## **NWSCC Jobs** in Summer

MUSCLE SHOALS --Northwest Shoals Community College has partnered with the Alabama Department of Human Resources (DHR) hoping to employ up to 30 youth in part-time positions on the Phil Campbell and Shoals campuses combined. Employment will start June 1.

Eligible participants must be age 16–24 and have a household income that meets the 2024 Federal Poverty Guidelines, which considers gross annual income and the size of the family unit. Eligibility for summer youth employment is not contingent on NWSCC enrollment.

The Summer Youth Employment Program allows

participants an opportunity to acquire life and job skills, as well as work experience.

Participants will learn time management, dependability, and the importance of working well with others. They will be placed with supervisors in various departments such as athletics, maintenance, information technology, student services, and grant programs.

The program will continue through July 31. Students will be paid \$10/ hour for 20 hours per week.

Applicants must complete an application and required supporting documentation. To apply or need additional information, please contact Amanda Peters, NWSCC Community Partners Liaison, at 256-331-8121 or amanda. terry@nwscc.edu.

See SHORTs... on Page 2

# GRATULATION

May 29, 2024

**POSTAL PATRON** 





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## Tharptown Wins Rocketry Challenge

Muscle Shoals 5th Nationally

THE PLAINS, VA - Tharptown High School in Franklin County last week launched their way to first place and the title of National Champion at the world's largest rocketry competition, the American Rocketry Challenge, at Great Meadow in The Plains, VA. Tharptown High School bested a record breaking 922 teams that entered the competition at the start of the

See ROCKETRY..... on Page 4



## ive Aces

Women's Golf All Card a 4.0

FLORENCE- The University North Alabama's Athletic Department celebrated a successful semester in the classroom for Spring 2024, highlighted by UNA's women's golf program recording the first-ever 4.0 overall team GPA in school history.

All five members of the women's golf program had a perfect semester, including seniors Allycia Gan and Tori Roush,

See ACES... on Page 6

## Two Mercy Winners

direct mail, saturation coverage

USPS Circulation Verification Available

SHOALS - Two Lifepoint Health facilities in the Shoals recently announced their respective Mercy Award winners for 2024.

North Alabama Medical Center has recognized Bethany Tyree as the facility's Mercy Award winner.

North Alabama Shoals Hospital recently announced that Beth



Tyree

Smith, RN Case Manager at the J.W. Sommer Rehabilitation Unit, has been recognized as that facility's Mercy Award winner.

The Mercy Award recognizes one employee from each

of Lifepoint Health's facilities who profoundly touches the lives of others and best represents the spirit and values on which



the company was founded. The annual recognition program honors the life and contributions of Scott Mercy, Lifepoint's founding chairman and chief

**Smith** 

See MERCY... Pg. 6

## INSIDE this Issue-





**Advance Auto Sales Landers McLarty Nissan** 

- Medicare Minute
- Ask the Attorney
- Savvy Senior
- Cat & Kids Puzzle Whirl
- Insurance Insights
- Dave Ramsey
- Moments in Time
- African Heritage Association Festival SIGNS of the PAST
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## Shorts...

**Continued from Page 1** 

#### South Coach at Sheffield

SHEFFIELD-Sheffield High School officials on last week named Jim South as head coach of the Bulldogs boys' basketball program. He replaces **Pervis** Key, who resigned his position a few days earlier.

South is a math teacher at Sheffield High School who had stepped away from coaching last year with his move to

Sheffield only to realize how much I really did miss it

South is a 22-vear veteran educator with as



South

many coaching seasons under his belt. He was the head coach at Mars Hill Bible School from 2018-2023 where his teams made subregionals every year. His teams in '22 and '23 made Final Four appearances, and the '22 team was the 2A State runner up. South's teams also claimed area

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championships in 2019, <sup>22</sup>, and <sup>23</sup>.

South has also seen success at Colbert County High School where he taught and coached for 12 years. There, he coached girls' and boys' varsity teams as well as the junior high boys' team.

"This past year as I've gotten to know the students, I really missed coaching and building relationships with those students," he said. "We're going to work all summer long and make the most of our time. We've got to get into the weight room and gym and hit the ground running." South said his hard, fast play is the model he'll stick with in Sheffield

Sheffield High School Principal Marcus Rice said his goal is always to hire the best people possible. "That's what we did when we hired him to teach math." Rice said, "He just happens to be a tremendous coach also, so when coach Key resigned and the job posted, I went straight down the hall to him.'

## Three Added by Whitaker

FLORENCE- UNA Women's Basketball Head Coach. Candi Whitaker, last week announced three new assistants who will complete her coaching staff.

Ty Margenthaler and Haley Troup are joining the Lions in assistant coaching roles. Jordan Smith is remaining on staff in a more prominent capacity.

Margenthaler brings more than 20 years of

coaching experience. including four seasons as a head coach. He comes to the Lions after spending



Margenthaler

the 2023-24 campaign at the University of Pittsburgh. He served as an assistant coach and the Panthers' defensive coordinator while also working closely with the post players. Prior to the Panthers, he had previous stops as an assistant coach at South Dakota, Saint Louis,

Samford, Wisconsin, Bradley, and Southern Illinois. As head coach at Southeast Missouri State, he helped lead the Billikens to three WNIT appearances including reaching the Elite Eight in 2021.

"Ty brings invaluable experience from his time in the collegiate game, and he has connections in recruiting that will impact our program immediately," said Whitaker. "He comes from a basketball family and is a great teacher of the game.'

Troup returns home to the state of Alabama for her debut as an assistant coach. The former Gadsden High School standout comes to Florence after serving as a graduate assistant for the University of



facets Troup of the program, including player development, scouting, recruiting, and the co-director of camps.

Troup helped lead the Tigers four postseason appearances and two trips to the NCAA Tournament as a player. Additionally, she was a member of consecutive 24-win seasons from 2017-18 and 2018-19.

"Ty and Haley are perfect fits for our



**Smith** 

Along with the additions of Margenthaler and Troup, Whitaker also announced the promotion of Jordan Smith, who will become the new Director of **Basketball Operations** & Creative Content. She formerly served as a basketball manager while also creating content for the team's social media accounts.

ethics.

'Jordan impressed me the minute I got on campus," said Whitaker. "She is a talented young

See SHORTs...on Page 10



89

Lb.

Lb.

Steak

T-Bone

Ground

Steak

**Beef** 

Beef

**Patties** 

Chicken

Chicken

Split

Breast

Drumsticks \$

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Steak



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: ESTATE SALE 820 Cypress Mill Rd. Sat. 6/1 7 am-1 pm Home decor, clothing, and cookware, 20 years of collecting!

FLORENCE YARD SALE, 131 Garfield Ave., Off Wood Ave., 7am-until? Old glassware, good brand clothes, jewelry, pine cabinet, holiday decor, and more!

## MUSCLE SHOALS GARAGE/MOVING SALE 507 W. Lasalle Ave., Fri. & Sat.,

8am-until? 10 piece Maple Dining Room Suit, Loveseat, Bed & Chest, two Chairs, Dishes, Cookware, Tools, Weed eater and Blower, Electric Chain Saw, Trimmer, and more!

FLORENCE: YARD SALE 231 LUCAS ST. June 1st 8-2 Power & hand tools, kids toys & clothes, shoes, men's & women's clothes, mower, pressure washer, books, Elementary & Jr. High home school

curriculum, collectables, misc.

TUSCUMBIA: HUGE YARD SALE 1st Baptist Church 203 N. Dickson St. Sat. 6/1 7 am A little of everything!

#### **KILLEN NEIGHBORHOOD** YARD SALE Forest Drive Community,

off County Road 107. Friday, May 31st and Saturday, June 1st, 8am-until?

