation and the peace and righteousness of God! Is it evident in your life? Do you have joy unspeakable? Tell your face. See **1 Peter 1:8**. Christ is the one that deserves all the glory, credit and praise for our salvation, NOT us or our church. Wake up! There ought to be evidence in your life if you're saved, that proves you've really been born again. **Romans 8:16** "The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:" No Holy Spirit, no salvation. In your own words, cry out in repentance toward God, in faith toward Christ, ask for mercy and forgiveness today! **Acts 20:21** Christ will save you!

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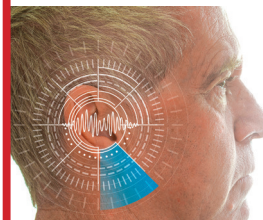
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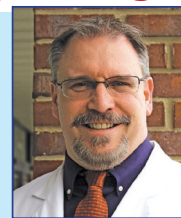


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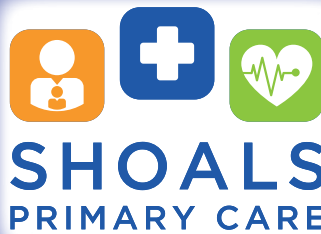


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Classified Form on Page 6

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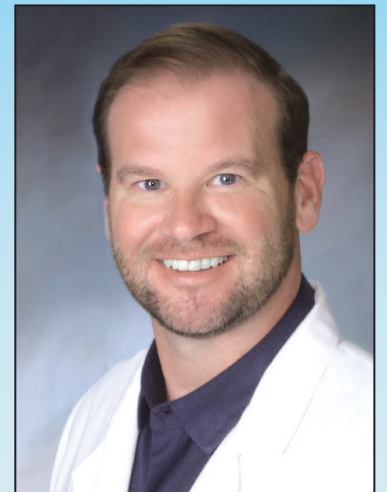
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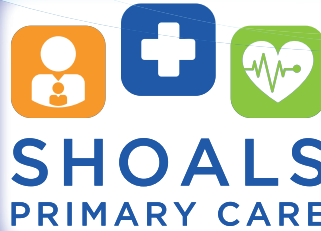
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 the Sheffield Housing Authority will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, March 7, 2023 at 10:00 AM** at the main office located at **505 N. Columbia Ave., Sheffield, AL 35660**

The purpose of this hearing is to solicit public comment on the Annual PHA Plan, the Moving to Work Supplement and the Capital Fund Five Year Action Plan. This hearing is open to all citizens of Sheffield. Any citizen with a physical disability or other special need may contact the Housing Authority at 256-383-4773 so that we can make arrangements to get you there. In addition, effective with the publication of this notice, the Public Housing Agency Plan will be available for public review prior to the Public Hearing at the Housing Authority main office.

Courier Journal

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Soap Opera Preview

DAYS OF OUR LIVES Will learned some damning information about Leo. Chad lent a shoulder to Stephanie as she cried over Alex. Bonnie gave Sarah surprising advice about Xander. Gwen visited Xander at the motel and discovered he was a drunken mess. A furious Steve cornered Kristen, blaming her for what happened to Kayla. Stephanie, Joey and Tripp shared their emotional memories of Kayla. Brady was outraged by Gabi's request. Stefan vividly confronted Li. Steve handed over Kristen's confession to Rafe. Brady apologized to John for mishandling the Kristen situation. Li defended Gabi to Stefan. Chloe confronted Kristen over her litany of offenses. Rafe and Jada were on the hunt for a missing Kristen. Meanwhile, Kristen prepared to flee town with Rachel. Belle returned home to be by an ailing Marlana's side. John denied Marlana's request, but came up with a compromise. Rachel had a major meltdown when she found Brady and Chloe together. *Wait to See: Kristen tries to blackmail EJ to help her out. Jada and Rafe bond over their victory. Johnny and Chanel reconnect as they help John with a surprise for Marlana.*

