

Courier Journal

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**Rutherford
at Mars Hill**

FLORENCE — Cophia Rutherford was named Mars Hill's girls basketball coach last week, replacing Flora Sweatt who resigned in April for family reasons.



Rutherford was Sweatt's assistant for the last three years but brings a stellar head coaching record with her to the new position.

Rutherford won two state championships and four Northwest Regional championships over 13 years as the Hornets girls coach. The Hornets won state titles in 2002 and 2004, her final season.

She was a three-time state coach of the year and had a 284-117 record.

Mars Hill's Belle Hill, an eighth grader and a two-time state player of the year, has known Rutherford as "Big Mama" her whole life. Rutherford is Hill's grandmother.

Sweatt was 70-30 in four seasons at Mars Hill with a state championship in 2023 and a runner-up finish this year.

**Eight into Phi
Kappa Phi**

BATON ROUGE, LA-- The following students with local ties were recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective collegiate honor society for all academic disciplines. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10% of seniors and 7.5% of juniors are eligible for membership.

See SHORTS... on Page 2



Photo: Stacy Long

3 of a Kind Kellogg, Hill, and Thrasher bring home major honors

By Stacy Long
TimesDaily Sports Editor

MONTGOMERY – All three described the nerves crawling over them, even the one who had been through it all before.

The tension passed into a small grin – a small dose of euphoria – in the instant they

heard their names.

Tuesday, April 16 Covenant Christian's Trey Kellogg and Mars Hill's Carson Thrasher had their first shot at being called a state player of the year.

Mars Hill eighth-grader Belle Hill carries the honor for a second straight year.

"I was surprised," Hill said,

though she also soon realized winning meant giving a quick, impromptu speech before a crowd of about 350 at the Montgomery Renaissance.

"That made me more nervous," she said. "I don't like talking in front of people."

See PLAYERS... on Page 9

**\$1.3 MILLION
NWSCC
Secures
Grant**

MUSCLE SHOALS– Northwest Shoals Community College was recently awarded a \$1.3 million grant aimed at addressing healthcare needs in Colbert, Lauderdale, Franklin, and Lawrence Counties.

In partnership with North Alabama Medical Center, NWSCC will implement a project to bolster healthcare education opportunities in the region. NAMC has generously contributed over 5,100 square feet of space on its Cloyd Campus to facilitate the expansion of healthcare education initiatives.

"This grant represents

See GRANT... on Page 10

Ribbon Cutting: 4pm May 5

**The New River
Heritage Trail
Grand Opening**

FLORENCE– The Florence City Council, Florence Parks & Recreation, Mayor Andrew Betterton, and Florence Planning and Community Development invite the Shoals community to join in the the grand opening celebration and ribbon-cutting for the River Heritage Trail on Sunday, May 5, from 3-5pm.

Attendees will have the opportunity

See TRAIL.... on Page 5



TimesDaily/Dan Busey

INSIDE this Issue

Automotive Inside
NOW
Advance Auto Sales

- Insurance Insights
- Ask the Attorney
- Hocus Focus
- Dollar Stretcher
- Puzzle Whirl

- Medicare Minute
- Dave Ramsey
- Yard Sale Season
- Strange But True
- Moments in Time



- Empty the Shelter
- Cat & Kids
- Savvy Senior
- Adopt-a-Friend
- SIGNS of the PAST

Online Only:

- Web Poll
- Mystery Photo
- Alabama Outdoors



Spring

TVA is offering
A/C and Heat P



2

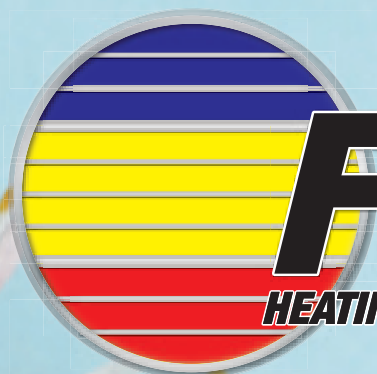
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Shorts...

Eight into Phi Kappa Phi

Continued from Page 1

At Samford University
Ana Wright of Florence

At Univ. of N. Alabama
Joni Rudd of Florence

Joshua Statom of Florence
Ella Thompson of Florence

Grace Williams of Lexington

Laura Renfro of Muscle Shoals
Danielle Wallace of Rogerville

Clay McGuire of Tuscumbia

Since its founding in 1897, more than 1.5 million members have been initiated into Phi Kappa Phi. For more information, visit www.phikappaphi.org.

Ogden Among ASCO Chefs

ORANGE BEACH – Alabama Gulf Seafood recently announced the four Alabama chef teams set to compete in the 9th Annual Alabama Seafood Cook-Off on Monday, May 6 at The

Wharf in Orange Beach. Chefs **Laurence Agnew** (Villaggio Grille, Orange Beach), **Robbie Nicolaisen** (The Hound, Auburn), **Kyle Ogden** (Odette, Florence) and **Emilio Urban** (Coastal Orange Beach, Orange



MEET YOUR 2024 "ASCO" Chefs!

Chef LAURENCE AGNEW
VILLAGGIO GRILLE

Chef ROBBIE NICOLAISEN
THE HOUND

Chef KYLE OGDEN
ODETTE

Chef EMILIO URBAN
COASTAL ORANGE BEACH

Beach) will compete for the chance to take home the coveted state title, a \$2,500 prize and go on to represent the state of Alabama in the 21st Annual Great American Seafood Cook-Off which will take place in New Orleans in late summer.

"This year we saw the highest number of entries submitted in ASCO history from the Gulf region of the state, which is why we have two competing chefs from that region," said **Brody Olive**, executive chef at Perdido Beach Resort and 2023 winner of both the Alabama Seafood Cook-Off and national Great American Seafood Cook-Off. "We were excited about all recipe entries this year and were blown away by the creativity our state chefs exhibited."

The selection process required chefs from across the state to submit a recipe including Alabama Gulf Seafood as the featured

ingredient. Each recipe was made anonymous while an expert panel of judges reviewed each chef's recipe and selected participants based off Alabama location (one participant selected from North, Central, Gulf and then a wildcard). Judging criteria that will be used at the ASCO competition — such as creativity, composition, harmony of ingredients and more — were also considered in the selection process.

Ogden's recipe is "Spring Tide" featuring pompano filet, crab and shrimp mousse, focaccia stuffing, arugula pesto, gai lan agrodolce and fredo chili emulsion and more.

ASUN Beach Volleyball

ATLANTA – The Atlantic Sun Conference announced their 2024 postseason beach volleyball awards last week, highlighted by two first team All-ASUN pairs and UNA head coach **Kaleb VanDePerre** earning ASUN Coach of the Year.

Graduate students **Paula Klemperer** and **Taylor Seney** earned their second-straight ASUN first team selection, while junior **Katy Floyd** and sophomore **Selma Robinson** won their first career postseason honors. VanDePerre

See SHORTS...on Page 7

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<p>Country Style Pork Ribs \$1.69 Lb.</p> <p>Sirloin Pork Chops \$1.69 Lb.</p>	<p>Pork Belly (Skin On) \$2.99 Lb.</p> <p>Whole Pork Spare Ribs \$1.99 Lb.</p>	<p>Pork Steak \$1.99 Lb.</p> <p>Boston Butt Pork Roast \$1.79 Lb.</p>	<p>Filet Mignon Steak \$11.99 Lb.</p> <p>Beef Chuck Roast \$5.99 Lb.</p>
<p>Chicken Drumsticks \$1.29 Lb.</p> <p>Whole Chicken \$1.59 Lb.</p>	<p>Boneless Chicken Breast \$1.99 Lb.</p> <p>Whole Chicken Wings \$2.99 Lb.</p>	<p>Chicken Leg Quarters 10 Lb. BAG \$6.99</p> <p>Whole Rabbits EACH \$15.99</p>	<p>Farm Raised Catfish Fillets 4 Lb. BOX \$18.99</p> <p>Whole Catfish 4 Lb. BOX \$24.99</p>

ANNE LANGSTAFF ESTATE SALE

314 Harris Drive • Florence, AL

Friday, May 3rd • 9am-3pm

Saturday, May 4th • 9am-2pm

Numbers given out Fri. & Sat. at 8:30am

Sunday, May 5th • 1pm-3pm

1800's Cherry Corner Cabinet • Mahogany Sideboard
• Antique Acorn Bed • Sterling Silver • Primitive Cabinet
• Cherry Chest • Pair of 1860's Chests • 1787 Bible
• Antique Chairs • 1700's U.S. Map Jewelry • Singer Featherweight sewing machine • Loom • Quilts • Tools

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Please do not park in front of mailboxes, driveways or on the edge of the neighbors yards.

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Go to www.estatesales.net to view photos

Yard Sales

FLORENCE: YARD SALE 1517 Marlborough Blvd. Sat. 5/4 6am-Noon Sewing machine, coffee maker, clothes, shoes.

FLORENCE ESTATE SALE PART II 202 Harrington Lane Creekwood Sub. Thurs., 3pm-6pm, Fri. & Sat., 9am-4pm. Thimbles, Collectibles, Furniture, John Deere Collectibles, Too much to list! See pictures on www.estatesales.org

MUSCLE SHOALS: COMMUNITY YARD SALE on Heather Lane 5/3 5/4 7-untill. Lots of Everything!!!

TUSCUMBIA: YARD SALE 2520 Blue Rd. Sat. 4/27, Sun 4/28 and Sat, 5/4, Sun. 5/5 8am-5pm

DON'T MISS!

SHEFFIELD: 239 Meadow Hill Rd May 4 Sat. 7 am, RIVERMONT and VILLAGE NEIGHBORHOOD SALE 25+ addresses

TUSCUMBIA GARAGE SALE Fri. 3rd and Sat 4th 7 am-untill? 47 Rockwood Drive Valley Grove Estates off Old Hwy 20E Designer purses (Louis Vuitton, Michael Kors, Coach, Brahmin, Kate Spade etc.), Human Hair Wigs, Chandeliers, Sunglasses, Jewelry, Books, Large Variety of Infant girl clothing and Baby accessories, Bassinet, Swing, Playpen, etc., Summer Boys and Girls, Men's, Missy and Women's Clothing (SM-XL), Maternity, Large variety of Summer shoes, Cosmetics, Hair and Skin Care products, Small Appliances, Fluidity Barre System, Household items and more! All in Very Good Condition! CASH ONLY.

INDOOR YARD SALE St. Florian Senior Center, 83 St. Florian Road Sat. May 4th 7 am until? Furniture, household items, Christmas Decorations

FLORENCE THREE FAMILY YARD SALE 526 W. Lakeside Dr., Lakeside Highlands Sub., Off Huntsville Rd., Fri. & Sat., Furniture, Household items, Men's, Women's, Baby & Children's Clothes, Baby Stroller, Toys, & more!

FLORENCE: YARD SALE 7217 Courtwood St. Belle Mead Subdivision Fri. 5/3 and Sat 5/4 7-untill? Misc. good stuff. If raining, postpone until following weekend.

ANNE LANGSTAFF ESTATE SALE 314 Harris Dr., Florence, AL 35634

Friday, May 3rd 9am-3pm (Numbers given out at 8:30am)
Saturday, May 4th 9am-2pm (Numbers given out at 8:30am)
Sunday, May 5th 1pm-3pm

1800's Cherry Corner Cabinet, Mahogany Sideboard, Antique Acorn Bed, Sterling Silver, Primitive Cabinet, Cherry Chest, Pair of 1860's Chests, 1787 Bible, Antique Chairs, 1700's U.S. Map, Jewelry, Singer Featherweight Sewing Machine, Loom, Quilts, Tools.