FLORENCE: 221 W Seguoia Blvd, The Cedars Fri. May 31 & Sat. June 1 at 7am Kitchen, Christmas, furniture, clothes, electronics and much much more! KILLEN: MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE Rain or shine! 930 Co. Rd. 394 Fri. Sat. 6:30-? Clothes furniture and numer-

MUSCLE SHOALS: YARD SALE 699 Brandon Dr. Cedar Place Sub-division 5/31 6/1 7 am Household items, toys, womens' mens' and childrens' clothes, a little of every

FLORENCE THREE FAMILY GARAGE SALE, 213 Roxie Dr., Forest Hills Sub., Saturday, June 1st, Rain or Shine, Last of Living Estate Sale and Total House Clean Out, loads of stuff!

KILLEN MULTI-RESIDENCE YARD SALE, 5388, 5418, and 5610 Co. Rd. 71, (Off Hwy 72 past Bluewater Creek), Fri. & Sat., 8am-until? Tools, Furniture,



FLORENCE GARAGE/MOVING SALE CARAGE/MOVING SALE
122 Cottage Lane, Blackberry
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Sat., June 1, 7 am - 3 pm,
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Seats, Crutches, Narrow Width Transport Chair, Steel Ramp. No Reasonable Offers

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**FLORENCE: YARD SALE** 533 Rickwood Rd Fri. Sat. 7am until

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RUSSELLVILLE:
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#### **ESTATE SALE** 658 N. Wood Avenue Florence, Alabama 35630

Friday, May 31st, 9am-3pm Saturday, June 1st. 9am-2pm (Numbers given out at 8:30am Friday & Saturday) Sunday, June 2nd, 1pm-3pm

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MUSCLE SHOALS:

MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE 309 W. Sheridan Ave Sat. 6/1 7am Clothes, furniture, household items.

FLORENCE MULTI-FAMILY REMODEL /MOVING/GARAGE ALE, 2001 Berry Ave.,

Saturday, June 1st, Home goods, Cabinet doors, Stove, other household items.

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BENEFIT YARD SALE
Lotus Recovery House,
527 E. Mobile St., Sat.,
7 am - until?
All Proceeds go to helping our
women on their journey.

NORTH FLORENCE YARD SALE, 251 & 257 Roosevelt Ave,. Fri. and Sat., 7am-until? Furniture, Tools, Dishes, Jewelry, PLANTS: Elephant Ears, Hosta, Lillies, etc. 1 Gallon \$4 each. and more!

KILLEN: CR 25, Bridge Hill Subdivision June 1 Sat. 7:00-2:00, Multi-Family Yard Sale

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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 vintade wheels and chairs, old vintage wheels and LOTS OF NEAT STUFF!

**FLORENCE: 3-FAMILY YARD SALE** 104 Caselton Rd Fri. Sat. 7-2 May 31 June 1 Everything priced



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Courier Journal 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

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This adorable girl is about 3 months old and 25 pounds. Hadley will grow to be a big beautiful girl. This is a great age to adopt and train a puppy. This girl is super swee and playful.\$25 adoptions that include spay/neuter, vaccines and a microchip. Please call or come by Florence Lauderdale animal services 256-760-6676 to meet this sweetie



This adorab<mark>le fun fellow is ready for his</mark> new home. Hammond is 3 months and about 25 pounds. He will grow to be a large dog. Puppies are fun and easy to train. This \$25 adoption fee includes spay/ call or come by Florence Lauderdale this handsome guy.

This adorable pup is ready to meet you. Harden is 3 months and about 25 pounds. He will grow to be a large handsome dog. Puppies are fun and easy to train. This \$25 adoption fee includes spay/neuter, vaccines and a microchip. Please call or come Florence Lauderdale services 256-760-6676 to meet this fun playful puppy.





Hudson is 3 months and about 25 pounds He will grow to be a large handsome dog. Puppies are fun and easy to train. Also love to play! This \$25 adoption fee includes spay/neuter, vaccines and a microchip. Please call or come

Florence Lauderdale animal services.

Havana is 1.5 year old Weimaraner mix! She loves kids, loves going on walks and loves laving around! She would prefer to be an only dog! For more info on this girl, please contact the Colbert County Animal Shelter @





We can't believe this amazing boy is still at the shelter! Pablo loves people, animals and swimming! This boy is literally perfect and only \$25! He is about 9-10 months old! For more info, contact the Colbert County Animal Shelter @ 256-381-4073



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

• Email to editor@courierjournal.net

LifeSouth Bloodmobile Dates:

Wednesday, May 29 Franklin County Courthouse, 11am - 5pm Thursday, May 30 Shoals Hospital Mobile Drive, 9am - 5pm

Thursday, June 6 Holcim Building Solutions, 393 Denton Circle, Tuscumbia, 6am - 4pm

Friday, June 7 Sam's Club. Florence, 11am - 5pm

Saturday, June 8 Rally at the River, McFarland Park, Hwy 20, Florence, 9 am - 4:00 pm

Invitation to Vacation Bible School at Hendrix Chapel Church of Christ - June 2-5, Sunday-Wednesday 7pm Nightly, Classes for Birth to Adult

Kona Ice Truck after Sunday Night Service

Speakers for Adult Class, Sunday & Monday - Brad Adcock, Tuesday & Wednesday - Alvin Alston

Speakers for Grades 9-12, Matt James & Chris McBride, Speakers for Grades 6-8 Jackson Wood & Rusty Cooper

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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 29 - Trey Nichols

"Friday Night Stars and Guitars" - every Friday night at 7pm in June.

June 7 – Deia 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.

Sinale's Minale Niaht Thursday, May 30, 7pm. Axe Kicking, 418 S. Royal Ave., Florence, Admission \$30.

This meet-and-greet is for men and women in their 50s and 60s. Space is limited to 12 participants, so you must book online in advance. Details: allevents.in/florence/singlesmingle/200026504217616

Volunteer opportunities with "Carpenters 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.

Hi Neighbors of the Shoals meets at 10:30am on the 1st Tuesday of each month in the Florence Public Library. We are a women's social group welcoming all ladies who are residents of the Shoals area. Come join us! Contact Christina Dickenson, 256-930-7762. or Berta Birch, 256-777-3119, for further details.

Second Saturdays - June 8, 5-8pm, Main Street, Tuscumbia. Eniov music, and an outdoor market at Second Saturdays, Special events include Donuts for Dogs and a Battle of the Bands. Details: 256-383-5463

See NOTES... page 5

#### LEGAL AD

It is hereby given that on this 15th day of June, 2024 at 10AM, the following units will be sold at Florence Blvd. Self-Storage located in Florence, AL. Tenant may satisfy their indebtedness prior to the time of sale.

NAME	<u>UNIT</u>
Lewis McCroskey	F30
Brenda Cottrell	F40
Dante Patrick	G5
Samantha Bolden	G26
Jabari Perkins	H13
Jimmy Rogers	H34
Mary Ann Banksden	J26
Mary Lewis	J27
Susan Craig	K33
Kerri Wallace	K34
Donald Farmer	L2
Tajae McGee	F13
Martha Faye Johnson	L21 L23
Angela Bridges	L23
Oscar Garcia	L26

## **Rocketry Challenge...**

AMERICAN

**Continued from Page 1** 

year and the top 100 teams competing at National Finals on 19. Tharptown designed, built, and launched a model rocket with greater precision than any other team in the country.

Tharptown High School students took home \$20,000 for their engineering prowess and will represent the United States in the International Rocketry Challenge at the Farnborough Air Show, outside London in July.

The school also gets \$1,000 for the team's accomplishments.

"We all work together as a team and come together to give input," said Kylee Beard, Tharptown High

School's team captain. We have one senior on our team, one sophomore, and the rest of us are juniors, so we're looking forward to success in the years ahead. To prepare for the Farnborough Air Show, we plan to launch more during the summer but we need a lot more supplies! But at the end of the day, it's going to be YOLO [you only live once], because that's what we do best."

Tharptown High School has become a rocketry powerhouse, sending a team to the National Finals six times since the program started in 2018. Tharptown High School has now placed in the top 10 four times, including a second-place finish in 2023. The team is mentored by Andrew Heath, who was the team captain of the Russellville City Schools team that won the International Rocketry Challenge in 2015.