GENERAL HOSPITAL Willow was in disbelief. Nina remained resolved. Spencer met with Diane. Nikolas briefed Elizabeth. Curtis advised Portia. Michael was dismayed. Chase and Sasha rushed to the hospital. Alexis and Sam put their heads together. Sonny comforted Nina. Martin thwarted Victor. Heather evoked suspicion. Nina anxiously awaited some news. Ava made a surprising ally. Michael wasn't ready to forgive. Valentin cleared the air with Anna. Dex reassured Michael. Joss felt sympathetic. Carly was offended by Sonny's accusation. Austin and Liesl heard big news. Portia and Curtis made a request of Marshall. Nikolas was shocked by Victor's actions. Liz and Finn had a talk with Violet. *Wait to See: Cam receives an unpleasant surprise. Marshall opens up to Curtis. Michael unleashes his anger.*

THE YOUNG AND THE RESTLESS Victor tried to repair his relationship with Adam. Summer discovered Kyle's scheming. Devon made a painful decision. Jack was forced to come clean. Daniel and Summer shared a difference of opinion. Sharon helped Chance with some soul-searching. Phyllis called Tucker's bluff. Jill had to do damage control with Lily and Devon. Jack and Diane took a big risk. Victoria and Chelsea reached an understanding. Billy and Lily cleared the air. Mariah and Tessa returned home with some unexpected news. *Wait to See: Victor encourages Kyle to play dirty. Sally struggles with the truth. Nikki interrogates Jack and Diane.*

Speaking The Truth In Love

Ephesians 4:15

What Can You KNOW For Certain?

There are few things in life about which we can be absolutely certain. Someone has said the only two things you can be sure of are death and taxes. Certainly, we should have no doubt about death because every human being will grow older and eventually die unless Christ comes back before death occurs. I remember hearing not long ago that the oldest person in the state of Alabama was 108 year old.

The Psalmist in chapter 90, verse 10, indicates the days of our life contain three score and ten (70 years) or perhaps we might reach four score (80) by reason of strength, yet that additional time may bring labor and sorrow. One person said, "If you are above 70 years of age, you are in the 'over-time' of life." Just like in a sporting event, the game of life can be won or lost in the over-time.

Many feel that they are too old and set in there way of life to make changes...it is never to late to change the direction of your life. Think about the Apostle Paul, who in the early part of his life had been a strong opponent of Christianity...upon learning that Jesus was indeed the promised Messiah (Acts 9:5), did an about face and became the great proclaimer who, by inspiration, wrote a large portion of the New Testament.

What better time could be found to turn over a new leaf in your life than the first month of a new year? The greatest life that you can ever have is not to be found in always getting your way...but in letting our heavenly Father be your guide.

When you spend time reading and meditating upon His word and you will find that the greatest joy comes through serving your fellowman and following the example that Jesus has set for each of us (1 Peter 2:21).


The writer of the book of Hebrews tells us that it is "appointed unto to men once to die, but after this the judgment" (Hebrews 9:27). Every person is born once, and barring the return of Christ (Acts 1:8), everyone will die. However, scripture tells us that a second death will be experienced by those who have not experienced a second birth (John 3:3; Revelation 2:11). The first death is inevitable, but the second death is avoidable through obedience to the gospel and being 'born anew.'



Searching The Scriptures...

Can we know what we must do to be saved?

(Answer: YES! Read the accounts of conversion in the book of Acts. Almost a dozen obeyed (took steps to be saved. Do what they did to be saved.)



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

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

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Weight...

Continued from Page 12

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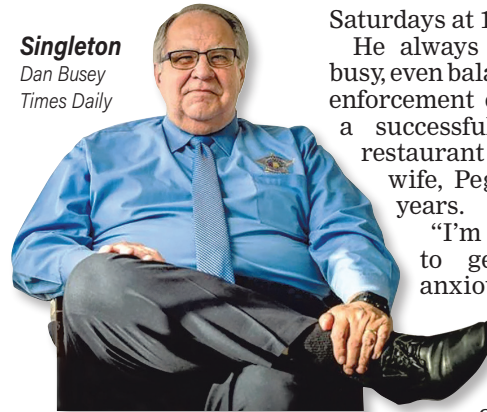


Singleton ...

