

**Schedule for
Lauderdale**

FLORENCE—The Lauderdale County Solid Waste Dept. and the county landfill will be closing at noon on Christmas Eve (December 24) and will not reopen until Thursday, December 26.

Business will resume on Thursday, December 26. Regular routes will run on Christmas Eve, but not Christmas Day. So routes will be delayed by one day following the holiday. Wednesday's route will be on Thursday, Thursday's on Friday and Friday's on Saturday.

The department and landfill will be closed New Year's Day only, so routes will again be delayed one day that week following the holiday.

Anyone with any questions can call the Solid Waste Dept. office at 256-760-5878.

**Anglin Earns
More Awards**

NEW YORK – FCS Football Central announced its 2024 Freshman All-American Team on Tuesday, adding North Alabama linebacker and **Jerry Rice Award** finalist, **Josh Anglin**, to the distinguished list.

FCS Football Central on SI is part of the Sports Illustrated family.

"We are excited to see Josh rewarded for his amazing play as a freshman," said UNA head coach **Brent Dearmon**. "Josh Anglin has shown on and off the field

See SHORTS... Page 2

Volume 141 Number 8 December 18, 2024 POSTAL PATRON

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Historic Appointment

North Wood United Methodist Church Welcomes Rev. Kiki Woods-Terry as Senior Pastor



Kiki Woods-Terry has embraced a historic cross-racial opportunity at North Wood UMC amid shifting church dynamics. Photos: Abraham Rowe

In a significant moment for North Wood United Methodist Church (NWUM), the congregation recently welcomed Rev. Kiki Woods-Terry as their new Senior Pastor. Appointed by the North Alabama Methodist Conference, her leadership represents a historic cross-racial appointment, where the pastor is of a different race than most of the congregation. This milestone comes at a time when the United Methodist Church has experienced internal divisions. Several congregations departed over differing views on issues such as having women in ministry and other broader social matters.

NWUM faces challenges in revitalizing its congregation, which has seen declining membership as younger generations disconnect from traditional religious practices. The appointment of Woods-Terry brings fresh hope for rebuilding and inclusivity.

Pastor Kiki, as she is affectionately referred, recently shared some thoughts about her ministry and what it can bring to help rebuild the historic local congregation.

The Lineville, Alabama native

See HISTORIC... Page 4



**One of the Best to
Work For in Alabama**

SHEFFIELD— Bank Independent was named as one of the 'Best Companies to Work for in Alabama' for a 5th consecutive year. This annual program is in its 15th year - created by Business Alabama Magazine and Best Companies Group. An awards event took place recently at the Harbert Center Birmingham, and winners will be listed in the December issue of Business Alabama.

This recognition adds to the previous honors that Bank Independent has already received this year. It was ranked in the Top 100

Pictured above with their Best Companies to Work For Award are L-R: Ashley Balch, Public Relations Director; Chris King, Vice President-Director of Marketing; and Kelly Burdette Senior Vice President/Marketing and Digital.

Courtesy photo

See BEST... on Page 6

INSIDE this Issue

GAME DAY 2024 SCORE CARD **EARLY Deadline**

Automotive Inside NOW
Advance Auto Sales

- Ask the Attorney
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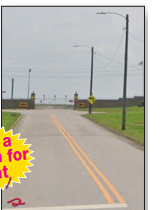
- An Eagle Nominee?
- Adopt-A-Friend
- Community Notes
- Your Letters

SIGNS of the PAST

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Community Notes

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

Tennessee Valley Art Association's Winter Art Market runs through December 23 featuring unique, high quality, handmade items in a wide variety of media. For more information, call 256-383-0533 or visit our website at tennesseevalleyarts.org.

Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church invites everyone to find Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love in Christ while gathering together this Christmas season
 December 18—Dinner then Christmas Caroling & Cocoa 5:30pm
 December 24—Come and Go Communion, 4-5:30pm
 December 24—Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 6pm
 Wesley Chapel is at 11025 County Rd 15 in Florence. Facebook.com/wesleychapel Florence

The Annual Live Nativity will be presented at Florence First Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 2422 Darby Drive December 20-22 from 6-8pm each night. Join us as we celebrate the birth of our Savior.

The Chloe's Fund Jingle Paws Christmas Bake Sale is Saturday, December 21 from 10am-1pm at Florence-Lauderdale Animal Services. The menu is posted on the Florence-

Lauderdale Animal Services Facebook page and Chloe's Fund Facebook Page. They have specialty platters, cakes, cookies, pies, breads, doggy treats – all made fresh to order for the sale. The deadline to pre-order the baked goods is 3pm Tuesday, December 17. The menu can also be texted to you; Text 804-240-6880 (local) or Direct Message Lisa Wilson-Rim on Facebook to get the menu. If you miss that deadline, come out to the sale on Saturday from 10am-1pm at 3240 Roberson Road in Florence. There are usually a few extra goodies left over after pick-ups. All proceeds go to Chloe's Fund, a 501(c)(3) which assists in emergency medical expenses for shelter animals and in shelter diversion.

Cloverdale Community Church will have a drive-thru live Nativity December 21-22 from 6-8pm each night. In case of rain, the nativity will be cancelled. The church is located on Hwy 157 in Cloverdale.

District 1 Alcoholics Anonymous (Shoals Area) Annual Alcolthon - 30 hours of continuous AA meetings beginning Tuesday, December 24, at 12 noon through Wednesday, December 25 at 6pm. Refreshments, fellowship, and support during the Christmas holiday. Location: 210 E. 2nd St. in Sheffield (AA Sheffield Group meeting hall).

Bethel Cumberland Presbyterian Church will host its 5th Annual Christmas Cantata on Sunday, December 22 at 3pm. Everyone is invited. Bethel Cumberland is located at 408 East Alabama Street in Florence. The Pastor is J. Cedric Adams.

LifeSouth Bloodmobile Dates:
 • Foodland - Rogersville Dec. 22, 8am - 1pm
 • Sam's Club Dec. 24, 8am-12pm

Muscle Shoals Sound's Holiday hours are - Christmas: Closed December 24 - January 6.

See NOTES... page 5

Shorts...

Anglin Earns More Awards

Continued from Page 1

what we want a UNA Lion to be.”

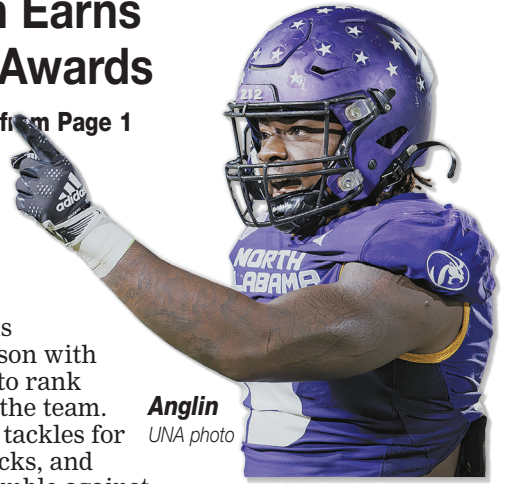
Anglin finishes his rookie season with 81 tackles to rank second on the team. He had 7.0 tackles for loss, 1.5 sacks, and forced a fumble against nationally ranked Illinois State.

What was perhaps his best game to date came at Southern Utah earlier this month, as Anglin tallied a career-high 14 tackles and 1.5 sacks. Anglin matched the FCS school record for single-game tackles, tying teammate Edwin White Schultz's 14 tackles against Mercer last season.

The Georgia native won three UAC Freshman of the Week awards this season.

In addition, Anglin added another award to an already full trophy case last week as just before our press time he was named the United Athletic Conference Freshman of the Year in a vote of the league's head coaches.