Tharptown School Team members, with team roles listed in parentheses, are Kylee Beard (team captain and motor builder, Angie Chavez (parachutes), Shyla Martinez (payload), Angel Franco (launch setup and retrieval), Adrionna Ashley (team helper), Jessie Mitchell (launch setup retrieval), Isabella Hall (flight sheets), and Frank Gutierrez (launch setup and retrieval).

In addition, Muscle Shoals High School had two rocketry teams competing at the National Finals of the American Challenge Rocketry

Muscle Shoals High School Team 1 finished in 5th place, earning the students \$7,500 and the school another \$1,000. As a top-25 finisher, Muscle Shoals High School Team 1 earns an invitation to participate in NASA's Student Launch initiative.

Muscle Shoals High School Team 2, which finished 70th, won the "Spirit of the American Rocketry Challenge" award, sponsored by Boeing. The award comes sponsored

with \$500 and a recognition plaque.

The teams' accomplishments follow months preparation of designing, building, and testing a rocket

capable of meeting rigorous mission parameters set by the contest's sponsors - the Aerospace Industries Association (AIA), National Association of Rocketry, and more than 20 industry partners.

To qualify for National Finals, participating teams designed, built, and launched model rockets that could safely carry a payload of one raw egg with a target flight duration of 43-46 seconds to an altitude of 820 feet and return safely to the ground. The requirements for the National Finals were modified slightly. Competing teams had to launch the rockets to 850 feet with a flight duration of 43-46 seconds in the first round of competition. The top 24teams then conducted a second launch that was required to reach 800 feet with a flight duration of 43-46 seconds

In total, more than 5,000 students comprised the 922 teams from 45 states that competed in the 2024 American Rocketry Challenge.

NASA astronaut Warren "Woody" Hoburg, who competed in the National Finals of the inaugural American Rocketry Challenge in 2003, visited with the throughout students the National Finals. Twenty years after he was a participant in the American Rocketry Challenge, blasted off to space as the Pilot of NASA's SpaceX Crew-6 mission to the International Station (ISS).



## **Community Notes...**

**Continued from page 4** 

Infants, Adults Clothes and Shoes Giveaway Thursday, June 6 from 8-10am at the Care Center, First Baptist Church, Killen

Rally at the River, June 7-8, 4:30pm Friday, June 7 to 7pm

**Saturday, June 8** at McFarland Park, Florence. Listen to live music while browsing the offerings of a variety of vendors at this annual benefit for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Detalis: 256-366-6548.

#### Lauderdale Co. Rabies Clinic June 8-14, 2024

Alabama State law requires that all dogs and cats three months of age or older be vaccinated against rabies each year. THE FEE IS \$12 PER ANIMAL at any given stop on the notices. We will attempt to follow this schedule rain or shine. Please be patient if we run late. For all stops, please have your cat confined in a pet taxi or other type of box. **LEAVE ALL CATS** in the vehicle and the Veterinarian will come to your vehicle and give the vaccine. Dogs MUST be leashed or confined to a pet taxi, or left in your vehicle. Please bring water with you for your pets, so that they remain hydrated.

## Dr. Matthew Connolly, DVM

Rabies Inspector, Lauderdale County				
Saturday, June 8 (Crew 1)				
8-9am				
Saturday, June 8 (Crew 2)				
8:45-9:15am				
Monday, June 10				
3-4pmElgin Fire Department				
4:14-5:15pm Center Star Baptist 5:30-7pm Brooks High School				
Tuesday, June 11				
3-3:45pmWaterloo High School				
4-4:45pmWaterloo Fire Department Station 2				
5-5:30pmGravely Springs				
5:45-6:30pmOakland Community Church 6:45-7:45pmThreets Crossroad/Liberty Baptist Church				
Thursday, June 13				
3-4pmLeighton High School				
4:15-5:15pmGrassy Baptist Church				
5:30-6:30pmOld Ball Field on Bayles Street				
6:45-7:45pmLauderdale County High Schoo				
Frisday, June 14 3-4:15pmLeighton High School				

4:30-5:30pm.....Lone Cedar Church

..Mt. Zion Church

...St Florian Park

5:45-6:30pm.....

6:45-8pm...

Splash Into Summer Movie Night - June 7, 8pm. Muscle Shoals City Hall, 210 E. Avalon Ave;, Muscle Shoals

Dine at the food trucks and watch this double feature for the first movie night. "Luca" will begin at 8pm followed by "Jaws." Details: 256-386-9200.

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., Tuscumbia, 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.

Over 40 and love to play basketball. but not quite as fast as you once were? Then 40up is for you. We are Christ-centered, family friendly and we meet every Sunday at: Victory Christian Fellowship Church gym, 2302 Hough Road in Florence.

At halftime Pastor Torev encourages all from the Word of God so bring a friend.

Lauderdale County 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

The Shoals' Rivertowns Community Paddle Waterloo's 2nd Creek. Saturday July 13, 9am-Noon, Waterloo Boat Ramp, Lauderdale County Road 14, Waterloo. Ticket: Free, but space is limited so registration is required.

This event was rescheduled from May 18. The paddle will begin and end at the Waterloo Boat Ramp. Kayaks, personal-flotation devices, paddles and other necessary equipment are provided free. Reserve a kayak when you register. You also can bring your own boat. If vou register and can't attend, cancel your reservation. Details: http:// www.eventbrite.com

See NOTES... page 25

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## Aces...

**Continued from Page 1** 

juniors Hannah Dees and Jahnavi Prakhya, and redshirt freshman team is led by head coach Neil Self.

"The girls said they were going to do it — and they did it," said Self.
"I assure you that this was no easy thing. They studied before and after practice, before and after tournament rounds. They studied in the van, in the hotel rooms and in lobbies. They pushed through when they were tired to get the job done. semester, This accomplished something that has never been done here before, which makes it extra special," Self continued.

whole, UNA As a Athletics turned in a 3.27 GPA for the semester by 322 student-athletes from 14 athletic programs. It6 is the 17th straight semester with at least a 3.00 GPA. UNA had 66 athletes finish with a perfect 4.0 GPA and 236 with a 3.0 or higher. The top five programs include women's golf, women's soccer, beach volleyball, softball, and indoor volleyball, followed closely by men's golf as the highest-ranked men's program. All six turned in at least a 3.49 GPA.

## Mercy...

**Continued from Page 1** 

executive officer. award is considered the highest honor a Lifepoint employee can receive.

a discharge in case Tvree. planner m a n a g e m e n t department, has been at NAMC for seven years. She moved over to case management folling a stint in ER registration in order to better align with her pursuit of a degree in social work at the University of North Alabama.

"She really began to blossom after becoming discharge planner, said NAMC Director of Case Management Susan Bryant. "Early in her career, Bethany was very quiet and shy. Within weeks, her demeanor and body language began to reflect how happy she was to share her knowledge and to be able to help her patients.'

Smith has been at J.W. Sommer Rehab since the unit opened in 2004. The facility recently celebrated its 20-year anniversary.

of A native Florence area, Smith is known for her work ethic and commitment to patients. She has been known to go above and beyond her normal job duties in order to ensure patients have the best possible experience.

"I have known Beth for approximately 10 years and have experiences firsthand her level of commitment," said Beth Loften, Chief Nursing Officer at North Alabama Shoals Hospital. truly has a servant's heart. Her coworkers know they can call Beth at any time, whether after hours or weekends, and she will answer the phone.'

Each facility winner considered will be Lifepoint's 2024 companywide Mercv Award. companywide winner will be announced this summer and honored during a ceremony in Nashville in August.