**Park on one side of the road to allow traffic to get through. Please do not park in front of mailboxes, driveways or on the edge of the neighbors yards.*

REMEMBER TO BRING HELP TO LOAD YOUR PURCHASES
Cypress Creek Antiques (256) 275-0273
Go to www.estatesales.net for pictures

FLORENCE: ESTATE SALE 113 Knights Bridge Rd. Fri. 5/3 9-3pm Sat. 5/4 9-4pm Antiques, books, vintage decor, household items, garden ornaments, furniture, and more.

TUSCUMBIA: GARAGE SALE 260 Alice St Thurs. Fri. Sat. 7-1pm Masonry tools, power and hand tools, compressor, furniture, clothes, and shoes.

Sheffield
200 Wilson Dam Avenue Neighborhood Sale (Village One/Rivermont Sub.) Sat. 8 am-untill? Dolls, Corning Vision Ware, Tools, Shoes, Vintage Glassware, Books & much more!

YARD SALE!
MUSCLE SHOALS NEIGHBORHOOD SALE Cypress View Sub. Just off 6th St., across from Cypress Lakes Golf Course Sat. 7am-1pm Furniture, Limited Edition Plates and so much more!

FLORENCE: YARD SALE 1726 Beckman Dr Saturday 5/4 7 am Lots of Christmas Decoration, Household items and Decor, Serving Pieces, Tools

CHEROKEE: YARD SALE 8460 Old Lee Hwy Sat 5/4 7-3 pm Lots of misc. good stuff!

★ ★ ★ ★
TUSCUMBIA ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD SALE Baker Lane & McGee Way Sat., May 4th, 7 am-untill? 15+ Families! Lots of great items!

DOUBLE SPRINGS: ESTATE SALE Family of Helen Cagle 120 C.R. 3041 Thurs. Fri. Sat. 5/2-5/4 9am-4pm House full of furniture, antiques, glassware, books, a little of everything. Search Kathy Oliver Grissom on Facebook for photos.

Florence Annual Multi-Family Yard Sale 1622 Bridlewood Dr. Sat., 7 am-untill? Medical Supplies, Wheelchair (like new), Linens, Tools, Chain Saw, Home Decor, Baby clothes (12M-2T) and Toys, Girl's (10-12) to Small Adult Clothes, Men's Clothes (LG-2X), and much more!

SHEFFIELD: ESTATE SALE 211 W. 6th St. Fri. 5/3 Sat. 5/4 9am Numbers will be given out beginning at 8:30 Antique furniture, silver, china, collectibles, linens, and quilts.

MUSCLE SHOALS: By appointment only, due to family illness. Cemetery flowers saddles, vases, etc. misc. items, reduced prices 256-383-7445

\$ALE
TUSCUMBIA: Cold Water Trace Subdivision starting on Heritage Place May 4th Sat. 6AM. Find what you want and more at our multi-home yard sale event! Furniture, clothes, toys, home goods and décor, appliances, electronics, entertainment items, and more!

Mother's Day Is Coming
New Spring Flags And Mailbox Covers
New Picture Frames Tuned Wind Chimes
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- Check Capacitor
- Tighten Electrical Connections
- Check Condenser Cleanliness
- Check Freon Pressures and Temps
- Check T-stat Operations
- Check Indoor Blower Motor Clear Drains
- Check Evaporator Coil for Cleanliness
- Check Blower Motor Capacitor

1-VISIT

PMA \$119

- Check Condenser Fan Motor Amp Compressor
- Check Capacitor
- Tighten Electrical Connections
- Check Condenser Cleanliness
- Check Freon Pressures and Temps
- Check T-stat Operations
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- Check Evaporator Coil for Cleanliness
- Check Blower Motor Capacitor

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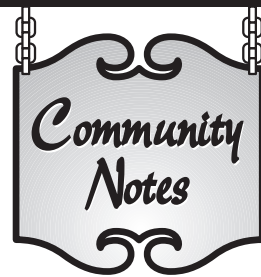
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COMMUNITY NOTES may be submitted for non-profit, civic or church-related events and published free of charge AS SPACE IS AVAILABLE in the Courier Journal. Community Notes must be submitted in writing by 3pm Friday for consideration in the following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

• Email to editor@courierjournal.net

LifeSouth Bloodmobile Dates:
Thursday, May 2 Shoals Christian School, 10am - 5pm
Sunday, May 5 Cross Point Church of Christ, 8am - 1pm
Tuesday, May 7 North American Lighting, Inc., 6am - 1pm
Thursday, May 9 Muscle Shoals High School, 8am - 4pm

Fishing Days at Deibert Park sponsored by the Florence Parks and Recreation Dept. Saturday May 18, 10am - 2pm (Kids to Parks Day)
 Catch and keep, catch and share, or catch and release. Bring your fishing tackle. No fishing licenses required.

Computer and Technology Classes in May at the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library... Smartphone/Tablet Series All classes are FREE. Registration is required due to limited seating. Please call 256-764-6564 ext. 127 or email classes@fjpl.org to sign up.
 • Smartphone/Tablet Basics (iPhone and Android) Thursday, May 2 10:30am-12pm

Become familiar with navigating your iPhone or Android device. Learn the difference between wi-fi connections and data plans along with how to adjust text size and font. Learn basic definitions such as syncing, apps, and the cloud.

• Smartphone/Tablet Communications (iPhone and Android) Thursday, May 9 10:30am-12pm

Set up your email account for easy access on your iPhone or Android. Learn how to communicate with your contacts via text message, Facebook message, or video chat.

• Smartphone/Tablet Photos (iPhone and Android) Thursday, May 16 10:30am-12pm

Learn to use your iPhone or Android camera and share your photos via email, text message, Facebook, or Instagram.

• Smartphone/Tablet Streaming (iPhone and Android) Thursday, May 23 10:30am-12pm

Become familiar with streaming music and videos on your device. Learn about apps such as Spotify, Pandora, Netflix, and YouTube.

The Mitchell Buford Bookstore located in the lobby of the Florence-

Lauderdale Public Library has a storewide 1/2 OFF SALE now through May 5. Paperbacks, hardbacks, children's books, CDs, DVDs, vinyl records, magazines, greeting cards, and more!

350 N. Wood Ave. in Florence. Parking in back, enter those doors.

Revival Center Church of God in Christ at 101 Lanett St. in Florence, will honor its Pastor, Dr. Derek Parker, during Pastoral Anniversary celebrations on May 3 and 5.

Friday, May 3 at 7pm there will be a dynamic gospel concert featuring William Murphy, Quad Cities Mass Choir, Shane D. Rainer & Fresh Wind, and The Orr Sisters.

Sunday, May 5 begins with services at 11am featuring Elder Quoron Hairston. Bishop Lonnie Freeman is featured at 3:30pm. Contact - 256-425-5129 or rccogic1@gmail.com for more information.

Senior Meals on Weekdays at 11:30am at The Club, 450 Country Club Road in Florence. \$1 donation.

See NOTES... page 18

Estate Sale

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9am-4pm

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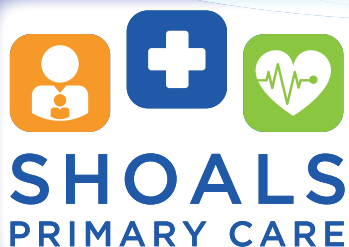
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593031-1

HENDRIX CHAPEL Church of Christ

HOME! "There is no place like home." "It is so good to be home." "Home is where the heart is." Can't leave out, "Sweet Home Alabama." These are some familiar references to the love, desire, security, closeness and comfort of home.

Each year, on the first Sunday in May, at Hendrix Chapel we have a special event we call HOMECOMING, when we invite a special guest speaker, then welcome all former members back for a visit (or even stay), along with all of our community, to come HOME to Hendrix Chapel.

This year, our guest speaker will be Tim Grigsby.

Tim has been one of our guest speakers over the years but it has been a while, so we welcome Tim back home to Hendrix.

Tim loves the souls of men, is scriptural, sound, loud, clear and powerful in his delivery of the Gospel of Christ.

It all begins this Sunday, May 5 at Hendrix Chapel Church of Christ

Our Gospel Meeting will continue Sunday evening with Wayne Wood speaking and Monday-Wednesday nights with Tim Grigsby

Please come HOME to Hendrix Chapel and enjoy the comforts/benefits of home, family and worship - when we all, by faith, look forward to that final HOMECOMING in Heaven. ✝

Sunday Bible Classes 9am • Sunday Worship 10am
Sunday-Wednesday 7pm Nightly

13007 CR 8, Florence (1 mile west of the Natchez Trace) • 256-767-3629

593565-1

Trail...

Continued from Page 1

to experience the natural beauty of the River Heritage Trail firsthand while enjoying live music and local food trucks, including Off-The-Hook and Flashy Funnel Cakes.

The event will feature remarks from community leaders at 4pm, followed by the official ribbon-cutting ceremony, which will mark the trail's opening to the public.

The River Heritage Trail project represents

a significant milestone for Florence. It unveils the first link of the city's River Heritage Trail, approximately one mile along the picturesque Tennessee River canal. This trail segment connects the River Heritage Park trailhead to the Patton Island Overlook trailhead, providing residents and visitors with a scenic pathway to explore and enjoy the area's natural

wonders. Interpretative displays along the trail highlight the Tennessee River's rich history. Several overlook points offer stunning views.

"We are thrilled to announce the grand opening of the River Heritage Trail, a project that embodies our commitment to preserving our natural heritage and enhancing the quality of life for our community," remarked Mayor Andrew Betterton. "This trail represents a collaborative effort among various stakeholders and underscores our shared dedication to creating recreational opportunities that foster connections with our environment and history."

Individuals of all ages are invited to celebrate the culmination of this exciting project.

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5x in rewards for every \$40 spent on Hill's Science Diet

\$8 off
select Hill's Science Diet big bags of dog & cat food
13-16 lb. and larger for cat, 21.5-33 lb. and larger for dog.
Valid 4/25/24 to 5/22/24
Enter 89X91 at checkout

Play On! 25% off
select Play On dog toys & apparel
save up to \$6

save up to \$5.50 25% off
select Nylabone

Hot Deals on over 10 brands!

save up to 20% off
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Live animals available in select stores only. Check with your store for availability.

Special Offer: For a limited time, bring this ad to any Pet Supplies Plus Grooming Salon and receive **10% off** of your dog's grooming session! Experience the difference with our skilled groomers who are passionate about pets and dedicated to providing the highest level of care. PLU:82000

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Florence
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256-760-7000

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Courier Journal

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PHONE - 8AM-5PM Mon-Fri 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.

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Shorts...

ASUN Beach Volleyball

Continued from Page 2

also earned his first conference postseason award in his second season at UNA.

UNA Beach Volleyball continues to add to its postseason collection after four Lions were also announced as Academic All-ASUN selections last week. Klemperer and Seney received their second postseason honors.

UNA's seven total awards sets a new program record for the most in one season.

VanDePerre earns the first Coach of the Year honor in North Alabama's young Division I history. This

also marks the first postseason Coach of the Year award since softball's Ashley Cozart won Gulf South Conference Coach of the Year in 2018.

OPENGATE in Sheffield

SHEFFIELD – The Sheffield City School District last week announced the implementation of new technology that will increase the safety of its students. The OPENGATE weapons detection system enhances the safety and security of all school campuses.

OPENGATE is designed for the automatic screening of people with backpacks

and bags for Threat Detection. It will also identify other contraband items that are not allowed on school property.

All students and all visitors will be subject to the screening as they enter a campus during regular school hours.

OPENGATE screening requires no removal of backpacks, bags or purses and is designed for easy walk-through flow. If any prohibited items are detected, a secondary search will be conducted. Contraband discovered during the secondary search will be confiscated and could lead to school discipline and/or legal consequences.

School officials recommend that visitors leave unnecessary bags or purses in their car if they wish to avoid a secondary search when

entering the school. Visitors will also need identification to enter a school.

