Shoas A Huge Dedicated Readership!

'The Club' is About You

FLORENCE-The Club/ Florence Senior Center, at 450 Country Club Drive, offers a great lunch Monday-Friday at 11:30am for a \$1 donation. Joints in Motion Chair exercise class at no charge every Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 9:30am. Games of all sorts along with other scheduled activities run throughout the week from 9am–3:30pm. There are guest speakers and bingo fun on Wednesdays from

fun on Wednesdays from 10:15am until lunch! Social Dancing, Tuesday evenings 6:30-8:45pm doors open at 6 pm. Admission \$6 per person. Singing River Squares dance on Monday evenings 5:30-7:30, summer lessons are going on right now! Weekend Kayaking is always fun. Fishing at Deibert Park, dates announced spring-fall.

fun. Fishing at Deibert Park, dates announced spring-fall. Day trip: Lay Lake, July 18 for the Raptor Rehab program and native amphibians. Sponsored by Alabama Recreation and Parks Association in conjunction with their 5-0 programming. \$20 includes your grilled hamburger/hot dog lunch. State Masters Games in Trussville, AL the first week of October. The Club's Diamonds in the Rough Travel Group trips are open to the public: Vermont in October, Washington, DC, October, Myrtle Beach in November. Call 256-760-6420 or fdavis@florenceal.org

More SHORTs... on Page 2

The Courier Journal will be **CLOSED FRIDAY, JULY 4 and** will reopen Monday, July 7. Please note that ALL deadlines for the July 9 issue are 24 hours earlier than usual. Thank you and have a Safe and Happy Independence Day weekend.



ABOVE POVERTY, BELOW THE BASICS

SHOALS-One in three households in Alabama is walking a financial tightrope. Many households across the state - regardless of age, ethnicity, or location are unable to maintain the basic cost of living and are

only one emergency away from falling into poverty. United Ways of Alabama will unveil its first statewide ALICE[®] Report on June 26, highlighting the growing financial hardships for Alabamians.

In addition to the 324,705 Alabama households in poverty, the reality is that another 604,048 households were ALICE[®] – Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed - an often-overlooked population that earns above the Federal Poverty Level but less than the cost of basics. ALICE[®] represen represents

See ALICE...on Page 10

Awarding Mercy for 2 Locals

SHOALS – North Alabama Medical Center and North Alabama Shoals Hospital

recently

recognized



Roberts

Fretwell

their respective 2025 Mercy Award winners. Kyle Roberts, a phlebotomist in the Pre-Admission Testing Department was named at NAMC, and Phillip Fretwell, director of

facilities, was named at North Alabama Shoals.

The Mercy Award recognizes one employee from each of Lifepoint Health's facilities who profoundly touches the

See MERCY...on Page 8

Cathy Turner sets her keyboard aside after 23 years and readies for retirement with her husband, Kevin. Her uplifting and positive messages on family and faith have been a tremendous asset to these pages and they will be missed! Cat, we wish you the very best moving forward.



Writer's note: Tom Magazzu, I love you! I love that you gave me the opportunity to go into almost 70,000 homes for over 2 decades. I love you for not editing my voice. And I love you for supporting me so completely. Thank you!

Dear Readers,

As I leave the honor of writing for you, it makes me think of the apostle Paul's own departure after much teaching. It reminds me of his words in his second letter to Timothy. Please allow me to adapt some of his farewell to this occasion of my retirement.

To my beloved Readers: Grace, mercy, and peace to you from God, the Father and Jesus Christ our Lord. I thank God (whom I serve) as I remember you, without ceasing, in my prayers night and day. I greatly desire to be with you always, knowing your struggles, that I may be filled with joy. I know the sincere faith [loyalty and love]

See FAREWELL... on Page 4





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High Heat



(25

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Shorts...

Continued from Page 1

Students Sign to Sponsors

MUSCLE SHOALS

Northwest Shoals

hosted a Federation for

Community College

Advanced Manufacturing Education (FAME) Signing Day recently on the Shoals Campus as 23 students were sponsored by 11 local companies. The FAME Advanced Manufacturing Technician (AMT) program is a pathway to a challenging and well-paying career as a multi-skilled technician. Students will attend classes two full days per week while working three full days a week with a sponsoring company. The program includes cutting-edge curriculum in Electricity, Robotics, Fluid Power, Mechanics, Welding, Machining, and Industrial Troubleshooting. "It is so exciting to see our students thrive in the FAME program with our industry partners,' said NWSCC Dean of Workforce Development, Dr. Leslie Tomlinson. "The partnership we have formed with all 25 companies through the FAME program will benefit our students, their companies, and our community. We continue to have 100% job placement with our FAME graduates. NWŠČC's FAME program currently has 47 students enrolled. Each student participated in selection interviews and was matched with a sponsoring company. Students were then notified and began the pre-employment process with each of the respective companies. The 2025-2026 FAME class are currently working with their sponsoring companies and will begin

The 2025-2026 FAME Program signees were: Student Hometown Sponsoring Company

Clay Allison Muscle Shoals Constellium **Christian Early** Moulton Constellium Cale Faust

Muscle Shoals Constellium Sebastian Narmore Muscle Shoals Constellium Nathan Richardson Tuscumbia Constellium Layton Wilson Hatton Constellium **Grant Killen** Killen Essity Logan Rich Florence Essity **Robert Wise** Florence Flexco

Austin Blankenship Decatur GE **Richard Scott** Russellville Linamar Javar Strong Muscle Shoals Linamar Daniel Darling Cherokee North Amer. Lighting Blake Strickland Moulton North Amer. Lighting Jackson Crook Haleyville NUĆOR **Javon Pass** Russellville NUCOR **Brantley Holland** Red Bay Project XYZ Katelyn Olive Florence Southwire **Braden Ashley** Russellville Tarkett Justice Welborn Phil Campbell Tarkett **Nicolas Garner** Killen Tasus

CSC Names 6 from UNA

GREENWOOD, IN - College Sports Communicators (CSC) announced the 2025 Academic All-District Men's and Women's Golf Teams last week. UNA has six student athletes represented as women's golfers, Hannah Dees and Kerigan Klauber and men's golfers, **Chase** Kaiser, Sebastian Bengtsson, Blake

See SHORTs... on Page 6

Courier Journal / June 25, 2025

Phil Campbell Constellium

Dionisio Juarez

Max Hall

Florence Constellium **EXPLORER PONTOON** has live well, 90hp Mercury, Bimini top, cover. \$22,000. Call or text 605-

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YARD SALE 409 Phillips Dr. Fri. and Sat. 8 am until Tools, clothes, kids things, bed frames, miscellaneous from the garage signs, books, toys, hardware, li-cense plates, gas cans, GOATS, and lots of neat stuff. FLORENCE YARD SALE, 8480 Co. Rd. 189, Fri. & Sat., 7am-until? Cooley's Corner, look for signs. Weed eater, Bicycle, Pressure Washer, Twin mattress, Doors, Costume Jewelry • Beautiful Oil Paintings • Foxfire & Local History Books • Pyrex & Corningware • 1960'S Toys• Curio & Secretary Some Scrap metal, & much more!

Dakland Cafe on the right.
 Thurs., Fri. & Sat.,
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 Clothes, Doll Collection,
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Sunday, June 29th, 1pm-3pm

Numbers given out

Costume Jewelry, Beautiful Oil Paintings, Foxfire & Local

ware, 1960's Toys, Curio & Secretary Cabinet, Griswold & Wagner Cast Iron, Stihl Weed eater. lawnmower. Concrete

Table, elephants, Occupied Japan, Lenox Bird Collection, Wrought Iron Patio Furniture,

fishing lures, Vintage Cameras, marbles, House and basement full! Washer, Dryer, Refrigerator,

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> **Cypress Creek** Estate Sales



SALE 278 Co Rd 224 near Wilson School, Sat., June 28th, 7am-until? Stove, Dishwasher, Kitchen

MUSCLE SHOALS GARAGE SALE, 113 Andrea Dr., Sat., June

28th, 7am-until? Tools, Christmas Trees, Ladies Clothing and misc. household items. Everything

KILLEN: YARD SALE Brookwood Subdivision 113 Woodfern Dr Fri. Sat. Lots of men's L & XL clothing

(including suits), petite women's clothing, shoes, books, some fish-ing rods & tackle

KILLEN: THREE-FAMILY

THANK YOU for reading the Courier

items, too much to mention.

cheap!

Journal

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

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

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

ARDMORE: BIG, THREE-FAM-ILY 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, old milk cans, towels, antiques, sings books toys, bardware li-

FLORENCE/OAKLAND AREA LARGE 8 FAMILY YARD SALE 525 Co. Rd. 243, one mile past

HICKORY HILLS ESTATE SALE 2301 Bower Dr., Florence, AL 35630

Friday, June 27th, 9am-3pm Saturday, June 28th, 9am-2pm

Friday & Saturday, 8:30am

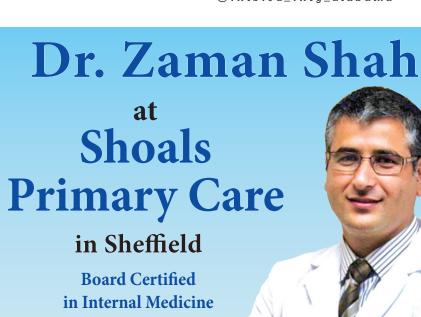
History Books, Pyrex & Corning-

planters, Johnny West, Barbie Dolls, Royal Doulton, Noritake China, Breyer Horses, Formal Dining Set, 4 Bedroom sets of furniture. Revnolds Aluminum

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that is in you, which was first in your moms and grandmoms [and dads and grandads and aunties and uncles and families]. I'm persuaded that it is in you also. Therefore, I remind you to stir up the good gifts that God has given you... For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of sound mind.

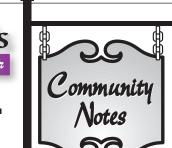
Therefore, do not be ashamed of the gospel according to the power of God, who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus... who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel, which I teach... Hold fast [keep holding on] to the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. (Adapted from II Timothy 1:1-13)

"Do not be ashamed of the gospel" - in 23 years, I have shared a lot of words, but these are the most important. Don't be ashamed - believe in Christ, love Him, learn His words, say His name, admit wrongdoing and determine to change, be baptized for the washing away of sin, and hold fast to all the teaching that He has left for us to live by. His words have been the basis of everything that I have ever written for you. The good life. Our Father just wants us to love Him enough to do what He says. And when we do, we will have access to the power that can change our lives. I am a witness to this! And this is what I've tried to share. I hope that what you have read and heard and seen in my columns has shown that a child of God has a good life simply because God is in it. Live for Him! Blessed! I thank my God for everything! Including you! Your acceptance has been a gift to my soul.

As you and I seek Him, I pray that He will reward us with all good things forever. Amen. If you ever need me, I am only an email away. I love you so and I will miss you.

Yours, Cat

Email comments or thoughts to CatnKids1@ gmail.com



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

Summer Reading Event: Marc Griffiths Ventriloquist - Wednesday, June 25, 1:30pm-2:30pm at the Sheffield Public Library, Montgomery Ave.

