



Volume 140 Number 3

November 8, 2023

POSTAL PATRON

**Toys for Tots
Box is Here!**

FLORENCE—The *Courier Journal* and *TimesDaily* office, at 219 W. Tennessee St. in Florence, is a drop off location for Toys for Tots. New and unwrapped toys may be placed in the donation box located in our front lobby by Thursday, November 30. Office hours are 8am-5pm, Monday-Friday. Thank you!

**Four Rise at
First Metro**

SHOALS—First Metro Bank recently announced the promotion of four bank employees, each promoted as a result of the dedication and



Garrett

commitment they have continuously shown throughout their years of service at First Metro Bank.

Rhonda Garrett has been promoted to Senior Vice President in her role as Compliance Officer. Rhonda has been with First



Hoehn

Metro Bank since 1995, serving as a lending assistant and loan officer in Russellville, moved to the bank's headquarters in Muscle Shoals in 2006 and was promoted to Compliance Officer in 2014.

See SHORTS... on Page 2

Courier Journal

Serving Northwest Alabama and

USPS Circulation Verification Available 219 W. Tennessee St. Florence, AL 35630 256-764-4268

ShoalsWORKS! Job Fair

NWSCC Patriot Gym 12:30-5pm November 15

SHOALS -- The Shoals Chamber of Commerce's ShoalsWORKS! and Northwest Shoals Community College are partnering to host the 2023 ShoalsWORKS! Job Fair, presented by Southwire, on Wednesday, November 15, 12:30-5pm at the NWSCC Patriot Center Gym. In addition, over 600 local high school seniors will attend from 8:30-11:30am. Over 40 employers will already signed up



See JOB FAIR... on Page 14

Wills for Warriors Returns

Free Simple Wills, Durable Powers of Attorney, or Living Wills for:

- All Veterans
- Active Service Members
- First Responders
- Local Healthcare Workers

FLORENCE— The law firm of McCutcheon & Hamner is pleased to continue their semi-annual Wills for Warriors program during November to offer free simple wills, durable powers of attorney, and living wills to all veterans, active service members, first responders and local healthcare workers. Now in its sixth year, this program kicks off Wednesday, November 1 in honor of Veteran's Day and will continue through the Thanksgiving weekend.

See WILLS... on Page 6



Courtesy photo

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Valid Thursday 11/9 - Monday 11/13, 2023. Not valid with any other coupon, offer or discount. Excludes Gift Cards, Employment, Birkenstock, HOKA, Estee Lauder, Clinique, Fragrances, Brighton, Vera Bradley, Previous Purchases, Green Sticker Merchandise. Limit one coupon per customer. Other exclusions may apply. Martin's/Wakefield's reserves the right to deny any coupons that are not being used in accordance with company guidelines. In store only.

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**Cypress Creek
Bridge Options**

FLORENCE—The City of Florence is proposing construction of a West College St. extension with a new roadway, bridge, and pedestrian accommodation over Cypress Creek. Each of the various options would connect Savannah Hwy and areas west of Cypress Creek with the West Florence neighborhood and the central business district of downtown Florence.

Information about the project is available to the public for review at a Public Involvement Meeting on Tuesday, November 14 from 5-7pm at the Burrell-Slater School Gymnasium in Florence.

Your comments may be provided by mail, email, or voicemail as described later in this article. Comments for the proposed project must be submitted by November 29.

See BRIDGE... on Page 6

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Advance Auto Sales

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- Medicare Minute
- Ask the Attorney



- Ask the Attorney
- Dave Ramsey
- Hocus Focus
- Gym for Mitchell
- Guest Commentary



Ask the Attorney

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Shorts...

Four Rise at First Metro

Continued from Page 1

For the past two years, Garrett has also served as the bank's Community Reinvestment Act Officer.

Michael Hoehn has been promoted to Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) Officer, Assistant Compliance Officer, and Assistant Cashier. Hoehn joined the First Metro Bank team in 2012 as a part-time courier while pursuing an economics degree at UNA. He was promoted to a full-time role in the bank's Credit Department in 2014 and was later promoted to work in the bank's audit department. Last year Hoehn was promoted to CRA coordinator and Compliance Assistant. Michael is a graduate of the inaugural class of First Metro Bank's Certified Banker Program in 2022.

Michael Cummings has been promoted to Assistant Cashier.

Cummings started his banking career as a part-time teller in Russellville in 2017 while a student at UNA. Upon graduation, he accepted a full-time teller position in Muscle Shoals and



Cummings

was later selected to serve as the bank's first Universal Banker, as well as a Branch Supervisor. In 2022, Cummings became the bank's Digital Branch Manager and also graduated from the inaugural class of First Metro Bank's Certified Banker Program.

Reed Reynolds has been promoted to Assistant Cashier. Reynolds joined First Metro in 2017 when the bank expanded into Downtown Athens. He served as a customer service representative and lending assistant until earlier this year when the bank opened a second Athens location, and Reynolds was named Branch Supervisor. He is also a charter graduate of First Metro Bank's Certified Banker Program.



Reynolds

Reynolds was named Branch Supervisor. He is also a charter graduate of First Metro Bank's Certified Banker Program.

month of November up to \$10,000! This means that your donation to NASANA at any time in November will be doubled. Whether it is \$2, \$10 or more, NASANA will receive twice as much as you donate. Additionally, NASANA's status as a 501c3 nonprofit organization means every donation is tax deductible.

Donations can be mailed to NASANA at 2701 Mall Drive, PMB 266, Florence, AL 35630.

You can also donate with PayPal using the donate button on NASANA's website, www.nasana.org, or with the a credit card on its Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/NASANA.org/>.

If you donate through either of those, NASANA gets the full amount since PayPal Giving Fund pays the fees.

Since NASANA is an all-volunteer organization, all the funds received will go directly to paying for having high-risk animals spayed and neutered.

Doubt Plays in Sheffield

SHEFFIELD—Echoe Productions presents the brilliant and powerful drama, "Doubt, A Parable" at 7pm nightly November 9-11 at The Chapel, 600 N. Columbia Ave. in Sheffield. Sister Aloysius, a Bronx school principal, takes matters into her own hands when she suspects the young Father Flynn of improper relations with one of the male students.

See SHORTS...on Page 9

NASANA Has 1-to-1 Match

SHOALS –Northwest Alabama Spay and Neuter Assistance (NASANA) is the only organization in the Shoals area that is devoted strictly to Spay/Neuter as a primary solution to pet overpopulation, strays, and unwanted pets. In honor of Giving Tuesday, one of NASANA's avid supporters has agreed to match all donations received during the

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Yard Sales

An exclusive listing of the better sales in the Shoals area.

To list your sale, use the classified form on page 6.

WE MUST receive your ad by Friday prior to the Wednesday release date. (8 days before a Saturday sale)

GREENHILL METHODIST CHURCH CHICKEN STEW and YARD SALE

15050 Co. Rd. 47, Sat., Nov 11th, 7am Lite Breakfast, Bake Sale, and White Bean Lunch Map ID # 1694

FLORENCE: MULTIFAMILY YARD SALE

725 Sannoner Ave Sat. 7am (If raining, next weekend) Something for everyone!! Map ID #1700

SHEFFIELD 4-FAMILY YARD SALE

308 Oakhill Ave., Rivermont Sub., Sat. 7am-until? Lots of Glassware and more!

FLORENCE YARD SALE

122 McKnight St., Thurs. & Fri., 8am-2pm, Dishes, Cookware, Kitchen chairs, Clothing, Shoes, Jewelry, Household items.

FLORENCE YARD SALE

2232 Co Rd 61 Sat. 7-until Designer clothes, furniture, etc If raining, Sat. 18th!

FLORENCE YARD/MOVING SALE

719 Grandview Ave., one block off Royal Ave., Sat. & Sun., All kinds of tools, furniture and clothes.

FLORENCE YARD SALE

346 W. Duncan Ave., Sat., 7am-until?, Boys (10-12-14), bicycle, dishes, clothes, pictures, and more!

SHEFFIELD 4-FAMILY YARD SALE

308 Oakhill Ave., Rivermont Sub., Sat. 7am-until? Lots of Glassware and more!

TUSCUMBIA ESTATE SALE

405 Blue Road Sat. 11/11 8-3pm Furniture, home goods, holiday and Christmas items. Rain or Shine.

LEXINGTON ESTATE YARD SALE

1071 County Road 82, 35640 Sat. 18th Bedroom suite, antique desk, and lots more! Map#1688

FLORENCE: ESTATE SALE

Estate of Hollie Balentine 311 County Rd 308 (About 2 miles off Chisholm Hwy.) Thurs. Fri. 7-4, Sat. 7-2, Household items, furniture, mowers, chainsaws, glassware, China, power and hand tools, hardware, clothes, hospital bed, and misc. We will haul furniture for a small fee.

HAVE YOU SEEN KIDSVILLE NEWS!

