

## Moving Sale Discounts

MUSCLE SHOALS – Pet Supplies Plus in Southgate Mall is being forced to relocate at the end of this month. Therefore, the Muscle Shoals location is having a special Relocation Sale with up to 20% OFF select items in store. But hurry the sale ends May 25. They must pack up and move remaining inventory that is not sold.

## An Evening for Progress

THE SHOALS– The Shoals Chamber of Commerce and Bank Independent will present *Evening for Progress* on Tuesday, June 18. This is an exclusive event featuring



**Bronner**

remarks from Dr. David Bronner, CEO of the Retirement Systems of Alabama. *Evening for Progress* gets underway at 6pm in the Marriott Shoals Conference Center in Florence.

Bronner will deliver the latest updates on RSA properties, including the latest developments in the rebranding and renovations of the Marriott Shoals property. Attendees can gain valuable insights into the vision of RSA under his continued leadership.

Doors open at 5:30pm. Attendees can anticipate

See **SHORTS...** on Page 2

# Courier Journal

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*Courier Journal Perma-Note*  
For information about advertising in premium positions like this, please call 256-740-4701.

## Tops in '24

Alabama Gulf Seafood crowned a new champion recently at the 9th Annual Alabama Seafood Cook-Off held at The Wharf in Orange Beach. Chef Kyle Ogden from Odette in Florence took home the first-place prize and was deemed Alabama's top chef for 2024. Ogden and his sous chef, Taylor Bradley, will go on to compete in New Orleans later this Summer at the Great American Seafood Cook-Off against the best chefs in the nation. Below Ogden hugs Bradley at the announcement.



Photos: Billy Pope/Alabama Outdoors

Bradley, Ogden, and winning Pompano plate



Courtesy photo

Argueta

Hanback

## Two Locals Are FBLA State Officers

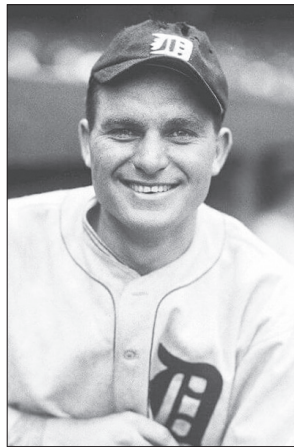
MOBILE–Over 1500 members of the Alabama chapter of Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA), a career technical student organization, gathered for the 73rd Annual State Leadership Conference recently in Mobile.

While at the conference, students from across the state competed in several events within the business career field. Students from Brooks High School qualified for the

See **FBLA...** on Page 6

## Vintage Base Ball at Manush Field

TUSCUMBIA–Tennessee Association of Vintage Base Ball will feature the Franklin Farriers vs. the Cumberland Club of Nashville on Sunday, May 19. The game will be played at Heinie Manush Field at Deshler High School in Tuscumbia. Game time is noon. Gates open at 11am. The teams play by the 1863



Heinie Manush

See **GAME....** on Page 6

## INSIDE this Issue

### Automotive Inside



Advance Auto Sales  
Landers McLarty Nissan

- Insurance Insights
- Ask the Attorney
- Your Letters
- Medicare Minute
- Puzzle Whirl

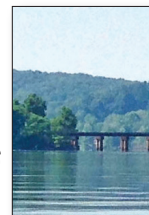
- Dave Ramsey
- Signs in Tuscumbia
- Learners: Native American Jewelry
- Strange, But True



- Hocus Focus
- Food Share Deadline
- Adopt-a-Friend
- Cat & Kids
- SIGNS of the PAST

## Online Only:

- Mystery Photo
- Alabama Outdoors
- Web Poll



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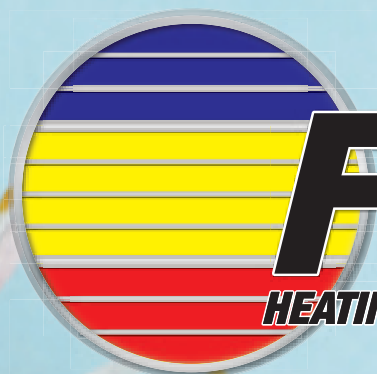
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- Check Capacitor
- Tighten Electrical Connections
- Check Condenser Cleanliness
- Check Freon Pressures and Temps
- Check T-stat Operations
- Check Indoor Blower Motor
- Clear Drains
- Check Evaporator Coil for Cleanliness
- Check Blower Motor Capacitor

1-VISIT

### PMA \$119

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

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Zeigler Bacon \$3.99 12OZ. PKG.  
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## Shorts...

### An Evening for Progress

Continued from Page 1

an evening filled with informative discussions, networking opportunities, dinner, and a chance to engage directly with Dr. David Bronner and other industry leaders. Tickets are \$100 for Chamber members and \$125 for non-members.

For more information and to reserve your seat, please visit [www.shoalschamber.com](http://www.shoalschamber.com) or contact [Alyssa Crow](mailto:Alyssa.Crow@shoalschamber.com) at [acrow@shoalschamber.com](mailto:acrow@shoalschamber.com)

### Historic Twist for Signs in Tuscumbia

TUSCUMBIA - The City of Tuscumbia will officially unveil new specially-designed street signs currently being installed in its historic district with a special unveiling ceremony on Wednesday, May 22, at 4:30pm.

The celebration of the new street signs will take place at the corner of

3rd and Dickson Streets near St. John's Episcopal Church.

Andrew Walker, chair of the Tuscumbia Historic Preservation Commission, and Mayor William Foster will officially unveil the signs, which were funded through a bond.

"I am excited to see the new signs that the City bought to be put up in the Historic District," Foster said. "The new signs will bring life to the city, and every visitor will know when they reach the Historic District. It is such an upgrade for the city and the new look will be amazing."

The specially-designed street signs will mark each intersection in the city's Historic District, which runs from Commons to Commons. The street signs are the result of a multi-year project chaired by Walker, who had the vision to mark Tuscumbia's historic district with distinct signage.

"Tuscumbia's historic district, uniquely outlined by its Commons, is truly a special place," Walker said. "Many of Tuscumbia's current street signs had fallen into disrepair," he said. "We hoped that a broad sweeping sign replacement plan would not only improve the aesthetics of the city, but also contribute to Tuscumbia's infrastructure."

"I want to especially thank former Mayor Underwood, Bo Stanley, and the city council for their support of this effort," Walker added. "We look forward to working with Joel Kendrick and Mayor Foster as we begin the installation process."

Upon completion, all street signs will be replaced in the residential historic district, both East side and West side, as it was originally laid out in 1820.

### UNA Golfers Shine at TPC

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, FL- University of North Alabama sophomore Eric Luo placed second in the Men's Individual Division, while UNA golfer Jahnvi Prakhya placed third in the Women's Individual

Division at the PGA Works in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida last week. The event was played at TPC Sawgrass, home of THE PLAYERS Championship. UNA senior Allycia Gan also participated in the event, placing 14th.

"It was an amazing round of golf and to do that on TPC Sawgrass made it even better," said men's golf coach Austin Phillips of Luo's third round. "I am very proud of Eric and how he handled the pressure."

Luo turned in a third round three-under-par 69 following a 74 and 71 in his first two rounds of the event. The sophomore from Katy, Texas finished just one stroke back of tournament winner Yuqi Liu of Michigan.

"At the end of the day, it's all about beating your score from yesterday," said Luo. "I shot a bogey free 69 and I'm proud of myself."

Prakhya finished near the top in the Women's Individual Division, jumping one spot into third place with a third round 75. Prakhya totaled 225 across three rounds.

"I'm really proud of the way Jahnvi played in this high-pressure environment," said UNA head women's golf coach Neil Self.



**NEED HELP?**  
CONTACT 2-1-1  
*Your link to community resources*



**256-764-4268**



# Yard Sales

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

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

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

**FLORENCE: YARD SALE 401 NOTTINGHAM RD** Sat. 5/18 Sun. 5/19 7-1pm Furniture, clothes, toys, and miscellaneous.

**FLORENCE: CHRIST WORLD WIDE MINISTRIES YARD SALE** 2118 Helton Dr Sat. 5/18 8-2 Household items, electronics, baby items, etc.

**FLORENCE: CARPORT SALE, RAIN OR SHINE** 2717 Douglaston Ave Sat. 18th 8 till Noon Furniture, plus sized clothes, kitchen and lots of misc.

**KILLEN: MULTIFAMILY YARD SALE** 401 Co. Rd. 424 Fri. 5/17 and Sat 5/18, 7 am Clothes of all sizes, most under \$2. Furniture, houseware, kids items, ping pong table, tools

**FLORENCE: YARD SALE** 240 Winslow Dr. Thurs. Fri. 7-2pm Sat. 7-noon Tools, collectibles, etc.

**FLORENCE 3-FAMILY YARD SALE, 301 Hawksberry Lane, Twin Oaks Sub., Sat., 7am-until?**

**FLORENCE: YARD SALE** 5295 Co. Rd. 24 Fri. Sat. starting at 7, craftsman power tools, plants, full sized bed frame with box spring, clothes, various other items.

**KILLEN: GARAGE SALE** 186 Woodfern Dr Sat. 5/18 7 am Boat, motorcycle, furniture, and lots more!

**MUSCLE SHOALS: YARD SALE** 206 W. Ford Ave Sat. 6 am until Mens' Nike tennis shoes, kids Nike clothes/shoes, furniture, toys, misc.

**FLORENCE: 3 Family estate sale.** 640 County Rd 323 (Bailey Springs Rd) Fri. May 10, Sat. May 11 8 am, Furniture, houseware, toys, clothing, hunting, outdoor projector screen, tons of cool misc. stuff.

**CARD IT!** It is easy to place your ads on our website, www.courierjournal.net. Just put it on your debit or credit card

**TUSCUMBIA MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE,** 138 Willow Dr., Sat., 7AM-3PM, NO EARLY SALES, All kinds of household goods, appliances, furniture, kid's toys, clothes, pictures, rugs, outside post lantern light, never used, and fire pit, and much more!

