

Courier Journal

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Davis in on MTSU Title

MURFREESBORO, TN – Alyssa Davis of Florence was among MTSU student horseback riders who recently helped the Blue Raider Western team win a second consecutive Intercollegiate Horse Show Association National Championship.

Along with the qualified team, the Blue Raider riders had an individual qualified in all seven Western divisions, a Western high point rider, and one hunter seat rider. MTSU riders won with 47 points. St. Andrew's University in North Carolina earned reserve honors with 38.5 points.

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32 Complete 12 for Life

FLORENCE—Southwire leaders and local school officials celebrated with 32 local students who comprise the 2024 12 for Life Senior Class in Florence on May 21 at the Marriott Shoals Conference Center. Since 2007, Southwire's 12 for Life program has been combining traditional classroom instruction with jobs inside a modified Southwire manufacturing environment. Students earn wages for their work, and most importantly, learn skills they will need after graduation.

The state of Georgia and several other organizations have adopted 12 for Life as a model for increasing graduation rates.

Former Atlanta Falcons running back **Jerious Norwood** delivered the commencement address.

See SHORTS... on Page 2

Siblings Medal in Mobile at State SkillsUSA

MOBILE—It's amazing when one of your children stands on a stage and receives a medal, but for both to do so... it's a little overwhelming. Both of Donna and Tommy Hendrix's children walked away with medals at the SkillsUSA

state competition recently in Mobile. Beau Hendrix took bronze in Diesel Service Technology, and his sister, Caree Hendrix, took gold in Motorcycle Service Technology. Caree will be attending the National Competition in Atlanta this month.

Beau and Caree both attend Colbert Heights High School and take Automotive Service Technology with Joseph Bennett at Colbert County. Beau and

See SKILLS USA... on Page 6

Past Displayed Proudly

Museum Shines Historic Light on Colbert Town

LEIGHTON—If you find yourself in Leighton, stop by the Bank Independent sales office and visit the renovated Leighton Museum. This museum has been reimagined and relocated to engage the public with inspired storytelling and displays that preserve the rich history of Leighton and the surrounding area.

The Leighton Museum originated in 1954 and was founded to provide public access to a curated collection of local historical artifacts. The museum was



The revamped Leighton Museum is housed in the Bank Independent sales office. Bank Independent photo

housed in the Leighton Library for over 60 years with artifacts primarily from the collections of local historians Frank King and Horace Holland.

The museum underwent a major renovation in 2019 and relocated to its current home inside the

Bank Independent sales office at 8720 Main Street in Leighton. This move was made possible through the generous support of community members like Jimmy and Polly King, the King Family, the Bettie

See LEIGHTON... on Page 11

Horses Assist in Therapy

Angel Mission Hosted Training Session

Caitlyn, pictured here with Flash, is a volunteer with Angel Mission as well as a local 4-H group.

Courtesy photo

KILLEN—The O.K. Corral from Reno, NV, founder of Equine Assisted Psychotherapy recently came to The Flying S Arena in Killen. They held a three-day certification class in Equine Therapies sponsored by Angel Mission.

O. K. Corral helps train more people to use horses in the fields of mental health and wellness, working with anyone of any age who can benefit from therapeutic activities involving horses. This training for certified professional

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Shorts...

Continued from Page 1

Lions Kick-off on August 24

MONTGOMERY—North Alabama learned the kickoff time last week for its football season opener less than three months away against Southeast Missouri State that will air on national television.

For a second straight season, UNA will play in the FCS Kickoff at the historic Cramton Bowl in Montgomery on Saturday, August 24. Kickoff is at 6pm on ESPN. This will be the first prime time college football game of the 2024 season.

Last season, UNA fell to Mercer 17-7, in one of two nationally televised games for the Lions in 2023. The Lions also battled No. 4 Florida State on The CW in the season Finale and garnered over 1.3 million viewers, the highest primetime viewing on CW's network in over six years. UNA is one of just 16 teams to play in the FCS Kickoff, which began in the 2014 season. The game has been played in Montgomery since 2017.

UNA has an all-time record of 32-21 in 54 televised games since 1980. This does not include games on ESPN+ or ESPN3.

For more schedule updates as they become available, visit roarlions.com.

Noon-1pm: Lunch Break (while clay dries)
1- 3pm: Glaze and place in kiln.

All District in Academics

GREENWOOD, IN – College Sports Communicators announced the 2023-24 Academic All-District team for softball last week. The University of North Alabama was represented by **Hailey Jones, Sidney Bevis** and **Lillyanna Cartee** on the list.

To be eligible, student-athletes must have participated in 90% of games or started at least 66% of games and have a minimum 3.50 cumulative GPA.

Jones is a junior second baseman who batted .291 and only struck out eight times in 185 plate appearances. She earned all-conference honors for the second straight season. Jones has not missed any starts since her freshman season with 166 career starts. In 54 games this season, she also ranked second in the Atlantic Sun Conference with 15 doubles and turned in 13 multi-hit games. In addition to her playing accolades, Jones was selected to the Academic All-ASUN team.

Jones is a finalist for the CSC Academic All-American team which will be voted on by sports information directors from across the nation over the next two weeks. All-Americans will be announced June 18.

Bevis, a senior outfielder, repeats as a CSC Academic All-District selection for the second straight season. She started 50 games for the Lions this season, totaling 31 hits and ranking fifth on the team with 20 runs scored. On defense, Bevis totaled a .989 fielding percentage with just one error on 88 chances. She turned three double plays and had the final catch at the right field wall to secure a win over Austin Peay in the ASUN Championship Tournament. She was also an Academic All-ASUN selection this season.



Hand Building in Ceramics

FLORENCE—The Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts will host a ceramics hand building workshop with **Aaron Benson**, UNA Chair of Visual Arts and Design, Associate Professor and Director of Ceramic and Sculpture. Learn more about clay by building and glazing your own work in this one-day class from 9am–3pm on Saturday, June 15. Registration is limited, so sign-up soon!

Aaron Tennessee Benson has 20 years of experience working in clay. He received his MFA in Ceramics from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville. He has been an intern at Anderson Ranch Art Center in Colorado and a long-term resident and MJD Fellow at Archie Bray Foundation in Montana. Benson's work has been published, collected, and exhibited both nationally and internationally. His current body of work uses traditional ceramic hand building methods to create large scale public works.

The workshop fee is \$95 and includes the cost of instruction and materials.

Register in person at the Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts, 217 E. Tuscaloosa St. in Florence. NOTE: Payment can ONLY be made with cash or check. The deadline to register is June 11. For more information, please call 256-760-6379.

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE:
9am- Noon: Introduction, design, and hand-build

See SHORTS...on Page 10

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Yard Sales

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

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

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

FLORENCE MULTI-FAMILY MOVING SALE

217 Cottonwood Run, (off Middle Road) Fri. & Sat., 7am-4pm, Furniture, Chairs, Lamps, TVs, Tools, Gardening items, Linens, Bedding, Framed art, Books, Civil War items, Snow Village, Christmas items, Kitchen, Decorative items and much more!
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FLORENCE: YARD SALE 4042 Peachtree St. (Off Cox Creek Pkwy) Fri. Sat. 7 am Huge sale, 4 families!

FLORENCE BIG YARD SALE, 7995 Co. Rd. 5, Fri. & Sat., 7am-until? Antique dresser with mirror, cast iron pot, outdoor furniture, plus size ladies clothes and lots of other items.

FLORENCE MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE, 82 Old Orchard Road, Fri. & Sat., June 7th & 8th, 7am-until?

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FLORENCE: ORCHARD MILL SUBDIVISION YARD SALE Fri. 10-5 Sat. 8-5 Clothes, jewelry, houseware, furniture, misc.

