

Resurfacing Grant: Tusc.

MONTGOMERY – More than \$7.6 million in state funding has recently been allocated to select cities and counties for 26 road and bridge projects across Alabama.

The funding includes \$178,858 for the widening and resurfacing of George Wallace Blvd from West 6th St. to Avalon Avenue (1.01 miles) – a joint project with the city of Tuscumbia. Total cost of the project is \$528,858. The difference will be made up with other funds.

The grants are the first round of funding made available this year under the Rebuild Alabama Act of 2019 which requires the Alabama Department of Transportation's to establish an annual program setting aside a minimum of \$10 million off the top of the state's gas tax revenue for local projects. Additional funding will be awarded later this year.

Coach White at NWSCC

SHOALS -- Northwest Shoals Community College recently announced **Heath White** as the new Head Coach of the Patriots' Cross-Country Program.

A former NWSCC cross country athlete himself,

See **SHORTS...** on Page 2



White

Partners for Scholarship

SHEFFIELD--Bank Independent and the University of North Alabama recently announced a new scholarship partnership designed to make higher education more accessible and affordable for Bank Independent customers.

Effective immediately, eligible Bank Independent customers who enroll at UNA can receive a 20% scholarship toward undergraduate, graduate, or doctoral degree programs.

"At Bank Independent, we believe education is one of the most powerful tools for strengthening individuals, families, and communities, Bank Independent President Macke Mauldin said. "This

See **20% OFF...** on Page 10

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Volume 141 Number 29

May 14, 2025

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In Telling the Stories

FLORENCE – Shoals Storytelling Festival celebrates its 14th year later this week with a three-day slate of some of the best storytellers in the business.

Emcee Melissa Foster gets the event underway at the Shoals Theatre beginning on Thursday night, May 15 with a Storytelling Olio from 7-9pm that includes Josh Goforth, Dolores Hydock, Bil Lepp, Jackie Mickel, and Donald Davis.

The time slots are full Friday and Saturday, May 16-17, with Eric Kirkman getting the schedule underway at 8:55am sharp, and the rest of the talented guests following with little pause. Friday hours

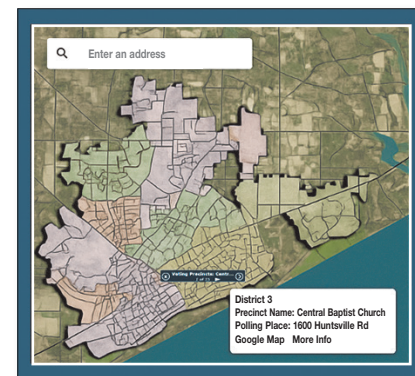
See **STORIES...** on Page 6



Clockwise from top left: Donald Davis, Dolores Hydock, Bil Lepp, Eric Kirkman, Josh Goforth, Jackie Mickel Courtesy photos



Find Your Florence Polling Place



FLORENCE—The city of Florence recently announced the debut of a new interactive map designed to provide an additional resource for locating your polling place and district information. This user-friendly tool, developed by the Planning and Community Development team, is now available on the city's website at florenceal.org. Residents can also access the map directly at https://maps.kcsgis.com/WABv2.21/al.florence_city/



Find My District:
FlorenceAL.org

See **POLLING...** on Page 8

INSIDE this Issue

Automotive Inside

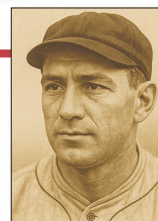


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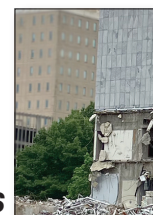
- Medicare Minute
- Savvy Senior
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- Dave Ramsey
- Guest Commentary

- Heinie Manush Base Ball
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Shorts...

Coach White at NWSCC

Continued from Page 1

White brings a wealth of experience and deep-rooted passion for the sport and the college. His coaching career spans more than a decade and includes leadership roles with the Shoals TRAC Summer Cross Country Camp (2007-2019) and Assistant and Interim Head Coach positions at the University of North Alabama (2013-2018). White is a native of Moulton and resident of Florence.

NWSCC is where White's collegiate cross-country journey started. "Of course, there is always a special place in your heart for your alma mater," said White. "I want to continue and build on the success that we had when I was an athlete there in the early 2000s. Northwest Shoals always had a warm, family atmosphere. As a student-athlete there, I loved the focus that it placed on the students. I want to continue that tradition and give back to next generation of Patriot runners."

White's coaching philosophy emphasizes

growth and consistency over pressure to meet immediate results.

"Expectations sometimes feel like limits," he explained. "The goal is improving one step at a time and the success will be inevitable. I look forward to recruiting elite local runners that want to be a positive influence in the community and strive to be their best as a collegiate runner."

"Heath understands what it means to be a student-athlete at NWSCC," said Patriots Athletics Director, Taylor Franks. "We're excited to have someone who not only knows the sport inside and out but truly values the role cross country can play in a student's overall college experience."

athletes further their education," said **Ron Creel**, Chairman and Founder of the ASF Foundation.

The Opening Ceremony will also highlight this year's theme for the Honoring Our Heroes program, which in 2025 focuses on fathers and father figures. Athletes who register for the 42nd Alabama State Games can also register their dads and have them receive a special medal as part of the Opening Ceremony celebration.

Cook's Named STEM Center

DECATUR--The Cook Museum of Natural Science has been designated as the North Alabama STEM Center according to a state announcement by Governor **Kay Ivey**. To serve as a catalyst for expansion of STEM labs and educational programming spaces, the State appropriated \$9.5 million in the Education Budget.

"Alabama's future depends on our ability to prepare students for the jobs of tomorrow, and STEM education is key to that effort," said Ivey. "This significant state investment reflects the outstanding work the Cook Museum of Natural Science has accomplished in STEM education."

The Cook Museum provides classes and camps with hands-on learning experiences, aligned with the Alabama Course of Study. The Museum serves public, private, and homeschool students from 21 Alabama counties, totaling over 18,000 students annually on field trips with over 7,000 participating in classes and camps.

"We are honored and grateful to have this designation from Gov. Ivey and the Alabama

State Games Start June 13

BIRMINGHAM--With just weeks remaining until the 42nd Alabama State Games are just weeks away, June 13-15 hosted by the city of Birmingham and Jefferson County. Athletes of all ages and skill levels can register before time runs out. A full list of sports, venues, and registration fees can be found at ALAGAMES.com under the Sports tab.

The 2025 Opening Ceremony is set for June 13 at the Legacy Arena in Birmingham, and it will showcase the patriotism and spirit that define the Games. The ASF Foundation's unwavering commitment to community, leadership, and legacy drives this year's celebration. In keeping with that commitment, the ASF Foundation will award 34 scholarships totaling \$42,000 to athletes who register and attend the Opening Ceremony. "Of the 30 State Games programs in the nation, few have scholarship programs, and none is as dedicated as Alabama's in helping

See SHORTs... on Page 4



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 <p>Sirloin Pork Chops \$1.89 Lb.</p>  <p>Country Style Pork Ribs \$1.99 Lb.</p>	 <p>Whole Pork Spare Ribs \$2.29 Lb.</p>  <p>Boston Butt Pork Roast \$1.79 Lb.</p>	 <p>Prime Rib \$8.99 Lb.</p>  <p>Filet Mignon Steak \$12.99 Lb.</p>	<p>We have a large variety of Tucker Milling Co. Feeds: Sold by individual bags or by the pallet (40 bags per pallet)</p>  <p>Whole Corn 50 Lbs. \$9.00</p>  <p>Corn 50 Lbs. \$8.50</p>
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FLORENCE: GARAGE SALE 209 Birch Run Fri. and Sat. 6 am until Clothes, sewing patterns, spice holders, and makeup.

FLORENCE: YARD SALE 533 RICKWOOD RD Fri. and Sat. 7 am until

KILLEN: YARD SALE 300 Co. Rd. 396 Fri. Sat. 7 am Hand crafted items, holiday decor, furniture, dishes, toys, clothes, cosmetics, hand bags.

FLORENCE MOVING SALE, 7305 Dalewood St., Bellemeade Subdivision, Sat., May 17th, Household items to Clothing and everything in between.

MUSCLE SHOALS MULTIFAMILY GARAGE SALE 2303 Virginia Ave. Sat., May 17th, 6am-2pm Household items, jewelry, clothing, glassware, and lots more!

FLORENCE: MULTIFAMILY YARD SALE 2001 Berry Ave. 5/17 7 am to 2 pm. Tools, households, clothes, collectibles, and much more. Cash only.

ARDMORE: BIG, THREE-FAMILY YARD SALE, Fri. Sat. & Sun. from Daylight to Dark. Behind Country Club next to Dog Day Flea Market, 24865 Morrow Road, Ardmore, TN 38449. Glassware, jewelry, tools, yard tools, hand tools, cookware, cast iron, pots and pans, fishing stuff, lures, rod and reel, old glassware and old tools, knives, sports stuff, milk cans, old iron wheels, signs, books, toys, hardware, license plates, gas cans, GOATS, and lots of neat stuff.

TUSCUMBIA MULTI-FAMILY GARAGE SALE 139 Valley Grove St., Valley Grove Estates, Fri. & Sat., 7am-until? Furniture, Lots of costume Jewelry, handicap items, household, Playstation IV, and more!

FLORENCE: 108 Lambeth St 5/17/2025 Sat. 7AM, Glass top dining table, recliner, tv stand, household items, crafts, books, puzzles, women's clothing 10-22, men's suits, wedding items, and much more!

FLORENCE: YARD SALE 3613 Jane Way. Fri., Sat., May 16th, 17th, 7am until. Four A/Cs, two wheelbarrows, lots of tools, buffer/sander, home decor and much more.

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KILLEN: YARD SALE BAY BROOK SUBDIVISION 364 Baylee Dr Sat. 7 am until. Household items, decor, bedroom suite, nice clothes, much more.

FLORENCE YARD SALE 207 Naomi St., Between Howell St & Royal Ave., Friday & Saturday, 8am-until? Clothes, Toys, Pictures, knick-knacks, Movies, Fishing Rods, Tools, Lots of misc. Lemonade Stand to support Travel Ball Team

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CYPRESS INN, TN ESTATE SALE, 6205 Pumping Station Road, Thurs. May 15, & Fri., May 16 10am-7pm and Sat., May 17, 8am-5pm. Furniture, Jewelry, Household items, Lots of Blue & White items and more!

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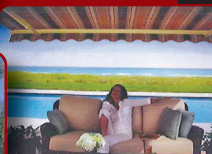
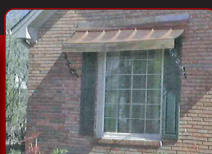
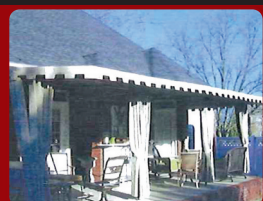
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Shorts...

Cook's Named STEM Center

Continued from Page 2

Legislature," said Cook Museum Executive Director, **Scott Mayo**. "With this directive, we will begin developing extensive plans to expand the capacity for our STEM-based, interactive learning labs and educational curriculum for school classes."

Ceramics Workshop

FLORENCE—The Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts will host ceramics hand-building workshop with **Aaron Benson**, UNA Chair of Visual Arts and Design, Associate Professor and Director of Ceramic and Sculpture, Saturday, May 31 from 9am-3pm. Learn more about clay by building and glazing your own work in this one-day class. Registration is limited, so sign-up soon!

Benson has a combined 23 of experience working in clay. He received his MFA in Ceramics from UT-Knoxville. He has been an intern at Anderson Ranch Art Center in Colorado and a long-term resident and MJD Fellow at Archie Bray Foundation in Montana. Benson's work has been published, collected, and exhibited both nationally and internationally. He uses traditional ceramic hand-building methods to create large scale public works.

Register online at <https://www.florencealmuseums.com/calendar>. Or, to register in person visit the Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts, 217 E. Tuscaloosa St. in Florence. (Art Center can only accept cash or check; deadline to register is May 30).

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE:

9am- Noon:

Introduction, design, and hand-build

Noon-1pm: Lunch

Break (while clay dries)

1-3pm: Glaze and place in kiln.

Art pick-up: June 4, between 1-4 pm.

WORKSHOP FEE:

\$95 (includes Instruction & materials)

UNA Golfers are All ASUN

JACKSONVILLE, FL – The Atlantic Sun Conference announced last that UNA golfers, sophomore **Andrew Ferworn** (third team) and junior **Xing Luo** (second team) were named All-Conference.

Last season, Luo took home third team honors, while Ferworn earned a spot on the All-Freshman Team.

Luo had a stellar season as he finished fourth at the ASUN Championships in Valdosta, GA where he also made ASUN All-Tournament Team. He finished as the highest ranked golfer in the ASUN and received an individual bid to compete in the Division I NCAA Regional Championships in Auburn. Luo is the first golfer in program history to accomplish this.

Luo won two individual crowns on the season with one at the GMAC invitational and the other at the Bridgestone Collegiate Invitational, along with seven top 10 finishes. He also recorded the lowest individual round in UNA history with a 65 at the Turtle Point Invite while also adding the best Division I Three Round Individual Tournament finish with a score of 200 at the 2024 GMAC Invitational.

He finished as the 143rd ranked golfer in the nation.

Ferworn added two individual crown wins of his own this season. In back-to-back tournaments, he won the Cullan Brown

Collegiate and the Turtle Point Invite; he is the first UNA golfer to ever accomplish the feat of back-to-back tournament wins.