**ARDMORE, TN: BIG, 3-FAMILY YARD SALE** 24865 Morrow Road (Behind Country Club, Next to Dog Day Flea Market) **FRIDAY-SUN**

Glassware, Jewelry, Tools, Yard Tools, Hand Tools, Cookware, Cast Iron, Corning Wear, Pots and Pans, Fishing Stuff, Lures, Rods & reels, Gas Cans, Old Glassware, Old Tools, Cedar Chest, Old Plows, Knives, Sports Stuff, Hardware, Wheel Barrel, Old licence plates, pocket watches, books, toys, chairs, old vintage wheels and **LOTS OF NEAT STUFF!**

**FLORENCE: ESTATE SALE** 108 Old Hickory Dr. Fri. 5/17 and Sat. 5/18 8 am-2 pm Vintage items and antiques, some clothing.

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

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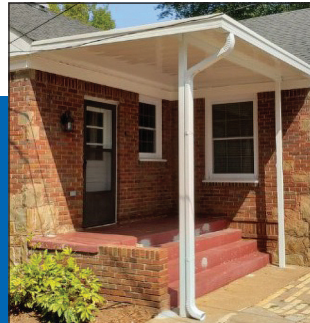
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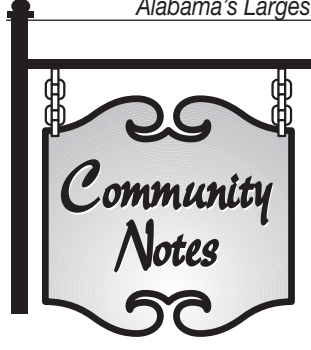


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COMMUNITY NOTES may be submitted for non-profit, civic or church-related events and published free of charge AS SPACE IS AVAILABLE in the Courier Journal. Community Notes must be submitted in writing by 3pm Friday for consideration in the following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

• Email to [editor@courierjournal.net](mailto:editor@courierjournal.net)

**Decoration Day for Harvey and James Whitehead Cemeteries** is scheduled for May 18. An association meeting will begin at 10am at Harvey Cemetery. Contributions should be made payable to Harvey Cemetery Association and may be given to any of the trustees or mailed to Karen Workman, 150 County Road 634, Rogersville, AL 35652. Trustees are: Matthew Wilson (256-762-7803), Linda White (256-247-5972), Cathy Newton (256-810-8646), Rickey Green (256-412-9263) and Karen Workman (256-810-0552).

**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.

**The Warriors of Health Ministry** at St. Mark Missionary Baptist Church will host the 3rd Annual Mental Health Awareness Forum entitled, "Understanding Senior Mental Health Issues." focusing on mental health conditions commonly seen in the senior-aged population.

The free forum is in conjunction with Mental Health Awareness Month is from 11am-1:30pm Saturday, May 18, and everyone is invited to attend. There will also be giveaways.

Discussion Topics include: Anxiety and Depression, Dementia, and Alzheimer's Disease.

Please come and learn how you can achieve mental wellness.

Speakers include Daphne Garner, M.A. Associate Licensed Counselor at Southern Wellness Mental Health Services; and Melissa Haddock, M.A. Licensed Professional Counselor and Licensed Therapist at WellStone Inc. Behavior Center-Supervisor of Geriatrics Services in four counties. St. Mark is at 220 East Alabama St, in Florence.

**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@tlpl.org](mailto:classes@tlpl.org) to sign up.

• 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 Florence Senior Center "The Club" will host a community yard sale** Saturday, May 18 from 7 - 11:30am at The Club parking lot, 450 Country Club Drive in Florence. Sell off of a table, tailgate, truck, trailer, or trunk. Bring your own table. \$10 Vendor Fee: Vendor set-up is 6:30am. Proceeds benefit Senior Center programs. Call 256-760-6420 to RSVP.

**National Rescue Dog Day** is Monday, May 20, and Florence Lauderdale Animal Services is celebrating with all adoptions being just \$20 on that day. That includes micro chip, spay or neuter, and rabies vaccines. There will be prizes, drawings, and food trucks as well. FLAS is located at 3240 Roberson Rd. in the Florence Industrial Park. 256-718-5171.

**Roots-Rock, Blues, and Americana Afternoon May 19** from 2-4pm at the Village School, 200 Chickamauga St. in Sheffield. Enjoy performances by The Gretchen Emery Band (Soul/Blues from Delaware) and The Dirty Rain Revelers (Roots-Rock/Americana, Shoals-based). This family-friendly event is open to all ages, with a suggested donation of \$10 at the door. No one will be turned away for lack of funds. Proceeds will benefit The Village School Foundation. For more information, visit [www.thevillageschoolfoundation.org](http://www.thevillageschoolfoundation.org).

**Barkley-White Cemetery** at Bluewater will have Decoration Day May 18 and 19. Please clear all old flowers off by May 15. Cemetery upkeep donations are always appreciated and can be mailed to Jonathan Newton PO Box 784 Rogersville, AL 35652

**Armstead Chapel CME Church and Pastor James Green** will host an Old School Revival and Church Anniversary M-F, May 20-24, at 6:30pm each night. Speakers include James Coffey, Michael Timberlake Jr, Dewond Malone, Trevor Crenshaw, and Ricky Cole.

A special "Singing on the Yard" will take place Saturday, May 25, from 2pm- until. Headlining - Myia B Music "Hold My Hand." Groups and individuals are encouraged to come and render a theme and two selections. Food will be available on site. Call 256-980-2656 for more information. Armstead is located at 121 Simpson St. in Florence

**The 8th Annual Show** at the O Car Show takes place at 8am Saturday, May 18 at Okolona Baptist Church, 6628 CR 236 in Town Creek. \$20 for first entry and \$10 for additional. Free to view. Please call 256-366-2380 for more information.

See NOTES... page 5

**Join Us For Our 20th Anniversary Celebration!**



**HEART'S CRY MINISTRIES**  
 II Cor. 1:3-4

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# Notes...

Continued from page 4

**The Arts Alive Festival** takes place, May 18-19 at Wilson Park in downtown Florence. Admission is free. Hours are 9am-5pm Saturday and 10am-4pm on Sunday.

**The Shoals Storytelling Festival** is Thursday through Saturday, May 16-18 at the Shoals Theatre in downtown Florence, 123 N. Seminary St. Listen to the stories, spun by a lineup of storytellers for this 13th annual event. 7-9pm on May 16 (\$20); 9am-9pm on May 17 (\$50); and 9am-5pm on May 18 (\$50). A 3-day discount pass is \$70. More details at ShoalsStorytelling.com

**The Zip City Community Center** will have a covered dish lunch and program Thursday, May 16 at 11:30am. Please bring a covered dish. Chisholm Hwy at Zip City.

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

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

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.

See NOTES... page 7

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## FBLA...

Continued from Page 1

following awards: Sophia Argueta placed 2nd in Help Desk; Jaden Frye placed 1st in Economics; Samuel Skipworth placed 4th in Insurance and Risk Management; and a dual member of Brooks and Rogers FBLA Chapters, Madilyn Hanback, placed 2nd in Client Services. Another opportunity students have at the conference is to campaign for state officer positions. Sophia Argueta, an upcoming senior at Brooks, was elected to serve as the 2024-2025 District 1 Vice President. Counties included in her district are Lauderdale, Limestone, Colbert, Lawrence, Morgan, Franklin, Marion, Winston, Cullman, and Walker.

Madilyn Hanback, an upcoming senior at Rogers, was elected to serve as the 2024-2025 Alabama FBLA State President. Madilyn has previously served in the roles as State Secretary and District 1 Vice President. She will preside over all FBLA chapters in the state of Alabama and represent the state at the National Leadership Conference during the parade of presidents.

## Game...

Continued from Page 1

rules. The most notable difference may be that there are no gloves. No admission is charged, and t-shirts and food concessions will be available.

This year's game this year is dedicated in memory of Rick "Uncle Jesse" Brewer.

Henry Emmett "Heinie" Manush was born July 20, 1901, in Tuscumbia.

Over his 17-year Major League career from 1923-1939, Manush played with Detroit, St. Louis, Washington, Boston, Brooklyn, and Pittsburgh. In his first year with Detroit, he played in 109 games, substituting for Ty Cobb. Manush career batting average of .330 is good for 35th all time in MLB history, right behind Stan Musial. Manush had 110 home runs, 1,183 runs batted in, and 2,524 hits. During four of those years, he compiled 200 hits in four of his Major League seasons. Manush led the American League in triples in 1933, led the league doubles twice (1928 and 1929), led the league in singles for three seasons (1928, 1932, and 1933) and was the American League batting champion in 1926. He also stole 113 bases. His 33 career double plays turned in left field still ranks 25th in major league history.

Following his playing days, Manush was a minor league manager, a scout for the Boston Braves, and a coach for the Washington Senators.

In 1964, Manush was the first Alabamian to be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame at Cooperstown, NY. Following his death in 1971, Manush was elected to the Alabama Hall of Fame in 1972, and to the first class of the Colbert County Sports Hall of Fame in 2000. He is a member of the Michigan and Florida Sports Halls of Fame and is on the Washington Nationals Wall of Fame.

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8:00am - 5:00pm

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

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**Florence, AL 35630**

or email to:

[editor@courierjournal.net](mailto:editor@courierjournal.net)

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

Advertisement for Happy Hollow Outdoors. Includes a logo with a deer head, a photo of the store building, and a list of products: GUNS & AMMO, HUNTING & FISHING, SIDE-BY-SIDES, ATV'S, & GOLF CARTS, CAMPING & BACKPACKING, WOMEN'S BOUTIQUE CLOTHING, WESTERN WEAR, SPORTING GOODS, HOME DECOR, AND MUCH MORE!!!. Contact info: 985 9th St W, Red Bay, AL 35582, (256) 578-1234. Social media links for Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. QR code to scan.



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## Community Notes...

Continued from page 5

**The Tennessee Valley Museum of Art** at 511 North Water Street in Tusculumbia will host a closing reception and artist talk May 17 at 6pm for "What the Night Tells the Day: An installation by Douglas Baulos. For more details, contact the Tennessee Valley Art Association at 256.383.0533 or email [tvaa@tennesseevalleyarts.org](mailto:tvaa@tennesseevalleyarts.org).

**VFW Post 5140** meets on Thursday, May 16 at 6:30pm 127 South Royal Ave. in Florence.

**Shoals Artists Guild Meeting** Friday, May 17, 10am-Noon at the Southall-Moore House, next to the Kennedy-Douglass Art Center, Downtown Florence. For more info, contact Carolyn Wear, 256-710-6854.

**The Gretchen, Emery Band and the Dirty Rain Revelers** will perform Saturday, May 18 at 7pm presented by the Village School Foundation, 200 Chickamauga St in Sheffield. Suggested donation.