FLORENCE: YARD SALE 5789 Highway 43 Fri. June 7 - Sat. June 8 7:00, Antiques, Furniture, Clothing, Household, Tools and more. Intersection of Highway 43 and County Road 64 near Greenhill.

TUSCUMBIA: YARD SALE 908 N. High St. Sat. 6/8 Kid and adult clothes, houseware, and a little of everything!

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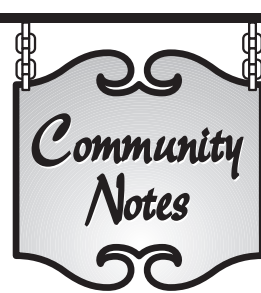
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• Email to editor@courierjournal.net

Lexington Senior Center Swamp John's Dinner - June 4. Your choice of shrimp, fish, or chicken. Includes slaw, fries, dessert & drink. \$15 a plate. Come and enjoy Swamp John's with us!

1st Annual Love Shouldn't Hurt Vendor Market Sat & Sun Sept. 7-8. At the Roundhouse in Tusculmbia (110 North Indian St.) Vendor setup, 4-7 Fri. Sept. 6. 8x8 spaces available for \$40 each non-refundable fee. Food trucks available for \$100 per space. Limited spaces; reserve today. Call CCDVRC at 256-284-2284. Email: colbertdvrc@aol.com.

LifeSouth Bloodmobile Dates:
Wednesday, June 5 Austin's Shoes - Florence, Noon - 6pm

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

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

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

Tuesday, June 11 Farris Wholesale Outlet Inc., 220 Farris Drive, Leighton, 10am - 3pm

The Summer Music Series at Wilson Park for 2024 continues,

sponsored by Florence Parks and Recreation Dept.

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

June 7 - Deja Vu

June 14 - David Phillips Band

June 21 - Father and Sons

June 28 - Joseph Baldwin

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

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

The Valdosta Community Reunion will be postponed until the Fall of 2024 due to a lot of families going on vacation in June. Any questions, call Penny 256-856-0835.

Utility Assistance for the 2024 cooling season begins in June.

Applications are available at the Community Action Agency of Northwest Alabama website: caanw.org or come the local office in your county and pick up an application. Utility appointments will be open later in June. Please check the appointment line for availability. 256-764-5142

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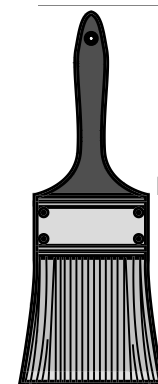
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Questions? Call our office at 256-764-4268.

SkillsUSA...

Continued from Page 1

Caree both have completed all 10 ASE certifications for entry-level mechanics. Beau is graduating from CHHS this spring and has hopes to attend the Assets program through Lawson State Community college on scholarships. Caree is a sophomore.

Bennett asked Caree if she wanted to enter the motorcycle competition because they did not have anyone from their school and a spot was available. Caree jumped at the chance. Harley Davidson provided the motorcycles and mechanics. The competition requires several stations, including a mock interview. Although she had never been formally trained on motorcycles, she used her knowledge and skillful resources to walk away with the victory. She was the only girl representing the automotive department. Caree is often asked if she feels intimidated and she always gives the same answer: NO. Her brother and fellow classmates have always treated her as an equal.

"Beau and Caree got their love for engines and mechanic work genetically," stated their mother, Donna. Donna's father, Bill Dulaney, was a very talented Diesel and Auto mechanic for

the Corp of Engineers and found working on engines as a passion. "I can remember seeing Beau as a 4-year-old having his battery-operated car turned upside down fixing it in our garage," she added. Their other grandfather is Tom Hendrix, who built an 8-million-pound wall off County Rd 8 by the Natchez Trace. Determination was bred in these kids. Both grandfathers would be very proud. So was great aunt, Shirley Liles. She and her husband, Grady, now both deceased, "thought the sun rose and set on these two."

"Graduation was sad not having any of them with us," Beau said, "but we have each other, and that's a lot."

Caree is out fundraising and seeking sponsorships for her trip to Atlanta for Nationals.

Local winners at the Alabama SkillsUSA:

- COLBERT CO. SCHOOLS
- Aidan Bruns, McKenna Crisler, and Lindsey Pate** – Gold Community Service Project
- Caree Hendrix** – Gold-Motorcycle Service Tech
- Elijah Hand** - Silver - Power Equipment Service Technology.
- Isaiah Wingo and Michael Colella** – Silver Robotic Urban Search and Rescue
- Beau Hendrix** – Bronze-Diesel Equipment Tech

- DESHLER HIGH
- Adyn Norris** - Silver - Computer Programming
- CENTRAL HIGH
- Madalyn Higgins** - Silver - Cosmetology
- Alexandrya Towns and Caroline Butler** – Gold – Class Project Display
- MUSCLE SHOALS HIGH
- Danielle Croteau** – Gold– The Hub Games
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Angel...

Continued from Page 1

therapists and everyday people encourages attendees to look beyond horsemanship, irrational fears, and their own biases by promoting the use of astute observation, nonverbal communication, and some common sense.

Angel Mission is a local nonprofit that does equine therapy and natural recovery techniques for those facing a variety of life challenges. They are looking for counselors, social workers and individuals who would like to join them on this journey to help those us have suffered trauma.

Proshot Concrete in Florence awarded a training scholarship making it possible to help a bright young person to attend the seminar and receive a certification in Equine Learning. These techniques can now be used to help others prosper.

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by "The Computer Skeptic"



Jim Fisher

offering you one year of complimentary credit monitoring, identity theft detection, and resolution services, provided by Experian's IdentityWorksSM. To get started with IdentityWorksSM, please follow the instructions below and enroll by August 30, 2024."

Looks like AT&T decided to play a game of Cyber Exposure this week! Hackers strolled in like they were walking into an unlocked AOL chatroom in 1998. Here's

the download on this digital dustup:

Security Measures? More like "Security Suggestions." AT&T's defenses were about as strong as a toddler's fort made of pillows. Hackers probably used a password as complex as "guest123" to waltz right in.

Customer Data? More like "Customer... Data?" Names, addresses, social security numbers, even your favorite emoji – all up for grabs.

Maybe the hackers will use your grandma's cat's name

("Whiskers McFluffypants") as their next online alias.

Social Media? More like "Social Media Meltdown." Twitter is exploding with jokes about how this hack is less surprising than finding out robocalls actually come from robots. The only positive trend? Memes about confused pigeons trying to deliver the aforementioned apology letter.

The Future? More like "The Future is Uncertain (But Hopefully More Secure)." This whole mess is a reminder that even the giants can stumble. Hopefully, AT&T will invest in some actual security this time around. Maybe even hire a guard goose – those things are fierce.

So what should you do? Well, be mad. AT&T dropped the ball hard. But this data

"breach ball" is dropped so often by other large companies that we consumers are almost numb to it. If you are so inclined, by all means take them up on the free credit reporting services. The worst case scenario is one where your identity is stolen and thieves try to buy new cars and houses in your name. So be vigilant over the next few months as this thing settles down.

For questions or comments, Contact the Computer Skeptic, Jim Fisher at Jim@ExcelAL.com



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Shorts...

All District in Academics

Continued from Page 2

Cartee, a junior first baseman, joins the pair with her first career academic all-district honors. The JUCO transfer from Wallace State had 44 appearances and 43 starts in her debut season at UNA, totaling 30 hits with nine doubles, two triples and a homer. Cartee had the third-longest hit streak for UNA this season spanning nine games. In the classroom, Cartee has a perfect 4.0 GPA.