Continued from Page 1

had a game plan.” When the clock strikes midnight on Jan. 16, Singleton’s second term as sheriff will expire, and a career that included being Florence police chief from 1996 to 2012 will come to an end. Singleton announced in November 2021 that he would not seek a third term. He wanted to make the announcement to give anyone interested in

Singleton
Dan Busey
Times Daily



Saturdays at 13 or 14.

He always has stayed busy, even balancing a law enforcement career with a successful barbecue restaurant he and his wife, Peggy, ran for years.

“I’m starting to get a little anxious about what I’m going to do when I retire,” Singleton said.

running for the position plenty of time to make the decision. Chief Deputy Joe Hamilton was elected to replace him.

Singleton recalls building a fake jail out of cardboard as a child, and he said he always was drawn to law enforcement.

“That had been my dream since I was a kid,” he said. “I really believe it was my calling, because that’s really all I ever wanted to do. I still believe it’s a calling. When an applicant comes in for a job and that’s all they wanted to do since they were a kid, I know exactly where they’re coming from.”

Singleton built a reputation for fairness, ethics, hard work and openness throughout his law enforcement career.

His retirement will signal the first time Singleton hasn’t worked since he washed dishes and mopped floors at his father’s restaurant when he was 12. Singleton also mowed yards, and he was selling Ricky’s Quickies corndogs downtown on

Singleton was hired in October 1972 as a deputy in the county jail. In February 1973 he went on the road as a deputy.

While he enjoyed his career, not all times were good. Just weeks into his career, Singleton was forced to make a decision that law enforcement officers hope they never to have to face.

“The first year was a pretty tough year,” Singleton said. “I was six weeks out of the academy when I was involved in a deadly force situation.”

Singleton and his partner, Jones Irons, were trying to apprehend someone so they could take him to Bryce Hospital in Tuscaloosa when the man attacked his partner.

“He cut him across the hand with a butcher knife and Jones fell. The man was about to bury the knife into Jones’ chest when I shot him,” Singleton said. “He died from the gunshot wound.

“That will be 50 years

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Weekly Quiz • Book Authors

- When this was published in 1988, “The Satanic Verses”, the Ayatollah Khomeini later issued an order to end his life.
A) Andy Rooney B) Salman Rushdie C) John Holmes D) Mick Jagger
- This Nazi maniac began composing “Mein Kampf” (my struggle) while imprisoned.
A) Mussolini B) Tojo Hideki C) Hitler D) Churchill
- While in Cuba (1951), he wrote “The Old Man and the Sea”.
A) Robert Frost B) Leonard Nimoy C) Ernest Hemingway D) Steven Tyler
- Perhaps his best known novel, “The House of Seven Gables”, actually is now a museum in Salem, Massachusetts.
A) Nathaniel Hawthorne B) Henry Wadsworth Longfellow C) Warlock Benny D) Ralph Waldo Emerson
- Her anti-slavery novel, “Uncle Tom’s Cabin” (life among the lowly), helped fuel the abolitionist cause during the pre-American Civil War Era.
A) Susan B. Anthony B) Harriet Beecher Stowe C) Mary Lincoln D) Louisa May Alcott

ANSWERS: 1) B 2) C 3) C 4) A 5) B

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Letters...

Continued from Page 12

The Spending is Reckless

Editor:

The Fed will be the fall guy if a recession occurs. That is what the mainstream media and Dems would like for us to believe. However, nothing can be further from the truth. The Fed raised its benchmark interest rate seven times last year; something it is supposed to do.

It has done this to fight inflation. Congress created the Fed to do this. If it did not do this, inflation would tend to get much higher leading to a much worse recession.