"While using OPENGATE may take a short time to get used to, we are confident it will not cause any significant delays and will add another layer of protection to our schools," Sheffield City School's spokeswoman, **Lisa Rickman**, stated in a press release.

The district is rolling out OPENGATE in phases during the coming weeks. All students and all visitors to campus during regular school hours will be subject to search.

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Players of the Year...

Continued from Page 1

Hill was again the Class 2A girls player of the year, while Thrasher was the Class 2A boys player of the year.

Mars Hill's sweep marked the tenth time a school had won both the boys and girls awards in the same year.

Each winner was already among three finalists in their classification. Shoals Christian's Sarah Davis and Deshler's Reece Davis were also finalists.

"I was definitely surprised because there was a lot of tough competition," Thrasher said. "Those guys are not bad basketball players. They made it as far as I did."

Kellogg was the first Covenant boys player to win a state player of the year award. The Eagles have twice had a girls player of the year — Anna Claire Noblit in 2013 and '14.

"It's cool to be in the record book forever and to be the first boy to win something like that," Kellogg said. "I'm so thankful for all the support and love from my school, family and friends."

Buckhorn sophomore Caleb Holt and Spring

Garden junior Ace Austin carried home the biggest hardware — Mr. and Miss Basketball, respectively.

But Hill wasn't too far down the list.

Hill received Super All-State status as one of the top five players in the state, regardless of classification.

The only previous Mars Hill Super All-State player was Karen Killen in 1990.

"That's amazing," Hill said. "I'm really blessed and thankful."

Hill matched her mom in both departments. Mamie (nee Rutherford) was a two-time player of the year for Hatton in 2003 and '04 and was Super All-State in 2004.

It shouldn't take long to exceed her mom's numbers.

"Maybe in the next couple of years?" Belle said.

"Next year," Thrasher exclaimed.

Hill was the first seventh grader to be a player of the year when she did it in 2023. This time, she's the second eighth-grader, joining Madison Academy's Joshua Langford (3A boys, 2012).

Thrasher is the third Mars Hill boys winner

along with Jake Mitchell (2010) and Matt Wright (1988).

Now that they're both players of the year, it might be time for the inaugural Thrasher-Hill one-on-one showdown.

"I'll play anybody," Thrasher said. "I'm not going to say I'll win, but I'll play anybody."

Sarah Davis and Reece Davis said they were happy to have been selected as a finalist, even if their trip didn't end with a big award.

"This was a good opportunity," said Reece Davis, a freshman who was a finalist for the 4A award won by Good Hope's Ivey Maddox. "If I just keep doing what I'm doing, I know it will come."

"It was still a good opportunity just to be here."

Sarah Davis is a junior who was a finalist for the 1A award that Austin won before Austin also won Miss Basketball.

"It's a big deal and a big accomplishment just to be here," Sarah Davis said. "I'm going to work hard this offseason and through next season to get back."

Original TimesDaily article published 4/17.

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EMPLOYMENT Opportunities

Grant...

Continued from Page 1

a significant investment in the health and well-being of our communities," said NWSCC President Dr. Jeff Goodwin. "We are grateful for the support of our state legislators and the Alabama Community College system in recognizing the importance of expanding healthcare education in rural areas."

This transformative grant originated from State Legislative appropriations and was awarded through the Alabama Community College System.

This grant funding will enable NWSCC to undertake several key initiatives:

- **Dual Enrollment Pathway for Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) Certification:** NWSCC will establish a pathway for Dual Enrollment students to begin progress toward LPN certification, providing an early start to a career in nursing.

- **Stand-alone LPN Program:** NWSCC will launch a stand-alone LPN Program on NAMC's Cloyd Campus, increasing access to nursing education for students in the region.

- **Non-Credit Health Studies Training Center:** The College will establish a robust non-credit health studies training center, offering specialized training programs to meet the evolving needs of healthcare professionals.

- **State-of-the-Art Mobile Simulation Unit:** NWSCC will purchase and equip a state-of-the-art, high-fidelity mobile simulation unit to travel to rural high school sites and long-term care facilities. This innovative unit will be the first of its kind for any community college in the Southeastern United States, featuring two hospital-like rooms with geriatric, standard adult, and pediatric manikins.

"NWSCC looks forward to collaborating with community partners, healthcare providers, and educational institutions to ensure the success of this impactful funding," stated John McIntosh, Dean of Workforce Development, Institutional Effectiveness, and Advancement.

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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.

Look at this big lug! **COHEN** is 90+ lbs and the most handsome tiger striped boy. Cohen is pretty sweet and charming! He's a lot of dog but he does his best to keep a clean kennel. This dog has more size/strength awareness than most and he knows some basic commands and sometimes offers his paw before you can ask for it. Cohen is adorable with toys, loves attention, and can be cuddly in a lean all of his weight against you and paw at you for more pets kind of way. **ADOPTIONS ARE CURRENTLY \$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 cute dog.

PENELOPE might be the most precious little lady! She has a crook in her tail and her eyes can basically tell you all of her hopes and dreams and she has been so sweet! Penelope has bashful moments but is so cuddly, she seems to have crate/house training, she sits for treats, and she has the best wiggle! She is around 6 months and 30ish lbs and we think she's going to make someone really happy! **ADOPTIONS ARE CURRENTLY \$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 sweetie.

Meet **GUAGE**. This sweet 21 pound boy is the sweetest boy! He is full grown. He is around 1 year-1.5 years old. Guage is good with people and kids. **HIS ADOPTION FEE IS \$25!** The fee covers a voucher for \$70, \$15 rabies voucher, current vaccines (minus rabies), NexGard and wormer. For more information please contact **Colbert County animal shelter at 256-381-4073**.

ASPEN is a very vocal, very loving, 1.5 year old Siberian Husky. She is beautiful, as we can all see. Please don't let that be all that catches your eye. You will need to KNOW this breed to be a successful husky owner! These dogs need LOTS of exercise and activity. They are not well suited for a family who likes to lounge around. She will need a VERY secure fenced yard, as Huskies are known escape artists. Aspen isn't good with other animals and not well suited for small children! She is partially blind in one eye due to trauma to her head at some point in her short life. Please note that if you live in the city, she is VERY vocal! She howls like a husky does at any sound or at the lack of attention. She needs to be in an only dog in a home as she isn't good with others but she needs a chance for love. She is already spayed and up to date on vaccines, including rabies! **HER ADOPTION FEE IS \$25.** For more information please contact **Colbert County animal shelter at 256-381-4073**.

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105.1FM MUSIC MUSCLE OF THE SHOALS
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HOWELL SLEDGE AND REVUE
THE MIDNIGHTERS
J-CLASS BAND
JAMES LEBLANC AND ANGELA HACKER
WITH TUNES BY DJ JUST
THE GRAY SISTERS
KASSIDY MCCORKLE

MAY 26, 2024 3:00PM

RIVER HERITAGE PARK AMPHITHEATER
(SPLASH BEHIND THE MARRIOTT)
15 HIGHTOWER PLACE | FLORENCE, ALABAMA

MARRIOTT

Lock Doors at Every Moment

A recent social media post from the Florence Police Department began as follows:

“Over the past few weeks, parts of Florence experienced an increase in vehicle burglaries where multiple valuables including firearms were taken. In many cases, the vehicles were unlocked.”

Many of us can remember a time when we could leave the doors to our homes unlocked. Some, inadvisably so, would leave them unlocked overnight or when gone. That was during a time when people respected property to a greater degree and neighbors looked out for neighbors. There were very few “bad” neighborhoods. Those days are long gone. Now, it may be the neighbors or the neighbor’s kid looking for an opportunity! Any unlocked vehicle is a target. In fact, a vehicle can easily be targeted with you in it!

There are no such things as “good neighborhoods” that are exempt from theft,

See **LOCK...** on Page 21

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

In A
Few
Words



TOM MAGAZZU
Editor

FLAS HOPES SPRING EVENT HELPS

Empty the Shelter

SHOALS—Spring is the time for new beginnings, and tens of thousands of highly adoptable pets are waiting for their second chances in our nation’s animal shelters at they face an ongoing capacity crisis.

Florence Lauderdale Animal Services is again taking part in the BISSELL Pet Foundation’s *Empty the Shelters™* event May 1-15. All adoptions during that event are \$25 which includes Microchip, spay, or neuter, and rabies vaccine. There will also be daily prize drawings and food trucks on site.

BISSELL’S annual Spring reduced-fee adoption event

helps make the initial adoption affordable and helps raise awareness about the incredible pets waiting for their second chance in shelters nationwide.

Over 400 shelters in 43 states are taking part. In addition to Florence Lauderdale Animal Services, four other Alabama shelters are participating, including some in Auburn, Birmingham, Tuscaloosa, and in Valley.

As the nation’s largest funded adoption event, *Empty the Shelters™* helps homeless pets find families by making adoption affordable for prospective pet owners. Adopters pay reduced adoption fees to take deserving pets from kennels to the couches of loving homes. The BISSELL Pet Foundation reimburses any balance for each pet adopted.



BISSELL Pet Foundation

See **EMPTY...** on Page 28

RECALL LAGRANGE WILL TAKE PLACE ON SATURDAY, MAY 4 from 10am-4pm at the LaGrange College Site Park in Leighton. Since 1988, the LaGrange Living Historical Association, has sponsored many historical events, including the LaGrange Distillery Raid, scheduled this year at 2pm. Recall LaGrange includes demonstrations, arts and crafts, food, vendors, educational, lectures, school field, trips, music, and more. Recall LaGrange takes place annually the first Saturday in May. For more information, call 256-702-69534 Colbert County Tourism at 256-383-0783.

PET SUPPLIES PLUS IN FLORENCE AND MUSCLE SHOALS will celebrate Cinco de Meow May 5, from 2-4pm at both store locations. Enter for a chance to win a year’s supply of Dr. Marty cat or dog food - 10 winners in all! Get 25% off select cat toys! Prizes, free samples, & more! All pets are welcome (leashed or in a carrier). Special offers are for Rewards members only. Quick sign up available.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED invites everyone to May Friendship Day on Friday, May 3 at 10am at North Wood United Methodist Church, 1129 Wills Ave. in North Florence.

SOFTBALL
FRI. MAY 3 (DH)
3PM & 5:30PM
vs Austin Peay in Florence
SAT. MAY 4 • 1PM
vs Austin Peay in Florence
MAY 7 - 11 TBA
ASUN Championship Oxford, AL

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BASEBALL
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FRI. MAY 3 • 5PM
SAT. MAY 4 • 4PM
SUN. MAY 5 • NOON
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TUES. MAY 7 • 4PM
at Samford in Birmingham



Visit www.roarlions.com for full team schedules and ticket information

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

On Taking Pride

Editor,

I was licensed Realtor for 30 years, and I have spent the last 20 years in restorations.

What I have learned is that neglect breeds neglect. Few things get better left untended, especially houses and yards. A rotting piece wood will keep rotting until it is worthless, and, like bad apples, it will cause the wood around it to rot. An eroding piece of land will forever erode unless measures are implemented to prevent it.

Weeds and vines will choke out the most beautiful plants.

Most living things need maintenance and care. Those who

care make a difference. Beauty usually comes from work and an investment.

Negligence is a form of robbery. Taking ownership is more than being responsible – it’s wise.

Since an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure, why put off until tomorrow what you can do today? It never has to be all or none, inch by inch it’s a cinch. Doing anything is always better than nothing. The payoff for well-kept property is usually worth the investment.

I am now an old woman, and my health is failing. However, I still try to do a few minutes of yard maintenance weekly.

It’s called *Pride of Ownership*.

Joy Willow
Florence

A Quarter of a Century Later...