Two Legacy Scholarships

SHEFFIELD—The family of the late **Thomas Sledge** continues to honor the legacy of love and principles of education, faith, and the community that he stood for.

Thomas' Legacy Of Love supported two deserving students at Sheffield High School Awards Day on May 17. **Daisy Loza** and **Iyana Davis** each received a \$1000 scholarship.

Daisy Loza is the daughter of **Maximilian Loza**. Daisy will attend NWSCC to pursue studies for a medical career.



Loza

Iyana Davis is the daughter of **Carolyn Birgans**. Iyana will attend NWSCC to pursue a degree in Criminal Justice.

Additionally, the students were awarded laptops by Sharon's Arms to enhance their educational journey.

The collaborative gestures embodies the spirit of education and community. Thomas' story of 26 years in assisting **Jerry Mills** and dedicating himself to ensuring students at SHS had a brighter future is a testament to his Legacy



Davis

of Love. Donations to support Thomas' Legacy of Love are accepted at Bank Independent.

Camps Set for Volleyball

FLORENCE – UNA head volleyball coach **Tristan Johnson** has announced the 2024 volleyball camp schedule set to be hosted at Flowers Hall this summer.

The Lions will have five camps across June and July, receiving coaching and instruction from the UNA volleyball coaches and players. The camps are open to all, limited by number, age, grade level, and gender.

UNA opens with Cubs Camp on June 3 from



Johnson

1-4pm. The opening session will focus on basic skill instruction for K-6th graders in serving, passing, setting, attacking and defense.

The College Prospect Camp follows on June 13 from 9am-4pm and is open to all 9-12 graders who are experienced and looking to play at the collegiate level. The two-session camp will also include the opportunity to learn and train alongside North Alabama players and coaches.

UNA will host a two-session Positional Camp on July 8 from 9am-4pm, where 6-12 graders can receive instruction on the different positions in volleyball. A second two-day session on July 9 sees the Lions host the All Skills Camp from 9am-4pm focusing on basic volleyball skills for 5-12 graders. The Lions will conclude the summer with a Team Camp from July 10-11.

Lunch will be provided for the College Prospect, Positional, and All Skills camps, while all campers will receive a small volleyball to take home.

Fans can visit the camp website for more information at <https://www.tristanjohnsonvolleyballcamps.com/> or reach out to UNA Assistant Volleyball Coach **Lauren Deaton** at Ideaton2@una.edu.

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The City of Sheffield
will begin taking applications for **CORRECTIONS OFFICER**
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Leighton Museum...

Continued from Page 1

Madding Preuit Evans Family, and others.

The reimagined museum space now allows visitors to explore diverse stories and themes from Leighton's past. These include the railroad, agriculture, military, sports, education, daily life, Native American history and a rich history of contributions and achievements of its Black American citizens. The variety of fascinating artifacts include Native American pieces, memorabilia from LaGrange College and the Civil and World Wars, and numerous photographs and items depicting early life in Leighton.

The Leighton Training School stands as a testament to the resilience and determination of the African American community in the face of segregation and inequality. Built in 1929 through funds raised by the local community, the school provided a beacon of educational opportunity at a time when chances were limited for Black Americans. Over the decades, Leighton Training School produced generations of successful alumni who went on to make their mark across various fields.

Percy Sledge was an influential American R&B and soul singer-songwriter, best known for his 1966 hit song "When a Man Loves a Woman." He was born in Leighton in 1941 and worked as a hospital orderly before pursuing his musical career.

Jimmy Hughes was another acclaimed soul singer from the Leighton area. Though he never achieved the mainstream



success of Percy Sledge, Hughes was an integral part of the local music scene in the 1960s and 1970s and part of what shaped the "Muscle Shoals Sound."

One of the most notable figures in Leighton's history is Bob Carl Baily, who became the Shoals' first Black American radio announcer. His voice paved the way for greater representation in the media landscape. Baily's passion for broadcasting led him to establish his own radio station, WZZA, in 1972. This was a groundbreaking endeavor that amplified Black voices and fostered a sense of community. Today, his daughter, Tori, carries on his legacy as the General Manager of WZZA.

Renita Jimmar's tenure as Mayor of Leighton from 1983-1991 marked a significant milestone in the town's history. Her leadership and vision paved the way for greater representation and inclusivity in local governance.

The museum also honors Ozzie Newsome, a former Alabama Crimson Tide and NFL tight end and celebrated

Baltimore Ravens executive who was elected to the College Football Hall of Fame in 1994 and the Pro Football Hall of Fame in 1999.

Former Auburn Tiger Ed West is also spotlighted.

He played in over 200 NFL games in 14 seasons from 1984-1997.

Leighton also produced two outstanding professional basketball talents brothers John and Leon Douglas. John, the older of the two, stood 6'8" and played power forward. He was drafted 18th overall by the Seattle SuperSonics in 1986 after a stellar career at Auburn.

Standing at 6'11", Leon was a dominant center who played at Alabama before being selected 4th overall by the Los Angeles Clippers in the 1990 NBA draft. Both Douglas brothers enjoyed long and successful careers in the NBA.

These individuals, and countless others, have left an indelible mark on Leighton, shaping its narrative and embodying the town's spirit of resilience, determination, and community.

For more information visit the Leighton Museum Facebook Page.

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Commentary

Sad Day for US

The predictable end to the New York Circus further jeopardizes our Republic and undermines confidence in our legal system.

Walton Saw the Court of Life

While I was a kid growing up in California, most college sports enthusiasts thought the sun rose and set with USC football and UCLA basketball. When it came to UCLA, they were right.

The Bruins had few rivals, because so few teams then were even competitive. They were national champions in '64, '65, '68, '69, and '70. However, during UCLA's legendary 88 game winning streak from 1971-74, their average margin of victory was 23 points.

I didn't like John Wooden or Bill Walton. There was no legitimate reason; they simply won too much. Walton's unexpected passing

See WALTON... on Page 20

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In A Few Words



TOM MAGAZZU
Editor

Courier Journal

in the Shoals

THIS WEEK

June 5, 2024

Happening THIS WEEK

Let's Celebrate

Sledgefest Spreads Community Spirit

LEIGHTON—With fewer than 700 residents, the charming Shoals community of Leighton is bursting with pride and a rich musical heritage. And Leighton knows how to celebrate!

One of its most cherished events is Sledgefest, a lively festival June 7-9 honoring the legacy of music legend Percy

Sledge, a weekend filled with music and fun.

Sledgefest kicks off at 6pm Friday, June 7 with Amanda Brewer and Soulful Swagger, promising an evening of great vibes. Saturday, June 8 is Jimmy Hughes Day! The music lineup is packed,

See SLEDGE... on Page 31



THE GROUNDBREAKING FOR A NEW A NEW PICKLEBALL/TENNIS COMPLEX in Florence will take place at 10am Wednesday, June 5 at Veterans Memorial Park. This exciting new addition to our community will provide top-tier facilities for tennis and pickleball enthusiasts. The \$9.4 million project is expected to be completed in 2025.

Everyone in the community is invited to attend for the groundbreaking ceremony and celebrate the beginning of this exciting new chapter for Veterans Memorial Park

The 3rd Junior Archaeological Dig

FLORENCE—Pope's Tavern Museum will host its third Annual Junior Archaeology Day on Saturday, June 8 from 9am-2pm.