If a recession (defined as two quarters of negative GDP growth in the past) does occur, it will be because of inflation which is mainly caused by vast overspending, something the Dems just love to do along with a few Pubs. During the past session, Congress pumped an extra \$1.65 trillion into an already overheated and bloated economy. The Fed will have to respond later by continuing to increase the overnight interest rate.

Christopher Rugaber tells us in his article (*Times Daily*, 12/15) entitled, "Fed raises key rate for 7th time this year" that the recent increase in the Fed's benchmark rate will increase the costs of many consumer and business loans and risk a recession. He further asserts that it would mark a significant increase in joblessness and the economy will barely grow.

What Rugaber leaves out is the root cause of all this: reckless spending by Congress and the Administration. For seniors, overspending causes several to delay retirement, go back to work, or buy less.

Tom Jones
Florence

The Shelter Responsibility

Editor:

On Christmas day there was a *Times Daily* article, entitled, "Betterton: County should pay half." The cost the mayor is speaking of is for the county to pay half the cost to operate the Florence-Lauderdale Animal Shelter.

Apparently, there was a meeting with city and county officials where the city proposed that the cost be based on population with the county paying 57% of cost; with the city paying 43%. The county rejected this offer. As a result, the mayor proposed that the cost be split 50/50 among the city and county. Prior to the county reaching a decision on the new offer, the mayor shared the offer with the *Times Daily*.

The article quotes our mayor as follows: "State law requires each county in Alabama to operate a shelter and provide animal control services, not each city." This statement is not clear! Florence is in Lauderdale County and the city citizens vote for the county commissioners.

The county commissioners also purchased the land for the current shelter. This was the site the city council wanted even though the site was in a flood zone and contained a large depression. I believe this site is within the city limits. Also, has the amount of county spending within the city been considered?

If the county approves the 50/50 split, they should be involved in hiring, firing, and other policy actions at the shelter.

I prefer the current system and not setting a precedent. Also, if a staff writer is not at their meetings, the commissioners should consider having a press release prepared on their actions and forwarded to the *Times Daily* and *Courier Journal* for printing.

Bill Smoak
Florence

More LETTERS... Page 25

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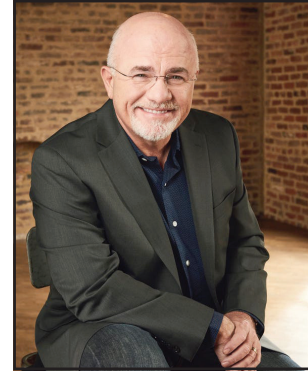
**DAVE
Says**

by DAVE RAMSEY

**MANAGING A FRIEND'S
WILL**

Dear Dave,
Our next-door neighbor was an older single man with no family, and my wife and I always tried to look out for him and help with things. He died recently, and in his will, he left us his home, his car and the money he had in his bank account. The will was handwritten, and it said the house was worth around \$350,000, with \$150,000 left on the mortgage. The car is worth about \$10,000. Officials at our county office building said the money in the bank account wouldn't have to go into probate since I was listed as the beneficiary, and I was given a check for that amount. We've just never handled anything like this before, and my wife and I were hoping you would help us navigate things.
Steven

Dear Steven,
There are a couple hundred thousand dollars in equity involved here. The fact that the will is handwritten doesn't necessarily invalidate it, but it does increase the possibility of encountering



and is familiar with how things work there, then it's kind of like traffic court, you know? It's almost automatic. I mean, we're only talking about three assets here—a bank account that's already been handed off, a car and a house that's mortgaged. For me, it'd be worth a little money to have someone on my side who knows the path through the woods.

I'm sorry to hear your friend and neighbor passed on, Steven. But I hope I've been able to help.

— Dave

some bumps down the road.

I'm not a lawyer, so the first thing I'd do is talk to a couple of probate attorneys in your county. Find out what they'd charge to handle things. I wouldn't spend thousands of dollars to get this done, but I would pay \$500, maybe \$1,000, to let someone who knows what they're doing handle things. If your county affairs people are right and everything's easy and straightforward, it's not a lot of legal work for an attorney.