Treasurer Hunters - Are You **Ready?** Vacation Bible School for ages 5-12 at Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church, 11025 County Road 15, in Florence is June 25 and July 9 & 16. 5:30pm meal, 6-8pm - Stories, Crafts, Music, Games, Science Experiments. You may preregister by calling 256-767-0017.

Vacation Bible School will be at Wesley Chapel UMC, County Road 15, Florence, with stories, crafts music, games and Science experiments. The event will be 6-8 p.m. June 25, July 9 and July 16, with a meal at 5:30 p.m. Preregister by calling 256-767-0017.

Game On! at the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library -Wednesday, June 25, 1pm-2pm. Nothing like some great board games and video games to bring some friends together! If you like either of these, come ion up at Game On whom we'll bring out ioin us at Game On where we'll bring out our Switch or Monopoly to kick back after a long week. Additional Dates: July 2 and July 9

Underwood-Petersville Neighborhood Watch meets at 2pm the 4th Sunday (June 25) of each month at Underwood-Petersville Community Center, 840 Lauderdale 7, Florence.

See NOTES... page 27





Central Storage, LLC, located at 8903 HWY 20 Florence, AL 35633

in accordance with the Alabama Self-Storage Act; per Section 8-15-34, Code of Alaabama, 1975, public notice is hereby given that the following units will be sold or disposed of on or after

July 7, 2025. Past due charges and fees will be accepted until 5pm on July 7, 2025.

Central Storage, LLC reserves the right to withdraw any unit from sale or disposal.

Name		Unit#	Contents
Clemmons,	, Avery	N15	Household Misc.
Gibson,	Charles	L43	Household Misc.
Halley,	Sonja	J15	Household Misc.
lvy,	Tammie	R31	Household Misc.
Johnson,	Kristin	E1	Household Misc.
Joiner,	Jeff	D16	Household Misc.
McDonald,	Deniese	E16	Household Misc.
Ivy, Tammie Johnson, Kristin		G3	Household Misc.
Tackett,	Thomas	E20	Household Misc.
Wisdom,	Mollie	R6	Household Misc.
Young,	Jessica	R36	Household Misc.



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PUBLIC NOTICE Lauderdale Country Board of Education **Special Education**

Department

Special Education records for students who graduated or should have graduated during the year 2020 are going to be destroyed in September, 2025.

Persons interested in receiving their records should contact the

Special Education Department at 256-760-1324 before August 1, 2025.

Shorts... CSC Names 6 from UNA

Continued from Page 2

Henriques, and Xing Lou were named. To be eligible, student-athletes must

maintain at least a 3.5 grade-point average and must be at least a sophomore academically and athletically. Eligible nominees must be in the lineup for 70% of an institution's team scoring events or in the lineup at the conference championship tournament.

Dees, a senior from Fairhope, AL, played her fourth season for the Lions in 2024-25. She started in all 11 events and finished with an even 76.0 scoring average over 30 rounds.

Klauber, a redshirt sophomore from Athens, TN, is a three-year member of the program. She finished with an even 77.0 scoring average over 25 rounds this season while sporting a 279-245-18 record.

Bengtsson, a junior from Helsingborg, Sweden finished with four top 10 finishes this season and seven total top 25 finishes.

Luo won an individual crown at the GMAC Invitational. The junior was a four-time ASUN Golfer of the Week winner, which is now most for a Lion during their career. The junior ĥad seven top 10 finishes for the year with five of the last six finishing seventh or higher and became the first Lion to appear in the Division Í NCAA Regionals in school

history. Kaiser had two top 15 finishes this year with an eighth-place finish at the Golfweek/Stifel Spring Challenge on March 31. He finished with a sixunder and finished with a 210-overall score for the tournament — his lowest as a Lion.

Henriques competed in 10 of the 11 tournaments this season with a top 15 placement at the Golfweek/Stifel Spring

Challenge on March 31. The transfer junior shot a 65 in the opening round of that tournament which is tied for the lowest individual round in Division I history at UNA.



It's Something **Rotten in July**

SHEFFIELD-SummerStock at the Ritz presents "Something Rotten!" July 11, 12, 13, 18, and 19 at the Ritz Theatre in downtown Sheffield.

This hilarious, highenergy musical comedy set in 1595, follows the Bottom brothers, Nick and Nigel, as they struggle to make a name for themselves in the shadow of William Shakespeare – who is treated like a rock star. Desperate to outshine the Bard, they consult a soothsayer who predicts that the future of theatre involves singing, dancing, and acting all at once: the musical.

Determined to write the world's first, the brothers dive into outrageous situations, wild misunderstandings, and over-the-top numbers. Packed with clever humor, Renaissanceera absurdity, and endless Broadway references, it's a joyful, irreverent celebration of theatre itself. Tickets start at \$15. All showtimes are 7pm except for July 13 at 2pm. For more information or tickets, visit tennesseevalleyarts.org or call 256-383-0533.

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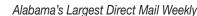
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219 W. Tennessee St. Florence, AL 35630 email to:

editor@courierjournal.net 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 All information submitted for publication becomes property of the Courier Journal. Information published does not necessarily reflect an opinion or endorsemen by the Courier Journal, members of its management, or its staff. Advertisers are responsible for all content and claims in their advertising. ment advertising





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Continued from Page 1 lives of others and best represents the spirit and values on which the company was founded. The award is named for Scott Mercy, Lifepoint's founding chairman and chief executive officer, and is considered the highest honor a Lifepoint

Mercy...

employee can receive. Since joining North Alabama Medical Center October, Roberts. in has made a measurable and lasting impact. His consistent professionalism and patient-focused care have received consistent positive feedback through multiple outlets. His commitment to providing and compassion care patients and their to families not only reflects his dedication but also strengthens the hospital's reputation, fostering longterm community trust and visibility.

"Kyle has very quickly become a great asset to the department," said Angel Lopp, manager of Same Day Services at NAMC. He is a very skilled phlebotomisť, and his patients usually comment that they did

not even feel him stick them with the needle. We are constantly hearing stories about how he can connect with patients during a time when they are nervous before having a procedure." "Kyle is always willing to

jump in and help with any task asked of him and will be the first to volunteer to stay over if needed," added Lopp. "He also is willing to go out of the department and help if a Code Armstrong is called for lifting." Fretwell has served at

the former Eliza Coffee Memorial Hospital and Shoals Hospital for more than four decades. He was hired in 1983 and has developed a reputation for having professional excellence as well as personal integrity.

"Phillip's commitment to making a difference extends far beyond extends beyond hospital," this said Braxton Holloway, Chief Operating Officer at North Alabama Shoals Hospital. "His leadership is grounded in service. In every setting, Phillip acts with kindness and purpose, uplifting others with a quiet strength and a generous spirit?

member of Woodward Avenue Baptist Church for decades, serving as a Deacon for nearly 30 years and as Deacon Chairman twice. He has devoted his time to multiple mission most recently trips, hurricane assisting recovery efforts in North Carolina last year.

"Phillip has served as a mentor and anchor for new leaders across our organization, added Terry True, Chief Medical Officer at Shoals Hospital. "He leads not through position, but through presence— showing up consistently, listening generously, and modeling what it means to lead with heart. His steadfast dedication, moral leadership, and compassion for others have shaped not only the physical foundation of our hospital, but the very culture of our caregiving community."

Each facility winner, including North Alabama Shoals Hospital, will be considered for Lifepoint's 2024 companywide Mercy Award. The companywide winner will be announced this summer and honored during an August ceremony in Nashville,

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Journal

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people of all ages and races who are in low-moderate income households and aren't sure if they'll be able to put dinner on the table each night. ALICE workers are our childcare providers, mechanics, home health aides, laborers, wait staff, store clerks, and office assistants – all workers we cannot live without.

We all know and interact with ALICE workers every day. We see the strain and growing stress.

With expenses rising and mounting economic uncertainty, it is becoming increasingly difficult for ALICE households to overcome cost of living obstacles. The ALICE Report for Alabama provides a detailed analysis and data that explains why so many are struggling. For example, here is some of what we've uncovered:

The average annual cost of household basics for a family of four (two adults, an infant, and a preschooler) was \$76,932.
More than half of the most common jobs

the most common jobs in Alabama are paid less than \$20/hour (\$40,000 annually). • 60 of Alabama's 67

counties had 40% or more of households earning less than what is needed to afford the basics.

• Families that make the effort to improve



their situations are often cut off completely from assistance programs set up to assist those in poverty. Instead of tapering that assistance as the family's income increases, program benefits are often slashed to zero, a counterproductive process that makes a financial problem worse, and thus, stifles any motivation to do better. disappear.

We ignore this real and growing segment of the population at our society's peril and risk the well-being of all our communities. There have to be some common-sense

n solutions.

The official report launch webinar is scheduled for June 26 at 1pm. This event will include community leaders from across the state that will be championing ALICE in Alabama.

Register for the launch webinar at: https://w.ringcentral. com/register/7672c85b/ 121c3393/index.html

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PUBLIC NOTICE FLORENCE CITY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Special Education Department

Special Education records for students who graduated or should have graduated during the school year of 2019-2020 are going to be destroyed. Persons interested in receiving their records should contact the Special Education Department at 256-768-3070 before July 18, 2025.

Please Help Us Locate Children in **Florence Who Have Disabilities**

If you know of a child between the ages of three to 21 who has a disability and lives in the Florence city limits, please contact the Florence City Board of Education at 256-768-3070 or call the State Child find phone number at 1-800-543-3098.

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Guest Commentary

12

Supreme Court Says the Constitution

Does Not Second-Guess the People on 'Gender-Affirming' Care



HF DAIL

interventions for minors does not violate the 14th Amendment's equal protection clause. That was the only question before the Supreme Court, and it got the answer right. Tennessee is among more

than 20 states that prohibit such medical interventions for minors. Its law, called SB1, allows doctors to prescribe drugs such as puberty blockers and cross-sex hormones or to perform certain surgeries only

to treat specific medical conditions. These include congenital defects, disease, or physical injury. It prohibits their use in cases of "gender dysphoria, gender identity disorder, [and]

See MINORS... on Page 14

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

The Dish at Belle Mon

Courier Journal

TUSCUMBIA - Belle Mont Mansion will host its annual Art of the Dish antique china display during Tuscumbia's Helen Keller Festival June 26-29. This year's Art of the Dish will feature hand-



and M Gullett. Hand-

p a i n t e d china will be display on throughout the mansion Wednesday-Saturday, June 25–28 during regular museum hours. Regular

See DISH... on Page 26

RADIO

in the

Radio Club Field Day

MUSCLE SHOALS - Ham radio operators from the Muscle Shoals Amateur Radio Club (MSARC) will participate in ARRL Field Day, a national amateur radio exercise, from 1pm on Saturday until 1pm on Sunday. This event takes place June 28-29 at Gattman Park in Muscle Shoals.