Anglin is the first UNA football player to win conference freshman of the year at the Division I level. Former linebacker Christon Taylor is the last Lion to win Freshman of the Year, earning the honor from the Gulf South Conference in 2017.



Anglin
UNA photo

regardless of whether they have previously received funding.

Agencies interested in applying for funding should visit the United Way's website at UWNWAL.org for the parameters and requirements. Organizations that are then invited to submit a full application will be required to attend a mandatory training meeting on a date to be announced.

The letter of intent is due Tuesday, January 21, and can be submitted via email to laura@uwshoals.org or by mailing the letter of intent to:

United Way of NWAL
 205 W College Street
 Florence, AL 35630
 Attn: Laura Columbus

34K in Grants for Sheffield

SHEFFIELD--The Sheffield City Schools district is the recipient of \$34,000 in grants awarded through the Colbert County Community Development Committee. State Rep. **Kerry Underwood**, (R-Tuscumbia) along with committee member **Waylon Huguely**, recently presented the checks. The funding will be used for various purposes throughout the Sheffield school district including additional security measures through the Open Gate safety system, P.U.S.H. Mentoring program, Center of the Shoals Campaign and other needs.

More SHORTs...on Page 7

United Way Applications

FLORENCE – United Way of Northwest is now accepting Letters of Intent from health and human service agencies for the 2025-2026 funding cycle. All nonprofit organizations that have 501(c)(3) status within United Way of Northwest Alabama's service area of Colbert, Franklin, Lauderdale, and Marion Counties are welcome to submit a letter.

Funding is open, and encouraged for all nonprofits serving in the 4-county area,

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Medicare Minute

"Year-end Reminders"

We have spent the past two months discussing the Medicare Annual Enrollment Period. We have talked about Medicare health plans. We have covered the different types of health plans and how to choose the one that may be best for you. We also discussed Medicare prescription drug plans and how they can change and need to be reviewed each year. But, just because the Annual Enrollment Period is over doesn't mean you can go to sleep at the wheel. There are some things you need to stay on top of.

To begin with you should make sure you have received your enrollment card from each insurance company you signed up with. If you enrolled into a Medicare Supplement and prescription drug plan you should have received two cards. One card from the company handling your supplement and another card from the company handling your drug plan. If you enrolled in a Medicare Advantage plan you should have received one card and that's from the company your Advantage plan is with.

The second thing to verify is your premium is coming from the appropriate place such as your bank account or Social Security check. You may not know this until January. If the premium is taken out of your bank account, for example, and you don't see it deducted in January you will want to contact the company. You don't want to go two or three months without paying the premium and then have to pay those months at one time. It's better to address it up front.

On behalf of Lee, Hope, Beverly, Erica, Anah, Judy, Caycee, Heather, Lisa and myself, I would like to wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!! We would also like to thank each of you who read our column each week. We have had many calls and visits from our readers and it's always appreciated!!

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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Historic...

Continued from Page 1

(Clay County) has clergy colleagues and friends from across the North Alabama UMC connection who serve and live here, however, this is her first appointment in Northwest Alabama.

"North Wood is actually my third cross-racial appointment," Kiki noted. "My first came during the COVID pandemic in July 2020 when I was appointed

Food Pantry leaders at North Wood United Methodist include: L-R Marie Talley, Allison Skipworth, Pastor Kiki Wood-Terry, Louise Hornbuckle, and Kim Dutton. North Wood UMC currently supports 15 families through its Food Pantry.

to full-time ministry at Crumly Chapel UMC in Birmingham and served there two years. At first my own preconceived notions and biases prevented me from fully embracing the church. It was through honest and difficult conversations that we not only learned to accept obvious cultural

differences, but we also became a church family. "Since racism is based on power of the majority and lack thereof of the minority, I was extremely timid about serving at a White affluent church," Kiki said. "In accepting my new assignment, I headed to Florence with renewed confidence in my call to serve cross-racially."

This appointment may seem historic; however, it is in line with Methodism's founder, John Wesley's vision. The UMC prides itself in being a connectional system. Connectional is the itinerant system that Wesley based his ministry on, according to Kiki.

"The idea is that churches and communities are connected through a common vision of "reforming" the nation. The church should spread holiness, discipline, and spiritual direction.

"North Wood is a diverse, inclusive, and affirming congregation," Kiki continued, "following the leadership of the Holy Spirit that seeks to serve in partnership with the community. ALL are welcome here. We're building something truly special and want the community to know that we are all united in Christ but also united in life."

North Wood UMC is located at 1129 Wills Avenue in Florence, by the Seven Points intersection. Learn more about North Wood by visiting their Facebook page North Wood UMC or attending one of their small group gatherings each Tuesday at 10am or Thursday at 5:40pm. Sunday morning small groups begin at 9:15am followed by Worship at 10:45am. Email inquiries may also be sent to nwoodumc@aol.com.

This feature article is the first part of an extended advertorial package for North Wood UMC in the Courier Journal. Pastor Kiki Woods-Terry will have more bi-weekly writings beginning in the coming weeks

Always available on our homepage by sunrise Tuesday morning - www.CourierJournal.net



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Notes...

Continued from page 2

Disabled American Veterans in Sheffield meets every fourth Tuesday of each month. (December 23) at 1409 W. 11th St. in Sheffield - 256-381-8229. Dinner at 6pm - Business at 7pm. Veterans Serving Veterans. Open Monday-Wednesday 9am-1:30pm.

FAME Recording Studio's holiday schedule is as follows:

Christmas: Closed Tuesday-Friday December 24-27, open Saturday, December 28, then closed until Thursday, January 2.

A Free Christmas Lights Display at 8971 Lentzville Rd in Athens is available for public viewing from dusk-midnight through December 31. The 1/4-mile loop is a drive-around experience that includes thousands of lights, a giant Snowman, lighted arches, an umbrella tunnel you drive under, music you can tune your radio to, lots of inflatables and other Christmas displays. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy.

Walk-Thru Live Nativity with Live Animals in the Hickory Hills neighborhood of Florence ONE NIGHT ONLY from 5:30 -7:30pm Thursday, December 19. Walk up to 111 Hickory Hills Ct. in Florence. Donations will be accepted to support Big Brothers/Big Sisters of the Shoals.

An Enchanting Night of Elegance Christmas Gala will take place Friday, December 20 from 8pm-midnight at Pickett on Court, 218 N. Court St. Attire is Semi or Formal, Ages 35 and up. Tickets are \$20 each by contacting Katrina Simmons 256-349-3879, Kim Ingram (Dick Howell's BBQ) 256-712-5092, or Bridget Sims 256-275-2822.

Crossroads Community Outreach will host the annual CrossRoads

Christmas Lunch on Saturday, December 21, from 1-4pm at the Family Life Center at Mt Moriah Church in Florence, 1820 W. Irvine Ave. Food, Prizes, and Giveaways. To volunteer or donate, call or text 256-8 40-2218. Sponsors for the event include Galliee Church in Florence, Knox Media Group, and the Long Lewis Foundation.

Shoals Writers Guild meetings will resume on Saturday, January 18 with the Free Kindle Direct Publishing Workshop hosted by author Gary H. Miller at 10am at the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library, 350 N. Wood Avenue in Florence.

Membership dues are \$40/year with a \$5 discount if paid in full. For more information email: shoalswritersguild@gmail.com

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

Social Dance on Tuesday Nights, 6:30-8:45pm, 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.

Singing River Dentistry presents the beloved Christmas movie, "The Santa Clause," at 5:30pm Wednesday, Dec. 18 at the Shoals Community Theatre in downtown Florence.