On top of that, if the attorney you work with knows folks at the courthouse

Dave Ramsey is an eight-time national bestselling 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," 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.

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Courier Journal **GAME DAY SCORE CARD**

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93.9 THE SCORE **WatsonRx SOLUTIONS** **TWO GUYS Autobody Supplies** **WASH N SPIN** **Hamilton Family URGENT CARE**

Week 19 Championship Game - January 9 Winner: Randall Brown of Cherokee, AL

Congratulations to ALL of our Game Day Scorecard winners this year! It was another exciting season with an SEC National Champion once again. The winners for the year are listed below. We look forward to late August and a chance to celebrate with you again next season!

Week 1 - Sept 3 - Dustin English of Florence Week 2 - Sept 10 - Brandi Adams of Florence Week 3 - Sept 17 - Vanessa Sides of Killen Week 4 - Sept 24 - Michael Pyle of Muscle Shoals Week 5 - Oct 1 - Kenneth Atkinson of Florence Week 6 - Oct 8 - Jay Harrison of Killen	Week 7 - Oct 15 - Michael Pyle of Muscle Shoals Week 8 - Oct 22 - Dennis Warren of Killen Week 9 - Oct 29 - Chiquita Nance of Courtland Week 10 - Nov 5 - Craig Shields of Florence Week 11 - Nov 12 - Lisa M. English of Lexington, AL Week 12 - Nov 19 - Will Hinton of Killen	Week 13 - Nov 26 - Bill Elliot of Florence Week 14 - Dec 3 - Steve Phillips of Florence Week 15 No Games Week 16 - Dec 17-18 - Jack Brown of Sheffield Week 17 - Dec 24-29 - Jimmy Halbrooks of Decatur Week 18 - Dec 30-Jan 2 - Eric Bjork of Florence
---	---	--

Letters...

Continued from Page 23

Less Hypocrisy This Year?

To the Editor:

Surely, there is no one on the planet earth who hasn't been bombarded with media coverage of the immediate aftermath of Buffalo Bills' player, Damar Hamlin's cardiac arrest on the field. While Damar's experience is tragic, the news media's behavior is abhorrent and outrageous! Coverage in the almost 2 weeks since has been a

spectacle. The non-stop images of dozens of Bill players and several other teams huddling in prayer on the field for Damar is interesting! Does the word hypocrite come to mind?

Think back to 2012 with two-time Heisman Trophy winner national champion, Tim Tebow. In his early days of playing for the Denver Broncos and the NY Jets, Tebow triggered the wrath of the NFL for showing his Christian faith by kneeling on the field and for displaying John 3:16 Biblical scripture on his face. The NFL made him stop, citing

"inappropriate venue" for such displays, even though Tebow had made the same expression in college!

My, my, how political correctness and the times make such a dramatic difference! In addition to NFL teams being encouraged to conduct prayer for Damar, we also witnessed NFL officials and coaches weeping on camera.

So, what is reality? Can we assume NFL personnel who engage and encourage prayer in some instances but condemn Tim Tebow's gestures are sincere and genuine?

For us Christians, do you think our Lord will look favorably on such prayer requests and behavior?

James W. Anderson
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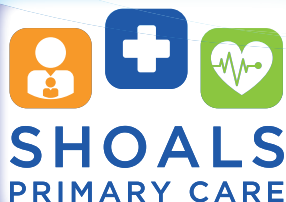
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50 Years...

Continued from Page 22

ago next year (June 8), and I relive that like it was last night."

He said he is glad officers involved in situations like that receive counseling today because that was not the case then.

"That happened at 12:30 in the morning and at 4 o'clock the next afternoon I was back at work," Singleton said. "We didn't deal with it back then like we do now. There was no administrative leave, no counseling. I found out if I just stayed busy, I could keep from having to cope with it."

