

## Colbert HoF Induction

SHEFFIELD—The Colbert County Sports Hall of Fame will host its 2025 Induction Ceremony on Friday, April 18 at the Ritz Theatre in Sheffield. Doors open at 6pm. The event will begin at 7pm. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the box office before the event. The Class of 2025 includes Deion Belue, Brent Davenport, Jamie Dixon, Jody Evans, Ashley Southern Farley, Glenn Jordan, Tyrone Lowry, Tynesha Malone, Stephanie Brown Mangino, and Bill Trapp. For more information, call at 256-412-2184 or visit [ccsportshof.org](http://ccsportshof.org).

## Bake Sales Legendary

FLORENCE—It's just a few weeks until Easter! The Chloe's Fund volunteer bakers are gearing up for their annual Chloe's Fund Easter Bake Sale. It takes place this year on Saturday, April 19 from 10am-1pm at the Florence-Lauderdale Animal Services (FLAS) Building in the Florence Industrial Park. All proceeds from the Bake Sale go directly into Chloe's Fund

See SHORTS... on Page 2

Volume 141 Number 24

April 9, 2025

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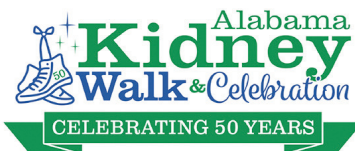
## 5th Walk for 50th



A few of those who were involved in last year's walk.  
Courtesy

### Shoals Kidney Walk & Celebration is on April 26

FLORENCE—The Alabama Kidney Foundation (AKF) is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year! This milestone is a testament to five decades of hope, support, education, and advocacy in improving the lives of those affected by kidney disease across our state. As part of this milestone celebration, the Shoals community is



invited and encouraged to take part in the Shoals Kidney Walk & Celebration from 9-11am on Saturday, April 26 at the River Heritage Park in Florence.

Walk, form a team, be a sponsor, donate, or just come to show your support for others. Your participation helps the AKF to continue providing vital services, hope and advocacy for years to come.

See KIDNEY WALK... on Page 4

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## Lexington's Davis is Deputy Director

MONTGOMERY – Chad Davis began working as a seasonal employee for Alabama State Parks as a 19-year-old college student at Joe Wheeler State Park in Rogersville.

More than 20 years later, Davis is the new Deputy Director for Alabama State Parks, making him the No. 2 executive for the State Parks System.

"I am extremely humbled to be selected as the deputy director of Alabama State Parks," Davis said. "I've spent my entire professional career with the park system, and I look forward to helping all 21 parks continue to offer first-class experiences for

See DAVIS... on Page 5



**HISTORIC PLAQUES** - After several years of unavailability, the plaques to mark individual historical homes and buildings in Florence are being offered once again by popular demand. To be eligible for a plaque, the home or building must be at least 50 years old and must not have had its streetside facade significantly altered. Heritage Preservation, Inc, a local non-profit organization, is producing the plaques in lots of 50 or more, and the cost is \$100 each, prepaid. Therefore, when as many as 50 have been ordered, the company will go to press. To receive an application for ordering a new plaque or replacing an existing one, please contact Billy Warren at 256-718-5020 or by email at: [brwarren@florenceal.org](mailto:brwarren@florenceal.org).

## INSIDE this Issue

### Automotive Inside



Advance Auto Sales  
Watson Auto Sales

- Medicare Minute
- Ask the Attorney
- Computer Skeptic
- Spring Park Discs
- Hocus Focus



- Insurance Insights
- On Your Debt
- Dave Ramsey
- Easter Coloring Contest Entry



- Swampers 5K
  - Roundhouse Crafters
  - Your Letters
- SIGNS of the PAST



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## Shorts...

### Bake Sales Legendary

Continued from Page 1

which helps sick and injured animals at FLAS recover and allowing them to be adopted.

Chloe's Fund bake sales take place several times each year and have become eagerly anticipated in the Shoals community.

Cakes, cookies, breads, Easter cupcakes, pies and various treats will be available for humans AND their fur babies. The bakers have become well known for their specialty items and everything is made fresh to order! It is best to pre-order, so you get exactly what you want. The menu is available on the following Facebook pages - Chloe's Fund for Medical Needs of Florence Shelter Animals and Florence Lauderdale Animal Services by 6pm on Tuesday, April 8. Chloe's Bake Sale Coordinator, Lisa Wilson Rim, can

also text the Easter menu to you. Call or text her at 804-240-6880 or DM her on Facebook. The deadline to pre-order is Tuesday, April 15 at 3pm. Orders can be picked up on Saturday, April 19 from 10am-1pm at FLAS, 3240 Roberson Rd. In addition to the preorder menu, there are always extra goodies that the bakers are inspired to make that can be purchase on the 19th!

Chloe's Fund is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, started in March of 2017 to benefit injured shelter animals after shelter volunteers, Glen and Debby Nelson lost Chloe, their beloved dog of 16 years.

### Into the Woods at NWSCC

PHIL CAMPBELL-- The Northwest Shoals Community College Music Department presents the beloved musical *Into the Woods* April 17 at 7pm and April 19 at 2:30pm. The production will take

place in the **Lou B. Beville** Center on the Phil Campbell campus.

Originally debuting in 1986, *Into the Woods* features music and lyrics by **Stephen Sondheim** and a book by **James Lapine**. The musical intricately weaves together classic fairy tale characters, including Cinderella, Jack (from Jack and the Beanstalk), and a baker and his wife, all of whom set off on journeys to fulfill their deepest wishes. However, as the story unfolds, they soon discover that achieving their dreams comes with unforeseen consequences.

"This is an exciting opportunity for our students to showcase their talent while bringing such a compelling and thought-provoking production to the community," said **Jonathon Romero**, NWSCC Music Instructor. "*Into the Woods* is a masterful blend of humor, heart, and a powerful message

about the choices we make."

The performance is open to the public. General admission tickets are \$7 (plus fees), and children 10 and under are free. Tickets can be purchased online at <https://shorturl.at/X84Rb>.

### Moul Tabbed as TVA CEO

KNOXVILLE-- The Tennessee Valley Authority Board of



Moul

Directors recently selected **Don Moul** to serve as President and CEO of the nation's largest public power utility, effective April 9.

Moul brings more than 38 years of experience across all facets of power generation and operations with a proven track record of improving operational performance and teamwork. He is

recognized across the industry as a strong, versatile leader.

Moul is the fourth CEO of the historic agency. He succeeds **Jeff Lyash**, who announced his intent to retire in January.

"Don is the right choice to lead TVA forward as we work to build an energy system to power the next generation of American jobs," Lyash said.

Since June 2021, Moul has served as TVA's executive vice president and chief operating officer, where he held primary responsibility for power generation, transmission, and power supply functions. Under his leadership, TVA is a national leader in driving advanced nuclear technologies forward.

"Don's vision, depth of industry knowledge and favorability among TVA employees position him well to unleash TVA's potential from Day One, with little to no learning curve," said **Joe Ritch**, TVA's Board Chairman.

### Dads Will Be ASF Heroes

MONTGOMERY— With registration for the 42nd Alabama State Games underway, the ASF Foundation is proud to announce that Dads will be recognized as part of the *Honoring Our Heroes* program during this year's Opening Ceremony, which will take place June 13 at Legacy Arena at the BJCC in Birmingham. Athletes registering at ALAGAMES.com can register their fathers for recognition through the Honoring Our Heroes Program.

"The Honoring Our Heroes program is a cherished part of the Alabama State Games, and this year, we are excited to dedicate it to fathers—the everyday heroes in our lives," said **Laura Creel Burt**, Executive Director of the ASF Foundation. "Fathers shape us in countless ways—through life lessons learned on

See SHORTS... Page 6



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1-VISIT

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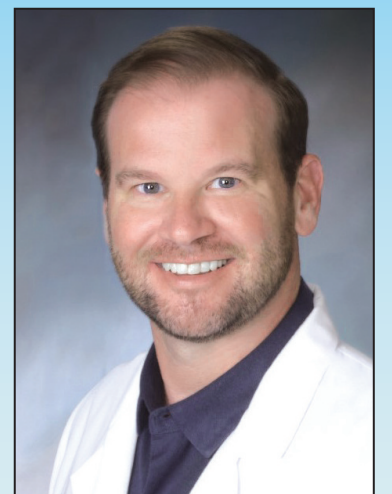
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## Shoals Primary Care

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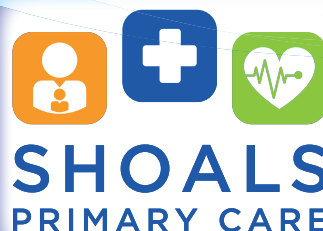
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# Yard Sales

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

To list your sale, use the classified form on page 4.

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

**SHEFFIELD: 3-FAMILY YARD SALE** 909 28th St. Fri. and Sat. 7 am until. (Turn off Jackson Hwy) Lots of baby clothes and miscellaneous.

**TUSCUMBIA YARD SALE, 504 S. High St., 7am-until?** Glass Lamp Shades, Iron Bedrails, Furniture, Nice Nursing Uniforms (size L), Depression Glass and more! **Every Thursday, Friday & Saturday through the end of April!**

**FLORENCE: CARPORT SALE** 147 Fairground Rd. Sat. 7 am Furniture, clothes, tools, home decor, kitchen ware

## HUGE SALE

**TUSCUMBIA: HUGE, 4-FAMILY ESTATE/ GARAGE SALE** 1565 ASHTON ST. April 12th and 13th 7 am to 3 pm Holiday Items And decorations Antique Dishes And Glassware Furniture Kitchen Items Household Items Large selection of Collectibles And Holiday Collectibles And Lots of Miscellaneous Items **NO EARLY SALES**

**KILLEN: MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE 6614 Co. Rd. 36** Thurs., Fri., Sat. 7 am until. Tools, purses, clothes, jewelry, knives, Christmas, and much more!