The club will operate across the parking lot from the splash pad and

See RADIO... on Page 20



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Courier Journal

noon for a rare, one-of-a-kind Case knife, with proceeds benefitting St. Jude Children's Research Hospital FLORENCE FLY FISHER & TYERS meets the 1st Tuesday

of every month (July 1) from 6:30-8pm at St Bartholomew Episcopal Church, 1900 Darby Dr. in Florence. Anyone interested is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Email resume as an attachment with or without a cover letter to: editor@courierjournal.net.



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Recognized Nationally but Rejected Locally

Editor,

In 2025, the Federal Employees' Compensation Act (FECA) took step by а historic expanding presumptive cancer coverage for women firefighters, officially

recognizing breast, ovarian, cervical, and uterine cancers as occupational diseases. But this landmark progress only applies to federal employees. Alabama has failed to protect women firefighters with presumptive cancer coverage

Across the U.S., nearly 90,000 women serve in fire departments, over 72,000 of them as volunteers. These women fall outside the scope of federal protection and are left to

. . . Presumptive cancer coverage laws must be modernized to include gender-specific cancers, remove minimum service requirements, and extend protections to volunteer firefighters . . .



In Alabama, more than half of the state's 821 fire departments on volunteer firefightersrelv yet presumptive coverage for this essential workforce is nonexistent.

of the Moreover, Article 7 of the Presumptive Disability Law in Alabama covers fire department compensation for death and disability only for career firefighters who have been employed for at least three years in this service. Career firefighters must still demonstrate that, at the time of their employment in the firefighting force, they showed no signs of disease, including cancer. Notably, while cancer is mentioned



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appening

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A CONVERSATION WITH PASTOR KIKI The Child Within

There is a child still living inside each of us-the part that once dreamed without limits, loved without fear, and trusted the world with open arms. Life has a way of asking us to grow up, to toughen up, to let go of what once made us light and free. But that child never truly disappears. Sometimes, they're

simply waiting to be seen again. Embracing our inner child isn't about immaturity

or avoiding responsibility. It's about remembering the truest version of who we are—the one that laughed easily, believed in goodness, and held on to wonder even when things didn't go as planned.

Somewhere along the way, many of us trade joy for obligation, imagination for caution, and hope for realism. But what if growing older doesn't mean outgrowing joy? What if we're meant to carry that childlike spark with us,

especially when life doesn't unfold the way we expected?



Rev. Kiki Woods-Terry

The inner child is not naive. They are resilient. They are the part of us that dares to believe, that gets back up after disappointment, and that still reaches out with love. That child knows how to dream, how to trust, and how to begin again after the storms of life.

Faith, at its heart, is a little bit like that-trusting in what we cannot yet see, holding joy like it matters, and remembering that

wonder isn't weakness. It's strength. At North Wood UMC, we believe

every stage of life holds wisdom, and that honoring the inner child is one way we grow closer to one another. Beginning this season, we're opening our hearts even wider with the start of a Children's Church-a space just for little ones to grow in joy and connection.

We gather each Sunday not to perform, but to be present. Wherever you are in your journey, there's room for you here.

North Wood United Methodist Church SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:15 AM • WORSHIP SERVICE 10:45 AM 1129 Wills Ave, Florence • 256-764-2111 Rev. Kiki Woods-Terry • nwoodumc@alo.com 635997-1





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Minors... **Continued from Page 12**

gender incongruence." Three minors who wanted to identify with the opposite sex and their parents challenged SB1, arguing that it violated the 14th Amendment's requirement that states provide the "equal provide the "equal protection of the laws." They argued that SB1 was just like more familiar laws that discriminate based on sex, which the Supreme Court already held must meet a higher legal standard. The Biden administration also joined the case to oppose the Tennessee law.

The U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit, which includes Tennessee, didn't buy it and neither did the Supreme Court. Chief Justice John Roberts wrote the 6-3 opinion, refusing to find a "sex-based classification" in a statute that, to state the obvious, does not classify based on sex. SB1 applies to all minors, regardless of sex. The only distinctions it makes are age and the medical use of the particular surgeries and drugs. Neither of these has anything to do with sex.

Every Supreme Court decision has two parts: the judgment, which is typically a yes or no answer to a specific legal question, and the opinion, which explains the reasons for the judgment. The judgment decides the case before the court and the opinion can impact other cases. Here, Roberts' opinion addressed some important issues that will no doubt be raised in other cases.

emphasized, He for example, that our

understanding of gender standard." is constantly changing and that the advisability changing and efficacy of medical interventions in cases gender dysphoria of or incongruence is being hotly debated. In fact, Roberts pointed out, several European countries that jumped on "gender-affirming" bandwagon have the care reversed course, "rais[ing] significant concerns regarding the potential harms associated with using puberty blockers and hormones to treat transgender minors."

In addition, the court refused to extend its controversial decision in Bostock v. Clayton County from the statutory to the constitutional context. In Bostock, the Supreme Court held that firing someone who is gay or "transgender" amounts to discrimination "because of" sex, violating Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. Liberal activists want the Supreme Court to reach the same conclusion with respect to the equal protection clause. Roberts refused, explaining the important differences between SB1 and "the logic of Bostock."

Ŭnless law а discriminates on the basis of things such as race, religion, or sex, courts are not going to second-guess legislative judgments judgments about policy issues. This decision means that gender-related laws like SB1 are in the broad category of matters, such as regulating the practice of medicine generally, that the people and their elected representatives must handle. SB1, Roberts wrote, "clearly meets this

Published 6/19/25 at DailySignal.com

Like European countries have already concluded, the Tennessee Legislature argued that any perceived discordance between sex and gender can be resolved by an approach far less invasive and permanent than surgery or drugs and will likely produce better outcomes.

Challenges to similar laws in other states raise the same equal protection clause issue and whether parents have a right, under the due process clause of the same 14th Amendment, to obtain medical interventions for their minor children. This decision should settle the first issue, but the second will likely find its way to the Supreme Court as litigation elsewhere continues.

In recent polls, many Americans say that the Supreme Court decides cases based more on The politics than law. court can fuel that perception when it makes up rights that are not in the Constitution's text or tries to reach a result that is politically, but not judicially, correct. This is not one of those cases. The court applied basic equal protection clause analysis and came to the obvious, and objectively correct, conclusion. As Roberts concluded, the equal protection clause does not resolve "fierce scientific and policy debates" like those today that relate to gender. That's our job as citizens.

Thomas Jipping is a senior legal fellow in the Edwin Meese III Center for Legal and Judicial Studies at The *Heritage Foundation.*

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Alabama's Largest Direct Mail Weekly

Courier Journal / June 25, 2025

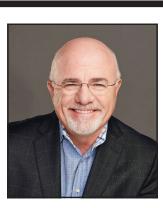


DAVE Says by DAVE RAMSEY

IT TAKES COURAGE TO CRY

Dear Dave,

My wife and I are on Baby Step 7, and we have a household income of \$127,000 a year. We have an older dog who has had some very expensive vet bills recently. It has us both wondering how far, financially speaking, we should be willing to go to keep him alive. We both really love our dog, so we would appreciate your thoughts in the event we have to make a really hard decision somewhere down the road. Jeff



Dear Jeff,

Wow ... You're really trying to get me into trouble, aren't you? First of all, let me say this: I. Love. Dogs. I *really* do. I've had several during my life, and right now, I have one I like more than most people I know.

That being said, this little animal that I love like crazy is still ... a dog. It's not one of my grandchildren, and it's not one of my kids. If you were to ask me how much money I'd

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spend to keep one of my kids or grandkids alive, the answer is simple all the money I've got. Everything. I've started over from nothing before, and I could do it again. But there's your answer. Now, here's something

that's going to be hard for a few folks to hear. With some people who love their animals as much as I do, what I've observed is that the whole relationship can become more about the human than the animal. I've seen people spend tens of thousands of dollars to keep their pets alive, even though the animals were still suffering. At that point, it's not fair to the animal. And unfortunately, that's what often ends up happening with this kind of situation. Listen, I understand this. I'm not bad-mouthing anyone, because I've experienced these kinds of feelings, too. I've had to have animals put to sleep, and I'll be 100% honest with you: I've sat there and cried — I mean flat-out sobbed — while it happened. And in my mind, that's a better path to take sometimes, rather than selfishly letting the animal spend its last weeks or months in pain just because you don't want to go through something difficult.

Now, if you can fix the animal — if you can give it a more-or-less normal, pain-free life by spending some money and actually correcting the problem — then, sure. Do it. There's no rule of thumb or percentage on something like this. If you actually *have* the money, let's get them fixed up. But if it takes going deep into debt, wrecking your finances or leaving your family scrambling to make ends meet as a result then, no. I'm sorry. You should honor and love that wonderful little animal well enough that you don't make them suffer for you.

I hope you understand this, Jeff, and that it makes sense to you. God bless you all, and God bless that old pup. I hope you'll have many more happy days together. — Dave

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



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f ASK the ATTORNEY A Lawyer's **Book Review**



McCutcheon

Ask the Attorney Hamner, PC, as a service to the residents of NW Alabama.

People frequently ask what book is the best book about lawyers. I think to the general public, what lawyers do can be a little mysterious. The obvious choice is To Kill a Mockingbird by Harper Lee. The problem with "To Kill a Mockingbird" is that it is one of the most assigned novels in American schools. Most people who have read it did so because they had to, and that takes all of the fun out of it.

People miss the charm of small-town life and the characters described in the book. People tend to

remember that it is a book about a lawyer, and perhaps they remember that it is a book about racial injustice in the South, but really, seeing the characters through the eyes of a young girl named Scout is a treat. The book portrays lawyers in a very good light, even though justice is not served. It's a great book that's worth reading twice, this time for fun.

The most chilling lawyer book I've read recently is "The Appeal" by John Grisham. It's a book about a huge jury verdict in a chemical poisoning case against a large corporation. The corporation knows that it will appeal the verdict, and it is in a state with a fairly evenly divided Supreme Court.

Now, remember that, in practical terms, no one knows who is on the Supreme Court of Alabama or other states. I know, and I've appeared before them, but I couldn't tell you with any degree of accuracy without researching how any one of them on the current court is likely to rule.

In this novel, the corporation has a pretty good idea that the swing vote is a female judge, and they secretly select and fund a candidate to run against her. They know that if they can win that seat on the Supreme Court, they will never be held accountable for the cancer and other chemical poisonings that they have caused in the pursuit of profit.

The reason I think this book is compelling is because there's enough truth mixed with fiction to cause concern for our system of justice.

Another notable book is "A Civil Action" by Jonathan Harr, a true story about a young lawyer who takes on a huge corporation and loses everything he has, including his Porsche. It is a great book. It's kind of hard to read, and I might actually prefer the movie.

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

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Radio... **Continued from Page 12**

the public is invited to attend to learn more about amateur (ham) radio. "While many

volunteer hams to provide emergency communications when needed, amateur radio is also a great hobby, according to Tim Holt (call sign KE4QID), Public Information Officer for MSARC. "It also fits MSARC. with educational well programs, crossing geographical and cultural boundaries.

Holt said that while studying for a license exam, you will learn some basic electronic theory, atmospheric and weather conditions, physics, and math. Other skills include regulations and FCC operating procedures. "There is some techie-

type stuff, but not too much-so don't let that scare you away," Holt added!"