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

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The World Getting Together

The world thought they got rid of Christ by crucifying Him. Today, the move to get rid of the words of God (KING JAMES 1611) has just about succeeded. Now, an attempt to get rid of the Jews is underway around the world. Soon, the saved of all the earth, the real Church, will be removed by God at the catching up of the saints to meet Him in the air. This will then allow the Devil to perform his worst evil on this planet, while he deceives the whole world. A simple task for him because he knows: **Job 2:4** "And Satan answered the LORD, and said, Skin for skin, yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life." Lost man, you will do anything to save your life. **James 5:3** "Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days." Don't forget: **Hebrews 9:27** "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." **Acts 17:31** "Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead." You'll be at this judgment.

Prophetically, the major end time world religions, countries, politicians and other players are in perfect position for God to perform His predicted moves. The U.N., the world's puppet, is almost completely against Israel, which fulfills bible prophecy. See Zechariah 12:2&3 & Revelation 17:17 & Zephaniah 3:8 & Zechariah 14:2&3 & Matthew 24:21-30, Luke 21:24-26 & 1 Thessalonians 5:3 & Revelation 12:12, for just a few passages. God is moving. A wild ride is coming for this planet. A sane man would want nothing to do with it. Men's hearts are what perpetuates evil. God does not make people sin but: **James 1:14-15** "But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death." Without a doubt!

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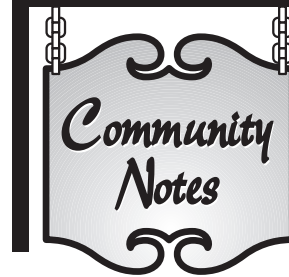


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Midway Church of Christ in Florence invites you to a Fall Series of Gospel Sermons November 12-15 with guest speaker Alan Yeater from Athens, Alabama, that will benefit all ages and places in life.

The schedule includes 10:30am and 7pm on Sunday and at 7pm Monday-Wednesday.

Sunday am - Processing Our Prodigal Sunday pm - God Wants a Relationship

Monday - Am I a Christian?

Tuesday - How the Lord Opens Hearts

Wednesday - Motive Matters

Everyone is invited to come and learn with us from God's Word! Facebook: com/midwaychurchofchrist.org

Midway is located at 6000 U.S. 43, just north of Highway 64 in the Greenhill community.

Latin Dance (Bolera) Class begins Thursday, November 9 for 6-weeks.

Meets at 3pm for 1 hour at The Club (Florence Senior Center) 450 Country Club Dr. in Florence off Savannah Hwy. For more information, please call 256-760-6420.

LifeSouth Bloodmobile Dates:

Tuesday, November 7 Flexco, 6am - 1pm

Wednesday, November 7 Tharptown High School, 7:30am - 3:30pm

Sunday, November 19 Walmart - Avalon Ave. - Muscle Shoals, 10am - 4pm

Saturday, November 25 Walmart - Cloverdale Road - Florence, 10am - 4pm

FREE Dental Work For Veterans ONLY! DD214, Military ID or NGB23 Required. Ryerson & Associates, DMD, 1013 East Avalon Muscle Shoals.

A day honoring our Veterans on Friday, November 10. One procedure per patient. FREE cleaning, filling or extraction. No appointments, first come, first serve.

Household and commercial garbage collections in Lauderdale County will be NOT be affected by the Veterans Day Holiday on Saturday, November 11. However, the Lauderdale County Landfill at 5700 Cloverdale Rd will be CLOSED Saturday Nov. 11. Any questions should directed to the Solid Waste Department at 256-760-5878.

The Veterans' Day Parade will take place in Tusculmbia on Friday, November 10 at 10am. Beginning at

Deshler High School. It will follow Main St. to 6th and will end at the Colbert County Courthouse. A program will follow at 11am on the courthouse lawn, presented by American Legion Post 31. The Rev. Norman Simmons will give the keynote address. A meal will follow at the Tusculmbia Church of Christ Annex, located across the street from the Courthouse at the corner of 4th and Main Streets. The public is invited to all events. In the case of rain, the parade will be cancelled, and other events will proceed as planned. For more information, call 256-762-5950.

The Season's Final Second Saturday is November 11 from 5-9pm on Main Street in downtown Tusculmbia. Experience the Artist Co-op, live music by Deja Vu, and a fun cornhole tournament open to all.

Dan Penn Concert and 82nd Birthday Bash is on Monday, November 16 at the Old Grace Church Venue, 700 N. Montgomery Ave. in Sheffield. After another trip around the sun, the legendary singer-songwriter returns for a show where he cut his first songs in Muscle Shoals. Dan Penn is the writer of multiple hits singles, including "I'm Your Puppet," "Dark End Of The Street," "Do Right Woman," "Out Of Left Field," "It Tears Me Up," and more.

Doors open at 6pm, show at 7pm. General admission tickets are \$25 each by calling 256-810-8834.

The 3rd Annual "Parade of Holiday Porches", takes place December 8-31. HOWEVER, the deadline to register is

November 10.

All Tusculmbia residents in downtown historic neighborhoods bounded in each direction by the Tusculmbia Commons are invited to participate. Information and registration forms may be picked up at Fiddledee D! Gift Shop, 111 S. Main Street or email requests to crimsونسue4bama@gmail.com There is no charge to participate.

The Parade of Porches is sponsored by the Colbert County Historical Landmarks Foundation. For more information, please call 256-710-5499.

Greenhill Methodist Church will host a chicken stew and yard sale on Saturday, November 11 beginning at 7am. Light breakfast, bake sale, and white bean lunch. Located at 15050 County Rd. 47.

Patriot Jam Veterans Day All Stars Saturday, November 11 at the Florence Lauderdale Coliseum. Doors open at 3pm for this concert honoring veterans. Featuring: Bo Bice and Gary Nichols with special guests-Skinny Molly, Rivernmont, Austin Bohannon and Cadence Baker. Food Trucks on site! Tickets are \$35. VIP tickets are \$150 (includes meet and greet with Butterbean, t-shirt, food, and drinks. Tickets can be purchased in advance online at: www.hometownheroescollective.com or at the event.

Merchant of Venice will be presented November 10-12 at the Ritz Theatre in Sheffield. Director Jaleesa Escott presents a new and fresh spin - a completely reimagined, and modernized version - on

See NOTES... page 20

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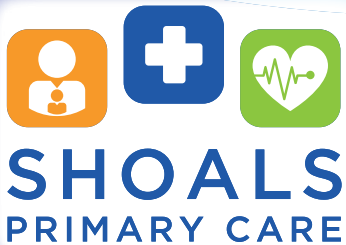
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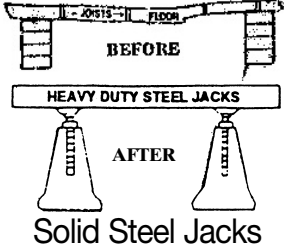
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with 50% or more service-related disability may qualify for a \$6,800 grant for a walk-in shower. Call Patrick today! 256-627-8007

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Management reserves the right to withdraw any unit from sale.

Climate Guard Self Storage, 2803 Florence Blvd, Florence, AL 35630 will conduct a live **ONLINE AUCTION** **Nov. 13, 9am & will end Nov. 27, 9am** at: www.storageauctions.com

Name	Unit #	Stored Items
Brooke Skelton	232	Misc. Household Items

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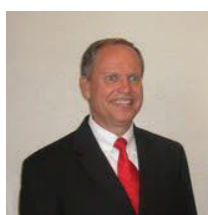
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November 12-15
with Alan Yeater (Athens, Alabama)

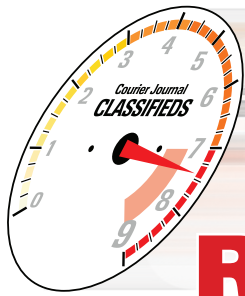


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Midway church of Christ
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- TOPICS:**
- Sunday AM - Processing Our Prodigal**
 - Sunday PM - God Wants a Relationship**
 - Monday PM - Am I a Christian?**
 - Tuesday PM - How The Lord Opens Hearts**
 - Wednesday PM Motive Matters**

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Courier Journal

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Charge to Credit/Debit Card by calling **256-764-4268**

FAX - 24 HRS - Charge to Credit / Debit Card by faxing an ad to **256-760-9618**. Include exp. date. List how many weeks the ad is to run.

MAIL - Mail your written ad to address at right. Include your phone number. We will call to finalize your ad. List how many weeks the ad is to run.

OFFICE - Drop by our office at your convenience 8-5 Monday-Friday and write/submit it there.

ADVANCE PAYMENT IS REQUIRED in cash, check or Credit/Debit Card. Phone-in Ads MUST be Charged to Credit/Debit Card! NO EXCEPTIONS! NO REFUNDS!

