

Lionheart Youth Place

VESTAVIA—Lionheart Youth Wrestling, a wrestling club based in the Shoals had 16 kids, ages K-8th grade participate in the Team Alabama Youth Wrestling - USA State Championship meet on January 25 at Vestavia Hills High School. Ten of them placed at the meet.

- STATE RESULTS:
- 8U 86 lbs – **Daniel Fuller** (Florence) 2nd Place
  - 8U 98 lbs – **Brennan Tillery** (Muscle Shoals) 1st Place
  - 10U 59 lbs – **Gideon Standridge** (Tuscumbia) 4th Place
  - 10U 93 lbs – **Zachary Gist** (Muscle Shoals) 6th Place
  - 10U 105 lbs – **Ace Hand** (Florence) 1st Place (2-time State Champion)
  - 10U 160 lbs+ **Jo'Terryious Turner** (Leighton) 1st Place
  - 12U 86 lbs – **Colton Pearson** (Florence) 1st Place (3-time State Champion)
  - 12U 98 lbs – **Titus Standridge** (Tuscumbia) 2nd Place
  - 14U 100 lbs – **Clayton King** (Florence) 2nd Place
- The state meet had 57 wrestling clubs registered. Lionheart finished at #12. Some of the club wrestlers also participated in State Duals January 26 representing the North Region. Lionheart placed 1st out of 5 teams.

See SHORTS... Page 2

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Volume 141 Number 15

February 5, 2025

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Entertainment!

Department Celebrates 50 Years of Growth at UNA

FLORENCE – Music was changing in the fall of 1975. Glen Campbell's



Kevin Lamb, publisher, department alum, and former adjunct professor in the department;

Courtesy photo

“Rhinestone Cowboy” had lost ground to “Fame,” David Bowie’s super-charged funk rock song featuring John Lennon. Disco was becoming more firmly entrenched

See 50 YEARS on Page 6

920 and Counting

Killen Now the All-Time AHSAA Wins Leader

by Stacy Long  
Times Daily  
Sports Editor

TUSCUMBIA—Remees sat calmly in the corner in her cage, chomping away on a 3-week-old stick while her mama, Jana Killen, talked about her latest career highlight.

Jana Killen, the Deshler girls basketball coach, became the AHSAA’s all-time wins leader on January 21, not that it was anything special for Remees.

“She’s got her stick, and she’s perfectly happy with that,” Killen said



Deshler players unfurl a banner celebrating coach Jana Killen’s, win record.

Dan Busey/  
Times Daily

of her 2-year-old Yorkie. “Business as usual.”

Deshler’s 77-33 win over Hatton

See 920 WINS... Page 6

Portrait of Berry Unveiled

FLORENCE— Ann Berry, a 1978 UNA graduate, was honored by the State of Alabama last week with a portrait unveiling in the Alabama Department of Archives and History as part of a ceremony

in Montgomery. Berry was sworn in as the 34th secretary of the United States Senate on March 1, 2021. She is the first person of

See BERRY... on Page 3



Berry

INSIDE this Issue

Automotive Inside



Ray Miller Buick-GMC  
Advance Auto Sales

- A Conversation with Pastor Kiki
- Your Next Job?
- Dave Ramsey
- Commentary
- Ask the Attorney
- Medicare Minute
- Adopt a Friend
- Super Deals for Big Game Parties

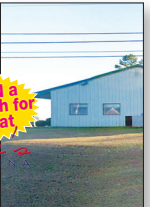


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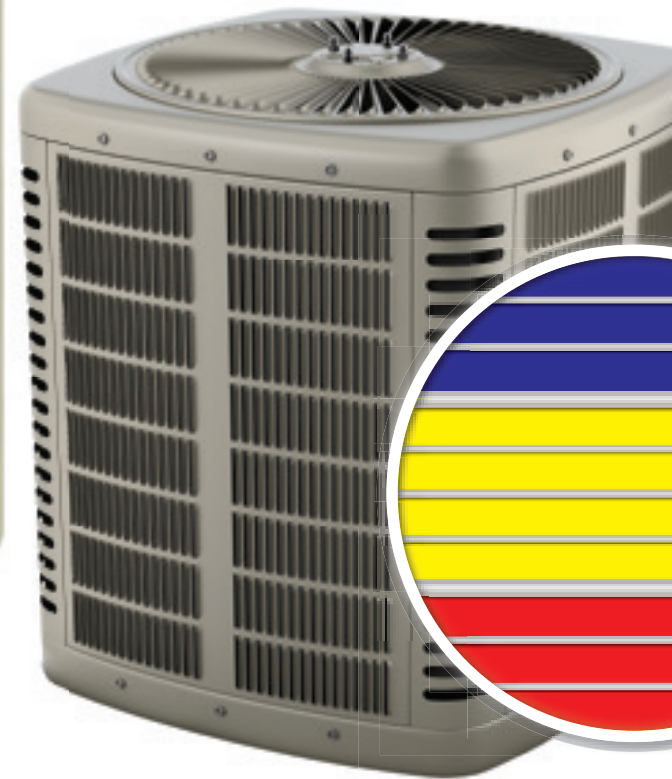
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# Shorts...

Continued from Page 1

## Lion Softball Picked 5th

JACKSONVILLE—The Atlantic Sun Conference announced its preseason coaches poll and preseason all-conference team for softball last week as UNA infielders **Hailey Jones** and **Briley Dover** were voted to the preseason All-ASUN Team.

The Lions were picked to finish fifth in the poll behind Eastern Kentucky, Florida Gulf Coast, North Florida, and Central Arkansas in the 12 team conference.

Jones, a senior from Summertown, TN, earned third-team

Jones



Dover



all-conference as a sophomore and junior.

She has played in 167 career games and has a career batting average of .302.

Dover, a sophomore from Loretto, TN, earned ASUN All-Freshman and second team All-ASUN honors as a rookie last season.

She started all 54 games at third base, batting .299 with eight doubles, four homers, and a team-high four triples to rank second in the ASUN. She also had a .976 fielding percentage at the hot corner with six double plays and only four errors on 167 chances.

The Lions finished 35-19 last season and 15-9 in conference play. Head coach **Ashley Cozart** enters her 12th season at UNA with a 385-171-1 record at the school. She also has a 576-217-1 career record with four seasons at Lindsey Wilson prior to UNA.

The season opener is set for next Friday, Feb. 7 at noon against Nicholls State. This will be one of five games at the Stinger Softball Classic hosted by Alabama State in Montgomery.

### MID CENTURY RETRO ANTIQUES AND MORE! HUGE 4-DAY SALE!!

Don't miss this sale located in the Ryan Piano Company building on 207 E. Tennessee St

Friday, Feb. 7th 9:00-3:00  
Saturday, Feb. 8th 9:00-2:00  
Sunday, Feb. 9th 1:00-3:00  
Monday, Feb 10th 9:00-3:00

Both floors of this historic building are packed full, therefore we will be conducting this sale as two separate sales with separate checkouts. Items located on the main level include antiques, chandeliers, art, furniture, lamps, decorations, accessories, and a fabulous iron door.

You have to see it to believe it!

Enter through the front door. Numbers for entry to the 1st floor will be given out at 8:30 am Friday and Saturday.

The second floor has an apartment packed full of mid-century items including Paul Evans and Pueblo Brutalist furniture by Lane, Lucite Chromcraft Tulip table and chairs, lamps, artwork, glassware and accessories.

Midcentury collectors will love what they see!

Entry for the second floor is at the back of the building. Line up to get your numbers at the backdoor. Numbers will be given out at 8:30 am on Friday and Saturday.

The Ryan Piano Co. Signs will be for sale. These are great pieces of local history.

Due to limited space we can only let a few people in at a time. (Once you enter the building you will understand)!!!