Ferworn had seven Top-15 finishes this season and never finished lower than 10th during fall play. He added an 11th place finish at the ASUN Championships in Valdosta, GA.

Ferworn was right next to Luo for a majority of the season. He reached as high as No. 135 in the country in the rankings; he added the best fall scoring average in school history with a 70.75.

Both of these golfers were integral parts to the team claiming their highest ranking in school history at 78th in the country.

Memorial Day in Tuscumbia

TUSCUMBIA—American Legion Post 31 of Tuscumbia is sponsoring the Annual Memorial Day Program on the front lawn of the Colbert County Courthouse, 201 N. Main St., Tuscumbia, at 11am on Monday, May 26. The public is invited and encouraged to attend.

The Post 31 Honor Guard will present the colors and place the memorial wreath in honor of those who gave the supreme sacrifice for our country. The keynote speaker will be **Ronald David Reagan**, LTC Retired, US Army.

See SHORTS... on Page 6



Ferworn



Luo

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Festival Hours:

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- **Friday 9am - 9pm**
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- **Saturday 9am - 9pm**
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Josh Goforth



Eric Kirkman

Community Notes

May - Music In The Park. Enjoy lunch in Wilson Park on Wednesdays throughout the month of May. Music begins at 11:30.

June brings Stars and Guitars on Friday nights.

May - Buy One, Get One Free at Mitchell Burford Bookstore - During the month of May, the Mitchell Burford Bookstore at the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library is offering a buy one, get one free deal on religion books and related items. Purchases support library programming.

Quad Cities Photography Club, 6:30pm, second Tuesday, (May 13) Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts, 217 E. Tuscaloosa St., Florence.

May 15-17, Shoals Storytelling Festival Returns to Florence - The 14th Anniversary of the Shoals Storytelling Festival is set to bring captivating tales and talented storytellers to Florence, Alabama. Known for its rich tradition of oral storytelling, the festival offers a unique experience filled with humor, history, and heartwarming narratives. At Shoals Theatre - 123 N Seminary St. - Florence.

The festival begins on Thurs from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm. Doors will be open at 6:00 pm

Friday 9am - 9pm. Doors open at 8am.

Saturday 9am - 5pm. Doors open at 8am.

Go to shoalsstorytelling.com/festival-2025/ for ticket

Shoals Artists Guild Meeting Every 3rd Friday of the month, (May 16), 10am-Noon at the Southall-Moore House, next to the Kennedy-Douglass Art Center, Downtown Florence. For more info, contact Carolyn Wear, 256-710-6854.

Free Complete Clothing Giveaway - From Infants to Adults. Creator Fellowship MB Church, 1401 East 30th St., Sheffield. Saturday May 17th at 8am-1pm. Everything Is Free!

Arts Huntsville invites the community to a celebration on Saturday, May 17 from 10am-noon at Archer Park to unveil "Community Pillars," a sculpture created by local artist Gwyer Sinclair in cooperation with members of the community. The community celebration will take place at the green space of Archer Park, located at 3315 Archer Drive in Huntsville.

Over 200 participants submitted drawings for the project. From these, 40 designs were selected by Sinclair for inclusion on the artwork. The artist transformed the drawings into durable and colorful metal shapes that now adorn the surfaces of the three "Community Pillars" that stand near the park's pavilion and playground. The celebration event offers a morning of family-friendly fun, featuring an interactive art lesson for kids and complimentary shaved ice for the first 100 guests.

Mt. Zion Church of Christ invites you to Homecoming - Sunday, May 18th with Stan Dean. Classes at 10am, Worship Service at 11am, Fellowship Meal at 12pm and Afternoon Service At 2pm. Please join us!

See NOTES... page 30

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Shorts...

Memorial Day in Tuscumbia

Continued from Page 4

The speaker has a background with more than 41 years of military service retiring from active duty as a Lieutenant Colonel in 2001. During his military career he served two tours in Germany, one combat tour in the Middle East, one tour at Fort Campbell, KY, one tour at Fort McClellan, AL, one tour at Presidio of San Francisco, and one tour as Associate Professor at the United States Military Academy at West Point, NY. His awards include the following: Legion of Merit, Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal (4), Army Commendation (2), Army Achievement Medal (2), Army Ranger Tab, Airborne Badge, German Army Airborne Insignia, and the Air Assault Badge. David served as a military police officer with dual qualification as an infantry officer. He is a resident of St. Joseph, TN, and a member of American Legion Post 94. Dresden, TN.

Following the program, the public and all Veterans are invited to a barbecue Luncheon, compliments of **L.O. Bishop**, at the Tuscumbia Church of Christ Annex (across the street at the corner of Main and 4th Streets).

In case of inclement weather, both the program and luncheon will be held at the church annex.

spent several years on my journey exploring cultural heritage and identity, and my language skills have been one of the hardest barriers to overcome. Therefore, I am extremely grateful to Dr. (Matthew) Price and CLS for helping me in this opportunity to advance my skills. I hope to one day return to my birthplace, Chongqing, and be able to speak with the locals confidently."

Hagood is UNA's fourth CLS recipient, and Dr. **Matthew Price**, UNA's Director of the Center for Premier Awards and Scholarly Engagement, said this experience will be an important part of her future and career.

"The CLS Award is designed to give a student an immersive experience with their chosen language; it is meant to really improve a student's fluency very quickly," he said. "Awardees tend to have careers in foreign service or in careers with global impacts."

The CLS Program provides beginner-level virtual instruction for Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Russian for competitively selected U.S. undergraduate students whose home campuses do not offer these languages. CLS Scholars are expected to continue their language study beyond the scholarship and apply their critical language skills in their future careers.

Lighting at Mobile Plaza

FLORENCE – The Downtown Florence Alliance recently celebrated the completion of the Mobile Plaza Lighting Project. The project was fully funded by a \$25,000 grant from Main Street Alabama which included the installation of 18 light poles and permanent overhead LED string lighting across Mobile Plaza. The initiative also features new hanging flower baskets at both entrances, adding to the vibrancy and charm of downtown Florence.

Additional support for the project came from Singing River Trail, and the work was completed in partnership with the City of Florence Street, Electricity, and Urban Forestry Departments, with

See SHORTS... on Page 8

CLS Award for Hagood

FLORENCE – **Hannah Hagood**, a senior majoring in finance from Lewisburg, TN, at UNA has been awarded a Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) Award. CLS partners with universities and nonprofits around the globe to provide U.S. students an opportunity to study the language and culture in a country/location where the target language is commonly spoken.

"As a Chinese adoptee who had very little exposure to the Chinese community and culture growing up, this award aids me in reconnecting with my birth country," said Hagood. "I have

Stories...

Continued from Page 1

are 9am–9pm. (Doors open at 8am.)

Saturday hours are 9am – 5pm. (Doors open at 8am.) There will be no shortage of entertaining, teaching, and telling over the weekend. See the complete schedule and order tickets at shoalsstorytelling.com.

The Shoals Storytelling Festival began in 2011 as the Front Porch Storytelling Festival hosted on the UNA campus. In 2017, the festival moved to the historic Shoals Theatre at 123 North Seminary St in downtown Florence, and was renamed The Shoals Storytelling Festival, acknowledging its home community, an area made up of the four cities of Florence, Muscle Shoals, Sheffield, and Tuscumbia.

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

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



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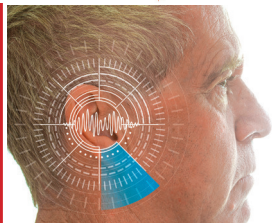
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Polling...

Continued from Page 1

Public/Council_Districts/ Residents can enter their address into the search bar, and the map will provide their district and polling location. Additionally, users can zoom in to find detailed information for any specific location within the City.

"The new interactive map is a great resource for our community," said Melissa Bailey, Director of Planning and Community Development. "Our team has worked diligently to ensure it is accessible and easy to use, allowing residents to find the most up-to-date district and polling information quickly."

On January 21, the Florence City Council adopted a new district map in response to the 2020 Census. This interactive tool provides residents with an easy way to access accurate information based on the new map.

The next municipal election is set for August 26, 2025, and includes races for mayor and all six district council seats. It is important for residents to have easy access to voter information.

For information or questions about the upcoming election, contact the City Clerk's Office at 256-760-6679.

Shorts...

Lighting at Mobile Plaza

Continued from Page 6

strong support from Mayor **Andy Betterton** and the Florence City Council.

"We're thrilled to bring this beautiful new lighting and landscaping feature to Mobile Plaza," said DFA Director, **Chris Stangel**. "It enhances safety, creates a festive atmosphere, and contributes to our ongoing efforts to make downtown Florence a welcoming place for residents and visitors."

Betterton expressed gratitude, "This project is a shining example of what collaboration can achieve. I'm grateful to the Downtown Florence Alliance, Main Street Alabama, our city departments, and all our partners for making this vision a reality."

Conservancy Doles Grants

CHICAGO, IL—The **Frank Lloyd Wright Building Conservancy** has awarded inaugural Preservation Planning Grants to three organizations that oversee Frank Lloyd Wright-designed public sites. The program supports preservation planning for structures designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. While "bricks-and-mortar" work is the most visible manifestation of preservation, physical restoration should be preceded by careful planning. This pilot program, underwritten by Chuck and Kit Henderson, will fund work at the following sites:

A.D. German Warehouse: Designed by Wright in 1915 for a commodities dealer in Richland Center, Wisconsin, the A.D. German Warehouse made bold use of concrete and brick to create a distinctive structure offering a flexible interior for industrial use. The A.D. German Warehouse Conservancy has owned the building since 2014, with the aim of restoring the building and making it a viable public site offering tours, special events and event rentals. Building on the restoration of the exterior envelope, first floor, and elevator, a grant of \$7,000

will fund planning for the future build-out of floors 2-4 as well as the rooftop. Learn more at adgermanwarehouse.org

Graycliff, the **Darwin** and **Isabelle Martin** Summer House: Wright produced one of his most extensive designs for a summer house in 1926 for his longtime clients, the Martins of Buffalo, NY. Perched atop a 60-foot-high cliff overlooking Lake Erie, Graycliff is the only place where work by both Wright and noted landscape designer Ellen Biddle Shipman co-exists. The buildings show Wright's evolving concept of organic architecture. A \$7,000 grant to the steward, Graycliff Conservancy, will support the preparation of a National Historic Landmark nomination for the structures and gardens. Learn more at experiencegraycliff.org

Rosenbaum House: A pure example of a Usonian house, designed in 1939 with a significant addition in 1948, the Rosenbaum House exemplifies Wright's efforts to create a house suited to the informality of middle-American family life. The City of Florence, Alabama, has operated it as a house museum since 2002. A grant of \$7,000 to the Kennedy-Douglass Volunteers, an affiliated nonprofit, will support the creation of a preservation plan, including the compilation of a history of maintenance and repair decisions; a values narrative that will inform future decisions; and an impact statement for determining the best course of action for maintenance and repair. This plan represents a first step towards creating a comprehensive management plan. Learn more at wrightinalabama.com.

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2012 Nissan Altima	1N4AL2AP7CC188639	Black
1998 Ford Explorer	1FMYU22E7WUC17327	Red
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Two families that I have known for a very long time came in this week with Wills that they wanted to probate. In each case, the parents had already deeded the land and homes that they owned to the children and all bank accounts were set up in a way that named the children as beneficiaries.

I was able to tell both families there was no need to pay a lawyer to probate those Wills.

The only time you need to probate a Will is when you have property to sell that will need a clear title or when you have money or stocks to get that require probate to receive.

If a person doesn't have land and all of their bank accounts are set up so that the beneficiaries are named, then there may be no reason to go through the expense of hiring a lawyer.

This is especially true if all of the children agree about dividing the furniture and personal property of their parents.

That said, Wills are only good for five years after death and it's a lot less expensive to probate a Will than it is to administer an estate without a Will because that requires a bond.

There are often occasions where a parent will own stock through an employee stock ownership program (ESOP) or have other unknown assets, such as a life insurance policy, where an estate will need to be set up so that claims can be filed and the proper party to be paid determined by the court. There certainly are times when tax considerations will persuade one that filing an estate for the tax benefits is the smart thing to do.

That said, if someone is careful in their planning they can certainly set up their estate in such a way as to avoid probate.

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Continued from Page 1

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A CONVERSATION WITH PASTOR KIKI The Question of God's Love vs Human Love

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Human love can be a beautiful gift, but it is often shaped by fear, expectation, and need. Even in its best moments, it can falter. So we learn to be cautious. We guard our hearts. We wonder if love is something we have to earn.

Then we are told God loves us, and it is natural to wonder what that means. Is this another kind of love that waits for us to get it right? Another presence that might disappear if we are too much or not enough?

But God's love is different. It is



Rev. Kiki
Woods-Terry

not transactional. It does not keep score. It does not vanish in the face of doubt or failure. It remains.

This love is not loud. It moves through the quiet. It finds us in the places we do not often let others see. And slowly, it teaches us a new way of being loved, freely, fully, without the weight of proving ourselves.

To trust that kind of love is a journey. One that begins with unlearning what hurt us and opening to something more lasting. God's love is not a reward. It is a remembering. Of who we are. Of what we are worth.

If your heart is weary from the kind of love that could not hold you, we invite you to visit North Wood UMC.

There is space here to rest, reflect, and reconnect with others, with yourself, and with a love that does not let go.



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Guest Commentary

CLIMATE FANATICISM?

Understanding Spain, Portugal Blackout

VALENCIA, Spain—Two modern ills converged in Europe on Monday, literally one of the darkest days in decades. An ideological obsession with climate fanaticism left countries without power for hours, while censorship of “disinformation” – often information the powerful don’t like – plunged the population in an informational blackout in subsequent days.