You can meet Santa, enjoy some fun kids activities, and then watch this family favorite on the big screen! Reserve your tickets ASAP for only \$5 each at www.etix.com/ticket/v/16421/shoals-theatre

See NOTES... page 30

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

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

Best...

Continued from Page 1

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Shorts...

Continued from Page 2

Community Action Money

MONTGOMERY –has awarded nearly \$44 million to Eighteen community agencies that provide emergency assistance to help low-income households cover the costs of heating and cooling will share over \$44 million in grants as

announced last week by Governor Kay Ivey's office. "Unfortunately, there are times when some Alabama families must decide between paying utility costs and other essential expenses like buying medicine and groceries," Ivey said. "I am pleased to award these funds to provide temporary assistance to keep families from having to make decisions that could jeopardize their health and welfare particularly during the winter and

summer months." The funding will be distributed through the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program. Community action agencies accept applications at the local level from residents seeking assistance. The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA) is administering the grants from funds made available by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Among the agencies receiving allocations in our readership area are: Community Action Agency of Northwest Alabama Inc. receiving \$1.55 million covering Colbert, Franklin, Lauderdale counties 256-764-5142, caanw.org, Community Action Partnership of Huntsville/Madison and Limestone Counties Inc. \$3 million. (Limestone, Madison) 256-907-1550, caa-htsval.org, and Community Action Partnership of North Alabama Inc. \$2.5 million. (Cullman, Lawrence, Marion, Morgan, Winston) 256-355-7843, capna.org.



The recently formed League of Women Voters of Northwest Alabama (LWVNWAL) met December 10 at the home of Donna Steele. The League provides community service through non-partisan, non-profit voter education and promotes local governmental transparency in Lauderdale, Colbert, Franklin, and Lawrence counties. We are actively seeking members to make a difference in their communities through public education on issues including civics, current events, and more. Men and women are encouraged to join. Visit lwval.org and indicate you are joining the new "Northwest Alabama" League. Pictured L-R: Beverly Bryan, Nancy Gonce, Kate Chitwood, Cheryl Bennett, Beki Ferguson, Charla Newman, Mandy Pitera(president), Donna Steel, and Peggy McCloy. Courtesy photo

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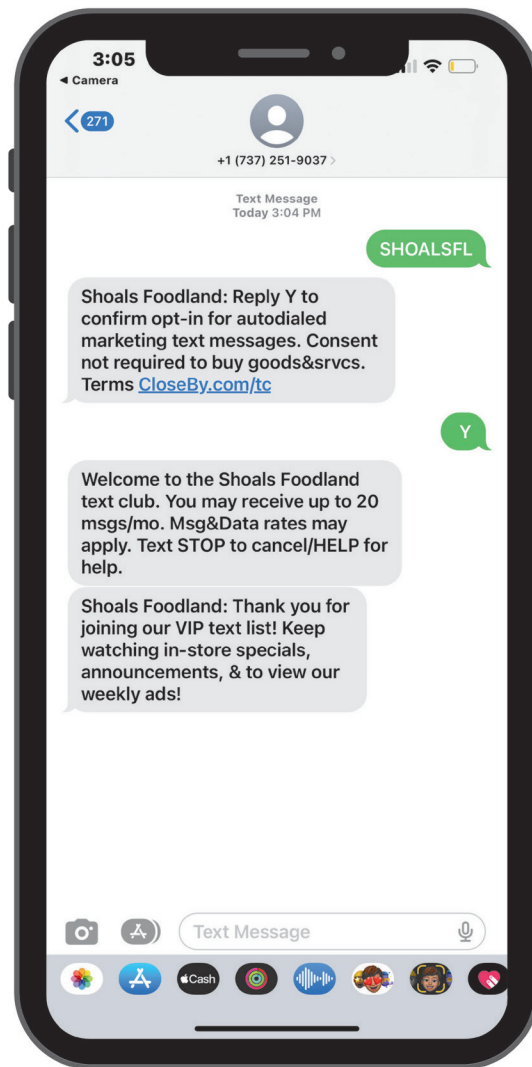
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GOD USES PEOPLE

Daniel 4:35 "And all the inhabitants of the earth are reputed as nothing; and he doeth according to his will in the army of heaven, and among the inhabitants of the earth: and none can stay his hand, or say unto him, What doest thou?" Sometimes hundreds or thousands of years before they are born God had plans for their lives being used to fulfil His will! Birth and life are not accidents, but are divine virtues. **John 5:26** "For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself;" God alone has the power to GIVE physical and eternal LIFE! All errors come from: **Matthew 22:29** "Jesus answered and said unto them, Ye do err, not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God." Mankind continuously stumbles at every Godly simplicity in favour of his own hypotheses. The bible must be taken literally except where impossible to do so! Research yourself the 100's of times God raised up certain folks to fulfil his plan and his purpose! What about our generation? We easily overlook the simple and obvious and love to complicate everything!

Consider: "Is it possible that there are alive today folks that God is using to fulfil his word?" Certainly! Think! What if God miraculously spared a person because He wasn't done with him, yet?

Study the word trump! **1 Corinthians 15:52** "In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed." What if the last trump was a man, spared by God for a specific time, like Cyrus in Isaiah 45? People were used by God although they did not know God! If there's a last trump, there must have been a first. A lot of smart folks I know say there will be a lot of fireworks between now and 2029! Is that the year? Give it some study!

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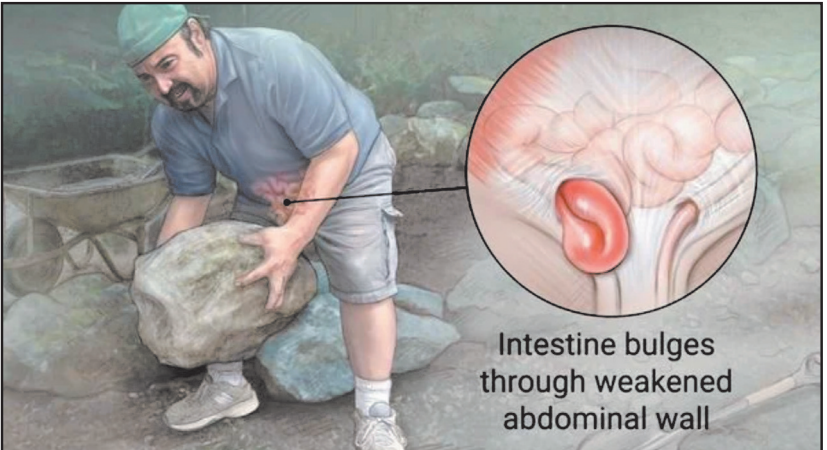
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The project includes providing all materials, equipment, tools, labor and incidentals necessary for replacement of fencing at four fields at Gattman Park in conjunction with the bid specs.

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A copy of the Invitation to Bid can be obtained from the office of the Owner listed above.

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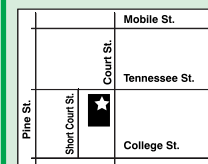
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The Impact of Tariffs on Electronics



by "The Computer Skeptic" **Martin Dean**

PICTURE THIS: YOU'RE SHOPPING FOR A NEW SMARTPHONE or a snazzy pair of wireless headphones. Maybe you're researching a fancy smart TV so you can enjoy those detective shows you've been bingeing. Now imagine seeing the price tag suddenly jump by 20% to 25% out of nowhere. Thanks to a new round of proposed tariffs, this is expected to be the case in upcoming months.

What Are Tariffs?

A tariff is a specific tax placed on goods entering the country from abroad. For instance, the phones and TVs you see in stores were more than likely purchased by a wholesaler or retailer from a foreign country. The purchasing company paid the tariff to the U.S. Department of

Treasury at one of the 328 U.S. Custom and Border Protection's entry points.

How Will Electronics Be Affected?