**Please note the following:**  
We are not responsible for accidents  
Please don't park in the 1st Presbyterian Church parking lot  
Bring boxes for your purchases  
All items sold "as is"  
Bring help to load purchases  
Due to space constraints, large purchases will have to schedule a "pick-up" day

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Go to [estatesales.net](http://estatesales.net) for pictures.

## On Cherokee Removal

FLORENCE—Cherokee Removal in Alabama is the subject of a February 8 presentation by Dr. **Stuart Marshall** at the Florence Indian Mound Museum. This 1pm talk on Saturday explores Cherokee Removal in Alabama by looking at Wills Valley and the family of **George Lowrey**, Assistant Principal Chief of the Cherokee Nation. Lowrey rose to leadership after serving in the Creek War of 1813-1814. He and his extended family claimed land in Tennessee before being driven south of

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See SHORTS...on Page 4



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# Berry...

Continued from Page 1

color to serve in that position and only the eighth woman to ever hold the office.

"Mrs. Berry's portrait in the State Archives

is a testament to her life as well as the role the University of North Alabama played in helping her achieve her goals and in serving as the Secretary of the United States Senate, said UNA President Dr. Ken Kitts."

Berry first came to the Senate in 1979 and served 18 years in many positions on Senator Howell Heflin's staff. After he retired, she worked for Senators Daniel Patrick Moynihan, John Edwards, and Tom Carper. She also led the transition team for Senator Doug Jones, and, most recently, served as the Deputy Chief of Staff to the Senate President Pro Tempore, Senator Patrick Leahy, who administered her oath of office as the new secretary.

Berry grew up in Birmingham and received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Education from UNA. She is also an alumna of the Georgetown University Senior Executive Leadership Program.

## Doing The Right Things



Expect a lot of opposition from the devil and his kids. **Proverbs 29:2** "When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn." Beware: **Matthew 7:15** "Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves." **Matthew 24:11** "and many false prophets shall rise, and shall deceive many." **Mark 13:22** "For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if *it were* possible, even the elect." **Luke 6:26** "Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets." **Proverbs 17:13** "Whoso rewardeth evil for good, evil shall not depart from his house." **Isaiah 5:20** "Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness; that put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter!" **Romans 7:21** "I find then a law, that, when I would do good, evil is present with me." **2 Peter 2:1** "But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction."

**2 Timothy 3:12** "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution." **KEEP DOING THE RIGHT THINGS** that promote and believe the truth. **John 17:17** "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth." Millions out there have never read or heard the truth, but only in twisted ways. Sadly most are religious in some way! Remember: **James 5:9D** "the judge standeth before the door." When you pass through the door of death, it's too late to correct bad decisions made on earth. If you are not ready to meet God, remember, you will meet Him. Call on Christ today and forget your church or religion that cannot save & trust Him. Christ delivers! Do one right thing in your life!

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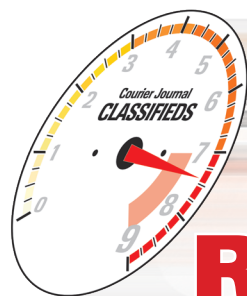
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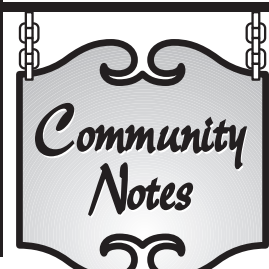
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Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Shovel is shorter. 2. Arm is lower. 3. Snow is missing from mailbox. 4. Doorknob is missing. 5. Zipper is missing. 6. House is not as wide.



Limited to couples. REGISTER: Now through Thursday, February 6, Broadway Recreation Center, 300 N. Broadway St. Florence, 256-760-6418.

**Get Crafty! Wednesday, February 5, 4-5pm** at the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library. Unleash your creativity in this hands-on program for younger teens! Each month, dive into a fun and unique craft project where you can try something new and leave with a masterpiece of your own creation.

Registration is required. Email teens@fjpl.org to reserve your spot.

**Stargazers of Africa: Black History Month Program - Friday, February 7, 7-8:15pm.** UNA Planetarium and Observatory, 722 N. Pine Street, Florence.

In honor of Black History Month, the UNA Planetarium will show "Stargazers of Africa," a journey connecting stars, moon and planets to the people across this great continent - from long ago to the stargazers of today. Details: 256-765-4824.

**Southeastern Native American Culture Series - Maneuvers Of Cherokee Resistance: Major George Lowbey And "Removal" To And From Wills Valley, Alabama**

Dr. Stuart Marshall Saturday, Saturday, February 8, 1pm at the Florence Indian Mound Museum

**Balms & Infused Oils Workshop - Sunday February 9, 1-2pm,** at Pope's Tavern Museum in Florence with Summer McCreeless.

**See NOTES... page 5**

**Perfectly Imperfect Art Class Part 1 - Saturday, February 4, 5:30pm,** Studio 23, 333 E. College Street, Florence, Cost: \$50, include all supplies.

This three-hour faith-based art class taught by Trina Ross will focus on letting go of perfection and embracing our God-given creativity to produce the most imperfectly perfect art piece. Details: 256-247-2601.

**Timothy D. Ashley MD PC Ribbon Cutting** Wednesday, February 5, 12pm. 727 Cox Creek Parkway, 727 AL-133, Florence.

**Couples Line Dancing Lessons by Florence Park & Rec.** 4 week dates: Fridays in February - 7, 14 21 and 28. Instructor Jan Owenby. \$60 per couple, 6:30-7:30pm.

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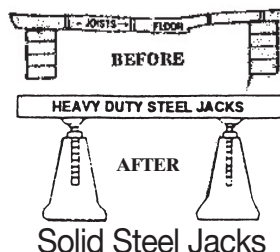
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**Shorts...**

**On Cherokee Removal**

Continued from Page 2

the Tennessee River, some of them settling in Wills Valley. Lowrey's leadership strategy reflects a focus on unity and community, sustained through multiple "removals" in the 1820s and 1830s.

Stuart Marshall is a Visiting Assistant Professor of History at Sewanee – The University of the South and is Secretary of the Tennessee Trail of Tears Association (TNTOTA). He completed his Ph.D. in 2023 with his

dissertation, "The Age of Junaluska: Eastern Cherokee Sovereignty in the Long Civil War Era." Since arriving at Sewanee, he has worked on a database about the Bell Route of the Trail of Tears—"Retracing the Bell Route: An Archive of Cherokee Removal" (cherokee-bell-route.org).

This program Saturday is free and is sponsored by the City of Florence Department of Arts and Museums and the Alabama Chapter of the Trail of Tears Association. The Florence Indian Mound Museum is located at 1028 S. Court St. in Florence. Please call 256-760-6427 for more information.



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# Community Notes...

Continued from page 4

**Chloe's Fund volunteer bakers are baking their delectable specialties** for the "Be My Valentine Bake Sale" Saturday, February 8 from 10am-1pm at the Florence-Lauderdale Animal Services Building, 3240 Roberson Rd in the Florence Industrial Park.

All the cakes, cookies, breads, cupcakes, pies, and various treats for you and your furry friends are made fresh to order! Pre-orders are preferred with the menu posted on the Chloe's Fund or Florence Lauderdale Animal Services Facebook pages. Bake Sale Coordinator, Lisa Wilson Rim can also text the menu to you. Contact her at 804-240-6880 (local). **THE DEADLINE TO PRE-ORDER the baked goods is Wednesday, February 5 at 2pm** and you can pick up your order on Saturday. If you miss the order deadline, you can take your chances made more than was ordered, and you can still pick some up at the sale. They often have some extras.