**The 3rd Annual Marines Helping Marines 4 Man Scramble** Tournament will take place on May 18 at Cypress Lakes Golf & Tennis Club, 1311 East 6th St in Muscle Shoals with a shotgun start at 8:30am. This tournament benefits all veterans and the Conley Detachment #1477. Prizes include 1st Flight & 2nd Flight Winner, Closest to the Pin Contests on the Par 3's, Putting Contest, Longest Drive Contest, and a \$500 Hole in One Contest on a selected hole. The entry fee is \$400/ team, which includes Green Fee,

Cart, Range Balls, Beverages, and Lunch. Hole Sponsorships are available for \$100. For more information, contact Mike at 256-443-6779.

**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 luka, MS will be the featured guests to sing at 1:10pm. The church is located at 1135 Mhoontown Rd. in Cherokee. Everyone is welcome.

**Monday, May 20, at 6:15 p.m.** The meeting of American Legion Colbert County Memorial Post 31 will be held at the Post meeting hall located at 110 1/2 N. Main St. Tusculumbia. A stair-lift is available, if needed, to the upstairs location. A meal and program will be provided. All Veterans are invited. For more info, please call 256-762-5950.

**LifeSouth Bloodmobile Dates:** Tuesday, May 14 The Villas at Riverside,

130 River Rd., Muscle Shoals, 2pm - 7pm

**Friday, May 17** Martin's Family Clothing - Florence, 11am - 5pm

**Saturday, May 18** Walmart - Hwy 43 - Russellville, 10am - 4pm

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

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

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

**Volunteer opportunities with "Carpenter's For Christ"** will be

available Wednesday May 29 - Saturday, June 8 as they assist the Bethel Colbert Missionary Baptist Church of Leighton in completing the construction of their Community Life Center. Carpenters For Christ is a mission-oriented organization in which people can assist churches with new construction that can further the Kingdom of God. To sign up, contact Wesley Thompson at 580-695-5078 or email the church at [bethelcolbertmbc@gmail.com](mailto:bethelcolbertmbc@gmail.com).

**American Legion Post #31 is gathering items** to provide gift bags for veterans. To participate, please provide white men's socks sizes 8-12 and/or white tee shirts (XL). Deliver to Emily Cooper Studio and Art Supply Store, 108 N. Main St., Tusculumbia, Tuesday-Friday 10am-4pm. Gifts will be distributed to veterans in Colbert, Franklin, and Lauderdale counties who may not otherwise have or receive such gift items from family, who are in nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and under hospice care. For more information:

Commander Doug Hargett, 256-483-0610.

**The Full Moon Players will present "Clue,"** May 16-19 at Cypress Moon Studios on Alabama Avenue in Sheffield. Showtimes are at 7pm Thursday and Friday, May 16 and 17, 2pm and 7pm on Saturday, May 18, and 2pm on Sunday, May 19.

Inspired by the iconic 1985 Paramount movie and the classic Hasbro board game, the story unfolds in a remote mansion where six mysterious guests gather for an unusual dinner party filled with murder and blackmail. As their host turns up dead, everyone becomes a suspect.

The play is directed by Wesley Thompson and produced by Tonya Holly. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door. Tickets can be purchased at [Cypressmoonstudios.org](http://Cypressmoonstudios.org) or by calling 256-335-6961.

See NOTES... page 26

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*Dave,*  
How do you manage a situation where you feel an employee may be taking advantage of you when it comes to time off? I have one person who seems to have endless things pop up throughout the year, and she's always asking for extra time off. This year, she has already used up her paid time off (PTO), knowing she has fertility treatments scheduled later in the year that would require time off. I've always wanted my business to remain family-oriented and employee-friendly as we grew. But I'm starting to feel my heart harden, too, like she may be taking advantage of me.

Kate

Kate,  
The fact that you're conflicted about this shows you have a good heart. Team members are individuals,

not units of production. We all have unique hopes and dreams, and you should recognize and respect that. But it sounds like this particular employee also has a habit of making dumb mistakes where her time off is concerned.

I've experienced this kind of behavior from time to time as my company's grown. And as time's gone by, I've started listening to my gut to differentiate actual needs from stupidity. I try to treat other people the way I'd like to be treated, instead of just through the lens of what I want or what's good for Ramsey Solutions.

If a team member is going to make a series of bad choices, I'm going to assume at some point they don't really want to work here. You can be the nicest, sweetest person in the world and still do

dumb things that make you unemployable. But holding someone accountable for their actions doesn't mean you lack compassion.

We've had situations at my company where someone runs through their PTO, then something comes up. We evaluate the situation, and we might extend some grace and give them extra paid time off. Sometimes we might give time off, but it's unpaid. Other times, it might be out of the question to give the time off (or for the person to keep their job at that point). Every situation's different, and we decide things like that on a case-by-case basis.

Now, there's absolutely nothing wrong with this lady's desire to have a family. I think that's a great thing. But she knew these treatments were in her future when she took the other PTO. You're showing great concern and compassion for your employee, Kate, but it's almost like you want her to win more than she wants to win.

God forbid, but let's pretend this lady's husband was in a bad car wreck. She's going to need time off to help take care of him. Of

course, she gets extra PTO. No question, that deserves some grace. And if any of your other employees don't understand that or like it, they can hit the road. But that's not the case, is it? This lady had a planned life event, and she messed up her time off situation all by herself.

I think in this situation, you probably let your compassion go a little too far, and now you're having a hard time with the consequences. If it were me, I'd give this lady a little extra PTO for the treatments, but I'd also have a gentle but firm talk with her about managing time off more wisely.

There's absolutely nothing wrong with putting reasonable boundaries on compassion.

— Dave

*\*Leadership and small-business expert Dave Ramsey is CEO of Ramsey Solutions. He has authored eight national bestselling books, including EntreLeadership, and is a host of The Ramsey Show and The EntreLeadership Podcast.*

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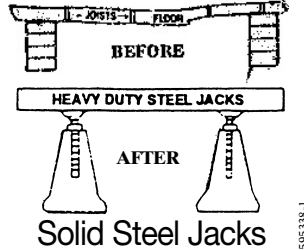
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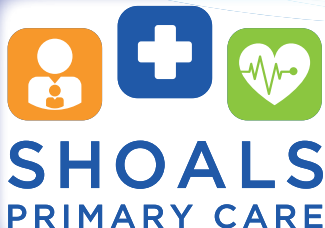
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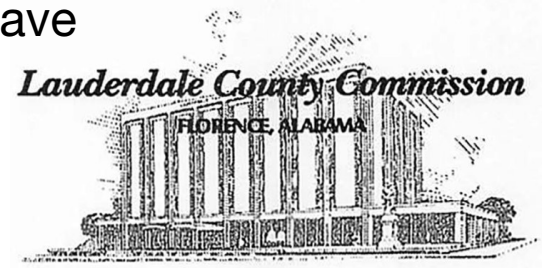
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Employment Application and WorkKeys® scores must be submitted online at <https://daikin-america.com/decat-ur-al> by Friday, May 17, 2024.

No applications, WorkKeys scores, or phone calls will be accepted at the Daikin facility.

To be eligible for employment opportunities at Daikin, candidates must successfully complete background check, fit for duty evaluation, and drug screening.

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**Sunday, May 19**

*Speaker: Wayne Barrier*

Sunday School: 9:00am  
Worship: 9:50am  
Fellowship Meal: 11:00am

A fellowship meal will follow immediately after morning services.  
There will be no Evening Service.

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# Suddenly, Lives Are in Turmoil

**D**evastating is among the few accurate descriptions for what transpired last Tuesday afternoon on Florence Blvd as David Ray Terry, 53, and Dawn Buchanan, 57, driving separate vehicles, were killed instantly through no fault of their own. Preliminary reports are that Terry was traveling westward and Buchanan eastward when a vehicle coming off Sweetwater Ave. failed to yield. Buchanan's instinctive reaction to avoid a collision caused her to lose control of her vehicle and careen across the narrow median headlong into Terry's vehicle. As of press time for this article, neither the third vehicle nor its driver has been identified.

In A Few Words



TOM MAGAZZU  
Editor

Our hearts go out to the members of these two families. It's almost impossible not to be moved by their situations. This type of thing was probably the farthest thing from their minds. The senselessness of the situation

See LIVES... on Page 24

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

# Native American Jewelry

Young Learners Get a Southwestern Flavor

FLORENCE—The Florence Indian Mound Museum's Young Learners Series will turn its attention to a program and activity about Southwestern Native American jewelry on Saturday, May 18 at 10am.

Southwestern Native American jewelry is important both historically and in the present. Jewelry has been and still is created to cherish, preserve, and share culture. There will be a short presentation on how jewelry making is

a medium used to honor and pass down customs and the history of jewelry from a few of the tribes in the Southwestern regions, specifically the Navajo (Dine'), Zuni, and Hopi people. Students will then take part an activity where they can create their own faux silver and turquoise cuffs with recycled media.

Each month, Young Learners can

See JEWELRY.... on Page 29

Young Learners  
SOUTHWESTERN  
NATIVE AMERICAN  
JEWELRY  
Saturday, May 18 10am  
Indian Mound Museum

Happening  
THIS WEEK

**THE ARTS ALIVE GALA** begins at 5:30pm Saturday, May 18 at the Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts in Florence, 217 E. Tennessee St. Tickets are \$50. View the gallery exhibit, enjoy food, and drink from local restaurants, and listen to music in the sculpture garden played by local musicians. Call 256-760-6379 for more information.

**THE SHOALS STORYTELLING FESTIVAL** is Thursday - Saturday, May 16-18 at the Shoals Theatre in downtown Florence, 123 N. Seminary St. Listen to the stories, spun by a lineup of storytellers for this 13th annual event. 7-9pm on May 16 (\$20); 9am-9pm on May 17 (\$50); and 9am-5pm on May 18 (\$50). A 3-day discount pass is \$70. More details at ShoalsStorytelling.com

# Food Share Drive Culminates Friday

SHEFFIELD - Bank Independent and its Helping Hands Foundation are wrapping up the 10th Annual Food Share Drive on Friday, May 17, so there is still time to contribute.