The electrical blackout brought planes, trains, and automobiles to a screeching halt throughout Spain, Portugal, and small parts of southern France. Electricity simply stopped flowing, and with it went control towers, rail lines, and traffic lights.

Cellphones became nothing more than quadrangular black boxes that had lost their “smartness.”

A political conference I was attending in this sunny Mediterranean port city suddenly became eerie when people started coming in and out and

See **UNDERSTANDING FANATICISM...** Pg. 20

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



Mike Gonzalez

Courier Journal

THIS WEEK

in the *Shoals*

May 14, 2025

Happening
THIS WEEK

Play Ball!

Manush Field Hosts the Pure Form of the Vintage Game

TUSCUMBIA—Heinie Manush Field behind the Deshler Dome at Deshler High School in Tuscumbia will play host as Tennessee Association of Vintage Base Ball presents a vintage Base Ball game with The Cumberland Club of Nashville Tennessee on Sunday May 18 at 2pm. Base Ball rules of 1865 will be used.

Heinie Manush was the first Alabamian to be inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame at Cooperstown (1964). After his death on May 12, 1971, he was elected to the Alabama Hall of Fame (1972) and to the first class of the Colbert County Sports Hall of Fame (2000). Manush is a member of the Michigan and Florida Sports Hall of Fames, and he is on the Washington Nationals Wall of Fame.

During his career in 17 seasons from 1923–1939, Manush batted over .300 eleven times. He averaged .333 or better in nine of those seasons and a lifetime batting average of .330 with 110 home runs and 1,183 runs batted in. He had 2,524 hits in his career with four 200 hit seasons. He was the

HEINIE MANUSH DAY

HONORING TUSCUMBIA'S OWN BASEBALL LEGEND



VINTAGE BASE BALL GAME
CUMBERLAND VINTAGE BASE BALL CLUB
OF NASHVILLE

MAY 18 2:00 PM
DESHLER

American League hits leader in two seasons, 1928 and 1933. He scored 100 runs or more in six seasons.

See **BASE BALL...** on Page 21

THE ANNUAL ARTS ALIVE FESTIVAL, sponsored by the Kennedy-Douglass Volunteers, is set to bring another vibrant weekend of art, music, and community to Wilson Park in downtown Florence on May 17-18. For over 35 years, this juried arts festival has supported art education and programs in the area. The event attracts thousands of visitors who enjoy browsing and purchasing artwork from regional artists. With live music, food trucks, and a gallery exhibit, there's something for everyone. There is no admission charge.

BESTSELLING AUTHOR ROBERT BAILEY will visit the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library on Tuesday, May 20, at 5:30pm to discuss his latest thriller, *The Boomerang*. Books will be available for purchase from Snail on the Wall. This author event is sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

THE CLUB (FLORENCE SENIOR CENTER) WILL HOST a Spring Community Yard Sale on Saturday, May 17 from 6:30–11:30am at 450 Country Club Drive in Florence. Participants can sell items from a table, tailgate, trailer, or trunk. A \$10 vendor fee applies, and setup begins at 6:30am. Vendors must bring their own table. To RSVP, call 256-760-6420. Proceeds benefit programs at The Club and Florence Parks and Recreation. The rain date is scheduled for May 31.

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YOUR Letters

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

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

Pope Trump is No Joke

Dear Editor,

The President recently joked that he wants to be the next Pope. Remember, he also joked about being a dictator on “day one.” That turned out not to be a joke.

His comment about the papacy is not a joke either. A dictator cannot really be a full-fledged dictator without control of all the institutions and agencies of society. Trump sees the

church, Protestant and Catholic alike, as impediments to total power because of separation of church and state.

Trump wants to erase the distance between church and state just like the tyrant king Henry VIII did in England. Henry declared himself above the law of the church and established a precedent still alive today whereby the King of England appoints the head of the Church of England, the Archbishop of Canterbury. Trump has that in mind for America as well. He might first have to create an established church here like Henry did in England. Not a problem

for this president, who is every bit as ambitious as Henry.

Kimball Shinkoskey
Woods Cross, UT

Just Doing Their Jobs

Editor,

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See **LETTERS...** on Page 26

...This bill has a clear and simple goal: to give officers the confidence to protect our communities without fear of being dragged into court over baseless claims...

”

Medicare Minute

"Medicare Supplements"

Medicare supplements, also known as Medigap policies, are designed to help cover some or all of the deductibles, copays and coinsurance that Original Medicare does not cover. Medigap policies are sold through private insurance companies.

In Alabama these insurance companies can sell you only a "standardized" policy identified by a letter, such as Plan G. The most common supplemental plans in Alabama are Plans A, B, F, G and N. The term "standardized" means that Medicare requires all plans with a particular letter to have the same basic benefits regardless of the company selling it. For example, a Plan G with one company has to have the exact basic benefits as Plan G with every other company selling it.

Two things to keep in mind when shopping for a Medigap policy. First is the premium. Different insurance companies can charge different premiums for the exact same policy. This means you could pay more for your Medigap policy from one company than you would from other companies offering the same basic benefits. It's a good idea to check with someone who can show you the premiums from several companies to be sure you're getting the best premium for you coverage.

The second thing to keep in mind is the type of Medigap policy you are looking at. Some companies offer a Medicare SELECT policy. SELECT policies may require you to use a defined network of providers to receive full coverage, meaning you may not have full coverage from a provider even though the provider accepts Medicare. A standard Medigap policy will allow you to go to any provider that accepts Medicare. If you are not sure about the type of Medigap policy you are looking at, or its premium, you can contact or come by our office for help.

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



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Your Most Precious Thing?

The thing you value the most. The thing that if you lost it, would cause the most suffering. Your answer says a lot about real priorities you have concerning life and death and eternity. Many folks might answer money, health, family and jobs, homes, lands etc. Not too many think about their souls until it's too late. Life is like a flower, we bud, bloom, fade then die. Death is a permanent end to life HERE, and often the subject is avoided by most folk, but the Bible warns us; **Hebrews 9:27** "And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:" **Acts 17:31** "Because he hath appointed a day, in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; *whereof* he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him (JESUS CHRIST) from the dead." **Romans 14:12** "So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God." **Mark 8:36-37** "For what shall it profit a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? Or what shall a man give in exchange for

God's emphasis on the most important thing should be ours! There's no backing up or 2nd chances. Eternity is a long time to be wrong! **Hebrews 7:25** "Wherefore he is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by him, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them." **1 Peter 3:18a** "For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God." Would you ask Him to bring you to God today? He (JESUS) will not turn you away! CHRIST promised: **Matthew 11:28** "Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Also: **John 6:37** "All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." Rethink your priorities! It is better to die for something than live for nothing.

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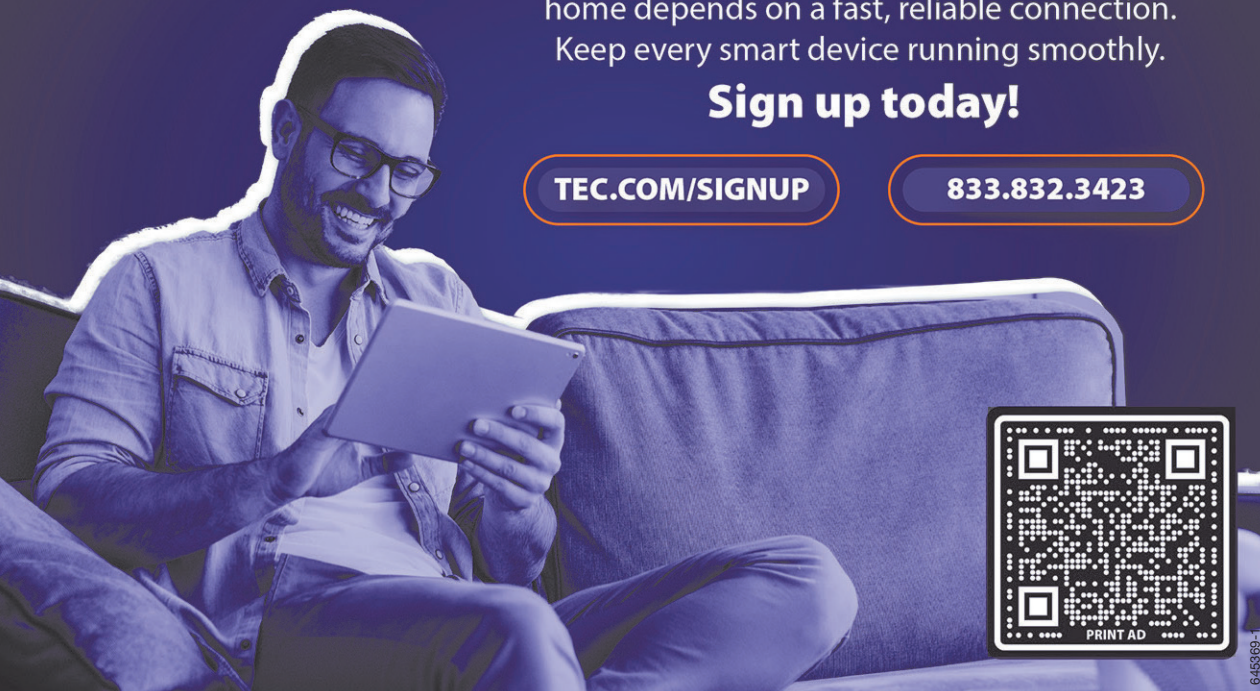
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Moments in Time

• On May 12, 1896, New York City passed America's first anti-spitting law in an effort to combat tuberculosis, imposing fines and even jail time on unruly protesters who demonstrated their discontent by expectorating on anti-spitting signs. By 1910, more than 2,500 arrests had been made.

• On May 13, 1846, in response to a request by President James Polk, the U.S. Congress declared war on Mexico. The conflict, which ended two years later with the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, eventually cost the lives of 11,300 American soldiers and resulted in the annexation of lands that became parts of Oklahoma,

New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, California, Utah and Colorado.

• On May 14, 1998, legendary crooner, actor and show business icon Frank Sinatra died of a heart attack in Los Angeles at the age of 82. A heartthrob who married four times and divorced three, Sinatra's career spanned more than five decades, including a notable comeback in the 1950s.

• On May 15, 1948, 3-year-old June Devaney of Blackburn, England, was abducted from the hospital where she was recuperating from pneumonia. After her body was found two hours later, the detective inspector assigned to the case ordered the fingerprinting of the more than 40,000 men residing in Blackburn, which took nearly three

months but eventually led to the killer, who was convicted and executed later that year.

• On May 16, 1975, Junko Tabei of Japan became the first woman to summit Mount Everest. She later gained further fame as the first woman to scale all Seven Summits, the tallest mountains on each continent.

• On May 17, 2000, the final episode of "Beverly Hills, 90210" aired after 10 seasons.

• On May 18, 2012, Facebook held its initial public offering (IPO) and raised \$16 billion. It was the largest technology IPO in American history at the time and third-largest IPO in the United States, after those of Visa and General Motors. When it went public, the social network was valued at \$104 billion and boasted some 900 million registered users around the world.

• On May 19, 1536, Anne Boleyn, the unfortunate second wife of England's King Henry VIII, was beheaded at the Tower of London on charges including adultery, incest and conspiracy against the king, after just three years of marriage.

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by Cathy Turner

Reasons to Stay

Truly this column's central focus has been the family. It is my hope that through these 20+ years that I have accomplished my original thought for writing - "I just want families to know that happiness can exist regardless of financial status, race, or any other societal measure out there." To my husband, I simply want to say, "Thank you for loving me in such a way, that I had truly marvelous experiences to share with everyone." Find him like you want him and love him in the way to keep

him. Here's a column from 7/11/2007:

REASONS TO STAY:

1. Because you committed to this relationship. Commitment preceded marriage. The vow was a promise, a commitment to bind to this relationship. Were you lying? Commitment fosters depth - depth of character, depth of connection and depth of intimacy. Commitment means holding on, fessing up and digging in. Commitment puts needs on a table where

truth is acceptable. It keeps no secrets. It allows time for repentance and change. Commitment takes a deep breath.

2. Because you have a love history. You've been through it. Sometimes it has been rough. But this started as love. Kids in love. Tingle touches. All night conversations. The wedding gown. Setting up house. Making babies. Planning. Sharing the excitement and fear of career choices. Being a family. Being one. Tearing this love history will take a primal rip.

3. Because you will still be you. Whatever relationship errors you have made, you will make them again. Until you truly examine yourself, you will be taking the same you into the next relationship. The same habit of not listening, or of being demanding, or of not satisfying your spouse's needs or being like your father - or whatever it is that you do that alienates him/her from you - until you identify and improve on these issues, future relationships will have the same malady. So why not work on you and see if it will help this relationship. If your spouse will do the same it will be that much better. If, perchance, the problem is that you have unfulfilled goals or desires, can you make them known, make a plan and pursue

change and growth while in this relationship?

4. Because the kids want you to stay together. I'm not saying stay together for the kids. I'm saying that (except for in abuse) I have never heard of a child praying for his parents to separate. Good or bad, kids love their parents and their home. Having one foot in two houses defies stability. Consider this, have you ever run into a divorced family where everyone - mom, dad, kids, step-moms, step-dads, grandmoms, granddads, step-grandmoms and step-granddads - were all happy and thriving with little or no regrets or conflicts? Unstable. A reason to stay is that the first family is the best place to maintain stability. Stability comes in keeping the original family unit fulfilled. This takes work, communication, honesty and commitment.