DEADLINE: Friday 5pm

Private Party Rate 4 LINES Each additional line - \$1.50 - Prepay - NO REAL ESTATE • 1 item per ad - 4 Weeks/4 lines 1 ITEM \$16 Each additional line - add \$4.50 **\$5.50** Week

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Yard Sales 6 LINES Each additional line - \$1.50 YARD SALES - An exclusive listing of the area's better sales prominently placed **\$12.50** Week

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*one line is approx. 30 characters

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MAILING ADDRESS: Courier Journal, 219 W. Tennessee St., Florence, AL 35630

Please Print Ad Clearly. NOT RESPONSIBLE for illegible handwriting

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

Wills...

Continued from Page 1

"McCutcheon & Hamner is honored to have the opportunity to thank our local heroes through our Wills for Warriors program," said partner, Tom McCutcheon. "Joel and I are proud to create a tradition of serving those who have served so much. This program also gives us the chance to meet so many hardworking, dedicated folks throughout our community."

"In these uncertain times, our community can always be certain of the tireless commitment our local healthcare workers, police officers,

firefighters, and EMTs, along with members of our armed services, display each and every day, answering the call to protect and serve," added fellow partner, Joel Hamner. "We admire their dedication to do so without thought for their own safety. It is indeed an honor to stop and salute these local heroes for their selfless bravery."

Veterans, active military personnel, first responders and their family members are invited to contact McCutcheon & Hamner to take part in the program. For more information, call 256-333-5000 or visit the website www.willsforwarriors.com

Bridge...

Continued from Page 1

The purpose of the West College Street Extension project is to provide a new roadway and bridge crossing over Cypress Creek west of Florence. The need for the project is derived from the lack of pedestrian and vehicular connectivity between community resources west of Cypress Creek

and West Florence. For more information, including a comment form and the three current proposals, visit: https://florenceal.org/news_detail/T14_R60.php Phone: 256-203-8033

Mail comments to: Volkert Inc
ATTN: Thomas Lee
1110 Montlimar Drive, Suite 1050,
Mobile, AL 36609



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DEADLINES: Issues Published Every Wednesday
INSERTS - 5 pm Thursday
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219 W. Tennessee St.
Florence, AL 35630
256-764-4268
Fax: 256-760-9618

Your Courier Journal is published for total saturation, direct-mail delivery every Wednesday to 51,892 Shoals area and surrounding homes. It is Alabama's Largest Weekly-Mailed Direct, and enjoys a larger circulation than all local subscriber based newspapers combined.

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

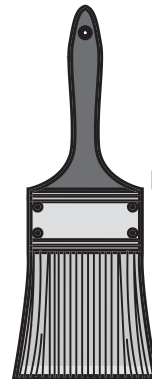
219 W. Tennessee St.
Florence, AL 35630
or email to:
editor@courierjournal.net

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DAY by DAY

Grief Support Group for Bereaved Parents/Grandparents

Meeting will be
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Woodmont Church East Campus,
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14 Oz.
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Pizzas
15.77-21.95 Oz.
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Kraft
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2/\$5

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2/\$8

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Coke
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Coke
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**Seedless
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5 Lb. Bag
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Honeycrisp, Granny
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Shorts...

Doubt Plays in Sheffield

Continued from Page 2

produced and directed by Jesse Lane.

The cast includes: **Gena Rawdon** as Sister Aloysius, **Jesse Lane** as Father Flynn, **Isabella Robertson** as Sister James, and **Porsha Orr** as Mrs. Muller.

General admission tickets are \$15. Student tickets are \$12. They may be bought at the door with cash or card or they can be bought online through this link: <https://echo-productions.square.site>

Doors open at 6:30pm, show at 7.

UNA Awarded \$1.4 Million

FLORENCE—The University of North Alabama has recently been awarded more than \$1.4 million in state and federal grants to support student services.

The U.S. Department of Education awarded UNA the highly competitive TRIO Student Services grant of \$1.3 million. Additionally, the Alabama Governor's Office of Volunteer Services awarded UNA a 2023 AmeriCorps State Planning Grant in the amount of \$99,484 to launch an AmeriCorps program on campus.

UNA is the first university in the AmeriCorps Alabama state portfolio to receive an AmeriCorps grant. UNA Fostering Success is a statewide program designed to support the academic success of students in foster care. It is the first AmeriCorps program of its kind at an institution of higher education in Alabama.



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City of Florence-Lauderdale County
VETERANS DAY CEREMONY
11:00 A.M.
Saturday, Nov. 11, 2023
“What is a Veteran?”
Florence-Lauderdale Veterans Memorial
Veterans Park, Cox Creek Parkway
Florence, Alabama
Limited Seating: Attendees are encouraged to bring chairs
Rain Location - Florence-Lauderdale Coliseum



Turning 65? Time for a MEDICARE Insurance Plan? Register Today!
Our next Medicare Class is Thursday, Nov. 16th Educate before Enrolling
11am-Noon @ Alabama Health Guidance 885 Florence Blvd. Florence, AL

We know all of those **MEDICARE** options may seem a bit confusing – but our **LOCAL** Insurance Specialists have over 20 years of combined experience to help make the whole process easy for you.

Our **“Third Thursday” Medicare Education Classes**, offered each month, allow you the opportunity to learn more. Call to register now to attend one of these classes!

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EXPERIENCE MATTERS! Meet with Medicare Plan Experts:
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256-648-5710

For accomodation of persons with special needs at meetings, call 256-648-5710

We do not offer every plan available in your area. Currently we represent 9 organizations which offer 80 products in your area. Please contact Medicare.gov, 1-800-MEDICARE, or your local State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) for help with plan choices.

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- Accountant
- Admissions and Enrollment Counselor
- Chief of Police
- Student Enrollment Specialist

Detailed position announcements and applications can be requested by visiting the web page at www.nwsc.edu or by contacting the Office of Human Resources at (256) 331-5229. NW-SCC is an equal opportunity employer.



Ministry Assistant

York Bluff Baptist Church
Sheffield, Alabama.

~Tuesday — Thursday~
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
~Friday~
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Send resume and references to the

Personnel Committee
301 N. Atlanta Avenue
Sheffield, Alabama 35660

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IT'S YARD SALE SEASON! Get a free yard sale kit with your prepaid red lined yard sale ad. Deadline Friday: 8 days prior to a Saturday sale. See Page 6 or visit www.courierjournal.net.

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

LEGAL NOTICE

State Of Alabama, Colbert County Notice Of Abandoned and Unclaimed Motor Vehicles

Notice is hereby given that on **12/09/2023** at 09AM The following vehicles will be sold at Dealer's auction only for cash. The auction will be held at Andy's Wrecker Service, 1800 16th. Street, Sheffield Alabama 35660. Andy's Wrecker will accept proof of ownership should anyone care to submit the same, Monday Through Friday, between the hours of 9AM and 5PM until day of sale. Vehicles may be viewed starting 12/08/2023 between the hours of 9am and 5pm. NO TITLES OFFERED! VEHICLES ARE SOLD FOR PARTS AND SCRAP ONLY. Auctioneer Barry L. Stewart #1239

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1997 Buick	Park Avenue	1G4CW52K3V4628895	Green
2001 BMW	3-Series	WBAAV53491F J71682	Black
2001 Chevrolet	Blazer	1GNCS13W41K103206	Beige
2007 Ford	Focus	1FADP34NX7W163135	Gold
2008 Ford	Mustang	1ZVHT84N385204833	Black
2005 Ford	Expedition	1FMFU20515LA71582	Gold
1997 Chevrolet	S-10	1GCCS19X9VK169989	Brown/Tan
2003 Ford	Taurus	1FADPSSU3G156474	Brown
2001 Chevrolet	S-10	1GCCS14W21KI08220	Black
2008 VW	Beetle	3VWRW31CO8M507468	Red
2010 Nissan	Cube	JN8AZ2KR3AT163649	Gray
2011 Jeep	Compass	1J4NT1FASBD138691	White
2003 Hyundai	Sonata	KMHWF35H43A909524	Gold
1993 Chevrolet	Caprice	1G1BL53E9PW144506	White
2004 Honda	Civic	2HGES26714H566560	White
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2009 Dodge	Nitro	1D8GU28K09W522319	Black
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2011 Nissan	Altima	1N4AL2AP4BN448160	Gray
1999 Jeep	Cherokee	1J4GW5851XC519044	White
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THIS WEEK

Happening THIS WEEK

After Media Bouquets for Pelosi, Predictable Brickbats for Johnson

The good news for Republicans is they finally elected a new speaker of the House, Rep. Mike Johnson. The bad news for Republicans is the so called-objective media exist to create bad news for Republicans. The "Politico Playbook" announced the breaking spin over the breaking news: "Johnson is about to become for Democrats what Nancy Pelosi was for Republicans: a base-motivating, money-raising boogeyman who embodies everything they dislike most about the other party. At least that's what Democrats are hoping." Politico added Democrats will paint Johnson, R-La., as "an election denier, an anti-abortion extremist and a slasher of Social Security and Medicare." Surprise, surprise: That's the tone the networks struck in their first evening news reports. In the first seconds of NBC Nightly News, anchor Lester Holt announced: "Meet the



Tim Graham

See BRICKBATS... on Page 18

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



11am Saturday, November 11

To Honor Shoals Veterans

FLORENCE- Mayor Andy Betterton and Lauderdale County Commission Chairman Danny Pettus announce the annual Veterans Day program. The ceremony will be held at the Florence - Veterans Memorial Park at 301 Veterans Park Drive, north of Wilson Dam. The number of attendees is not restricted, but seating is limited. Standing room is available. Attendees are encouraged to bring chairs. The purpose of the Veterans

See VETERANS... on Page 20

Gym Naming for Mitchell

FLORENCE- This Friday at the Burrell-Slater Community Education Center in Florence, the site of what was once Florence's only Black high school, the gymnasium will be dedicated in honor of one of area's most influential coaches of the 20th century, Harvest Mitchell.

for 35 years, coaching different sports and teaching physical education and health classes. The Florence City Board of Education's decision to name the gym after Coach Mitchell is credited to his impact at Burrell-Slater High.