He recalls another incident that year when he faced a different type of difficult decision.

"A little later we had an incident here at the jail where I was given a directive to talk to the media about it and basically lie to the media. I refused to do so, so I resigned," Singleton said.

"In my memoirs I have been writing, I talk about how my courage and honesty and integrity were all tested that first year. It was a difficult year, but I think that defined me as an officer."

He went back to college and helped his father with his restaurant. About a year later, Singleton returned to work under a new sheriff.

That sheriff died a year later, and Singleton ran for the position at age 26, finishing fourth in a 12-man race.

"Like I thought I was qualified to be sheriff," he said, laughing.

After leaving the sheriff's department, Singleton continued his law enforcement career with the Florence Police Department. He rose through the ranks going from a patrol officer to deputy chief within seven years.

Singleton was named police chief in 1996, where he stayed until he retired in 2012.

His retirement from law enforcement didn't last long.

Singleton was elected to become the first Republican Lauderdale County sheriff in 2014 and then was reelected in 2018.

"If I had decided to seek a third term, I feel confident I would have



Early 70's
Courtesy photo

had it. However, the last couple of years, every time you turn on the TV you hear anti-law enforcement sentiment," he said.

"I woke up one morning about two years ago and started having feelings of not wanting to go to work. It's not fair to the citizens and employees of this county for me to not want to come to work, so I decided not to seek a third term."

Notwithstanding, there have been rewarding parts of the job. Singleton recalls eating at T our way Inn around 2am while on duty as a Florence officer and a woman came up to him asking if he was Rick Singleton.

"I said 'yes' and she said, 'I want to thank you. A couple of years ago you arrested me for DUI and I haven't had a drink since.'"

Singleton also recalls a former jail inmate telling him about a day when he and another trustee were taking a break from washing cars outside the jail.

"The inmate said, 'You saw us and shook our hands and thanked us for washing cars,'" Singleton said. "He decided on that day he was not coming back to jail. He felt self-worth."

"These officers make a difference in the community, and that's what it's all about."

One of the most difficult times in Singleton's career came when capital murder suspect and Lauderdale County Detention Center inmate, Casey White, along with former assistant corrections director, Vicky White, came up missing on April 29.

That led to a nationwide manhunt that ended in

Indiana on May 9 when Vicky White died from a self-inflicted gunshot, and Casey White was arrested.

Singleton found himself fielding interview requests from across the world while trying to cope with the knowledge that Vicky White, who had been one of the most respected and trusted jailers at the detention center, was involved.

"A lot of times you think you know people and you really don't," said Singleton. "I'm sure every one of us has things people don't know about us, and you never know what's going through someone's mind."

"My heart was telling me that she was being coerced, but my head was telling me, no she's not."

Throughout that ordeal, Singleton made himself as available as possible, and released any information he could without jeopardizing the search.

"I've always believed in being transparent," he said. "Obviously, in our line of work there are times when you can't tell everything you know about an investigation, for either legal or investigative reasons."

In a life that even included a professional wrestling stint as "Dr. Death" in his younger days, Singleton wonders what he will do when he hangs up his sheriff's hat for the last time.

"Maybe I'll get out the old Dr. Death mask," he said with a laugh.

Singleton then turned serious, pondering that moment.

"I'm sure it's probably going to be emotional," he said of retirement. "It's like leaving family," he added. "Some of these guys up here are young enough to be my grandkids. When I look at them, that's sort of how I consider them. I'm concerned about their safety. Outside of their family, I think I worry more about them than anybody."

"I've been known to get a little emotional. It's been a long time coming, but I'm ready for it."

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SEE PAGE 6 FOR OUR CLASSIFIED FORM

SIGNS OF THE PAST



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The T.B. Larimore mentioned on this marker is the same Theophilus Brown Larrimore who settled in Florence and opened what is now known as Mars Hill Bible School. His home, the Larrimore House, was a historical landmark until it burned in 2018.