\*Best of all, 100% of the money raised from the Bake Sale goes directly into Chloe's Fund to help animals at Florence-Lauderdale Animal Services that are suffering from various illnesses or are in need of medical attention.\*

**Florence Fly Fisher & Tyers meets the 1st Tuesday** of every month from 6:30-8pm at St Bartholomew Episcopal Church, 1900 Darby Dr in Florence. Anyone interested is welcome and encouraged to attend.

**Al Anon Men's Group meets every Thursday night** 6:30-7:30pm at St Bartholomew Episcopal Church, 1900 Darby Dr in Florence. All are welcome.

**Valentine's Dinner Saturday February 8, 6pm** at the Cross Brand Cowboy Church, 5255 County Road 33, Killen. Tickets: \$20.

Bring your sweetheart for a dinner to help raise funds for our youth to go to cowboy camp this summer. Details: 256-341-8757.

**Expedition Saturdays, 9-11am February 8, 15 & 22** at Joe Wheeler State Park, 4401 McClean Drive, Rogersville. Cost \$5.

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**AARP Tax Aide is doing taxes for free** again this year in Sheffield. Monday, Wednesday, and Friday starting at 9am - By appointment only. 600 N. Columbia Ave. Sheffield February 3 - April 14. Call Kim at 256-483-2894 for more info.

**Winter Clothes Giveaway - infants thru adults** clothes and shoes. Thursday, February 6 from 8-10am at the Care Center, First Baptist Church, Killen

See NOTES... page 22

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- **Nydia Crabbe:** Furniture & misc household items.
- **Troy May:** Fishing poles, Bed, Dresser, extension cords, hose pipe, rakes, and totes
- **Marissa Crittenden:** Furniture, washer, totes and boxes, ironing board, and misc. house items.

**920 Wins...**

Continued from Page 1

that Tuesday was the 920th victory of Killen's career.

Three days after tying the late R.C. Hatch boys coach Eugene Mason, Killen pushed past him.

"I really hadn't thought about it," Killen said

of this year's chase of Mason. "I just stayed focused on this team. I actually forgot about it after the 900th win until, I guess, when (the TimesDaily) showed up."

But the Tigers (23-3) were ready.

They unveiled a large poster commemorating Killen's 920th and hauled out balloons – though not without issue – to put a stamp on it.

Initially, they got the balloon numbers backward. Celebrating 029 doesn't carry quite the same weight.

"That was funny," freshman Kloie Nelson said. "That will be a good memory."

They could have tried more but elected to not carry Killen off the court. Missed opportunity.

"I don't want them to get hurt," Killen said. "We're coming to playoff time. Can't risk it."

Once she reached her office, Killen said she already had 10 text messages on her phone. Over the last few days, her cell phone and social media have gotten a workout from past players, longtime friends, and more.

"She deserves every bit of it," sophomore Reece Davis said. "She's so humble, and she's ready



**Deshler players get photos with coach Jana Killen on the court January 21 with balloons that signify her 920 career wins.** Dan Busey/Times Daily

to focus on the next one, like we all are."

Killen, over the last few days, made sure her phone alerts didn't distract the Tigers during practice. She silenced it.

"A lot of people, former players and friends, high school friends, a lot of nice people in my life," Killen said of the influx of well-wishes. "I was just happy for everybody who took time out of their busy schedule to think of me."

Davis scored a career-high 37 points Tuesday, following up the career-low one she had in Saturday's record-tying win over Florence. She also had eight steals.

Nelson had 21 points and five steals.

Alaska Jones' 14 points led Hatton (5-16).

"All of this is not about me," Killen said. "Everything is about the kids."

And she's confident the wins record won't always be hers.

Hazel Green girls coach Tim Miller, who is 769-109 and is in his 25th season, is a potential candidate. The 55-year-old sent his congratulations Tuesday night.

"Tell Jana to keep going to 1,000, 1,500," Miller said. Killen, 60, is 920-227 in 36 seasons.

"No record is going to stand forever," Killen said. "I just appreciate every kind thought that people have shown toward me. I really do."

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**50 Years...**

Continued from Page 1

on the airwaves, while punk rock was in its early stages, emerging as a reaction to the mainstream progressive and string-heavy pop that dominated the era.

This is the backdrop in which Dr. Frank McArthur, then head of the University of North Alabama's Department of Music, and Muscle Shoals studio owner and record producer Terry Woodford established the Commercial Music Program at the institution. With help from Henry Romersa, the coordinator of the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences Institute, the program was among the few of its kind in the nation and the first in Alabama.

What set UNA's program apart—and continues to make it

special—is its proximity to the Muscle Shoals music community. Then, as now, students capitalized on an aggressive internship program with local music companies and other music centers in the U.S.

Now, 50 years later, the Department of Entertainment Industry, as it has been known since 2009, is celebrating this milestone with the launch of a video series highlighting the evolution of the program as well as the pivotal figures who shaped its earliest decades. The series is available now on the department's YouTube channel at [www.youtube.com/@entind\\_una](http://www.youtube.com/@entind_una).

Some of the videos will also be featured on UNA's website ([una.edu](http://una.edu)) and in short form reels on social media.

Today, the department

hosts annual events to showcase the talents of students and faculty, one of whom is John Paul White, a Grammy Award-winning artist, graduate of the program, and now an Eminent Visiting Artist of Practice in the department.

"I love spreading the good word about the Department of Entertainment Industry at UNA," said White. "I owe so much of my success to the foundational support, tutelage, and networking expertise."

In the summer of 2012, the department moved to its current location at 122 West Tombigbee Street in downtown Florence, which houses faculty and staff offices, classrooms, a MIDI lab, a writer's room, two recording studios, and the Mane Room, a 450-seat venue.



**NIGHTSHIFT DELIVERY DRIVERS NEEDED**

The Times Daily has immediate openings for full time and part time Non-CDL truck driving. Drivers will deliver pallets and postal bins of subscription newspapers to numerous USPS locations in Jefferson, Lawrence, Morgan and Shelby Counties in Alabama, as well as Davidson County, Tennessee. The ideal candidate must have an excellent Motor Vehicle Report and proof of personal auto insurance. Candidate must pass a DOT physical, be capable of driving up to 8 hours at a time, as well as the flexibility to work days, weekends, and holidays as needed.

Please email resumes to: [morgan.whitehead@timesdaily.com](mailto:morgan.whitehead@timesdaily.com) or pick up an application at 219 W. Tennessee St., Florence, AL 35630

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The Decatur Daily, a five-day daily covering three counties in north Alabama, is investing in its newsroom as it seeks to produce more quality journalism. We are looking for a general assignment reporter who is able to develop sources, dig for stories of importance to our readers, handle hard news and tell a compelling story. The successful candidate will cover a wide range of topics, including police, local government, education and enterprise stories. Accuracy is essential.

The Daily is an award-winning, family-owned newspaper founded in 1912. The newspaper covers Morgan, Limestone and Lawrence counties.

Send a brief cover letter, four of your most current, relevant writing samples and resume including references to: Eric Fleischauer, Executive Editor, [eric@decaturdaily.com](mailto:eric@decaturdaily.com)

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**CLOSING DATE:** Until Filled

**PAY/BENEFITS:** Negotiable Based on Qualifications/Experience

**POSITION SUMMARY:** To promote the Multipurpose Complex destination as a premier sports tourism and athletic events location booking a diversity of sporting events and tournaments with the primary responsibility of booking events, coordinating event management, and generating revenue.