**MUSCLE SHOALS: YARD SALE** 141 Fox Loop Sat. 7 am until Houseware, clothes, glassware, home decor, household goods, furniture.

**FLORENCE: YARD SALE** 104 Scott Dr. Fri. and Sat. 7 am until (Cloverdale Rd., Turn left on Rasch Rd., Left on Scott Dr.) Lots of miscellaneous items.

**MUSCLE SHOALS 6-FAMILY YARD SALE** 2007 & 2013 Pleasant Dr., Thurs., Fri. & Sat. Clothes, Home Decor, Furniture, Books, Lawn Mower Tools and much more!

**TUSCUMBIA GARAGE SALE** 116 Dalton Lane, Friday & Saturday 7:30am-4:30pm. Too much to list!

**ESTATE SALE CREEKWOOD** 106 Westbury Lane Florence, 35630 Friday, April 11 9 am to 3 pm Saturday April 12 9 am to 2 pm (Numbers given out at 8:30 am Friday and Saturday) Sunday, April 13, 1 pm to 3 pm 2010 Honda Accord Easy Go Golf Cart Utility Trailer Washer & Dryer Pennsylvania House Furniture Theodore Alexander Chest Gorham and Alvin Sterling Flatware Jewelry Tools Frankoma Lenox and Noritake china Leather Ultra Comfort Recliner Garage and outside building full. Please do not block driveways and mailboxes **Cypress Creek Antiques 256-275-0273** Go to [estatesales.net](http://estatesales.net) for pictures

**FLORENCE: TWO-FAMILY YARD SALE** Forest Hills 110 and 114 Kathy St. Fri. and Sat. 7 am until Old baseball cars, collectibles, coins, bottles, books, household, baby

**CENTRAL HEIGHTS BIG GARAGE SALE, 5555 Co. Rd. 200, Sat., April 12th, 7am-3pm.** Sixty years of stuff! Some Furniture, Horse Drawn Wagon, Books, Glassware, and lots of misc. "Rain or Shine!"

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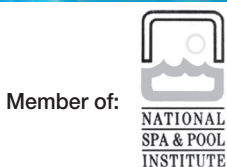
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## Kidney Walk...

Continued from Page 1

Although the Shoals Regional Office has only been open for five years, it has quickly become a vital resource for local families impacted by kidney disease. This has been in large part to the founding support of Charles C. Anderson Sr., Chairman Emeritus of the Anderson Companies and the Anderson Family.

Each year, Walk Chairs are hand-selected by former Chairs and AKF Board Members ensuring strong community leadership. This year's event is being led by Co-Chairs Justin and Katie Faires, alongside Patient Chair, Matt Beresford. Katie is an Associate Broker with Pounders & Associates and Justin is a long-time associate of TVA. Matt has been with TNT Fireworks for 15 years. They both bring passion to this cause, one which is deeply personal to them and their families.

Past Chairs who have helped lay the groundwork for the Shoals Region include Terry Anderson, Henry King, Tommy Glasgow, and Dr. Tera Kirkman. These community leaders continue to be huge supporters for the AKF Shoals community.

In addition to the walk, this event will feature family-friendly fun like face painting, balloon animals, and free resources from local clinics, UAB Transplant, pharmaceutical companies, and more. The Anderson College of Nursing and Health Professions at the UNA will have a team and will also provide free blood pressure screenings.

This year begins

Many young walkers with impressively painted faces were involved in last year's event. *Courtesy*

a meaningful new tradition:

- The first lap will be in memory of those lost to kidney disease.

- The second lap will honor those still fighting. Kidney disease remains a public health crisis in Alabama, with more than 500,000 Alabamians affected. The two leading causes are diabetes and high blood pressure, both highly prevalent in our state.

Fortunately, the Shoals is home to exceptional nephrologists and dialysis clinics, unlike many communities of similar or smaller size that require patients to drive 45 minutes or more each way for treatment. Dialysis is a lifesaving but demanding process, typically required three times per week, with each session lasting up to four hours.

This walk also raises awareness about the urgent need for organ donations, offering attendees the chance to learn more and register to become donors—giving others the gift of life.

To continue expanding this important work, AKF is calling on local teams, volunteers, and corporate sponsors to step up and help make a difference!

Sign up, donate, or get more information today at [www.shoalskidneywalk.org](http://www.shoalskidneywalk.org).

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# Davis...

Continued from Page 1

every guest. We have fantastic state parks in Alabama, and I am committed to making them better than ever.” Davis spent the last nine years as the district superintendent for the Northwest Region of Alabama State Parks, overseeing operations at Joe Wheeler, Monte Sano, Rickwood Caverns, Cathedral Caverns and Lake Lurleen state parks.

His career also included time spent as an assistant superintendent at Joe Wheeler and DeSoto State Parks. He began his full-time State Parks career as a ranger at Lake Guntersville State Park after earning his bachelor’s degree from Athens State University.

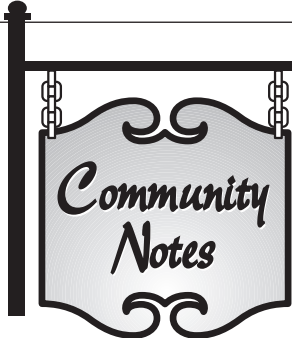
“We are committed to creating excellence at every state park and enhancing guest experiences, and Chad is the perfect person to help achieve those goals,” said Alabama State Parks Director Matthew Capps. “After leading five of our state parks for nearly a decade, Chad possesses a wealth of knowledge about park management, law enforcement, marketing, hospitality and strategic operations. We are fortunate to have him in this key leadership role.”

In 2013, Davis was the first Alabama graduate from the State Park Leadership School, a program coordinated by the National Association of State Parks Directors. In addition, Davis has 15 years of law enforcement experience and graduated from the Northeast Alabama Law Enforcement Academy in 2006. He currently serves on the board of directors for the Alabama State Parks Foundation and the Alabama Mountain Lakes Tourism Association.

Davis graduated from Lexington High School which is located about 15 miles from Joe Wheeler State Park. Davis and his wife, Jessica, an elementary school teacher, live in Lexington with their two daughters.

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**COMMUNITY NOTES** may be submitted for non-profit, civic or church-related events and published free of charge **AS SPACE IS AVAILABLE** in the Courier Journal. **Community Notes must be submitted in writing by 3pm Friday for consideration in the following week's issue.** • Email to [editor@courierjournal.net](mailto:editor@courierjournal.net)

**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 Now - April 14. Call Kim at 256-483-2894 for more info.

**The meeting of American Legion Colbert County Memorial Post 31** takes place on Monday, April 21, at 6pm at the Post meeting hall located at 110 1/2 N. Main St. Tuscumbia. A stair-lift is available, if needed, to the upstairs location. A meal will be provided. All Veterans are invited. For more information, please call 256-762-5950.

**The Spring Park Inaugural Disc Golf Tournament** hosted by the Colbert County Disc Golf Club, will take place on Saturday, April 12 at Spring Park in Tuscumbia. This all-amateur event offers a range of divisions, from Advanced Mixed to Junior Females, ensuring a competitive and fun experience for all participants. Players will compete in two rounds of PDGA-sanctioned C-tier tournament play. Participants will also receive a tournament disc and golf towel in their player's pack. Additional fun includes free CTPs (closest-to-the-pin), with an optional cash CTP and ace action available for \$10 (cash only). The day kicks off with sign-in at 7:30am and will wrap up with awards around 4pm. To register and learn more about divisions, visit the official tournament page at [www.discgolfscore.com/tournament/Spring\\_Park\\_Inaugural\\_2025](http://www.discgolfscore.com/tournament/Spring_Park_Inaugural_2025). Net proceeds will benefit the maintenance and improvements of the Spring Park Disc Golf Course. For more information, please contact the Colbert County Disc Golf Club at 404-606-0250.

**Misfit Quilters Wanted:** This is a craft group for adult friends who draw, craft, paint, sew, quilt, embroider, crochet, etc. (all artisans welcome). Bring your project to work on and come join the fun! This group meets at the Florence Lauderdale Public Library (in the Board Room) once per month. Spring dates are Sundays, April 13, May 11 and June 8 from 1-4pm.

**KAZARI: Decorative Arts of Japan,** an immersive exhibit showcasing the rich material culture of Japan from the 17th-20th century is on display at the Tennessee Valley Museum of Art through April 15. Kazari, meaning "to decorate" or "to adorn," explores how decoration transforms ordinary spaces into something sacred through the interplay of objects and their settings. Featuring pieces are from the private collection of Mr. Lynn Ray of Florence, as well as works from Wanda Isom and the Isom Collection (TVAA permanent collection), this exhibit offers a rare glimpse into Japan's artistic heritage. For additional information, call 256-383-0533.

**Experience the rich history of Downtown Tuscumbia and Downtown Sheffield** with free guided walking tours every Saturday in April beginning at 10am. Led by expert guides, these tours showcase stunning historic districts featuring pre-Civil War structures, including Tuscumbia's impressive collection of antebellum architecture and Sheffield's charming Victorian and

Craftsman-style homes. Admission is free, offering a unique opportunity to step back in time and explore the area's architectural heritage. For more information, call 256-383-0783. Sponsored by the Colbert County Historical Landmarks Foundation and the Colbert County Tourism Bureau.

**The Wolfslide Trail Ride** at Seven Springs Lodge in Tuscumbia takes place April 11-13! This three-day event offers a thrilling horseback riding experience through scenic trails. Whether you're a seasoned rider or new to the trails, the Wolfslide Trail Ride provides a great opportunity to enjoy the outdoors and connect with fellow enthusiasts. Don't miss out on this exciting event! For more information and to register, visit the official event page or contact Seven Springs Lodge at 256-370-7218. 1292 Mount Mills Road, Tuscumbia.