The drive aims to combat food insecurity and provide support to local organizations across the seven north Alabama counties served by

See FOOD.. on Page 24



**BASEBALL**  
TUES. MAY 14 • 6PM  
at Mississippi State in Starkville, MS

THUR. MAY 16 • 6PM  
SAT. MAY 18 • 2PM  
SUN. MAY 19 • 1PM  
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Visit [www.roarlions.com](http://www.roarlions.com) for full team schedules and ticket information

**THE GRETCHEN, EMERY BAND AND THE DIRTY RAIN REVELERS** will perform Saturday, May 18 at 7pm presented by the Village School Foundation, 200 Chickamauga St in Sheffield. Suggested donation.

**SENIOR MEALS** are available weekdays at 11:30am at The Club, 450 Country Club Road in Florence. \$1 donation.

## 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](mailto:editor@courierjournal.net)
- **FAX-** 256-760-9618

## Unthinkable Terror

Editor,

Last week, my wife and I watched the film documentary, Screams Before Silence. It documents the unthinkable, rapacious terror inflicted by Hamas savages upon innocent people on October 7, 2023, during a ceasefire that had been honored by Israel. The coordinated attacks took the lives of 1,143 people, including 766 civilians and 373 members of the Israeli Security Forces. Hamas also took over 250 hostages to use as bargaining chips for prisoner swaps with Israel.

Some people have been clamoring for Israel to agree to yet another ceasefire to end the

violence. As I said in the previous paragraph, Israel was attacked during a ceasefire, so it makes no sense for Israel to participate in another ceasefire which would merely give Hamas more time to regroup. Hamas must be completely destroyed, and their actions must be avenged, not by Israel attacking

...These rich kids had silver spoons in their mouths all of their sorry lives...



innocent civilians in Gaza, but by Israel neutralizing each and every person, from the lowest to the highest ranking of the terrorists, who had anything at all to do with these beastly attacks.

This film should be required viewing on all college campuses in this country and elsewhere, so that Hamas' savagery can be fully understood by those who still believe that innocent Israelis were the bad guys here. Israeli citizens are like citizens of all countries everywhere. They just want to live their lives in peace.

[www.screamsbeforesilence.com](http://www.screamsbeforesilence.com)

Kerry Shapiro  
Florence

More LETTERS...on Page 22



# Cat & Kids

by Cathy Turner

## Worthy

*Writer's note: I shared these words in a talk that I gave recently. These words are only one thought in an hour-long presentation. I will save the other thoughts for another time. I share these with you, because You. Are. Worthy.*

There is a rumor going around that some of you out there feel that you are not worthy. In an audience this size there is probably a good percentage of you that don't feel like you are worthy of love or loving yourself. Well, I have some thoughts about that, and I have read some about that. You don't feel worthy. Well, if you feel unworthy, you are right - we are undeserving. But there is God's grace. God's grace personified is Jesus Christ. Your God loves you enough that He gave His only begotten Son. While we were yet sinners, Christ died for us. That is grace. That is God's love - God's deep, abiding, giving love.

God loves me and you because He made us. We are His creation and that is why He loves us. We are handmade by God. And He is proud of His creation! He is proud of you, and He is proud of me. He made us and He knows what He is doing. You are not a mistake or a second thought, ignorant, or worthless! You are His. He made you, so whenever you think that you are worthless, you need to simply replace that thought with this thought, "Thank you Lord."

We need to realize that God thinks that we are good stuff - worth the price of His Son - and say, "Thank you, Lord for making me, for giving me a way to gain salvation, for sustaining me." ♪"I'm so glad God gave me strong legs so I can run on the track," ♪ Clap! Clap! That is a song that the elementary children used to sing in P.E. at Mars Hill Bible School. ♪"I'm so glad God gave me

strong legs so I can run on the track!" ♪ Clap, Clap! While they were running their quarter mile they would sing that little diddy. We need to be thankful for everything, like those little children. We need not to treat our very being like we treat every compliment that is handed to us. Someone says, "Oh Cathy, I like your dress." And I respond, like you have, "Oh, this old thing, I bought it at the 5 and Dime for \$2. JUST SAY, "THANK YOU!" We discount God's creation all the time - Someone says, "Wow, your kiddo is so smart," and you say, "Oh, he gets it from his father." They say, "You are such a good organizer," and you say, "I was just helping Tonya. She's really the one that knows how to do everything..." They say, "You should lead the Ladies Class," - you say, "Oh, I don't think so. I am not ready to..." Just say, "Thank you!" And do it!

Stop doubting, stop being afraid. God is for you! When God says, "I love you. I made you. I have things for you to do." We just need to say, "Thank you, Lord," and accept that we are valuable to Him. God does 1000s of things each day to show us our value to Him! He feeds us (He doesn't have to!); He gives us sleep (He doesn't have to!); He gives us air (He doesn't have to!); He holds our bodies and this planet together; He gave His Son! (He didn't have to!) We need to accept that we are worthy! What more does He need to do to prove to us that He loves us? And what can make us feel more worthy than the love of God?

Just say, "Thank you, Lord!"  
 Email comments or suggestions to [CatnKids1@gmail.com](mailto:CatnKids1@gmail.com)

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<p><b>Corona Or Corona Light BEER</b> 12 Pk. Cans Or Btl.</p> <p><b>\$17.49</b></p>	<p><b>Budweiser Or Bud Light BEER</b> 24 Pk. 16 Oz. Cans</p> <p><b>\$27.99</b></p>
<p><b>Woodbridge WINE</b> 1.5 Liters</p> <p><b>\$11.99</b></p>	<p><b>Yellow Tail WINE</b> 1.5 Liters</p> <p><b>\$11.99</b></p>

**Not Available At All Locations!**

**AD GOOD MAY 15-21, 2024**

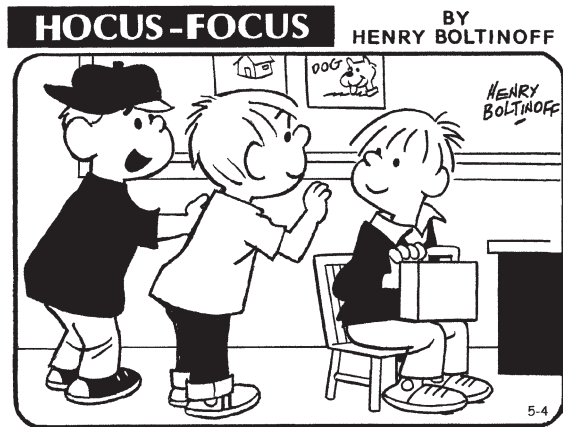
**Prices Good At These Locations ONLY!**



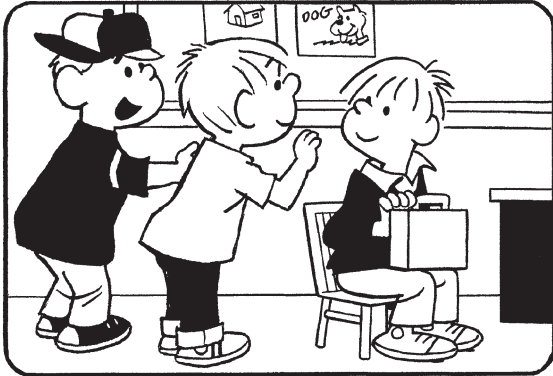
Pick up a copy of this ad in a **Courier Journal** at our store OR go online to **Foodlandgrocery.com**

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

- TUSCUMBIA** 103 West 1st Street • 7am-11pm • 256-383-9425
- FORD CITY FOODLAND** River Road • 7am-10pm • 256-446-5842
- ELGIN CROSSROADS** ELGIN Forest Plaza • 7am-11pm • 256-247-1958
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Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Desk is moved. 2. Chairboard isn't as wide. 3. Stripe is added to sleeve. 4. Cap is different. 5. Chair rung is higher. 6. Sneakers are different.

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Finished Driveways, Sidewalks, Porches, Curbs, Steps, Foundations, Bobcat Work, 30 years experience, FREE Estimates. Call 256-633-8643 or 256-577-1823

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Tree Trimming and Removal  
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**AUDI: A3, 2015 \$17,950.** TDI, Premium Plus model. Only 53k miles, diesel, white... heated leather, navigation, sunroof, driver assist package, just serviced. Exceptional condition! 256-527-2125



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Painting, drywall repair, minor electrical repairs, pressure washing, plumbing, bathroom remodeling, deck building, wood rot repair, floor refinishing, gutter cleaning, and more!

**GMC: 1500, 2014 \$23,000.** 4 door extended cab SLE 5.3 Liter Auto Trans 68000 Miles color Stealth Grey Black Fabric interior To much to list more options on truck to list. More truck than I need Now Call 931-215-3812

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\*\*\*\*\*  
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Full Restaurant Repair • LED Lighting

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**5.50 %** APY\*

ON BALANCES UP TO AND INCLUDING \$25,000 IF QUALIFICATIONS ARE MET

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Earning is really easy! Enrollments must be in place and all of the following transactions and activities must post and settle to your Kasasa Cash account during each Monthly Qualification Cycle:

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**Qualification Information:** To earn your rewards, the following enrollments must be in place and all transactions and activities must post and settle to your Kasasa Cash account during each Monthly Qualification Cycle. At least 1 ACH credit or ACH payment transaction(s). At least 15 debit card purchases. Be enrolled in and have agreed to receive e-statements rather than paper statements. Be enrolled in and log into online banking. Maintain a valid email address on record with our bank. \*Account transactions and activities may take one or more days to post and settle to the account and all must do so during the Monthly Qualification Cycle in order to qualify for the account's rewards. "Monthly Qualification Cycle" means a period beginning one (1) banking day prior to the first day of the current statement cycle through one (1) banking day prior to the last business day of the current statement cycle. See our website or contact one of our branch service representatives for specific Monthly Qualification Cycle dates. **Reward Information:** When your Kasasa Cash account qualifications are met during a Monthly Qualification Cycle, daily balances up to and including \$25,000 in your Kasasa Cash account earn an interest rate of 5.50% resulting in an APY of 5.50%, and daily balances over \$25,000 earn an interest rate of 0.05% on the portion of the daily balance over \$25,000, resulting in a range from 5.50% to 0.50% APY depending on the account's daily balance. When your Kasasa Cash qualifications are not met, the interest rate earned on the account's entire average daily balance will be 0.05% resulting in an annual percentage yield of 0.05%. Interest will be credited to your Kasasa Cash account on the last day of the current statement cycle. APY = Annual Percentage Yield. APYs accurate as of 04/04/2024. Rates, rewards, and bonuses, if any, are variable and may change after account is opened; rates may change without notice to you. No minimum balance is required to earn or receive the account's rewards. Rewards less than a penny cannot be distributed. Fees may reduce earnings. **Additional Information:** Account approval, conditions, qualifications, limits, timeframes, enrollments, log-ons and other requirements apply. \$50 minimum deposit is required to open the account. There are no recurring monthly maintenance charges or fees to open or close this account. Advertisements and rewards are based on all account qualifications being met during each cycle period. Contact one of our bank service representatives for additional information, account details, restrictions, reward calculations, processing limitations, cycle dates and enrollment instructions. Member FDIC. **Trademarks:** Kasasa and Kasasa Cash are trademarks of Kasasa, Ltd., registered in the U.S.A.