Junior Archaeology Day gives anyone interested an opportunity to excavate, sift,



clean, and sort artifacts at different stations throughout the Pope's Tavern archaeological site. Everyone is welcome to come and learn more about archaeology and participate

See DIG... on Page 28



THE NATIONAL RACE AMITY ORGANIZATION has an overall mission of the cultivation of friendship (amity) among all people regardless of race. Events on Saturday, June 8 include Florence Library 10am-noon: Experience the history of Stewart Springs through in a visual tour and description

presented by the Florence Museum with commentary by Mrs. Anita Cobb. There will also be a presentation of the Race Amity Award for 2024. Historic Black Florence Tours will take place in Florence Tourism Bureau vans each hour on Saturday, June 8 from 1-3pm. Each tour will start at the W.C. Handy Museum on West College St. The tours are free to the public.

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What Will They Do?

Editor,

I voted Split Ticket in the State of Alabama up until 2020 Election. Alabama passed the Straight Ticket voting as of Sept. 29, 2020. There are six states that provided Straight Ticket voting as of that date. These include Alabama, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Oklahoma, and South Carolina.

What are the states with Straight Ticket voting to do if the Republicans don't have a candidate to vote for this coming November election? How can they vote?

Frances Sanderfer
Florence

Felon or a Geezer

Editor,

I would rather have a convicted felon in the White House than a demented old geezer who can't read a teleprompter, misreads the note cards that his handlers create for him, and needs his wife to lead him off the stage safely.

Meanwhile, the convicted felon raised over \$50 million in the following 24 hours.

I'm looking forward to both performances at the debates.

Jane Hensley Brasfield
Florence

About Race Amity

Dear Sir,

The Race Amity Coalition of the Shoals would like to publicly and sincerely thank the Lauderdale County Commission and the following Shoals mayors for unitedly proclaiming Sunday, June 9 as Race Amity Day in the Shoals. Mayor Andy Betterton of Florence, Mayor Steve Stanley of Sheffield, Mayor Mike Lockhart of Muscle Shoals, and Mayor William Foster of Tuscumbia.

By issuing this proclamation the political leaders of our area have officially recognized the reality

See LETTERS...on Page 26

STRANGE — but TRUE

- “Witch windows,” or diagonal windows, exist almost exclusively in Vermont. Their moniker comes from the superstition that witches can’t maneuver their broomsticks through slanted windows.

- More than 70 species of mushrooms glow in the dark.

- A 67-year-old woman named Dorothy Fletcher had a heart attack on a plane. When the stewardess asked if a doctor was on board, luck was on Dorothy’s side: Fifteen people on their way to a cardiology conference stood up! Dorothy survived.

- A killer fog that swathed London in 1952 and left as many as 12,000 people dead led to Parliament’s passing the first Clean Air Act in 1956.

- “Percussive maintenance” is the technical term for hitting something until it works.

- Richard Anthony Jones spent 17 years in jail on a robbery charge until talk by some of his fellow

inmates revealed he had a doppelganger with the same first name in the same jail. This second Jones was actually the guilty party.

- Before his acting career took off, Harrison Ford worked as a roadie for The Doors. That gig proved so intense that he humorously claimed he was “one step away from joining a Jesuit monastery” after it ended.

- Black cats are considered to bring good luck in Japan.

- While doing research for the film “Castaway,” William Broyles Jr. isolated himself on a beach for a week to immerse himself in the survival experience, which lent authenticity to the screenplay.

Thought for the Day:
 “By seeing each day and each situation as a kind of training exercise, the stakes suddenly become a lot lower. The way you interpret your own mistakes and the mistakes of others is suddenly a lot more generous.” -- Ryan Holiday

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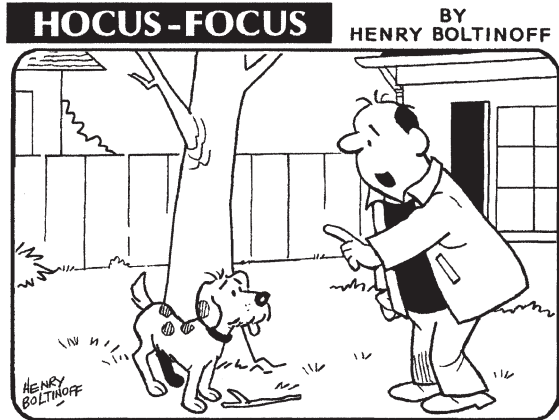
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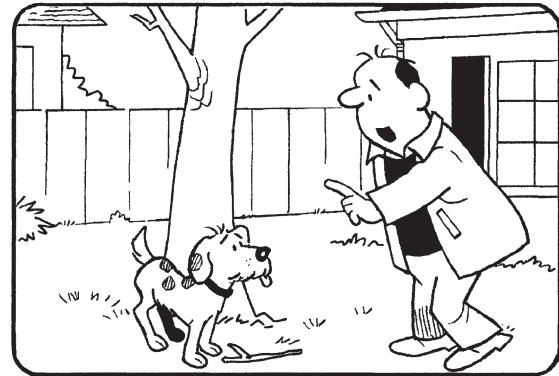
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ASK THE ATTORNEY



Thomas McCutcheon

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

Social Security And On-The-Job Injuries

People don't realize that Social Security Disability has a cap that will not allow a person to make more money disabled than when they worked. A person receives social security because of a disability as opposed to receiving social security as a result of age. The idea here is that if you become disabled but you've paid your social security through your employment, you can draw social security disability when you become disabled and don't have

to wait until the age at which you could draw your regular social security.

That cap is 80 percent of your pre-injury earnings.

Congress decided that there was something inherently wrong with allowing someone who doesn't work to have all of the money they had if they did work. When a person is injured on the job, they can and should receive worker's compensation payments. It is not uncommon for an on-the-job injury to cause someone to become disabled from work. Physical disabilities affect each person differently which is why they call it personal injury. However, worker's comp can take away some or all of a person's SSDI Benefits.

In both on-the-job injury cases and social security disability cases the idea is that a physical impairment such as a lifting restriction may put some workers out of work but not others depending on that person's age and trade. A dentist who can't lift more than 20 pounds can still be a dentist. A UPS delivery driver who can't lift more than 20 pounds is no longer a delivery driver.

Worker's compensation counts as income that will lower a person's Social Security Disability amount unless the lawyer handling the worker's compensation case includes specific language that is accepted by social security. If that's not done, then the money that you get from worker's compensation and social security offset each other and you don't get both. It's important to get it right.

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

Please send the questions to: "Ask the Attorney,"

P. O. Box 38, Florence, Alabama 35631 or visit our website at: www.mhatty.com

facebook: McCutcheon and Hamner, P.C.

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Our next Medicare Class is Thursday, June 20th 11am-Noon @ Alabama Health Guidance 885 Florence Blvd. Florence, AL

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of your Community.

Courier Journal Community Notes



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Commentary

Walton...

Continued from Page 12

last week brought back a flood of memories.

Bill Walton was firmly entrenched in that winning streak. However, he didn't start it.

Walton arrived on campus with long wavy hair, a pampered upbringing, and a counterculture attitude of the times. He initially told Wooden he was not going to get his hair cut as he has been directed. Wooden had three words for him: "We'll miss you."

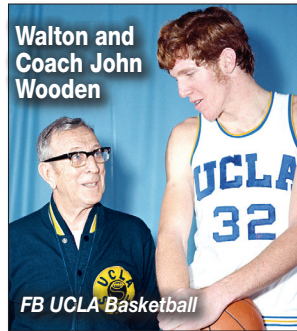
This was during a time when freshmen were not allowed to play on the varsity team.

Walton had to watch as the defending national champion Bruins started the 1970-71 season 14-0 and

had won 19 consecutive games. Then on January 23, 1971, Austin Carr – soon-to-be national player of the year – scored 46 points to help Notre Dame defeat UCLA 89-82. That was the most any opposing player ever scored against a John Wooden-coached team.