**Free Clothes - The Samaritan House,** 600 Geneva Ave., Muscle Shoals, gives away free clothing each Tuesday from 9-11am - except for every 5th Tuesday. Donations are accepted.

See NOTES... page 6

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## Shorts...

### Dads Will Be ASF Heroes

Continued from Page 2

the field, road trips, and quiet moments after setbacks. Their guidance leaves a lasting impact."

Nominated fathers who check in on June 13, 2025, will receive a commemorative medal during the Opening Ceremony inside Legacy Arena at the BJCC. Doors open at 3pm, Grit 101 for Teens kicks off the evening's activities beginning at 4pm, the State Farm Leadership Summit follows at 5pm, and the live statewide broadcast of the Opening Ceremony, in partnership with Gray Media, starts at 7pm.

### Musicians to Praise Prine

SHEFFIELD— A powerhouse lineup of seasoned musicians is coming together to celebrate the legendary **John Prine** on Saturday, April 19 at the Ritz Theater in downtown Sheffield. Featuring **Rick Carter** (Rollin in the Hay, Telluride), **Stan Foster** (Rollin in the Hay, Phil and Foster), **Donna Hall** (Wet Willie), and **William "Moose" Harrell** (Jason Ringenberg, Telluride), this group of Alabama music veterans has toured the world and beyond. Carter brings authenticity to his role as one of his musical heroes, while Donna Hall—an Alabama and Georgia Music Hall of Fame inductee—stuns with her mastery of Prine's iconic duets. With Foster on bass and harmony vocals and Harrell on acoustic, electric, and lap steel guitars, this show promises a powerful and heartfelt tribute to an American music treasure.

For those looking for an exclusive experience, VIP Sponsorship tickets are available. These tickets offer premium seating, drink tickets, sponsorship recognition, and access to a VIP afterparty. Ticket packages range from \$100–\$1,000, with seating arranged personally for VIP guests. For

more information or to purchase VIP tickets, call TVAA at 256-383-0533.

### New Parental Leave Act

MONTGOMERY – Surrounded by working parents, teachers, and public servants from across the state, Governor **Kay Ivey** last week signed SB199 into law, the Alabama Public Employee Paid Parental Leave Act of 2025, officially delivering on a key promise she made in her state of the state address.

"In Alabama, we are committed to strengthening families and supporting those who serve our state," Ivey, said. "No parent should have to choose between their paycheck and spending time with their newly welcomed child. Today, Alabama sends a clear message: We value families, and we value our workforce."

The bill was sponsored by State Senator **Vivian Figures** (D-Mobile) and Representative **Ginny Shaver** (R-Leesburg). The law will provide paid parental leave for eligible public employees, including teachers and state workers.

- Female employees will receive eight weeks of paid parental leave in connection with the birth, stillbirth, or miscarriage of her child.

- Male employees will receive two weeks of paid parental leave in those same circumstances.

- Adoptive parents of a child aged three or younger will also be eligible for parental leave – eight weeks for one parent and two weeks for the other at the choice of the parents, if both are eligible employees.

This law also includes a return-to-work provision, requiring employees to return for at least eight weeks after taking leave, with exceptions in certain circumstances, including serious health conditions.

## NEED HELP?

CONTACT 2-1-1

*Your link to community resources*

## Notes...

Continued from page 5

**Join the Florence Cleanup Challenge!** April is "Choose Your Own Cleanup" months—a challenge to keep Florence clean and beautiful! Gather a group, pick a location, and we'll provide the supplies. Let's work together to make a difference! Need supplies, call 256-760-6495 or 256-760-6498 or email: [recycle@florenceal.org](mailto:recycle@florenceal.org).

**The Colbert County Sports Hall of Fame** will host its 2025 Induction Ceremony on **Friday, April 18**, at the Ritz Theatre in Sheffield. Doors open at 6pm. The event will begin at 7pm. Tickets are \$10 and can be purchased at the box office before the event. The Class of 2025 includes Deion Belue, Brent Davenport, Jamie Dixon, Jody Evans, Ashley Southern Farley, Glenn Jordan, Tyrone Lowry, Tynesha Malone, Stephanie Brown Mangino, and Bill Trapp. For more information, call at 256-412-2184 or visit [ccsportshof.org](http://ccsportshof.org).

**The Colbert County Domestic Violence Response Coalition's 3rd Annual Community Diaper Drive.** Community support is vital. April 1-30. This diaper drive will go toward helping local families impacted by domestic violence.

- All sizes of new diapers, wipes, and pull-ups. Join us in our mission. We have meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of each month @12pm at the Helen Keller Library Annex in Tusculumbia. Check our Facebook Page: Colbert County Domestic Violence Response Coalition for more information or call 256-284-2284. Also accepting Monetary Donations: 1. CCDVRC- PO Box 434 Tusculumbia, AL 35674. Paypal- [Jenniferccdvr@gmail.com](mailto:Jenniferccdvr@gmail.com) Donation locations are: Rio Grande Restaurant- Sheffield; Renaissance Antiques- Florence; The Healing Place- Muscle Shoals; People's Drugs -Cherokee, AL; Foodland- Elgin, Rogersville, Tusculumbia, and Florence; and Curtis' Restaurant- Greenhill.

See NOTES... page 22

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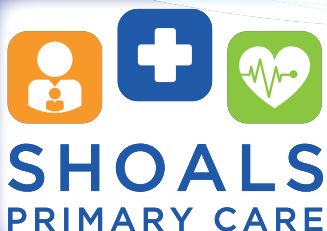
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The Times Daily has immediate openings for full time and part time Non-CDL truck driving. Drivers will deliver pallets and postal bins of subscription newspapers to numerous USPS locations in Jefferson, Lawrence, Morgan and Shelby Counties in Alabama, 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.

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**Saturday, April 12 10 am–2 pm**





## Commentary

# Our Money for Nothing Mindset

Last week's commentary included a reference to scammers and others who exploit the weak, innocent, and unknowing for profit or satisfaction.

Much of it falls back to a greedy nature, the opportunity to hoard, to get something for nothing or beat somebody out of something unwittingly. And it often backfires.

Things as simple as moving credit card debt to zero interest cards for 90 days with plans on moving the debt again before interest starts accumulating is financial Russian roulette. It only shifts the problem temporarily; it doesn't satisfy or eliminate the debt and doesn't address the underlying behavior that got us to that point. And at some point we will miss the payment and all that back interest will accrue.

Tripping in a store, cutting our hand on a toolbox, or burning a leg on an old motorcycle muffler can happen. We may get injured, may require medical attention, and

See MONEY... on Page 20

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

In A Few Words



TOM MAGAZZU  
Editor

## Courier Journal

# THIS WEEK

in the Shoals

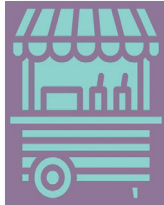
April 9, 2025

Happening  
THIS WEEK

Vendors and Crafters Support CCDVRC's

## Spring Fundraiser

TUSCUMBIA—The Colbert County Domestic Violence Response Coalition will host its Spring Vendor Fundraiser Event Saturday and Sunday, April 12-13 at the Roundhouse, 110 North Indian St. in Tuscumbia.



Vendors and crafters are welcomed and encouraged to participate. The "Love Shouldn't Hurt" Vendor Market is from 9am-5pm

See CRAFTERS... on Page 16

## Spring Park Disc Tournery

TUSCUMBIA—The Spring Park Inaugural Disc Golf Tournament hosted by the Colbert County Disc Golf Club, will take place on Saturday, April 12 at Spring Park in Tuscumbia. This all-amateur event offers a range of divisions, from Advanced Mixed to Junior Females, ensuring a competitive and fun experience for all participants. Players will compete in two rounds of PDGA-sanctioned C-tier tournament play. Participants will also receive a tournament disc and golf towel in their player's



See DISC... on Page 23



MUSCLE SHOALS – The Muscle Shoals community is invited to lace up its collective running shoes for the 21st Annual Swampers 5K & 1 Mile Run/Walk on Saturday, April 12 at Muscle Shoals Middle School.

This celebrated event has promoted family fitness and community engagement for more than two decades, and

See RUN... on Page 14

THE RENAISSANCE OF FLORENCE will host its Spring Marketplace on Saturday, April 12 from 10am-2pm at the Assisted Living Community located at 3275 CR 47 in Florence, 1/2 mile north of Cox Creek Parkway. This fun event will help get your Easter basket shopping started! Several vendors will be offering sweet treats, jewelry, crafts, wreaths, and much more!

WALK AROUND THE SQUARE – APRIL 11 at 11:30am at the Colbert County Courthouse Square. As part of the Move Alabama campaign, this event, organized by the Colbert County Extension Office, is a great way to get moving while enjoying a fun and refreshing experience. Take a stroll around the square, enter a prize drawing, and cool off with a fruit water tasting. For more information, contact the Colbert County Extension Office at 256-383-8571 or email jep0069@auburn.edu.

### SOFTBALL

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BELLE MONT MANSION'S KIDS and the Forest program returns on April 12 at 1pm as Forester Johnnie Everitt will take children on an exciting adventure around Belle Mont to learn about the trees, wildlife, and nature and inside the historic mansion. This event is FREE and open to the public, intended for children 15 and under, but everyone is welcome! Call 256-381-5052 or email bellemontmansion@gmail.com. Belle Mont is located at 1569 Cook Lane in Tuscumbia.