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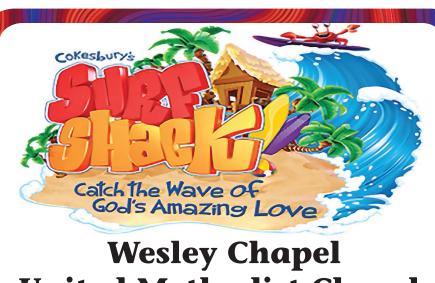
EDITORIAL POLICY: Your Courier Journal accepts a variety of news releases, photos, stories, Letters to the Editor and upcoming community, church or civic events for publication as space permits. Please submit all materials in written form to: written form to:

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

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

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## **Some Lessons** from Motherhood

Here is an incomplete list smell comes in. of some valuable notions that I've learned in motherhood:

"Love suffers long and is kind; love does not envy; love does not parade itself, is not puffed up; does not behave rudely, does not seek its own, is not provoked, thinks no evil; does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth; bears all things, believes all things, endures all things. Love never fails." I Corinthians 13:4-8

Love is having throw-up in your hands, spittle on your shoulder, and cleaning

Happiness comes from the little things - recitals, basketball wins, shows, and amazing artwork, but "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth." I John 1:3 Really.

Words don't always work, but holding your children always does. Words don't always work, but sometimes a look will. Words don't always work. Sometimes you just need to stand back and let them breathe.

I cannot make another human being put one foot in poopy diapers even after the front of the other. But I can

teach, advise, and pray.

Little people can do more than you think. Let them use that hammer. Let them stir that pot. And know that they are listening and learning your attitude on life - even when they are four and before. Don't be a whiny baby or a victim, and don't be hateful. What if your two year old would be the one saying what you said today? Because, you know, that's going to happen in its own way.

have learned that everything counts.

As a wise friend told me, "Parenting adult children is a spectator sport. You just applaud when things go well, and say, 'Awww,' when things go awry, and wait for teachable moments - if they come."

Love is waking them up, feeding them muffins, combing out heads - full of woolly hair - and taking them to church.

Love is sleeping in skinny places so that you can see his heartbeat.

My children are not me. They are each individuals. I need to be in awe of who they are and how they are and what they do. I need to give them resources, cheer them on, and then stand back and watch them rise.

Hard things happen in the night, but joy comes in the morning.

The same lullabies work from one generation to the next. I "You are my sunshine, my little Ruby sunshine. You make me happy when skies are gray," and I "Good night Mica, Good night Mica. It's time to say, Good night". are classics that are always enjoyed. J"I love you Jericho, oh yes I do. I love you Jericho and will be true...,"♪ I have sung these to mine and theirs. And recently with Canaan, I have added, "You are so beautiful to me. Can't you see, can't you see. You are everything I hoped for, everything I need. You are so beautiful to me.". Lullabies - soothing, loving,

times.

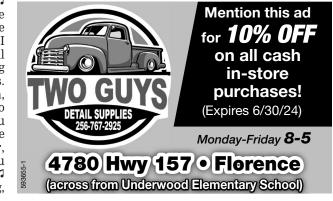
Teach them that fashion and false eyelashes do not bring confidence, being a child of God does.

Share old school songs, games, activities and food. What sends your children, littles and bigs, into awe may surprise you. My bigs called me the other day to get the "recipe" of how to pop popcorn on the stovetop! Because when I made it while I was there, it tasted so great. Here's the kicker, before I left, I showed

affirming - are the best of them my technique, but evidently, I didn't say how much popcorn or how much oil or what temperature to cook it at! I thought that was just natural knowledge! Listen.

There is one thing, as a mother, I know is true: "Train up a your children in the way they should go, and when they are old they will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6. It's true - I

know because of who said it. Email comments or suggestions to CatnKids1@ gmail.com





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## The City of Sheffield will begin taking applications for

## CORRECTIONS OFFICER

Applications will be accepted beginning Tuesday, May 28 at 8am through the close of business Friday, June 7 at 4:30pm. Applications may be obtained in person from the City Clerks' Office and the City's Facebook page.

The completed application must be returned to the City Clerk's Office, 600 N. Montgomery Ave., Sheffield

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## **General Surgeon**

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## Shorts...

## Three Added by Whitaker

**Continued from Page 2** 

woman with high character, a great skill set in graphic design and organization. She will be an asset in all areas of our program, and I look forward to working with

#### Frei Academic **All ASUN**

ATLANTA - The Atlantic Sun Conference announced last week that UNA third baseman Gehrig Frei was named to the Academic All-ASUN Team one of 13 members to receive honors

The team is voted on by the league's sports information directors and academic representatives. To be eligible, a studentathlete must have a cumulative 3.50 GPA or higher, participate in 50% or more games, have completed four semesters of coursework and must have one year of residence at the institution.

In addition to his academic pursuits, the redshirt sophomore leđ UNA almost every offensive category in 2024, including batting average, runs, hits, home runs and RBIs. His 15 home runs are the most in a season since UNA Athletic Hall of Famer Josh Willingham hit 15 in 1999 and is tied for the third most in a single season in program history. The Alpharetta, GA. native set new Division I program records at UNA for home runs (15), runs scored (51), RBIs (49) and total bases (123) in a season. Frei is majoring in exercise science.

Frei earned ASUN All-Freshman team honors last season and he is the fifth Lion to be selected to an Academic All-ASUN team.

## CONTACT 2-1-1

Your link to community resources

## 3 All ACCC at NWSCC

MUSCLE SHOALS Three freshmen Northwest Shoals Community College Patriots received Alabama Community College Conference (ACCC) all-conference

team honors. **Patriots** Softball player Kennedi Clark was selected

first or

second



Clark

to the Division I All-Conference team. Patriots Baseball players Haves Harrison and Rvan Strachan

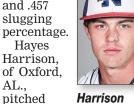
were selected to the Division I All-



Clark led the team in doubles and runs batted in. She finished the vear with an average of .354, 33 runs batted in, one

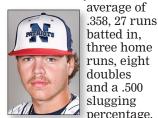
home run, 13 doubles and .457 slugging percentage. Haves Harrison,

AL.



Harrison

and played first base for the Patriots this spring. As a freshman, Harrison finished the year with an



Strachan

batted in, three home runs, eight doubles and a .500 slugging percentage.

Ryan Strachan, of Huntsville, played first base, pitched, and was a designated hitter

for the Patriots this spring. As a freshman, Strachan led the team in five hitting categories. He finished the year with an average of .361, 48 runs batted in, five home runs, 15 doubles, .474 on-base percentage and a .542 slugging percentage.



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## Dealing With Ourselves

Our body daily sends warning signals, but most of the time we disregard or totally ignore it when the sirens go off! God knows our root problems and adequately warns us in the word of God. Jesus warns: Mark 14:38 "Watch ye and pray, lest ye enter into temptation. The spirit truly is ready, but the flesh is weak." Our Apostle Paul exhorts: 1 Corinthians 9:27 "But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway." The saved man is to reckon himself a dead man. Colossians 3:3 "For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God." Paul again reaffirms: Galatians 2:20 "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." For the saved, these scriptures identify the problem and give the solution. For those who daily struggle with salvation assurance, if you are saved, you need some good bible

teaching to ground you on your standing with God now! If you're confused: 1 Corinthians 14:33 "For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints." Not saved, your only nature is a lost one. Saved, you have two natures in your body, called in the KJV the old man and the new man. If you aren't sure you're saved, or know you aren't saved, do something about it. Deal with Christ now, today. After death it's too late. A smart man will get ready to meet God now, and lead his family like a man. A horrible eternity will be even worse when you in hell look next to you and see a family member, and they ask you; "Daddy, why didn't you warn us?" You don't have to end like that. Jesus promised: **John 6:37** "All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." Be guilty of bringing yourself and family to Christ today!

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## Commentary

## A Salute to '00' **Brand Football**

mages on an old black-and-white television of an old football player clad in black, silver, blood, and bandages, are among my oldest sports memories

Few

Words

as a kid living just outside Oakland and pulling for the

Adding even more contrast, the dirt infield from the baseball diamond always came into play at the Oakland–Alameda County Coliseum, which became one of the toughest places to play once the Raiders became formidable in the upstart American Football League from 1960-69.