And while Morse Code is no longer required, Holy said some hams still enjoy using it. Others like the personal touch of talking to other hams (on the air). The newer 'digital modes' allow different types of contacts to be made computer to computer.

"Hams have a long history of serving our communities when storms or other disasters damage critical communication infrastructure, including cell towers," Holt added. "Ă stated purpose of amateur radio in the Federal Regulations is community service; one way we serve is assisting during severe weather events, such as storm spotting and providing damage reports to the local Emergency Management Agencies

purpose" receiver (right) covered multiple frequency bands. However, in the early days of ham radio. transmitters and receivers were two different units.

A vintage "general

(EMAs) and the National Weather Service (NWS)

For example, Lauderdale County alone experienced eight tornadoes this past May. When the NWS in Huntsville issued a Severe Thunderstorm or Tornado Watch, area amateur operators started a "net" to report weather conditions and storm damage to the tri-county EMA offices, who then initiated any required response and passed the report to NWS. During five "net sessions" in May, there was an average of 33 operators throughout the Shoals area reporting conditions in their communities.

Hams across North America participate in Field Day to

Day to te their demonstrate and service. skill It highlights ham radio's ability to work reliably under conditions anv almost any from location and create an independent, wirefess communications network.

Many hams use portable radio communication This capability. includes alternative energy sources

such as generators, solar panels, and batteries to power their equipment. Since ham radio functions completely

independently of the and phone internet systems, a remote station can be set up almost anywhere in minutes," Holt stated Hams can quickly raise a wire antenna in a tree or on a mast, connect a radio and a battery, and communicate effectively with others."

Approximately 1500 clubs and 18,000 hams across North America will participate in Field Day; some hams will also use the radio stations set up in their homes, backyards, or other locations to operate individually or with their families. More information can be found on the Muscle Shoals Amateur Radio Facebook page and at www.msarc. org.



A Baofeng UV-5R is a modern HT (handitalkie to a ham). It is an inexpensive, imported unit that is a good first radio for someone.



Medicare Minute "Frequently Asked Questions"

Over the next few weeks we are going to discuss some of our most frequently asked questions.

I will be turning 65 in 2019. Will I automatically be signed up for Medicare Part A and Part B? If you are already getting benefits from Social Security or the Railroad Retirement Board you will be automatically signed up for Part A and Part B of Medicare. Your Medicare will begin on the first day of the month you turn 65 unless your birthday is on the first day of the month. In this case your Medicare will begin the first day of the month prior to you turning 65. If you choose to not keep Part B because you are on employer insurance, or for any other reason, you will need to notify Social Security of your wishes.

Will I automatically be signed up for Medicare Part A and Part B if I am not getting benefits from Social Security or the Railroad Retirement Board? If you are not getting benefits from Social Security or the RRB, and wish to sign up for Medicare, you will need to sign up on your own. You can sign up for Part A and/or Part B by contacting Social Security or going online to socialsecurity. gov/retirement. Remember, if you don't sign up for Part B when first eligible you may be charged a penalty if you choose to enroll at a later date. There are exceptions to this rule, such as being on employer insurance.

How do I pay my Part B premiums? For most people turning 65 in 2019 the Part B premium is \$135 per month. If you are already drawing your Social Security the Part B premium will be deducted from your Social Security check. If you are delaying taking your Social Security benefits and enroll in Part B you will be asked to pay the Part B premium quarterly.

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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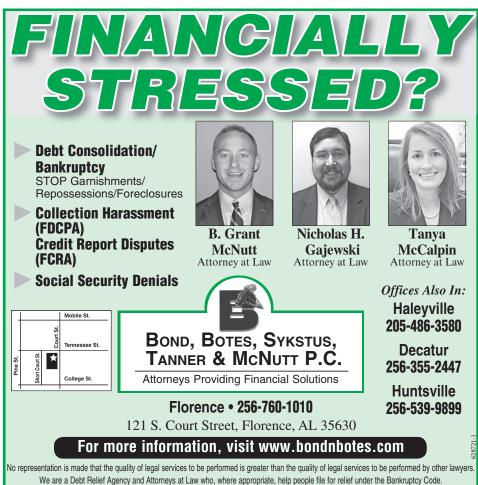
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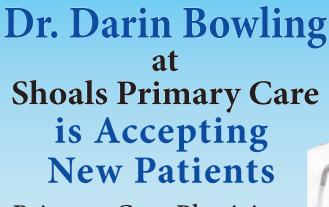


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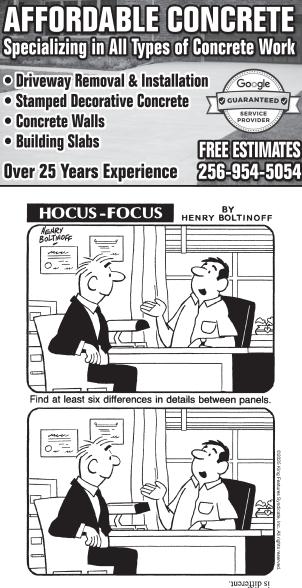
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firefighters in particular

present an increased risk of gender-specific

cancers, which tend to emerge even a decade

sooner, in contrast to

their counterparts in the

general population. Alabama lawmakers

mustactnow. Presumptive

cancer coverage laws must be modernized to include

gender-specific cancers,

remove minimum service

requirements, and extend

protections to volunteer

firefighters. These reforms

are not just legislative housekeeping—they are a moral imperative.

Without them, women who risk their lives

in service, whether as

career professionals or

volunteers, are left to fight

not only fires but also for the medical recognition

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Power is With The People Continued from Page 12

Editor,

I really find it interesting that Americans don't want a KING, when in 2020, they supposedly voted one in! If anyone was King, it was Joe Biden who ignored federal immigration laws and opened our borders to unvetted illegal immigrants to invade our country. He then gave them cell phones, gift cards, and loads of benefits they weren't matild tol entitled to!

President Biden and our democratic party that controlled Congress gave untold billions of dollars to non-governmental organizations to hand out to these millions of illegal immigrants. The end result was increased murders and crime against Americans and trillions of your taxpayer dollars to fund his illegal actions and to support his kingdom!

All this was done by a man whose cognitive abilities were clearly questionable. Who was actually running our government?

saw this Congress opportunity to hide trillions of dollars. Now hide today we have these illegals and their supporters in our streets rioting and looting and flying Mexican and Palestinian flags while in the country which they invaded with the help the true king Joe Biden and his democratic minions!

Now let's talk facts! The American people voted Donald Trump president because they were fed up with King Joe, Queen Kamala, and his Congress. Now a man who was successful in business and had all the money he would ever need was to be our president, not because he loved America and not because he wanted to be king, but because he believes the Constitution in and the rule of law and restore America to the respect and confidence it once had with the world community.

You not only have a man who loves America, but one who is fighting against democratic governors and judges who have decided they have the discretion and right to circumvent the Constitution!

Donald Trump wants to be your President and to put the power and control of this Republic back the way the founding fathers had intended for it to be in the hands of the people.

Philip Goodale Florence

Netanyahu is a **Despot as Well**

Editor.

Benjamin Netanyahu is a hypocrite. He recently complained loudly that Iran targeted a hospital in Israel. This is the complaint of a man who expects everyone to forget what they know about Gaza.

Netanyahu has targeted almost all of Gaza's 36 hospitals. But that is okay, because there are bad guys in those hospitals, and there are nothing but good guys in Israel's hospitals. This reflects a religious chauvinism that says that Judaism is far superior to Islam. This also indicates a political chauvinism that says that Israel is more politically legitimate than other Middle Eastern nations.

In fact, Islam has captured the hearts and minds of many more of the earth's people than Judaism has.

The leaders are the problem, not the people who ignorantly wrongly tolerate despotisms. and their

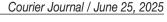
Kimball Shinkoskey Woods Cross, UT

Editor's note: Other issues aside, equating the wartime use of schools and hospitals by Israel with anv militaristic Islamic regime is irrational.

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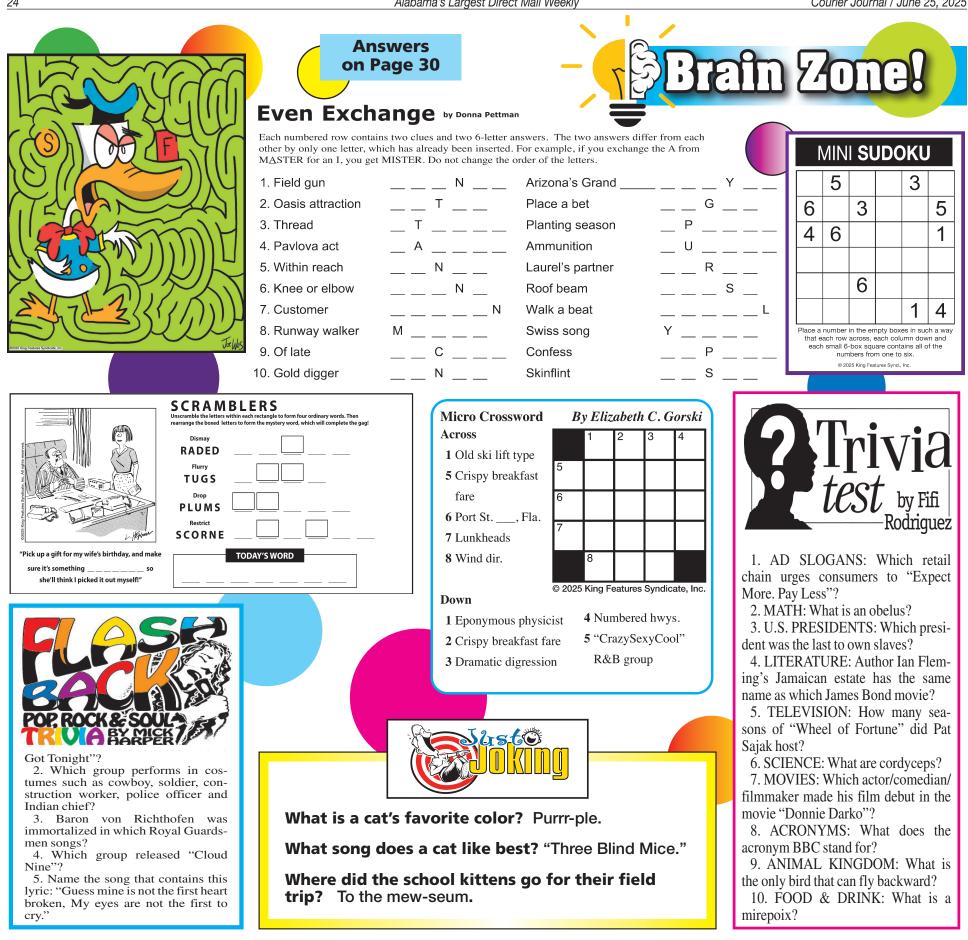


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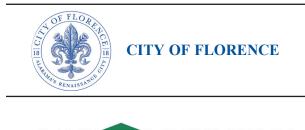
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Courier