## 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.

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Editor-Courier Journal  
219 W. Tennessee St., Florence, AL 35630
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## Easter Epitome

Have you ever noticed the peaceful feeling that Easter Sunday brings? The fantasy in the children's hearts, the sound of church bells ring. Beside the graves of all our loved ones, we visit the unchangeable past.

Yahshua (Jesus, in Hebrew) is now that door. He provided us with His own blood.



Leaving only our flowers and prayers, but taking with us memories vast. Thoughts of cruel deeds, memories of flaw, they just fade like the setting sun. For those who love the Lord above and believe in all He's done. Easter Sunday is truly immortal, a day of the year, clearly defined. The sufferings of Jesus has opened the gates, to faith of all Christians and peace for mankind.

Paul W. Sabatino  
Muscle Shoals

## From the Beginning

Editor,

We are ready to celebrate resurrection. We know it is a

remembrance of Jesus and His death on the cross. However, the root of this season challenges us to examine how we look at His sacrifice. The Lamb of God is one of the names given to our Lord and we see His heart more clearly in the celebration of Pesach (Passover, in Hebrew).

Let's start at the beginning, not just at the resurrection, which is an ending. A glorious ending of course, but we cannot forget the sacrifice that led up to that.

The doorway to life was introduced to us at Pesach and we know that blood was required over each door in Egypt. It was the threshold between life and death, to show a distinction between those

See LETTERS...on Page 18



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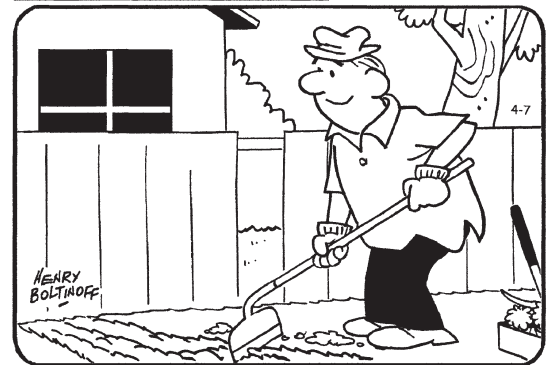
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BY  
HENRY BOLTINOFF



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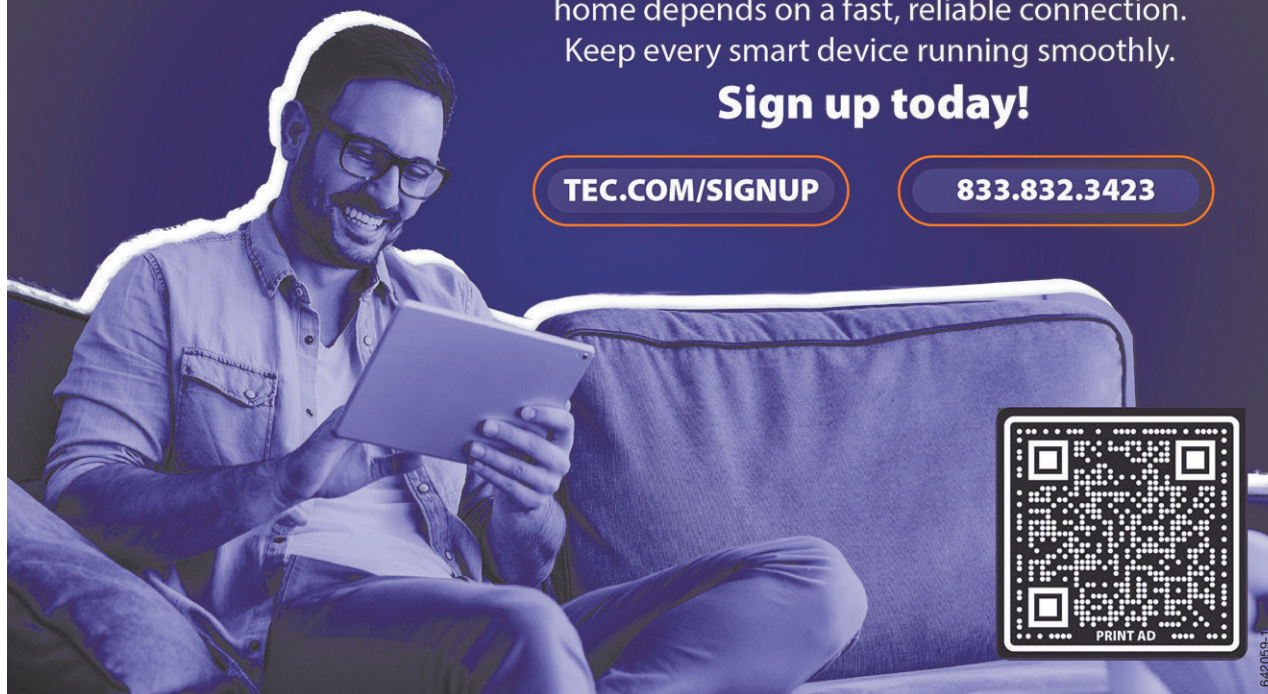
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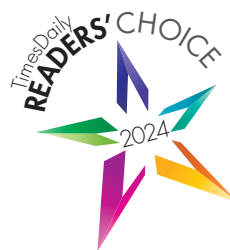
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Managing Attorney

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**Recent Bankruptcy Developments**

Several significant events have highlighted the financial strains within our great state of Alabama:

- Jackson Hospital's Bankruptcy Filing:** In February 2025, Jackson Hospital in Montgomery, Alabama, filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy amid financial difficulties, including a \$60 million debt default. This move aims to reorganize operations and implement financial restructuring while continuing patient care.
- Retail Closures:** National retailer Forever 21 announced the closure of multiple stores, including three locations in Alabama, as part of its bankruptcy proceedings. These closures reflect broader economic challenges impacting Alabama.

**Understanding Your Financial Options**

Given these developments, it's crucial to be aware of the avenues available to address financial challenges:

**Bankruptcy Options:** Depending on your circumstances, filing for Chapter 7 or Chapter 13 bankruptcy may provide relief. Chapter 7, often referred to as Straight Bankruptcy, allows eligible debtors to discharge debts outright,

while Chapter 13 enables individuals to reorganize debts and establish a repayment plan.

**Why Professional Guidance Matters**

Navigating financial distress requires informed decision-making. Consulting with experienced attorneys ensures:

- Personalized Assessment:** Understanding the specifics of your financial situation to recommend the most suitable course of action.
- Legal Expertise:** Ensuring compliance with state and federal laws, especially in light of recent adjustments to the Bankruptcy Code.
- Strategic Planning:** Developing a comprehensive plan to address debts, protect assets, and work towards financial stability.

**Schedule a Free, Confidential Consultation**


If you're experiencing financial hardship, our firm is here to help. We offer free, confidential consultations to discuss your situation and explore both bankruptcy and non-bankruptcy options tailored to your needs.

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Don't navigate these challenges alone. Reach out to our experienced legal team to schedule your free consultation and take the first step toward regaining financial control. Don't let credit card or any other type of debt dictate your life—take action today. We'd love to discuss your finances with you. We want to help!

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## Run...

Continued from Page 8

this year it's reaching a new milestone. The 2025 race has been designated the Road Runners Club of America (RRCA) Southern Region 5K Championship.

"We created this event 21 years ago to get families out to exercise together, and it has been great seeing so many kids and families out running together," said Josh Aycock, event organizer. "The 5K course is flat and fast, designed to be open for one hour, and followed by a 1 Mile Run/Walk that's perfect for all ages and fitness levels."

Participants will receive a commemorative t-shirt. All 5K finishers, along with children aged 12 and under participating in the 1 Mile, will receive finisher medals.

The event will also include a team competition, school competition, and plaques for age group winners, adding a competitive element for those looking to challenge themselves or their group.

- 5K starts at 8am. 1 Mile Run/Walk follows at 9:05am
- Muscle Shoals Middle School, Avalon Ave.
- [www.swampers5k.com](http://www.swampers5k.com)
- Registration Fee: \$35
- Register Online: [swampers5k.itsyourrace.com](http://swampers5k.itsyourrace.com)

"We're excited to welcome runners and walkers of all ages to be part of this special community tradition and RRCA Championship event," Aycock added.

**NEED HELP?**  
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*Your link to community resources*



**DAY by DAY**

Grief Support Group for Bereaved Parents/Grandparents

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## DAVE Says

by DAVE RAMSEY

### YOU STILL NEED A WILL

*Dear Dave,*  
I'm 26, so I haven't had time to accumulate a lot of money yet through my career. I do have a good, full-time job, though, and have started saving money. Do I need a will or trust when I'm so young and have so little in terms of assets?

Alisha

Dear Alisha,  
I love the fact that you're already thinking about things like this. You're a wise young lady.

Considering that you're young and just starting out, you don't need anything complicated in place. Trusts tend to be geared toward people with complex estates, so it doesn't sound like that's something you need to worry about. But you do need a simple, inexpensive will.

You didn't give many details, so let's say you have a car, along with the money in the bank you mentioned, plus a few belongings. With a basic will, it'll be no problem to work through your estate and follow your directives if something unfortunate should happen. Here's something else to think about, too. Another important document you'll want in your will package is a healthcare power of attorney directive. This includes things like who's going to make medical decisions for you if you're unable to make them yourself. As a part of this, you'd also want to fill out the paperwork on whether

to disconnect life support systems in the event you're in a coma.

All this stuff's a real wake-up call, right? I know these kinds of things aren't fun to think about—especially at your age. But thinking about them, and doing something about them, is the right thing to do. It's the *smart* thing to do. Plus, it will take a huge burden off your loved ones. And all this becomes even more important if you have children, because the state will step in and decide what happens to them if you don't.

Having these things laid out ahead of time, and sharing them with your family and close friends, would be a very thoughtful and mature thing to do, Alisha. Think about it. They're already going to be grieving and distraught if something happens to you. You don't want to make things harder by leaving a lot of important and difficult decisions for them to make in the middle of it all.