Mitchell made his mark as a



Mitchell Courtesy photo

Mitchell was with the district

See MITCHELL... on Page 24

THE VETERANS DAY PARADE IN TUSCUMBIA begins at 10am on Friday, November 10 from Deshler High School. Following Main St. to 6th, the parade will end at the Colbert County Courthouse. A program will follow at 11am on the courthouse lawn to be presented by American Legion Post 31. The Rev. Norman Simmons will give the keynote address. A meal will follow at the Tuscumbia Church of Christ Annex across the street from the Courthouse at the corner of 4th and Main Streets. The public is invited to all events. In the case of rain, the parade will be canceled and other events will proceed as planned. For more information, call 256-762-5950.

THE 3RD ANNUAL "PARADE OF HOLIDAY PORCHES" is December 8-31. THE DEADLINE to register your porch is November 10. All Tuscumbia residents in downtown historic neighborhoods bounded in each direction by the Tuscumbia Commons are invited to participate. Information and registration forms are at Fiddledee D! Gift Shop or email requests to crimsonusue4bama@gmail.com There is no charge to participate. The Parade of Porches is sponsored by the Colbert County Historical Landmarks Foundation. For more information, please call 256-710-5499.

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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

Again, Powerball Sham

Editor: I urge everyone who buys Powerball and Megaball lottery tickets to look at the numbers picked since October 11, 2023 when someone won almost 2 billion dollars, and tell me the pattern of numbers picked by the computer controlled process is not suspicious to build up the pot and keep people from winning too early? In fact, pull up the last six months of Powerball and Megaball numbers and dwell on those repetitively-drawn numbers. This is not the first letter I have written about it, but my letters are not as repetitive as the lottery picked numbers.

Paul Sabatino Florence

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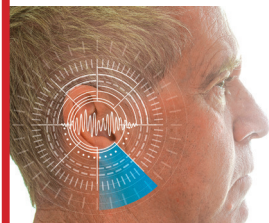
Only Feeding 2 of 5

Editor: While doing some research, I came across a video of an Australian billionaire that was echoed by Speaker Mike Johnson, where he said that women should be made to birth babies because he needed poorly educated children to work low paying jobs or capitalism would be a thing of the past. Seems like most Republicans are thinking the same thing because now young children will be forced to work if the family wants to get food stamps or government assistance. Even now they force underage girls to birth their rapist's seed. Females in poverty in need of

See LETTERS... on Page 28

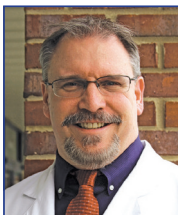


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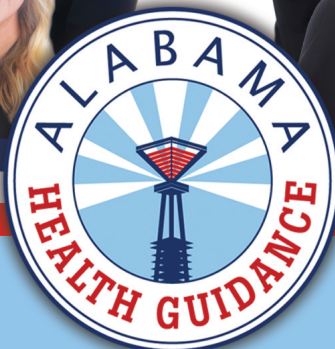
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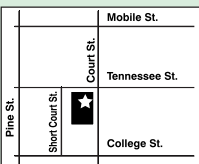
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Job Fair...

Continued from Page 1

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EMPLOYER BOOTHS are only \$75 for Chamber members and \$100 for non-members. Businesses may register on-line at this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ShoalsWORKS-Job-Fair-EMPLOYER-REGISTRATION>

The deadline for Employer registration is Wednesday, November 8.

Job seekers should dress for an interview, as first impressions count and many employers will be interviewing during the event. Bring copies of your resume and references. Brush up on your interview skills and answers to common questions before the event.

Event sponsors include Southwire, North American Lighting, PROJE C T X Y Z, University of North Alabama, Shoals Northwest Community

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For more information,

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We have all heard the horror stories of building new houses or remodeling existing homes. With that being said, I have been remodeling my home. It hasn't been all smooth sailing, but it hasn't been terrible. I've had some snags with my appliances which leads me to this week's article.

Most appliances come with a manufacturer's warranty that typically lasts for a specific time frame, such as one year or longer. These warranties typically cover the cost of parts and labor necessary to repair defects that occur under normal use and conditions.

The coverage provided by appliance warranties varies depending on the manufacturer and the specific terms of the warranty. Generally, warranties cover defects in materials or workmanship that affect the performance of the appliance. Warranties do not cover the natural wear and tear that occurs with the regular use of an appliance, such as a light bulb.

Trying to fix it yourself can void the warranty. You should rely on authorized service centers or technicians approved by the manufacturer to ensure the warranty remains valid. Most repair services will advertise if they can service appliances under warranty. I like to do business where the seller can do the service.

Reach out to the manufacturer's customer service or the authorized service center to report the problem, confirm in writing and keep the letter or email. Provide them with detailed information about the issue, such as the symptoms and any error codes.

Depending on the warranty terms, the manufacturer may send a technician to inspect and repair the appliance or direct you to an unauthorized service center.

Always document each communication, including date, name of customer service representative, and any service reports or invoices. Written records can be valuable in case of a dispute or further issues and can prove notice of an issue during the warranty period. This can also extend the warranty period.

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

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Guest Commentary - Tim Graham

Brickbats

Continued from Page 12

new speaker, little-known Congressman Mike Johnson, a hard-line conservative from Louisiana." Seconds later, Holt called him a "hard-right conservative." Then Garrett Haake underlined he was a "staunch conservative on issues like abortion and government spending."

CBS anchor, Norah O'Donnell, declared, "The staunch conservative wants a federal ban on abortion rights and opposes same-sex marriage." Reporter Nikole Killion added, "He managed to unite both the hard-right and establishment flanks of the party."

ABC's Rachel Scott said, "Johnson is staunchly anti-abortion right and 'not in favor of protections for same-sex marriage.'" He even voted against reauthorizing the Violence Against Women Act in 2021. Why? There were gun rights issues and religious liberty issues with it. But it's too much fun to imply he favors violence against women.

Journalists wanted



to press Republicans on why they would support Johnson. PBS anchor, Geoff Bennett, pressed Rep. Mariannette Miller-Meeks of Iowa, "Mike Johnson is more genial than Jim Jordan, but he's no less a hard-liner. He is on the far right of the spectrum when it comes to issues like reproductive rights, same-sex marriage."

It should be obvious that Democrats hold staunchly opposite positions from the "ultraconservative hard-liners," but there are no "ultraliberal hard-liners."

When far-left Rep. Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., stepped down from the speaker's job last November, ABC and NBC hailed her as a hero and an icon whose reign was legendary. CBS hailed her as an outsized political force for a generation.

When Democrats elected Rep. Hakeem Jeffries, D-N.Y., to replace Pelosi as their party leader, PBS and the others hailed him as the first black lawmaker to head a major political party in Congress. That was a two-sentence story with no drama.

Political observers could say the House Democrats are clearly more disciplined and organized. But it should also be said that these pro-Democrat media outlets create no incentives for publicly rocking the boat. Decisions are kept behind caucus doors, and

reporters are ready to hail the results after it's all over.

It's especially rich that these networks would throw the term, election denier, at Johnson when they wouldn't lob that insult at Jeffries, who routinely called Donald Trump an illegitimate president and denied his election at least 13 times by the GOP's counting.

Reporters huffed and puffed when Republicans booed questions about election deniers, insisting it was a fair question to Johnson. But it's not fair when only one party is pressed on denying election results.

These anti-Republican and pro-Democrat tactics never changed. When House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, was pushed out in 2015, a monthlong NewsBusters study found they described Republicans as conservative more than 100 times, and as far-right or its equivalents in 35 of those uses.

No House Democrat was far left. Reporters are left-wing extremists like Pelosi and Jeffries, so they see themselves as "the sensible center."

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Tim Graham is director of media analysis at the Media Research Center and executive editor of the blog NewsBusters.org.

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Veterans...

Continued from Page 12

Day Ceremony is to honor all American Veterans for their service in defense of our freedom. The theme for this year's Veterans Day program is, "What Is A Veteran?"