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Complete mowing, hedge/shrub trimming, sod, irrigation, sprinkler system service, retaining walls, flower bed maintenance, mulching decorative rock.  
**-Free Estimates-  
Call Antonio 256-284-5590**

# ASK THE ATTORNEY



**Thomas McCutcheon**

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

## IF YOU ARE HURT IN AN ACCIDENT

If you are hurt tell a doctor or medical provider. Do what they ask you to do. If that means taking medicine or going to physical therapy, then take the medicine and go to physical therapy. If you don't, you can't really say you did everything you could to be fully healed. If you don't do everything you could to be better, then a jury could think

that maybe you could be better than you are and hold that against you. It creates an issue that can be avoided.

DON'T post on social media.

DO get photos of the vehicles.

People believe they know how the legal system works, but they don't. People tend to think that what they believe happened will be accepted as fact. It will not be. People lose rear-end collision cases! Hire a good lawyer with experience and do it quickly. We are finding more and more video from stores, dashcams, and doorbell cameras but you have to be quick, or they are gone.

Just because you think the other party is at-fault does not mean the insurance company or their lawyers agree. They do not and will not. There is always a defense, every single time.

If you want to tough it out physically, that's fine, but if you continue to have problems after a couple of weeks, you better go tell a doctor or tell us. We are here to help.

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



**MCCUTCHEON & HAMNER**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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

facebook: McCutcheon and Hamner, P.C.

We will not print your full name in the article. We will not be able to return any written or preprinted items which are submitted.

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



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

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



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**256-648-5710**

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

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

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PRICES VALID: MAY 15 THRU MAY 21, 2024



1.49  
LB

Whole Boston Butt Pork Roast

3.99  
LB

Whole Boneless Beef Brisket

14 Oz. Bag Dole Classic Coleslaw **2/\$4**

13 Oz. Marzetti Slaw Dressing **4.99**

30-32 Oz. Select Varieties Reser's Salads **4.49**

1 Lb. Pkg. Zarda Baked Beans **4.49**

3 Lb. Pkg. In Husk Bi-Color Sweet Corn **12/\$3 EARS** **LIMIT 12**

3 Pk. Idaho Baking Potatoes **2.99**

USDA Choice Grade

6 Pk./ .5 Liter Bottles Select Varieties Pepsi Products **3/\$10**

WHEN YOU BUY 3 OR \$5.49 EACH

5-5.8 Oz. Select Varieties Ruffles Potato Chips **2.49**

WHEN YOU BUY 3 OR \$7.75 EACH

8-15.4 Lb. Select Varieties Royal Oak Charcoal **6.99**

8 Ct. Hamburger or Hot Dog Best Choice Buns **3/\$5**

20 Lb. Bag Select Varieties Royal Oak Wood Pellets **2/\$10**

8-15.4 Lb. Select Varieties Royal Oak Charcoal **6.99**

BUY 1, GET 1 FREE!

3.99

California Strawberries

Georgia Blueberries

TRUCKLOAD Sale!

WHILE SUPPLIES LAST!

<p>SAVE \$5.00 EACH</p>  <p>USDA Inspected Standard Pride 73% Lean, Fresh Ground Beef</p> <p style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; color: white; border: 2px solid red; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px;">2.99 LB</p> <p style="font-size: 10pt; color: red;">SOLD IN 5 LB. CHUB FOR \$14.95 EACH</p>	<p>4 LB. BAG</p> <p>SAVE \$2.00 EACH</p> <p>5 LB. BAG</p>  <p style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; color: white; border: 2px solid red; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px;">7.99</p> <p>Individually Quick Frozen Chicken Wings</p> <p style="font-size: 10pt; color: red;">Either or</p> <p>Individually Quick Frozen Boneless Skinless Chicken Breast</p>
<p>SAVE \$11.96</p>  <p>6 Pk./ .5 Liter Bottles Select Varieties Coca-Cola Products</p> <p style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; color: white; border: 2px solid red; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px;">4/\$12</p> <p style="font-size: 10pt; color: red;">WHEN YOU BUY 4 OR \$5.99 EACH</p>	<p>SAVE \$1.30</p>  <p>24 Pk./ .5 Liter Bottles Niagara Drinking Water</p> <p style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; color: white; border: 2px solid red; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px;">5/\$11</p>
<p>SAVE \$3.00 LB.</p>  <p>Family Pack USDA Inspected Boneless Beef Rib Eye Steaks</p> <p style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; color: white; border: 2px solid red; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px;">7.99 LB</p>	<p>SAVE \$2.00</p>  <p>Seedless Watermelons</p> <p style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; color: white; border: 2px solid red; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px;">3.99 EA</p>
<p>SAVE \$3.00</p>  <p>20 Lb. Bag Russet Potatoes</p> <p style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; color: white; border: 2px solid red; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px;">4.99</p>	<p>SAVE 61¢</p>  <p>Bunch Collard or Turnip Greens</p> <p style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; color: white; border: 2px solid red; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px;">88¢ PER BUNCH</p>
<p>SAVE \$1.00 LB.</p>  <p>Fresh Pig's Feet</p> <p style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; color: white; border: 2px solid red; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px;">99¢ LB</p> <p style="font-size: 10pt; color: red;">SOLD IN 30 LB. BOX FOR \$29.70 EACH</p>	<p>SAVE 50¢ LB.</p>  <p>Hormel Always Tender Pork Spare Ribs</p> <p style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; color: white; border: 2px solid red; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px;">1.49 LB</p>
<p>SAVE \$2.00</p>  <p>128 Oz. Best Choice Vegetable Oil</p> <p style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; color: white; border: 2px solid red; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px;">7.99</p>	<p>SAVE \$3.00</p>  <p>12 Ct., In-Store Spring Cupcakes</p> <p style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; color: white; border: 2px solid red; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px;">6.99</p>
<p>SAVE \$1.49</p>  <p>5 Lb. Bag Select Varieties White Lily Cornmeal or Flour</p> <p style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; color: white; border: 2px solid red; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px;">2/\$6</p>	<p>SAVE \$1.00</p>  <p>28 Oz. Rich's Double Layer Coconut Cake</p> <p style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; color: white; border: 2px solid red; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px;">6.99</p>
<p>SAVE \$2.00</p>  <p>23-25 Oz. Select Varieties Kingsford Seasonings</p> <p style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; color: white; border: 2px solid red; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px;">4.99</p>	<p>SAVE \$1.70</p>  <p>18 Oz. Original or Honey Kraft BBQ Sauce</p> <p style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; color: white; border: 2px solid red; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px;">79¢</p>
<p>SAVE \$2.00</p>  <p>12 Roll Scott Bath Tissue or 6 Roll Paper Towels</p> <p style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; color: white; border: 2px solid red; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px;">3.99</p>	<p>SAVE \$2.00</p>  <p>128 Oz. Select Varieties Purex Laundry Detergent</p> <p style="font-size: 24pt; font-weight: bold; color: white; border: 2px solid red; border-radius: 50%; padding: 5px;">7.99</p>

SELECTION MAY VARY BY STORE. LIMITED TO STOCK ON HAND. THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING.

Store Location | 1421 N. Wood Ave, Florence, AL • 256-284-2048

We Reserve The Right To Correct Printing Errors, None Sold To Dealers, Quantity Rights Reserved. Items May Not Be Available In All Stores.

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**STEHL TOW DOLLY**, used approximately 3 times, Like New, \$1,200, Great for motor homes, Call 256-810-1950

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Will come to kitty's home, fill bowls, scoop litter, give meds, scratch ears, 256-412-6982

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Sunrooms, all flooring painting, interior, exterior, windows & doors, drywall finishing, re-finishing, hanging, kitchens, bathrooms, vinyl siding, porches, All Handyman.  
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**FORD: FUSION SEL, 2012**  
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Call for Free Estimate, Brent Hill 256-648-7147 or Josh Steele 256-275-5392

**BUICK: LACROSSE, 2014, LOW** miles, navigation system, sacrifice first \$11,995, 256-710-8927 Killen

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Sonsie Now Available for Readings/Sessions  
**938-221-4745**

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

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**CADILLAC: SRX, 2015 \$17,950.** SRX Performance edition, one owner, only 71k miles, navigation, sunroof, premium factory wheels, Michelin tires, 2 keys, exceptional condition. 256-527-2125

**BUICK: ENCLAVE, 2009 \$9,950.** CXL model. Only 89k miles. Leather, 3rd row seating, rearview camera, power lift gate, just serviced including new brakes. Super clean, must see! 256-527-2125

**MANSELL ROOFING**, Discounts to Veterans and Seniors. All Work Guaranteed. Free Estimates, 256-383-3218

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**THE GRAY SISTERS**

**DEBUT SINGLE FROM MONA B**

**WITH TUNES BY DJ Dust**

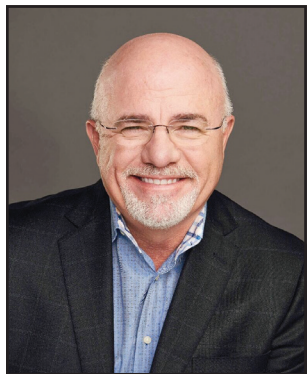
**MAY 26, 2024 3:00PM**

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

**MARRIOTT**

# DAVE Says

by DAVE RAMSEY



me coming out, but if I had to choose between paying for more education and paying for big weddings, I'm going to pay for school every time. Besides, there's no correlation whatsoever between the size and/or cost of a wedding, and the happiness and success of the marriage. Good luck, Cedric!  
—Dave

### NOT MUCH TO WORRY ABOUT

*Dear Dave, My husband and I have our emergency fund account in the same bank as our checking and savings accounts. Do you think we should move the emergency fund to a different bank? A friend suggested doing this, but I wasn't clear on why he thought this.*  
Shari

*Dear Shari, Honestly, I wouldn't worry about it too much if I were you. The only exception to that might be if you had loans you owed to that same bank.*

Some commercial loan documents give banks the right to take money out of your accounts—without your permission—to pay the loan. This isn't a common practice, and it usually doesn't happen unless someone gets way behind on a loan. If you had a car loan with a particular bank, for instance, I wouldn't keep a lot of money in that bank.