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- Negotiate license agreements and certificates of insurance
- Conduct and communicate pre and post event planning meetings
- Oversee facility/equipment set-up and break-down and cleanup activities
- Responsible for communication of event details, time-lines, advertising, and purchasing channels for event tickets
- Work with event personnel to plan transportation routes/lodging locations for event goers, staff, and event/tournament participants/users
- Manage business development and event budget
- Oversee hiring, assignment, scheduling, and payment of event personnel necessary for event/ tournament management
- Coordinate with emergency management, security staff and other personnel to provide coverage at events and assist with crowd control and troubleshoot
- Serve as manager on duty for sporting events and tournaments
- Perform other related duties as assigned or modified

### PREFERRED EXPERIENCE/EDUCATION/SKILLS:

- Experience in youth/amateur sports/athletics
- Experience working with sports facilities destinations and venues, convention & visitors bureaus, sports commission, and/or event management organization
- Knowledge in database for prospective events owners/providers and businesses in Alabama, the surrounding region, and the nation that have the need for space at the Multipurpose Complex
- Bachelor's degree in sports administration or hospitality, sports management, recreation, event planning or event management, or other closely related field
- 5 years appropriate experience

### MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- Organization, communication, problem solving collaboration, networking, and service skills
- Able to work flexible work schedule (nights, weekends, holidays, long hours)
- Experience in contract negotiations, sporting/athletics event/tournament creation and planning, and sports/athletics administration preferred.

Submit resume to: Lauderdale County Agriculture Event Center  
P.O. Box 249, Florence, AL 35661

Only those candidates considered for an interview will be contacted

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# I Don't Really Care, Margaret!

That's Margaret Brennan. She was conducting the first public interview of Vice President J.D. Vance on *Face the Nation*, which aired six days after the inauguration.

In the already legendary series of exchanges, Brennan peppered Vance with talking points and kept circling back to Afghan refugees, who are supposed to be thoroughly investigated before they are allowed to enter the country.

Vance defended Trump's decision to suspend the country's refugee program until proper vetting procedures are established, referencing several failures, including a planned Election Day attack. Brennan argued that many refugees had already been vetted and reminded him that Afghan refugees were "literally left at the airport."

He reminded her that the process had proven flaws, and that the safety of U.S. citizens comes before anything else.

Vance: "But my primary concern as vice

In A Few Words



TOM MAGAZZU Editor

See REFUGEES... on Page 16

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

# THIS WEEK

Happening THIS WEEK



## Fishing Pickwick

Alabama pro Hayden Marbut and his family and friends celebrated big with the Toyota USA Series Championship on Wheeler Lake last year. MLF photo

3 Day Event the First for Central Division

FLORENCE – The Major League Fishing (MLF) Toyota Series, presented by Phoenix Boats, is visiting Florence from February 5-7 for the first event of the Central Division – the Toyota Series at Pickwick Lake.

The three-day tournament, hosted by Visit the Shoals, will feature a roster of the region's best bass-fishing pros and Strike King co-anglers competing for a top

See FISHING... on Page 18

JOIN THE NATCHEZ TRACE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY at 2pm Sunday, February 9, in the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library Conference Room for its quarterly program. Local Civil War historian, Greg Gresham, will present a program entitled, "The Short Stories of 'Bub,' 'The Bohemian,' and DeForest Hyde: A Newspaperman Remembers Childhood Events in Florence and Lauderdale County During the Civil War." Before eventually becoming editor of the *Sheffield Reaper*, Hyde (1854-1919) a Unionist during the war, wrote a column in the *Florence Times* under the pen name "The Bohemian," where he wrote about life in Florence during the war as young Unionist. Greg will speak about Hyde's life and the stories he wrote about the Civil War in Florence-Lauderdale.

### BASKETBALL MEN

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THE 7TH ANNUAL NORTHWEST ALABAMA FARM TOY SHOW takes place at the Clarion Inn on Hatch Blvd February 7-8. This is an opportunity to buy, sell, and trade farm toys. There will be a display competition, door prizes, and a pedal tractor raffle. Hours are Friday, 4-8:30pm, and Saturday 8:30am-2pm.

## YOUR Letters

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

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

## ICE on Speed-Dial

Mr. Editor,

Well, here we are living in Trump-land. For all of those who voted for Donald Trump, you got what you wanted. As for me, I can't wait to contact ICE when I see what might be an illegal worker in a restaurant, on a construction project, or at a farm stand. I can't wait to see the farmers who depend on migrant labor to bring crops from the field... I also can't wait to contact ICE and report those farmers, restaurant owners, and construction companies that use illegal labor.

So, Mr. and Mrs. Trump voter, has the price of your eggs gone down like the Dear Leader said they would?

Has the price of gas dropped? Has your life improved? No? Well, well, well—wait a few months. The Dear Leader is about to unleash his fury on you, his base, who believed his lies. And for those who represent us in Congress and the courts, who were sworn to "protect and defend the Constitution of the United States,"

She told me that he wanted to make at least \$20.00 an hour...



members of Congress now shake in fear when the Dear Leader tells them to do what he says—or else. And the judges who took the same oath? Well, they are all bought and paid for.

Folks, I have ICE on speed dial, ready to report any suspicious worker I see at a business. Remember, I don't need proof that they are illegal—only that they are Hispanic. And then who will wash your dishes, clean your house, or build your homes? The American worker? I think not. The American worker doesn't want to do those jobs. They don't want to work 12-hour shifts picking fruit, washing dirty dishes, or cleaning your house for \$2.00 an hour... No, the American worker is too lazy for that kind of work.

See LETTERS... on Page 18



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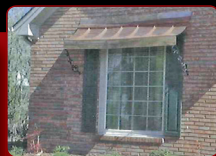
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# Cat & Kids

by Cathy Turner

## Honoring the Aunties

### Part Three - Examples

We are blessed to have older relatives who are our friends, supporters, and examples. In a presentation honoring her elder aunties, our firstborn, Lora, referred us to Matthew 1 and the fact that Rahab and Naomi were family. These two women, who came from very different backgrounds, were part of a world where they knew of God and boldly celebrated Him. Their lives were full of struggle, but even in that struggle, they found love, trust and happiness. They watched their children play and grow to become

men of valor and women of strength. That's the truth of our, my sisters' and my origin, struggle and the blessings that followed because of faith and endurance. The happiness in the midst of struggle is hard to fathom and harder to explain. This dichotomy seems to be common to those who are brown. Lora read this poem by Nikka Giovanni to expound on this black joy.

NIKKA-ROSA by Nikki Giovanni in 1968 "childhood remembrances are always a drag if you're black you always remember things like living in Woodlawn with no toilet. And if you become famous or something, they never talk about how happy you were to have your mother all to yourself and how good the water felt when you got your bath from one of those big tubs that folk in Chicago barbecue in. And somehow when you talk about home, it never gets across how

much you understood their feelings as the whole family attended meetings about Hollydale and even though you remember, your biographers never understand your father's pain as he sells stock and another dream goes. And though you're poor, it isn't poverty that concerns you. And though they fight a lot, it isn't your father's drinking that makes any difference but only that everybody is together, and you and your sister have happy birthdays and very good Christmases. I really hope no white person ever has cause to write about my hard childhood and never understand that all the while I was quite happy."

Snapping fingers, claps and hugs ensued after this reading, because the elders and others in that room knew of what was spoken. Indeed, my sisters and Nikki endured trying times in their coming up - tin tubs, drinking fathers, race riots, and breaking ceilings. But

their struggles made them strong women. I am so glad that our children have had their aunties; to hear the stories of going to all black schools, of being first generation college graduates, of treatment at their first jobs and of becoming high level administrators/managers in their chosen professions. Our children are blessed to have their aunties to help to root and ground them in their history and their faith, and to give them examples of success and accomplishment. There is still struggle. But joy and happiness prevail. I wish that you could have heard our family, the night after the presentations; singing a capella songs of praise, hymns, contemporary songs, and gospel songs. Then you would know that, most importantly, we, too, know of God and celebrate Him, and that has made all the difference.