The Veterans Day Ceremony will include numerous events honoring the Florence-Lauderdale veterans for their service in defending our freedom. It will also include honors to our nation. Our country owes those who served and those who are currently serving a debt of gratitude. Our appreciation should be expressed often, but especially on Veterans Day. Numerous ways that veterans may be honored will be discussed at the ceremony. In fact, attending the Veterans Day Ceremony

is an excellent way to honor our veterans. Veterans in attendance will be recognized collectively and thanked for their service. They are encouraged to show their pride in having served in our country's armed forces by wearing their service caps, pins, patches, etc. The specifically designed stick-on lapel crest, "I am a Veteran," will be given to veterans in attendance for ease of identification. The Veterans Day program may also be viewed by watching it LIVE on the City of Florence Facebook Page or via Big River Broadcasting Radio Stations and Singing River Media Radio. In the event of rain, the ceremony will be held at the Florence-Lauderdale Coliseum.

Notes...

Continued from page 4

this Shakespearean classic. Antonio, a merchant, takes out a loan from a local moneylender in an effort to assist his friend's courtship...the price for being unable to repay his due? A pound of flesh.

Friday and Saturday at 7:30pm. Sunday Matinee at 2pm. Tickets are available at TennesseeValleyArts.org

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Gerald Clemmons needs a kidney! Gerald is a lifelong resident of Lauderdale County. He has kidney disease and is on dialysis. He has been told that he needs a kidney transplant, and a living donor is his best chance to survive. Please consider becoming a living kidney donor for him at Vanderbilt Hospital.

Continued on page 25

Soap Opera Preview

DAYS OF OUR LIVES
Harris was concerned about Ava's new job. Stefan made a shocking discovery. Li had words for Wendy. Chad discovered Stephanie and Everett together. Marlena, Roman and Brady celebrated the nuptials. Wendy vowed revenge. Rafe demanded answers from Gabi. EJ set business aside to celebrate his wedding night. Paulina had an ace up her sleeve. John and Marlena celebrated their anniversary. Maggie reminisced about Victor. Tensions increased during the custody battle between Sarah and Xander. Alex and Theresa hatched a plan. Rafe bore the news of Gabi's fate. Wendy's courage was tested. Dimitri grappled with his guilt. Jada honed in on Leo and Dimitri. Wait to See: Stephanie sets boundaries with Everett. Chad debates playing dirty. Melinda finds a baby for Eric and Sloan.

GENERAL HOSPITAL
Sam and Dante voiced their concerns. Finn was uneasy. Esme made a confession. Chase put his foot in his mouth. Valentin was horrified. Sonny offered support to Anna. Robert had an explanation. Gregory

helped Alexis with an ethical dilemma. Sam felt overjoyed. Curtis received some valuable advice. Tracy made an announcement. Michael was relieved. Austin got cagey. Sonny shared some shocking info with Ava. Sasha tried to mend a broken bond. Olivia jumped to action. Lois cautioned Brook Lynn. Spencer felt betrayed. Dante briefed Anna and Sonny. Valentin treaded very carefully. Alexis and Blaze got acquainted. Trina didn't mince words. Wait to See: Elizabeth vents to Laura. Anna is blindsided. Olivia has reason to celebrate.

THE YOUNG AND THE RESTLESS
Victor summoned the Newmans to a meeting. Claire kept a secret from Nikki. Mariah and Tessa were tested as parents. Victor made a shocking announcement. Devon questioned Nate's sincerity. Lily experienced mixed signals with Daniel. Victor questioned Nick about his future. Danny kept the peace between Phyllis and Christine. Chance caught Nina off guard. Victoria and Nate shared a difference of opinion. Christine set boundaries with Danny.

Wait to See: Phyllis weighs her options. Sharon and Summer stand their ground. Daniel romances Lily.

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THIS IS THE SECOND PART OF MY LAST EXCITING INSTALLMENT that talked about the explosion of artificial intelligence called the Technological Singularity.

AI (artificial intelligence) has been around for decades. The core of modern AI systems uses "neural nets" that are based on the design of the human brain. These little "fuzzy logic" computers are used in elevators, cars, smart homes, and robot vacuum cleaners. These AIs are very constrained in their abilities, but can generally do one thing very well. The computer code necessary for these little AIs



Jim Fisher

Artificial General Intelligence

by "The Computer Skeptic"

is self-contained and can be stored on microscopic pieces of computer hardware. Recently, there has been an explosion of what we call "Narrow AI" based on large language models. For example, Microsoft's "OpenAI" model was fed the entire knowledge contained on Wikipedia, medical journals, and online encyclopedias. All this was fed into a large neural net, processed and the end result is an AI that rapidly predicts what word ought to follow another word. For example, if I say, "The quick brown fox" it will know to follow that with "jumps over

the lazy dog." It's not smart in the way that humans are smart, it's just really good at predicting what word should come after another. Google's "Bard" is another leap in AI technology. Instead of feeding their computer a curated feast of Wikipedia and encyclopedias, they fed it the entire internet. These large language models are now able to assist little humans in ways that were unimaginable just a few months ago. Then we have image-processing technologies that mimic the human visual world.

Large bodies of works of art were fed into a machine then computer scientists taught it how to produce whatever image or video our human minds can conceive of. We are on the verge of being able to speak the idea of a movie into our computers, and our computers will spit out a full-length movie. This is one of the things screen actors and writers were mad about. And rightly so because their jobs really are at stake. Computer scientists are feverishly working on the next big thing, Artificial General Intelligence (AGI), which will combine all the little aforementioned AIs into one large super-intelligent network of computers. Currently, these AIs have to be fed the knowledge that humans mostly already know. AGI will be as smart as a human with the ability to reason, think, and maybe even

be self-aware--the gold standard of "humanness." The timeline for AGI development remains a subject of ongoing debate among experts. Some argue that it may be possible in years or decades; others maintain it might take a century or longer; and a minority believe it may never be achieved. I think we're 10 years from AGI but, regardless of how long it takes, I suspect it will come as a surprise. Buckle up, little humans, it's gonna be a wild ride! For questions or comments, Contact the Computer Skeptic, Jim Fisher at Jim@ExcelAL.com

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Medicare Minute

"Types of Medicare Advantage Plans"

There are basically two types of Medicare Advantage Plans. One type is a HMO. HMO stands for Health Maintenance Organization. The other type is a PPO or Preferred Provider Organization. Although both are Medicare Advantage Plans there are some distinct differences in the two.

In most HMO plans you generally can only go to doctors, health care facilities or hospitals that are on the provider list of the plan except in emergency. HMO plans require you to name a primary care provider (PCP). Your PCP becomes the quarterback of your health care. This means you may have to have a referral from your PCP if you want to see a specialist or another health care provider. All HMO plans do not require a referral, so this is a question you will want to ask of considering an HMO.

In a PPO plan, you also have a defined network of providers. You will pay less if you use a provider in the plan's network but, unlike a HMO, you may have some coverage if you go to an out-of-network provider. You will pay more for using an out-of-network provider versus an in-network provider. Also a PPO plan may give you the option of getting your health care from a provider outside your immediate geographical area whereas a HMO can be more limited.

HMO and PPO plans are similar in many ways. They both have a defined network of providers, both have a copay on most services you receive and except for a few exceptions will both include prescription drug coverage. Finding a Medicare health plan is about finding the plan that is right for you. It's a good idea to research both HMO and PPO plans if you are considering a Medicare Advantage Plan.

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



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Mitchell...

Continued from Page 12

head athletics coach, spending ten seasons at Burrell-Slater High School and seven at Coffee High School.

Mitchell was head coach for football, basketball and track teams at Burrell-Slater from 1959-1969. Mitchell built Burrell-Slater into a North Alabama sports powerhouse.

During his ten years at Burrell-Slater, Mitchell's record in basketball was 209-46; in football it was 55-19. He was nominated for basketball coach of the year eight of those ten years, winning five times. Mitchell was also chosen coach of the year one time in football. These impressive achievements are complemented by the successful tournament participation of teams under his direction.

In addition, Mitchell had no assistant coaches. Mitchell's influence even extended to the current leadership of Florence City Schools as Superintendent Dr. Jimmy Shaw was his student during his time teaching at Bradshaw

High School. "Coach Mitchell has been an education icon over many decades, many children, and over all races. He has had a lasting impact on this area and generations to come," said Shaw. The dedication ceremony will occur on Friday, November 10 11am. The Burrell-Slater Community Education Center is located at 610 West College Street.