But in your situation, Shari, I think everything's fine.

—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.*

### WHICH COMES FIRST?

*Dear Dave, My wife and I have three young daughters. Is there a Baby Step for weddings? We didn't see one in your plan, but I was wondering if it was included in any of the other Baby Steps.*  
Cedric

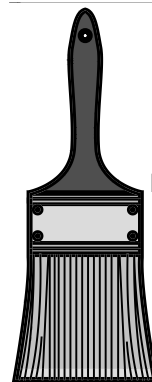
your kids. Maybe you could look at it as Baby Step 5b. Once you have retirement, education savings and extra house payments underway, you could start putting aside a little something for weddings.

Don't get me wrong, weddings are special. You absolutely should mark these kinds of milestones with a celebration. But a wedding is only a one-day event. And to be blunt, a good education is more important than a fancy wedding. This idea may not make me popular with some folks, but it's the truth.

Maybe this is the dad in

*Dear Cedric, This is a really good question. I'm glad you're thinking about the future and planning accordingly.*

*I don't have a specific Baby Step for weddings. If I did, it would probably come after Baby Step 5, which is setting aside a college—or trade school fund—for*



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## Letters...

Continued from Page 12

### TVA a Prime Candidate

Editor:

This month we again witnessed destructive forces of nature fueled by climate change. Dangerous storms and flooding in the heart of oil country symbolize the link between fossil fuel emissions and global warming.

*Times Daily* featured "Attribution Science" that tries to make fossil fuel companies pay for the billions in damage they are causing.

The far right (wrong) MAGA crowd denies the scientific reality of climate change and investments needed to protect the planet.

Advanced nuclear power holds promise as a dispatchable, carbon-free technology. The Biden administration wants the United States to triple the global supply of nuclear power, with American-designed reactors

running on fuel enriched in the West. This would usurp Russia's near monopoly on atomic energy exports and keep China from gaining control of yet another green energy industry.

Both large and smaller reactors make financial sense and produce electricity cheaper than many wind and solar sites. Given the time and expense to build nuclear reactors, utilities are reluctant to undertake the risks and large-scale financing.

This is where the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) can once again make history. It is designed to deploy large-scale infrastructure that the market deems risky, thus making TVA a unique candidate for building reactors to drive down the cost.

But the financing required shows up on the federal balance sheet and becomes political.

Former President Trump pitched breaking up the TVA and selling off its parts. He is signaling that intent again. It is vital our

representatives in Washington strengthen the TVA.

**Dan Waterman**  
Killen

### Don Not Oz or a Leader

To the Editor,

I write again after reading a letter from Tom House, May 1 Issue, "MAGA Fools, Hamas Thugs." This letter made me think back to how the MAGA movement started. MAGA, Make America Great Again, got my mind working. When did America stop being great? When Don Trump said so? The Don is not the great and powerful Oz. Nor is Don a leader, Don Trump is a con man more akin to PT Barnum of Ringling Brothers Circus fame.

Don Trump was the heir of his daddy's massive fortune, much like some of these southern boys and girls who inherited fortunes from their mommies and

daddies. Most have never done a hard day's work. Most own a business that was gifted to them, and most have no work ethic or know the meaning of a hard day's work.

These rich kids had silver spoons in their mouths all of their sorry lives. Now, they thrive on people who have worked hard jobs to support their families. They taught their children the meaning of going to work every day, to work to the best of their ability and be proud of the United States of America. Those kids that learned to work hard from their parents went on to serve in the military, the same military that Don "bone spur" Trump was too good to serve in. Those kids that Don Trump called "losers and suckers."

Well, Don and MAGA acolytes, MAGA was a dream of a corrupt and lawless man, born with a silver spoon in his mouth. Three times married and a con man that sold his sucker followers into his con. Now he sells Bibles. Don Trump has never read a book in his life, let alone the Bible. His is a con man that has convinced a few poor souls to send him \$5 a week. He convinced these suckers and losers to let their children go hungry so Don Trump and entertain his wealthy friends.

Readers, America never stopped being great. Not because of these spoiled rich kids, but because of those like me who worked hard all of their lives, provided for their families, and taught their children to be kind, understanding and patriotic citizens. America is and always will be the greatest country in the world that enjoys the freedoms that many, many Americans died for. Those brave Americans were never suckers and losers. I think that Bone Spur Don is the loser here.

Please vote. That is the greatest freedom we have, the right to vote. Our elections have never been rigged and stolen. That was a line of a failed and sorry FORMER leader, and hopefully that loser goes to Oz where they believe in smoke and mirrors.

Larry J. Smith  
Florence

### Overcomers?

Editor:

We are blessed to live in The Shoals area, where there is a Body of Believers on nearly every corner. Considering all these established Christian organizations here in the Bible Belt, I ask this: why are multitudes of believers among the patients filling medical office waiting rooms, cancer centers, etc. in addition to having numerous mental health and addiction issues? Some of these are even members of my own family and church family.

Aren't followers of Christ supposed to be overcomers? Where is the total victory paid for by His bodily suffering, through terrible beatings and then crucifixion?

Consider this: Is it possible that we have disobeyed Him? Are we ignoring a critical part of our personal walk with our Lord, one that is able to eliminate sin's sickening effects? One main key to overcoming is found as we honor the Feast of Unleavened Bread (which lasts 7 days, beginning at Passover). Did you observe it last week?

This Feast is not just a ritual done by Jewish people – it is for ALL believers, stated in scripture to be acknowledged forever (Lev. 23). It's an essential principle established by our Creator because He knew we would all need an appointed time to purge body, soul and

spirit of leaven (or yeast). Remember how Yahshua (Jesus, in Greek) even taught in His parable lessons that sin was like leaven, which can permeate our whole being and tends to "raise" us up above others?

Honoring Yah (God) by keeping this Feast can catapult believers forward in our holy walk with Him, bringing Him glory as we overcome ALL sinfulness. So we should have taken this past God-ordained week, known as Feast of Unleavened Bread, quite seriously. Repent if you did not! Disobedience is rebellion.

Samuel the prophet stated, "Rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft (sorcery)." To rebel is the Greek word pharmakea – sounds like pharmacy, doesn't it? In other words, rebellion can cause all blessings of health to be blocked, sending us to the pharmacy!

Constantly battling sickness is not Yah's perfect will for us. "Beloved, I wish above ALL things that you prosper and be in health, even as your soul prospers." (3 John 2) Another translation states, "Dear friend, I pray that you may prosper in every way and be in good health physically just as you are spiritually."


Let's obey and keep ALL His Feasts, just as He intended, so that each member of His Body will be a glorious example of overcoming!

Debra Barnes  
Florence

# Dr. Zaman Shah

at  
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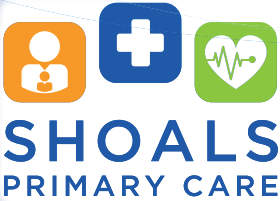
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# Medicare Minute

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Medicare supplements, also known as Medigap policies, are designed to help cover some or all of the deductibles, copays and coinsurance that Original Medicare does not cover. Medigap policies are sold through private insurance companies.

In Alabama these insurance companies can sell you only a "standardized" policy identified by a letter, such as Plan G. The most common supplemental plans in Alabama are Plans A, B, F, G and N. The term "standardized" means that Medicare requires all plans with a particular letter to have the same basic benefits regardless of the company selling it. For example, a Plan G with one company has to have the exact basic benefits as Plan G with every other company selling it.

Two things to keep in mind when shopping for a Medigap policy. First is the premium. Different insurance companies can charge different premiums for the exact same policy. This means you could pay more for your Medigap policy from one company than you would from other companies offering the same basic benefits. It's a good idea to check with someone who can show you the premiums from several companies to be sure you're getting the best premium for your coverage.

The second thing to keep in mind is the type of Medigap policy you are looking at. Some companies offer a Medicare SELECT policy. SELECT policies may require you to use a defined network of providers to receive full coverage, meaning you may not have full coverage from a provider even though the provider accepts Medicare. A standard Medigap policy will allow you to go to any provider that accepts Medicare. If you are not sure about the type of Medigap policy you are looking at, or its premium, you can contact or come by our office for help.

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



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## Commentary Lives...

Continued from Page 12

also must amplify the anguish. Such tragedies often remind us that health and life are precious. Don Henley's 1989 song, "In a New York Minute," captures the essence of how everything can change in an instant. We can't take any aspect of life for granted.

The families will have a lot of spiritual and emotional support from family, friends, and coworkers. As the weeks and months pass, the reality of their losses will deepen. They will need the continued prayers and emotional support of our community.

The third party in this tragedy will also need our prayers, probably for a much longer time. If that person has a degree of character, he/she has to be terrified of the future and emotionally tormented about what happened much more than we can imagine.

Anyone who saw the accident or who may know something is encouraged to call 256-760-6561.

## Food...

Continued from Page 12

the bank. Community members can make monetary donations and those donations will stay in your local communities through the Foundation's partners. An Amazon Wishlist has also been set up for each partner and those items be shipped directly to them.

"Fighting food insecurity in our local community has long been a priority for Bank Independent," said Macke Mauldin, President and CEO of BancIndependent. "The charities we partner with provide essential assistance to families experiencing hardship. With the backing of our communities, these organizations can have a profound impact on improving the lives of those they support."

By partnering with local organizations, the

bank ensures that the collected donations are distributed to families in need within their community. These partner organizations include the Help Center of Florence, Franklin County DHR, The Meal Barrel Project, Limestone County DHR, Neighborhood Christian Center, Manna House in Huntsville, and the Downtown Rescue Mission.

"Each year we come together as a community to collect food donations for local families in need," Bank Independent Community Engagement Leader, Hallie Mauldin, said. "As little as a \$5 donation can go a long way in helping our partners keep their shelves stocked with necessities."