*Email comments or suggestions to [CatnKids1@gmail.com](mailto:CatnKids1@gmail.com)*

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# LEGAL NOTICE

STATE OF ALABAMA, LAUDERDALE COUNTY  
NOTICE OF ABANDONED AND UNCLAIMED MOTOR VEHICLES

Notice is hereby given that on **Saturday, the 15th day of March, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.**, The following motor vehicles will be sold at public auction for cash. The auction will be held at Horne Wrecker Service, inc., 1634 State Street, Florence, Alabama. Horne Wrecker Service Inc. will accept proof of ownership should anyone care to submit same, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., until the day of the sale. **Vehicles may be viewed starting Monday, March 10th, 2025, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.**

YR	MAKE	MODEL	VIN#	TAG#	COLOR	TOWED FROM LOC
04	BUICK	LESABRE	1G4HR54K44U106835	AL 41A0H56	WHITE	CO RD 81
08	BUICK	ENCLAVE	5GAER23728J211613	N/A	SILVER	KIMBROUGH LANE
06	CADILLAC	DTS	1G6KD57YX6U126733	N/A	GOLD	APPLEBY BLVD
07	CADILLAC	DTS	1G6KD57987U126191	N/A	WHITE	SR 13
07	CHEVROLET	AVALANCHE	3GNEC12J27G121537	N/A	BLUE	AL 157
07	CHEVROLET	MONTE CARLO	2G1WK15K879358430	N/A	RED	SR13
13	CHEVROLET	MALIBU ECO	1G11D5RR4DF103490	N/A	SILVER	GOOCHS
02	DODGE	CARAVAN	1B4GP25372B506972	N/A	SILVER	CO RD 8
05	DODGE	CARAVAN	2D4GP44L35R120591	AL 41A39P4	WHITE	CO RD 8
08	FORD	CROWN VIC	2FAFP71V78X144916	N/A	WHITE	CO RD 204
14	FORD	FUSION	3FA6P0H79ER221438	N/A	D GREEN	STATE STREET
08	GMC	ENVOY	1GKDT13S282125940	N/A	BLACK	BROADWAY STREET
05	HONDA	ACCORD	1HGCM564X5A143906	AL 4109BBT	GRAY	COURTVIEW TOWERS
05	HONDA	CBR600F41	JH2PC35005M600654	TN 337ZD3	SILVER	CORD 283
07	JEEP	PATRIOT	18FF48W57D396155	N/A	BLACK	JACKS
07	KIA	SORENTO	KNDJD736675669601	AL 41 COA6X	BLUE	HWY 157
99	LINCOLN	TOWNCAR	1LNHM81W8XY666782	N/A	GRAY	SHERIDAN AVENUE
04	PONTIAC	VIBE	5Y2SL62814Z449064	AL 41C04W	ORANGE	CO RD 5
07	TOYOTA	TUNDRA	5TBDV54107S470760	AL 41A4NB5	BLACK	CO RD 224
SALE DATE 03-21-25 FOR THIS VEHICLE BELOW						
06	CHEVROLET	MONTE CARLO	2G1WM15K169225162	AL 41C0A9U	SILVER	HWY 20

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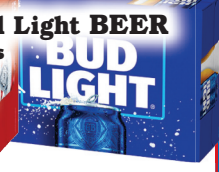
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If you are texting and driving down the highway at 55 mph, that's like traveling the length of a football field with your eyes closed. You can only drive safely when your full attention is on the road. Any activity that isn't related to driving is a potential distraction and increases your risk of a collision.

Distracted driving accidents are *always* preventable. Driving can become mundane at times, but it's important to distract yourself safely so that no one gets hurt. For example, listening to podcasts or music so that your primary focus is on driving.

If you are a parent, it is critical that you avoid distracted driving at all times, but especially in front of your children. Children will pick up on your actions much quicker than your words.

It's important to practice safe habits behind the wheel. You want to make sure that your passengers know how serious you are about driving without distractions. One of the most effective ways to lead is through example. Be a good example for your friends and family by avoiding driving while you're distracted.

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

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Commentary  
**Refugees...**

Continued from Page 8

president, Margaret, is to look after the American people. Now that we know we have vetting problems with a lot of these refugee programs, we absolutely cannot unleash thousands of unvetted people into our country."

"These people are vetted," Brennan responded.

Vance: "Just like the guy in Oklahoma who planned this terrorist attack a few months ago? He was allegedly properly vetted, and many people in the media and the Democratic Party said that he was properly vetted, and clearly, he wasn't. I don't want my children to share a neighborhood with people who are not properly vetted, and because I don't want it for my kids, I'm not gonna force any other American citizens' kids to do that either."

Brennan kept pushing. "No, and that was a very particular case. It wasn't clear whether he was radicalized when he got here or while he was living here."

Vance closed with: "I don't really care, Margaret. I don't want that person in my country, and I think most Americans agree with me."

The refugee issue aside, I don't think every illegal immigrant in the U.S. should be deported. Those who have assimilated, are seeking the American dream, are employed, paying taxes, and proving to be assets to our country deserve their chance and should be given an avenue to remain. Paying a predetermined fine for breaking the law initially and working through an additional probationary period could suffice if they wish to remain.

However, those who want to mooch, collect taxpayer support, and live off society's underside without contributing can leave. We have enough of that in a homegrown manner as is.

Hopefully, as the months pass, some type of legislative reform in that vein can pass, so many can have an option. The absolute is that the illegal flow across both

borders MUST stop. We can't adequately support our own. Millions of new economic liabilities every year is unsustainable.

A story coming into focus from Chicago as we went to press indicates that two young men who illegally entered the US from the southern border in 2023 brutally beat and killed a 63 year old in a suspected hate crime. Typical for a sanctuary city, police know one of the suspects and actually arrested him on January 12 in a child-luring incident with two young teenage girls. The charge was reduced to simple assault, and he was released.

This kind of politically instigated insanity is inexcusable.

The new Presidential Press Secretary, Karoline Leavitt, in her first press conference for the Trump Administration, established firm immigration parameters when she was asked, "How many of the illegal aliens deported so far have a criminal record?"

She replied, "All of them because they illegally broke our nation's laws."

It's harsh but accurate. We certainly wouldn't be allowed to illegally cross into Canada or Mexico and remain. What's the difference?

The claims—complete with video—of ICE raiding elementary schools in Chicago and New York, supposedly "breaking up families," is more media drama. One of those was a Secret Service raid on a totally separate matter, and others supposedly involve documented sex trafficking charges..

As most of us have witnessed in his first two weeks, new Border Czar Tom Homan is nonsense.

Homan is not as hardline against illegals who are productive and honestly making something of themselves. However, he is tasked with enforcing the job that Donald Trump campaigned on.

ICE doesn't have the time or inclination to go after "everyone." They are prioritizing the illegal 'criminal element' first—those who have records in their homelands and

those who continue breaking laws here. That will take a long while.

When the foolish officials in sanctuary cities don't cooperate with federal law enforcement—or worse yet, release illegal criminals from custody back onto the streets to help them \*\*avoid deportation—\*\*the criminals are dropped back into the community.

Not only are they a danger to society again, but they also often take shelter with working families, either willingly or through intimidation.

If they are being sheltered or assisted by others who are illegal, and a raid finds everyone, that harboring is a felony, and they too will be arrested and deported.

They are aiding and abetting a criminal or harboring a fugitive, and they become collateral damage in the arrest and deportation process.

In that sense, sanctuary proponents are doing no one any favors, especially the very people they claim to be protecting.

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# Medicare Minute

## "Medicare Part A Part 2"

Last week we discussed how Medicare Part A will cover you if you are admitted into the hospital. A hospital, under Medicare, can be acute care hospitals, critical care hospitals, inpatient rehabilitation facilities, long term care hospitals or mental health care.