I know that some of you are thinking that I should get with the program. The world is not made like that any more. I know, but I have just heard so many people lately hurting from divorce situations. If just one couple would consider putting in the effort, then I know that one reason to stay would be that tomorrow can be better than today.

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How Much Advil (Ibuprofen) Is Too Much?

Dear Savvy Senior,
I take Advil pretty regularly for arthritis pain and headaches, but how can I tell if I'm taking more than is safe?
Achy Alan

Dear Alan,
Ibuprofen – better known by one of its brand names, Advil – is one of the most popular medications on the market today for treating all different types of pain, headaches, fevers and cramps. Given the drug's broad pain-reducing effects, safety record and availability over the counter (OTC), it's no surprise that some people pop the little brownish-red tablets whenever they feel the slightest twinge of discomfort. But ibuprofen, which is also sold under brand names like Motrin and Nuprin, can pose certain health risks, especially for those with kidney or stomach issues. Here's what you should know.

What's Safe?
For most adults and children ages 12 years and older, the recommended OTC dose of ibuprofen is one (or two, if needed) 200-milligram tablets, caplets or gel caplets every four to six hours while symptoms persist. You shouldn't take more than 1,200 mg (or six pills) in a 24-hour period.

If you haven't consulted a doctor about how much is safe, or if you aren't certain about your risk factors, it's best not to exceed the recommended limit of 1,200 milligrams a day.

If you have chronic pain, or were recently injured or had surgery, your doctor may prescribe ibuprofen for you at a higher dose. Prescription tablets are usually stronger compared to the OTC dose, such as 600 mg and 800 mg. The maximum daily dose for prescription-strength ibuprofen is 3,200 mg in a 24-hour period. But it's important only to take what your provider has prescribed for you.

Also be aware that ibuprofen is sometimes added to certain cold and flu medications, so always read the ingredient list on medications before using them.

Be Cautious!
Ibuprofen belongs to a class of drugs known as nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, or NSAIDs, which reduce pain and inflammation by blocking the activity of certain enzymes.

But these enzymes also help maintain kidney and liver function and regulate the balance of fluids and electrolytes in your body. So, taking ibuprofen can be dangerous for patients with kidney disease or failure; those with liver damage or cirrhosis; and people with conditions that put strain on their kidneys, like high blood pressure or heart failure. Those at high risk for these conditions – as well as for stomach ulcers, heart attacks, strokes or bleeding problems – should talk with their doctors before taking ibuprofen.

People who take medications such as diuretics, anticoagulants, ACE inhibitors or ARBs (angiotensin receptor blockers) to manage cardiovascular issues should also be careful, because ibuprofen stresses the kidneys and the heart.

To reduce these health risks, don't take the maximum recommended dose for more than a week or two at a time. If you are needing it for more than two weeks, or if you're turning to ibuprofen every day to keep your aches and pains in check, you need to see your doctor.

When taken for long periods, ibuprofen can also increase the risk of stomach ulcers. The drug inhibits enzymes that, among other things, aid in the production of mucus that lines and protects the stomach lining, so without these enzymes, the stomach becomes vulnerable to irritation and damage.

Some alternatives to ibuprofen you should talk to your doctor about include acetaminophen (Tylenol), topical NSAIDs (diclofenac gel) that is not absorbed into the blood to the same extent as oral NSAIDs, nonacetylated salicylates, curcumin (an active ingredient in turmeric) and acupuncture.

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



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Guest Commentary... Mike Gonzalez

Published in The Daily Signal, May 3, 2025

Understanding Fanaticism... Continued from Page 12

whispering to each other. One person in the seat in front finally turned and enlightened a friend and me: "The electricity is down. We're cut off from the world."

We then realized that, yes, sirens had been wailing outside, and it had been a while since we'd gotten emails or texts. A generator in the hotel kept our conference going, but nothing else worked; everyone had to take the

stairs and use bathrooms in the dark—though water, too, stopped working.

It wasn't quite dystopic, but our modern dependence on electricity and its creature comforts suddenly was brought home to us.

Many speculated that it was a cyberattack from Russia or China. Who else had the power to do this? Center-right politicians from across Europe were about to descend on Valencia the next day.

Surely, an invitation for bad actors to do their thing.

Well, not so fast. Neither Russia's Vladimir Putin nor China's Xi Jinping is above carrying out this type of attack, and cybersecurity is a serious matter. But, to quote Vice President JD Vance at a February conference in Munich, Germany, the threat to worry about the most in Europe "is not Russia, it's not China, it's not any other external actor."

"What I worry about," went on Vance, "is the threat from within, the retreat of Europe from some of its fundamental values."

Vance mentioned Europe's need "to enjoy affordable energy," and the fact that, as he put it, "free speech, I fear, is in retreat." European officials are still fuming about how "rude" that young Vance was, but it looks like he was on the money.

It is increasingly

clear that what caused the blackout was not a cyberattack. Reuters News agency reported that Spain's grid operator Red Electrica on Tuesday ruled out external sabotage, and said instead that it had identified two "incidents of power generation loss, probably from solar plants," in southwestern Spain.

That loss, said the Reuters report, "caused instability in the electric system and led to a breakdown of its connection with France. The electrical system collapsed, affecting both the Spanish and Portuguese systems."

"There was not enough inertia, or redundancy, in the system to keep it going," my colleague Diana Furchott-Roth emailed from Washington when I was able to receive communications from the outside world. "The last coal-fired plant was closed on April 12."

Diana has been warning about this type of thing for decades, and Spain's socialist prime minister Pedro Sanchez is a poster boy for the things she has warned against. His government has not only closed coal-fired plants, but has been busily destroying nuclear plants as well.

"Net zero," or zero CO2 emissions, is the name of this new mad delusion, and Spain's infantile leftists have been posting on social media gleeful workers destroying nuclear power plants. The goal has been 100% "renewable" generation.

Well, they happened to have gotten very close to their holy grail on Monday at 12:30. The Iberian Peninsula's power grid was getting a disproportionate amount of energy from the renewables loved by the Left: 80% from solar photovoltaic, solar thermal, and wind. Nuclear was at a measly 11%.

In a mere five minutes, solar photovoltaic generation plunged by 50%, from 18 gigawatts to eight, according to Reuters. Iberia and adjacent parts of France, including the tiny Pyrenean principality of Andorra, all of which depended on this grid, then descended into darkness at 12:35, from which it was not to recover till late at night.

The hapless Sanchez was still arguing late Tuesday that just because Red Electrica was discounting a cyberattack, it did not mean that one hadn't happened.

Governments finding themselves in a corner will lie, or at least equivocate, and it's the job of the opposition to keep asking for answers. "An energy policy that prioritizes the fight against climate change above the security of supply has provoked this general blackout," said an analysis on the site of the think tank Disenso, which is linked to the opposition Vox Party (full disclosure, I sit on Disenso's foreign advisory board).

However, it is also the job of the media. Yet Spain's state television stations, and even private ones, were still keeping the truth about the failure of the Left's renewable dream from getting any airtime as late

as Wednesday morning, when I left for the airport. That was left to radio and to some newspapers on the right.

An honest media would not just be informing voters about how a blackout occurred that left at least five dead and stopped a modern economy in its tracks. It would also be debating whether such a modern society really does want to stop using comfort creatures and working toilets, all in the name of fighting climate change.

Mike Gonzalez is the Angeles T. Arredondo E Pluribus Unum Senior Fellow in the Davis Institute for National Security and Foreign Policy at The Heritage Foundation.

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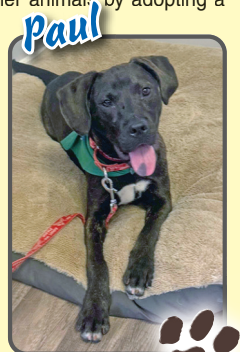
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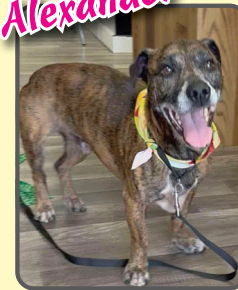
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Meet Alexander!

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Base Ball...

Continued from Page 12

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Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

GREENHILL WATER & FIRE PROTECTION AUTHORITY

January - December 2024

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Greenhill's water sources are two groundwater wells which draw from the Tuscombia/Fort Payne Aquifer and purchased water from Florence Water & Sewer Department (50%). Florence water is supplied by surface water from the Tennessee River and the Cypress Creek. In addition, Florence Water Department pumps ground water from two wells in the Killen and Center Star areas in Lauderdale County, which is blended with the treated surface water sources. In the water provided to our customers (**from Greenhill**), **Chlorine is added** for disinfection purposes, **Caustic Soda** is added to raise pH levels of the water that will prevent it from being corrosive and Aqua Gold to produce a desirable water quality by raising the pH level to reduce corrosion and acidic conditions. In the water provided to our customers (**from Florence**), **Chlorine** is added for disinfection purposes, **Fluoride** for the prevention of tooth decay, **lime** to produce a desirable water quality by raising the pH level to reduce corrosion and acidic conditions, **Potassium Permanganate** to oxidize iron, and aid in taste and odor control, **Poly Aluminum Chloride** for turbidity removal and **Alum** for coagulation. Also **Florence** has added a new treatment process called the **MIEX** system as a simple solution for meeting U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) disinfection by-product (DBP) removal by employing a continuous ion exchange process. The Process removes dissolved organic carbon (DOC) allowing for improved drinking water quality and regulatory compliance. Greenhill Water & FPA and Florence Water & Sewer Department have implemented a **Source Water Protection Plans**. These plans provide more information such as potential sources of contaminations, which may affect our water source. These plans are in the office of Greenhill Water & FPA, and in the office of Florence Water & Sewer Department. **Wellhead Protection Plan** Greenhill Water & FPA has a wellhead protection plan located in the office.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Greg Thompson, Manager/Operator, (256) 757-2863. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend our regularly scheduled meetings held on the second Monday of each month at 1 PM at the water board office on County Road 8.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Greenhill Water & Fire Protection Authority and Florence Water & Sewer Department routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2024. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

PLAIN LANGUAGE DEFINITION

- **Not Required (NR)** – Laboratory analysis not required due to waiver granted by the Environmental Protection Agency for the State of Alabama.
- **Parts per million (ppm)** or **Milligrams per liter (mg/l)** - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- **Parts per billion (ppb)** or **Micrograms per liter** - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- **Parts per trillion (ppt)** or **Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l)** - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.
- **Parts per quadrillion (ppq)** or **Picograms per liter (picograms/l)** - one part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.
- **Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)** - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.
- **Millirems per year (mrem/yr)** - measure of radiation absorbed by the body.
- **Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)** - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.
- **Variances & Exemptions (V&E)** - State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
- **Action Level** – (AL) the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **Treatment Technique (TT)** - (mandatory language) A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level** - (mandatory language) The "Maximum Allowed" (**MCL**) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal** - (mandatory language) The "Goal"(**MCLG**) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal or MRDLG** - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level or MRDL** - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water run-off, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, storm water run-off, and residential uses.
- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water run-off, and septic systems.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Cryptosporidium - Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although filtration removes Cryptosporidium, the most commonly-used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Ingestion of Cryptosporidium may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immune-compromised individuals, infants and small children, and the elderly are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immune-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water. We currently monitor for Cryptosporidium and have had none detected

Radon is a naturally occurring gas present in some groundwater. Inhaled radon has been linked to lung cancer and may pose a health risk when inhaled after the release from water into the air. This inhalation could occur during showering, bathing, washing dishes, or washing clothes. The radon gas release from drinking water is a relatively small part of the total radon found in air. One major source of radon gas is from the soil, where the gas can seep through the foundations of homes. It is not clear whether ingested (i.e. taken through the mouth) radon contributes to cancer or other adverse health conditions. If you are concerned about radon in your home, tests are available to determine the total exposure level. For additional information on home testing contact (insert name of local health department). Note 300 pCi/l proposed MCL.

Secondary Drinking Water Standards are guidelines regulating contaminants that may cause cosmetic effects (such as skin or tooth discoloration) or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor, or color) in drinking water. ADEM has Secondary Drinking Water Standards established in state regulations applicable to water systems required to monitor for the various components.

GENERAL INFORMATION - The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA (Environmental Protection Agency)/CDC (Center of Disease Control) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. **More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).**

Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, a person would have to drink two liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Lead in Drinking Water: "If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney, or nervous system problems.

Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Greenhill Water and Fire Pro Authority Water and Sewer Board is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>."

Lead Service Line Inventory: Our Lead Service Line Inventory was completed and submitted by the deadline of October 16, 2024, and a copy of it is in our office as required by EPA. If any would like to review it or have any questions, please feel free to contact our office.

Upon completing the lead service line inventory, Greenhill Water and Fire Pro Authority is pleased to report, that they had 0 – Lead Service Lines, 0 – Galvanize Required Replacement Service Lines, 0 – Unknown, and 3254 Non- Lead Service Lines.

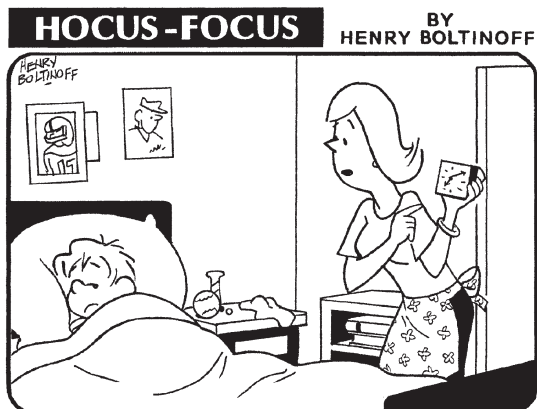
Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

Based on a study conducted by the ADEM with the approval of the EPA, a statewide waiver for the monitoring of Asbestos and Dioxin was issued. Thus, monitoring for these contaminants was not required.