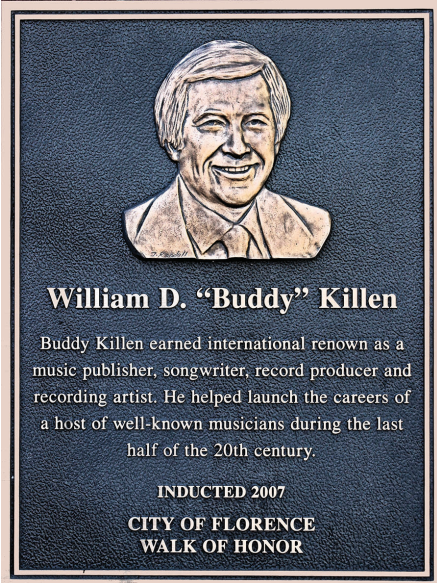
Editor,

April 20, 1999, changed the world forever as two heinous individuals decided to shoot up and bomb their school, Columbine High School.

See **LETTERS...** on Page 25

...They were not
bullied... ”

SIGNS OF THE PAST



**Location: 34.8063°N,
87.6314°W**

Buddy was born in Florence Nov. 13, 1932. He became a Bass player in Grand Ole Opry. Worked with Joe Tex, Roger Miller, Dolly Parton, Dottie West, and T.G. Sheppard for example. In 2006 he died in Nashville of pancreatic cancer.

~ Courtesy David Curott ~ author of Historical Markers & other "Signs of the Past"

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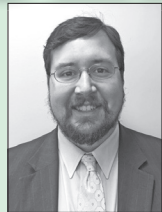
Wed. - Sat. 10-5

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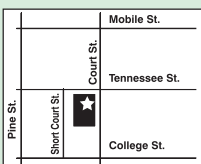
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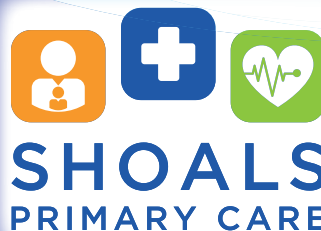
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TWO CEMETERY LOTS in Tri-Cities Memorial Gardens, Florence. Garden of Apostles, Lot# 277A, 1 & 2, \$2,000 for both, selling together. 615-832-0682

The Boxing Match

The great black preacher Dr. E. V. Hill once said: "you can't box God, your arms aren't long enough." The book says: **Acts 5:39** "But if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it; lest haply ye be found even to fight against God." **Numbers 23:19** "God is not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do it? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?" All men are bald-faced liars! **Psalms 116:11. Isaiah 55:11** "So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it." All will give account to the Word of God and for the words of God, that you either accepted, rejected, corrected or neglected. No one escapes this confrontation with Almighty God! Today, worldwide, people openly hate God's people, His word, His Son, Jesus Christ, with no remorse. **Matthew 12:36** "But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment." **Romans 14:12** "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God."

Deuteronomy 7:10 "And repayeth them that hate him to their face, to destroy them: he will not be slack to him that hateth him, he will repay him to his face." **Hebrews 10:29** "Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?" The Saviour will soon be revealed. You will meet Him. It won't matter then how much you know, but then it will be: "do you know Him?" I am talking about Jesus Christ, the only Lord and Saviour! You can't box God! You must have Christ and His righteousness when you die. Do you? Ask Christ to forgive your sin and save your soul today. See Ephesians 2:8&9 and wake up.

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LEGAL NOTICE

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

Notice is hereby given that on **06/01/2024** at 9AM The following vehicles will be sold at **Dealer's only** auction only for cash. The auction will be held at Andy's Wrecker Service, 20850 Hwy 72., Tuscumbia, Alabama, 35674. 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 05/31/2024 between the hours of 9am and 5pm. **NO TITLES OFFERED! VEHICLES ARE SOLD FOR PARTS AND SCRAP ONLY.** Auctioneer Barry L. Stewart #1239

Year	Make	Model	Vin#	Color
2001	Buick	Century	2G4W552J321217326	Tan
1993	Ford	Ranger	1FTCR10U9PUD43999	Red
1999	Chevrolet	2500	1GCGC24ROXR700505	White
2000	Chevrolet	S10	1GCCS195XY8264156	Red
2013	Ford	Edge	2FMDK3JC2DBC52841	Red
1993	Chevrolet	S10	1GCCS14R5P8114559	White
2003	Ford	F150	2FTRX07L33CA21120	White
2012	Ford	Fusion	3FAHP0HA2CR215966	White
2005	Nissan	Altima	1N4AL11D15L291090	Red
2000	Jeep	Cherokee	1J4GW48S5YC156484	Gray
1999	Chevrolet	Silverado	1GCEC14W6Y2224592	White
2000	Mercedes	S	WDBNG75J8YA120077	Silver
2001	Ford	Mustang	1FAFP444X1F126106	Yellow
2007	Chevrolet	Aveo	KL1TD56687B181428	Gray
2013	Toyota	Corolla	5YFBU4EE3DP137969	Blue
2008	Buick	Enclave	5GAER23738J305502	White
2013	Volkswagon	Passat	1VWBP7A32DC093742	Black
2002	Lincoln	LS	1LNHM87A92659912	Black
2002	Kia	Spectra	KNAFB121X25198377	Red
1998	Dodge	Stratus	1B3EJ46X3WN338097	Gray
1999	Acura	3.5RL	JH4KA9659XC001250	Maroon
2006	Subaru	Legacy	453BL616577207264	White
2001	Dodge	Dakota	1B7FL26X015104804	Blue
1998	Saturn	S Series	1G8ZH1273WZ294153	Black
2009	Nissan	Altima	1N4AL21E39N410346	Blue
2003	Ford	Focus	3FAFP31303R171891	Yellow
2007	Mazda	CX-7	IM3ER293X70165494	Gray
1993	Chevrolet	1500	1GCEK14K9PZ180165	Green
2002	Cadillac	Seville	1G6KS54Y32U291995	Red
2002	Ford	Escape	1FMYU01152KC16945	Silver
2002	Oldsmobile	Intrigue	1G3WX52H42F178788	Brown
2005	Nissan	Altima	1N4BA41E85C821365	Gray
2008	GMC	Envoy	1GKDT13S282107597	Gray
2000	Ford	Explorer	1FMZU63E4YUB82128	Burgundy
2004	Pontiac	Aztek	3G7DA03E245552733	White
2004	Ford	Focus	3FAFP31304R116343	Silver
2003	Volkswagon	Jetta	3VW5K69M23M076250	Silver
2000	Lincoln	Town Car	1LNHM82W8YY845663	Green
2011	Lincoln	MKZ	3LNHL2GCXBR752972	Navy
1999	Ford	Explorer	1FMZU32X7XUC44329	RED
1999	Ford	F150	1FTRX17W8XNB01710	Silver
2000	GMC	Jimmy		
2006	Chrysler	Sebring	1C3EL55R26N285916	White
2006	Hyundai	Tucson	KM8JN12D36U353650	Gray
1999	Chevrolet	Silverado	1GCEK19T1XE169671	White
2005	Toyota	Corolla	1XNBR32EX5Z523160	White
2004	Toyota	Prius	JTDKB22U040008796	Gray
2007	Toyota	Corolla	1NXBR32E67Z933442	Blue
2001	Chevrolet	Monte Carlo	2G1WW12E119116377	Green
2008	Hyundai	Sonata	5NPEU46F68H384104	White
2001	Buick	Rendezvous	3G5DB03E82S505922	Black
2008	Ford	F150	1FTRF12208KB94748	White
2002	Ford	Escape	1FMYU03192KA50250	Silver
2008	Chevrolet	Impala	2G1WD58C689128621	Silver
2008	Chrysler	Town & Country	2A8HR44H88R674746	Silver
2008	Ford	Expedition	1FMFU17588LA41472	Blue
2013	Chevrolet	Impala	2G1WC5E31D1146248	Black
2004	Dodge	Caravan	1D4GP24R34B545489	Beige
2012	Hyundai	Sonata	5NPEB4AC9CH469966	Gray
2008	Honda	Civic	JHMFA362685027400	Silver
2003	Ford	Taurus	1FAFP55U73A264030	Maroon
2006	Acura	TL	19UUA66286A053107	White
2009	Nissan	Versa	3N1BC11E59L487019	White
2001	Chrysler	300M	2C3H66G01H512516	White
2012	Chevrolet	Traverse	1GNKRFD2CJ338695	White
2007	Toyota	Yaris	JTDBT923171021908	Silver
2009	Mercury	Marquis	2MEHM75V79X611323	Maroon

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<p>Dale's STEAK SAUCE Or SEASONING 10-16 Oz.</p>  <p>2/\$7</p>	<p>Bush's BAKED BEANS 22-28 Oz.</p>  <p>2/\$5</p>	<p>Lay's CLASSIC or KETTLE CHIPS 7-8 Oz.</p>  <p>2/\$5</p>	<p>Mtn. Dew, Sunkist, Starry Or PEPSI 2 Liters</p>  <p>2/\$4</p>
<p>Old El Paso TACO or TORTILLA SHELLS 12 ct.</p>  <p>2/\$4</p>	<p>Old El Paso TACO or BURRITO KITS 6-12 ct.</p>  <p>2/\$7</p>	<p>Tostitos TOSTITOS 7-9 Oz.</p>  <p>2/\$7</p>	<p>Mtn. Dew, Sunkist, Starry Or PEPSI 6 Pk. Half Liters</p>  <p>3/\$12</p>
<p>Betty Crocker Supreme BROWNIE MIX 16-18 Oz.</p>  <p>2/\$5</p>	<p>Post Mega Size PEBBLES or HONEY BUNCHES OF OATS 27-28 Oz.</p>  <p>\$5</p>	<p>Golden Flake CHEESE PUFFS, CURLS, PUFF CORN OR PORK SKINS 3-6 Oz.</p>  <p>3/\$5</p>	<p>Lipton TEA 12 Pk. Half Liters</p>  <p>\$6.99</p>
<p>Tide 42-46 Or Cascade ACTION PACKS 37 Ct.</p>  <p>\$6.99</p>	<p>Charmin TOILET PAPER 6 Mega Rolls</p>  <p>\$8.99</p>	<p>Little Debbie BIG PACKS 9 Ct.</p>  <p>2/\$8</p>	<p>Aquafina WATER 24 Pk. Half Liters</p>  <p>\$5.99</p>

DAIRY & FROZEN

<p>Daisy SOUR CREAM or COTTAGE CHEESE 24 Oz.</p> <p>2/\$7</p>	<p>Eggo WAFFLES 12 Ct.</p> <p>2/\$7</p>
<p>Simply ORANGE JUICE 52 Oz.</p> <p>\$3.99</p>	<p>Mayfield ICE CREAM 56 Oz.</p> <p>2/\$7</p>
<p>Wide Awake COFFEE CREAMER 32 oz.</p> <p>\$3.49</p>	<p>Stouffer's Or Lean Cuisine ENTRÉES 6-12 Oz.</p> <p>2/\$6</p>
<p>Food Club BISCUITS 5 Ct.</p> <p>4/\$5</p>	<p>Gorton FISH STICKS or FILLETS 14-24 Oz.</p> <p>\$7.99</p>

BEER & WINE

<p>Yuengling BEER 12 Pk. Cans Or Btl.</p>  <p>\$13.49</p>	<p>Michelob Ultra BEER 18 Pk. Cans Or Btl.</p>  <p>\$22.99</p>
<p>14 Hands WINE 750 ml</p>  <p>\$9.99</p>	<p>Riunite WINE 1.5 Liters</p>  <p>\$10.29</p>

Not Available At All Locations!