The one aspect of Medicare Part A we get the most questions about is coverage at a skilled nursing facility (SNF). To be covered by Medicare at a SNF certain criteria has to be met. First, of course, is you must have Medicare Part A. Next your doctor has determined that you need daily skilled care given by, or under the supervision of, skilled nursing or therapy personnel. Your skilled nursing care will have to be in a SNF that is certified by Medicare.

What a lot of people don't know is that you must have a "qualifying" hospital stay to be covered at a SNF. Under Medicare a "qualifying" hospital stay is at least a 3-day inpatient stay prior to being admitted to the SNF. If you go to the ER and are held one day for observation and are admitted into the hospital for two days this does not constitute a "qualifying" hospital stay. If you are admitted on a Monday and discharged the following Wednesday this is not a "qualifying" hospital stay. In the two examples above those are 2-day inpatient stays. A good rule of thumb is you must be admitted as inpatient for at least three midnights.

You also need to know that Medicare Part A will only cover you for 100 days at a SNF and only 20 of those days are at 100%. In other words days 1-20 are covered at 100%. Days 21-100 you will pay the first \$209.50 per day and Medicare pays the rest of the cost. Starting with day 101 you will pay 100% of the bill.

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@alabamhealthguidance.com](mailto:ikey@alabamhealthguidance.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 Puppies*

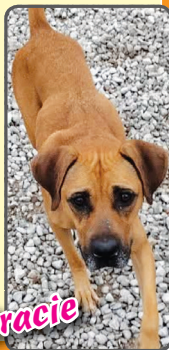
**Meet the Puppies!** We have puppies in all shapes and sizes that are sweet, loving and ready to grow up in a home to give happiness and love. Puppies can be a lot of work. When a puppy grows up with you teaching a routine they will be great best friends to grow with over time.

**Meet Mator!** This adorable boy is large in size and he will melt your heart and speak to your soul. He is a love bug who wants to have you by his side to give him lots of love and attention. He has been with us for several months and would love to find his forever home. Fostering is free.



*Mator*

**Meet Gracie!** This beautiful girl is amazing. She has a wonderful personality to make you happy to have her around. She likes to walk and be active. Playing is her favorite thing to do besides getting treats.



*Gracie*

Adoption fees are currently \$85 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 these wonderful companions!

# Fishing...

Continued from Page 8

prize of up to \$100,000 in the pro division and a new Phoenix 518 Pro boat with a 115-horsepower outboard motor, plus \$5,000 in the co-angler division.

Excitement is high due to the lake's current fishing conditions. The winter months have seen impressive catches, with multiple 20-pound bags being weighed in at recent tournaments. Local angler and seasoned competitor, Jimmy Washam, of Stantonville, Tennessee, said he believes this tournament could see some of the highest weights in recent years.

"Pickwick has been on fire - it's probably fishing as good as I've ever seen it," Washam said. "The lake has been producing a lot of big largemouth, smallmouth,

and spotted bass. In fact, we've been seeing 10 to 12 bags over 20 pounds per event recently. It just seems like there are a lot more 4- and 5-pounders showing up this year."

In a tournament last month, Washam weighed in a 5-pound smallmouth, a 5-pound spotted bass, and multiple 5-pound largemouths, a feat he said makes Pickwick Lake unique.

"There aren't many lakes in the country where you can weigh in three species of black bass over 5 pounds in one bag," said Washam. "That's why Pickwick is held in such high regard among anglers. This is a bold statement, but I believe if things go just right for someone, it could take up to 80 pounds to win the three-day event."

Washam said bait choice will be crucial, with a variety of techniques expected to come into play.

"Stable weather is definitely a plus," Washam said. "Looking at the extended forecast,

there's a good chance we'll avoid any extreme cold fronts, which can make things tricky."

With water temperatures dipping to around 44 degrees, Washam said anglers will likely find fish at depths ranging from 10-20 feet, though shallower waters could become productive with warmer rain.

"I'm looking forward to a great event," Washam added. "Fishing at home, on one of the best lakes in the South, with the potential for multiple 5-pound bass of different species - it doesn't get much better than that."

Anglers will begin each day at 7am, launching from McFarland Park in Florence. Weigh-ins will take place at the same location, starting at 3pm daily. Fans are invited to attend in person and can also stay connected by following the "MLF Live" weigh-in broadcasts and daily updates on MajorLeagueFishing.com.

In Toyota Series regular-season competition, payouts are

based on the number of participants competing in the event, scaling up for every 20 boats over 160 and scaling down for every boat below 160.

With a 160-boat field, pros fish for a top prize of up to \$75,000, if Phoenix MLF Bonus qualified. Strike King co-anglers cast for the top prize of a new Phoenix 518 Pro bass boat with a 115-horsepower Mercury or Suzuki outboard (valued at \$33,500).

With a 260-boat field, pros fish for a top award of up to \$100,000, if Phoenix MLF Bonus qualified. Strike King co-anglers cast for the top prize of a new Phoenix 518 Pro bass boat with a 115-horsepower Mercury or Suzuki outboard, plus \$5,000 cash.

For complete details and updated information, visit MajorLeagueFishing.com. For regular Toyota Series updates, photos, tournament news, and more, follow the MLF5 social media outlets on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.

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# Letters...

## ICE on Speed Dial

Continued from Page 8

Finally, I went through a Walmart checkout line recently near my house. The checker was on the phone. She apologized and told me that she had to call her 40+-year-old son to get him up. It was 11 a.m., and the checker told me that she was working at Walmart to support herself and her son, who can't find a job. She told me that he wanted to make at least \$20.00 an hour or else it wouldn't be worth his while to go to work. So, she said that he plays video games all day and night until he can find a "good job." I asked her if he could get a job at Walmart, and she told me, "They don't pay enough for him."

Thanks, all you Trump supporters and voters. I will do my duty under Dear Leader to report all those suspicious people who are willing to do jobs that Americans don't want.

Thanks to you all, and I hope you enjoy living

under a dictator while his wealthy members at Mar-a-Lago thrive under the Dear Leader.

Larry J. Smith  
Florence

*Editor's Note: With all due respect to the loving, hard-working lady at Walmart, she needs to put a foot in that boy's rear end and kick it to the curb. Any healthy man in his 40s who is apathetic to the point of letting his mother support him while he loafs and sleeps is not worth close to \$20/hour... or worth keeping inside.*

*And we can all rest assured that he is no Trump voter.*

## On Military Chaplains

Editor,

The February 2025 issue of *American Legion* magazine features an article about Maj. Gen. Bill Green Jr., the current Army Chief of Chaplains. Gen. Green, a Black soldier, first served in the Army as an enlisted man before receiving God's call to become a Chaplain. He left the military, earned his four-year

degree and his theology degree, and then returned to the Army as a Second Lieutenant Chaplain.

The following is from the article:

*"On Feb. 3, we (Army Chaplains) honor four of the Army's most famous chaplains - Rabbi Alexander Goode, Father John Washington, and the Revs. George Fox and Clark Poling—who gave up their life jackets to save others as their transport sank in World War II."*

Green added, "We look at the four chaplains as four individuals who embody what we mean when we talk about sacrifice. You could lose your life."

The article ends with this comment from Gen. Green:

*"When it's time, I'm going to walk away with a tremendous amount of joy and satisfaction in the fact that I did my best and I lived the Call."*

May the importance of military Chaplains never be doubted. May God always be with our military, regardless of area or service.

Bill Smoak  
Florence

55" ROKU SMART TV, \$100, 256-616-4701 Decatur



## A CONVERSATION WITH PASTOR KIKI Faith in Action: Living Out My Faith Through Kindness and Service

As a person of faith, I feel called to live a life that reflects my beliefs—not just in words, but in action. It's not about grand gestures; small, intentional acts of kindness and service often make the biggest impact. These moments, rooted in love and compassion, demonstrate God's presence in everyday life.