For decades, China has been a world leader in manufacturing—building massive factories, training skilled workers, and perfecting assembly lines. This allows them to pump out products more cheaply and efficiently than most other places. As a result, American companies could make their gadgets at lower costs and then sell them here at decent prices.

When a tariff is slapped onto these imported goods, the math changes. Suddenly, that low-cost smartphone or TV isn't so low-cost anymore by the time it reaches American soil. If new tariffs become a reality, the Consumer

Technology Association expects customers will see a 45% increase in pricing on tablets and laptops as most of these electronics are manufactured in China.

While companies could offset some of these costs by shifting production to other countries or even building domestic industry options, this is usually not the easiest route. Building new factories, training workers, and creating new logistic details requires a lot of time and money. Consequently, it's often simpler for them to raise prices.

As the consumer, this kind of price hike can leave your pocketbook feeling a bit lighter, especially if you are on a fixed income. Since electronics aren't just

fancy luxuries these days, but are useful tools for staying connected with family, managing finances, or even reading the news, paying more for these gadgets can feel frustrating, to say the least.

On top of that, smaller companies or newer brands trying to make a name for themselves have an even tougher time when tariffs drive up their costs. They may not have the extra cash to absorb the added fees or invest in moving their factories

somewhere else. This can lead to less competition and fewer options on store shelves. It's a domino effect: Tariffs push prices up, reduce choices, and sometimes slow down innovation as companies struggle to keep costs under control.

In the end, while the reasons for tariffs are often political and economic—like trying to encourage manufacturing in the U.S.—they often mean steeper price tags. For the everyday consumer,

especially a senior on a fixed income, that's not exactly the friendliest deal.



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Guest Commentary

Trump and Putin Will Stop WWII

The two most hated men in modern times by the Deep State are Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin. Why? Both oppose the Deep State. For nine solid years, the Deep State media has relentlessly vilified both men. They were wrong regarding Trump, who is likely to emerge as one of America's most popular and great presidents. It may yet be that they were wrong too regarding Putin. Everyone knows that if the Deep State can't get America on the front lines into direct military engagement with Russia—including its nuclear arsenal—they cannot have their world war, the Great Reset, and world government.

As we previously published, the Deep State intends for America to be so far into World War III before Trump is inaugurated that he cannot pull us out. Even now Joe Biden is considering giving the Ukrainians nuclear weapons. Remember, Ukraine fired ballistic

See **TRUMP AND PUTIN...** on Page 24

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



HAROLD PEASE, Ph.D
History / Political Science Instructor - Expert on the US Constitution

Courier Journal

in the Shoals

THIS WEEK

December 18, 2024

Happening THIS WEEK

Who is in Line for an Eagle?



Photo Courtesy of Alabama State Parks

MONTGOMERY – The Alabama State Parks Division of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources is now accepting applications for its prestigious Eagle Awards, which recognize special contributors to the 21 state parks.

Nominations for this 9th annual edition can be made online at www.alapark.com/eagle-awards. **The deadline to submit nominations is**

set for January 3. Eagle Awards are presented in five categories: Elected Official, Community Partner, Park Partner, Volunteer in Parks (VIP) and Youth (12th-grade students and younger).

The winners will be publicly honored on Saturday, February 1 as part of the second Eagle Awareness Weekend at Lake

Guntersville State Park.

“We understand how fortunate we are to have so many organizations and individuals partner with Alabama State Parks on a variety of projects every year, and it’s always rewarding to take time to recognize and thank them,” said

See **EAGLE...** on Page 26

THE SWINGING RIVER JAZZ BAND will be performing its free annual Christmas Concert at 6:30pm Friday, December 20 at Magnolia Church of Christ. This event is open to the public and will feature fun Christmas music for all ages!

KEESTONE RESORT IN LORETTO WILL HOST A COMPLEMENTARY movie in the Stone Theatre with Tim Allen in the Walt Disney film, *The Santa Clause* on Thursday, December 19 at 6:30pm. The movie is FREE. Concessions will be available for purchase. 150 Clubhouse Drive, Loretto.

A FREE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS DISPLAY at 8971 Lentzville Rd in Athens is available for public viewing from dusk-midnight through December 31. The 1/4-mile loop is a drive-around experience that includes thousands of lights, a giant Snowman, lighted arches, an umbrella tunnel you drive under, music you can tune your radio to, lots of inflatables, and other Christmas displays.

WALK-THRU LIVE NATIVITY WITH Live Animals is in Hickory Hills of Florence ONE NIGHT ONLY from 5:30-7:30pm Thursday, December 19. Walk up to 111 Hickory Hills Ct. in Florence. Donations will be accepted to support Big Brothers/Big Sisters of the Shoals.



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YOUR Letters

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

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

NO 42-Mile Detour!

Editor,

I just read an article in the Courier Journal about replacing the John Coffee Memorial Bridge (12.11.24). It quoted that there are 2 options. Both options are with a detour of 42 miles!!

The first option is a closure of approximately two years! You must know, because I do that will be FOUR YEARS based on past closures. The second option instead will be 2 Years instead of 6 months!! I have voiced my opinion before on this! I do not travel that road often, but many use it every day!

Can you imagine living a couple of miles on either side and traveling 42

extra miles EVERY DAY???

I understand that if the current bridge wasn't built to standards to begin with, it needs replacing.

But what about this idea?

There was no bridge when the first one was built. So, take 10 years to build the new bridge if you must, but LEAVE this one here while you do!! Love the Trace...

Randy Halliburton
Cherokee

His Plans at Odds

Editor,

Incoming President Trump's promises, threats (“enemy within”), and cabinet selections indicate authoritarianism that is at odds with our constitution and democracy.

It is vitally important that we

See **LETTERS...on Page 22**

...We are aware that Tuberville has demonstrated weak understanding of the functions of government,...



ON YOUR DEBT

Celebrating Over 35 Years of Bankruptcy and Debt Relief Services

AT THE BOND & BOTES LAW OFFICES



B. Grant McNutt
Managing Attorney

As we mark the **35th anniversary of the Bond & Botes Law Offices**, I am filled with pride and gratitude for the journey we have shared together. Since our founding in 1989, the Bond & Botes Law Offices have been dedicated to helping individuals and families across Alabama, Mississippi and southern Tennessee navigate some of life's most challenging financial situations. From bankruptcy assistance to debt relief and budget counseling, our goal has always been to provide not only legal representation but also a pathway to financial freedom and peace of mind.

Over these past three and a half decades, we have been fortunate to work with an incredible team of bankruptcy attorneys, paralegals, and support staff who uphold our commitment to compassion, professionalism, and integrity. Our people are the backbone of the Bond & Botes Law Offices; without their dedication, empathy, and hard work, we would not be the respected bankruptcy and debt relief firm we are today. Each team member has brought something unique to the table, creating a supportive environment where every client feels valued and understood.

We are deeply grateful to the thousands of clients who have entrusted us with their cases in Alabama, Mississippi and southern Tennessee. You have allowed us to walk beside you through difficult times, including Chapter 7 and Chapter 13 bankruptcy filings, foreclosure defense, and help with stopping wage garnishment and

repossessions. Your trust and resilience inspire us daily, and we are honored to have played a part in helping you rebuild and regain control of your finances.

As we look ahead, the Bond & Botes Law Offices remain committed to serving as a trusted bankruptcy and debt relief resource. Financial challenges continue to impact many in Alabama, Mississippi and southern Tennessee and beyond, and we will continue to offer the guidance, support, and expertise that can make a positive difference. If you are facing overwhelming debt, please remember you are not alone. Our team is here to help you explore your options and take steps toward a brighter financial future.

Thank you to everyone who has been a part of our journey. Here's to many more years of service, growth, and positive impact.