M-E-A-T

<p>Previously Frozen Small Tray BONELESS CHICKEN BREAST</p>  <p>\$2.39 Lb.</p>	<p>Family Pack Prairie Fresh BONELESS PORK CHOPS</p>  <p>\$3.49 Lb.</p>
<p>Honeysuckle White Fresh GROUND TURKEY</p>  <p>\$3.99 1 Lb.</p>	<p>Bryan Regular or Thick BACON</p>  <p>2/\$7 12 Oz.</p>
<p>Bryan Original WIENERS</p>  <p>2/\$4 12 Oz.</p>	<p>Swaggerty's Mild or Hot ROLL SAUSAGE</p>  <p>2/\$7 16 Oz.</p>
<p>Bryan Regular or Thick BOLOGNA</p>  <p>2/\$4 12 Oz.</p>	<p>Oscar Mayer FULLY COOKED BACON</p>  <p>\$4.49 2.5 Oz.</p>

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Cat & Kids

by Cathy Turner

At the Heart

Our son Garrett is doing well. You have asked about him, so I thought I would let you know. He has started back to work and is feeling good. Thank you for your prayers and loving concern for him. Garrett is a 34-year-old Broadway performer, who lives in New York City. In October of last year, he had open heart surgery to close a five-centimeter (2-inch) hole in his heart. This congenital hole had been unknown to us until Garrett hurt himself playing "Ike" in the national Broadway tour of "Tina: The Tina Turner Musical".



Just recently, Garrett has begun to audition. He is ready to put himself out there again. I tell you, I wouldn't make it in his industry. I interviewed once and then I had the same job for almost two decades. As a performer, you audition/try-out/read every time a show closes or runs its course. You audition, perform, act again and again - each time you need a job. This would drive me crazy. But Garrett handles this aspect of his work with such grace. They may be looking for him or they may be looking for someone else. That's his attitude. He just keeps putting himself out there and looking for a good fit.

Recently, as he began again letting folks know that he is available, Garrett posted a new professional headshot of himself on Facebook. To which my comment was, "Simply beautiful." (Not even a bias statement. :)) Along with the headshot, Garrett listed six words or phrases that lets you know where his life is right now. The intro with the list read as follows, "Allow me to reintroduce myself: Child of God / New Heart / New Life / Husband / Father / Freedom Fighter.

How would you describe your whole self in a few words? Try it. Who are you? What's important to

you? How do you spend your time? What is your mission? Using Garrett's recipe, let me introduce myself to you: Child of God / Older woman (Titus 2:3-5)/ New Joy / Wife / Mother - Gran/ Scripture Sharer.

You know, if I were 34 years old rather than 64, the word choices would be different. Let me introduce you to my 34-year-old self: Child of God / Optimistic Believer / Loving Life / Wife / Toddler Mom / Circle Time - VBS

- Activity Leader. And what if I make it to 84, Lord willing, what would be my life terms then? I hope and imagine: Child of God / Settled - Learning - Teaching / Grateful/ Loved / Surrounded / Encourager. You know, life evolves.

This a good exercise. Try it. Write your words, your life. Where are you? Where have you been? Where are you going? What's in your heart? Are you still growing? That's the thing about being a child of God - there's always room to grow. And there's always joy. It's such a blessing that Garrett has a new heart and is ready to move on in his new life. Lord willing, he has so much more of life to live. I pray that as he fights for what he believes is right, that he will come to know even more deeply and convey more easily the freedom that he has. Because simply put, freedom comes from being a child of God. I hope that's the heart of his mission.

Email comments or suggestions to CatnKids1@gmail.com

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Collision Auto Repair Services

gives notice of foreclosure of lien and intent to sell a

Black 2011 Porsche Panamera Turbo Hatchback.

VIN: WP0AC2A79BL090978

on **May 31, 2024 at 8:00 am** at 4536 Highway 43 Killen, AL 35645, pursuant to subsection 32-13-3 of the Alabama Statutes. Collision Auto Repair Services reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids.

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Notes...

Continued from page 4

Recall LaGrange will take place on Saturday, May 4 from 10am-4pm at the LaGrange College Site Park in Leighton. Since 1988, the LaGrange Living Historical Association, has sponsored many historical events, including the LaGrange Distillery Raid, scheduled this year at 2pm.

Recall LaGrange includes demonstrations, arts and crafts, food, vendors, educational, lectures, school field, trips, music, and more. Recall LaGrange takes place annually the first Saturday in May. For more information, call 256-702-69534 Colbert County Tourism at 256-383-0783.

Volunteers are needed at Florence Lauderdale Animal Services. All ages and interests are sought. It's an ideal option for high school students who need service letters for scholarships, or just want to contribute, and have specific/tight windows of availability. Volunteers can be those who like to work with animals, or those who would rather just do other work around the facilities.

Contact Whitney at 256-762-1124 or Carla at 256-904-0517.

National Day of Prayer is Thursday, May 2 in Wilson Park, downtown Florence at 12 noon. The rain location is First Baptist Church of Florence across the street from Wilson Park. Please bring a lawn chair.

This will be a time of prayer for our community led by local ministers and community leaders. The theme for this year is "Lift up the Word - Light up the World."

The local coordinator for the National Day of Prayer is Justin Pannell, Minister at Sherrod Ave. Church of Christ.

Infants-Adults Clothes and Shoes Giveaway on Thursday, May 2 from 8-10am at the Care Center, First Baptist Church, Killen

Church Women United invites everyone to May Friendship Day on Friday, May 3 at 10am at North Wood United Methodist Church, 1129 Wills Ave. in North Florence.

The Summer Music Series at Wilson Park returns for 2024 sponsored by Florence Parks and Recreation Dept.

"Music in the Park" - during the lunch hour every Wednesday in May.

May 1 - Shannon Knight
May 8 - Kane Creek Cliff Dwellers
May 15 - The Cadillacs
May 22 - Jeff Hornbuckle/Jacob Adams
May 29 - Trey Nichols
"Friday Night Stars and Guitars" - every Friday night at 7pm in June.

June 7 - Deja Vu
June 14 - David Phillips Band
June 21 - Father and Sons
June 28 - Joseph Baldwin

These are FREE concerts for the community. Bring a lawn chair and a meet up with friends to enjoy MUSIC. Hope to see you at the park.

Partnerships for these musical events, include Muscle Shoals National Heritage, First Metro Bank, and Florence Lauderdale Tourism.

The city of Florence will host a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the River Heritage Trail on Sunday, May 5, from 3-5pm. The entire Shoals community is invited to join in the grand opening celebration.

The River Heritage Trail Grand Opening will include an afternoon filled with excitement, music, and exploration. Attendees will have the opportunity to experience the natural beauty of the River Heritage Trail firsthand while enjoying live music and local food trucks.

The event will feature remarks from community leaders at 4pm, followed by the official ribbon-cutting ceremony, which will mark the trail's opening to the public.

See NOTES... page 22



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See page 6 or visit www.courierjournal.net

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 or Family Pack
Boneless Beef Ribeye Steak
8.99
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9-13 Oz.
 Select Varieties
Frito-Lay Tostitos
2/\$7



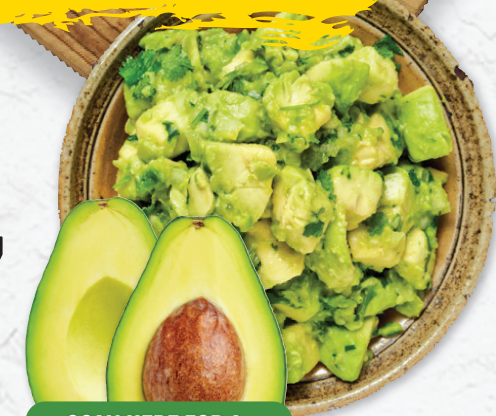
16 Oz.
 Select Varieties
Pace Salsa or Picante Sauce
2.49



6.25-19 Oz. or 8-12 Ct.
 Select Varieties
Old El Paso Dinner Kits or Taco Sauce
2/\$7



Hormel Always Tender
Whole Boneless Pork Loins
1.99



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Kraft Mayonnaise
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 Select Varieties
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ASK THE ATTORNEY

RULES OF THE ROAD FOR BOATS

Boats, like vehicles, have rules that govern their operation as well as regulations that require specific safety equipment on each vessel.

There are rules for boats that are different than that of cars. An example is Alabama statute §33-5-25 which imposes a legal duty on the operator of any boat involved in an accident to render to render assistance as necessary to save others affected by the accident from the danger caused by the accident and to give his or her name and the identification of their boat to any person injured.

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

The operator of an automobile is not under a legal duty to render aid to someone injured in an accident. Obviously, moral obligations exist and should never be ignored. There are Good Samaritan laws that shield people from liability who attempt to render aid but if you don't know first aid you may cause more harm than good. That's different than saving someone in the water because the very "first aid" may be that of getting them where first aid may be performed safely.

Other than sailboats, rowboats or canoes, a boater's safety course and a test are required to be certified to operate a boat. The boat has to be registered in the name of the person who owns the boat. The rules and regulations for the safe operation of a boat deal with right of way among other issues. Drivers of automobiles have red lights, green lights, stop signs and markings on the road to indicate the right of way.

In a boat, the right of way changes based on the type of boat being operated and the type of boat that is either yielding or has the right of way. Commercial barges have the right of way. They can't stop in half a mile. Sailboats typically have the right of way because they are limited in the direction they can travel given the wind conditions existing at the time. Power boats in overtaking or passing other power boats have rules that dictate the correct side to pass or overtake as well as certain horn signals which can or must be given.

As someone who loves boating, the best advice that I can give is to keep a proper look out. That's a duty imposed by law but it's also common sense when you are on the water.

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

LIFT UP THE WORD LIGHT UP THE WORLD
2 SAMUEL 22:29-31
 THE 73rd ANNUAL NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER THURSDAY, MAY 2, 2024

12pm, Wilson Park, downtown Florence
 Rain location: First Baptist Church

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

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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.

Please send the questions to: "Ask the Attorney," P. O. Box 38, Florence, Alabama 35631 or visit our website at: www.mhatty.com

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Commentary

Lock...

Continued from Page 12

especially when it comes to unlocked doors. We live in an environment where cars that are parked outside ANYWHERE should always be locked.

You may think you have nothing worth stealing, and you may be right, or you may have paperwork or documents with names, contact information, or account numbers you don't want out. Regardless, thieves don't know until that unlocked door enables them to snoop. An unlocked door is an invitation to rifle through anything on or under the seats and any compartment they can find. In addition, something of value in plain view can result in a broken window AND missing valuables.

Everybody I know

locks their vehicle when going into a store. If we wouldn't leave our car unlocked during the day in a retail parking lot or downtown, why would we leave it unlocked at home during the day or overnight? Whether in the driveway, in a carport, on the street, or in the yard, experienced thieves can go undetected, and unrecognizable on cameras.

Not only does locking doors prevent theft, but it also prevents troubles related to unauthorized access. You don't want a thief taking a nap or sheltering from weather in your back seat. Surprising one when you get back in can create many other potential safety issues you will want no part of.

Therefore, from now on, we are locking our car doors and reminding friends and loved ones, correct?



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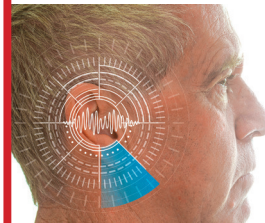
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Moments in Time



• **On April 29, 2004**, the World War II Memorial opened in Washington, D.C. The granite and bronze monument stands on 7.4 acres on the former site of the Rainbow Pool at the National Mall, between the Washington Monument and the Lincoln Memorial.

• **On April 30, 1993**, tennis player Monica Seles was stabbed between the shoulder blades by Gunter Parche during a match in Hamburg. Parche, a fan of German tennis star Steffi Graf, apparently hoped

that by injuring Seles, his idol would be able to regain her No. 1 ranking.

• **On May 1, 1963**, Gloria Steinem published the first half of "A Bunny's Tale" in SHOW magazine, recounting her brief stint as a Bunny in Manhattan's Playboy Club. Steinem's undercover reporting revealed a culture of misogyny and exploitation behind the glamorous facade of Hugh Hefner's empire.