Rev. Kiki Woods-Terry

I believe that embodying Christ's teachings transforms us and strengthens our faith. "You may be the only Bible someone ever reads" reminds me to carry myself in ways that reflect God's love.

Living the story of Jesus is a way of life. I strive to be humble, trust in the Lord, and show kindness, generosity, and mercy. Hospitality is a cornerstone of my faith, and I work to extend it to everyone I meet.

The beauty of faith in action lies in its simplicity. A smile, a kind word, or helping a neighbor are small gestures that can inspire hope and build community.

At North Wood UMC, we encourage others to seek moments where faith is expressed in action. Through words, deeds, or prayers, we contribute to a greater purpose and grow closer to Christ.

Faith is not meant to be held within; it's meant to be shared. These small, intentional moments of service and kindness are opportunities to live out our faith and make a difference in the world.

If you're seeking a community that embraces faith in action, join us at North Wood UMC for worship or visit our Facebook page to learn more. Together, we can bring faith to life, one act of kindness at a time.



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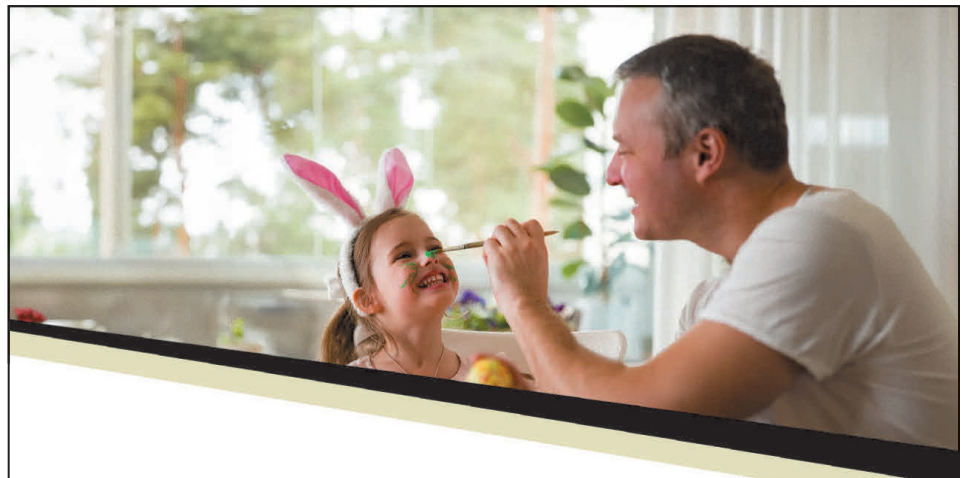
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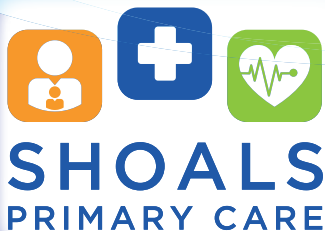
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**Notes...**

Continued from page 5

**Night to Shine Shoals takes place**  
on Friday, February 7 6-9pm in the  
the Guillot University Center on the UNA  
campus.

Night to Shine is an unforgettable  
prom night experience, centered on  
God's love for people with special needs  
ages 14 and older.

We Are Chapel has partnered with the  
Tim Tebow Foundation to be a part of  
this worldwide movement that is uniting  
churches of different denominations all  
over the world with the common goal of  
celebrating people with special needs.

Every guest of Night to Shine enters  
this complimentary event on a red  
carpet complete with a warm welcome  
from a friendly crowd and paparazzi.  
Once inside, guests receive the royal  
treatment, including hair and makeup  
stations, corsages and boutonnieres, a  
catered dinner, karaoke, prom favors,  
and a dance floor...all leading up to the  
moment when each guest is crowned  
king or queen of the prom.

For more information, call We Are  
Chapel Church. 256-767-1080.

The Guillot Center is at 131 Shelby  
Way on campus and parking can be  
accessed off of Pine St.

**"Get Out" movie at the Shoals**  
**Theatre in Florence.** Friday, February  
7, 7pm. 256-764-1700. Tickets \$5 at  
shoalstheatre.org

Description: Now that Chris and his  
girlfriend, Rose, have reached the meet-  
the-parents milestone of dating, she invites  
him for a weekend getaway upstate with  
her parents, Missy and Dean. At first, Chris  
reads the family's overly accommodating  
behavior as nervous attempts to deal with  
their daughter's interracial relationship, but  
as the weekend progresses, a series of  
increasingly disturbing discoveries leads  
him to a truth that he never could have  
imagined.

**Underwood-Petersville**  
**Neighborhood Watch meets** at 2pm the  
2nd Sunday (February 9) of each month  
at Underwood-Petersville Community  
Center, 840 Lauderdale 7, Florence.

**Ryerson and Associates, DMD will**  
host "Dentistry from the Heart" on  
Friday, February 14 from 7am - 5pm.  
One procedure per patient - Free  
cleaning, extraction, or filling. First come -  
first served. 1013 E. Avalon Ave. Muscle  
Shoals

**Batting Brigade Quilt Guild -**  
Monday, February 10, has hospitality at  
9 a.m. the second Monday of the month,  
with a meeting at 9:30 a.m., at Edgemont  
United Methodist Church, Florence. For  
information, call Liz at 601-590-4367.

Additional Dates: Monday, March 10,  
9am; Monday, April 14, 9am

**3rd Annual Shoals Scale Back**  
**Saturday, February 15** from 1-5pm at  
Harvest Mitchell Gym, (Handy) 610 West  
College Street

This FREE community event is your  
chance to kickstart the new year with a  
healthier you. Enjoy interactive health and  
wellness activities, vendor booths, and  
resources to help you meet your goals.

The event is hosted by: Council  
President Kaytrina Simmons. Susan  
Bently, WHNP, Dr. Javar Myatt-Jones,  
M.D., and Florence Parks and Recreation  
For more info, call Kaytrina at 256-  
349-3879 or Susan at 256-856-3918.

**Workforce Development Classes**  
- Friday, February 7, 9am-2pm at  
Leighton Public Library, 8740 Main St.  
Leighton, AL. Workforce Development  
Classes - Instructor is Dr. Terri Johnson.

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  
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Road in Florence.

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

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**Week of Jan. 29 winner is**  
**Marc Parker of Florence**  
who correctly guessed  
**"O'Neal Bridge from McFarland Park west boat ramp"**

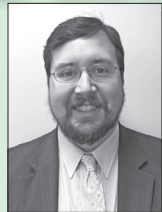
One entry per person. Winners will be announced each week in our paper and on our website. Winners can pick up their Gift Certificate at the Courier Journal office beginning Wednesdays after Noon.

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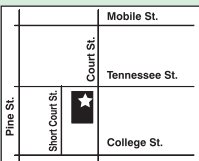


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**SIGNS OF THE PAST**

**BEAR CREEK MOUND**

*The village site was occupied as early as 8000 B.C. by hunters who stayed only long enough to prepare their kill. From the time of Christ to 1000 A.D., migratory people of this area practiced limited agriculture. The nearby fields and streams offered an abundance of nuts, fruits, game and fish. These people shaped this mound and built a crude temple on its summit to house their sacred images.*

**Location: 34.6448°N, 88.1322°W**  
Natchez Trace Pkwy, 200 ft W of Colbert Co line

Indigenous peoples occupied the rich lands surrounding the Tennessee River for over ten millennia before Europeans settled the area. Bear Creek Mound and the Florence Indian Mound are just two of the many mounds, large and small, on both sides of the Singing River.

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



# DAVE Says

by DAVE RAMSEY

## SAFE AND EASILY ACCESSIBLE

Dear Dave,  
I stopped contributing to my 401(k) temporarily to help us build an emergency fund a little faster. Things are going slowly, though, and I'm getting worried. My wife and I are both 46, have no debt except our home and we have a combined household income of \$100,000 a year. We have \$20,000 in a single stock, and I was wondering if we should cash out that stock and use the money for our emergency fund.