Contact The Bond & Botes Law Offices

We help people who are having debt problems. Please call us for an absolutely free and confidential consultation. We'd love to discuss your finances with you if you have had a serious reduction in income or have lost your job or find yourself in financial trouble of any kind. Debt can be overwhelming. The attorneys here at Bond & Botes provide guidance on helping clients reduce or eliminate debt. We can alleviate your stress! We want to help!

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



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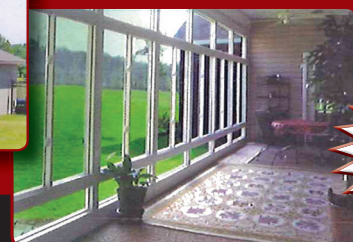
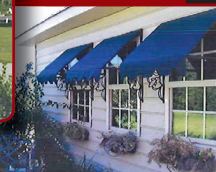
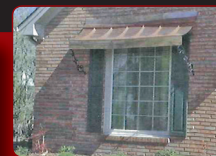
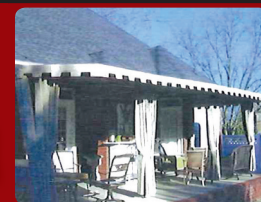
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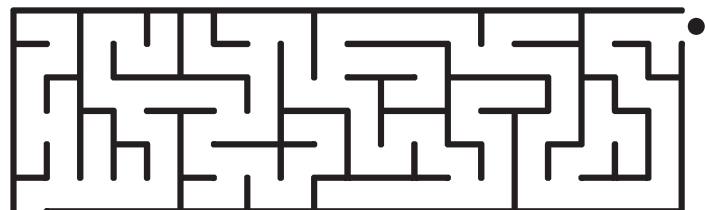
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Kids' Maze



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Even Exchange by Donna Pettman

Each numbered row contains two clues and two 6-letter answers. The two answers differ from each other by only one letter, which has already been inserted. For example, if you exchange the A from MASTER for an I, you get MISTER. Do not change the order of the letters.

- | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|
| 1. Hospital worker | ___ U ___ | Scandinavian | ___ O ___ |
| 2. Award | ___ Z ___ | Cost | ___ C ___ |
| 3. Speeder's penalty | T ___ | Fence style | P ___ |
| 4. Boa or muffler | ___ F ___ | Alarm | ___ E ___ |
| 5. Financial supporter | ___ A ___ | Quarrel | ___ I ___ |
| 6. Writing pad | ___ T ___ | Diners wait for these | ___ S ___ |
| 7. Wireless | ___ D ___ | Proportion | ___ T ___ |
| 8. A musical note | ___ V ___ | Premium gasoline | ___ N ___ |
| 9. Peanut covering | ___ H ___ | Expand | ___ W ___ |
| 10. A dozen dozen | ___ O ___ | Lawn mower's target | ___ A ___ |

Puzzle Whirl

MINI SUDOKU

		1	5	2
5				6
1	5			
6		2		
		3	6	

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 3-box square contains all of the numbers from one to six.

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WORD LADDERS

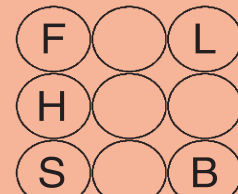
Can you go from WATER to LOWER in 6 words? Change one letter for each rung in the ladder.

WATER

LOWER

Answers on Page 30

WORD SPIRAL



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

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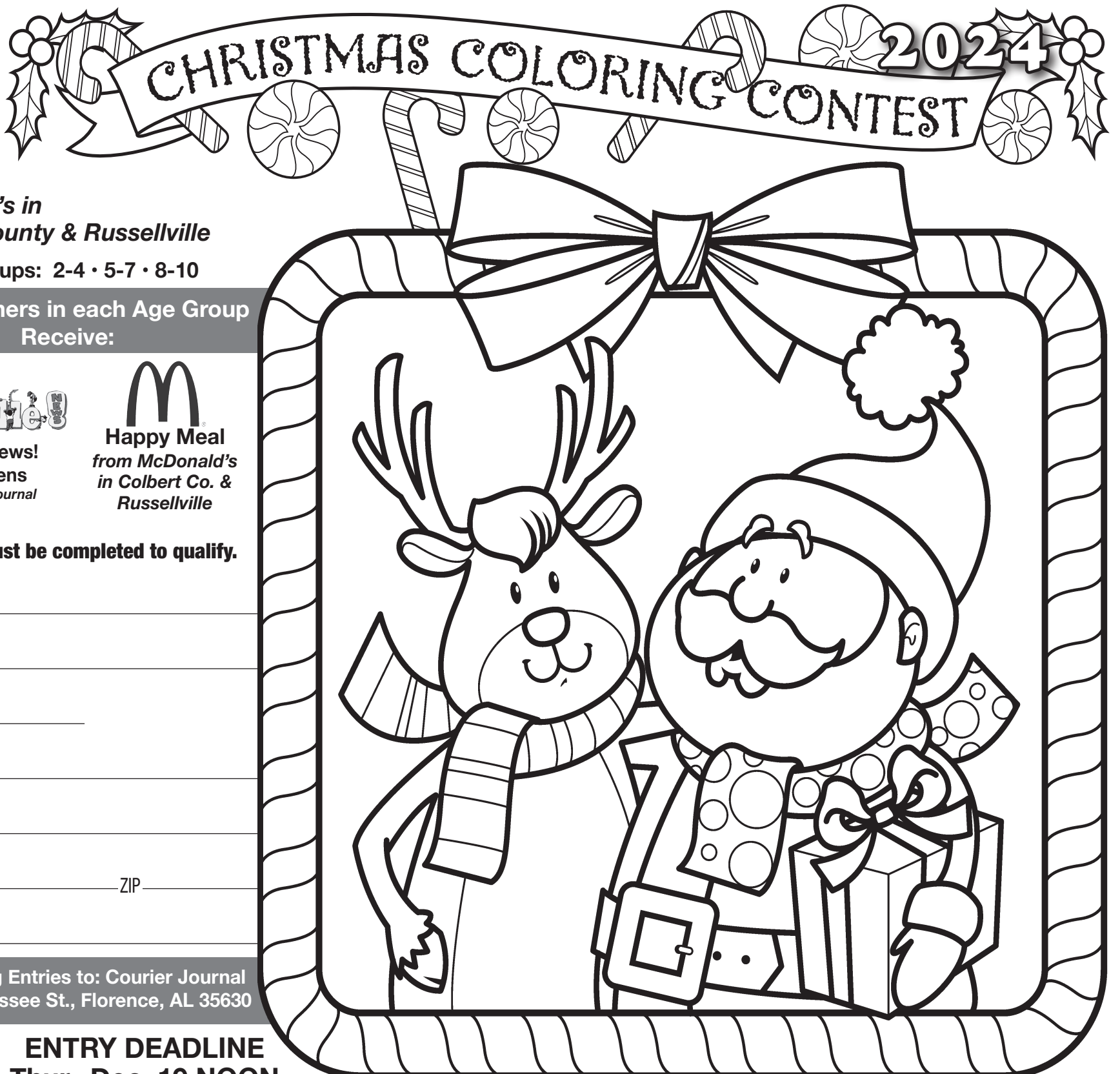
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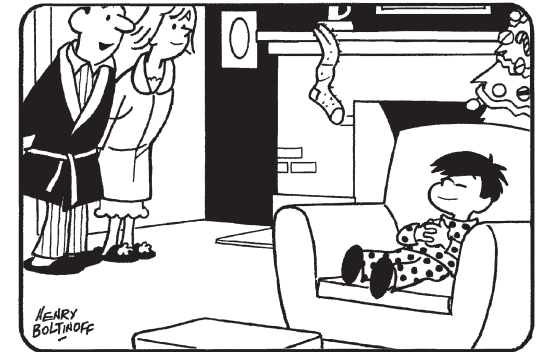
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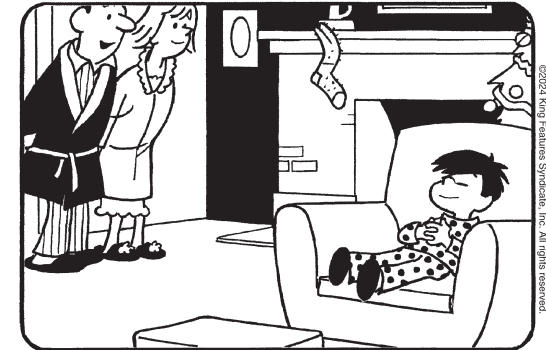
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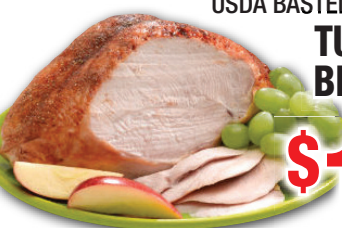
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Letters...