Journal

Florence Historian Billy Warren

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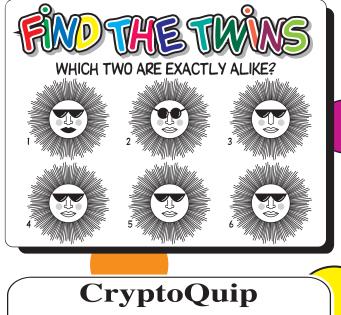
An Unusual Legacy Of Henry Ford The story of Henry Ford's making two trips to the Shoals in the 1920's has been told and retold many times over the past 100 years, with the most recent retelling by the late Thomas Hager in his excellent book, Electric City. Evidently, Ford's visits to the Shoals remained in a positive way in his own memory, as evidenced by an article in the May 17, 1929, issue of the Florence Herald. Headlined "Normal

Museum Gets Ford's Gift," the article reveals the interesting fact that Henry Ford (see accompanying photograph) had, during the same week that the article was published, donated to the museum at Florence Normal College (now the University of North Alabama) a complete set of McGuffey's Readers. These six Readers,

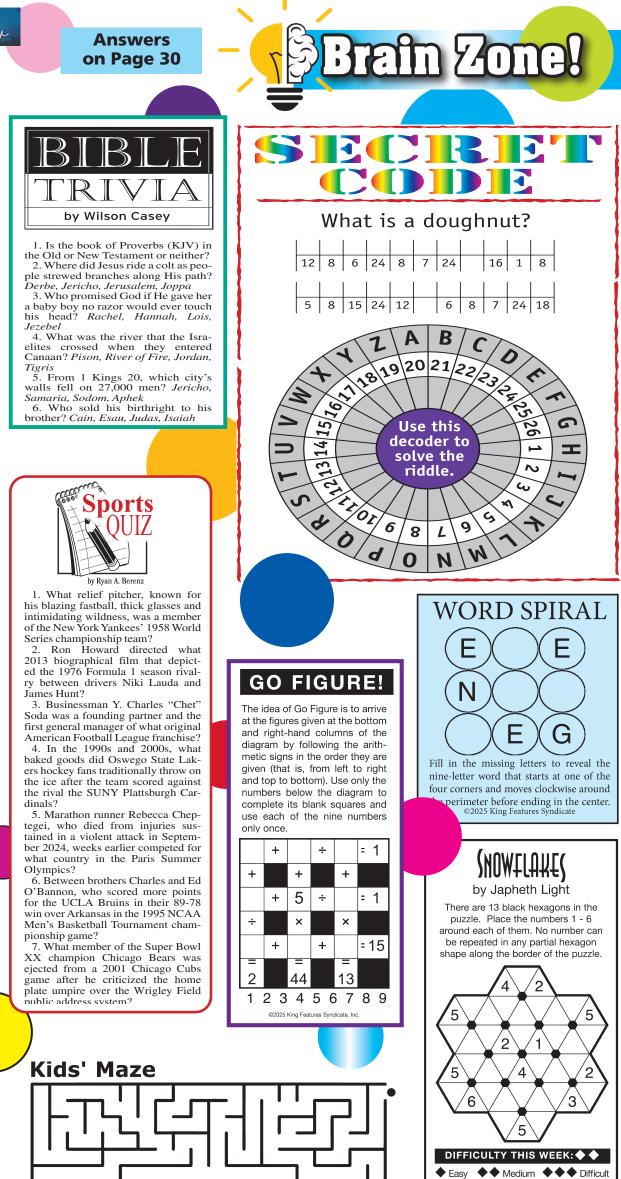


the article continues, "constitute the complete set as copyrighted by McGuffey in 1857 and reprinted under the direction of Mr. Ford in 1928." A fascinating side story to this donation, as recorded in the same Florence Herald article, is that Ford made the donation to the museum at the request of internationally known poet/philosopher, Carl Sandburg, who, the article says, "recently lectured here." (Sandburg's presentation before a packed house at the Princess Theatre on Tennessee Street had, in fact, taken place on Wednesday, April 17, 1929.) Evidently, Mr. Sandburg (see accompanying photograph) was so pleased with the reception he received in Florence that he wanted to leave a "thank-you" gift to his gracious host city.

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



			_									
	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: A equals C											
	YWBFJ	JNN	IFXDE	GLDIW	SUJ							
	WDBO	WΥ	YWWI	JSAG	LJ							
	AGNIILF	Р, А	WВСО,	СРХМ	LDI							
	YNUL:	ΑG	NNJN-	CNEELF	۶J.							
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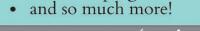




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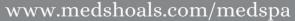


Michelle Vinson, RN Lore Robb, Aesthetician



Anthony Horton, DO

Marshia Burleson, LMT



Dish... **Continued from Page 12**

admission rates apply. granddaughter of the late Delma Stanley, will share memories of her grandmother and her artistry at 11am and 2pm on Saturday, June 28. Marcia Gullett will join Ms. Wright at 2 pm to discuss her own handpainted china.

Tickets for the Saturday presentations are \$15. The price of the ticket includes light refreshments and a tour of the home. They can be purchased at Belle Mont Mansion or online through at Bellemontmansion.com. Wright said her family is delighted about the

opportunity to share their grandmother's china.

"The family of Delma Stanley is very grateful to the Colbert County Historical Landmarks Foundation and the Belle Mont Mansion staff for this opportunity to share the beauty of her artwork that has graced our lives for so many years," Wright said. "Since her passing in 1997, this showing at the Art of the Dish is the first exhibit of her handpainted china, and we believe that Grandmother Stanley's artwork and life story will uplift and inspire those who attend?

The display will include pieces from the personal collections of each of Mrs. Stanley's granddaughters,

including Ms. Wright, Dawn Quinn, and the late Heather Quinn.

"We encourage the community to attend, enjoy the beauty of the various pieces of china and learn more about this very unique form of art," Wright added. "Marcia Gullett, fellow painter and special friend of Grandmother Stanley, will also be displaying her artwork and speaking at the afternoon

program." "It is an honor to share the beautiful artwork of Grandmother Stanley, as she lived in both Tuscumbia and Spring Valley," said her granddaughter, Dawn Quinn. "Her work ethic throughout her life set a standard for the accomplishment of many goals, with an example to be displayed in her hand painted china, which includes a great variety of dishes and accompanying pieces. In addition to my collection, pieces from the collections of my late sister, Heather Quinn, and

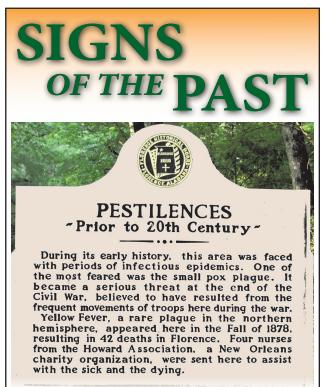


Photos courtesy of Belle Mont Mansion

cousin, Regina Wright, will be displayed. We thank the Colbert County Historical Landmarks Foundation and the Belle Mont Mansion staff for recognizing both Delma Stanley and her dear friend, Marcia Gullett, at this time."

Tickets are on sale now. Tickets will also be available at the door if seats remain. Purchasing in advance is strongly encouraged.

For more information about this event, please call Belle Mont Mansion 256-381-5052 at or emailbellemontmansion@ gmail.com.



Location: 34.8054°N, 87.6983°W Wateroll Rd & Wildwood Park Rs, Florence

Smallpox is a very contagious disease with a high mortality rate of 30%. Due to widespread vaccination efforts, the last natural occurance was declared in 1980. This marker describes the extreme measures communities had to undertake before the discovery of a vaccine.

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

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Cypress Moon Studios and The Full Moon Players Present the Broadway hit musical, Falsettos June 26-29. The story follows the life of a blended family and proves that love finds a way. The play is written and composed by William Finn and James Lapine. It is produced locally by Tonya Holly, directed by Josh Davis and Dylan Bales. Music is directed by Jessica Bailey. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Tickets can be purchased at cypressmoonstudios.org or by calling 256-335-6961.

Community Connected - St. Mark MB Church, 220 E. Alabama St., Florence, will have the second annual Community Connected from 6-8 p.m. June 27. Featuring guest choirs, testimonials, spoken Word and more. Food, clothing giveaway, bounce houses and prizes. Bishop Dr. Will Boyd, Pastor. Rev. Gloria Stokes, Coordinator

Bad Art Fridays - Friday, June 27, 3pm-4pm at the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library. Sometimes our biggest critic is ourselves, and that can hinder creativity. Here at Bad Art Fridays, we strive to create bad art so our inner perfectionist can leave us alone! You don't have to try too hard here, but you do have to have fun!

Additional Dates: June 20, July 4 and July 1

Art of the Dish – Belle Mont Mansion, 1569 Cook Lane, Tuscumbia, will have the exhibit from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. June 26-28. Admission includes tour of the mansion. 256-381-5052

Playwright William Gibson's renowned drama "The Miracle Worker" will be performed outdoors on the grounds of lvy Green, Helen Keller's birthplace in Tuscumbia, at 300 N. Commons in Tuscumbia on weekends through mid-July (June 27, 28). Celebrating over 60 years of performances, the play follows Helen Keller's journey from illness and isolation to her breakthrough under the guidance of Anne Sullivan. Produced by the Helen Keller Foundation, Inc. and directed by Caroline Self, the show features authentic period costumes and professional acting. For tickets or to request special seating accommodations (with at least two weeks' notice), contact 256-383-4066 or email helenkellerbirthplace@comcast.net.

Gourmet Gallery at the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library

Wednesday, June 25, 3pm-4pm The great artists of old used wonderful techniques to create their masterpieces. You only have food! Every week, we'll learn about a new artist and try to replicate a masterpiece of theirs through the medium of candy. Now you get to eat artwork: a dream come true! Additional Dates: July 2 and July 9.

Middle-Grade DND: at the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library Thursday, June 26, 3pm-4pm It's time for our Summer Campaign! Filled with travel, art, and humor,

our Summer DND program is not one to be missed. Do you have what it takes to find art for your museum? Ages 11-14. Additional Dates: July 3 and July 10

Book Bingo - Friday, June 27, 2- 2:30pm at the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library. Play Bingo for a chance to win some fun books!

Additional Dates: June 27 and July 11

Florence Camerata will sponsor a Cabaret-style fundraising event featuring many talented local soloists and small groups on <u>Sunday</u> <u>afternoon, June 29</u> at 2pm. The performance, entitled "BY POPULAR DEMAND," will be on in the basement annex of the First Presbyterian will be on in the basement annex of the First Presbyterian Church in Florence. This will be a casual, intimate setting with table seating and refreshments. It is a fundraiser for Florence Camerata, so donations will be solicited. For more information, call 256-810-9512, or check our Facebook page (Florence Camerata) or visit www. FlorenceCamerata.com.