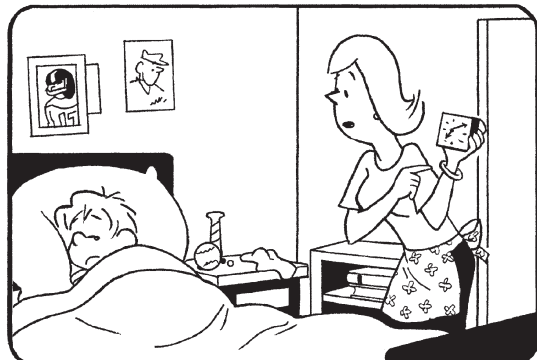
We at the Greenhill Water & Fire Protection Authority work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources which are the heart of our community, way of life and our children's future.

Table of Primary Contaminants					
At high levels some primary contaminants are known to pose a health risks to humans. This table provides a quick glance of any primary contaminant detections.					
CONTAMINANT	MCL	AMOUNT DETECTED	CONTAMINANT	MCL	AMOUNT DETECTED
Bacteriological					
Total Coliform Bacteria (Florence)	< 5%	1.5%	2,4-D	70	ND
Total Coliform Bacteria (Greenhill)	< 5%	0.93%	Dibromochloropropane(ppt)	200	ND
Turbidity (Florence)	TT	0.20	0-Dichlorobenzene(ppb)	600	ND
Fecal Coliform & E. coli	0	ND	p-Dichlorobenzene(ppb)	75	ND
Fecal Indicators (enterococci or coliform)	TT	ND			
Radioactive					
Beta photon emitters (mrem/yr)	4	ND	1,2-Dichloroethane(ppb)	5	ND
Alpha emitters (pCi/l)	15	ND	1,1-Dichloroethylene(ppb)	7	ND
Combined radium (pCi/l)	5	ND	Cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene(ppb)	70	ND
Uranium (pCi/l)	30	ND	trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene(ppb)	100	ND
Inorganic					
Antimony (ppb)	6	ND	1,2-Dichloropropane(ppb)	5	ND
Arsenic (ppb)	10	ND	Di-(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate(ppb)	400	ND
Asbestos (MFL)	7	ND	D4-(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate(ppb)	6	0.04
Barium (ppm)	2	0.02	Diallate(ppb)	7	ND
Beryllium (ppb)	4	ND	Dibromochloropropane(ppb)	30	ND
Bromate(ppb)	10	ND	Diquat(ppb)	20	ND
Cadmium (ppb)	5	ND	Endothall(ppb)	100	ND
Chloramines(ppm)	4	ND	Endrin(ppb)	2	ND
Chlorine(ppm) (Florence)	4	2.01	Epichlorohydrin	TT	ND
Chlorine(ppm) (Greenhill)	4	1.4	Ethylbenzene(ppb)	700	ND
Chlorine dioxide(ppb)	1	800	Ethylene dibromide(ppb)	50	ND
Chlorite(ppm)	1	0.62	Glyphosate(ppb)	700	ND
Chromium (ppb)	100	0.68	Halooxetic Acids(ppb) Greenhill	60	19.13
Copper (ppm) Greenhill	AL=1.3	0.129	Hepachlor(ppb)	400	ND
Cyanide (ppb)	200	ND	Hepachlor epoxide(ppb)	200	ND
Fluoride (ppm) Florence	4	0.68	Hexachlorobenzene(ppb)	1	ND
Fluoride (ppm) Greenhill	4	0.02	Hexachlorocyclopentadiene(ppm)	50	ND
Lead (ppb)	AL=15	0.00148	Lindane(ppb)	200	ND
Mercury (ppb)	2	ND	Methoxychlor(ppb)	40	ND
Nickel (ppb)	0.10	0.002	Ocamyl (Vydete)(ppb)	200	ND
Nitrate (ppm) Florence	10	0.49	Pentachlorophenol(ppb)	1	ND
Nitrate (ppm) Greenhill	10	2.65	Picloram(ppb)	500	ND
Nitrite (ppm)	1	ND	PCB(ppb)	500	ND
Total Nitrate & Nitrite	10	2.65	Simazine(ppb)	4	ND
Selenium(ppb)	50	ND	Styrene(ppb)	100	ND
Thallium(ppb)	2	ND	Tetrachloroethylene(ppb)	5	ND
Organic Chemicals					
Acrylamide	TT	ND	Toluene(ppm)	1	ND
Alachlor(ppb)	2	ND	2,4,5-TP (Silvex)(ppb)	50	ND
Atrazine(ppb)	3	ND	2,4-D-Trichlorobenzene(ppb)	70	ND
Benazof(ppb)	5	ND	1,1,1-Trichloroethane(ppb)	200	ND
Benzo(a)pyrene(PHAs)(ppt)	200	ND	1,1,2-Trichloroethane(ppb)	5	ND
Carbofuran(ppb)	40	ND	Trichloroethylene(ppb)	5	ND
Carbon Tetrachloride(ppb)	5	ND	Vinyl Chloride(ppb)	2	ND
Chlordane(ppb)	2	ND	Xylenes(ppm)	10	ND
Chlorobenzene(ppb)	100	ND			

Table of Detected Drinking Water Contaminants									
CONTAMINANT	MCLG	MCL	Range			Amount Detected		Likely Source of Contamination	
Bacteriological Contaminants January - December 2024									
Total Coliform Bacteria (Florence)	0	< 5%				1.15%	Present or Absent	Naturally present in the environment	
Turbidity (Florence)	0	TT				0.20	NTU	Soil runoff	
Inorganic Contaminants January - December 2024									
Chlorine (Florence)	MRDLG 4	MRDL 4	1.7	-	2.4	2.01	ppm	Water additive used to control microbes	
Chlorine (Greenhill)	MRDLG 4	MRDL 4	1.0	-	1.7	1.4	ppm	Water additive used to control microbes	
Chromium	100	100	0.35	-	0.35	0.35	ppb	Discharge from steel and pulp mills erosion of natural deposits	
Copper (Greenhill)	1.3	AL=1.3	No. of Sites above action level 0			0.129	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives	
Lead(Greenhill)	0	AL=15	No. of Sites above action level 0			0.00148	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits;	
Fluoride (Florence)	4	4	0.68	-	0.68	0.68	ppm	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	
Fluoride (Greenhill)	4	4	0.02	-	0.02	0.02	ppm	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	
Nickel	0.10	0.10	0.002	-	0.002	0.002	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland	
Nitrate (as N) Florence	10	10	0.31	-	0.67	0.49	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	
Nitrate (as N) Greenhill	10	10	2.66	-	2.67	2.65	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	
Organic Contaminants January - December 2024									
Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalates (Greenhill)	0	6	0.02	-	0.04	0.04	ppb	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories	
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) Greenhill	N/A	60	11.0	-	34.0	19.13	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination	
Total Organic Carbon (TOC) Florence	N/A	TT	0.5	-	0.8	0.65	TT	Naturally present in the environment	
Total trihalomethanes (TTHM) Greenhill	0	80	18.0	-	48.0	30.75	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination	
Secondary Contaminants January - December 2024									
Chloride (Florence)	N/A	250	16.65	-	16.65	16.65	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of agricultural runoff	
Chloride (Greenhill)	N/A	250	4.42	-	4.42	4.42	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of agricultural runoff	
Copper	N/A	1	0.093	-	0.093	0.093	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from pipes	
Sulfate (Florence)	N/A	250	ND	-	8.8	4.4	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment	
Sulfate (Greenhill)	N/A	250	0.39	-	0.39	0.39	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment	
Total Dissolved Solids (Florence)	N/A	500	86.0	-	156.0	121.0	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits	
Total Dissolved Solids (Greenhill)	N/A	500	92	-	92	92	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits	
Zinc	N/A	5	12.2	-	12.2	12.2	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits	
Special Contaminants January - December 2024									
Calcium (Florence)	N/A	N/A	19.5	-	27.5	23.35	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits	
Calcium (Greenhill)	N/A	N/A	8.23	-	8.23	8.23	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits	
Carbon Dioxide (Florence)	N/A	N/A	ND	-	ND	ND	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits	
Carbon Dioxide (Greenhill)	N/A	N/A	1.30	-	1.30	1.30	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits	
Magnesium (Florence)	N/A	N/A	1.50	-	3.90	2.70	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits	
Magnesium (Greenhill)	N/A	N/A	2.12	-	2.12	2.12	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits	
pH (Florence)	N/A	N/A	6.62	-	8.01	7.81	SU	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of treatment with water additives	
pH (Greenhill)	N/A	N/A	7.6	-	8.0	7.8	SU	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of treatment with water additives	
Sodium (Florence)	N/A	N/A	ND	-	11.6	5.80	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment	
Sodium (Greenhill)	N/A	N/A	25.5	-	25.5	25.5	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment	
Specific Conductance (Greenhill)	N/A	<500	182.00	-	182.00	182.00	umhos	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of treatment with water additives	
Specific Conductance (Florence)	N/A	<501	124.0	-	248.0	186.0	umhos	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of treatment with water additives	
Sulfate (Florence)	N/A	N/A	ND	-	8.80	4.40	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment	
Sulfate (Greenhill)	N/A	N/A	0.21	-	0.21	0.21	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment	
Total Alkalinity (Florence)	N/A	N/A	31.0	-	69.0	57.08	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits	
Total Alkalinity (Greenhill)	N/A	N/A	74.7	-	74.7	74.7	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits	
Total Hardness (as CaCO3) (Florence)	N/A	N/A	54.7	-	84.0	69.35	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of treatment with water additives	
Total Hardness (as CaCO3) (Greenhill)	N/A	N/A	29.3	-	29.3	29.3	ppm	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of treatment with water additives	
Unregulated Contaminants January - December 2024									
Bromodichloromethane (Greenhill)	N/A	N/A	2.1	-	10.0	5.80	ppb	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of industrial discharge or agricultural runoff; by-product of chlorination	
Chloroform (Greenhill)	N/A	N/A	10.0	-	39.0	20.5	ppb	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of industrial discharge or agricultural runoff; by-product of chlorination	
Dibromochloromethane (Greenhill)	N/A	N/A	2.10	-	5.90	3.34	ppb	Naturally occurring in the environment	
Metolachlor (Greenhill)	N/A	N/A	0.07	-	0.07	0.07	ppm	Runoff/leaching from herbicide use	
Per-polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) (Greenhill)	N/A	N/A	ND	-	ND	ND	ppb	A man-made substance that repels both water and oil.	
Per-polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) (Florence)	N/A	N/A	ND Cypress Creek	-	0.038 Wilson Lake	0.038	ppb	A man-made substance that repels both water and oil.	



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Apron is shorter. 2. Bat is longer. 3. Bookcase is wider. 4. Picture is different. 5. Hand is moved. 6. Bracelet is moved.

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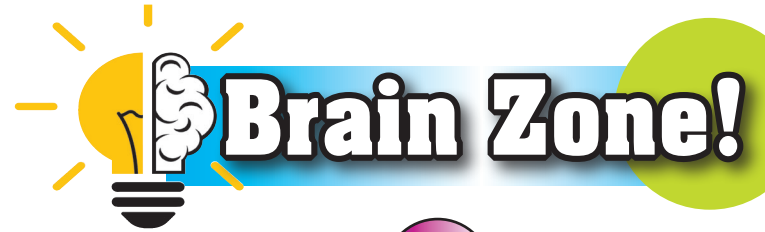


Answers on Page 29

Even Exchange by Donna Pettman

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

- | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------|------------------|-----------|
| 1. Combat | ___ A ___ | Baby feeder | ___ O ___ |
| 2. Defeated one | ___ S ___ | Hermit | ___ N ___ |
| 3. Household task | ___ R ___ | Selected | ___ S ___ |
| 4. Concierge | ___ R ___ | Wanted sign | ___ S ___ |
| 5. Movement | M ___ | Idea | N ___ |
| 6. Smallest amount | ___ T ___ | Fido's rope | ___ H ___ |
| 7. Bates of "Psycho" | ___ N ___ | Customary | ___ L ___ |
| 8. Persuade | ___ J ___ | Tapestry creator | ___ R ___ |
| 9. Acquire knowledge | L ___ | Ache for | Y ___ |
| 10. Rupture | ___ S ___ | Charred | ___ N ___ |



MINI SUDOKU

	6			1	
		4			
					3
			6	4	
6	1		5		
5	4				

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 6-box square contains all of the numbers from one to six.

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SCRAMBLERS

Unscramble the letters within each rectangle to form four ordinary words. Then rearrange the boxed letters to form the mystery word, which will complete the gag!

- Echo
PARTEE
Usual
OUTERIN
Walk
EPISTAR
Zero
THUGA

TODAY'S WORD

Micro Crossword

By Elizabeth C. Gorski

Across

- 1 Mold
6 "Black ___"
(2021 Scarlett Johansson flick)
7 Previous to, in poetry
8 "Holy cow!"
9 Atlantic crossers, once

1	2	3	4	5
6				
7				
8				
9				

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Down

- 1 Moves to the music
2 Classic LP players
3 Expand a family, say
4 A steam facial opens them
5 Barnyard bleaters



What do you get when you cross a ball and a cat?
A fur ball.

What's a cat's favorite magazine? A cat-alogue.