— 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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## The Presence Of God

**Psalms 139:7** "Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?" **Job 34:22** "There is no darkness, nor shadow of death, where the workers of iniquity may hide themselves." **Hebrews 4:13** Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do." Gods' presence is eternal. God is so powerful that none can stay His hand or remove Him from the awareness of the happenings on this planet! God

knows and sees everything we do and records it permanently. In the event at their judgment, complaints are made about the final resting place of earth's occupants, be rest assured that God has a full video of all lives on file! Now, when it comes to your sin, no alibi will justify iniquity! God knows all your thoughts and words and works perfectly. **1 John 5:7** "For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one." What Job said applies today. **Job 16:19** "Also now, behold, my witness is in heaven, and my record is on high."

There's coming a day, (YOUR DAY IN COURT) when the earth's occupants will no longer ignore the presence or power or judgments of Almighty God, and the books are opened, and you're judged! See Revelation 20:11-15 and read! You'll be there! Cremation doesn't eliminate accountability here! No appeal here and judgments are eternal and everlasting. This will be the most horrible event ever experienced when you are sentenced to the Lake of fire.

The soul of all dead and living must reside somewhere. We must choose before death where we want to spend eternity. Choose Christ now before this event appears. Later, after death, will be too late. **Revelation 20:15** "And whosoever was not found written in the book of life was cast into the lake of fire." God is an awesome God and plays for keeps. Don't mess with Him!

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# Medicare Minute

## "The Inflation Reduction Act"

The Inflation Reduction Act went into effect October 1, 2024. This act has several components such as environmental and energy regulations. But today we want to focus on how the Inflation Reduction Act affects Medicare beneficiaries.

In 2025, the Inflation Reduction Act established a cap of \$2,000 on the out-of-pocket expenditures a Medicare beneficiary can have on prescription drugs. The cap is determined by the amount paid by the Medicare beneficiary for their drugs, in addition to a percentage of the plan's expenditures on those drugs. In other words, a person could reach the \$2,000 cap without actually spending \$2,000 out of their pocket. Premiums for the prescription drug plan do not count toward the cap. Only co-pays and co-insurance a person pays for their prescriptions.

The second change the Inflation Reduction Act made on prescription drugs is the elimination of the "Donut Hole" or "Coverage Gap". In 2024 a Medicare beneficiary taking a brand name drug, such as Eliquis, could reach a point in the year where their drug cost would go up dramatically. The elimination of the "Donut Hole" will stop this spike.

These changes will apply to people who are on stand-alone drug plans or Medicare Advantage plans with prescription drug coverage. We have already seen where the changes because of the Inflation Reduction Act have made a huge difference in the cost of prescription drugs for our Medicare beneficiaries.

However, there have been some adverse effects that have resulted because of the changes. Because insurance companies are now required to take on more of the burden of prescription drug costs once the person reaches their \$2,000 cap, we have seen either premiums for plans have increased, or benefits have decreased. But all in all, the changes have been positive.

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



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### CITY OF FLORENCE PUBLIC NOTICE 2025 - 2029 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT CONSOLIDATED PLAN

An essential component of determining the need for government action is obtaining input from the local public, emphasizing involvement by low- and moderate-income persons. The City recognizes that citizen involvement in the CDBG program planning and development is essential. The public is invited to attend a public hearing related to CDBG funding and the 2025 - 2029 Consolidated Plan process. Information about the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program and the 2025 - 2029 Consolidated Plan will be presented at the Public Hearings listed below.

**Public Hearings: Mon., April 21, 2025 • 3-5 p.m.**

**309-B Handy Homes, Handy Community Center**

**Tues., April 22, 2025 • 5-7 p.m.**

**Broadway Recreation Center, 300 North Broadway St.**

All requests for accommodations are considered and should be submitted to the Florence Community Development Division no later than 10:00 a.m. Monday, April 21, 2025. Requests for accommodations and questions regarding this public notice and public hearing may be sent to the City of Florence, Community Development Division, Attn: Lindsey Borden, 110 W College Street, Suite 115, Florence, AL 35630 or via email at [cdbg@florenceal.org](mailto:cdbg@florenceal.org).

**COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 5 P.M. ON THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2025.**

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Interested parties must be licensed and insured.

A detailed job description of work to be performed will be available at the Muscle Shoals Utilities Board office located at 2001 Wildwood St., between 7am-3:30pm

**QUOTES** will be accepted until  
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## Crafters...

Continued from Page 8

Saturday and 12-4pm  
Sunday.

More than two dozen vendors are expected to take part at this indoor event. Join us and enjoy shopping including handmade crafts, boutique clothing, Tupperware, food trucks, sweets/ treats, and much more!!

Funds raised by booth rentals and donations will go directly to the local community through the Colbert County Domestic Violence Response Coalition's "Starting Over Project."

8 x 8 vendor spaces are available for \$40 each in advance. (nonrefundable) Food trucks can take part for \$100 each. Vendor set up is from 4-6pm Friday, April 11. Breakdown is from 4-5pm Sunday

For vendor details or more information about the CCDVRC, please call 256-284-2284 or email: colbertdvrc@aol.com. Facebook: Colbert County Domestic Violence Response Coalition.

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# ASK THE ATTORNEY

## It's a Rigged Game Part 2



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Last week, I spoke ill of insurance defense lawyers and was wrong to do so. Let me tell you why. Insurance defense lawyers are typically very good lawyers, good parents, likable, and honest. They are involved in schools, churches, and community affairs. Most defense lawyers are people you can really trust, and if they say a case is settled, it's settled.

The problem is that they constantly work towards making sure that the insurance company pays as little as possible to people injured through no fault of their own.

They almost always ask a doctor if the doctor can say for sure that the MRI that shows a problem after the accident can be trusted without an MRI to compare it to from before the accident. WHO HAS AN MRI BEFORE AN ACCIDENT? These tests cost thousands of dollars, and no one goes to get one "in case they have an accident."

They ask the injured person to tell them all of their injuries from head to toe. "Let's just start with your head...and list them all the way down to your toes". After they go over this question two or three times, they ask this question. Did you tell the doctor about these injuries? People always say they did. The defense lawyer then looks at the medical records to find something left out and asks the doctor if the injured person had told them about that injury that was left out. Doctors typically say it's my practice to chart things my patients tell me.

The defense lawyer then confirms to the doctor that the doctor has to rely on the truthfulness of his patients to form his opinions. At trial, when the plaintiff is confronted with the fact that the doctor didn't write down some of the problems he told the doctor about, the plaintiff looks like a liar. The defense lawyer will not call them a liar but will suggest that perhaps they are just prone to "making mistakes."

These happen in every case one way or the other. Be prepared.

*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

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I receive random technical questions about various topics, things folks think I should know something about. Recently I've received questions about private messaging and messaging systems, specifically Signal. So I thought maybe I could address some folks' concerns in a clear, easy to understand way. The Signal messaging application is designed with a focus on user privacy, particularly concerning the management of group conversations. Addressing concerns about unsolicited additions to group chats and the potential exposure of private communications, are important issues, Signal implements several



Martin Dean

# Signal Enhances User Control

by "The Computer Skeptic"

features to enhance user control. Firstly, Signal ensures that **users cannot be added to group chats without their explicit consent**. Upon receiving an invitation to join a group, a clear notification is presented to the user, affording them the decision to either accept or decline the invitation. This mechanism prevents being involuntarily added to group discussions, something that regularly happens on other platforms.

Furthermore, Signal restricts the ability to invite people to groups to **folks the user has already established a connection with**, such as saved contacts. Unlike other apps that may allow strangers to add random users to groups, Signal does not maintain a public directory of users, this eliminates the chance of unwanted invites from random people.

Signal immediately notifies all members of the group that a

person has joined the group, it also notifies all the participants when a user has disconnected from the chat. This feature is useful in following what information a participant has access to and what they might have missed.

While Signal offers robust privacy features for everyday communication, it is important to acknowledge its limitations in highly sensitive contexts. For instance, the application is **not compliant with HIPAA regulations** and is therefore unsuitable for the transmission of protected health information. Similarly, for matters of national security, specialized and heavily monitored tools are employed, exceeding the intended scope of Signal's design. Signal's security measures are best characterized as a **strong safeguard for typical private**

**communications**, rather than a solution for extremely high-risk scenarios.

To wrap up, Signal provides a valuable tool for maintaining privacy in digital group conversations by **empowering users with control over group membership and facilitating discreet exits**. This design prioritizes user consent and aims to prevent the accidental or unwanted exposure of communications in routine interactions.

Don't be afraid to ask questions when you don't understand as always, stay skeptical my friends!



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## Letters...

### From the Beginning

Continued from Page 8

who believed in the Word of God as He directed His people to do this act of faith.

Yahshua (Jesus, in Hebrew) is now that door. He provided us with His own blood. This season reminds us that it is still important to act by faith, as Paul directed the New Testament Gentile believers in Corinth. In 1 Cor. 5:7, 8 we read, "Messiah our Passover has been sacrificed for us; therefore, let us KEEP THE FEAST." Will we cross the threshold into life, eternal life, by believing His Word in this Pesach season and celebrating His sacrifice?

The word Pesach means sacrifice, but it also denotes a hiding place, provision, and rescue. In our lives today we need that spirit of death, which permeates our society, to pass over us. Thankfully, we can be sheltered in His hiding place, to be overcomers by His blood (Rev. 12:11).

Now we see more clearly through the lens of Pesach -- our yearly remembrance of this all-important, first feast of the new biblical year, brings a special blessing and covering through His Living Word Yahshua. Death in all its forms must pass over us by our act of faith embracing His Passover sacrifice!