UCLA's 88 game streak started the next Saturday against UC Santa Barbara. Obviously, they won the national championship that year (1971) and again in 1972, and 1973, which were Walton's sophomore and junior years.

Walton was a senior and he had yet to taste defeat wearing a UCLA uniform. (His freshman team also went undefeated.) Then almost exactly three years to the day on January 19, #1 UCLA visited #2 Notre Dame.



The Bruins controlled the game from the outset and went up 70-59 with just over three minutes left. They would not score again. The Irish scored the last 12 points and withstood the furious last few seconds with UCLA in the frontcourt to eke out the 71-70 win. And they had to do it the hard way, two points at a time.

In the early 1970s, the college game was different. Dunking was not allowed, players could not leave college early for the NBA, there was no shot clock, and no 3-point shot.

UCLA had a few uncharacteristic turnovers and chose not to hold the ball, instead missing a couple of critical close shots.

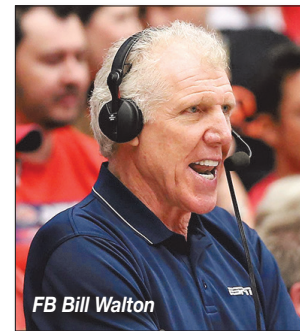
Walton scored 24 points that game on 12 of 14 shooting, but Notre Dame effectively limited his touches.

Walton was a 3-time college player of the year (now called The John R. Wooden Award). The only other 3-time winner was Virginia's Ralph Sampson. Walton's career record with UCLA's varsity was 86-4.

Walton scored 44 points in the 1972 National Championship game win against Memphis State, while making 21 of his 22 shots. It is the highest point total ever in a Division I men's basketball championship game and his field goal percentage is the highest ever for a Division I player with at least 20 made shots in a game.

Foot problems disrupted much of his NBA career, but when healthy he was sensational. He led Portland to an unlikely NBA title in '77 and was named the NBA's MVP in 1978. He had a resurgence in 1986 coming off the bench and was named NBA 6th Man of the Year helping Boston Celtics to the NBA title, one of only two players ever to win both awards.

For someone so accomplished to be comfortable coming off the bench is not typical. But neither was Walton.



His whole adult life was centered around how he could be of help, be it his team, his beloved conference, his colleagues, his associates, the world as a whole, or a person on the street.

However, Walton really liked hearing about others, their lives, goals, trials, and successes. When he was listening, he was learning.

Not many people know that Walton had so much back pain at one point that he contemplated suicide. Thankfully, medical advances helped alleviate much of that pain.

He had to overcome a speech impediment, and he used his distinctive voice and overwhelming enthusiasm to become one of the best color commentators in basketball history, an Emmy winner.

Many didn't like his style, saying he talked

too much, and he thought he knew everything. Essentially, they were right. I would watch games in which I had no interest other than listening to Walton's contributions. He may get off on a tangent, but it was invariably highly enlightening and would be information you would never hear anywhere else.

I was wrong about Wooden and Walton as a kid.

Anyone who knows college basketball knows that Wooden may have been the finest person ever associated with the game.

Walton didn't have Wooden's calm demeanor, clean-cut appearance, or perspective on life. However, he was an icon at every level of his career. He was always smiling – regardless of pain – and finding ways to encourage others. He took the time to talk to nobodys and had loads of fun doing it, he never took himself too seriously, and those routinely around him really enjoyed the ride. Watching him operate was a life lesson for all of us.

Describing his approach to life in a basketball vernacular, Walton could see the whole court and could always find the open man.

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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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THE LAUDERDALE COUNTY COURTHOUSE AND LAUDERDALE COUNTY GOVERNMENT OFFICES in the Government Building will be closed Wednesday, June 19th for Juneteenth. Regular business hours will resume on Thursday, June 20th. Brenda Bryant, County Administrator

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Looking For Jesus

I don't understand a saved person not wanting or looking for the Lord to come back. **Titus 2:13** "Looking for that blessed hope, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ;" **Hebrews 12:2** "Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God." We are promised a crown just for loving his appearing. **2 Timothy 4:1** "I charge thee therefore before God, and the Lord Jesus Christ, who shall judge the quick and the dead at his appearing and his kingdom;" **2 Timothy 4:8** "Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing." I can see why a lost man fears the appearance of Jesus Christ, because soon he must answer and give account for his sins and why he rejected Him. Anyone that dies without Christ now is headed for the lake of fire and the 2nd death.

But a saved man should rejoice when he sees his Saviour because he's finally headed to his eternal home, heaven! Today, there is just too much of the lost world in the saved church. Churches either look like they are mourning the dead or have become entertainment centers. Weeping over sin and rejoicing over salvation and heaven seem to be a thing of the past. What has happened to the old songs and preaching from the old book? Saved men used to be called to preach! Preachers used to have a scriptural authority, but not anymore. We have failed 2 generations of young people. The churches have mostly older folk set in their ways. Yes, I am looking for Jesus because He is my way out of this wicked world! Heaven is a permanent vacation and freedom from the presence and power of sin. The devil is not wanting Jesus to come either. Do you have more in common with him or God? If so, you need to get saved right now.

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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. Basement	_ E _ _ _	Neckband	_ O _ _ _
2. Dog lead	_ _ _ _ H	Smallest amount	_ _ _ _ T
3. Hairdresser	_ _ _ B _	Carnival announcer	_ _ _ K _
4. Crease	_ _ _ T _	Beg	_ _ _ D _
5. Sylvester's prey	_ _ _ E _	Two decades	_ _ _ N _
6. Lance	_ _ B _ _	More secure	_ _ F _ _
7. Tenor Bocelli	_ _ _ _ A _	Lloyd Webber	_ _ _ _ W
8. Apply a coat	_ A _ _ _	Aim	_ O _ _ _
9. Stylish	N _ _ _ _	Half a century	F _ _ _ _
10. Haphazard	_ _ _ D _	Payoff money	_ _ _ S _

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5				
	2	6		3
			5	2
6		4		
	4			5

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 LADDERS

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

OCHER

EATER

Answers on Page 30

WORD SPIRAL

W		S
	Y	
H		I

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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ON YOUR DEBT

Are You Responsible For A Family Member's Debt When They Die?



B. Grant McNutt
Managing Attorney

I am often asked this question by clients and the bottom line is this: You do not inherit debt under Alabama law.

Let us dig into the detail. If you co-signed on a loan with them, then you would be liable for the remainder of that loan. If your family member ran up \$50,000 on a credit card debt in their name before they died, the credit card company won't be paid only in the event they are insolvent. You may have to provide a copy of the death certificate to the creditors so that the debts could be written off by them.

the home. You would owe nothing. The mortgage company would go through the foreclosure process and write off the debt. You would not have any legal or moral obligation to accept the house and continue to pay for it. Sometimes people think if they are given something in a will, they must keep it. You do not have to if it is not a benefit to you.

Let me say it again—You do not inherit debt under Alabama law. Do not let any creditors or anyone else tell you differently and especially do not let them bully you into paying them.

If they have assets, then you may not receive an inheritance from them due to their property being sold off to pay their creditors and/or the inheritance you would have received may be reduced by the debt the deceased estate pays out to its creditors.

Let me give you an example that I see happen quite often in our practice. Let's say the deceased family member owned a home and they are behind on the mortgage, or they owe more on the house than it's worth. You could simply let the mortgage company have

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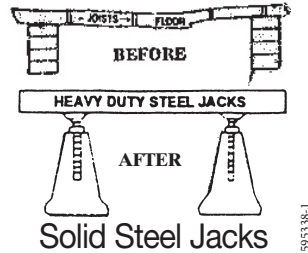
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Vehicle to be sold as is.