His Plans Are at Odds

Continued from Page 12

maintain every check and balance on executive power via Congress, courts, states and media.

It is disappointing therefore to see our US Senator Tuberville publicly criticizing fellow Republicans for “attacking President Trump” by questioning his choice for Defense Secretary, Pete Hegseth. Tuberville went on to declare that vetting is “not our job”.

We are aware that Tuberville has demonstrated weak understanding of the functions of government, but he should know that advice and consent of candidates for senior posts is an important Constitutional responsibility of the US Senate.

He even suggested in recent weeks that the president-elect and Vice President-elect JD Vance will soon be “running the Senate”.

Tuberville disapproved of Republican senators who presume to be “a better vetter and picker of people than Donald Trump.” This was an odd thing to say, given that the Trump team has admitted they are not bothering to vet some personnel for key positions.

Senator Katie Britt has also endorsed Hegseth after discussing his mismanagement, sexual conduct, drinking, etc. with him.

Britt and Rep Dale Strong as well as Tuberville are supporting the controversial Kash Patel for head of the FBI, partly in hopes he will increase FBI operations in Huntsville. That does not absolve the Senators, however, from weighing the risks that Patel poses for the country.

Let them know we care.

Dan Waterman
Killen

Whatever They Want

Dear Editor,

Breaking news coverage of the United Health Care murder manhunt was a moment

for law enforcement, and they took full advantage of it.

Police and political officials in New York City brayed about how flawless and patriotic their approach to apprehending this criminal was.

What was not mentioned was the 75-year-long slide of crime prevention and crime deterrence in this country, based on a desire to just let people work their will on polite society whenever they want. This includes a hands-off approach to things like misdemeanors, drugs, and smash and grab theft, and big bucks predatory subprime mortgage crime, freak-off sex party trafficking, and felonies committed by public officials while in office.

Law enforcement is a tool of people's government, but the people haven't shown up to participate in government for a long time in America. We just let our own wild child offspring and the rich and famous do whatever they want without consequence. We then fall for all their self-promoting propaganda when a single high-profile criminal is apprehended. That needs to change.

Kimball Shinkoskey
Woods Cross, Utah

Recycling Wind Blades

Editor,

Wind turbine blades play a crucial part in clean energy generation, but their disposal poses a growing challenge. Luckily, innovative solutions provide new ways to keep them out of landfills.

As the wind industry grows, there is an increasing need for replacement of older wind turbine blades with larger, more efficient ones. With a lifespan of approximately 25 years, the sheer number of blades and other components that will eventually need to be decommissioned will strain current repurposing and recycling capabilities, leading to increased landfill waste if new solutions are not developed.

To address the challenge, developers and rural communities have explored various recycling initiatives. One approach, mechanical recycling, typically uses a shredding facility to break down turbine parts. Companies, like REGEN Fiber in Iowa, use the resulting product to create construction materials such as concrete by mixing fiberglass with rock or plastic.

Greg Birkhofer, an Iowan with a passion for conservation, has taken blade recycling a step further by repurposing the most challenging section—the eight-foot base—into fence posts for agricultural use.

According to Greg, the recycled posts are stronger and more durable than traditional fence posts, and they are fully insulated. His innovation eliminates the need for constant maintenance, including replacing insulators.

If they can be mass produced, Greg believes the blades will prove less expensive than current fencing materials. His vision extends beyond fence posts alone; he believes recycled blades have the potential to be used for a wider range of products, such as dock posts.

Pioneers like Greg lead the way in finding new life for decommissioned wind turbine blades. Distinctive vision and creativity will be crucial in shaping the future of wind energy and responsible waste management.

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<p>COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Clemson</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> at Texas</p>	<p>GASPARILLA BOWL</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Tulane vs</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Florida</p>	<p>EARLY Deadline</p>
<p>FCS (Div I-AA) SEMIFINAL</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Montana St/Idaho vs</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> UC Davis/S. Dakota</p>	<p>CURE BOWL</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Jacksonville St.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> vs Ohio</p>	
<p>FCS (Div I-AA) SEMIFINAL</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> SD St/Incarnate Word</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> vs Mercer/N.Dak St.</p>	<p>NFL BONUS GAME</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Vikings at</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Seahawks</p>	<p>COLLEGE FOOTBALL PLAYOFF</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Tennessee at</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ohio State</p>

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Guest Commentary – Harold Pease, Ph.D

Trump and Putin...

Continued from Page 12

missiles deep into Russia two days after receiving authorization to do so by Joe Biden—they

are likely to use them offensively in short order. The Deep State seeks to provoke Russia to retaliate with nuclear weapons on a NATO country so that all NATO countries are obligated, under Article 5, to come to that country's defense against Russia. Will they succeed? No! As we published last March 6, 2024, "The New York Times Documents CIA Provoked War with Russia for a Decade" (LibertyUnderFire.org). It did not happen.

Until America understands that a free press is not a censored press, we will continue to be deceived by the Deep State press on virtually every subject—this goes for Fox viewers as well. In no area other than the false validity of the presidential election of 2020 have we been more deceived than about Ukraine. Volodymyr Zelenskyy is not a freedom fighter but a tyrant. He has outlawed all opposing political parties and presses, has even postponed elections.

The Deep State is Trump and Putin's common enemy, and George Soros – a prominent Deep Stater – hates them both. Russia expelled Soros many years ago, but America did not forbid the Hungarian coup d'état instigator's immigration. Soros' relationship with China and China's with Soros is similar—neither Russia nor China will allow him into their country. The Deep State wants world government with ALL NATIONS subservient to it. China, and perhaps Russia also, may want world government but not under the West's Deep State. Case in point is when Alex Soros, son of George, learned that Biden had authorized Ukrainian forces to use western-made long-range weapons to strike inside Russia. He responded, saying, "This is great news." (X22 Report, hereafter not cited, Ep.3504b, Nov. 19, 2024, 30:58).

World War III is great news? All three current world leaders Trump, Putin, and Xi Jinping do not want a world war nor does the world. Despite Russia's and China's authoritarian governments, these are allies against the Deep State. Trump will work with Putin to stop the Ukraine Russia War and World War III, which has already begun ("World War III Begins, First Missiles Fired in War Against Russia," LibertyUnderFire.org, Nov. 27, 2024). Will Putin start a war with United States? No!!! He could have done so with cause years ago. Consider the following offenses. Firstly, the Ukrainian Civil War where Barack Obama, Joe Biden, and Hillary Clinton installed the Deep State as Russia's immediate neighbor. Then, consider the American built and financed bioweapons labs on Russia's border (Russia's first targets in the Russian Ukraine war were these labs), and America's severance of the Nord Stream Pipelines in the Black Sea – Russia's natural gas lines to Europe. Finally, consider that America is the funder of the Russia Ukrainian War – we are providing most of the war materials used against Russia, and authorizing long range ballistic missiles to strike deep inside Russia then followed with an attack. All of these would have been considered acts of war were Russia initiating them against the United States.