Yahshua Himself began a New Covenant as He celebrated the Pesach with His disciples, looking ahead to even include us also as His disciples today. He then became the sacrificial offering, our Passover Lamb, once and for all. We pray, as we

remember this upcoming Pesach, that He will complete the work He has begun in each of us. Blessings to you all as we Keep the Feast!

**Mona Allen  
Debra Barnes  
Florence**

### Musk Had an Off Day

Editor,

Elon Musk is too free-wheeling and indiscriminate for my tastes. He fires federal nuclear safety inspectors and bird flu trackers as if they were common paper shufflers. Who needs protection from nukes and new epidemics? Musk doesn't, so nobody else should either!

Trump can now add book burning to his list of crazy days and crazy ways while in office. The entire staff of the largest source of federal funding for museums and libraries — The Institute of Museum and Library Services — has been placed on administrative leave.

Who needs accessible and reliable information about history and the sciences anyhow? Not Musk. He just buys whatever media company or court judge he can find that will make up whatever story he wants them to.

Speaking of billionaires buying stuff, Joy Behar of "The View" says you know inflation is out of control when Musk can't even buy a court election in Wisconsin for twenty million bucks. I guess even billionaires have off days.

**Kimball Shinkosky  
Woods Cross, UT**

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# Insurance Insights

"Below is a State Farm® Simple Insights® article about "Spring weather reminders" is provided by State Farm agent Rebecca Stutts Hovater.

## Spring weather reminders

You can't stop spring showers, but you can prepare for spring storms, severe winds and more.

Spring doesn't just mean fresh flowers and pastels; it could also mean rapidly changing weather and, at times, severe storms. Help get your home and family ready with these tips.

**Let it flow.** Remove debris from your gutters, drains and downspouts so that heavy rains can flow freely off your roof. Check that downspouts are secure and that water is draining well away from your home and not toward your foundation. Add extensions if necessary.

**Have your roof inspected.** Especially after winter weather, inspecting your roof can be an opportunity to catch any damage or weakening to the roof before it causes further damage. Consider having a professional inspect the roof to prevent possible roofing surface damage, and also prevent putting yourself in harm's way.

**Trim the trees.** Safely prune lanky limbs and branches to help minimize potential debris that could land on your home or a power line.

**Tidy up.** It's called "spring cleaning" for a reason! In the event of a weather emergency, being able to easily navigate your home and access supplies — including knowing where you put them — is important. Keeping a clean home may help for just that reason, plus, it offers a chance to create a home inventory. Check out these tips for spring cleaning to help make it an easier task.

**Surge protection.** Part of storm preparedness means planning for lightning. If you have a grounding system for your home, inspect accessible components like the lightning rod and grounding wire for damage or obstruction. If you do not, consider having a lightning protection system installed. Indoors, check that surge protectors on outlets are set up and functioning, especially for outlets providing power to expensive electronics.

**Check the sump pump and grinder station (if your home has one or both).** Test them to see if they are clean and operable, confirming that the outflow is draining properly. Consider adding a battery-powered backup sump pump to help keep the system working if the power goes out. Additionally, an automatic standby generator could further secure your home's capability to provide power to a sump pump and other electrical systems during power outages.

**Stow your gear.** When strong winds are forecast, secure patio furniture and other yard items or put them in your garage or a shed so they don't become dangerous projectiles.

**Cover up.** Close and secure storm shutters if your home has them. Keep blinds and shades drawn and tape or tack window coverings around the edges to help protect you from broken, flying glass. Consider securing thick blankets over vehicles that are exposed to the elements to diminish damage from hail.

**Have a plan.** Create a storm plan that fits the needs of you and your family, confirming that each member of the household knows all elements of the plan, such as communication procedures or evacuation strategies.

**Emergency supplies**

If power outages are common in your area, consider having an emergency kit prepared for household members and pets. Familiarize yourself with the use and application of all the contents of your kit and keep it in an accessible and central location in your home. Suggested emergency supplies include:

- Flashlight and fresh batteries
- Battery or solar-powered weather radio and/or transistor radio
- First-Aid kit
- Hand sanitizer and/or wipes
- Three days' worth of non-perishable food (typically canned or dried food) and water

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) offers lists of emergency supplies. FEMA also has additional preparedness tips for severe weather on its site. Once the storm has passed, if there is any damage, contact your State Farm® agent as soon as possible to get a claim started.



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[www.shoalskidneywalk.org](http://www.shoalskidneywalk.org)

The Alabama Kidney Foundation is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year! Since 1975 AKF has provided direct financial assistance, support and education to patients across Alabama. We hope you will join us in celebrating this incredible milestone at the annual Kidney Walk & Celebration!

Funds raised through this event ensure low-income dialysis patients receive assistance for daily living needs - such as utility bills, rent, and prescription medications - and transportation to and from weekly dialysis treatments.



### Honorary Co-Chairs



**Katie and Justin Faires**

As someone living with type 1 diabetes and the wife of a kidney cancer survivor, Katie understands firsthand the importance of proactive healthcare and the value of early testing. Without it, she and her husband, Justin, wouldn't have been able to celebrate a recent milestone - Justin's five-year anniversary of being cancer free! "After experiencing and overcoming cancer, you learn not to take the little things for granted" says Katie, like getting to celebrate their son's third birthday together as a family just last month.

### Honorary Patient Chair



**Matt Beresford**

Matt's journey with kidney disease began unexpectedly in 2016 after a routine blood pressure check at a conference that led to a diagnosis of IgA Nephropathy, an autoimmune disease that attacked both of his kidneys. After four years on dialysis, Matt received a life-saving kidney transplant from one of his best friends. "Thanks to the unwavering support of my wife, Dawn, my children, Maddy and Jack, and my TNT Fireworks family, I was able to make it through."

*For More Information*

Kathie Pendergrass, Shoals Regional Director  
[kathie@alkidney.org](mailto:kathie@alkidney.org) | 256.710.9806





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- Warmies - New Shipment: Bunny, Owl, Flamingo, Triceratops, Octopus & More
- Candle Warmers: Buy Warmer Get A Wax Melt 1/2 OFF
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*People's Drugs & Variety*

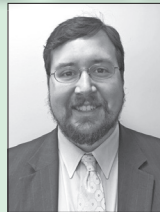
Cherokee, AL 256-359-6242

# FINANCIALLY STRESSED?

- ▶ **Debt Consolidation/ Bankruptcy**  
 STOP Garnishments/ Repossessions/Foreclosures
- ▶ **Collection Harassment (FDCPA)**  
**Credit Report Disputes (FCRA)**
- ▶ **Social Security Denials**



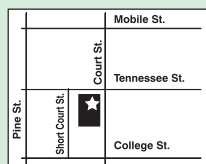
**B. Grant McNutt**  
 Attorney at Law



**Nicholas H. Gajewski**  
 Attorney at Law



**Tanya McCalpin**  
 Attorney at Law



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

## Commentary

# Money...

Continued from Page 8

then be out some money or property, but that doesn't mean another person or company is automatically at fault and should have to compensate us.

Getting into a car wreck, dealing with avoidable medical missteps, or losing property because of a faulty appliance or a manufacturing defect can be tragic and life-altering. If the situation could have been avoided, and quality of life issues have surfaced, then we absolutely should be able to seek legal avenues.

Thomas McCutcheon is an experienced and well-respected local attorney and his "Ask the Attorney" column has been a weekly feature in the *Courier Journal* for decades. If one of us has a legitimate concern, he will happily to discuss the situation.

However, donning a back brace in public Monday-Friday with a cane when we can use a tiller and clean gutters from a ladder on weekends is dishonest and disingenuous. Just like trying to outnavigate those 90 days of credit card interest, trying to enrich ourselves with something that is not rightfully ours reverts to a greedy nature that tempts most of us to one degree or another. Something as simple as making sure we get the last couple of pieces of candy in the bowl can qualify.

Close to three decades ago, a spring-loaded door on a *Courier Journal* newspaper rack in front of a former office location apparently caused the rack to slide off its brick base. A young lady claimed her arm and shoulder were injured when she opened it and had to "catch" the rack's two-inch fall.

From what I recall, she was seeking reimbursement for medical expenses and some additional compensation for pain, suffering, and restricted mobility.

Thankfully, our attorney and some video evidence demonstrated that her injury didn't seem to interfere with her enjoyment of water-skiing.

## ONLINE AUCTION

# Glassware - Collectibles

70 Mt. Nebo Rd, Loretto, TN

**April 1 – April 10**

**Personal Property:** Uranium/ Vaseline glass, oil lamps, cast iron, Fenton, carnival glass, milk glass, jadeite, depression glass, slag, Goofus glass, hobnail, ruby red, hens on nest, Hull, Roseville, Lance counter jars, crocks, stoneware, enamel ware, and much more.

[kingrealityandauction.hibid.com](http://kingrealityandauction.hibid.com)

**Open House: Sun. April 6th, 1-3PM**  
**Pick Up: Sat. April 12th, 9-4PM**

**Terms:** Cash or good check day of item pickup. Debit and credit cards accepted through online auction website. Seller reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids. Personal Property will be sold "AS-IS" without warranties of any kind. All information contained in this ad is believed to be correct, but not guaranteed. Announcements made on the auction website supersede any printed material.

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Since 1939  
 HENRY J. KING, BROKER (AL #5403 - TN #6919) • PAUL KING, III (AL #5354 - TN #7184)

## SIGNS OF THE PAST

**FLORENCE BETHEL CUMBERLAND PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN AMERICA**

The "Mother Church" of the Presbytery. Florence Cumberland Colored Presbyterian Church originated in 1898 on property deeded by the city. Led, in 1918, by Rev. Holt Smith, it bought property on Alabama Street and built a frame structure. In 1948, Rev. Earl McDonald led in the construction of the annex named for him and the Jerome Robinson Education building. In 1997, the name became Florence Bethel Cumberland Presbyterian Church in America. The church continually proclaims the compassion of Christ throughout the world.