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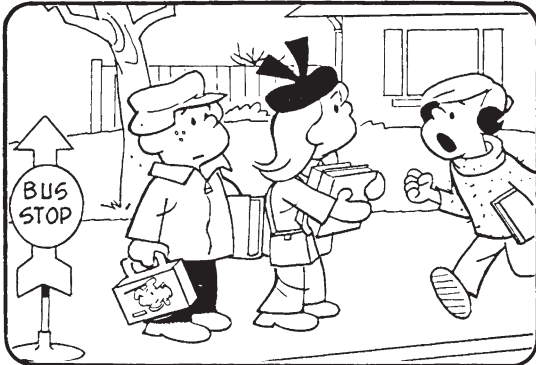
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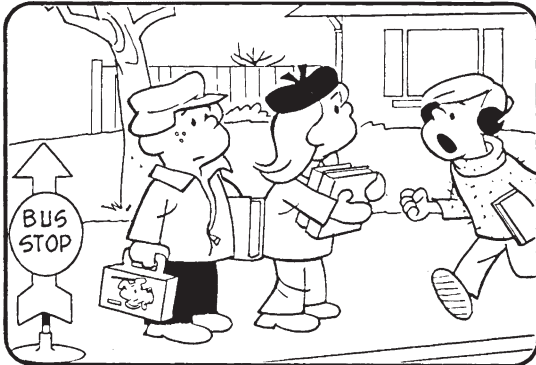

al#22283

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Sign is shorter. 2. Lunchbox is moved. 3. Jacket is opened. 4. Hat bow is smaller. 5. Purse is missing. 6. Arm is lower.

Notes...

Continued from page 20

You can help! To be a donor, you will need to: know your blood type, be at least 18 years of age, be in good physical health, and have a good mental disposition. This week can provide more information: <https://bit.ly/VandyLivingDonor>

If you can't donate, please share this information.

The Choral Music Department of Florence Academy of Fine Arts at Florence High School presents, "Keep Singing," a concert of music about making music - Tuesday, November 7 at 7pm at Florence High School. Adult tickets \$5, students \$2, age 4, and under are free.

Evolving Patterns: Legacies of Quilting continues through November 5 at the Tennessee Valley Museum of Art. A reception will take place November 2 at 6pm.

Evolving Patterns: Legacies of Quilting is a conversation between historic quilting and contemporary uses of quilting. Quilts from 1830 - the present shift their pattern to present new aesthetic tastes and purposes. Featuring juried contemporary quilts and the quilt-inspired, community-sourced patterns of Alabama Chanin.

WC Handy's 150th Birthday celebration will take place with an open house from 1-3pm on Friday, November 17 at the WC Handy Museum, 620 West College St. in Florence. Refreshments and live entertainment - Admission is free.

The Elks National Foundation's 2024 Elks Most Valuable Student scholarship contest is underway. The MVS scholarship is available to high school seniors who are United States citizens. Applicants do not need to be related to a member of the Elks. The judging criteria is based on academics, leadership, service, and financial need.

The application must be completed online and submitted by the November 13, 2023. The 500 national winners will be announced in April 2024. The top 20 national finalists will participate in the Leadership Weekend in Chicago and receive \$30,000 scholarships and 480 runners-up will receive \$4,000 scholarships.

Applications and detail are available on the Elks National Foundation's website, enf.elks.org/MVS or call Dr. Jean Love locally at 256-762-5043.

The 4th Annual Alabama Classy & Sassy Glass Show takes place November 10-12 at the Anderson Center,

Continued on page 27

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

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DAVE Says

by DAVE RAMSEY

DON'T BUY A HOUSE TOGETHER BEFORE YOU'RE MARRIED

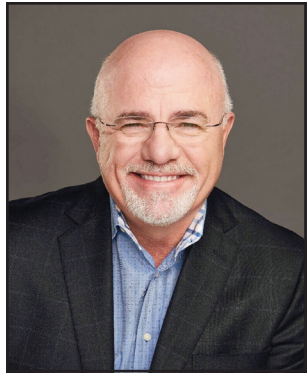
Dear Dave,
My fiancée and I plan to get married in May, and we are preparing to buy a house. We both work in sales, and combined we bring home about \$7,400 a month before commissions. Our average commissions usually boost that to \$12,000 a month. I'm worried that the house we're looking at doesn't fit our budget, though. The home costs \$350,000, and we're looking at monthly payments of \$2,840 with taxes and insurance figured in. Do you think this scenario will work for us?

Dear J.T.,
Are you doing this on a 15-year fixed-rate mortgage? If you're not, you need to change that right away. That's the only kind of mortgage loan I recommend. With the numbers you've given me, you two can afford that on the shorter terms I mentioned.

Now, let's move on to the next thing. You're speaking about buying a home as if you're already married, and you're not. I will not advise you to buy a house with someone to whom you're not married. You're talking to a guy who's been doing this for 35 years, and I've heard all the horror stories that go along with, "We bought the house together, but we didn't make it to the altar together." Talk about an ugly breakup!

You two have a bad case of house fever right now. Believe it or not, you aren't required by law to run out and buy a home just because you're planning to get married. Please, wait until after the wedding to buy a home. And even then, wait another year or so. Buying a home is the biggest—and most expensive—life decision most people ever make. Take some time to just enjoy being married and getting to know each other even better for a while.

Listen, if you've already jumped the gun, if you already have this house under contract or anything like that, I would not close the deal. I'd talk to the sellers and tell them they



can keep my earnest money, but I'm walking away. And get ready, because if you do this, your fiancée is liable to look at you like you've got snakes coming out of your ears. Make sure to communicate with her about where you're coming from and why you're doing it. It's the best, and smartest, thing you can do in the long run, J.T.

I'm not predicting you two are going to break up or anything. I hope with all my heart nothing like that happens. But I'm begging you, buddy. Don't buy a home with someone you're not legally married to. The potential downside is just too great.
—Dave

Dave Ramsey is an eight-time national bestselling author, personal finance expert and host of "The Ramsey Show." He has appeared on "Good Morning America," "CBS This Morning," the "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 of Ramsey Solutions.

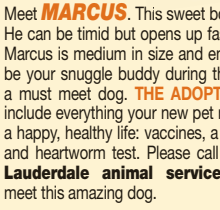
Courier Journal ADOPT A FRIEND

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.

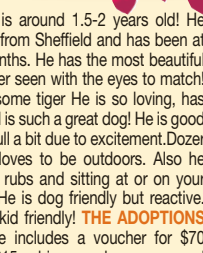
Meet **MAX G.** This handsome husky is waiting to meet you. This amazing boy is playful, loving and full of energy. This boy will amaze you with his wonderful personality. **THE ADOPTIONS FEE IS \$85** and include everything your new pet needs to be on track for a happy, healthy life: vaccines, a microchip, spay/neuter, and heartworm test. Please call or come by **Florence Lauderdale animal services 256-760-6676** to meet this amazing dog.



Meet **TRAVIS.** He is a precious medium sized dog looking for a family to love. He is medium energy and ready to cuddle and play with a family. Travis loves to walk on a leash and be outside. **THE ADOPTIONS FEE IS \$85** and include everything your new pet needs to be on track for a happy, healthy life: vaccines, a microchip, spay/neuter, and heartworm test. Please call or come by **Florence Lauderdale animal services 256-760-6676** to meet this amazing dog.



Meet **MARCUS.** This sweet boy is fun and full of love. He can be timid but opens up fast and is ready for pets. Marcus is medium in size and energy and would love to be your snuggle buddy during the cold weather. This is a must meet dog. **THE ADOPTIONS FEE IS \$85** and include everything your new pet needs to be on track for a happy, healthy life: vaccines, a microchip, spay/neuter, and heartworm test. Please call or come by **Florence Lauderdale animal services 256-760-6676** to meet this amazing dog.



Meet **DOZER.** He is around 1.5-2 years old! He came into the shelter from Sheffield and has been at the shelter for 2-3 months. He has the most beautiful brindle coat I have ever seen with the eyes to match! He looks like a handsome tiger. He is so loving, has the sweetest soul, and is such a great dog! He is good on a leash but does pull a bit due to excitement. Dozer loves his walks and loves to be outdoors. Also he absolutely loves belly rubs and sitting at or on your feet as you pet him. He is dog friendly but reactive. He is also adult and kid friendly! **THE ADOPTIONS FEE IS \$85.** This fee includes a voucher for \$70 off of his neuter, a \$15 rabies voucher, parvo and distemper vaccines, the first booster shot, Nexgard, and dewormer. For more information please contact **Colbert County animal shelter at 256-381-4073.**



Meet **JOHNSON.** This sweetheart is Johnson he is around 3-4 years old, and kid and dog friendly! He LOVES to play tug of war! This amazing dog is very active and will be best in a home with a fenced back yard for him to run and play off some energy! He is not messy in his kennel at all. **THE ADOPTIONS FEE IS \$85.** He is current on vaccines (except rabies), NexGard and wormer! You will receive a \$15 voucher for rabies and a voucher for \$70 off of his neuter! Feel free to bring your fur baby with you to meet him on neutral ground to make sure they will get along. For more information please contact **Colbert County animal shelter at 256-381-4073.**



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ONLINE AUCTION
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Real Estate: This property consists of approximately 80 acres and lies on both sides of Texas Ridge Rd (CR 83). The property is predominately pine plantation that were planted in the early 2000's along with some scattered hardwoods. The property will be offered in 2 tracts with each tract being a final sale.