We are now inviting Ukrainian forces to train on an Air Force system in the U.S. giving them specific training "to operate, maintain and sustain a defensive system." Look at the role of the United States in organizing 32 NATO countries against Russia. Indeed, Russia has posed little threat to retake land outside what it once governed as the USSR—this included Ukraine ("NATO Pushed Ukraine into War with Russia then World War III?" LibertyUnderFire.org, Dec. 4, 2024). It is the U.S. Deep State that is threatening Russia –not Russia that is threatening the U.S., as in the Cuban Missile Crisis. Putin could have started a war when Obama

supported the Islamic State of Syria and helped create ISIS, an enemy to Russia, America, and non-Muslims. Instead, he waited and supported Trump's then total annihilation of ISIS in his first year. Putin maintains that "Russia has no reason, no interest – no geopolitical interest, neither economic, political nor military – to fight with NATO countries. Putin has maintained he is open to peace talks, that the Kremlin is ready to stop the war and recognize current battlefield lines. Putin is making the first move. The Daily Mail reported that "Moscow reveals Putin is prepared to discuss Ukraine peace deal with Trump," (by Taryn Pedler, Nov. 20, 2024). Putin says, "He takes Donald Trump's plan to end the war with Ukraine very seriously and Russia supports it" (Ep. 3491b, Nov. 4, 2024, 26:53). Putin does, however, have one demand in the negotiations—that "there be an investigation into America's bioweapons lab development in Ukraine" (Ep. 3497b, Nov. 11, 2024, 22:17). We agree!

Zelenskyy and Putin will negotiate with Trump who has said, "I will have that war settled prior to taking the White House as President-Elect. I know all the players." He also knows that only the Deep State wants war. Its removal from Ukraine and America means that peace follows. This he intends to do. Russia will not be provoked to nuclear war.

Tucker Carlson ended his interview with Putin last February with a curious question about the CIA. Carlson asked, "So you're saying the CIA is trying to overthrow your government?" Putin answered, yes! He gave no details. Apparently, they have coup d'états in common. The CIA is in the very center of the Deep State. Trump and Putin will stop the Deep State's World War III.

Dr. Harold W. Pease is an expert on the United States Constitution and a syndicated columnist. He has dedicated his career to studying the writings of the Founding Fathers and applying that knowledge to current events. He taught history and political science from this perspective for over 30 years. Read his weekly columns at www.LibertyUnderFire.org.

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Eagle...

Continued from Page 12

Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Commissioner Chris Blankenship. "The Eagle Awareness Weekend is the perfect setting to show our gratitude to the winners every year."

Anyone can make a nomination. Below are descriptions for each of the five Eagle Awards categories:

Elected Official:

This award honors an elected official who has worked in conjunction with the parks to help fulfill its mission to preserve natural areas, operate recreational facilities and extend the public's knowledge of the state's natural environment.

Community Partner:

Parks succeed with the cooperation and support of community organizations, including government organizations, chambers of commerce, tourism organizations and local businesses – groups that understand that the success of the park means success for the community.

Park Partner:

Organizations work to provide or maintain amenities in the parks, such as hiking and biking trails, that otherwise might not exist due to the allocation of resources for other services. This award celebrates those partners who see a need and cooperate with park leadership to fill it.

Partner in the Parks (VIP):

These VIPs work in various ways to make our parks system better. Volunteers may provide physical labor or strategic planning to improve one park, or the entire Alabama State Parks System.

Youth: Our parks inspire all ages, but the impression left on our children often remains with them forever. Many turn their love of the parks and the outdoors into projects to benefit some of their favorite places – often as part of a Scouting program. This award, for students in 12th grade and younger, honors a person whose contribution is extraordinary.

ASK THE ATTORNEY

Retaliatory Discharge



Thomas McCutcheon

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

The only time a worker in Alabama is protected legally from being fired under *state law* is when they are terminated in retaliation for making a claim for workers compensation. The federal protections of race, creed, color, age, etc., still exist.

Here's the catch. If an injured worker files for unemployment the employer has the right to challenge the payment of benefits. There will be a hearing, usually over the phone. These hearings take place quite soon after separation from employment.

The employer will have participated in these hearings in the past and will often have a lawyer and witnesses for the hearing. The injured and newly discharged worker will not.

The Alabama Supreme Court has ruled that this hearing is the equivalent of a full-blown trial and if the employee seeking unemployment loses, they are barred from bringing a *retaliatory discharge* case.

If you have had an on the job injury and you believe you were terminated because of your on the job injury, do not apply for your unemployment benefits without consulting an attorney. Even though your employer may have a pattern and practice of retaliatory discharge, if you lose your unemployment hearing you cannot go back and fix it.

Firing an employee who was hurt on the job is morally and legally wrong. It not only hurts the injured worker, but also prevents other workers who are hurt on the job in the future. These (as yet uninjured) workers know if they get hurt and report an injury, they will lose their job. If you are hurt on the job and your environment changes, hostility increases, your duties change, etc., make notes of names and dates and what happened and give these notes to your attorney.

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

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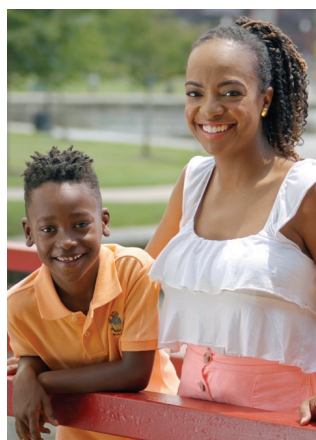


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SIGNS OF THE PAST



William "Bill" Yoast

A beloved high school teacher and athletics coach, William "Bill" Yoast was a leader in the successful integration of a racially diverse football team in Virginia in 1971. It became the inspiration for the highly-acclaimed film, "Remember the Titans."

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Bill Yoast was born in Florence, attended Coffee High, joined the U.S. Air Force, then attended college. He loved athletics and spent his life teaching and coaching. His successful integration of a football team inspired the film "remember the Titans".

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

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Insurance Insights

"Below is a State Farm® Simple Insights® article about "A Guide To Responsible Pet Adoption" is provided by State Farm agent Rebecca Stutts Hovater.

A Guide To Responsible Pet Adoption

If you're planning on bringing home a new pet, you will want to consider these factors before adopting.

If you're considering bringing home a new furry friend, you may want to take into account some factors before you decide to adopt your new pet. Naturally, a new puppy or kitten is a big responsibility and it may affect many aspects of you and your family's life. From matching the pet's breed to your lifestyle, budgeting for your pet, and being a responsible pet owner, these are just a few factors to consider before you adopt a new furry friend. Read on to learn more about responsible pet adoption and how it may help you pick your new best friend.

Adopt a pet that matches your lifestyle

One of the most important factors of responsible pet adoption is picking the best pet that matches your lifestyle. Consider how much time and energy you have to dedicate to a new furry family member. For example, do you work long hours, travel often or live in a smaller space? Of course, these are all factors that can affect your pet's mental, physical and emotional well-being. Also, every dog breed is different and may have certain breed characteristics or personality traits. Do your research and pick a pet breed that complements your daily schedule as well as your family needs.