• **On May 2, 1924**, Patrick Mahon was arrested at

London's Waterloo train station on suspicion of murder. He was executed later that year for killing his pregnant mistress, but an important innovation resulted from the crime scene: The officers, who had no gloves, were forced to handle the victim's remains with their bare hands. After the investigation, rubber gloves became standard equipment at murder scenes.

• **On May 3, 1980**, 13-year-old Cari Lightner of Fair Oaks, California, was walking to a church carnival when she was struck and killed by an out-of-control car driven by an intoxicated Clarence Busch. Her death led her mother, Candy Lightner, to found the organization Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), which would grow into one

of the country's most influential nonprofit organizations.

• **On May 4, 1776**, Rhode Island, which was founded by the most radical religious dissenters from the Puritans of Massachusetts Bay Colony, became the first North American colony to renounce its allegiance to King George III. It would also be the last state to ratify the new American Constitution more than 14 years later.

• **On May 5, 1816**, the first published poem by John Keats, the sonnet "To Solitude", appeared in the London journal The Examiner. Keats' sadly brief but overall brilliant span of work includes "Ode on a Grecian Urn," "La Belle Dame Sans Merci" and "Ode to a Nightingale."

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Notes...

Continued from page 18

Prepare for a journey through time and space at SPAN's **Duel of the Decades Ball - STAR WARS Edition** back by popular demand! Dust off your retro 70's and 80's attire and join us May 4 from 7-10pm at Burrell School in Florence at 610 W. College St. for a night of dance-offs, costume contests, and a "name that retro tune" challenge spearheaded with music by DJ Sugar B. It will be complete with disco dogs, popcorn, drinks, and special performances, all while supporting a great cause. Secure your spot now for just \$10. Let's make this bash one for the ages! May the 4th be with you! Tickets can be purchased Mon-Fri 8:30-4:30 by calling our office at 256-246-2060.

SPAN is a nonresidential, coeducational program serving troubled youth and helping them achieve success and become productive adults through education, counseling, and positive influences within their own communities.

Looking for something fun to do on Mother's Day? Come join the Misfit Quilters group at the Florence Lauderdale Public Library from 1-4pm on Sunday May 12. Bring your project to work on. We meet in the Board Room on the right as you enter from parking lot. All adults welcome.

Hi Neighbors of the Shoals meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month (May 7) at 10:30am in the Florence Public Library. This women's social group welcomes all ladies who are current residents of the Shoals area. Come join us! Contact Berta Birch, 256-777-3119, for further details.

The Friends of the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library will present a luncheon with Mee McCormick at noon Tuesday, May 7 at Pickett Place, 438 N. Seminary St, in Florence. Chosen as one of Southern Living's Cooks of the Year in 2020, Mee McCormick will share her journey of healing with foods, with ranching and farming, and the importance of gut health and cooking for the microbiome. Catering is by Jill's Sweet Memories. McCormick will also autograph and sign her cookbooks!

Tickets for Friends Members are \$30, General admission tickets are \$35 and are in sale at the Mitchell Burford Bookstore or online at Eventbrite.com. Search MeeMcCormick.

Song Contest 2024 - Participants are now being accepted for the VIP - Songwriters Hall of Fame Museum's Song Contest 2024.

We accept all genres of music. Examples: Rock, Pop, Country, Christian Rock, Contemporary Christian, Traditional Country, R&B, Blues, Alternative, Christmas, Comedy, Folk, Bluegrass, Love, Gospel etc...

Deadline to enter is May 1. To get an entry form mailed to you call 256-604-1435. Leave your name, phone number, address and age on the answering machine if you don't get an answer.

Osborn Hill Cemetery - Decoration Day will be on Saturday, May 4. The first Saturday of May has been observed as Decoration Day for well over 100 years. Please make plans for that special day to come to the cemetery. If you would like to donate to the Osborn Hill Cemetery Fund, please send your donations to: Osborn Hill Cemetery Fund, c/o Mrs. Lana Duncan 2330 Colburn Mtn. Road, Tusculmbia, AL 35674.

Jacksonburg Church of Christ, will observe Homecoming with Ben Hayes and Travis Creasy on Sunday, May 5. Bible study begins at 9am. Travis Creasy will speak at 9:45am, followed by a fellowship meal in the annex. Ben Hayes will speak at the 1:30pm service. Jacksonburg is located at 414 Lauderdale 28, Florence.

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Immediate annuities: These annuities make more sense to purchase when you are near or at retirement because the payout usually starts right away.

Deferred annuities: With a deferred annuity, the earlier you buy, and the younger you are, the more time your premiums can benefit from tax-deferred growth. An early purchase may be especially attractive if you have already contributed the maximum amount to other tax-advantaged accounts like an IRA or 401k.

Once you purchase an annuity, you have limited access to your money — it belongs to the insurance company, and you could incur costly charges and fees if you attempt to withdraw the funds early.

The right time and the best age to buy an annuity will ultimately depend on your needs and your situation. But it's never too late to consider adding an annuity to your retirement income plan. To determine when an annuity makes sense for you, contact your local State Farm® agent.



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STRANGE but TRUE

- It is impossible for a human to sneeze during sleep due to a bodily state called REM atonia.
- For 200 years tomatoes were considered poisonous in Europe. In reality, their acidity was dissolving poisonous metals like lead from plates.
- Scientists investigating the occasional

appearance of thousands of dead fish on the banks of an African river eventually discovered that the cause was huge numbers of hippos pooping in the water.

- Actor Danny DeVito used to be a beautician.
- Ten thousand years ago, everyone's eyes were brown until someone living by the Black Sea

developed a genetic mutation that turned brown eyes blue.

- In 2007, a gorilla escaped from his exhibit, grabbed and mauled a nearby woman, and then attacked a restaurant. Later it was later revealed that the woman had been making eye contact and smiling at the primate several times a week, something zookeepers had warned her not to do.
- Freelance diamond setter Raffi Stepanian found he could collect enough bits of carelessly dropped diamonds, rubies, platinum and gold on the

sidewalks of New York City's Midtown Diamond District to earn a living.

- In April of 2018, scientists at the Gladstone Institutes in California completely erased Alzheimer's disease damage in human cells by altering the structure of a single protein.
- The most expensive photograph ever sold, "Rhein II," a basic picture of the lower Rhine river under an overcast sky that had been digitally altered to remove dog walkers and a factory building, was purchased in 2011 for a cool \$4.3 million.
- Research has shown that taller people are happier but shorter people live longer.

First Thought for the Day:
"Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter, and those who matter don't mind." -- Bernard M. Baruch

- The Aztec death whistle produces a horrifying sound sometimes described as "the scream of a thousand corpses."
- "Miracle" berries stop human taste buds from discerning sourness for about 30 minutes.
- Beginning in June of 1979, as Skylab's re-entry approached, many American newspapers jokingly proposed "Skylab insurance," which would pay their subscribers for death or injury caused by

flying orbiter fragments.

- There's a territory in Costa Rica called Territorio de Zaguates, or Land of the Strays, which is basically a huge, no-kill dog shelter where one can hike for free with the canines.
- And while we're on the subject of dogs: "Dogfooding" is the term for using a company's product to gain the trust of customers. It's said a dog food company president ate a can of the firm's food in a shareholders meeting to demonstrate that "if it's good for me, it's good for your dog." We'll take his word for it, thank you.
- The fertilizer used by the tobacco industry is radioactive.
- The Black Diamond is a rare (and expensive) apple, with its jet-black hue, sweeter-than-honey taste, and crispness unmatched by any other apple. But don't look for it in your local grocery store; you'll only find this gem in Tibet.
- De-scented skunks make great pets, similar to ferrets. They're extremely docile and can even learn tricks and be called by name.
- Louis Chevrolet died bankrupt and poor working as a mechanic for the company he started.

Last Thought for the Day:
"Don't spend time beating on a wall, hoping to turn it into a door." -- Coco Chanel

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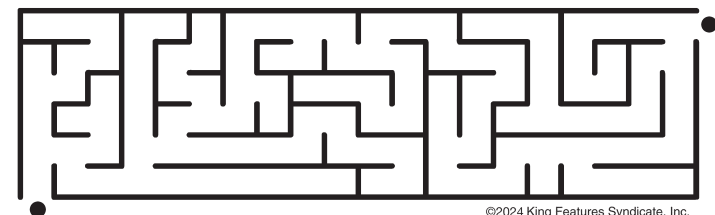
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Kids' Maze



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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. The Louvre location | F _ _ _ _ _ | Proud gait | P _ _ _ _ _ |
| 2. Baton motion | _ _ _ _ R _ | Ridged fabric | _ _ _ _ L _ |
| 3. Oak seed | _ _ C _ _ _ | Embellish | _ _ D _ _ _ |
| 4. Clothes basket | _ _ _ _ P _ _ | Pound a nail | _ _ _ _ M _ _ |
| 5. Light breeze | _ _ _ A _ _ | Wander at sea | _ _ _ I _ _ |
| 6. Wonderland girl | _ _ _ _ C _ | Similar | _ _ _ _ K _ |
| 7. Worldly | _ _ _ _ _ L | ___ and pestle | _ _ _ _ _ R |
| 8. Cereal fragment | _ _ _ _ K _ | Blaze | _ _ _ _ M _ |
| 9. Talk like a hawk | _ _ _ _ _ E _ | Reduce in size | _ _ _ _ _ N _ |
| 10. Sheriff's group | _ _ _ S _ _ | Composure | _ _ _ I _ _ |

WORD LADDERS

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

LASER

FACES

Puzzle Whirl

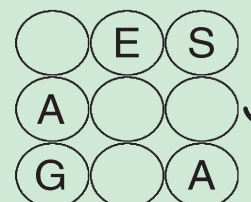
MINI SUDOKU

2	4			6
5			4	
	2		5	
		4	6	
5	1			

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.

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WORD SPIRAL



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

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Answers on Page 31

Letters...

A Quarter Century...

Continued from Page 12

I consider the Columbine shooting as the single most devastating event in American history, because it was a turning point in where and when people could feel safe. Like many of you, I grew up seeing guns in truck gun racks at school. I grew up knowing that almost every guy and some of the girls had knives with them at school. Never once did I feel unsafe.

Know the true facts about those two shooters and that incident.

They were not bullied. FBI profilers and psychological forensic experts agree that they had extreme high-esteem and thought they would go down in a blaze of glory as heroes. They didn't set out to shoot fellow students because of religion, skin color, athletic prowess, popularity, etc. They set out to shoot them

because they wanted to prove their own intellect and superiority.

For people who wonder how something like that happened, the shooters left many warning signs. These signs included essays and homework assignment videos which are extremely chilling. Over a six-month period, they built the pipe bombs in their own garages.

In the 25 years since this horrible event, there have been over 300 fatal school shootings in the United States, with the most horrific one being Sandy Hook, and with almost 500 dead victims in all. Overall, there have been over 800 people shot on school campuses. USA Today recently reported that there is a growing group of younger people who worship the two Columbine shooters because of the "fame" of this event. That should be scary and unsettling to all of us. I used to take this date and show a video about the true intent of the two shooters until I had a

See LETTERS... Pg. 26



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2005	Lexus RX330	JTJHA31U050080763	2002	Ford Escape	1FMYU04162KB96300
2014	Ford F150 Pickup	1FTFW1EF2EFA22890	2015	Honda Accord	1HGCR2F32FA178299
2003	Chevrolet Blazer	1GNDD13X13K117206	2004	Toyota Land Cruiser	JTEHT05J542056694
1993	John Deere Tractor		1998	Ford F150 Pickup	1FTZX17W3WKB49616
2000	Ford Excursion	1FMNU40S2YEB38006	1999	Chevrolet Blazer	1GNCS13W6X2140251
2012	KIA Optima	5XXGM4A79CG053983	2003	Hyundai Accent	KMHCG35C13U241071
2017	Chevrolet Sonic	1G1JG6SH7H4144146	1996	Dodge Dakota	1B7GL23X9TS677499
2008	Chevrolet Impala	2G1WB58K889272927	2004	Nissan Maxima	1N4BA4184C835409
2008	Dodge Magnum	2D4FV47T68H147372	2002	Toyota 4Runner	JT3HN86R720392166
2007	Toyota Camry	4T1BE46KX7U163408	1998	Toyota Camry	4T1BG22K4WU243824



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Letters...