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

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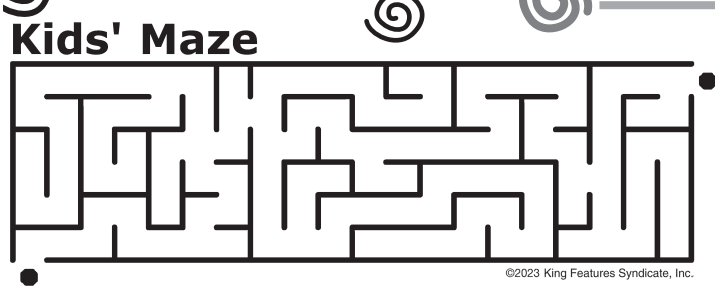
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Even Exchange by Donna Pettman

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. More statuesque ___ A ___ | Penn's magical pal ___ E ___ |
| 2. Garden archway ___ B ___ | Knight's suit ___ M ___ |
| 3. Gym storage closet ___ ___ R | Photo pendant ___ ___ T |
| 4. Tote ___ A ___ | Spicy seasoning ___ U ___ |
| 5. Director Scorsese ___ ___ T ___ | Hemingway fish ___ ___ L ___ |
| 6. Long for Y ___ | Acquire knowledge L ___ |
| 7. 65+ person ___ ___ I ___ | Detection device ___ ___ S ___ |
| 8. Laurel's partner ___ R ___ | Convenient ___ N ___ |
| 9. Out of practice R ___ | Covered in powder D ___ |
| 10. Fissure ___ ___ C ___ | Mouthful of air ___ ___ T ___ |

WORD LADDERS

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

mouse

tough

Puzzle Whirl

MINI SUDOKU

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

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

A		
N		A
O		T

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.

Answers on Page 30

Courier Journal
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Series...

Continued from Page 12

Students who collect 6, 9, or 12 stamps will receive an award.

The January program on Nanyehi (Nancy Ward) will take place Saturday, January 21 at 10am. Nanyehi was a Cherokee woman who gained respect as a warrior when she helped her tribe defeat the Creek Indians in battle after her husband was killed. Because of her actions, the Cherokee clans named her "Beloved Woman," and her opinion carried great significance. She married a British trader named Bryant Ward and advocated for peace between the Cherokee and Americans. She lived to be 79 years old and passed away before the Cherokee were removed from their land.

This program is free and is sponsored by the City of Florence Department of Arts and Museums and the Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area. Please visit <https://www.florencealmuseums.com/young-learners> to sign up.

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

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Community Notes...

Continued from page 4

Monday, Jan. 24 UNO ATO, 11am-6pm, Intramural Sports Field - UNA.

Tuesday, Jan. 24 Colbert County High School, 8am-3:30pm, Leighton.

Wednesday, Jan. 25 Colbert County High School, 8am-3:30pm, Leighton.

A new Divorcecare group begins January 11 at First Baptist Church in Center Star. Classes will meet from 6-7:30pm each Wednesday. Contact the church at 256-757-1310 for more information.

Florence Parks and Rec will be offering small group ballroom dance lessons on Thursdays beginning in January with Monica Patterson at the Royal Ave. Recreation Center. Beginner class 1-2pm, Intermediate class 2-3pm. Call 256-760-6425 for more information or to sign up. Space is limited.

Florence Parks and Rec will be offering individual / couple Ballroom Dance lessons. These lessons are perfect for weddings, formals, proms, lead outs, cotillions, etc. Call 256-760-6425 to schedule a lesson. Select times available.

Grand Ole Opry / Tribute to the

Stars and Dance Event is scheduled for 7pm Saturday, February 18 at St. Joseph TN Civic Center at 10 Park Drive. If you like the music and performances of Stars like Patsy Cline, Marty Robbins, Elvis, Chuck Berry, Little Richard, Roy Orbison, The Platters, The Coasters and others, you'll love this show. Dancers are invited. Admission is only \$10. You'll get your money's worth the first 15 minutes and the rest of the show is absolutely free. For more info, call 256-762-7383.