Letters...

About Race Amity...

Continued from Page 12

of our national motto, *E Pluribus Unum*, "Out of many one," that appears on every coin and bill of our currency.

This is the 104th anniversary of the national observance which began in 1920, and this year will mark the establishment of a National Race Amity Center in Atlanta this coming October.

Annie P. Minor
Florence

A Place for Such Content

Editor,

I remember as a kid reading Ray Bradbury's book, *Fahrenheit 451*, and thought to myself that the banning of books was an archaic term not relevant for over a thousand years.

When Salman Rushdie's book, *The Satanic Verses*, was attacked by some people, the world stood up and resisted such nonsense.

Nowadays, there are so many books about homosexuality, lesbianism, transgenders,

and endless identifying pronouns that I gave up trying to wrap my mind around them. Many are written in orchestrated fashion and propped up with tantalizing titles in the children section of libraries. Of course, in Alabama that drew immediate responses from concerned parents.

I have always enjoyed reading books about everything under the sun, or so I thought. The very idea of book banning didn't sit well with me. Folks can even write books about Satan, praising him, stating how maligned he's been throughout history.

I believed no book, no matter how disgusting, should ever be banned. Was this maybe just another example of how Alabama politicians seem to always be looking for some path backwards? I had to think about this.

Should books written about how to damage schools or harm teachers be allowed in school libraries? Should a book written about homosexuality be taught and stuck in the face of an impressionable child? Many examples come to mind, and I began to realize that age-related and situational issues must be considered. You don't put pornographic magazines right next to the Scooby Doo comic books, and for good reason.

Young teens and smaller children don't make the best decisions and can easily be influenced by adults. Should librarians be held accountable for any of this? If it is they who decide which books are allowed, then maybe.

If their choices are presented to and approved by school leaders, then that responsibility should be passed on to the school administrators. This would encourage school officials to quit thinking that they know better than parents how to raise a child. My current view is no book should be banned. But there's a place for adult content. A children's section in a library is not such a place.

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Sat. • June 15th • 10AM

REAL ESTATE: This beautiful 109± acre Cypress Creek farm lies in the Cloverdale Community, fronting CR 8 and Cypress Creek. The farm consists of 65± acres of established pasture with the balance in woods. Structural improvements include a 3BR, 1BA home, barn and machinery shed. **Property will be offered in 5 tracts ranging in size from 1 acre to 45 acres, combinations of tracts and again as one unit.**




Open House: Sunday, June 9th, 1:00-3:00PM
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AUCTION

JAMES D. ASHMORE ESTATE
10560 COUNTY LINE RD, LEIGHTON, AL
Open House: June 16th, 1-3 pm
LIVE AUCTION
Sat. • June 22nd • 10AM
108± Ac • Home • 4 Tracts



Real Estate: This outstanding 108± acre farm fronts County Line Rd and 6th St, just north of Leighton. The real estate includes a beautiful 2-story brick home situated on 39± acres and the adjoining 69± acres of cropland fronting 6th St. Property will be offered in 4 tracts, combinations of tracts and again as one unit.

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Personal Property

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Tools: Wood working tools, saws, Woodmaster planer and drum sander, various Craftsman electric tools, Craftsman 10" radial saw, drill press and router, Porter Cable 60Gal-7hp air compressor, pipe clamps, hand tools, yard tools, shop vac, weed eaters and leaf blowers, ladders, skeet shooter, diesel tank and much more.

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Pick Up: June 29th, 9 - 3pm

TERMS: Cash or good check day of item pickup. Debit and credit cards accepted through online auction website. 7.25% Sales Tax to be collected. Personal Property will be sold "AS-IS" without warranties of any kind.

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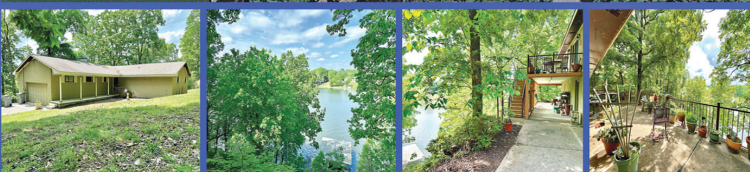
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SATURDAY JUNE 8TH 10 AM

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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.

HAVANA 1.5 year old Weimaraner mix! She loves kids, loves going on walks and loves laying around! She would prefer to be an only dog! For more info on this girl, please contact the **Colbert County Animal Shelter** at **256-381-4073**

STURGEON is a 1.5 year old lab mix! He is great with animals and people and very playful! **His adoption fee is \$25!** For more info, please contact the **Colbert County Animal Shelter** at **256-381-4073**

We think **GAMMA** is a little over a year, and she is super sweet, playful and mild mannered since joining us. Fostering is free! **Adoptions are currently \$25** and include everything your new pet needs to be on track for a happy, healthy life: vaccines, a microchip, spay/neuter, and heartworm test. Please call or come by **Florence Lauderdale animal services 256-760-6676** to meet this amazing dog.

This beautiful girl is a black lab mix. **BETA** is around age 3 and so adorable. She's ready to go home with you to play and snuggle. Fostering is free. Adoptions are currently \$25 and include everything your new pet needs to be on track for a happy, healthy life: vaccines, a microchip, spay/neuter, and heartworm test. Please call or come by **Florence Lauderdale animal services 256-760-6676** to meet this beautiful dog.

This adorable sweet faced girl is looking for a home with you. This sweet **COOKIE** needs love and attention. Come meet her please she will feel your heart with love. Adoptions are currently \$25 and include everything your new pet needs to be on track for a happy, healthy life: vaccines, a microchip, spay/neuter, and heartworm test. Please call or come by **Florence Lauderdale animal services 256-760-6676** to meet this wonderful dog. Please remember fostering is free.



Long-Term Care Benefits for Veterans and Surviving Spouses

Dear Savvy Senior,
 I understand that the Veterans Administration has a benefit that can help veterans and spouses with long-term care costs. We recently had to move my elderly father into an assisted living memory care facility, and my mother will probably need care too in the near future. What can you tell me?
 Searching for Aid

Dear Searching,
 The Veterans Administration (VA) does indeed have an underutilized benefit that can help wartime veterans and their surviving spouses pay for a variety of long-term care costs. This benefit, called "Aid and Attendance," is a special pension that's paid on top of existing VA pensions for eligible veterans and surviving spouses. In 2024, it pays a maximum of \$2,727 a month to married veterans; \$2,300 a month to single veterans; or \$1,478 a month to a surviving spouse. The money is tax free, and can be used to pay for assisted living, memory care, nursing home or in-home care services.

Currently, around 156,000 veterans and survivors are receiving the Aid and Attendance benefit, but many thousands more are eligible who either don't know about it or don't think they qualify. **Eligibility Requirements**
 To qualify, your dad must have served at least 90 days of active military service with at least one day of service during a period of war, and not have been discharged dishonorably. Single surviving spouses of wartime vets are eligible if their marriage ended due to death.

In addition, your dad will also have to meet certain thresholds for medical and financial need to be eligible. To qualify medically he must be either disabled, or over the age of 65 and need help performing basic everyday living tasks such as eating, bathing, dressing or going to the bathroom. Being blind or in a nursing home due to disability or receiving Social Security Disability or SSI also qualifies him. Single surviving spouses have no age restrictions, but they must require help with basic everyday living tasks to be eligible.

To qualify financially your parents "net worth," which includes assets and annual income combined, must be below \$155,356 in 2024. To calculate this, add up your parent's assets, which includes their personal property (like investments, real estate, etc.) excluding their primary home and vehicles. And tally up their income over the past year (including Social Security, pensions, interest income from investments, annuities, etc.), minus any out-of-pocket medical expenses, prescription drugs, insurance premiums and long-term care costs over that same period of time.