**Location 34.8002°N, 87.6703°W**  
**408 E. Alabama St. Florence, AL**

This church was part of an important African-American area of an earlier Florence. Much of this neighborhood was displaced in the "urban renewal" of the 1960s and 1970s. This church is testament to the vitality of this section of Florence known as "East End".

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



Increase Your Bottom Line By  
Selling Your Useful Items With Us!

# Real Estate

**"REDUCED" PROPERTY FOR SALE**  
Muscle Shoals 3.45 Acres  
Mary Mack St. 256-740-1960

**FLORENCE ROOM FOR RENT** Large house, near mall, free utilities, cable, internet, no deposit. \$550 per month. Senior Discount Available. 256-810-7456

**COLBERT HEIGHTS: RENT TO OWN** 3 bdrm. 2 ba. Two story, \$1000. 256-263-8716

**LAND AVAILABLE FOR HAY or FARMING,**  
Woodmont Dr., Tuscumbia, if interested call 256-436-4419

**MORE THAN AN APARTMENT**  
2BR. 2BA - Qualifying rental, negotiable based on care of home and grounds, utilities included. Furnished \$950 deposit. 256-246-8307

**TUSCUMBIA: HOME FOR SALE** 1231 Frankfort Rd Needs some repairs. 1 bdrm. 1 ba. \$40,000 256-762-4903

## PAYING TOP DOLLAR

For small tracks of land to lease for bow hunting only. Will purchase insurance and have equipment to improve property, if needed. Mature Veteran, local business owner. Killen, St. Florian, Center Star areas preferred. 256-710-2856

**Courtview Towers Studio Apartments 1 & 2 Bedrooms available. Convenient to downtown Florence. Rent based on income. Equal Housing Opportunity 256-767-0201**



**SMALL CABIN FOR RENT:**  
2 bdrm., 2 ba., large lot/shady, 14 miles West of WalMart on Cloverdale Rd., Florence. \$490 rent, \$490 deposit. Must pay pest control. Call 256-810-4701

## MONTREAT APARTMENTS

1850 Darby Dr., Florence, AL

Accepting Applications

1st Month's Rent FREE!

Seniors 62 and over or mobility impaired

One Bedroom, Rent Based on Income 256-767-2211



**RV LOTS FOR RENT GREAT LOCATION**  
Hwy. 72 & Mulberry Lane Intersection, 12500 Hwy. 72 Barton, AL, 30 or 50 amp, WI-FI, sewer, electric, TV Room, washer & dryer included, sheds with picnic tables, walking trail, Tennessee River boat ramps nearby, \$400 first month special! 256-810-1950 call or text



## LOOKING FOR AN AGENT?

IF YOU ARE HOPING TO BUY, SELL, OR INVEST I WOULD LOVE TO HELP YOU! CALL OR TEXT ME AND LETS TALK!



COLLEEN VANDIVER, REALTOR 256.412.5895

## AUCTION Sat., Apr. 19 • 10AM

519± Ac - 3 Parcels - 11 Tracts

Investment/Income Producing Farmland

5 Miles East of Killen, AL



**Real Estate:** This 519± acre farm is part of the former Cunningham Plantation in the Center Star Community of Lauderdale Co. The farm lies 2 miles south of Hwy 72, offering easy access to the Shoals, Huntsville, and Decatur. This farm fronts CR-31, CR-33, and CR-415 and lies just north of the TN River. The property consists of 420± acres of open ground with the balance in woods. The property will be offered in tracts, parcels and combinations.

**kingrealtyauction.com**

**Seller:** Bobo Family Group, LLC

**Terms:** 10% down payment, balance due within 45 days. Possession upon delivery of deed subject to the farm lease which expires 12/31/25. Seller will furnish survey, deed and owner's title insurance. Property sold subject to two cemeteries and the rights of others for ingress and egress. Seller reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids.

All information contained in this ad is believed to be correct, but not guaranteed. Announcements made by the Auction Company on day of sale supersede any printed material



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**ROOFING - LEAKS REPAIRED,** Chimneys Flashed, Valley Repair. All Work Guaranteed. Free estimates, 256-383-3218

**STIHL FS-110R WEEDEATER,** in great shape \$125, Aluminum Truck Tool Box, in great shape \$45 256-577-2890

**GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPPY,** 12 weeks old, black, gray and brown. AKC Registered, shots and wormed, \$450, 256-483-5029

**2 BEAUTIFUL 8 MONTHS old** Sable male German Shepherds. Free to a good home.



**2021 HARLEY DAVIDSON STREETBOB** FXBBS 9,250 mi Asking \$11,000 256-702-2072

**SPRING CLEANING GUTTER CLEAN OUT,** seamless gutters, gutter guards, Call GUTTER WORKS 256-394-3497

**HOME AND RENTAL PROPERTY REPAIRS** Electrical, plumbing, water heaters, etc. 256-757-5620

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## CREEKWOOD ESTATE SALE

106 Westbury Lane • Florence

Friday, April 11 • 9am-3pm

Saturday, April 12 • 9am-2pm

Numbers given out at 8:30am Friday & Saturday

Sunday, April 13 • 1pm-3pm

2010 Honda Accord, Easy Go Golf Cart, Utility Trailer, Washer & Dryer, Pennsylvania House Furniture, Theodore Alexander Chest, Gorham and Alvin Sterling Flatware, Jewelry, Tools, Frankoma, Lenox and Noritake China, Leather Ultra Comfort Recliner, GARAGE AND OUTSIDE BUILDING FULL.

Go to [www.estatesales.net](http://www.estatesales.net) to view photos

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BRING HELP TO LOAD YOUR PURCHASES  
PLEASE DO NOT BLOCK DRIVEWAYS OR MAILBOXES



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256.712.5028 | 426 West College St. | Florence  
Across from Infants & Children's

Erase 10 years in 10 minutes  
Reverse the Aging Process  
Prevent Fine Lines + Wrinkles

**\$525 Special**

Microneedling 30 Units Botox  
1/2 Stick Juvederm

Call Lesli for an Appointment!



# Notes...

Continued from page 6

**SHEFFIELD- A powerhouse lineup of seasoned musicians** is coming together to celebrate the legendary John Prine on Saturday, April 19 at the Ritz Theater in downtown Sheffield. Featuring Rick Carter (Rollin In The Hay, Telluride), Stan Foster (Rollin In The Hay, Phil and Foster), Donna Hall (Wet Willie), and William "Moose" Harrell (Jason Ringenberg, Telluride), this group of Alabama music veterans has toured the world and beyond. Carter brings authenticity to his role as one of his musical heroes, while Donna Hall—an Alabama and Georgia Music Hall of Fame inductee—stuns with her mastery of Prine's iconic duets. With Foster on bass and harmony vocals and Harrell on acoustic, electric, and lap steel guitars, this show promises a powerful and heartfelt tribute to an American music treasure. For those looking for an exclusive experience,

VIP Sponsorship tickets are available offering premium seating, drink tickets, sponsorship recognition, and access to a VIP afterparty. Ticket packages range from \$100 to \$1,000, with seating arranged personally for VIP guests. For more information or to purchase VIP tickets, call TVAA at 256-383-0533.

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

**Colbert Transportation - Wells of Hope Ministries, Inc.** was recently awarded a grant to provide transportation services for seniors and individuals with disabilities in Colbert County. Seniors and handicapped individuals who live in Colbert County and are in need of free transportation, please contact Mr. Wendell Plain at 256-412-5220 or Mr. Otis Johnson at 256-762-1378.

**LifeSouth Bloodmobile Dates: Tuesday, April 8** TVA Power Service Shops, 526 Reservation Rd., Muscle

Shoals, 10am - 5:30pm  
**Wednesday, April 9** Shoals Christian School, 301 Heathrow Dr., Florence 8am - 3:30pm

**Thursday, April 10** Lexington High School, 8am - 3pm

**Friday, April 11** Genesis Healthcare - Glenwood Center, 211 Ana Drive, Florence, 10am - 4pm

**Saturday, April 12** Rick's Farm Market, 3406 S Wilson Dam Road, Muscle Shoals, 10am - 4pm

**Join us at the Sheffield Public Library on April 22** from 5:30-6:30pm for a special event with Rick Singleton, author of *Manhunt: The Search for Vicky & Casey White*. Enjoy an evening of discussion, meet the author, and browse books for sale by Court Street Books. Hotdogs will be provided, and admission is free to the public. To register, contact 256-383-5633 or stop by the Sheffield Public Library. This event is proudly sponsored by the Friends of Sheffield Public Library. Library is located at 316 North Montgomery Avenue in Sheffield.

**The Wheels at Wilson Car Show** takes place Saturday, April 26 from 9am-noon on the campus at Wilson High School, 7601 Highway 17, north of Florence. The entry fee is \$20 per vehicle. The event will also include food trucks, raffle, door, prizes, and awards.

The show is sponsored by the Wilson High School Robotics Program, and event proceeds benefit the students in that program. For registration or more information, contact Caroline Smith at 256-764-8470 or caroline.smith@lcschools.org

**Saturday, April 26 - Bees of Belle Mont Mansion**, 1569 Cook Lane, Tuscumbia. Spring is in the air, and our Belle Mont Bees are out and about! Join us at Belle Mont Mansion on April 26, 2025, at 1:00 PM for an engaging talk by Belle Mont's beekeepers, Fred and Linda Joly, all about beekeeping, bees, and honey. After the presentation, attendees are invited to tour the historic Belle Mont Mansion. This program is free and open to the public, and it's designed for all

ages. For questions, please call 256-381-5052 or email bellemontmansion@gmail.com. Belle Mont is located at 1569 Cook Lane in Tuscumbia, Alabama 35674.