Research animal welfare organizations to adopt from

There are a variety of animal welfare organizations that are helping pets every day. Whether you're looking for a local organization, a breed-specific shelter, or a national pet rescue organization, all are passionate about finding loving homes for dogs and cats. Consider researching which animal shelter or rescue group you would like to adopt your new pet from and make sure to ask questions. For example, most animal shelter organizations are run by volunteers. Naturally, they've spent a lot of time getting to know each one of these furry friends. They may have additional information when it comes to behaviors and quirks that may not be listed on a piece of paper.

Budget for your pet before adopting

The cost of bringing home a new furry friend may be more than you think. One of the most important parts of being a responsible pet owner and preparing for pet adoption is taking into consideration the cost of a new pet. Remember, your new pet will need a yearly exam, wellness care, preventative care, vaccinations and basic pet care essentials. Also, other expected items may include food, toys and training.

Naturally, those are all costs you can expect to pay. So, how can you budget and prepare for an injury or illness when it comes to your pets?

Your pet's medical care may cost hundreds or even thousands of dollars. At the end of the day, you want your new furry friend to be happy and healthy, and not have to say "no" to medical care when they need it. Consider your finances when you go to adopt a new pet and if you can afford the potential cost for the unexpected or 'what-ifs.'

Responsible pet adoption is important for the overall wellness of your furry friend

Whether you're looking to bring home a new puppy, kitten or an adult dog or [cat, there are a number of factors to consider when it comes to responsible pet adoption. But by picking your breed, doing your research and budgeting for your new family member, you're on your way to being a responsible pet owner.

Trupanion has created a free, recorded webinar to help you learn even more about how to prepare for adopting or fostering a new pet, including Q&A with Animal Behaviorists and leading Veterinarians.

Terms and conditions do apply. We love informed decisions. See the Trupanion policy for full coverage details.



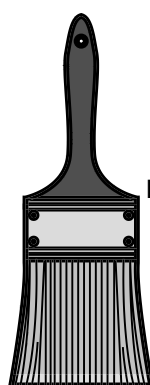
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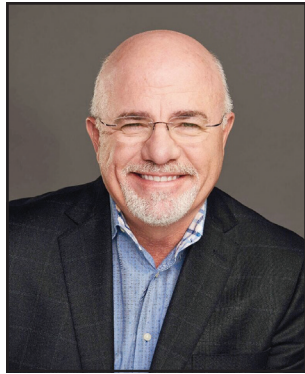
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DAVE Says



by DAVE RAMSEY

A ROADMAP TO FINANCIAL PEACE

Dear Dave,
A friend told me about your Baby Steps plan, and after years of living

paycheck-to-paycheck and running up credit card bills, I'm ready to get control of my finances. I just have one question. Baby Step 1 is saving \$1,000 for a beginner emergency fund. Do you recommend getting current on past due bills before starting Baby Step 1? Miles

Dear Miles,
Congratulations! I'm glad to hear you're finally sick and tired of being financially sick and tired. This is the perfect question for someone in your situation, because it gives me a chance to walk you all the way through the Baby Steps. So, let's go!

First, make sure all your necessities are taken care of. By necessities, I'm talking about food, clothing, shelter, transportation

and utilities. Then, get current on anything you owe, or make payment arrangements for past due bills. After you've done this, it's time to take your very first Baby Step.

You've already mentioned getting \$1,000 in the bank for a starter emergency fund. That's Baby Step 1. After that comes your debt snowball, which is Baby Step 2. Here, you'll pay off all your debts from smallest to largest—except your home. Attack the first balance on your list by paying as much as you can each month, while making minimum payments on the other debts. When you've paid off the first one, add what you were paying on it to the payment on your next debt and start attacking it. As the snowball continues to roll over, you're picking up more and more money to apply to your debts.

In Baby Step 3, you'll save money and increase your emergency fund from \$1,000 to a full three to six months of expenses. You're going to be surprised how fast you can save money when your income isn't flying out the door to pay off debt every month.

Now, it's time to really start looking toward the future. In Baby Step 4, start investing 15 percent of your income for retirement. College funding is next in Baby Step 5 for any kids you have, or plan on having one day. And here's a big one. Baby Step 6 is where you pay off your home early. How great will that feel?

But Baby Step 7 is the real deal. Now, you start building wealth and giving with outrageous generosity. When you've completed all the other Baby Steps, and are able to do these two things, you've achieved the pinnacle of smart money management. Or in other words, you've reached the point of financial peace.

Make it happen, Miles. You can do this!
— Dave

Dave Ramsey is a 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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Courier Journal ADOPT A FRIEND

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

Meet Patsy! This little girl is anxiously waiting to meet her forever family. She is very happy, sweet and loving. Patsy walks great on a leash and does good around small groups of dogs. The adoption fee is currently \$50 and includes 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 adorable girl.

Meet Sadie! Ready for a cuddle buddy? Sadie would love to be your moving watching buddy. She's calm, sweet and loving. The adoption fee is currently \$50 and includes 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 sweet girl.

Meet Max N.! Max is a playful, fun and make you smile kinda boy. This boy is neutered, 1.5 years old and 70 lbs. He loves to play with toys and is super charming. The adoption fee is currently \$50 and includes 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 sweet fella.

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Community Notes...

Continued from page 5

Lost Pizza Co presents the legendary Christmas movie, "Christmas Vacation" at the Shoals Theatre on Friday, December 20 at 7pm. Tickets are only \$5 each at www.etix.com/ticket/v/16421/shoals-theatre. Chevy Chase, Beverly D'Angelo, and Randy Quaid star in the holiday season mayhem on the Griswold property.

and regular Church Service with Kenneth Floyd, Pastor

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.

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

Florence Parks and Recreation/The Club hosts the Florence Singing River Squares dance every Monday from 5:30-7:30pm at The Club/Florence Senior Center, 450 Country Club Drive in Florence (excluding any state or federal holidays) 256.760.6420 for more information. fdavis@florenceal.org. New class will begin July 8 at 5:30pm. No experience necessary. Drug, alcohol, tobacco & weapon free facility. Fran Davis at 256-760-6420 or fdavis@florenceal.org

Zodiac Players Season - The Zodiac Players have the following plays scheduled: "Steel Magnolias" Jan. 16-19, 2025, directed by Dylan Bales; "South Pacific the Musical" April 17-20, 2025, directed by Jacob Adams. The plays will be at Shoals Theatre, 123 N. Seminary St., Florence. For ticket information, or to become a patron, call 256-764-1700 or go to theshoalstheatre.org.

Oakdale Missionary Baptist Church 1215 E. Reeder Street in Florence welcomes all children to our new Children's Church Class! Ages "pottie trained" to 12 years. "Mrs. Trish" Robbins is Children's Director 10am Sunday School 11am Children's Church

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 the Sheffield Housing Authority will hold a **Public Hearing on Tuesday, January 7, 2025 at 10:00 AM** at the main office located at 505 N. Columbia Ave., Sheffield, AL 35660.

The purpose of this hearing is to solicit public comment on the Annual PHA Plan, the Moving to Work Supplement and the Capital Fund Five Year Action Plan. This hearing is open to all citizens of Sheffield. Any citizen with a physical disability or other special need may contact the Housing Authority at (256) 383-4773 so that we can make arrangements to get you there. In addition, effective with the publication of this notice, the Public Housing Agency Plan will be available for public review prior to the Public Hearing at the Housing Authority main office.

622990-1

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- Backer, Bicker
- Tablet, Tables
- Radio, Ratio
- Octave, Octane
- Shell, Swell
- Gross, Grass

Puzzle Whirl Answers

Kids' Maze Solution



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WORD LADDER

Answer
 WATER, LATER, LITER, LIVER,
 LOVER, LOWER

Word Spiral
 Answer
BASHFULLY

MINI SUDOKU

Answer

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

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