What cat likes living in water? An octo-puss.



1. TELEVISION: Who had a 1980s workout video series called "Sweatin' to the Oldies"?

1. ANATOMY: What is heterochromia?

3. GEOGRAPHY: What is a chain of islands called?

4. FOOD & DRINK: What is Canada's national dish?

5. HISTORY: When was Facebook launched?

6. MEASUREMENTS: What is the shortest wavelength in the visible light spectrum?

7. U.S. STATES: Which state has the most miles of interstate highway?

8. MOVIES: What type of fish is Nemo in the animated film "Finding Nemo"?

9. GENERAL KNOWLEDGE: Which month is designated as National Ice Cream Month in the United States?

10. SCIENCE: How long does it take for the International Space Station to orbit the Earth?



1. Who wrote and released "What in the World's Come Over You"?
2. Did Rare Earth ever have a U.S. chart-topper hit?
3. Which artist wrote and released "Ashes to Ashes"?
4. What was the title of Neneh Cherry's first album?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "Do my dreaming and my scheming, lie awake and pray, Do my crying and my sighing, laugh at yesterday."

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Florence Historian

Billy Warren

FLORENCE
Then & Now

Maud Lindsay's Free Kindergarten

Located on Enterprise Street in east Florence between Huntsville Road and Veterans Drive is the building that, from 1898 to 1941, housed the Maud Lindsay Free Kindergarten – the first free kindergarten in the entire State of Alabama. Born in Tuscumbia and later living in Sheffield, Miss Lindsay was the daughter of Robert Burns Lindsay, the only foreign-born Governor of Alabama (he emigrated from Scotland). In the late 1890's, a group of leaders in Florence (Miss Loulie Jones, Mrs. John R. Price, Mr. Frank Johnson and Mr. Thomas J. Phillips) recognized the need for a kindergarten to allow children of textile mill workers to profit from a pre-school experience. They formed a Board and raised funds to purchase the building that still stands today and to pay a small salary to a teacher. Little did they know that they had found a local person who would become known nationally and internationally for the children's books she authored (and used in her own classroom) and for her innovative teaching style that would even catch the eye of the famous Maria Montessori who would later invite Miss Maud to her own classroom in Italy. So, from 1898 to her death in 1941, this great lady traveled from her home in Sheffield across what is known today as the Old Railroad Bridge to the small building on Enterprise Street where she started generations of children on the road to fulfilling lives.



--Billy Warren, City Historian
(brwarren@florencel.org)

FIND THE TWINS

WHICH TWO ARE EXACTLY ALIKE?

10
9
7 8
6
5
3 4
2
1
1

10
9
7 8
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4 5
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8 9
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5 6
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1
6

CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: J equals C

HNFC DOA JSDDMAKSF
JVNNFAI SH OA EWD INYF VPJO
HNPM DN CVNY OPH ESHDWVA:
"MNSK NF DOA VSFCA."

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Answers
on Page 29

BIBLE
TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Haggai (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Where does Jesus speak of separating the sheep from the goats? *Matthew; Mark, Luke, John*
3. Who told Saul that rebellion was as bad as witchcraft? *Moloch, Mamath, Marduk, Samuel*
4. From Proverbs 18, "Whoso findeth a wife findeth ..." *Himself, Life, Good thing, Family*
5. How old was Moses when he died? *100, 120, 160, 190*
6. How many sons did Judah have? *3, 5, 6, 12*



by Ryan A. Berenz

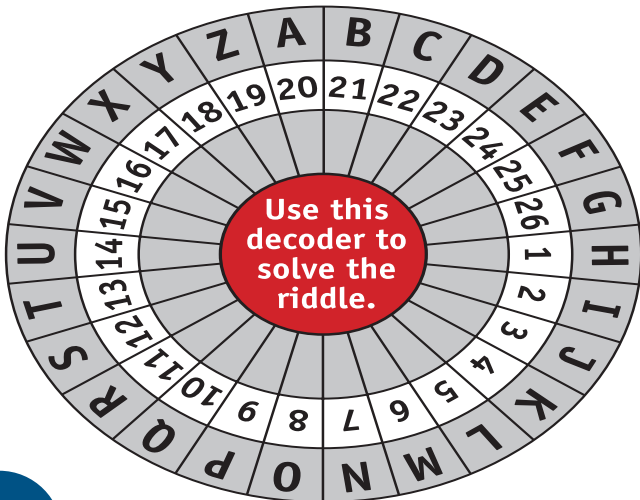
1. The NFL's 1977 rule stating "any shoe that is worn by a player with an artificial limb on his kicking leg must have a kicking surface that conforms to that of a normal kicking shoe" was informally named after what place-kicker?
2. What Chicago White Sox outfielder was accidentally doused with a cup of spilt beer while watching a Los Angeles Dodgers home run ball sail over his head in Game 2 of the 1959 World Series?
3. What Pro Football Hall of Fame linebacker, nicknamed "Dr. Doom," played his entire NFL career with the Houston Oilers from 1975-84?
4. What team selected the Duke Blue Devils' Cherokee Parks in the first round of the 1995 NBA Draft?
5. What American swimmer won a gold medal at the 1932 Los Angeles Olympics and went on to play Tarzan, Flash Gordon and Buck Rogers roles in 1930s serial films?
6. If you're in Germany and attending a game between the Iserlohn Roosters and the Schwenninger Wild Wings, what sport are you watching?
7. Name the 1986 NCAA regulation that set minimum high school academic requirements for students to be eligible to compete in college athletics.

Brain Zone!

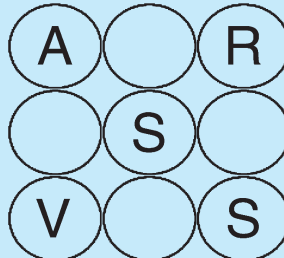
SECRET
CODE

What two things can't
you have for lunch?

21 11 24 20 4 25 20 12 13 & 23 2 7 7 24 11



WORD SPIRAL



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

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GO FIGURE!

The idea of Go Figure is to arrive at the figures given at the bottom and right-hand columns of the diagram by following the arithmetic signs in the order they are given (that is, from left to right and top to bottom). Use only the numbers below the diagram to complete its blank squares and use each of the nine numbers only once.

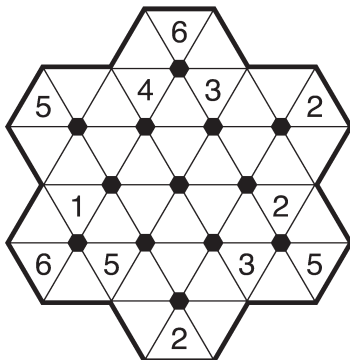
	-		×		= 16			
-		+		-				
	+		÷	4	= 2			
×		÷		×				
	-		+		= 13			
=		=		=				
24		5		36				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

There are 13 black hexagons in the puzzle. Place the numbers 1 - 6 around each of them. No number can be repeated in any partial hexagon shape along the border of the puzzle.

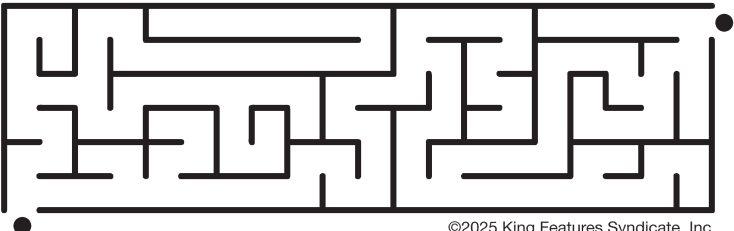


DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Easy ♦♦ Medium ♦♦♦ Difficult

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Kids' Maze



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Letters...

For Just Doing Their Jobs...

Continued from Page 12

unfathomable of situations. These men and women do this while navigating the ever-growing complexities of the job.

I won't mince words here: police officers have continuously been beat down and vilified by the media for simply doing their jobs. Bad actors have worked tirelessly to politicize a profession that quite frankly has no room whatsoever for it.

This situation has cast a ripple effect across every law enforcement agency in America, and this isn't my opinion, it's simply what the statistics are telling us.

A nationwide survey of over 7,900 police officers revealed that 86% believe high-profile incidents involving law enforcement have made their jobs more challenging.

Approximately 72% reported being less willing to stop and question suspicious individuals, and about 75% were more hesitant to use force when necessary.

Another survey of 276 municipal police chiefs noted that the current risks associated with proactive

policing discourage officers from acting.

This reluctance is the product of law enforcement not feeling they are supported, and it's having dangerous consequences for our communities.

It's leading to increased crime rates, erosion of public trust, and struggles with recruitment and retention of law enforcement officers. That's why I'm supporting House Bill 202, the Back the Blue Protection Act.

We must fight to get it across the finish line as we approach the end of the legislative session. Our officers deserve to know that Alabama has got their backs.

This bill has a clear and simple goal: to give officers the confidence to protect our communities without fear of being dragged into court over baseless claims.

It states that officers can't be sued in civil court unless they've done something clearly reckless or violated someone's well-established rights. That's what qualified immunity means.

It also provides criminal immunity—as long as the officer's actions don't cross the line into unconstitutional use of force.

But make no mistake, this isn't a free pass. Officers would still go before a judge, who will decide whether there's enough evidence for a case to move forward.

What this bill does is raise the bar for when a lawsuit can be brought—not eliminate accountability. If an officer acts outside their authority, they will still be held responsible, just like anyone else. However, we shouldn't let a good officer be sidelined for months—or even years—defending themselves against a claim that doesn't hold water.

What critics are claiming, however, is that this bill would place law enforcement officers "above the law," which is absolutely false.

In today's day and age, nearly every interaction the police have is recorded—whether it's a body cam or someone filming on their phone. There's accountability baked into the job now more than ever before.

Let me be clear: if an officer has acted outside the boundaries of his or her authority, they will still be held accountable to the full letter of the law.

All this bill does is provide them additional protections from baseless

claims made against them, as decided by a judge. This is by no means the "Get Out of Jail Free Card" many are claiming it to be.

It's a fair process for the people we count on to run toward danger when the rest are running away. It's disappointing that some, many of whom represent areas with the highest violent crime rates in the state, are working so hard against this bill.

I respect the opinions of anyone who has negative feelings about the bill, but I also want to let you know that I have attended over a dozen law enforcement officers funerals over the years in Alabama and seen the loss of family members in this profession.

Alabama has a chance to lead the nation on backing the blue. Alabama's law enforcement officers deserve nothing short of support, appreciation, and respect—especially from elected officials.

It's time we show them we've got their backs—because they have ours.

Bill Partridge

Chief of Police and
Director of Public Safety
Oxford, AL

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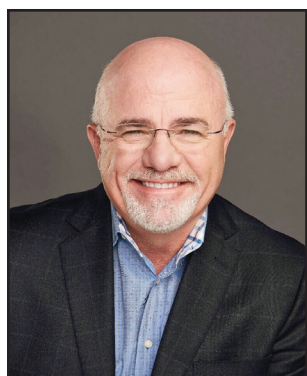
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DAVE Says

by DAVE RAMSEY

ALL OF YOUR BRAIN MEANS BOTH OF YOU

Dear Dave,
My husband and I live in India. I'm from the States, and he was born here. When it comes to our finances, I manage



our American investments, and he manages our Indian investments. Every month, we sit down with spreadsheets and go over our finances. I trust him completely, but I'd like to better

understand our investments here and how they work. Should I just defer to his judgment, or should I learn to understand things a little better?

Anna

Dear Anna,
I always tell folks to make sure they completely understand their investments and how they work. So, there's absolutely nothing wrong with learning more about the side of your investments he manages.

I learned a long time ago that when you're married and it comes to making decisions, you should use all of your brain. That means

both of you. Two heads are better than one, right? Back when I made all my mistakes with money and we went broke, I didn't listen to anyone about anything. I thought I knew it all. We had investments and owned pieces of property my wife never knew about or laid eyes on.

When it came to our finances, she always trusted me and told me to do what I thought was best. Well, it turns out, I was an idiot. If I'd had an ounce of sense or humility back then, I'd have gone to her with my all my bright ideas. Knowing her thoughts or hearing her say,

"I don't know about that, honey. I've got a bad feeling about it" might've saved us a lot of pain and heartache — if I'd listened. But now, I understand like never before the meaning of Proverbs 31:10-12. "Who can find a virtuous wife? For her worth is above rubies. The heart of her husband safely trusts her; so he will have no lack of gain" (NKJV).

I'm sure your husband is lot smarter about things than I was. And he's obviously open to talking with you about all this and showing you things. That's a really good sign. But if I were him, and something were

to happen, I'd want you to understand everything. I'd want you to know exactly what you have going on and how it all works.

Great question, Anna!
— 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.

2024 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

TUSCUMBIA UTILITIES

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is the Big Spring, which is located in the center of town. The Big Spring generates up to 50 million gallons per day of natural spring water that is further treated and purified with pre-treatment, flocculation, membrane technology and finally storage and delivery. The Tuscumbia Water Treatment Plant provides an average of 1.7 million gallons per day for the citizens of Tuscumbia as well as some areas outside the city limits. We also provide water to the Littleville Water Department, Colbert County Water Department and Spring Valley Water Department.

I'm pleased to report that our drinking water meets all federal and state requirements.

If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Board meetings. They are held on the second Monday of every month at the utilities building conference room at 202 East 6 th Street. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Jeff McDonald, General Manager, at (256-383-0321).