That "old" guy was Jim **TOM MAGAZZU** Otto who anchored the middle Editor of the Raiders offensive line for 15 seasons from 1960–74. To a young kid, they all looked old, especially those with dirty uniforms, chipped helmets, and breathing hard like Otto. Clad in jersey #50 that first year, and #00 thereafter, Otto was always facing forward with the look of determination.

#### See OTTO... on Page 20

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

## Courier Journal

# poals

## Our Heritage

## Two-Day Event in Tuscumbia

TUSCUMBIA-The North Alabama Heritage Association hosts its Annual Spring Festival Friday and Saturday, May 31–June 1 at the Willie Green Recreation Center, 609 South East St. in Tuscumbia.

Events get started Friday at 3pm with a Cultural Awareness program, "Black History,

Known and Unknown" presented by Linda Ricks Johnson. Panelists include Charlene Carter, Teresa Leonard, and Carolyn Lewis.

Music on the lawn gets underway at 4pm with Come Up The Band and King Tut African Heritage featured at 5pm and 6:45pm Association respectively.

The opening ceremony takes **Festival** May 31-June 1 place at 10am on Saturday with Katerina Cole-Coffey as emcee. Additional events get started at 11:10am

with performances and musical presentations continuously until 3pm. That is when Parade of African Attire takes the stage with Dr. Deborah

See HERITAGE... on Page 25



## **Food Trucks** for Museum

FLORENCE-The 6th Annual Food Truck Festival presented by First Southern Bank on Saturday, June 1 from 6:30-8:30pm at Singin River Brewing Co. at 526 East College Street in Downtown Florence.

The event benefits the Children's Museum of the Shoals. The Children's Museum has recruited some of the best food

See FOOD... on Page 18



#### THIS IS YOUR INVITATION TO VACATION BIBLE

SCHOOL at Hendrix Chapel Church of Christ - June 2-5. Sunday-Wednesday 7pm Nightly, Classes for Birth to Adult. Kona Ice Truck will be there after after Sunday Night Service. The speaker for the Adult Class on Sunday and Monday is Brad Adcock. Tuesday and Wednesday will be Alvin Alston, Special speakers for grades 9-12 and grades 6-8 as well. Hendrix Chapel is located at 13007 CR 8, Florence (1 mile west of the Natchez Trace) 256-767-3629

#### SINGLE'S MINGLE NIGHT

Thursday, May 30 at 7pm. Axe Kicking, 418 S. Royal Ave., Florence, Admission \$30. This meet-and-greet is for men and women in their 50s and 60s. Space is limited to 12 participants, so you must book online in advance. Details: allevents.in/florence/singlesmingle/200026504217616





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

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

#### 2 Sales Are Better

Editor:

On Friday night, May 10, we placed signs for our May 11 yard sale at both entrances to Cox Road on US Highway 72 and on Riverside Street, which is a less traveled road. We had a total of four customers all day. At 4pm on Saturday when we went to take our signs down, the one at Cox Rd by Mount Carmel Church was gone with another yard sale sign in its place. Ours at the other entrance was on the ground, again with another yard sale sign in its place.

It's very disappointing to know there are people in our community who would do such a devastating thing to a neighbor knowing what an effort a yard sale is.

neighbors Our should have realized that promoting both yard sales would have been better than

Laurene Hunt Athens

Today, most churches are silent, just like when Jews were killed during WWII's Holocaust...



## **Expensive 4 Years**

Editor,

In his May 15 letter (Don Not Oz or a Leader) in the Courier Journal, Mr. Smith spouts nasty gossip intermingled with a few facts, all trying to besmirch a person he obviously has never spent any of his own time checking facts about. Rather, he's listening to popular rumors based on total lies.

It is one thing to malign a person using facts. It is something else to do so from a podium of lies, gossip, opinions, and contrived public statements that are much worse for our society than any of Mr. Trump's.

More LETTERS...Page 28

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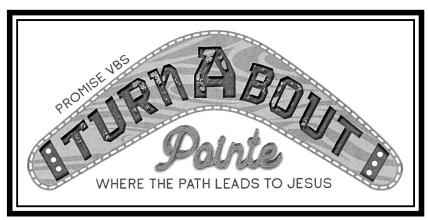
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## **Insurance Insights**

# Outdoor and picnic food safety

Food safety and illness prevention are important when cooking and dining outdoors. We have food prep, storage and cooking tips.

Whether you're barbequing in the backyard, cooking over the campfire or enjoying a picnic in the park, eating al fresco can be a fun way to enjoy your meal. When cooking or handling food outdoors, it's important to remember to keep food safety in mind. Each year, over 100,000 people in the U.S. are hospitalized due to foodborne illness, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Help protect everyone at your next picnic with these food safety tips on preparation, cooking and storage.

#### Outdoor food preparation

Plan ahead to help keep your food safe throughout the day. Remember to:

- Wash fruits and vegetables ahead of time. There may not be running water at the picnic site.
- Store meat in separate airtight containers to avoid crosscontamination.
- Place drinks and perishable foods in separate coolers.
- Marinate your food in the refrigerator before heading outdoors and transport it in a chilled and sealed container.
- Use ice packs to help keep perishable items at a safe temperature in the cooler.
- Pack a meat thermometer so you can be sure meat is cooked to safe cooking temperatures.

#### Storing and serving food outdoors safely

As you enjoy your time outside, don't forget to:

- Keep coolers out of direct sunlight and avoid opening them excessively.
- Keep perishable items in the cooler until it's time to eat and see that these items stay cool.
- To serve, fill large bowls with ice and set foods that need to stay cool on top.
- Discard any food that's been sitting out for more than two hours.

#### **Cooking outdoors**

The same rules you follow at home apply to outdoor cooking and grilling safely. Remember to:

- Cook meat to the proper temperature to help destroy potentially harmful bacteria.
- If you plan to use a marinade as a sauce, set aside a separate portion that hasn't come into contact with raw food.
- Separate different types of raw meat from each other.
- Place cooked meats in a pan by the side of the grill.
- Have an area available to wash hands, and clean surfaces regularly and thoroughly.

Cooking outdoors doesn't have to feel like an extreme sport. Practicing the proper safety precautions when handling, storing and serving food outdoors can help reduce the risk of contamination while enjoying your meal.



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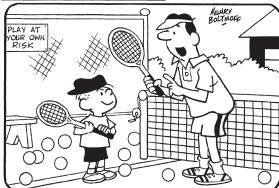
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#### **Continued from Page 12**

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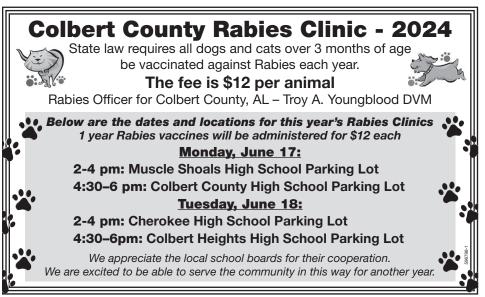


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#### Commentary

## Otto '00'...

#### Continued from Page 12

Jim Otto personified old-school football. Injuries didn't matter – you carried on with the game if you could physically stand. There was a war yet to win on that field, and he planned on being out there.

Jim Otto passed away last week at the age of 86. The fact that he lived that long with a clear mind is a testament to his almost superhuman toughness.

There were many injuries during his playing days. However, he considered his 20-plus broken noses, broken fingers, broken ribs, neck stingers, well over a dozen concussions, a broken jaw, and double pneumonia as "minor injuries, therefore minor distractions."

Medical advances have made surgery and recovery easier. Concussion protocol has put brain-injury caution at the forefront, and rightfully so. However, to Otto, in a pre-prima donna NFL, that didn't compute.

His personal philosophy was, "Never will they kick my butt."

"Playing football was always a serious proposition for me," Otto said in 2021. "I wanted to put everyone on their backside and go home



His durability, his ability to play with pain was something else," Lamonica said. "My first game with the Raiders, he went down with a neck stinger. It looked like he was out for the year. He was back on the next play.... You don't see that kind of dedication today. Commitment to Excellence was what Jim was about.