Courtland Heritage Museum - Saturday, June 28 and every Saturday. Located at the East side of Courtland's downtown Square, Courtland, AL

Volunteer docents are available each week to explain exhibits and answer questions. The museum will also be open upon request to clubs, organizations and groups seeking to learn more about the area's rich history. There is no admission charge though donations to the museum's history collection efforts are welcome and appreciated. www. courtlandalabama.com

Religious Abuse Support Group of the Shoals will meet the first (July 6) and last Sunday (June 29) of every month. Time and location will vary. Check Facebook for details: https:// www. facebook.com/ragshoals

Whimsical Workshop - Tuesday, July 1, 1pm-2pm at the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library. Here at Whimsical Workshop, we focus on all things crafts! Create fantastic art that you can bring home with you, and show off your creation during Show and Tell! Every week there will be a new craft for you to pour your heart into. Ages 15-18. Additional Dates: June 24, July 8.

"Hi Neighbors of the Shoals" meets at the Florence Public Library on the first Tuesday of each month (July 1) at 10:30am. We are a women's social group welcoming all ladies who are residents of the Shoals area. Come join us! Contact Christina Dickinson, 262-930-7762, for further details.

July 2 - Sunrise Swimming at Royal Recreation Center. Early risers can dive into the day with Sunrise Swimming, held Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 6-7:20 AM at the Royal Recreation Center. The session runs from July 2 to August 1 for a flat fee of \$60. For details, call 256-760-6425

See NOTES... page 30





1973 and sits on 4.6 acres. The home features 2 BR's, 3 BA's, LR/DR combo, formal LR, kitchen, laundry room, carport, full walkout basement, deck and patio area.

Personal Property: 2000 SeaArk 1652-P boat & trailer, 2006 Volkswagen Beetle convertible (110K miles, not running), 7 ft rotary cutter, 8 ft bumper trailer, Troy-Bilt tiller, official U.S. Mint Proof Sets, antique and vintage furniture, china cabinets, buffet, lamps, UA memorabilia, appliances, guilts, pocket knives and much more.

Open House: Sun., June 22, 1-3PM Pick Up: Sat., June 28, 9-3PM

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Page 1 of 2

2024 Annual Water Quality Report

(Testing Performed January through December 2024)

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we deliver to you every day. 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 providing our customers with the safest and highest quality drinking water possible. This Water Quality Report is required by the Safe Drinking Water Act and tells you where your water comes from, what tests by independent laboratories show about it and other information you should know about your drinking water. know about your drinking water.

Our surface water treatment plant is located at 16531 US Hwy 72, where we source water from the Tennessee River. The treatment process utilizes coagulation, sedimentation, flocculation, disinfection and filtration.

The Colbert County Rural Water System is governed by the Colbert County Commission. Commission members are as follows:

County Commissioners

Tommy Barnes – District 1 W. Tyrus Mansell – District 2 Jimmy Gardiner – District 3 Tori Bailey – District 4 Darol Bendall - District 5 David C. Isom – District 6 Jeremy Robison – County Engineer

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Jeremy Robison, County Engineer, 256-386-8504. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. at the Colbert County Courthouse.

On March 14, 2023, the EPA announced the proposed National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) to establish legally enforceable levels for six PFAS in drinking water. On April 10, 2024, the EPA finalized its proposed NPDWR, and announced its expectation that "over many years the final rule will prevent PFAS exposure in drinking water for approximately 100 million people, prevent thousands of deaths, and reduce tens of thousands of serious PFAS-attributable illnesses."

The EPA's new regulation provides a window of up to five years for public water systems to reach full compliance. Colbert County Rural Water has been monitoring PFAS, notifying the public of the levels of these PFAS, and undertaking efforts to evaluate how best to reduce the levels of these PFAS in drinking water. Due to the unique chemical properties of PFAS, conventional water treatment plants are incapable of fully removing PEAS from drinking water. removing PFAS from drinking water.

As a result, CCRW is evaluating state-of-the-art water filtration systems to reduce PFAS to non-detectable levels. CCRW is currently working with our engineers to select the best method of removing PFAS from our water supply.

CCRW does not believe that the past, present and future capital costs and increased operational expenses associated with removing PFAS from our water supply should be the responsibility of our ratepayers. For that reason, we engaged and retained outside legal counsel with extensive experience in PFAS litigation to evaluate and litigate claims against those responsible for the PFAS chemicals in our water supply. CCRW filed suit in the Circuit Court of Colbert County, Alabama in 2023 and while we cannot comment on perding litigation filed suit in the Circuit Court of Colbert County, Alabama in 2023 and while we cannot comment on pending litigation, our lawsuit against PFAS chemical manufacturers and others responsible for the PFAS contamination is moving forward in the Circuit Court of Colbert County, Alabama. It remains our goal to hold those that contaminated our water supply with PFAS responsible for all past, present, and future costs associated with removing their PFAS contamination from our drinking water.

More information about contaminants to drinking water and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (1-800-426-4791).

Source Water Assessment: We have developed a source water protection plan that can be reviewed in our office. This plan provides additional information such as potential sources of contamination. No sites evaluated pose a significant risk to our customers. It includes a susceptibility analysis, which classified potential contaminants as high, moderate, or non-susceptible (low) to contaminating the water source. It has been determined by the assessment that the source water susceptibility ranking has a low-risk potential. The assessment has been performed. by the assessment that the source water susceptibility ranking has a low-risk potential. The assessment has been performed, public notification has been completed, and the plan was approved by ADEM. Anyone wishing to review the SWAP can review it at our office (appointment required). Please help us make this effort worthwhile by protecting our source of water. Carefully follow instructions on pesticides and herbicides you use for your lawn and garden, and properly dispose of household chemicals, paints, and waste oil.

UCMR5

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires that once every five years the EPA issues a list of unregulated contaminants to be monitored by public water systems (PWSs).

The fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5) was published on December 27, 2021. UCMR 5 requires sample collection for 30 chemical contaminants between 2023 and 2025 using analytical methods developed by the EPA and consensus organizations. This action provides the agency and other interested parties with scientifically valid data on the national occurrence of these contaminants in drinking water. The next table is a list of the contaminants that are being tested for during the LICMR 5 along with their results. the UCMR5 along with their results.

Colbert County Rural Water Unregulated Contaminant Rule 5 (UCMR5) Contaminants										
Contaminants	Unit Msmt	Level Detected	Contaminant	Unit Msmt	Level Detected					
Lithium	ppt	ND	PFHxA	ppt	4.5					
11CI-PF3OUdS	ppt	ND	PFHxS	ppt	3.4					
4:2 FTS	ppt	ND	PFMBA	ppt	ND					
6:2 FTS	ppt	ND	PFMPA	ppt	ND					
8:2 FTS	ppt	ND	PFNA	ppt	ND					
9CI-PF3ONS	ppt	ND	PFOA	ppt	13.0					
ADONA	ppt	ND	PFOS	ppt	23.2					
HFPO-DA	ppt	ND	PFPeA	ppt	3.0					
NFDHA	ppt	ND	PFPeS	ppt	ND					
PFBA	ppt	8.6	PFUnA	ppt	ND					
PFBS	ppt	5.6	NEtFOSAA	ppt	ND					
PFDA	ppt	ND	NMeFOSAA	ppt	ND					
PFDoA	ppt	ND	PFTA	ppt	ND					
PFEESA	ppt	ND	PFTrDA	ppt	ND					
PFHpA	ppt	4.0								
PFHpS	ppt	ND								

Colbert County Rural Wate Detected Drinking Water

		Contam	inants					
Contaminants	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination		
Gross Alpha	NO	ND	рСі/І	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits		
Gross Beta	NO	ND	рСі/І	0	4	Erosion of natural deposits		
Chlorine	NO	0.6-2.5 1.55 avg	ppm	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes		
Turbidity	NO	.10	NTU	n/a	Π	Soil runoff		
Barium	NO	0.0244	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits		
Copper	NO	0.017	ppm	1.3	AL=1 . 3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching of preservatives		
Lead	NO	ND	ppm	.15	AL=. 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits		
Fluoride	NO	0.452	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive which promotes strong teeth: Discharge from factories		
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	NO	0.878	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits		
TTHM -Total trihalomethanes	NO	28.9 LRAA 15.8-57.0	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination		
HAA5 -Total haloacetic acids	NO	33.2 LRAA 15.9-54.5	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination		
Unregulated Contaminants								
Chloroform	NO	0.0098	ppb	Image: Constraint of the second sec				
Bromodichloromethane	NO	0.0068	ppb	0	n/a	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff		
Perfluorooctanoic Acid	NO	9.81	ppt	n/a	n/a	Product that resists heat, oil, stains, grease, and water		
Secondary Contaminants								
Aluminum	NO	0.0607	ppm	n/a	0.2	Erosion; treatment with water additives		
Chloride	NO	10.6	ppm	n/a	250	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff		
Hardness	NO	82.8	ppm	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring; treatment with water additives		
Iron	NO	ND	ppm	n/a	0.30	Occurs naturally or from water treatment		
Manganese	NO	ND	ppm	n/a	0.05	Occurs naturally		
pН	NO	6.5	S.U.	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring; treatment with water additives		
Specific Conductance	NO	205.0	umhos	n/a	<500	Occurs naturally or from water treatment		
Sodium	NO	5.11	ppm	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring in the environment		
Sulfate	NO	19.8	ppm	n/a	250	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff		
Total Dissolved Solids	NO	114	ppm	n/a	500	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff		

Muscle Shoals Utility Board

		Detected Contam	d Drinking inants	Water			
Contaminants	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination	
Chlorine	NO	1.9 avg. 1.61 – 2.20	ppm	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes	
Turbidity	NO	0.10	NTU	n/a	TT	Soil runoff	
Barium	NO	0.0199	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	
Copper	NO	0.0015	1 - 220 PPM N Non-construction of construction constructin construction construction constru				
Fluoride	NO	0.831	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive which promotes strong teeth: Discharge from factories	
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	NO	1.08	ppm	10	10		
TTHM -Total trihalomethanes	NO	22.9 avg. 6.0 - 41.5	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination	
HAA5 -Total haloacetic acids	NO	23.4 avg. 1.0 – 42.6	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination	
Unregulated Contaminants							
Chloroform	NO	2.10	ppb	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff	
Bromodichloromethane	NO	2.2	ppb	0	n/a	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff	
Perfluorooctanoic Acid	NO	9.81	ppt	n/a	n/a	Product that resists heat, oil, stains, grease, and water	
Secondary Contaminants							
Aluminum	NO	0.0831	ppm	n/a	0.2	Erosion; treatment with water additives	
Chloride	NO	12.9	ppm	n/a	250	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff	
Hardness	NO	68.0	ppm	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring; treatment with water additives	
Iron	NO	0.031	ppm	n/a	0.30	Occurs naturally or from water treatment	
Manganese	NO	0.00485	ppm	n/a	0.05	Occurs naturally	
pН	NO	7.2	S.U.	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring; treatment with water additives	
Sodium	NO	7.31	ppm	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring in the environment	
Sulfate	NO	8.59	ppm	n/a	250	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff	
Total Dissolved Solids	NO	129	ppm	n/a	500	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff	

	luka Detected Drinking Water Contaminants Detected Drinking Water Contaminants											
Contaminants	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination						
Chlorine	NO	0.80-1.60 1.40	ppm	4.0	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes						
Copper	NO	0.04	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion; leaching from wood preservatives						
Lead	NO	0.015	ppm	.15	AL=.15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits						
Barium	NO	0.0095	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits						
Chromium	NO	0.005	ppm	0.1	0.1	By-product of drinking water chlorination						
Nitrate	NO	0.205	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits						
Sodium	NO	0.149	ppb	20	20	Naturally occurring in the environment						
* Figure shown is 90th percentil	e and # of sit	es above Action L	evel (AL)									