Born Ready University hosted by Eklesia Preschool and partnership with Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education is a four session program that will provide parents, expecting parents and other caregivers for unborn children and children ages birth to 5 the information and support necessary to bring up happy and healthy children who enter school ready to learn.

Topics to be covered: Child Development, Child/Social-Emotional Development, School Readiness, and Health & Safety environment. Sessions will be from 9am-12noon on February 4, 2023, February 18, 2023, March 11, 2023, and March 18, 2023 at 3007 Hatch Blvd., Sheffield.

Incentives include: Free breakfast & lunch, \$25 VISA gift cards each session, age appropriate books, car seats, strollers, pack & play, back cribs, school readiness toolkits, Leapfrog Leap Pad Learning Tablets, and more.

It is free to attend the event with only 20 spots available. For enrollment and questions, please contact Ms. Lisa Slusher at 256-314-1700.

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.

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

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

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

Commentary

Donalds...

Continued from Page 12

Steele, and the late Walter Williams, have been ridiculed more than we could ever know, getting the left's insults for decades. Despite navigating early hurdles in an era that current generations can't imagine, those pundits represent examples of how all Americans can attain success. They were never afraid to talk about the struggles and how to overcome them. The number of conservative minorities keeps growing with people like Derooy Murdock, Condoleezza Rice, Michael Steele, Ben Carson, Armstrong Williams, Candice Owens, Tim Scott, Harris Faulkner, Burgess Owens, Byron Donalds, and many others.

These people could also take the easy ride on the democrat plantation train and make a lot of money stoking animosity, strife, and jealousy. They could join the race-baiters who now deride everything that represents civility, safety, law and order, facts, knowledge, and work ethic.

Instead, those conservatives choose to focus on the endless opportunities available to those common people who are willing to push forward and disprove the farcicies of perpetual victim status. They are not willing to have fellow citizens collect the crumbs parsed by those in class-action authority.

During the recent votes for House Speaker that went on for days, the name of Florida Republican, Byron Donalds, surfaced for the position as an alternative to early Republican favorite, Kevin McCarthy, who was having trouble getting the required majority.

MSNBC show host, Joy Reid, said the nomination of Donalds was a troll move by the GOP.

Missouri Democrat congresswoman, Cory Bush, was more pointed in a tweet: "@ByronDonalds is not a historic candidate for Speaker. He is a prop. Despite being Black, he supports a policy agenda intent on upholding and perpetuating white supremacy. His name being in the mix is not progress—it's pathetic."

Indeed, Donalds does not have the national political history of some. However, the Crown Heights, Brooklyn native has a leg up in life experience. He comes from a very disadvantaged past, a rockier road than many other noted black conservatives have traveled. However, Donalds knows the streets. He knows the missteps as well as the opportunities available to hard work.

His colorful past has not hindered his drive to help other minorities into the light and to bring others of all stripes up with him.

Listening to Donalds discuss relevant topics without deliberate interruption demonstrates his intelligence and his ability to discredit the typical liberal talking points. He doesn't come from an ivory tower; he comes from a single parent family of urban reality. He earned where he is now, a respected US Congressman elected in a majority white district, a historic nomination for a relative freshman, receiving enough Republican votes to deny Kevin McCarthy the speakership in the 4th-11th rounds of voting.

Reid, Bush, Jefferies, and the other plantation liberals have a reason to be nervous.

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Puzzle Whirl Answers

Even Exchange answers

- Taller, Teller
- Arbor, Armor
- Locker, Locket
- Carry, Curry
- Martin, Marlin

Kids' Maze Solution

WORD LADDER Answer

MOUSE, ROUSE, ROUGE, ROUGH, COUGH, TOUGH

MINI SUDOKU Answer

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

Word Spiral Answer

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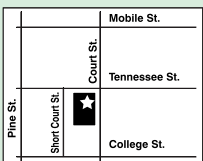


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