Doug

Dear Doug,  
That's exactly what I'd do. I'd cash out that stock as soon as possible, and put the cash in a simple money market account with check writing privileges and no penalties for early withdrawals.

Basically, your emergency fund is in stock right now, and that's a bad place to keep it. You never know when life will throw unexpected expenses your way, or when the stock market will go down. You always want your emergency fund to be safe and easily accessible. Remember, your emergency fund is insurance—not an investment.

After that, make sure you keep pushing forward and jump back into Baby Step 4. That means start pouring money into your 401(k) again.

Great question, Doug!  
— Dave

## THE TORTOISE AND THE HARE

Dear Dave,  
I'm trying to get out of debt and start handling my money better. Should I lower the amount I'm contributing to my 401(k) so I can pay off my car and house faster?

Austin

Dear Austin,  
I can tell you're excited about the idea of getting out of debt. And that's a good thing! But I don't want you to get ahead of yourself when it comes to gaining control of your finances.

Here's my Baby Steps plan. The first thing you should do is set aside a beginner emergency fund of \$1,000. That's Baby Step 1. Next comes Baby Step 2, which means paying off all your debt, except for your house. This would include your car. During this time, you should temporarily stop any kind of investing and retirement contributions, so you can attack your debt with a vengeance.

Once your mortgage is the only debt you have, it's on to Baby Step 3. This means you start saving money to grow your beginner emergency fund into a fully-funded emergency fund of three to six months of expenses. After that, it's on to Baby Step 4, which is investing 15 percent of your pre-tax income for retirement. In your case, that would mean re-starting contributions to your 401(k).

The rest of the plan goes like this. Baby Step 5 is putting money into your kids' college funds, if you have kids. Baby Step 6 is focusing on paying off the house early, and then comes the real fun. Baby Step 7 is where you build wealth and give like crazy.

It may take a little time in some cases, but there are millions of people out there who will tell you this—following the Baby Steps works!

— Dave

Dave Ramsey is an eight-time national bestselling author, personal finance expert and host of *The Ramsey Show*. He has appeared on *Good Morning America*, *CBS This Morning*, *Today*, *Fox News*, *CNN*, *Fox Business* and many more. Since 1992, Dave has helped people take control of their money, build wealth and enhance their lives. He also serves as CEO for *Ramsey Solutions*.

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Don't miss this sale located in the Ryan Piano Company building on 207 E. Tennessee St

Friday, Feb. 7th 9:00-3:00  
Saturday, Feb. 8th 9:00-2:00  
Sunday, Feb. 9th 1:00-3:00  
Monday, Feb 10th 9:00-3:00

Both floors of this historic building are packed full, therefore we will be conducting this sale as two separate sales with separate checkouts. Items located on the main level include antiques, chandeliers, art, furniture, lamps, decorations, accessories, and a fabulous iron door.

You have to see it to believe it!

Enter through the front door. Numbers for entry to the 1st floor will be given out at 8:30 am Friday and Saturday.

The second floor has an apartment packed full of mid-century items including Paul Evans and Pueblo Brutalist furniture by Lane, Lucite Chromcraft Tulip table and chairs, lamps, artwork, glassware and accessories.

Midcentury collectors will love what they see!

Entry for the second floor is at the back of the building. Line up to get your numbers at the backdoor. Numbers will be given out at 8:30 am on Friday and Saturday.

The Ryan Piano Co. Signs will be for sale. These are great pieces of local history.

Due to limited space we can only let a few people in at a time. (Once you enter the building you will understand)!!!

Please note the following:  
**We are not responsible for accidents**  
Please don't park in the 1st Presbyterian Church parking lot  
Bring boxes for your purchases  
All items sold "as is"  
Bring help to load purchases  
Due to space constraints, large purchases will have to schedule a "pick-up" day

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+ GMF Bonus Cash \$500  
+ Ray Miller Disc. Voucher \$2,000  
+ Ray Miller Discount \$3,401.30

**up to Total Savings \$8,401<sup>30</sup>**  
(WAC)

Stk #24G309



**2025-GMC-SIERRA-1500**  
Buick GMC Consumer Cash \$1,750  
+ GM Trade-In Allowance Program \$2,500  
+ GM Bonus Cash \$500  
+ Ray Miller Discount \$6,216.50

**up to Total Savings \$10,966<sup>50</sup>**  
(WAC)

Stk #25G009



**2024-GMC-YUKON-XL**  
Buick GMC Purchase Loyalty \$2,000  
+ GMC Bonus Cash \$1,000  
+ Ray Miller Discount \$7,241

**up to Total Savings \$10,241**  
(WAC)

Stk #24G272



**2024-BUICK-ENGORE-GX**  
Buick Conquest Purchase \$3,000  
+ Ray Miller Disc. Voucher \$2,000  
+ Ray Miller Discount \$2,095

**up to Total Savings \$7,095**  
(WAC)

Stk #24B081



**2024-BUICK-ENVISION**  
Buick GMC Consumer Cash \$1,000  
+ Ray Miller Disc. Voucher \$2,000  
+ Ray Miller Discount \$3,624

**up to Total Savings \$6,624**  
(WAC)

Stk #24B098



**2025-BUICK-ENCLAVE**  
Buick Bonus Cash \$1,000  
+ Ray Miller Disc. Voucher \$2,000  
+ Ray Miller Discount \$4,406

**up to Total Savings \$7,406**  
(WAC)

Stk #25B043

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**\$21,888**



**20 Chevy Traverse**  
#24G-249A, 1 Owner, Premier, Leather, V6, Loaded!  
**\$24,588**



**19 GMC Terrain Denali**  
#19P-5632, One Owner, Leather, Sunroof, Loaded!  
**\$24,988**



**14 Chevy Silverado 2500HD** #25G-009A, 4 Door, 4WD, Diesel, Nice!  
**\$27,888**



**21 Buick Envision Avenir**  
#25B-064A, 1 Owner, 6yr/100k Limited Warranty!  
**\$29,888**



**20 Ford Ranger**  
#24G-307B, Crew Cab, Lariat, Local Trade!  
**\$30,888**



**22 Chevy Silverado**  
#24B-088A, 4 Door, Leather, Nice Local Trade!  
**\$35,888**



**20 GMC Sierra X31**  
#25G-003A, 1 Owner, 6yr/100k Limited Warranty!  
**\$43,288**



**23 Buick Enclave Avenir**  
#25B-013A, 1 Owner, 6yr/100k Limited Warranty!  
**\$43,888**



**23 Chevy Traverse High Country**  
#24G-292A, Loaded, 6yr/100k Limited Warranty!  
**\$43,888**



**24 GMC Canyon AT4**  
#25G-036A, 1 Owner, 6yr/100k Limited Warranty!  
**\$45,888**



**Great Selection of Local Trades!**

**21 GMC Yukon XL**  
#24G-265A, 1 Owner, 6yr/100k Limited Warranty!  
**\$53,888**



**23 GMC Sierra X31**  
#24G-227A, 1 Owner, 6yr/100k Limited Warranty!  
**\$54,288**



**21 Chevy Suburban**  
#24G-301A, Z71, 1 Owner, 6yr/100k Limited Warranty!  
**\$56,888**



**23 GMC Yukon SLT**  
#24G-281A, 4x4, 6yr/100k Limited Warranty!  
**\$64,888**



**23 GMC Yukon Denali**  
#25G-002B, 4WD, Loaded, 6yr/100k Limited Warranty!  
**\$69,888**



**24 GMC Sierra 2500HD**  
#25G-001A, 1 Owner, Denali, 6yr/100k Limited Warranty!  
**\$74,288**