A Quarter Century(2)...

Continued from Page 25

parent complain that it was inciting students to do a similar event. On the contrary, I believe it stopped them. The students would sit and talk about how terrible, evil, and disgusting that the Columbine event was, and then they told each other how that would not be tolerated, and they would all tell of any plans.

On March 1, 2007, Enterprise High School took a direct hit from an EF-4 tornado in which 8 students were

killed. Since then, the ALABAMA legislature has enacted laws that require new school facilities to have a tornado shelter. Many other states in tornado-prone states have enacted similar legislation.

What have we done to help prevent more school shootings? Here are the things we have done that do NOT help the situation: overworking and overwhelming teachers and staff with large classrooms, mindless paperwork, and impossible lists of daily tasks to complete; unnecessary assessments that stress everybody out; constructing buildings that do not provide adequate safety

measures; failing to put money into bulletproof doors and windows and doorknobs/locks that actually work, etc.

May we finally take this date and seek workable solutions to this terrible epidemic instead of wasting time debating and enacting school requirements and legislation that really don't matter.

Delaina Greene, Ed.D.
Town Creek

My Eyebrows Not Raised

Dear Editor:

A recent article on the Internet news site, "Town Hall," began as follows: "Rep. Marjorie Taylor Greene (R-GA) introduced an amendment to the supplemental funding bill for Ukraine that has raised eyebrows." The headline read, "MTG Introduces Strange Amendment as She Fights Ukrainian Funding Package."

For the record, Rep. Greene's amendment didn't raise my eyebrows, nor did I find it strange. Instead, it raised my

hopes, and probably the hopes of a lot of other disgusted Americans.

Under this amendment, members of Congress who continue to pour money into the sinkhole of Ukraine would be required to join the Ukrainian military. In other words, they would be required to personally take part in the war they are financing with money we don't have. According to "Town Hall," the amendment reads in part, "Any Member of Congress who votes in favor of this Act shall be required to conscript in the Ukrainian military."

Almost immediately after Greene's proposal became known, I began hearing comments on liberal newscasts about "young men of fighting age." The implication is that our congressmen are too old to fight, so Greene is being absurd. Really?

The average age of the Ukrainian "trench rat" is now up to 43. The average age of Congressmen is about 58. Katie Britt, one of our senators from Alabama, is a mere 42. What exactly is "fighting age?" What will be the "fighting age" in a third World War?

The truth is, practically anyone can serve in

combat and be useful, even Congressmen. You don't have to be a 19-year-old nobody to die in combat. Anyone can do it.

Greene's proposal is mostly symbolic, but it is loaded with meaning. I'm sure she doesn't want anyone dying in war, congressmen, or anyone else. Nonetheless, what she said needed to be said. "Town Hall" quoted her further, this time on the need for new weapons systems, and border security. "America needs to take our national security seriously and deserves the same type of defense for our border that Israel has and proudly uses."

I've never heard it said better.

Thomas Ponder
Killen

MAGA Fools Hamas Thugs

Dear Editor,

Another great letter by Larry Smith (*April 17, More Alka Seltzer*) Can't turn around without running into another MAGA fool, can you?

The Republican Party

has slipped away behind their blind support of Don John Trump. I like that, Don John. He does his big thinking sitting on the John. Just don't drink the Kool-Aid, MAGA fools.

Everybody gets upset with Israel's Netanyahu killing so many Palestinians. These folks have been teaching their children to hate and kill the Jews all of their lives. They are not separate from the Hamas thugs they allowed to construct hundreds of miles of underground tunnels throughout their cities.

What's important is to keep our nose out of their business. Anyone that's President will be caught in the middle of loose opinions where no one is right, and no one wins in the end.

The world certainly isn't anything like it was when growing up in the 40's or 50's. That old fella Joe Biden has done a pretty good job. I think he is a year older than me.

Tom House
Killen

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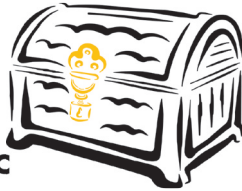
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Empty the Shelter...

Continued from Page 12

"The nation's animal shelters are facing a capacity crisis and need your help now. Adoptions have slowed while a surge in owner surrenders due to families facing economic and housing challenges has left tens of thousands of highly adoptable pets desperate to find homes," said Cathy Bissell, Founder of BISSELL Pet Foundation. "Opening your home to a shelter pet saves a life and creates lifesaving space to help another pet in need."

This effort has helped more than 226,000 pets find loving homes, making "Empty the Shelters" the largest funded adoption event in the country. An average of 1,225 pets are adopted each day during these quarterly national events. Although pets can feel like a gift in terms of the joy they bring to life, BISSELL Pet Foundation reminds prospective pet parents that adopting a pet is a long-term commitment.

BPE, founded in 2011 by Cathy Bissell, is an extension of her long-standing love for animals and commitment to their welfare.

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Differences: 1. Can is larger. 2. Brush has no paint on it. 3. Rail is lower. 4. Window is smaller. 5. Sleeve is different. 6. Ear is larger.

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SHARING EXPENSES

My neighbor and I share a lawnmower. Because we shared the cost, we were able to buy a better mower. We've been sharing for two years. Since we bought the mower together, we've also bought a weed eater and a leaf blower. It's not a huge savings, but why spend money when you don't have to? *Roger*

REDECORATING REVISITED

My two sisters and I came up with a plan for redecorating. We all live in the same town and like similar styles. At least once a year, we trade accent pieces from our living and family rooms. We exchange lamps, wall hangings, end tables, throw pillows, etc. We all like to entertain friends,

and this keeps our homes looking new without spending anything. Our friends think that we have new stuff, but it's just new to us. *Charles*

NO MORE CLOSET CLUTTER

My husband and I have a rule. If we bring a new item of clothing home, something old has to go. Not only does that keep us (mostly me!) from a cluttered closet, but it also causes us to think twice before buying anything. We donate old clothes to a thrift shop, which is a good thing too! *Anabel*

FREE LANDSCAPING

We just moved into a brand new house, and we have a brand new yard without any landscaping. We didn't want to buy

very small trees and bushes, but we also couldn't afford the bigger, more expensive ones. Then my husband had an idea. We both spread the word where we work that we were looking for landscaping plants, and if anyone had some that they were removing, we'd take them. So far, we've gotten two trees for the front yard and one for the back and a couple of bushes for near the house. We have also planted some small plants that we bought. At least, our yard won't look empty until they grow up. *Emilie*

DRY MIX CONVENIENCE

I love the convenience of dry mixes, but I hate paying \$1 or more for a packet of seasoning. I can do it cheaper myself, but who has the time when you don't get to start dinner until after work? That's when I decided to take some time on Saturday morning to make large batches of my favorite mixes. Now when I want to make sloppy joes, tacos, spaghetti or even muffins, I pull out the jar of premade mix and take as much as I need. Most mixes are good for months. I have the convenience of the store mixes and save a bunch of money! *Terri*

WHY I'M A PART-TIME STUDENT

Colleges offer a lot of extras for students like fancy gyms, low-cost entertainment, discounts plans, etc. Therefore, my wife and I decided to audit at least one class a semester. We pick something that we like that meets one evening a week. Since we're auditing, it's not a big deal if we miss a class. We do pay for the class, but we get all the extras for free! It's like joining a regular gym and getting all kinds of other benefits! *Jeff*

See DOLLAR... page 31



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Information and Safety Tips from Sheffield Utilities for Public Awareness Program (Alabama Act 94-487 and Office of Pipeline Safety Part 192.616)

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- Commercial users use natural gas in businesses such as restaurants, hotels, and hospitals.
- Industrial users use natural gas for heating processes and as a fuel for the generation of steam.
- Electric utilities use natural gas to generate electricity.
- Natural gas pipeline companies use natural gas as a fuel to run compressor units.



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Natural gas is colorless, odorless, lighter than air, and non-toxic. Breathing natural gas is not harmful as long as there is an adequate supply of fresh air to breathe along with it. Natural gas by itself will not burn, but with the proper mixture of gas and air combined with an ignition source, combustion can occur.

An odorant that smells like rotten eggs is added to natural gas so that it can be detected. The odor is a warning that natural gas may be present and, if ignited, could result in personal injury or property damage.

If the smell of gas is present inside your home or business (no matter how faint or strong),

Do Not:

1. Smoke or strike a match.
2. Operate an electric switch or appliance control.
3. Pull any plugs from outlets.
4. Use a flashlight or lighter.
5. Use a telephone or cell phone in the building.

If you SMELL A FAINT ODOR of natural gas INSIDE YOUR HOME OR BUSINESS, check to see if any appliances have been left on accidentally or if a pilot light has been extinguished, which would cause the odor (rotten eggs). If the odor persists, TAKE NO CHANCES, get out of the house immediately, and then call us from a nearby phone or neighbor.

If a STRONG OR PERSISTENT ODOR OF GAS is present IN YOUR HOME OR BUSINESS, OR IF YOU HEAR A HISSING SOUND of escaping natural gas, follow this procedure:

1. Get everyone out of the building immediately.
2. Leave the door open.
3. Use a neighbor's phone or cellular phone outside the building to call us.
4. If you SMELL OR DETECT NATURAL GAS OUTSIDE, call us.

Leaks from natural gas pipelines are extremely rare, however it is important that you know how to recognize the signs of a leak if one were to occur in your area. A strong odor, hissing sound, or dirt blowing up from a hole are signs of a leak. Move away from and upwind of the suspected leak before calling us. Do not light matches, smoke, use a cell phone or attempt to start any motor vehicles in the area of a possible gas leak.

Call Before You Dig

Whether you are building a home, installing a sprinkler system, or just planting a tree, we want you to be safe. No matter the size of the project, before you dig, grade, or excavate, the law requires you to call for all underground utilities to be located. Please contact the One-Call Center for more information on this free service. (Alabama One Call 811) If you are digging and expose a gas pipeline, call us. Proper attention to pipe that has been exposed can prevent problems later.

Phone Number: Sheffield Utilities 256-248-2745, or 256-389-2478
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Community Notes...

Continued from page 22

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Friday, May 10, 10am-4pm. Pre-festival "Museum Day". Hosted by Belle Mont Celtic Fest. Chamber music, demonstrations, lectures on Celtic and Early American topics will be featured along with tours of the circa 1828 home and a demo of Gordon Setters will be included.

Remembering Our Veterans through Music presented by Knox Media Group at 3pm Sunday, May 26 at the River Heritage Park Amphitheater. The event is FREE. Bring lawn chairs.

Mhoontown Methodist Church in Cherokee is having its annual Homecoming on Sunday, May 19. Worship service will begin at 1am. Lunch at noon, and Unity Four from Iuka, MS will be the featured guests to sing at 1:10pm. The church is located at 1135 Mhoontown Rd. in Cherokee. Everyone is welcome.

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.

Trinity MB Church welcomes ladies to view the CeCe Winans Generations Live Conference via Simulcast on May 10 at 6:45pm and May 11 at 8:45am at 606 Marietta St. in Florence.