**Daryle Lamonica** Raiders Quarterback 1967-1974

smiling, with my wife. So, it was a tough game for me. I had guys like Ray Nitschke. I wanted to get him and put him on his backside. He wanted to do the same to me. We had great times."

Even in the early years when the Raiders were not that good, Otto was a stalwart.

He was the only All-AFL center in the league's entire existence from 1960–1969, and he was one of only three players who played in all 140 AFL regular-season games (George Blanda, Gino Cappelletti).

From the AFL's initial season in 1960, through the AFL-NFL merger in 1970 and Otto's retirement after the 1974 season, he started 223 consecutive regular season and playoff games.

Otto was the dominant center of his era, and some will argue he was the best center ever in professional football.

The 217-pound center and linebacker from the University of Miami was undrafted by the NFL. He came into the AFL with a grudge against

the establishment, and he turned himself into the face of a generation for aspiring offensive linemen.

However, those admirable qualities took their toll.

Otto dealt with neck and back issues his entire adult life. Several of his vertebrae were fused, accounting for six of the six-dozen surgeries he endured in his life. Both of his shoulders were replaced. He had 28 knee surgeries altogether with 10 joint replacements. With no alternative in 2007, doctors amputated Otto's right leg. Otto nearly died three times post-operative from infections. He also battled prostate cancer.

Despite the numerous injuries and the physical toll on his body, Otto repeatedly said he left the game with no regrets. When he recalled the pain he endured for decades, he said he would go through it all over again to play in the NFL.

"I know that I went to war, and I came out of the battle with what I got, and that's the way it is," Otto said on PBS special about the NFL's concussion crisis.

"I was paid to play football, not hang out in the training room."

Over his 15-year career, the Raiders won seven division titles and were AFL champions in 1967, losing to the Green Bay Packers in AFL-NFL Championship (which came to be known as Super Bowl II). Otto was inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1980, his first year of eligibility. In 2019, he was named to the NFL 100 all-time team.

He later returned to work in the Raiders' front office for many years.

Otto's tenacity and drive were the hallmark of the often dominant and intimidating Raider teams of the late 60s and 70s. His influence on professional football cannot be overstated. He embodied the once poignant Raider mantra, "Commitment to Excellence."

For many reasons, Jim Otto is rightfully recognized as "The Original Raider."

A stoic nod of the silver and black headgear to 00.



## ASK THE **A**TTORNEY



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## **Depositions**

Many claims end up in the court system simply because from time-to-time different insurance companies decide they don't want to pay claims for a year or two. Claims that would ordinarily be settled now have to go to court. Depositions are a tool lawyers use to find out about the claims and the people in the case.

I can look at a case and tell you how it's going to be defended. Insurance companies never just open up their pockets voluntarily. Either they argue that their client wasn't at fault or that the other person wasn't hurt as badly as they claim, or they were already

hurt, and the accident didn't cause it. They may take the position that the person did get hurt but now they are completely well.

The deposition is not just about the facts, it's about how they are presented. If the person is authentic and makes a good impression, the case is worth more. If a person is surly, sarcastic, or sour, the case is generally worth less. How questions are answered is important.

When people give their depositions it's important for them to listen to their lawyers. Very few people can walk into a deposition without preparation and do a good job. Occasionally, you will have a client who doesn't follow your instructions but is harmless. Generally, people that don't know what to do or can't remember what to do don't do well at all.

Lawyers are going to tell their clients to listen to the question the other lawyer asks. They are going to tell their clients to answer the question that was asked and then stop talking completely. We will tell you to wait until the other lawyer finishes their question until you begin to answer. And the best advice that you can get is to be sure to say that you don't know if you don't know. People who talk and talk and guess and speculate and just run on like they're the most charming person in the world end up with no case. I've seen people do superb jobs on depositions. I've seen people get mad and not follow instructions and absolutely lose the value of their case because they don't make an effective and meaningful presentation.

If you ever have to give a deposition, ask yourself, how long do you think it will last? Ask yourself, what do you think you will be asked? Ask yourself, what are you most worried that you will be asked? After giving those three questions consideration, take the time a few weeks out from your deposition and sit down and talk with your attorney about what they expect to happen and how you might best approach the questions that will be asked. Joel and I have a short sample deposition from a car accident case that we mail our clients before their deposition simply so they can see what one looks like and read some of the questions they will be asked. Our clients do better as a result of understanding the process.

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

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• On May 27, 1831, trapper-explorer Jedediah Smith, who established the South Pass across the Rocky Mountains in modern western Wyoming as a well-known and heavily traveled route for fur trappers, was riding alone when he was attacked and killed by a hunting party of Comanche Native Americans on the Santa Fe Trail.

• On May 28, 1983, Irene Cara's song **"Flashdance** (What a Feeling)," from the "Flashdance" movie soundtrack, reached the top of the U.S. pop charts and helped push the film to the No. 3 spot on that year's total boxoffice revenue list. It also proved to be the biggest hit of Cara's career.

On May 29, 2014, LGBT advocate and Emmy-winning actor Laverne Cox of the Netflix original series "Orange Is the New Black" became the first transgender person to

appear on the cover of TIME magazine.

• On May 30, 1899, amateur bandit Pearl Hart and her drifter boyfriend, Joe Boot, held up an Arizona stagecoach, making away with over \$400 in cash. Although discovered and sentenced to prison, neither served their full term, and Hart was pardoned by the governor in 1902, living out the rest of her life in relative obscurity.

• On May 31, 1970, an earthquake measuring 7.9 on the Richter scale off the coast of Casma, Peru, in the Pacific Ocean caused an

avalanche traveling at over 100 miles per hour that buried the towns of Yungay and Ranrahirca, killing an estimated 50,000 people and making it the worst natural disaster ever recorded in the country's history.

• On June 1, 1958, following a long political crisis over the Algerian War, former French president Charles de Gaulle was called out of retirement to head a new emergency government as prime minister for a six-month term in an effort to keep the country together.

On June 2, 1920, Eugene O'Neill won his first of four Pulitzer Prizes, for his play "Beyond the Horizon," which was also his first full-length work to be staged. Though he was initially not happy over the news, his attitude improved upon learning the award came with a \$1,000 prize and did not involve a ceremony. (c) 2024 King Features Synd., Inc.



## Tune=up

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Amp Compressor **Check Capacitor Tighten Electrical Connections Check Condenser Cleanliness Check Freon Pressures and Temps Check T-stat Operations Check Indoor Blower Motor Clear Drains** 

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## Take Note... of your Community.

Courier Journal Community Notes



## **Medicare Minute**

## "Choosing a Medigap Plan"

Choosing the Medicare supplement, or Medigap plan, that's right for you can be a difficult task. As mentioned in a prior article the most common Medigap plans sold in Alabama are Plan A, Plan B, Plan C, Plan F, Plan G and Plan N. Each of these plans are "standardized" by Medicare. "Standardized" means that each of these individual plans must contain the same basic benefits regardless of the insurance company you purchase it from. For example, Plan G with company XYZ must contain the exact same benefits as Plan G with company WXY. The one thing that can be different is the premium each company charges for the exact same coverage.

The plan letters (A, B, C, F, G, & N) represent different levels of coverage that a person can purchase. Plan A is the most basic Medigap plan. It does not cover the Part A or Part B deductibles or Skilled Nursing Facility coinsurance but does pick up the Part A and Part B coinsurance after the deductibles are met.

For individuals who became, or will become, eligible for Medicare after January 1, 2020, Plan G is the "Cadillac" of all Medigap plans. With Plan G you would be responsible for the Part B deductible of \$198. After the Part B deductible is met, Plan G would pick up the 20% Medicare does not cover. Remember, your Medigap plan can only pay if Medicare approves the charges.

When talking to a company or agent about Medigap policies you may benefit by talking to someone who offers ALL the plans. Every company selling Medigap policies does not offer all the plan options. If you are speaking with an agent or company that does not offer a particular plan, such as Plan G, you may never hear about this plan.