Colbert County Rural Water System AL0000314

2750 Hwy 20 • Tuscumbia, AL 35674 Phone 256-386-8504 Hours: 6:00 am -2:30 pm, Monday- Friday

UCMR Definitions:

UCMR Minimum Reporting Level (MRL): The minimum concentration that may be reported by a laboratory as a quantified value for a method analyte following analysis. The MRLs were established based on the capability of the analytical method, not based on a level established as "significant" or "harmful". UCMR Reference Concentration: The reference concentrations are based on publicly available health information found in the following EPA resources: 2018 Edition of the Drinking Water Standards and Health Advisories Tables [i.e., Health advisories (HA)] and the CCL 4 Contaminant Information Sheets [i.e., Health Reference Levels (HRLs)]. The primary sources of the health information used to derive the guideline values in the resources referenced above are peer-reviewed assessments from EPA or other governmental agencies. The reference concentrations are subject to change as new health assessments are completed. Reference Concentrations are not legally enforceable federal standards. Health Reference Levels (HRL): The CCL process derives HRLs for

legally enforceable federal standards. <u>Health Reference Levels (HRL)</u>: The CCL process derives HRLs for screening purposes using available data and can be used in the Regulatory Determination process as risk-derived concentrations against which to evaluate the occurrence data to determine if contaminants may occur at levels of public health concern. HRLs are not final determinations about the level of a contaminant in drinking water that is necessary to protect any particular population and, in some cases, are derived prior to development of a complete exposure assessment using the best available data. HRLs are not legally enforceable federal standards <u>Health Advisories (HA)</u>: Has rowide information on contaminants that can elopment of

legally enforceable federal standards <u>Health Advisories (HA):</u> Has provide information on contaminants that can cause human health effects and are known or anticipated to occur in drinking water. EPA's health advisories are non-enforceable and non-regulatory and provide technical information to State agencies and other public health officials on health effects, analytical methodologies and treatment technologies to assist with risk management decisions.

Level 1 Assessment: "A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system."

Level 2 Assessment: "A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions."

General Information: All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. MCL's, defined in a List of Definitions in this report, are set at very stringent levels

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include 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 activity. 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.

- 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
 - or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or
 - .
 - 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 runoff, and septic systems. *Radioactive contaminants*, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
 - result of oil and gas production and mining activities

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the number of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water.

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. People at risk 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).

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. Thus, monitoring for these contaminants was not required.

Lead in Drinking Water: "If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. *NEVER make baby formula with warm or hot tap water*. 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 is rarely found in source water. If lead is present in tap water, it is Lead is rarely found in source water. If lead is present in tap water, it is primarily from corrosion of materials that were used in older plumbing, solder that connects pipes, or from pipes connecting a house to the main water pipe in the street. Lead is no longer used in manufacturing these products, but plumbing components containing lead may still remain in some older homes and buildings. When water sits for several hours in pipes containing these older materials, lead can leach into the water. Boiling will NOT reduce the amount of lead in your water. If you choose to have your tap water tested, be sure to use a properly certified laboratory. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize your family's exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water hotline at 800-426-4791 and from <u>http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead/tips/water.htm</u>. NO

Viol V/N

NO

Viola Y/N

NO

2.1

0.15

0.21

0.069

0.054

1.0

52.5 avg

59.0 avg

28.0

10.05

0.027-0.049

0.0831

12.9

68.0

0.031

7.2

7.31

8.6

129

Level

0.034

0.718

0.0332

1.49

0.133

0.81

1.78

3.89

2.44

28.8

22.4

Level Detect

1.74 avg

.030-.021-100

0.005

.04

ND

0.647

3.0

5.41

2.3

1.3

NA

5.76

24.7

0.010

0.005

7 50

6.03

1.41

140.0

Contaminants

Chlorine

Barium

Copper

Fluoride

Nitrate (as Nitrogen)

TTHM -Total trihalomethanes

HAA5 -Total haloacetic acids

Unregulated Contami

Perfluorooctanoic Acid

Chloroform

Aluminum

Chloride

Iron

Mangane

Sodium

Sulfate

Total Disso lved So

Contaminants Turbidity

Barium

Chromium

Lead

Nitrate (as Nitrogen)

TTHM -Total trih

HAA5-Total * Figure sha

Contaminants

Chlorine

Turbidity

Barium

Fluroid

Nitroto (oo h

TTHM -Total triha

Unregulated Con

Chloroform

Perfluoro

Chloride

Iron

Mangan

Sodium

Sulfate

Total Dissolved Solids

Bromodichloro

Secondary Contami

HAA5 -Total haloacetic acids

Town of Cherokee Detected Drinking Water Contaminants

Detected Tuscumbia Utilities Detected Drinking Water Contaminante

West Morgan East Lawrence Detected Drinking Water Contaminants

MCLG MCL

2024 Annual Water Quality Report

(Testing Performed January through December 2024)

Colbert County Rural Water System AL0000314

2750 Hwy 20 • Tuscumbia, AL 35674 Phone 256-386-8504 Hours: 6:00 am -2:30 pm, Monday- Friday

Likely Source of Contamination

We use an independent laboratory to analyze samples from our distribution system for lead according to a monitoring schedule set by ADEM. Your water system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials that were used in household plumbing. The EPA and the CDC make the following recommendations:

- Before using any tap water for drinking or cooking, flush your water system by running the kitchen tap (or any other tap you take drinking or cooking water from) on COLD for 1–2 minutes. Flushing can minimize the potential for lead exposure, especially if the water has been sitting undisturbed for several hours, as in overnight. In all situations, especially for making baby formula, drink or cook only with water that comes out of the cold tap. Warm or hot tap water is more likely to cause lead to leach from plumbing materials.
- from plumbing materials
- Periodically remove the aerator on the tip of the faucet and wash out any debris such as metal particles.

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, here at Colbert County we are pleased to report, that we had 0 – Lead Service Lines, 0 – Galvanize Required Replacement Service Lines, 0 – Unknown, and 5552 Non-Lead Service Lines.

Our source water is also tested for pathogens, such as Cryptosporidium and Giardia. These pathogens can enter the water from animal or human waste. For people who may be immuno-compromised, a guidance document developed jointly by the Environmental Protection Agency and the Center for Disease Control is available online at <u>www.epa.gov/safewater/crypto.html</u> or from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791. All test results were well within state and fiederal standards. *Cryptosporidium and Giardia have not been detected in our finished drinking water*. drinking water.

Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the U.S. **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.

Monitoring Results

DEFINITIONS

As you can see by the tables, our system had no violations. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. We are pleased to report that our drinking water meets federal and state requirements. The tables below show only those contaminants that were detected.

			lawk Prid d Drinking inants		ain			
Contaminants	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination		
Chlorine	NO	1.95 avg. 1.70 – 2.20	ppm	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes		
Turbidity	NO	0.039	NTU	n/a	Π	Soil runoff		
Barium	NO	0.03	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits		
Copper	NO	0.19	ppm	1.3	AL=1 .3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching of preservatives		
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	NO	0.95	ppm	MCLG MCL Likely Source of Contamination 4 4 Water additive used to control microbes n/a TT Soil runoff 2 2 Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from m refineries; erosion of natural deposits 1.3 AL=1 Corrosion of household plumbing systems; ero natural deposits; leaching for preservatives 10 10 Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching for m septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits 0 80 By-product of drinking water chlorination 0 60 By-product of drinking water chlorination 10 n/a Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultur n/a n/a n/a Product that resists heat, oil, stains, grease, and w 11 Kinal Erosion of natural deposits 10 1/a Erosion of natural deposits 11/a 1/a Erosion of natural deposits 11/a 250 Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultur n/a n/a 1/a Erosion of natural deposits 11/a 250 Naturally occurring; treatment with water addlik n/a				
TTHM -Total trihalomethanes	NO	6.90 avg. 4.0 - 10.0	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination		
HAA5 -Total haloacetic acids	NO	1.31 avg. ND – 4.8	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination		
Unregulated Contaminants								
Chloroform	NO	4.27	ppb	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff		
Bromodichloromethane	NO	2.4	ppb	0	n/a	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff		
Perfluorooctanoic Acid	NO	2.0-11.0	ppt	n/a	n/a	Product that resists heat, oil, stains, grease, and water		
Secondary Contaminants								
Alalinity, Total	NO	209	ppm	n/a	n/a	Erosion of natural deposits		
Calcium	NO	84.5	ppm			Erosion of natural deposits		
Chloride	NO	6.37	ppm	n/a	250	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff		
Hardness	NO	224.0	ppm	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring; treatment with water additives		
Magnesium	NO	3.14	ppm	n/a	n/a	Occurs naturally		
рН	NO	7.1	S.U.	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring; treatment with water additives		
Sodium	NO	3.58	ppm	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring in the environment		
Sulfate	NO	5.58	ppm	n/a	250	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff		
Total Dissolved Solids	NO	240	ppm	n/a	500	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff		

Action Level- the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. <u>Coliform Absent</u> (ca)- Laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present. <u>Cryptosporidium</u> - a microscopic parasite that can cause disease, mainly diarrhea, if

swallowed. <u>Disinfection byproducts</u> (DBPs)- are formed when disinfectants used in water treatm plants react with bromide and/or natural organic matter (i.e., decaying vegetation) pre

below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety. <u>Maxir</u> um Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) the highest level of a disinfectant allowed

Marking water Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (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. Millirems per year (mrem/yr)-measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

absorbed by the body. Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)-a measure of the clarity of water. Non-Detect (ND)- laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present above detection limits of lab equipment. Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (µg/I)-one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10.000 DDD vears, or a single penny in

Distribution System Evaluation (DSE)-a 4-quarter study to identify distribution system locations with high concentrations of DBPs. <u>Maximum Contaminant Level</u> (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. \$10,000,DDD. Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)- the level of a contaminant in drinking water

Below is a table of contaminants for which the Below is a table of contaminants for which the Environmental Protection Agency and the Alabama Department of Environmental Management require testing where applicable. These contaminants were not detected in your drinking water unless they are also listed in the Detected Drinking Water Contaminants table elsewhere in this report.