Tuscumbia Utilities has developed a source water protection plan to help determine the possible contamination sources in regard to the Big Spring. The Geological Survey of Alabama, in conjunction with ADEM and Tuscumbia Utilities has identified the recharge area of the Big Spring and has developed a report showing these possible contamination points. To date, we have identified over 500 possible contamination sites. Maps of the recharge area with these possible contamination sites are available in our lobby. Tuscumbia Utilities routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. These tables show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2024.

We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected.

- Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised Persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people With hiv/aids or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These People should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. Epa/cdc guidelines on appropriate means to Lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the safe drinking water hotline (800-426-4791).

- Tuscumbia began testing monthly for cryptosporidium and giardia in april 2024 with no detections to date.

- Tuscumbia began testing for unregulated contaminants (ucmr5) in June 2024.

- Tuscumbia tested for unregulated per- and polyfluoroalkyl contaminants in 2024 with the following results: pfoa 3.4 Ppt, Pfos 6.4 Ppt, pfbs 6.0 Ppt, gen-x <1.9 Ppt.

- If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children.

Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Tuscumbia utilities is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize your exposure is available from the safe drinking water hotline or at <http://www.Epa.Gov/safewater/lead>.

- All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the environmental protection agency's safe drinking water hotline (800-426-4791).

- The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled

water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and radioactive material, and it can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activities.

- Based on a study conducted by adem with the approval of the epa a statewide waiver for the monitoring of asbestos and dioxin was issued. Monitoring for these contaminants was not required.

- Tuscumbia utilities board incurred two total coliform positive samples in 2024. All six repeat total coliform samples were negative.

In these tables you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

- Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

- Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million

- Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion
- Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

TEST RESULTS						
CONTAMINANT	VIOLATION Y/N	LEVEL DETECTED	UNIT MEASUREMENT	MCLG	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Turbidity	N	.034	NTU	.3	.5	Soil runoff
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS						
Fluoride	N	.81	PPM	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	N	3.89	PPM	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Lead	N	1.78	PPB	0	15	Household Plumbing; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper	N	.133	PPM	0	1.3	Household Plumbing; Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	N	.0332	PPM	0	2	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of industrial discharge
Arsenic	N	.718	PPB	0	50	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of industrial discharge
Chromium	N	1.49	PPB	0	100	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of industrial discharge
Selenium	N	2.44	PPB	0	50	Naturally occurring in the environment or as a result of industrial discharge
ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS						
TTHM (Total trihalomethanes)	N	28.8	PPB	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5	N	22.4	PPB	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination

CONTAMINANT	MCL IN CCR UNITS	AMOUNT DETECTED	CONTAMINANT	MCL IN CCR UNITS	AMOUNT DETECTED	CONTAMINANT	MCL IN CCR UNITS	AMOUNT DETECTED
Bacteriological			Organic Chemicals			Organic Chemicals (Cont.)		
Total Coliform Bacteria	< 5%	ND	2,4-D	70 PPB	ND	Pentachlorophenol	1 PPB	ND
Turbidity	TT	See Detected Contaminants Table	2,4,5-TP (Silvex)	50 PPB	ND	Picloram	500 PPB	ND
Radiological			Acrylamide	TT	ND	Simazine	4 PPB	ND
Beta/photon emitters (mrem/yr)	4	ND	Alachlor	2 PPB	ND	Toxaphene	3 PPB	ND
Alpha emitters (pci/l)	15	ND	Atrazine	3 PPB	ND	Benzene	5 PPB	ND
Combined radium (pci/l)	5	ND	Benzo(a)pyrene[PH As]	200 NG/L	ND	Carbon Tetrachloride	5 PPB	ND
Inorganic			Carbofuran	40 PPB	ND	Chlorobenzene	100 PPB	ND
Antimony	6 PPB	ND	Chlordane	2 PPB	ND	0-Dichlorobenzene	600 PPB	ND
Arsenic	50 PPB	See Detected Contaminants Table	Dalapon	200 PPB	ND	p-Dichlorobenzene	75 PPB	ND
Asbestos (MFL)	7 MFL	ND	Di-(2-ethylhexyl)adipate	400 PPB	ND	1,2-Dichloroethane	5 PPB	ND
Barium	2 PPM	See Detected Contaminants Table	Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate	6 PPB	ND	1,1-Dichloroethylene	7 PPB	ND
Beryllium	4 PPB	ND	Dibromochloropropane	200 PPT	ND	Cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene	70 PPB	ND
Cadmium	5 PPB	ND	Dinoseb	7 PPB	ND	Trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene	100 PPB	ND
Chromium	100 PPB	See Detected Contaminants Table	Diquat	20 PPB	ND	Dichloromethane	5 PPB	ND
Copper	AL=1.3 PPM	See Detected Contaminants Table	Dioxin[2,3,7,8-TCDD]	30 PPQ	ND	1,2-Dichloropropane	5 PPB	ND
Cyanide	200 PPB	ND	Endothall	100 PPB	ND	Ethylbenzene	700 PPB	ND
Fluoride	4 PPM	See Detected Contaminants Table	Endrin	2 PPB	ND	Styrene	100 PPB	ND
Lead	AL=15 PPB	See Detected Contaminants Table	Epichlorohydrin	TT	ND	Tetrachloroethylene	5 PPB	ND
Mercury	2 PPB	ND	Ethylene dibromide	50 PPT	ND	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	70 PPB	ND
Nitrate	10 PPM	See Detected Contaminants Table	Glyphosate	700 PPB	ND	1,1,1-Trichloroethane	200 PPB	ND
Nitrite	1 PPM	ND	Heptachlor	400 PPT	ND	1,1,2-Trichloroethane	5 PPB	ND
Selenium	50 PPB	See Detected Contaminants Table	Heptachlor epoxide	200 PPT	ND	Trichloroethylene	5 PPB	ND
Thallium	2 PPB	ND	Hexachlorobenzene	1 PPB	ND	TTHM	80 PPB	See Detected Contaminants Table
			Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	50 PPB	ND	Toluene	1 PPM	ND
			Lindane	200 PPT	ND	Vinyl Chloride	2 PPB	ND
			Methoxychlor	40 PPB	ND	Xylenes	10 PPM	ND
			Oxamyl [Vydate]	200 PPB	ND	HAA5	60 PPB	See Detected Contaminants Table
			PCBs	500 PPT	ND			

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256-483-6819
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GRASS CUTTING: Fair Prices, Quality Work, Colbert County area. Call 256-633-2765

2008 FISHER ALL WELD ALUMINUM BOAT, with trailer, new tires & wheels with spare, 2 cycle Mercury 50 hp, stick steering, 54 lb. thrust foot control (motor guide 12 volt like new) \$7,500 Call/Text 256-627-6826 for pictures

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Ben Hanson, 256-263-2063

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GRIZZLY EXTREME 15 QT. Cooler, never used, new in box, paid \$185, asking \$150; 256-810-1808 Russellville

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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

KOGER LAWN SERVICE and Pressure Washing. Call 256-366-3133

1994 BUICK LESABRE, GREEN in color, good running car, clean, \$3,500 For more information call 256-629-9484

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in Downtown Florence
ENTER ONLINE at
www.CourierJournal.net

Week of May 7 winner is Jeff Bevis of Florence who correctly guessed **"Demo of Downtown Florence Parking Deck"**
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.

Brain Zone! ANSWERS



Answers
1. Jack Scott, in 1959. It came out on his 1960 album of the same name and has been covered by numerous others over the years, including Tom Jones, Sonny James and Jim Reeves.
2. No. "Get Ready" in 1970 was closest, hitting No. 4. The song went to No. 1, but that was in Canada.
3. David Bowie, on his "Scary Monsters (and Super Creeps)" album in 1980. The music video came in at No. 44 on the Rolling Stone list of the 100 greatest music videos of all time.
4. "Raw Like Sushi," released in 1989.
5. "In My Room," by the Beach Boys in 1963, released on their "Surfer Girl" album. The song only made it to No. 23 on the Hot 100 chart that year, but ended up in the Grammy Hall of Fame in 1999.

Word Spiral Answer
ABRASIVES

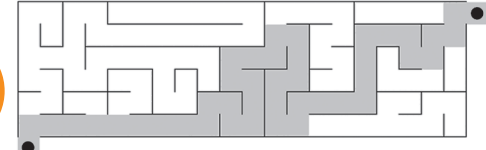
Even Exchange answers
1. Battle, Bottle
2. Loser, Loner
3. Chore, Chose
4. Porter, Poster
5. Motion, Notion
6. Least, Leash
7. Norman, Normal
8. Cajole, Carole
9. Learn, Yearn
10. Burst, Burnt

Micro Crossword Answer
S H A P E
W I D O W
A F O R E
Y I P E S
S S T S



ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) Matthew (25:31-33), 3) Samuel, 4) Good thing, 5) 120, 6) Five
Sharpen your understanding of scripture with Wilson Casey's latest book, "Test Your Bible Knowledge," available in bookstores and online.

Kids' Maze Solution



Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

Answers
1. Richard Simmons.
2. When the colored part of the eyes (irises) are two different colors.
3. Archipelago.
4. Poutine (French fries, cheese curds and gravy).
5. 2004.
6. Violet.
7. Texas.
8. Clownfish.
9. July.
10. 90 minutes.
© 2025 King Features Synd., Inc.

5	-	3	x	8	=	16
-		+		-		
1	+	7	÷	4	=	2
x		÷		x		
6	-	2	+	9	=	13
=						
24		5		36		

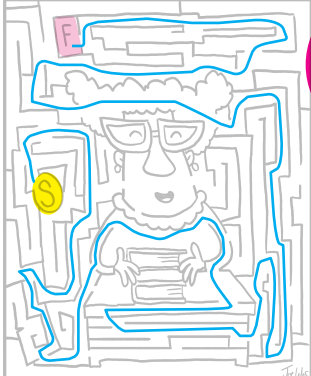
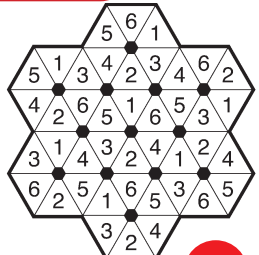
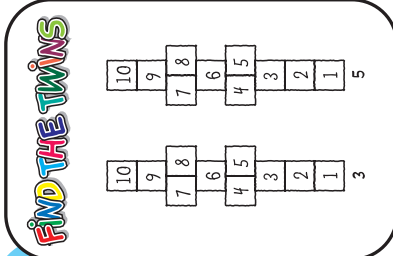
Answer						
3	6	5	4	1	2	
1	2	4	3	5	6	
4	5	6	1	2	3	
2	3	1	6	4	5	
6	1	2	5	3	4	
5	4	3	2	6	1	



Answers
1. Tom Dempsey, who was born without toes on his right foot and wore a custom shoe.
2. Al "Fuzzy" Smith.
3. Robert Brazile.
4. The Dallas Mavericks.
5. Buster Crabbe.
6. Ice hockey in the Deutsche Eishockey Liga (DEL).
7. Proposition 48.
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CryptoQuip answer
Song the cattleman crooned as he put down rich soil to grow his pasture: "Loam on the Range."

SCRAMBLERS solution
1. Repeat 2. Routine; 3. Traipse; 4. Aught
Today's Word SHOPPING



SECRET CODE
What two things can't you have for lunch?
Breakfast & Dinner

Community Notes...

Continued from page 5

Spring Community Yard Sale at The Club (Florence Senior Center) at 450 Country Club Drive in Florence on Saturday, May 17, from 6:30-11:30am in the parking lot at The Club. Call 256.760.6420 to reserve your \$10 spot to sell your items off the back of your truck, out of your trunk, off of tables or quilts, etc. Set up at 6:30am. Closing up 11:30am. Rain Date will be May 31. Proceeds benefit programming at Florence Senior Center, The Club.

Historical Plaques Again Available - After a few 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 fifty (50) years old and must not have had its street side 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.

The Central Community Center Breakfast 7-9am, the third Saturday of each month (May 17). Located at 4130 Lauderdale County Rd. 6, Florence.

Trinity M. B. Church welcomes ladies to view the Cece Winans Generation Live Conference via simulcast on May 16 at 5:30pm and May 17 at 8:30am. Registration is \$25 for adults and free for ladies in college. Lunch is included. The church is located at 606 Marietta St. in Florence. To register by May 9, please text Rev. Kim Garner at 256-288-4814 or Sis. Sharon Smith at 443-838-8606

Mhoontown Methodist Church is having it's Annual Homecoming - Sunday, May 18. Located at 1135 Mhoontown Road, Cherokee. Worship service at 11am. Lunch at Noon and Unity Four of luka, MS will be our featured guests to sing at 1:10pm/ Pastor Sammy Waddell and the congregation invite you to attend.

Join us for the 2025 Ace for CASA Golf Tournament on Monday, May 19, at Cypress Lakes Golf Club in Muscle Shoals. Tee-off is at 8:30am, with breakfast and lunch provided for all players. Entry is \$100 per player or \$400 per team, and hole sponsorships are available for \$500, which include team entry and a hole sponsor sign. This shotgun-style tournament allows all teams to start simultaneously from different holes, with carts, playing cards, and rules provided at check-in. Awards will be presented at the conclusion of play. All proceeds benefit the important work of Shoals CASA. Register at <https://tinyurl.com/shoalscasagolf> or contact Shoals CASA at contact@shoalscasa.org or 256-765-0041 for more information.

Support the Florence High School Show Choir's "Dream On" production! Sponsorships range from \$250 to \$2,500 and include program listings, social media recognition, and show tickets. Get your tickets today: <https://gofan.co/event/3453035>

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.

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.