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





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Courier Journal

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## **SIGNS** OF THE PAST



#### Location: 34.8061°N, 87.6314°W Walk of Honor, Florence, AL

Mary Beth was 2 years old when chosen to be a March of Dimes poster child. Born in 1957 with spina bifida, she could neither walk nor stand. She graduated from Coffee High and worked for ECM as a technician for 17 years. She died in 2022 having lived for 64 years inspiring others.

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

by DAVE RAMSEY

#### THINK, PRAY...AND FIND YOUR CALLING

Dear Dave,

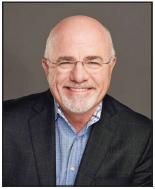
My husband and I have been very blessed financially over the course of our lives. We make a little over \$200,000 a year combined, and we currently have a net worth of around \$4 million. But what do you do when you're not motivated by that kind of thing anymore? How do you find and live out God's purpose for your life, when you've already had a better life than you ever expected?

Amanda

Dear Amanda,

I can't tell you what your calling is, but I can say this. There's a lot of fulfillment and joy to be found when vou're doing something that serves the people and things in your life that matter most.

studied you've If psychology a bit, you may remember something called Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs. Basically, it says once your physiological and safety needs have been



met, you begin to feel the need to find other things to motivate you. It sounds you're both hardworking, performancedriven people. I am, too. And people like us get our relaxation, and even fulfillment, away from work in different ways than most people.

If I were in your shoes, I'd start trying to think about ways you can serve other people or causes you care about. Maybe there were dreams you had a long time ago, and you put them aside for your career. What really speaks to you right now, at this stage of your life? For you, if you have kids in the house, it might mean becoming a stay-at-home mom and really pouring yourself into them. It might mean starting an animal shelter, or providing meals for people who are shelter. homebound. Everyone has dreams, and everyone's dreams are different.

It sounds like you've been thinking about this for a while, so here's my advice to you. Take a day, or even a weekend, all to yourself. Get away from everything and everyone—any and all outside distractions—and think about your future self. Bring along things to eat and drink, a bunch of notepads, pencils and a Bible. Then, before you do anything else, take a deep breath, relax and pray.

From that point on, be completely honest with God and with yourself. Open up your heart and mind to things you care about and all the possibilities. You have to have a goal that's worthy in mind, and that's the one thing that's missing. But a time of thoughtful prayer—and yes, even daydreaming may just put you closer to an answer than you've ever

been before.

Congratulations on your success, Amanda. You and your husband truly have been blessed. But now, it may be the time to become a blessing to others!

—Dave

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

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**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. Broker's venture	T_	Actually	L_
2. Insertion mark	R	Military student	D
3. Slick or Kelly	C	Wine fruit	P
4. Tenant	L	L.A. ballplayer	D
5. Lancelot's weapon	D	Took an oath	E
6. Child caregiver	N	Detective Drew	C
7. Small ketchup holder	_ A	Pouch	_ 0
8. Additional benefit	U _	Tibias and mandibles	E
9. Frilly skirt edging	U	Sweepstakes	_ A
0. Goliath's opponent	D	Actress Bette	s

Kids'	Maze



(O)

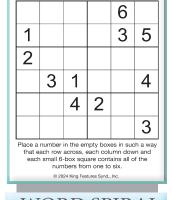
#### **WORD LADDERS**

Can you go from CARDS to PAGED in 6 words?

CARDS

PAGED





MINI SUDOKU



## Heritage...

**Continued from Page 12** 

Carter and the C.O.R.E. Drummers. Cynthia Ricks Pollard will emcee.

Festival dancers will have presentation at 4 PM. Followed by the Citizen of the year presentation at 4:30. event Continues into the evening with performances by culture dread from Birmingham at 4:45pm, exodus reggae band from Memphis at 5:45pm and the Shoals' own Midnighters 6:45pm.

## **Community Notes...**

**Continued from page 5** 

Florence Camerata, a popular local community choral group, rehearsals held on each Thursday, at the UNA choral room from 6:30-8pm, 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.

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, Tuscumbia.. 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 information, call 256-383-0783.

Free Event June 2, 2-5pm at Killlen Park. Classic Rock by: Box of Rox

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

The Batting Brigade Quilt Guild, meets the second Monday of the month at: Edgemont United Methodist Church, 1330 Eauclaire Ave., Florence. For additional information call Liz Linebrink 601-590-4367. If no answr leave message.

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 to view schedule; register at www.hcu.edu.

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

Joints in Motion, chair exercise class, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at The Club (Florence Senior Center), 9:30am. No charge. BINGO Wednesdays 10:15am until our 11:30am lunch (w/ \$1 lunch donation)! If vou 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, Tuscumbia. Rotating exhibits at the hall of fame highlight accomplishments of area music achievers. Details: 256-381-4417.

See NOTES... page 30



Audrey Cohenour Newton, PharmD • Frances Cohenour Heinze, PharmD

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

#### What is Natural Gas?

Natural gas is made up of hydrocarbon gases, primarily methane, naturally occurring in rock formations deep below the earth's surface. The natural gas is withdrawn and transported to homes and businesses through an underground system of pipes.

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

#### **Natural Gas Safety Precautions**

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

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

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

#### Do Not:

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

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

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

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

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

#### Call Before You Dig

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

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

Alabama One Call 811

Or you can call 911 for Emergencies

- In 1925, a war between Greece and Bulgaria started after a stray dog crossed their border.
- During the 1917 siege of Jerusalem, the British, in an effort to capture the city from an entrenched Ottoman garrison, airdropped cigarettes filled with large doses of opium in the hope their opponents would be too stoned to fight. It worked.
- Holland, Michigan, has 168 miles of tubing coiled underneath its streets that circulates hot water in order to melt any snow on the ground.
- China's Three Gorges **Dam** is so huge that it's slowed the rotation of Earth.
- Hard-rocker Ozzy Osbourne once fell asleep during a driving test and woke up to find a note on the seat that said, "You

have failed." But give him credit for persistence: After 19 attempts, he finally managed to pass the test in 2009 at the age of 60, and then purchased a Ferrari.

- · In Wisconsin, it's legal for kids of any age to drink alcohol in a bar as long as they are with their legal guardian.
- Dwayne Johnson's **beard** in the movie "Hercules" was made of yak testicle hair.

- The Aztecs regarded childbirth as a form of battle. Women who didn't survive it were thought to rise to one of the highest heavens, the same one as for male warriors who died in battle.
- In 1986 a Soviet pilot made a bet with his copilot that he could land his airplane blind. He curtained all the cockpit windows & crashed the plane into the landing strip, killing 70 of his 87 passengers.

Thought for the Day: "Life is like skiing. The goal is not to get to the bottom of the hill. It's to have a bunch of good runs before the sun sets." — Seth Godin

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#### Letters...

## Expensive 4 Years...

#### **Continued from Page 12**

Trump had a strong list of accomplishments that benefited all Americans. If Mr. Smith would compare these positive accomplishments with Mr. Biden's major flops plus kowtowing to China and Russia, maybe he would change his mind.

Mr. Trump has many of the same human faults that I and many other humans possess. However, compare his accomplishments while in office to Mr. Biden's failures beginning on day one.

Mr. Biden blew the Afghanistan withdrawal, costing several lives, leaving billions of equipment for our enemies, and giving the Taliban the names of those who had worked for the US military, so they

"could be protected."

Many were killed within a week

He killed the Alaskan Oil Pipeline to satisfy the Green members of his party. Killing the pipeline put many people out work and has made us dependent on foreign oil.

During Trump's last 3 years, we were self-sufficient, producing our own fuel and selling to many foreign nations.

Biden used the emergency military fuel cache, reducing our military readiness and placing our future in doubt.

He immediately opened our borders allowing over a million people, many with unknown backgrounds, into our country within a few months and rewards them with benefits needed by US citizens.