**April 26, 2025 - Bass Tactix Fishing Tournament** - Riverfront Park, 1416 Alabama Avenue Sheffield. The Bass Tactix Fishing Tournament will be held on April 26, at Riverfront Park in Sheffield. Anglers of all levels are invited to participate in this exciting event, where the thrill of competition meets the beauty of the riverfront. For more information, contact Shane Mansell, Alabama Director, at (205) 765-8020 or via email at shane.mansell@basstactixalabama.com. Additional details can also be obtained from the Colbert County Tourism Bureau at (256) 383-0783. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity!

**April 26, 2025 - Cane Creek Hike Night** - Cane Creek Canyon, 251 Loop Rd, Tuscumbia. Experience the magic of Cane Creek Canyon at night with a guided hike to see the glow worms! This

leisurely trek over relatively flat terrain offers a unique opportunity to witness these glowing creatures in their natural habitat. Donations are requested to attend, with all proceeds supporting the upkeep of Cane Creek Canyon Nature Preserve. Led by Patrick Shremshock, the hike is subject to weather and trail conditions, with notifications sent to the email used for registration in case of cancellation. For more information, call 256-534-5263.

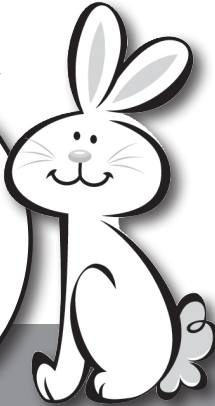
**Make plans now to see Godspell at Cypress Moon Studios** from April 24-27. This exciting production, produced by Tonya Suzanne Holly, directed by Macy Ladner, and assisted by Michael Green, features music direction by Trevor Blood and choreography by Mary Beth Hulsizer. Don't miss the chance to experience this iconic musical in the heart of Sheffield at one of the most renowned venues in the area at 1000 Alabama Avenue at the riverfront. Tickets are available now - call 256-335-6961 for more information!

## Courier Journal Colors of Easter Coloring Contest 2025

3 Age Groups:  
2-4 • 5-7 • 8-10



**LAST CHANCE!**  
**ENTRY DEADLINE THURSDAY, APRIL 10, NOON**  
Winners will be announced in the April 16 issue.



Mail or Bring Entries to:  
**Courier Journal Coloring Contest**  
219 W. Tennessee St.  
Florence, AL 35630  
Or email:  
[andrea@courierjournal.net](mailto:andrea@courierjournal.net)

**Adults who color your kid's entry, will not win.**

Adults can help in completing the entry form. Entrant information must be completed to qualify.

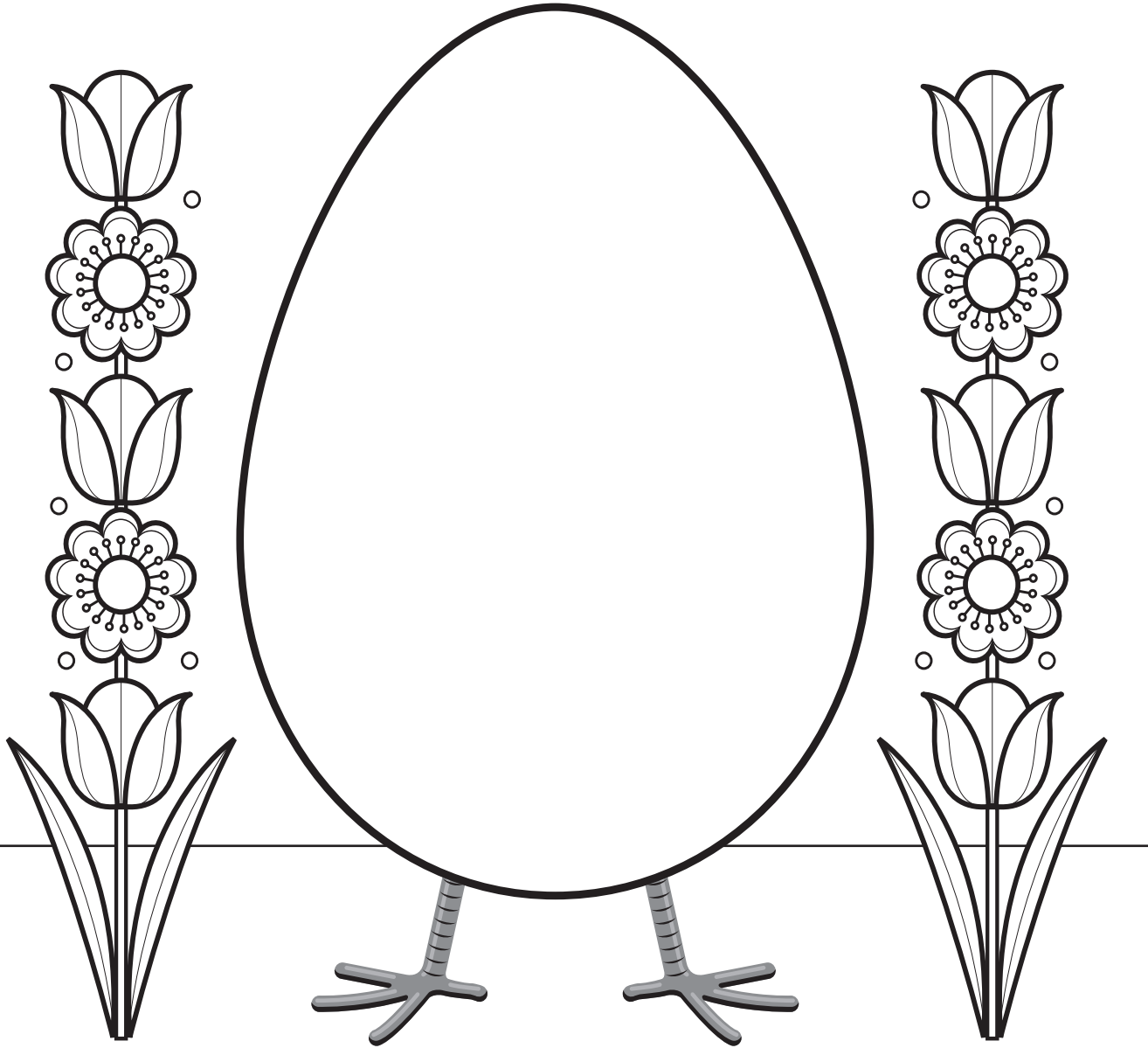
First & Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

## Decorate This Egg for Easter!



**Top 3 Winners in each Age Group Receive...**

**An Easter Basket Filled With Lots of Goodies From**



**1st Place Winners Also Receive ...**

**1 Large 1 Topping Pizza from**







**Mystery Photo**

**WEEK OF April 9**

**WIN LUNCH FOR 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Rosie's CANTINA**

www.rosiesmexicancantina.com

in Downtown Florence

**ENTER ONLINE at**  
**www.courierjournal.net**

**Week of April 2 winner is**  
**Nicole McIntosh**  
of Muscle Shoals  
who correctly guessed  
"Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail clubhouse"



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.

## Disc...

Continued from Page 8

pack. Additional fun includes free CTPs (closest-to-the-pin), with an optional cash CTP and ace action available for \$10 (cash only). The day kicks off with sign-in at 7:30am and will wrap up with awards around 4pm. To register and learn more about divisions, visit the official tournament page at [www.discgolfszene.com/tournament/Spring\\_Park\\_Inaugural\\_2025](http://www.discgolfszene.com/tournament/Spring_Park_Inaugural_2025). Net proceeds will benefit the maintenance and improvements of the Spring Park Disc Golf Course. For more information, please contact the Colbert County Disc Golf Club at 404-606-0250.

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**WHITE GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPS** 12 weeks old. AKC registered, shots and wormed, 2 females. \$700, 256-483-5029

**WE BUY RIDING MOWERS**, John Deere, Cub Cadet, Kubota, Craftsman, etc. We will buy it running or not. Give us a call at 256-275-2276

**2016 FOREST RIVER WILDWOOD** X-Lite Pull Camper, 24 ft., sleeps four, \$13,000, 256-335-6553 Florence

**HOME IMPROVEMENT AND BUILDING:** siding, additions, garages, painting, decks, Free Estimates. 256-383-3218

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**SPECIAL WEDNESDAY WAX DAY!!!**

Gift Certificates Available

**WAX FOR \$25**

Gift Certificates Available

w/coupon only. Wednesday only. \*Limited Pickup & Delivery Area. Expires Tuesday, 4/15/2025

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**Solid Steel Jacks**

MUSCLE SHOALS ALUMNAE CHAPTER OF DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC. PRESENTS

## Mental Health Forum

"DO NOT SUFFER IN SILENCE; MY STRUGGLE IS REAL AND YOURS IS TOO."



Roberta Campbell



Rev. Dale R. Cohen



James Gray



Sherry Campbell



Christian McCoy



Rev. Wesley Thompson

**Moderator: Demetria Green**  
WAAY 31 Morning News Anchor

**UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA**  
Performance Center in Guillot Center  
**APRIL 24 | 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM**

Door Prizes | Voter Registration will be offered | CEU hours available

## Mental Health Fair

"IT'S OKAY TO SAY I'M NOT OKAY"

**APRIL 24 | 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM**  
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA AMPHITHEATER

Voter Registration will be offered.  
\*ALTERNATE LOCATION IF RAIN OCCURS: GUC ATRIUM\*



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# OPENING

*April 26th*

**@9 AM!**

**3815 Florence Blvd.  
Florence, AL**



**NEW  
LOCATION!**



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