To give monetarily or to see the Amazon Wishlist, please visit [www.hhfal.org](http://www.hhfal.org).

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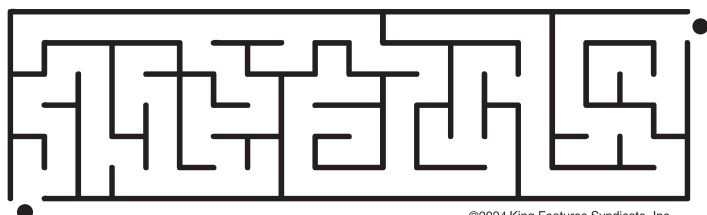
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### Kids' Maze



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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. What Cy Young did   | ___ T ___ | Salt measurement    | ___ N ___ |
| 2. Architect's drawing | D ___     | Call it quits       | R ___     |
| 3. Mansion             | ___ N ___ | Army officer        | ___ J ___ |
| 4. Cost                | ___ C ___ | Group of lions      | ___ D ___ |
| 5. Political trip      | ___ T     | Rundown car         | ___ R     |
| 6. Playful mammal      | O ___     | Speak               | U ___     |
| 7. Bewilder            | ___ R     | Noah's dilemma      | ___ D     |
| 8. Need for food       | ___ G ___ | Orion, e.g.         | ___ T ___ |
| 9. Postage sticker     | ___ T ___ | Mischief-maker      | ___ C ___ |
| 10. Get rid of         | ___ V ___ | TV operation device | ___ T ___ |

### WORD LADDERS

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

RACER

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

WAFER

## Puzzle Whirl

### MINI SUDOKU

1	3			
		6		3
	6		2	
				4
	4			3
		1	4	

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 32

# STRANGE but TRUE

• **Pass the Beano!** In Japan, they used to hold contests to see who could fart the longest and loudest. The winner received a prize and high honors.

• **Leeches** have 32 brains.

• **In June 2017, a tire shop** in Fort Worth, Texas, was robbed so often that the owner bought a guard dog. But that didn't solve the problem -- the next time the shop was robbed, the intruders stole the dog!

• **Native Americans planted** "Three Sisters"-- corn, beans and squash -- together for their mutual benefit. Corn provided a structure for the beans to climb, beans provided nitrogen to the soil, and squash spread along the ground, preventing the growth of weeds.

• **PayPal once accidentally** credited a man with \$92 quadrillion.

• **"Highway hypnosis"** is a mental state where a person can drive a vehicle great distances while responding to external events in a safe and correct manner, but with no recollection of having consciously done so.

• **Andrew Myrick, a storekeeper** on a Minnesota Native American reservation, allegedly suggested that starving natives eat grass. While the quote's validity has been debated, he was notably found dead on the first day of the Dakota War of 1862 with grass stuffed in his mouth.

• **The average man** spends about one year of his life staring at women.

• **A tattoo needle** doesn't actually inject ink. It's just

coated with pigment and your skin absorbs the color via capillary action.

• **Forget "hair of the dog"** -- a banana milkshake sweetened with honey is one of the best ways to cure a hangover. The banana helps calm the stomach while the honey builds up depleted blood sugar levels.

• **If you sign up for the National Do Not Call Registry**, anyone who places a sales call to your number can be fined up to \$40,654 per call.

• **Asian hair** grows 30% faster than Caucasian hair.

• **The rainbow eucalyptus tree** sheds strips of bark as it grows, revealing a green inner layer that changes color over time, taking on vibrant blue, purple and orange hues.

• **Java junkies, did you know that when coffee spread** from Arabia to Europe, some people called it a "Muslim drink" and wanted it banned? Fortunately, it became widely accepted when the Pope tried a cup and liked it enough to declare it a Christian beverage.

• **In much of the U.S.** it is illegal to buy a new car directly from the manufacturer.

• **Japanese scientists successfully created** an MRI machine that can record dreams and reconstruct them for you to watch while you're awake.

• **In 1818, the U.S. began building a fort** near the New York-Quebec border to defend against invasions from Canada. After two years they realized the fort was actually on the Canadian side. The abandoned project was

appropriately named Fort Blunder.

• **Blue-eyed people** have the highest rate of alcohol dependence.

• **Football player Ronaldinho Gaucho** lost a \$750,000 deal with Coca-Cola simply by taking a sip from a Pepsi.

• **The fastest any human has ever traveled** was during the re-entry of the Apollo 10 module, at a maximum speed of 24,830 miles per hour, or 7 miles per second.

• **If you can convince yourself that you slept well last night**, even though you didn't, your brain will be tricked into thinking you aren't tired. It's called "placebo sleep."

• **When an astronaut working on the International Space Station** needed a tool he didn't have, NASA came to the rescue by designing one with computer software and emailing the file to him. He then used a 3D printer to create the first object ever designed on Earth but made in space.

• **Studies show that the human brain** remains half-awake when sleeping in a new environment for the first time.


• **Just before WWII**, the U.S. created the Logan Bar, a chocolate bar that deliberately tasted "a

little better than a boiled potato," as an emergency ration to prevent soldiers from snacking on it outside of emergency situations.

• **Too much grape soda** will make your poop turn blue.

• **A shopping mall in China** offers "husband storage" pods, where wives and girlfriends can leave their partners while they shop. Each pod is equipped with a TV, a gaming console and a leather massage chair.

*Thought for the Day: "A wise man can learn more from a foolish question than a fool can learn from a wise answer." -- Bruce Lee*  
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# Community Notes...

Continued from page 7

**Kids to Park Day** is Saturday, May 18 at 10am, Deibert Park, corner Darby Drive and Cox Creek Parkway in Florence.

**The Lauderdale County, the Solid Waste Department** and the Lauderdale County Landfill will be closed Saturday-Monday, May 25-27 for the Memorial Day holiday. All operations will resume on May 28 with commercial and residential garbage collections running one day late.

**Tennessee Association of Vintage Base Ball** will feature the Franklin Farriers vs. the Cumberland Club of Nashville on Sunday, May 19 at Heinie Manush Field at Deshler High School in Tusculmbia. Game time is noon. Gates open at 11am. The teams play by the 1863 rules. The most notable difference may be that there are no gloves. No admission is charged. T-shirts and food concessions will be available.

This year's game this year is dedicated in memory of Rick "Uncle Jesse" Brewer.

**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!

**Florence Camerata, a popular local community choral group,** will resume rehearsals on Thursday, May 23, at the UNA choral room from 6:30-8pm. Rehearsals will be held each Thursday until the concert week - on Tuesday, July 16, at First Cumberland Presbyterian

Church 2422 Darby Drive in Florence. It will feature American composers, and will be happening the week before Handy Fest begins. For more information, please call 256-810-9512.

**Margerum Community Church** is having Homecoming/Military Tribute/117th Anniversary on May, 26 at 9:30am. Lunch will be served following the service. The church is located at 2460 Margerum Rd in Cherokee. Everyone is welcome to join us for this celebration.

**The Lexington Senior Center** will host a Swamp John's Dinner Tuesday, May 14 from 4-7pm. Your choice of shrimp, fish, or chicken. Meal includes

slaw, fries, dessert, and drink. \$15 per plate. Proceeds go for center expenses.

**May 27 at 11am - The annual Memorial Day program** to honor those who paid the supreme sacrifice for our country will be held on the lawn of the Colbert County Courthouse, Main St., Tusculmbia. The speaker will be Sergeant First Class Jeffrey A. Blackwell, Special Forces Army (Airborne), Alabama Army National Guard (Retired). Following the ceremony, a barbecue luncheon, compliments of L.O. Bishop, will be provided at the Annex of Tusculmbia Church of Christ, corner of 4th and Main Streets. Public invited. Sponsored by American Legion Post 31. In case of rain

both events will be at the annex building.

**Discover the beauty of African Culture** at the Annual African Heritage Festival May 31 - June 1 at the Willie Green Center, 609 S. East St, Tusculmbia. Enjoy traditional drumming, lively dance demonstrations, and live music featuring rhythm & blues and gospel choirs. Explore African art, fashion, and crafts, and savor delicious food. The festival also offers folk storytelling and activities for children, making it a family-friendly celebration of diversity and heritage. For more info, call 256-383-0783.

See NOTES... page 29

We're back in all local schools and libraries with a fun-packed .....

# May Issue!

Online Page Flip versions available for each county at [kidsvillenews.com/lauderdale](http://kidsvillenews.com/lauderdale) and [kidsvillenews.com/colbert](http://kidsvillenews.com/colbert)

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**SIGNS OF THE PAST**



**NEW HOPE CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
1875

Begun as Concordia Church of Christ, this historic church met first when W.B. Young traveled from Bethel-Berry to preach at the old Burcham Valley School House. This congregation became known as the New Hope Church of Christ. Long-time members, among them the family of William Brown Parish, gave the land on which the first building was erected in 1903. After being damaged in a storm, the building was rebuilt in 1913. The present facility was erected in 1960. Men and women who have made outstanding contributions to churches and communities throughout the world had their roots in this congregation.

**Location: 34.8729°N, 87.7985°W**  
8245 Co Rd 15, Florence, AL

The last half of the 19th century saw, what historians call, the 3rd "Great Awakening", a period of renewed religious activism in America. Many of the country churches were founded in this period like New Hope Church of Christ

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

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## Insurance Insights

### Change a life: Mentor a child

**Become a reading mentor and you can help boost literacy, one child at a time.**

Access, socioeconomic level and ability are some of the contributing factors that may lead a child to struggle with reading, but any lag in this essential skill for younger children has far-reaching consequences. Take high school graduation. In 2019, a study was conducted by the Annie E. Casey Foundation and they found that students who were not proficient in reading by the end of third grade were four times more likely to drop out of high school than proficient readers. According to a study by the National Assessment of Educational Progress in 2019, three districts at grade 4 and eleven districts at grade 8 had score declines in reading compared to 2017.

But there's good news and an immediate way to make a positive impact for kids: mentor reading. Studies show that adult involvement improves not only reading skills and enjoyment but also attitudes about school, participation in extracurricular activities, outlook on the future and, in the end, a child's chance of continuing education. Ready to make a difference in your own home and for other children? Try these ideas:

#### Boost a child's ability

Literacy mentors — part coach, part cheerleader — can be found in schools and community organizations across the country. These volunteers' one and only goal? Help children learn to love reading. How they accomplish that varies.