Tract 1 - 75± ac lying north of CR 83.

Tract 2 - 5± ac lying south of CR 83.

Bid Online at: kingrealityandauktion.hibid.com

Seller: Robert Witt Estate

www.kingrealityandauktion.com

Terms: 10% down payment due upon signing of the contract within 24 hours from end of sale. Balance due upon delivery of deed within 30 days from day of sale. Seller will provide deed and owner's title insurance. Seller reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids. Real Estate will be sold "AS-IS" without warranties of any kind.

All information contained in this ad is believed to be correct, but not guaranteed. Changes made by the Auction Company during the online auction supersede any printed material.

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Nov. 8 thru 16
Duplex & Vacant Lot - 0.9 +/- Acres
201 & 203 E. COMMERCE ST.,
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Real Estate: The property features a brick duplex sitting on a 0.45 +/- acre lot at the corner of Horn Av. and E. Commerce St., plus an adjoining 0.46 +/- acre vacant lot fronting Horn Av. The recently updated duplex was built in 2002 and features 2 bedrooms, 1 bathroom, kitchen with laundry closet, and living area. Property is zoned R1, Low-Density Residential. The property will be offered in 1 tract consisting of 0.9 +/- acres as a final sale.

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Terms: 10% down payment due upon signing of the contract within 24 hours from end of sale. Balance due upon delivery of deed within 30 days from day of sale. Seller will provide deed and owner's title insurance. Seller reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids. Real Estate will be sold "AS-IS" without warranties of any kind.

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Notes...

Continued from page 25

201 Bayles St. in Anderson, AL. Friday and Saturday hours are 10am to 5pm. Sunday hours are from noon-4pm. Fenton, Fostoria, Cambridge, and more along with glass blowing and Fenton book author signing as well. Check for updates on their FB page. The event is sponsored by Stephens Unique Antiques of Rogersville.

The Annual Veterans Day Program and Ceremony will take place November 11 at 11 am at the Florence - Lauderdale County Veterans Memorial Park at 301 Veterans Park Drive, north of Wilson Dam. In the event of rain, the ceremony will be at the Florence-Lauderdale Coliseum. The number of attendees is not restricted; however, seating is limited. Attendees are encouraged to bring chairs. Standing room will be available.

St. Joseph Catholic Church Arts - Crafts/Bake Sale. Saturday, November 18, 7am-7pm and Sunday, November 19, 7am-1:30pm.

Centennial Celebration of the Tennessee Valley Historical Society at 1:45pm Sunday, November 19 at the Leighton Public Library. The public is invited to attend.

The celebration will feature an historical marker unveiling in honor of Mr. Frank R. King, who founded of the Tennessee Valley Historical Society in November of 1923.

Jimmie King, the grandson of Frank King, will be the very special guest for the unveiling.

The library is located at 8740 Main Street, beside Bank Independent.

Northwest Shoals Community College's Music Department will host a *Falling into Winter Christmas* concert Friday, November 17, at 7pm in the Lou B. Beville Center on the NWSOC Phil Campbell Campus.

The Concert will feature the NWSOC Show Choir, Vocal Point, directed by Jonathon Romero and the NWSOC Jazz band directed by George Crummie.

There is no admission charge for the concert.

Disabled American Veterans - Veterans Serving Veterans. 1409 W. 11th St., Sheffield, 256-381-8229. Open Mon-Wed, 9am-1:30pm

Meets every fourth Tuesday of each November 28. Dinner at 6pm - Business at 7pm

Christmas Wonderland, Wednesday - Thursday December 1 and 2, 5pm-8:30pm each night, presented by the Elgin Senior Center. 2519 Hwy 101, Just South of Hwy 72, Rogersville.

No admission fee/Donations welcome.

• Sponsored Trees & Table Displays • Photos with Santa • Manger Scenes • Elves & More!
 • Sweet Treats • Hot Cocoa • Coffee • Spice Tea • Soft Drinks and more will be for sale.

Come see the lights and decorations in the gym. (The gym now has new heating.) Come out for a night of fun with your family!

The Winter Art Market is open to the public beginning on Tuesday, November 28 from 9am-5pm Tuesday-Friday and 10am-5pm on Saturday at Tennessee Valley Museum of Art, 511 W. Water St. in

Continued on pg. 28

Community Notes...

Continued from page 27

Tuscumbia. Dozens of artists and artisans. Museum admission: \$5 for adults, \$3 for students, free for TVAA members.

"It's a Dickens Christmas, Y'all," is returning to downtown Tuscumbia on Saturday, December 9, from 10am - 4pm. The free downtown festival will have Dickens characters, carolers, and brass bands along Main Street throughout the day. Look for the Carriage rides, trolley tours, Victorian dancers, an Arts & Crafts market tent, a petting zoo, food vendors, themed specials at downtown shops and eateries, and maybe even a little "snow."

Special events (some with modest admission charges) include: "Scones and Moans", Breakfast with Santa, Poetry and Music at St. John's Church, Milk and Cookies with Tiny Tim, Fezziwig Strut Your Mutt Dog Parade, S'mores Firepit, Cookie Decorating, Ornament Making, and a Holiday High Tea in the historic clubhouse at the Tennessee Valley Country Club. Santa will make his annual visit to Tuscumbia during the event. An evening trolley tour will showcase a "Parade" of Holiday Porches.

The Charles Dickens themed Christmas festival is sponsored, with

community participation, by Tuscumbia Retail Development, Inc.

For more information, call 256-383-9797, 256-627-9823 or Colbert Tourism at 256-383-0783. Follow on Facebook - 13th Annual It's A Dickens Christmas Y'all.

Experience the magic of the holiday season at Christmas in the Country on November 17-18 at LaGrange College Site Park in Leighton. From 10am-4pm, indulge in a delightful bake sale, shop for unique arts and crafts, enjoy live entertainment, meet Santa and Mrs. Claus, take the kids on hayrides, and step back in time with tours of a beautifully decorated pioneer village. It's the perfect way to kick off your holiday season in a charming countryside setting.

Religious Abuse Support Group of the Shoals will meet the first and last Sundays of every month. Time and Location will vary. *About us:* we are a group dedicated to supporting individuals in our local community who have experienced abuse within religious institutions.

Check our Facebook for additional details. Contact us at <https://www.facebook.com/ragshoals/>

There is space HERE for YOUR EVENT, and plenty of eyes to read it. Email your information to editor@CourierJournal.net.

Social Dance on Tuesday Nights, 6:30-8:45, at The Club (Florence Senior Center), 450 Country Club Drive in Florence. Music from across the decades provided by The Browns. The Club is an alcohol, drug, smoke, and weapon-free facility. 256-760-6420.

Joints in Motion, chair exercise class, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at The Club (Florence Senior Center), 9:30am. No charge. BINGO Wednesdays 10:15am until our 11:30am lunch (w/ \$1 lunch donation)! If you are 60+ you can join us for lunch and games. 256-760-6420.

Continued on pg. 30

Letters...

Only Feeding 2 of 5 Kids

Continued from Page 12

assistance are expected to birth as many workers as possible. Got that? Birth control is slowly being taken away in all forms. No abortions. But do they want to support the pro-life births? Not even for a minute. One GOP congressman said it would be better for the child to die than to let it be a burden. They take away school lunches and summer meals.

One of you please explain how you are following in the footsteps of Jesus as you allow a few extra dollars to fall into their hands but only willing to feed 2 out of 5 kids in a household because you feel the parents should step up. Are you afraid you won't get credit for the paltry charitable act? Geez. You've never been without a day in your life. You should try it.

Even if no one ever got government assistance, do you really believe that it would be a rebate check to you?

You don't want to provide low-cost insurance. You don't want

to fund public housing or transportation. You don't want to fund daycare, pre school, or even public school and a big ol' 'hell no' to free college or trade school. And OMG, if anyone wants to come to this country to have a better life, we are not Christian enough for that.

We are all trying to head for the same place. Why can't there be a kindness toward all human beings - much like Jesus asked?

Linda Johnson
Florence

Humans Will Love War

Dear Editor:

My heart goes out to the innocent Israeli and Palestinian victims of the war in Gaza. The overriding characteristic of war seems to be cold-blooded cruelty. That's the conclusion I reached as a 20-year-old in Vietnam.

I'd been recuperating from a shoulder wound and a base camp near the Cambodian border. Over several nights, the base had come under intense rocket attacks

from nearby forests. One morning I stepped out of a bunker to find the company compound strewn with shrapnel from the night before.

Rocket attacks were so common in those days that I had not paid much attention to their shattered remains until that morning. What I noticed immediately was a long, thin sliver of twisted, multi-edged metal. It was stuck into the ground like a hunting knife. What's more, I found that it couldn't be safely picked up without first, wrapping it in a towel. That's how heavy and surgically sharp it was. Carelessly holding it could have inflicted a serious cut.

Anyone hit by that ugly piece of metal probably would've died instantly or bled to death within minutes.