The VA also has a three-year lookback to determine if your parents transferred any assets to ensure they would qualify for benefits. If so, they may be subject to a penalty period of up to 5 years.

How to Apply
 To apply for Aid and Attendance, you'll need to fill out VA Form 21-2680 and mail it to the Pension Management Center (PMC) for your dad's state. You'll need to have your dad's doctor fill out the examination information section. Or you can also apply in person at a VA regional office near your parents.

For more information or to download application forms see VA.gov/pension/aid-attendance-housebound. You can also call the VA at 800-827-1000 if you have questions.

If you need some help, you can appoint a Veteran Service Officer (VSO), a VA-accredited attorney or claims agent to represent your dad. See VA.gov/ogc/apps/accreditation/index.asp to locate someone.

If your dad is eligible, it can take months for his application to be processed, so be patient.

You should also know that if your dad's Aid and Attendance application is approved, the VA will send a lump sum retroactive payment covering the time from the day you filed the application until the day it was approved. Then your dad receives monthly payments going forward.

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.



Dig...
 Continued from Page 12

in an archaeological excavation. In addition, we will be hosting the following activities alongside the archaeological stations:
 Artifact Drawing workshop with Kurt Vettors from 9-10am. Learn how to sketch artifacts like the ones found at Pope's Tavern. All materials provided.

Plant Identification 101 with Summer McCreless from 10-11am. Learn how to identify, harvest respectfully, and use plants. Learn how plants were used in the past for medicine and in foods.

Blacksmith Demonstration with Ken Durham from 11am-noon. Watch a demonstration about how blacksmiths create metal tools. Flintknapping with Bill Skinner from 12-1pm.

Learn how projectile points, arrowheads and tools are made from chert.

This is a fun and free event for the entire family. Moundville Archaeological Park's Education Department and Florence Arts and Museums will be facilitating this event along with volunteers from the Archaeology at Pope's Tavern project. The University of Alabama Museums' Moundville Archaeological Park is among the largest and most widely studied archaeological sites in Alabama.

Pope's Tavern is located at 203 Hermitage Drive in Florence. Call 256-760-6379 for more information.

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 Wilson High School
 9:15-10:15am Central High School
 10:30-11:30am Cloverdale High School/Cloverdale Fire Dept.
 11:45-1pm Underwood High School
 1:15-2:15pm Florence-Lauderdale Animal Shelter

Saturday, June 8 (Crew 2)
 8:45-9:15am Handy Recreation Center
 9:30-10:30am Lauderdale County Co-Op
 10:45-11:45am Broadway Recreation Center
 12-1:15pm Royal Avenue Recreation Center
 1:30-3pm Cox Creek Farmer's Market

Monday, June 10
 3-4pm Elgin Fire Department
 4:14-5:15pm Center Star Baptist
 5:30-7pm Brooks High School

Tuesday, June 11
 3-3:45pm Waterloo High School
 4-4:45pm Waterloo Fire Department Station 2
 5-5:30pm Gravely Springs
 5:45-6:30pm Oakland Community Church
 6:45-7:45pm Threats Crossroad/Liberty Baptist Church

Thursday, June 13
 3-4pm Leighton High School
 4:15-5:15pm Grassy Baptist Church
 5:30-6:30pm Old Ball Field on Bayles Street
 6:45-7:45pm Lauderdale County High School

Friday, June 14
 3-4:15pm Leighton High School
 4:30-5:30pm Lone Cedar Church
 5:45-6:30pm Mt. Zion Church
 6:45-8pm St Florian Park

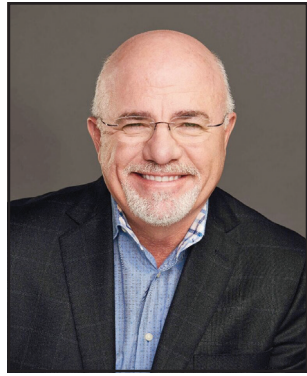
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DAVE Says

by DAVE RAMSEY

THERE'S NOTHING PASSIVE ABOUT REAL ESTATE

Dear Dave,
We sold our rental property recently. When we bought it, we thought it would be a good source of passive income. But owning it wasn't passive at all. It got to the point where the work and hassle became too much. We have \$240,000 from the sale, and we're debt-free except for our home. We owe \$140,000 on our house, and could pay it off instantly, but part of me wants to invest the



proceeds from the sale of the rental property. Is it better to become completely debt-free at this point, or should we invest it so we can have even more money for retirement?

Anthony

Dear Anthony,
You mean you had to actively manage your rental property? Listen, anyone who tells you real estate is passive income is full of crap. It's a natural extension of the garbage people spout about how it's okay

to go into debt to buy real estate, because the renter is making your payments. No, it's *your* payment. And when the renter doesn't pay, or it sits empty, guess what? You have to pay it.

If you want passive income, buy an S&P 500 index fund. Set it and forget it. You won't have to fix a leaky roof, replace worn out appliances or try to collect from deadbeat tenants. Real estate is a great way to invest, if you do it the right way. I love it. It's anything but passive, though.

Let me ask you this about your situation. If you had a paid-for house, would you borrow \$140,000 against it to invest? Of course not. It's pretty much the same thing, and that would be dumb. Pay off your home, brother. Just pay it off. You'll be debt-free, and you'll still have six figures to invest.

I love that you're thinking about the future, Anthony. And I know the compound interest you're visualizing down the road is really tempting. Your compound interest calculator will tell you some amazing things, but what it's leaving out is risk. It also can't tell you about the carefree way you'll walk, and how it'll feel like a huge weight has been lifted off your shoulders when you don't have a house payment. You'll be able to live life on your terms, and all the decisions you make will come from a completely different point of view—one that isn't burdened by the weight of bankers hovering around, waiting for you to give them what's theirs.

The borrower is *always* a slave to the lender. Think about it. Only one implication of slavery is mathematical. All the rest are spiritual, physical, relational, emotional and mental. Being debt-free changes your life from the inside-out. Not only does it make your life better, but it allows you to give with incredibly generosity, and be an agent for positive change in the lives of others.
Pay off the house!

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

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SIGNS OF THE PAST



Robert E. "Bob" Bruninga

Robert Bruninga's invention of the Automatic Packet Reporting System (APRL) for amateur radio in 1993 was adopted worldwide. He was inducted into the CQ Amateur Radio Hall of Fame in 2002 and received the Navy Meritorious Civilian Award in 2014.

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Walk of Honor, Florence, AL

A graduate of Coffee High, Bob went to GA Tech, then obtained a Masters in Electrical Engineering and retired as Senior Research Engineer at the U.S. Naval Academy. He had a lifelong love of electrical engineering and radio communication. After a 2 year struggle with cancer, COVID-19 precipitated his death in 2022.

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

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HOURS: Mon.-Thurs. 8am-5pm • Fri. 8am-12noon

Moving Sale!

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BIG HUGE SALE! JUNE 7th - 10th

Open extended hours 10 am to 6 pm, store open all 4 days with parking lot sale Sun 9th & Mon 10th.

Beds, lamps, glassware, jewelry, collectibles, chairs, furniture, and much more. Most items 25% off.
Moving to Parkway Shopping Center July 1st.

3926 Cloverdale Rd., Florence 256-263-7720

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.

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. Details: 256-366-6548.

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.

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

SHE Means Business Conference - June 11. 10am-4pm, 317 N. Court St., Florence. Tickets are \$50 for chamber members and \$75 for non-members.