Registration is \$20 for adults and \$10 for college students (includes lunch) Register through the church website, trinitymbchurch.org

The Shoals Christian School Drama Department presents Disney's Frozen Jr. on Thursday-Saturday May 9-11 at 7:30pm. The 60-minute musical tells the story of true love and acceptance between sisters, Frozen JR. expands upon the emotional relationship and journey between Princesses Anna and Elsa. When faced with danger, the two discover their hidden potential and the powerful bond of sisterhood. The Shoals Christian School talented cast consists of 68 students.

Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for students/children, and \$6 for ages 5 and under. Families/Groups of 5 or more are \$8 per ticket. Advance tickets are on sale now and can be purchased by calling Shoals Christian School at 256-767-7070 or by coming by school which is located on 301 Heathrow Drive in Florence. Tickets will also be available at the door the night of each performance.

Saturday, May 11 is The Belle Mont Celtic Fest, featuring the music and culture of Scotland and Ireland, takes place on the grounds of historic Belle Mont Mansion, 1569 Cook Lane, in Tusculumbia. The Steel City Rovers from Ontario, Canada, will headline the event, joining returning artists the Piper Jones Band and Chambliss & Muse. First-time performers will be the Alabama Pipes and Drums. Food vendors, kids' activities, crafts, Celtic merchandise, and demonstrators on site. Bring blankets and chairs. Advance tickets for adults are discounted through Eventbrite or by calling 256-381-5052: Adults-\$5; Youth 13-18-\$5; Children 12 years and under, free. Gate Admission on Saturday: (Cash preferred) Adults \$10, Youth \$5, Children 12 and under free. Rain location is Northwest Shoals Community College.

Belle Mont Mansion (circa 1828) is a significant Federal period home owned by the Alabama Historical Commission. 1569 Cook Lane in Tusculumbia. For more information: 256-381-5052. bellemontmansion@gmail.com <https://bellemontcelticfest.godaddy.com>

Callin' all Crafters! Come join the fun at the Killen Library on Wednesday, May 22 from 9am-1pm. Bring your unfinished project to work on. All adult crafters Welcome. Hope to see you there!

REVIVE AL - Hearts on Fire, a church growth workshop, June 12-15 at Heritage Christian University in Helton Drive in Florence. Keynote speakers for this home mission event overseen by the elders of Killen Church of Christ include Dr. Kirk Brothers, Stan Dean, Zack Martin, Matt Miller, Dr. Laws Rushing, and David Shannon.

There will be 40 "how-to" classes for men and women, panel discussions each day, and coffee and snacks provided by HCU. Visit homemission.org to view schedule; register at www.hcu.edu.

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.

Dance Lessons Florence Parks and Rec will be offering small group ballroom dance lessons at Royal Avenue Recreation Center. Beginner class 1-2pm, intermediate class 2-3pm. There are also select times available for individual/couple lessons. These lessons are perfect for weddings, formals, proms, lead outs, cotillions etc. Space is limited. Call Royal Ave, Rec Center, 256-760-6245, to sign up.

Florence-Lauderdale Tourism is excited to announce that they now offer prints of The Shoals Mural at McFarland Park. They are 12 "x 36" and printed on archival paper. They are available for purchase at the visitor center during our regular business hours.

Regular prints are: \$25. Signed and numbered prints are \$50 (limited edition of 250)

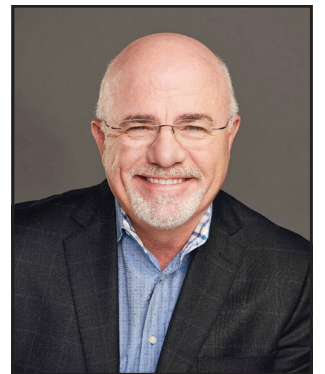
Location 200 Jim Spain Drive, Florence in McFarland Park. Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm, Saturday, 10am-4pm.

The 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.

DAVE Says

by DAVE RAMSEY

THE WALKING DEBT



Dear Dave,

A few years ago, I had a real problem with credit card debt. Since then, I've gotten much better at handling my money, and I'm making about \$80,000 a year. Two weeks ago, I received a letter about a credit card I had in 2020. The amount owed is \$7,688. The letter doesn't say I'm being sued, but it says I have to appear before a judge in two months for a pretrial conference. I live in Florida, and I've never heard of anything like this. I only have \$1,000 in savings.

Damari

Dear Damari,

I'm glad to hear you're handling your finances better now than you did in the past. But at this point, you're learning that old debts don't necessarily die, aren't you? Ignoring debts isn't a good plan, because many times they come back to life like a zombie and come looking for you.

I'm not an expert on Florida law, but a pretrial conference in a case like this—over a \$7,688 credit card bill—is highly unusual. I've been helping people with money problems for 30 years, and I've never heard of anything like this. It could be some kind of new tactic the collections attorney is using to try to intimidate you.

If I were in your shoes, I'd call the attorney who's suing you and try to negotiate a payment plan or settlement. Do you have anything you can sell? Because I've got a feeling if you can come up with \$3,000 or so and offer it as payment in full, they'll take it. I don't mean to be unkind, but these guys figure you're a

deadbeat because you've got a 5-year-old debt hanging over your head and haven't tried to pay it. They'll take almost anything they can get at this point.

In general, when you go to court over a situation like this, you're going to lose. You have a legal debt, and you haven't paid it. It's that simple. So, if you don't have anything to sell to make some money that way, you need to get busy working an extra job or two. I'm talking about doing Door Dash or something—in the morning before work or in the evening after work. Kiss those weekends goodbye too. Just go nuts for a few weeks, and make a bunch of extra money fast.

It won't be easy, and you're going to be dog-tired for a while. But you can scrape together \$3,000-4,000 before June easily if you'll just put your head down and make it happen. Then, offer it up to the attorney. Demand a written release, with the debt declared settled and paid in full, and chances are, this thing will be off your back!

— Dave

* Dave Ramsey is an eight-time No. 1 national best-selling author, personal finance expert and host of *The Ramsey Show*, heard by more than 20 million listeners each week. He has appeared on *Good Morning America*, *CBS Mornings*, *Today Show*, *Fox News*, *CNN*, *Fox Business*, and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people regain control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for the company, Ramsey Solutions.

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Medicare Minute "Dental"

When I am doing a Medicare appointment, one of the questions I get asked the most is, "Does Medicare cover dental?" The answer to this question can be complicated because Original Medicare and Medicare Advantage covers dental in different ways. First let us look at Original Medicare.

Original Medicare does not cover most dental care such as routine exams, cleanings, x-rays, fillings, caps, or implants. Also, Original Medicare does not cover dentures. Original Medicare, in some cases, will cover oral surgery, particularly after an accident. If you have Original Medicare and a Medicare supplement, your supplement will not pay for dental either. Remember, your supplement will only pay the 20% Medicare does not pay.

Most Medicare Advantage plans, however, have dental benefits included. Advantage Plans in Lauderdale and Colbert counties, typically, will cover 2 exams, 2 cleanings and 2 x-rays at \$0 copay. You may have to pay a copay to see the dentist so check your plan's Summary of Benefits. Also, Medicare Advantage plans can offer additional dental benefits. Some plans keep it simple. They will give you a specific dollar amount you can spend each year. You may have \$500, \$750, \$1,000, or even \$2,000 you can use towards dental, regardless of the service. Some plans, however, have a dental schedule, which means you can only get 1 extraction or 2 fillings under the benefit. Again, check your plan's Summary of Benefits.

Remember, picking the Medicare plan that is right for you is like putting a puzzle together. While dental may be important, it is only one piece of the puzzle. We still need to make sure your doctors and prescriptions drugs are covered on your 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.

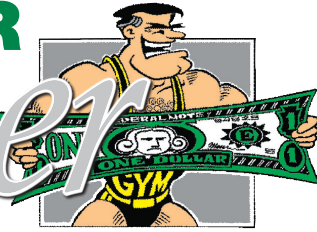


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Continued from Page 29

SUPER CLEANER

If you have some really tough cleaning to do, visit your auto parts store. They have cleaners like Fast Orange(r) and GoJo(r) that are made to handle grease and grime. We had a rental house, and when the tenants moved out, the bathroom was disgusting! The Fast Orange(r) had it sparkling in no time. *Lori*

BETTER DOG BEDS

I got tired of the dog bed for my two small dogs disintegrating after being washed a few times. My husband cut down an old laundry container (about the size of a kitchen garbage container) to approximately 12- to 15-inches high and then cut an opening along one side for the pups to enter the bed. I lined it with old soft towels and blankets. Now I just wipe it out and wash and replace the bedding each week. It is easy to keep clean, and it will last forever. My little guys love it! *Cindy F.*

BUSINESS CASUAL

I work in an office with a business casual dress code. I have developed a work "uniform" that consists of only dress black pants and button-up blouses of various solid colors. I wear only black shoes and black socks. All items are no-iron, wash-and-wear items. I have two cardigans and several scarves, as well as some

simple jewelry to dress up the outfits. This saves me time when getting dressed, and every item is appropriate for the office. It also saves me money because dry cleaning is not necessary, and I only buy new work clothes when an item needs to be replaced. *JKS*

PARTY DECOR

Both of my teenage girls have a tropical themed bedroom. I found our local party supply store to be a great source of decorations for their super cool rooms that I have decorated for them. One daughter got a

"Hilfiger Hula" comforter for her birthday. It is a quilt with various red, white and blue tropical designs. I went to the party supply store and they actually had red, white, and blue tropical party ware. I bought, for a low price, a string of paper lanterns. We hung them up along one long wall and it acts just like a border to break up the white wall space. All of my friends were amazed! My other daughter has a more traditional tropical room, and for her, we bought two five-foot-tall paper palm trees. They are on the wall by her bed. They were cheap as well. Easy, cheap, and easily changed. I love it! *Kim*

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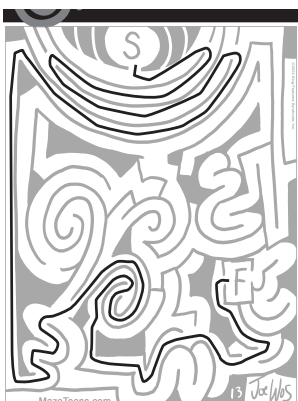
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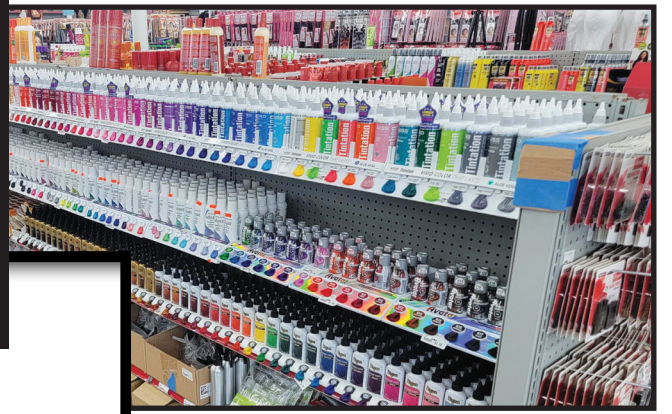
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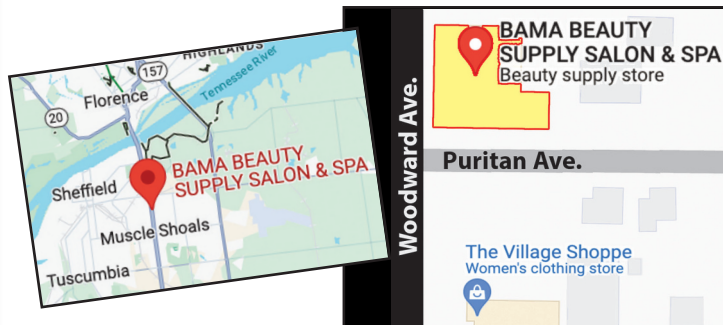
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