Not speaking against this means he supports Democratic several governors wanting to grant these non-citizens the right to vote and that everyone should be able to vote without an ID card. As leader of the Democrat party, he is responsible for gas prices having doubled since he took office. He stated he would make the populace very expensive buy electric autos. supports the Democratic position that abortions should be government funded and allowed up to birth. He has used our legal system against his enemies. He supports the NEA teacher's union that believes teachers, not parents, should control our children. He strongly supports the idea that men can be women and women can be men. And during a time of great need, he has walked away from our closest, longterm ally, Israel.

The above facts tell me that whether or not Mr. Trump has ever read a book or Bible, he has already proved that he is willing and capable of Making America Great Again, even when both houses were Democratically controlled

Floyd N. Price Florence

## NEED HELP? CONTACT 2-1-1

Your link to community resources

## Christians Must Make It Clear

Editor,

A recently syndicated article by Cal Thomas, The Powerless Modern Church, says that instead of the churches following the Bible and standing against sinful acts, the churches have approved sinful acts. For example, some churches have approved abortion and same sex marriage. These lifestyles are contrary to what the Bible says.

In 1588 the Catholic Church supported scripture saving that abortion is murder and still considers it murder. In recent years, the leaders of some churches have ignored the Bible early theological positions. Some churches approved have abortion. More 1.5 billion babies have been aborted in the last 50 years. And more than 63 million of those abortions have occurred in the United States.

On the other hand, many of the churches that oppose abortions do not speak out against it in the pulpit or support pro-life groups who offer adoption as an option. Today, most churches are silent, just like when Jews were killed during WWII's Holocaust.

This sets a really bad example for non-Christians in a very secular world. They observe what the Church stands for and point out that Christians are hypocrites.

Last year I wrote a short 16-page booklet on abortion, "Take My Hand Not My Life." To date, I have given away about 100 books and another 100 are now being printed. They are free of charge, but I ask for a donation of \$5 which pays for books that I give away free to others.

Unfortunately, church members who read my book about abortions agree by saying "That is terrible." Then they just drop the subject. It is hard to understand how members of any church can remain silent when abortion is a holocaust that is far worse with far greater numbers killed than during the Nazi Holocaust of WWII.

Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to dwell inside the hearts of all Christians. The Holy Spirit will be there to comfort, defend, and guide you in what the Bible says. If a Christian is baptized, receives the Holy Spirit, and invites the Holy Spirit into their heart and mind, there is no way the Spirit will tell anyone to kill billions of innocent helpless babies.

If the Holy Spirit is your guide, other people, including non-believers, will see the difference between Christians who attend church and follow God's commandments and non-Christians who do not. The example you set is worth much more than your words about claiming to be a Christian.

Church members must "walk the walk not just talk the talk." Until this changes, church attendance will continue its serious decline.

Christians in every church must make it clear that they stand for saving lives not destroying them. This should be the position of church leaders and each member of a church. They should insist that their churches oppose abortion, especially on demand, and support birth control.

What are some grounds to oppose abortion? The first is that the Bible's commandment that we shall not kill. In addition, the pill is close to 100% effective in preventing pregnancies when taken as directed.

It appears that abortion has been and is currently being used as birth control by those who created the baby.

Shamefully, the innocent baby pays the price with its life. Doctors cut the babies into pieces in order to remove it from the woman's womb. It is a bloody and barbaric procedure.

Harry Shannon Phillips Florence

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## IMPORTANT NOTICE

## Sheffield Water Department Customers

The Sheffield Water Department will be flushing fire hydrants beginning June 3 and continuing until the process is completed for about 5 weeks.

We will be flushing from 7 am until 3:30 pm. Slight water pressure variations and milky or discolored water conditions may occur during this period. The water is safe; we are flushing out an accumulation of dissolved materials which have settled in the mains. To avoid inconvenience, check the water before doing laundry and you might want to keep water in the refrigerator for drinking and cooking when we are flushing in your area.

For information on when your section will be flushed, please call 256-248-2745 between 7 am and 3:30 pm, Monday through Friday.

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## Notes...

#### **Continued from page 25**

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.

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

- 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

- 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).

Religious Abuse Support Group of the Shoals will meet the first and last Sundays of every month. Time and Location will vary. About us: we are a group dedicated to supporting

individuals in our local community who have experienced abuse within religious institutions.

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

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.

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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. 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. Call Heather Begley, Shoals CASA's Executive Director, for more

Florence Parks and Recreation/ The Club/Florence Senior Center, hosts a variety of activities for adults throughout the week. Chair exercise classes, line dancing, Square dancing, social dancing, BINGO, \$1 lunch, Rummy, Rummy cubes, Rook, Mexican Train & Chicken Foot Dominoes. 9am-3:30pm.

information. 256-765-0041.

Country Club Drive in Florence. Group Travel is available for the community. Call for specifics, 256-760-6420.

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

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

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

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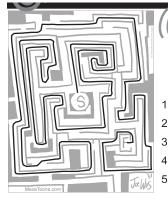
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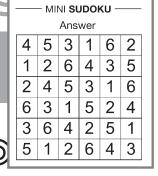
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Word Spiral Answer **HAMMERTOE** 





## **Dreading a Colonoscopy?** There Are Alternatives

Dear Savvv Senior.

Are there any easier alternatives to a colonoscopy to screen for colon cancer? I just turned 60 and my wife keeps nagging me to get tested, but I hate the idea of drinking that laxative solution and being sedated for the procedure.

Squeamish Steven

Dear Steven,

While a colonoscopy remains the most accurate screening test for detecting colon cancer (94 percent accurate), there are other easier – although less accurate – tests available. But be aware that if the result of one of these tests are positive, you'll still need to undergo a colonoscopy. Here's what you should

#### **Screening Guidelines**

Colorectal cancer, which develops slowly over several years without causing symptoms especially in the early stages, is the second largest cancer killer in the U.S., claiming more than 50,000 Americans each year.

Colorectal cancer screening guidelines from the U.S. preventive Services Taskforce and the American Cancer Society call for most adults to get screened starting at age 45 and continuing through age 75. Earlier screenings, however, are recommended to people who have an increased risk due to family history of colorectal cancer or polyps, or a personal history of inflammatory bowel disease, Crohn's disease or ulcerative colitis.

But despite these guidelines, and the fact that colonoscopies save an estimated 20,000 U.S. lives each year, around 40 percent of eligible people don't get screened.

Why? Because most people, like yourself, dread the laxative prep and sedation, not to mention the procedure itself.

But a colonoscopy is not your only option for screening for colon cancer. There are currently several types of FDA approved stool tests that you can take in the privacy of your own home that requires no laxative-taking/bowel-cleansing preparation. The two most accurate that you should ask your doctor about are the:

Fecal immunochemical test (FIT): This test looks for hidden blood in your stool, which suggests polyps or even cancer. Your doctor will give you a FIT test kit to use at home. You take a small sample of stool and mail it to a lab to be analyzed. You don't need to do any prep. The cost of this annual test is covered by private insurance and Medicare. FIT has an almost 80 percent accuracy rate for detecting colon cancer, but it detects only about 28 percent of advanced polyps that might turn into cancer.

Stool DNA test (Cologuard): This screening kit looks for hidden blood as well as altered DNA in your stool. Your doctor will order the test, and you will receive the collection kit in the mail. You do the test at home every three years and send your stool samples to Cologuard via UPS. No special prep or change to your diet or medication schedule is required. Cologuard, which is covered by most private insurers and Medicare, detects 92 percent of colon cancers but only 42 percent of large precancerous polyps. It also may provide a false-positive, indicating that you might have cancer when you don't.

#### New Blood Test

There's also a new experimental colon cancer blood test you should ask your doctor about called the "Shield blood test." This new test, developed by Guardant Health, detects more than 80 percent of colon cancers early when they're most

Guardant is currently seeking FDA approval to market the test but it's available now as a "lab-based test" (which does not require FDA approval) but it's currently not covered by most private insurers or Medicare. Your doctor will need to request this test, which costs \$895, at BloodBasedScreening.com.

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



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