**Your next step:** Search an online volunteer database, such as Neighborhoodofgood.com®, or contact your local school for connections to childhood community literacy programs.

#### Boost a child's access

You may have heard of the concept of a food desert: an economically challenged area in which residents have little or no access to fresh food. Some literacy experts have begun to use the idea of a book desert to characterize lack of access to reading materials for children.

Little Free Library is a nonprofit organization that promotes neighborhood book exchanges. More than 90,000 public book exchanges are registered with the organization and branded as Little Free Libraries.

**Your next step:** Struggling schools may not have a volunteer organization that can fund a book distribution plan — but you may be able to.

#### Boost a school's resources

School libraries continue to be affected by shrinking public school budgets. Studies have shown the benefit of well-funded libraries. Research conducted in dozens of states found a direct link between an increase in library funding and resources and student reading plans.

**Your next step:** Volunteer to organize a book drive to benefit a school in need in your community.



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**Take Note...**  
of your Community.



**Community Notes**

# Jewelry...

Continued from Page 12

explore the early history of the Shoals through short lessons and these types of hands-on learning exercises. Participants will explore many things that relate to Native American culture, the history, and cultural meaning behind each practice.

This program is free and is sponsored by the City of Florence Department of Arts and Museums and the Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area. The Florence Indian Mound Museum is located at 1028 S. Court St. in Florence. Please call 256-760-6427 for more information.



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# Notes...

Continued from page 26

**Ritz Theatre Camp (Grades 3-6) May 27-31 at the Ritz Theatre, 111 W 3rd St. in Sheffield.** \$200 for general enrollment, \$175 for TVAA members at the Family/Friend level or above. The camp is instructed by Jaleesa Escott and administered by the Tennessee Valley Art Association. Campers will learn the basics of stage performance and character development as they spend the week rehearsing a short stage play, developing characters, creating sets, finding costumes, and learning blocking. The end of the camp will result in a small production for family and friends to attend. Parents will sign their child in at 9am each morning and pick up from the Ritz at 3pm. Two snacks will be provided. Students will need to bring their sack lunch. Students should also dress for movement. Sneakers are preferred. Spots are limited and registration is required. For more details or reservations, contact the Tennessee Valley Art Association at 256.383.0533 or email tvaa@tennessevalleyarts.org.

**REVIVE AL - Hearts on Fire, a church growth workshop, June 12-15** at Heritage Christian University on 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](http://homemission.org) to view schedule; register at [www.hcu.edu](http://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.

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

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

See NOTES... page 30



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## Courier Journal ADOPT A FRIEND

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

**MOCHA** is a 4 month old mix and is very energetic and lots of fun! She loves other animals! She is available for adoption at Colbert County Animal Shelter. For more information contact us at 256-381-4073



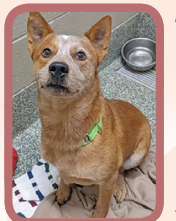
**SARA** is a 4 month old heeler mix. She is a special girl with special needs! Very sweet and loveable! Please contact the Colbert County Animal Shelter for more info. 256-381-4073



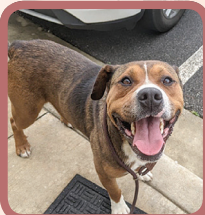
**CAIDEN** is around 2 years old and is the most handsome boy! He does his best to keep a clean kennel, isn't bad on a leash, and is all sorts of cuddly! Caiden is people-friendly and dog-friendly! Did we mention he loves toys, belly rubs, and butt scratches? He is the cutest and the absolute sweetest! Caiden is available for adoption, at Florence Lauderdale Animal Shelter, for \$25! His fee includes spay/neuter, vaccines, microchip, and a heartworm test. Come meet your new best friend! You won't regret it! Please call 256-760-6676 for more information.



**ROXIE** is around 1 year old and is a very sweet girl! She is shy with new people but warms up quickly! She is people-friendly, dog-friendly, and is crate trained. She loves running and playing outdoors! She is already spayed, microchipped, and up to date on all vaccines. She is available for adoption, at Florence Lauderdale Animal Shelter, for \$25! Come give Roxie the great home she deserves! Please call 256-760-6676 for more information.



**MAD MAX** is a 6 year old Australian Cattle Dog mix and has been a shelter dog since March. He is very smart, has a good personality, loves the outdoors, and loves to run! He is available for adoption, at Florence Lauderdale Animal Shelter, for \$25! His fee includes spay/neuter, vaccines, microchip, and a heartworm test. Come meet this handsome man and give him a yard to run his little heart out! For more information please call 256-760-6676.



**FERN** came to the shelter as a stray and is around 10 years old. She is the sweetest Senior and is in desperate need of a home for her final years. Fern is people-friendly and dog-friendly! She is available for adoption, at Florence Lauderdale Animal Shelter, for \$25! Her fee includes spay/neuter, vaccines, microchip, and a heartworm test. Come meet this sweet girl and give her a warm bed to snuggle in! Please call 256-760-6676 for more information.



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# Community Notes...

Continued from page 29

**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.

**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.

**Club (Florence Senior Center) and Diamond Tours Diamonds in the Rough** 2024 trip Information. [www.GroupTrips.com/TheClub](http://www.GroupTrips.com/TheClub)

NEW DATES for the Nashville Show Trip, May 20-23. 2 nights lodging in the Nashville area, 4 meals: 2 breakfast 2 dinners.

Guided tour of Nashville, 2 great shows and Admission to the GRAND OLE OPRY & NASHVILLE NIGHTLIFE DINNER THEATER. Back stage tour of the Grand Ole Opry. Admission to Madame

Tussauds Wax Museum, Visit Opry Mills and a photo opportunity at the Parthenon. \$582 for double occupancy and \$672 single occupancy room. Trips are open to the public. Diamonds in the Rough trips originate at The Club, 450 Country Club Drive, Florence. For more information, call Fran @ The Club, 256.760.6642, 9-4 Monday-Friday.

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

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

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

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

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

One trip is scheduled with a different travel company.

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

Call Collette at 800-340-5158 to sign up directly with them. You'll be traveling with us (The Club).

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

**Author Gary H. Miller will host a Free Self Publishing** Kindle Workshop at the Shoals Writers Guild meeting on Saturday, July 20 from 10am - noon at the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library, 350 N. Wood Ave in Florence

Miller is holds a BA from the University of Georgia and is author of many publications including his latest self published book "Ragsdale Blues." Please join us for this free event.

**The Florence Beautification Board** presents The Wildflower Project! Through this project, you can contribute to the future of our community's sustainable

growth. There are several tiers of involvement, Tier 1 - \$100; Tier 2 - \$200; Tier 3 - \$1,000 To donate, you may give checks to the Beautification Board City of Florence, PO Box 98, Florence, AL 35631. Contributions are tax-deductible.

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

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

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

**Serve with Honor.** Part time service with full-time benefits. The Alabama National Guard wants YOU! Protect your state and nation while enjoying great benefits for roughly 40 days/year.

Call for more information. SSG Candi Flanagan at 251-459-4309.

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

**Shoals CASA is currently looking for new CASA volunteers (Court Appointed Special Advocates)** who have a passion for helping children.

This is rewarding, active work with local foster children who need someone who represents THEIR interests. The CASA staff makes sure that caring community volunteers have the training, information, and support they need to give local abused and neglected children a voice within the court and child welfare system - A positive adult relationship who will demonstrate compassion and a passion to help children reach a safe and permanent home. The nature of this opportunity will require a background check, references, and six weeks of free training. Other CASA advocates have said it is the most rewarding work they have ever done. The new training class starts in late January.

Please call Heather Begley, Shoals CASA's Executive Director, for more information. 256-765-0041.

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## Mystery Photo OF THE WEEK

May 15

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**Week of May 8 winner is Morgan Fuller of Florence** who correctly guessed "The old KFC on Pine Street"

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

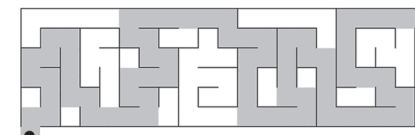


## Puzzle Whirl Answers

### Even Exchange answers

- Pitch, Pinch
- Design, Resign
- Manor, Major
- Price, Pride
- Junket, Junker
- Otter, Utter
- Floor, Flood
- Hunger, Hunter
- Stamp, Scamp
- Remove, Remote

### Kids' Maze Solution



### WORD LADDER

Answer  
RACER, LACER, LAGER, LATER, WATER, WAFER

### Word Spiral Answer

WARPLANES

### MINI SUDOKU

Answer

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

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## Confusion Reigns

**James 3:16** "For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work." **1 Corinthians 14:33** "For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints." Years ago, I heard a great preacher, Lester Roloff say; "just like Egypt, we've become a drunkard nation, and must go to the powder mill and to the river of destruction." **Luke 20:18** "Whosoever shall fall upon that stone (CHRIST) shall be broken; but on whomsoever it (CHRIST) shall fall, it will grind him to powder." It's not a matter of "if", but when. Now, today, America's landscape is filled with haters of Israel, God and America! Many preachers are saying the rapture could be this year. I look for Christ in the Spring, early summer. See Song of Solomon 2:10-13. The advent won't be far behind. The signs, nations and people are all in place. The lukewarmness, apostasy and falling away have happened. There is nothing left to take place to hinder the rapture! The perplexity of nations is worldwide. I'm not expecting Christ, I'm looking for Christ! See 2Thessalonians 3:5, Titus 2:13 & Hebrews 9:28.

For years the word of God has been preached in this nation, unheeded by the vast majority. We've danced and now it time to pay the piper. How many times have you rejected the invitation to come to church or get saved? God is keeping track! Everything you possess or can see is going up in smoke and will pass away! Basically, all that really matters is what you've done with and for Jesus Christ? You leave all at the grave. The hearse has no U-hauls! History repeats! The 60's six-day war with Israel is a small prelude of things to come! God did and will again fight for Israel! America right now is on the short end of the stick. Payday has arrived. Save this article. You'll need it if you're lost. When chaos engulfs this entire planet, and you're missing some loved ones, don't take any marks or chips, and endure to the end of your life. Matthew 24:13. This whole planet needs the re-generation of Matthew 19:28. If you refuse Titus 3:5 and God's regeneration, you'll need this article.

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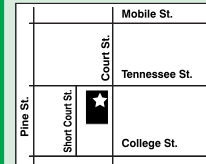
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