I don't expect humans to lose their capacity for war no matter how cruel or impersonal it becomes. We are falling creatures, unable to save ourselves. It comes from the lusts that war in our members. (James 4:1)

Thomas Ponder
Killen

Get an early look at next week's issue with the...

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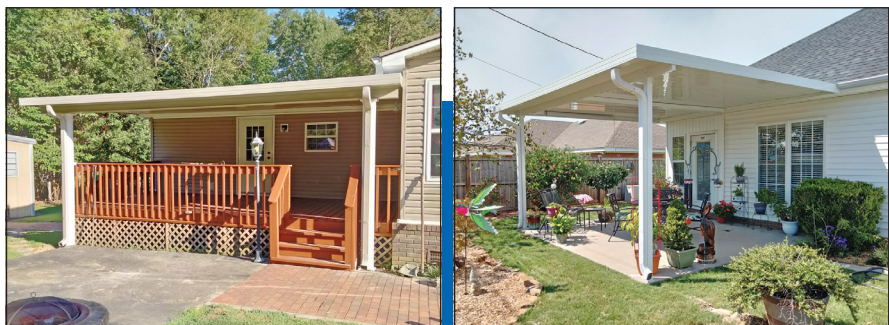
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Community Notes...

Continued from page 28

The Club (Florence Senior Center) and Diamond Tours presents the Myrtle Beach Holiday Show Trip November 27-December 2, 2023. Call for more info or to book, Fran 256-760-6642. Trip fees are due now. There are 6 openings left. Departure on November 27 from The Club,

450 Country Club Drive in Florence.

The Club (Florence Senior Center) and Diamond Tours Diamonds in the Rough 2024 trip Information. www.GroupTrips.com/TheClub

- Nashville Show Trip, April 15-17,

#2089232, Double Occupancy Rate \$582, Single Rate \$672

- Niagara Falls Trip, June 23-29, #2101920, Double Occupancy Rate \$1187, Single Rate \$1421

- Mt. Rushmore and the Badlands, August 17-25, #2092162, Double Occupancy Rate \$1542, Single Rate \$1872

- Mackinac Island Trip, Sept 22-28, 2024, #209362, Double Occupancy Rate \$1086, Single Rate \$1335

- Pigeon Forge and Smokey Mountain Show Trip, November 11-15, 2024, #2076085, Double Occupancy Rate \$918, Single Rate \$1067

Personal Checks or Money Orders made to Diamond Tours. Please no cash or Credit Cards. Call 256-760-6642 come by The Club to pay for your trips. 450 Country Club Drive, Florence fdavis@florenceal.org

THESE TWO TRIPS are scheduled with a different travel company. Call Collette at 800-340-5158 to sign up directly with them. You'll be traveling with us (The Club).

- Alaska Discovery Land and Cruise, May 29-June 9, 2024. 24 spaces available.

- Magical Christmas Market Germany, December 10-17, 2024. 21 spaces available.

Florence Parks and Recreation/The Club/Florence Senior Center, hosts a variety of activities for adults throughout the week. Chair exercise classes, line dancing, Square dancing, social dancing, BINGO, \$1 lunch, Rummy, Rummy cubes, Rook, Mexican Train & Chicken Foot Dominoes. 9am-3:30pm. 450 Country Club Drive in Florence. Group Travel is available for the community. Call for specifics. 256-760-6420.

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 complimentary cholesterol screening with each donation.

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.

Methamphetamine is a powerful and addictive stimulant drug. It is important to know the many mental and physical symptoms and signs of abuse. Meth use releases large amounts of the chemical in the brain associated with pleasure, motivation, and movement contributing to its strong addictive qualities. It is important to know the signs of use if you suspect a loved one of using meth.

If you or a loved one are struggling with Methamphetamines, reach out for help. Narconon helps people all over the U.S. find treatment to end the web that traps those in addiction. To learn what to look for visit: <https://www.narcononnewlifetreatment.org>

Narconon New Life Retreat www.narcononnewlifetreatment.org

Narconon can help you take steps to overcome addiction in your family. Call today for free screenings or referrals. 1-800-431-1754.

The Library of Things - Items to Borrow Don't Buy. Items available for check out at Muscle Shoals Public Library, 1918 Avalon Ave, Muscle Shoals:

- Metal Detector • Tape Measure
 - Projector • Level/Measuring Tool Set
 - Binoculars • Radon Detector
 - Auto-Leveling Laser/Stud Sensor
 - Wrist Blood Pressure Monitor
- Call 256-386-9212 or visit online at youseemore.com/muscleshoals

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

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

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

A newly formed Colbert County Republican Women's Club meets every third Wednesday at noon at the Helen Keller Library in Tusculumbia. Visitors welcome. For further information contact Mary Baschab Haslacker at 251-234-0077.

Alabama Hospice of the Shoals is currently seeking volunteers to serve in Colbert, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Franklin, Marion, and Winston counties. For more information, contact Christy Perry at 256-314-1204.

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!!

The Little Ryman - Gospel, Bluegrass, country, oldies and open mic. Every Friday 6-8:30 p.m. No dancing or alcohol, and free admission. 18210 Hwy. 72 W., Tusculumbia. 256-810-5866

Alabama Music Hall of Fame - Star Player exhibit will be on display at the Alabama Music Hall of Fame, 617 U.S. 72, Tusculumbia. Rotating exhibits at the hall of fame highlight accomplishments of area music achievers. Details: 256-381-4417.

Did you know that 22 Americans die each day waiting for organ transplants? Most of them for kidneys? The good news is that MatchingDonors.com is helping to change that. Linking organ donors with people in need of kidney and other transplants. And now you don't need to donate a kidney to save a life. Donate your boat, car, or real estate, and get a great tax deduction while helping to save lives. Visit MatchingDonors.com or call 800-385-0422.

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ON YOUR DEBT

How Soon After Chapter 7 Bankruptcy Can You Buy A New Car?



B. Grant McNutt
Managing Attorney

The answer is immediately – really. Virtually every person that comes to one of our offices seeking assistance with their financial problems is concerned with the impact that a bankruptcy will have on their credit. This is, of course, a valid concern. People whom we assist have often been dealing with collectors and credit issues for quite some time. They have put off coming to see us because of their concern about the impact that a bankruptcy filing will have on their credit.

Chapter 7 Helps Rebuild Your Credit, Not Destroy It

As I have written many times before, filing bankruptcy is often the first step that one can take to rebuild their credit. While you are awash with debt, from the perspective of a prospective creditor, you are quite frankly a candidate for bankruptcy. This scares them. But upon receiving your bankruptcy discharge, you are debt free and unable to seek chapter 7 bankruptcy protection again for another eight years. When looked upon in this manner, you are much less of a credit risk following your bankruptcy discharge and they are very likely to loan you money to buy a vehicle.

This is why you will find that many if not most car dealerships advertise that they can provide financing for the purchase of a new or used vehicle

immediately after you receive your bankruptcy discharge. If you have difficulty believing this, take a look at this Sunday's newspaper and look at the automobile ads. Or call a car dealer and ask to speak to the finance manager. Assuming that you have steady employment and an income to support a car payment, you will most often find financing available.

As you can see, Bankruptcy does NOT ruin your credit for 7 years or ten years or any other period of time. On the contrary it fixes your credit and gives you the fresh start you deserve. If you are struggling with debt and need relief, please give us a call now rather than later. We take pride in the manner in which we assist our clients professionally and with dignity.

Contact The Experienced Bankruptcy Attorneys At The Bond & Botes Law Offices

If you are dealing with debt that you have no hope of paying, you owe it to yourself to get the facts about bankruptcy. Your Bond & Botes attorney will listen carefully and explain how bankruptcy would affect your unique situation. The attorneys here at Bond & Botes provide guidance on helping clients reduce or eliminate debt. We can alleviate your stress! We want to help!

Alabama State Bar requires the following: "No representation is made that the quality of legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers."



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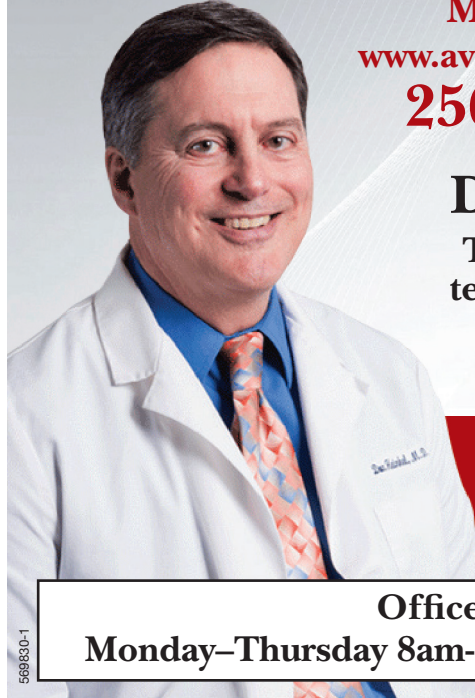
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