Florence Exchange Club meets at noon every Thursday at the Royal Avenue Recreation Center, 421 N Royal Avenue in Florence. Contact for information is: <https://www.facebook.com/ExchangeClubOfFlorenceAlabama>

F3 Shoals: Fitness Fellowship Faith. F3 is a free workout group that is open to all men, is always held outdoors, has rotating leadership, and it ends in

a time of fellowship and prayer. The mission of F3 is to plant and grow men's small workout groups to invigorate male community leadership. Our weekly schedule is Monday & Thursday at Gattman Park in Muscle Shoals, Tuesday & Friday at Diebert Park in Florence, and Wednesday at TVA Trails Thunder Rd trailhead. All workouts begin at 5:30am. Look for the planted American shovel flag! <https://map.f3nation.com/> or call for more info 256-394-2326.

Tuesday, May 20: Author Robert Bailey to Speak at Florence-Lauderdale Public Library. Bestselling author Robert Bailey will visit the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library on Tuesday, May 20, at 5:30 p.m. to discuss his latest thriller, *The Boomerang*. Known for the Jason Rich series, McMurtrie and Drake legal thrillers, and *The Golfer's Carol*, Bailey brings legal suspense and inspiration to the page. Books will be available for purchase from Snail on the Wall. This author event is sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

LifeSouth Bloodmobile Dates: Wednesday, May 14 Southwire Company, 4251 Helton Driv, Florence, 1pm - 7 pm

Thursday, May 15 Whitesell Corporation, 2703 Avalon Ave, Muscle Shoals, 7am - 2pm

Friday, May 16 Whitesell Corporation - 2205 Gargis Lane, Tuscumbia, 7am - 3pm

Saturday, May 17 Jagers Journey, 595 Hwy 72 W, Tuscumbia, 10am - 4pm Schedule

Saturday, May 17 Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. (Phi Upsilon Omega), 12627 Jessie Jackson Parkway, Courtland, 10am - 2pm

Sunday, May 18 Arts Alive, Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts-Wilson Park, Florence, 9am - 4pm

Monday, May 19 Colbert County High School, Leighton, 8am - 1pm

Tuesday, May 20 Farris Wholesale Outlet Inc, 220 Farris Drive, Leighton, 10am - 3pm

The 2nd Annual Cramer Kids Classic at the beautiful Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail of the Shoals takes place on Friday, May 23 from 8am-1pm.

Grab your friends and form a 4-person team or become a sponsor - either way, you'll be supporting the kids served by the Cramer Children's Center, children in NW Alabama who've experienced abuse or witnessed violence. Four-person teams are \$550. Registration includes greens fees and cart; gift item at registration; Breakfast box; Lunch and Awards ceremony; Opportunity to win amazing packages at our prize raffle

- Prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place
- Awards for Longest Yard and Closest to the Pin
- A \$10,000 Hole-in-One Prize

Sign up your team or become a sponsor at www.cramerchildrenscenter.com/kidsclassic or call 256-760-1140.

The Club/Florence Senior Center at 450 Country Club Drive in Florence serves boomers and seniors of the Shoals area!



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Courier Journal

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Monday-Friday 9am-3:30pm. Games (Rook, Mee, Dominoes, Mexican Train, Chickenfoot, LRC, and others. M-F Lunch served (\$1 donation), BINGO (Wednesday), Chair Exercise (Tuesday, Thursday, Friday), Rock Painting (Friday), Local Events, Square Dance Lessons, (Mondays), Social Dance (Tuesday), and Specially Scheduled Dance Events, Master's Games, Shuffleboard (Broadway Rec. on Tuesday),

Group Travel tours this year to The Ark, Virginia Beach, Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, Vermont, Washington DC, and Lancaster. Trips are open to the general public. For more information, email fdavis@florenceal.org or call 256-760-6420.

Lego Build - the third Tuesday of each month, (May 20) 3:30pm-4:15pm at the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library. Thousands of Legos and your creativity make this program FUN!

W.C. Handy Recreation Center Grand Reopening -- May 23. The City of Florence is proud to announce the Grand Reopening of the W.C. Handy Recreation Center, marking the completion of a significant milestone. The event will begin with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony from 10:00 - 11:30 AM, followed by a Grand Opening and Facility Tour from 1:00 - 4:30 PM. The center is located at 1105 Beale Street, Florence.

Margerum Community Church is planning a Homecoming/Memorial Day/Military Tribute on May 25 at 9:30am. We will also be celebrating our 118th Anniversary of the church.

Lunch will be served following the service. Everyone welcome. Please come and join us. 2640 Margerum Road, Cherokee.

Ceramics Hand-building Workshop with Aaron Benson. The Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts is pleased to present an opportunity to participate in a ceramics hand-building workshop with Aaron Benson, UNA Chair of Visual Arts and Design, Associate Professor and Director of Ceramic and Sculpture. Join us 9a.m.-3p.m. on Saturday, May 31st and learn more about clay by building and glazing your own work in this one-day class! Registration is limited, so sign-up soon! For more information call 256-760-6379.

Register online: <https://www.florencealmuseums.com/calendar>

Register in person: Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts, 217 E. Tuscaloosa St., Florence, AL (Note: payments at Art Center can only be made with cash or check; deadline to register is May 30th).

Underwood-Petersville Neighborhood Watch meets at 2pm the 2nd Sunday (June 8) of each month at Underwood-Petersville Community Center, 840 Lauderdale 7, Florence.

CaringPlace Caregiver Support Group, second Monday (June 9) of each month, 10-11 a.m., CaringPlace Center, 216 Marengo St., Suite I, Florence. Grief Group follows, 11-11:30am. Information, Eileen Nunnally, 256-762-1166.

See NOTES... page 31

KNOX MEDIA GROUP PRESENTS
CITY OF FLORENCE PARKS & REC WELCOMES

4th Annual Remembering Our Veterans Through Music Concert
FREE EVENT

SUNDAY 25TH MAY @ 3PM

Entertainment BY

HOWELL SLEDGE & REVUE **ENCOUNTER** **MONA B**
KASSIDY MCCORKLE **ANGELA HACKER & BAE SIMPSON**
PAT JAMAR & BAND

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SIGNS OF THE PAST

This Flagpole is dedicated in honor of Air Force Lt. Col. Ed Yeilding - Eagle Scout, Troop 287 - Florence, Alabama by Ronald & Brenda Pettus of Killen, Alabama.

On March 6, 1990, Lt. Col. Ed Yeilding piloted SR-71 Blackbird #972 with RSO Lt. Col JT Vida on its record flight to the Smithsonian Institution, setting an aircraft speed record from the west coast to the east coast in only 67 minutes 54 seconds. SR-71 #972 was given to the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum for display.

Eagle Scout Ed Yeilding often attended Camp Westmoreland as a Boy Scout.

Location: 34.89046°N, 87.57475°W
Bailey Springs Cemetery, Florence, AL

Our heroes can be honored many ways. This cemetery flagpole, in the Bailey Springs Cemetery, commemorates the service of Air Force Lt. Col. Ed Yeilding and his record-breaking flight across the U.S. to deliver the SR-71 Blackbird to the Smithsonian Institution.

~ Courtesy David Curott ~ author of "Historical Markers and Other Signs of the Past"

Notes...

Continued from page 30

May 16-18: Big Brothers Big Sisters Join us in 2025 for two incredible events supporting local youth in the Shoals area. These events directly benefit the children and families served by Big Brothers Big Sisters. Stay tuned for more details! For more information, email Nicole Hall at nicole@bbbsshoals.org.
Bowl for Kids' Sake: May 16-18, 2025
Big Little Gala: November 7, 2025

Day by Day Grief Support Group. second Sunday of each month, (June 8) 2pm, Woodmont Baptist Church, Darby Drive, Florence.

Shoals Piecemakers Quilt Guild, 7pm, second Monday, (June 9) Saint Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, Darby Drive, Florence.

Muscle Shoals Amateur Radio Club, 7pm the third Thursday, (May 15) Colbert County EMA, annex basement, 120 W. Fifth St., Tusculumbia, info@msarc.org.

May 16: Police Week Tournament - The 2nd Annual Police Week Tournament will take place on May 16 at Blackberry Trail Golf Course in Florence, with a 9AM shotgun start.

This four-man scramble supports the Florence Alabama Police Foundation. Registration is \$500 per team and includes breakfast, lunch, green and cart fees, a goodie bag, range balls, and a tournament t-shirt (if registered by May 1). Contests include closest to the pin, longest drive, and putting. Sponsorships are available. For more information, contact 256-366-5725 or jmeza@florenceal.org.

Arts Alive Returns to Wilson Park in May 2025! The annual Arts Alive Festival, sponsored by the Kennedy-Douglass Volunteers, is set to bring another vibrant weekend of art, music, and community to Wilson Park in downtown Florence. For over 35 years, this juried arts festival has supported art education and programs in the area.

Held every third weekend in May, the event attracts thousands of visitors who enjoy browsing and purchasing artwork from regional artists. With live music, food trucks, and a gallery exhibit, there's something for everyone.

Mark your calendars for Arts Alive 2025 on May 17 & 18 and experience this beloved tradition!

The American Legion Colbert County Memorial Post 31 will meet on Monday, May 19, at 6pm at the Post meeting hall located at 110 1/2 N. Main St. in Tusculumbia. 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.

Alzheimer's Support Group, 2-3pm third Mondays, (May 19) Florence-Lauderdale Public Library, 350 N. Wood Ave. Adheres to CDC guidelines. 404-663-1544

Readers of the Lost Ark Book Club, 10am, third Wednesday, (May 20) at Helen Keller Public Library, 511 Main St., Tusculumbia. nancy537481@yahoo.com

Ask the Experts Panel Session - Wednesday May 21, 10:30am-2pm at the Lauderdale County Extension Office, 802 Veterans Drive, Florence. Presented by The Alabama Cooperative Extension System (A&M University).

Join a panel discussion and ask questions on topics such as: • Property Taxes • Estate Planning • Estate Probate Process • Heirs Property • Resources
Open to adults of all ages. Register 256.320.8051.

Please let us know if you have accessibility needs. www.aces.edu This work is/was supported by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, 1890 Capacity Building Grant Program, award # 2024-388 21-42100.

YORKIE PUPPIES, REGISTERED, MALES, 10 weeks old, very small, shots, dew claws removed, and dewormed. 256-275-2794 Shoals Area

DIVING BOARD, (10 FT.) & BASE. Still in box, SR-Smith 66-209-27052-1 with Deck II SR-70-209-7402, paid \$1,784.50 Selling for \$800. Call 256-740-2893

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AKC BELGIUM MALINOIS PUPPIES female, 8 weeks, parents on site, 1st shots, dewormed Working Bloodline, Call 256-275-1315 Shoals Area

REGISTERED GOLDENDOODLE STANDARD PUPPIES F1 and F1-B. 12 weeks old, up to date on shots, dewormed, beige, cinnamon and red. Well socialized. Ready to go. \$650 256-247-1647 256-810-7169

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MUSCLE SHOALS YARD SALE, 305 Eastlake Dr., Sat. 8am-1pm, Hand, Yard & Electric Tools, Bikes, Refrigerator, Freezer, Futon, Treadmill, Tables, Lamps, TV Stand, Fishing Gear, Antique Sewing Machine, Dining Table/chairs. Call 614-565-8176 Muscle Shoals

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EXPERIENCE MATTERS!

Meet with a Medicare Plan Expert:

**Ikey Fowler
or
Beverly Stamps
White**

Our next Medicare Class will be
Thursday, May 15th
11am-Noon @ Alabama Health Guidance

For accomodation of persons with special needs at meetings, call 256-648-5710

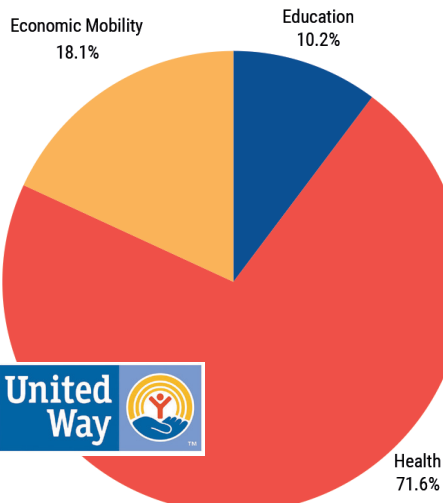
We do not offer every plan available in your area. Currently we represent 9 organizations which offer 80 products in your area. Please contact Medicare.gov, 1-800-MEDICARE, or your local State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) for help with plan choices.

Is your company involved in the United Way's WORKPLACE CAMPAIGN?



PROGRAM FOCUS AREA BREAKDOWN

■ Education ■ Health ■ Economic Mobility



32.5%

of children in Northwest Alabama live in families struggling to afford basic needs.

The United Way Workplace Campaign unites employees within a business or organization, across all industries to give back to the community where they live and work. By donating and volunteering, and advocating for causes that matter to them, individuals can make a difference. Campaigns go beyond raising money for a cause; they strengthen connections between employees and their community.

YOU CAN HELP MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR AS LITTLE AS \$2 / PAY PERIOD.

Last year, 3,619 Northwest Alabama residents received access to vital services through our community investment partners. United Way of NW Alabama invests your donations in high-performing organizations through an extensive and competitive application and grant process.

49%

of households in Northwest Alabama earn less than \$50,000 a year

For more information, call the United Way of Northwest Alabama, 256-764-5892.

Space courtesy of Courier Journal.




Spring Savings





2 for \$499

**Buy 1, Get 1 FREE
Recliner
SALE!**



2 for \$599



**FREE
LOCAL
DELIVERY!**



2 for \$699

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and colors may
vary. See store
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