Hosted by the Shoals Chamber. The 2024 SHE Means Business Conference will feature a keynote address from Mrs. Caroline Aderholt, lunch, panel discussions, and a cocktail networking hour. For details, please call 256-764-4661.

The National Race Amity Organization has an overall mission of the cultivation of friendship (amity) among all people regardless of race. Events on Saturday, June 8 include: Florence Library 10am-noon: Experience the history of Stewart Springs through in a visual tour and description presented by the Florence Museum with commentary by Mrs. Anita Cobb. There will also be a presentation of the Race

Amity Award for 2024.

Historic Black Florence Tours will take place in Florence Tourism Bureau vans each hour on Saturday, June 8 from 1-3pm. Each tour will start at the W.C. Handy Museum on West College St. The tours Free to the Public.

The Florence Singing River Square Dance Club Invites you to a FREE Square Dance Party at 5:30pm, Monday, July 1 at The Club 450 Country Club Drive, in Florence. Minimum age is 16 years. American Square Dancing is experiencing a revival and the community can enjoy an evening of Square Dance fun to celebrate. The party is FREE to everyone in the Shoals and surrounding communities. No Square Dance experience or special attire is required. Light refreshments will be provided.

Entertainment will be provided by internationally-known Square Dance Caller, Skip Cleland. For more information, contact: Fran Davis at 256-760-6420 or fdavis@florenceal.org

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.

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 Torey encourages all from the Word of God so bring a friend.

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

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Depending on your family size and household income, your premium may be as low as \$0 per month, based on the plan you choose!



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Mystery Photo

Courier Journal

OF THE WEEK

June 5

WIN A MEAL FOR 2




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in Downtown Florence

ENTER ONLINE at
www.courierjournal.net

Week of May 29 winner is
Joshua Schmidkofer of Florence
 who correctly guessed
"Old Funland Waterpark"

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.



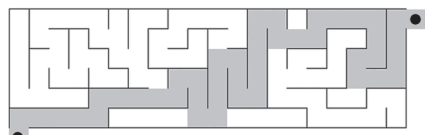
Puzzle Whirl

Answers

Even Exchange answers

- Cellar, Collar
- Leash, Least
- Barber, Barker
- Pleat, Plead
- Tweety, Twenty
- Saber, Safer
- Andrea, Andrew
- Paint, Point
- Nifty, Fifty
- Random, Ransom

Kids' Maze Solution



WORD LADDER

Answer
 OCHER, OTHER, OTTER,
 OUTER, OATER, EATER

Word Spiral Answer
 WASPISHLY

MINI SUDOKU

Answer

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

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Sledge...

Continued from Page 12

starting at 3:30pm with Studio 502, followed by The Midnighters at 5pm, The Pine Hill Haints at 6:30pm, and Howell Sledge and the Revue at 8pm. Special guests Catara Brae and DJ JROC will keep the energy high all day and night. Bring a chair and plan to spend the day—there will also be food trucks, artisans, and vendors!

The festival wraps up on Sunday, June 9 with a Gospel Afternoon at Galilee Missionary Baptist Church. Special guests will fill the air with uplifting gospel music, bringing a soulful end to an amazing weekend.

Sledgefest is free and open to everyone, inviting you to experience the warm and welcoming spirit of Leighton. It is more than a music festival—it's a celebration of Leighton's rich culture and community spirit.

For more information and updates about Sledgefest, follow Colbert County Tourism and the Town of Leighton on Facebook. For more information and updates about area events, visit our website at www.colbertcountytourism.org.

ANTIQUE OAK TABLE 38" x 42" 256-758-2326 \$300

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*Limited Pickup & Delivery Area. Expires Tuesday, 6/11/2024

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	UNIT
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
Angela Bridges	L23
Oscar Garcia	L26

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- ▶ **Social Security Denials**



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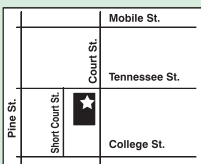


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No representation is made that the quality of legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services to be performed by other lawyers. We are a Debt Relief Agency and Attorneys at Law who, where appropriate, help people file for relief under the Bankruptcy Code.

Homecoming & Gospel Meeting

June 9-12

Pine Hill Church of Christ

1024 County Road 10 • Waterloo

Speaker: Ben Hayes

Sunday Morning Bible Study • 9 AM
Sunday Morning Worship • 10 AM
Sunday Morning Meal after Worship
Sunday Evening Worship • 1 PM
Monday Night - Wednesday Night • 7 PM

Everyone Welcome

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Big Star

Co. Rd. 47, St. Florian AL
256-764-0245

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2024 TERRAIN
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+ GM Bonus Cash \$1,500
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2023 ENVISION
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+ AWD Cash \$1,000
+ Ray Miller Discount \$4,528



(Must Finance) WAC **\$8,028 Total Savings**

2023 ACADIA
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+ Ray Miller Discount \$3,780



(Must Finance) WAC **\$5,780 Total Savings**

2024 ENCLAVE
Buick Conquest Purchase \$500
+ Buick GMC Consumer Cash \$1,250
+ Buick Bonus Cash \$500
+ Ray Miller Discount \$5,534



(Must Finance) WAC **\$7,784 Total Savings**

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+ GM Bonus Cash \$750
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13 Chevy Suburban
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Nice!
\$22,888



20 Kia Telluride
#24G-123A, 4 Door,
Leather,
1 Owner,
Nice!
\$22,888



21 Chevy Trailblazer
#21P-7262,
1 Owner, Loaded,
6yr/100K
Limited Warranty!
\$27,888



20 Volkswagen Tiguan
#24G-070A, 4 Door,
Red Line,
1 Owner,
Nice!
\$28,888



19 GMC Acadia SLE-2
#24G-171A,
1 Owner,
6 Yr./100K
Limited Warranty!
\$28,888



21 Buick Envision
#21P-6435, Sport
Touring, 6Yr./
100K Limited
Warranty!
\$32,788



21 Buick Envision
#21P-3096, 1 Owner,
TechPkg.,
6yr/100k,
Limited Warranty!
\$33,888



17 Dodge Ram 2500 Crew Cab
#24G-078A, Diesel,
4x4, Laramie,
Local Trade!
\$34,788



21 GMC Acadia Denali
#23G-175A,
1 Owner, 6yr/
100k Limited
Warranty!
\$34,888



21 Buick Enclave
#21P-1501, 4 Door,
1 Owner, 6Yr./
100K Limited
Warranty!
\$37,688



23 Jeep Wrangler
#24G-151A,
2 Door,
Willy's Edition,
1 Owner!
\$38,888



22 GMC Canyon AT4 Crew Cab
#23P-5250A,
1 Owner, 6yr/
100K Limited
Warranty!
\$41,888



22 GMC Acadia Denali
#22P-8974, 1 Owner,
6 Yr./100K
Limited
Warranty!
\$41,888



21 GMC Sierra 3500HD
#24G-108A,
Crew Cab,
1 Owner,
Nice!
\$44,788



22 GMC Sierra Limited
#24G-173A, SLT,
X31, 6yr/100k,
Limited
Warranty!
\$49,888



22 GMC Sierra
#24G-135A, 6.2 V8,
1 Owner, 6yr/
100k Limited
Warranty!
\$52,788



21 GMC Sierra AT4
#24G-160A,
Loaded,
6yr/100k
Limited Warranty!
\$52,788



21 GMC Sierra
#21P-5983, 6.2 V8,
Loaded,
6yr/100k
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20 Yukon Denali
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6yr/100k
Limited Warranty!
\$53,888



21 GMC Sierra Denali
#21P-2939, 1 Owner,
6yr/100k
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Warranty!
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ALL prices DO NOT INCLUDE tax, title & fees. Some photos for illustration purposes only.