Page 2 of 2

	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes	table elsewher	emu	ins repor	ι.		
NTU	n/a	Π	Soil runoff	STANDARD			DRINKING WATER CO		NTS
ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal	Contaminant	MCL	Unit of	Contaminant	MCL	Unit
			refineries; erosion of natural deposits			Msmt			Msr
ppm	1.3	AL=1 .3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching of preservatives	Bacteriolooical Contam			cis-1,2-Dichloroethvlene	70	00
ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive which	Total ColiformBacteria	<5%	presenUab sent	trans-1,2- Dichloroethylene	100	PP
			promotes strong teeth: Discharge from factories	Fecal Coliform and E.coli	0	presenUab sent	Dichloromethane	5	PP
ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	Turbidity	тт	NTU	1,2-Dichloropropane	5	pr
ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination	Cryptosporidium	π	Cale.organi	Di (2-ethylhexvl)adipate	400	pp
			,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	De dista da el Contenda		sms/l	DI (O altalia and datalata		
ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination	Radiolooical Contamin	-		Di (2-eth;lhexvllphthalate	6	pp
	_			Aloha emitters	4	oCi/l	Dinoseb Dioxin r2.3.7.8-TCDDI	7	0 0
a a b	10			Combined radium	5	pCi/l	Diquat	20	
ppb	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff	Uranium	30	pCi/l	Endothall	100	pr
ppb	0	n/a	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff	Inorganic Chemicals	30	poer	Endrin	2	PF PF
Ug/I	n/a	n/a	Product that resists heat, oil, stains, grease, and water	Antimony	6	ppb	Eoichlorohvdrin	π	т
				Arsenic	10	ppb	Ethvlbenzene	700	pp
ppm	n/a	0.2	Erosion; treatment with water additives	Asbestos	7	MFL	Ethvlene dibromide	50	p
ppm	n/a	250	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff	Barium	2	ppm	Glyphosate	700	pp
ppm	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring; treatment with water additives	Beryllium	4	ppb	Heptachlor	400	pp
ppm	n/a	0.30	Occurs naturally or from water treatment	Cadmium	5	ppb	Heplachlor epoxide	200	p
ppm	n/a	0.05	Occurs naturally	Chromium	100	ppb	Hexachlorobenzene	1	pp
S.U.	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring; treatment with water additives	Copper	AL=	ppm	Hexachlorocvclooentadie	50	pp
ppm	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring in the environment	Cvanide	1.3 200	poh	ne Lindane	200	pp
ppm	n/a	250	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff	Fluoride	200	ppb	Methoxychlor	40	
ppm	n/a	500	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff	Lead	AL=1	ppin	Oxamyl [Vydate]	200	PF
			,		5	hho	Sydniyi [vyuato]	200	PF
eter 7	uecum	114004	0e	Mercury	2	ppb	Polychlorinated biphenyls	0.5	pp
Drinkir ants	uscumbia Ig Water	Junt		Nitrate	10	ppm	Pentachlorophenol	1	pp
Unit			Likely	Nitrite	1	ppm	Picloram	500	pp
	MCLG	MCL	Source of Contamination	Selenium	.05	ppm	Simazine	4	pp
				Thallium	.002	ppm	Stvrene	100	pp
NTU	n/a	Π	Soil runoff	Oraanic Contaminants	-		Tetrachloroethvlene	5	Po
ppb	0	50	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	2,4-D	70	ppb	Toluene	1	pp
ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	Acrylamide	Π	Π	Toxaphene	3	pp
ant	-	400		Alachlor	2	ppb	2,4,5-TP(Silvex)	50	pp
ppb	0	100	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	Alrazine	3	oob	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	.07	рр
ppm	1.3	AL=1 .3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching of preservatives	Benzene	5	ppb	1,1,1-Trichloroethane	200	pp
ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive which	Benzo(alovrene rPAHsl	200	ppt	1,1,2-Trichloroethane	5	00
			promotes strong teeth: Discharge from factories	Carbofuran	40	ppb	Trichloroethylene	5	рр
ppm	0	0.01	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits;	Carbon tetrachloride	5	ppb	Vinyl Chloride	2	pp
ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic	Chlordane	2	ppb	Xylenes	10	рр
nnh	0	50	tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal	Chlorobenzene	100	ppb	Disinfectants & Disinfect	tionByprodu	ucts
ppb	0	50	refineries; erosion of natural deposits	Dalapon	200	ppb	Chlorine	4	ppr
ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination	Dibromochloropropane	200	ppt	Chlorine Dioxide	800	pp
ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination	1,2-Dichlorobenzene	1000	DPb	Chloramines	4	001
I (AL) =	0			1,4-Dichlorobenzene (para)	75	ppb	Bromate	10	pp
Morga	n East Lav	wrence	3	o-Dichlorobenzene	600	ppb	Chlorite	1	ppi
Drinkir ants	ng Water			1,2-Dichloroethane	5	ppb	HAA5 [Total haloacetic acids]	60	pp
Unit			Likely	1,1-Dichloroethvlene	7	ppb	TTHM [Total	80	pp
	MCLG	MCL	Source of Contamination				trihalomelhanesl		
				A.U., U. 10	-		DARY CONTAMINANTS	0- 15	
ppm	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes	Alkalinitv, Total (as CA, CoJ\	Сорр	er	Manqanese	Specific C	onducta
NTU	n/a	π	Soil runoff	Aluminum	Corro	sivitv	Odor	Sulfate	
1410	1Vd			Calcium, as Ca	Foam fMBA	iina aaents S\	Nickel	Total Diss	solved S
ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	Carbon Dioxide	Hardr		pH	Zinc	
ppm	1.3	AL=1	Corrosion of household plumbing systems: erosion of	Chloride	Iron		Silver		
		.3	natural deposits; leaching of preservatives	Color	Maqn	esium	Sodium		
ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive which promotes strong teeth: Discharge from factories				LATED CONTAMINANTS		
ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic	Aldicarb	Chlor	oethane	Dieldrin	Procachio	or
		<u> </u>	tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	AldicarbSulfone	Chlor	oform	Hexachlorobutadiene	N-Propylb	enzene
ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination	AldicarbSulfoxide	Chlor	omethane	3-Hvdroxvcarbofuran	Procachio	or
ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination	Aldrin	0-Chi	orotoluene	isoprpylbenzene	1,1,1,2- Tetrachlore	oethane
		-1	Naturality and prior in the birth of the state of the sta	Bromoacetic Acid	P-Chi	lorotoluene	p-isopropyltoluene	1,1,2,2-	
· · · ·	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff					Tetrachlore	
ppb	n/a	n/a	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff	Bromobenzene	Dibro ne	mochlorometha	M-Dichlorobenzene	Tetrachlon	oethene
ppb	n/a	n/a	Product that resists heat, oil, stains, grease, and water	Bromochloromethane	1,2-D	ibromoethane	Methomvi	Trichloroa	icetic Ac
	-	0.2	Erosion; treatment with water additives	Bromodichloromethane	Dibro	momethane	Methvlene chloride	1,2,3-Trict	hlorober
ppb ppt	n/a	250	Naturally occurring; industrial discharge; agricultural runoff	Bromoform	1,1-D	ichloroethane	Methvl tert-butvl ether	Trichloroel	thene
ppb ppt ppm	n/a n/a	-	Naturally occurring; treatment with water additives	Bromomethane	1,3-D	ichloroorooane	Metolachlor	Trichlorofl	uorome
ppb ppt ppm ppm	n/a	p/a	Occurs naturally or from water treatment	Butachlor	2,2-D	ichloropropane	Metribuzin	1,2,3-Trict	hloropro
ppb ppt ppm ppm		n/a 0.3			110	ichloropropene	MTBE	1,2,4-	enzene
ppb ppt ppm ppm	n/a n/a		Occurs naturally	N-Butylbenzene	1,10			Inmethvin	
ppb ppt ppm ppm ppm	n/a n/a n/a	0.3		N-Butylbenzene Sec-Butylbenzene			Naphthalene	Trimethylb 1,3,5-	
ppb ppt ppm ppm ppm ppm	n/a n/a n/a n/a	0.3	Occurs naturally	Sec-Butvibenzene	1,3-D	ichloroorooene	Naphthalene		
ppb ppt ppm ppm ppm ppm ppm S.U.	n/a n/a n/a n/a n/a	0.3 0.5 n/a	Occurs naturally Naturally occurring; treatment with water additives		1,3-D Dican	ichloroorooene	Naphthalene 1-Naphthol Paraquat	1,3,5-	

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 quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms. per liter (picograms/l)-one part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,0D0,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,D00,000,000. Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l)-one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,0D0,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,D00. 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,D00. Parts per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,D00.

single penny in \$10,000,000,DO0.
<u>Picocuries per liter</u> (pCi/L)-picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in w Running Annual Average (LRAA)-yearly average of all the DPB results at each speci sampling site in the distribution system.

sampling site in the distribution system. <u>Standard Units</u> (S.U.)-pH of water measures the water's balances of acids and bases and is affected by temperature and carbon dioxide gas. <u>Treatment Technique</u> (TT)- a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. <u>Variances & Exemptions</u> (V&E)-State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

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ONE LOVE

Notes... Continued from page 27

The Solid Waste office will be closed Friday, July 4, and the Lauderdale County landfill will close at noon July 4. The office and the landfill will reopen Monday July 7. This keeps residential pickup from being disrupted to Saturday or the following week. Anyone with any questions can call the solid waste office at 256-760-5878.

Starkey

The Annual Board Meeting for the Spring Valley Water System takes place at 6pm Thursday, July 3 at the Spring Valley Water System Office, 912 Lagrange Road. 256-383-1666 This meeting will include board elections.

The 42nd Annual Spirit of Freedom Celebration is Friday, July 4. Celebrate Independence Day at McFarland Park with a day full of fun with food trucks and live music. Then enjoy fireworks over the river at night! Food trucks open at 11am. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, and your favorite people for a laid-back, family-friendly day by the river. Free entry. Everyone is welcome.

4th of July at The Old Railroad Bridge will once again offer the best view of the July 4 fireworks in the Shoals. The ORBC board of directors will use the opportunity to help raise money for the bridge's upkeep.

The Lauderdale County will run its normal household garbage pickup schedule on Friday, July 4.

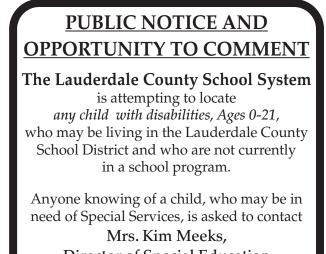
The Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts in Florence will present a fiber exhibition, "Holding on to Past & Present Memories" by Mississippi artist Lukuise Swanigan from July 6 – August 21. A reception for the artist will take place Sunday, July 13, from 1-4 pm in conjunction with the opening of the "Mostly Blues Invitational" exhibit. A 'Meet & Greet' opportunity with Swanigan will take place at 2:30pm where she will briefly discuss her creative process with fiber art. The Aberdeen, MS native is a self -taught artist inspired by nature and

-taught artist inspired by nature and childhood memories. Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts tours are free and open to the public. The KD Art Center is located at 217 E. Tuscaloosa St. in Florence and can be

reached by calling 256-760-6379. **CaringPlace Caregiver Support Group**, second Monday (July 7) of each month, 10-11 a.m., CaringPlace Center, 216 Marengo St., Suite I, Florence. Grief Group follows, 11-11: 30am. Information, Eileen Nunnelly, 256-762-1166.

Summer Reading Event: James Spann Weather Program - Tuesday, July 8, 10am-11am at the Sheffield Public Library, on Montgomery Ave. (256) 386-5633

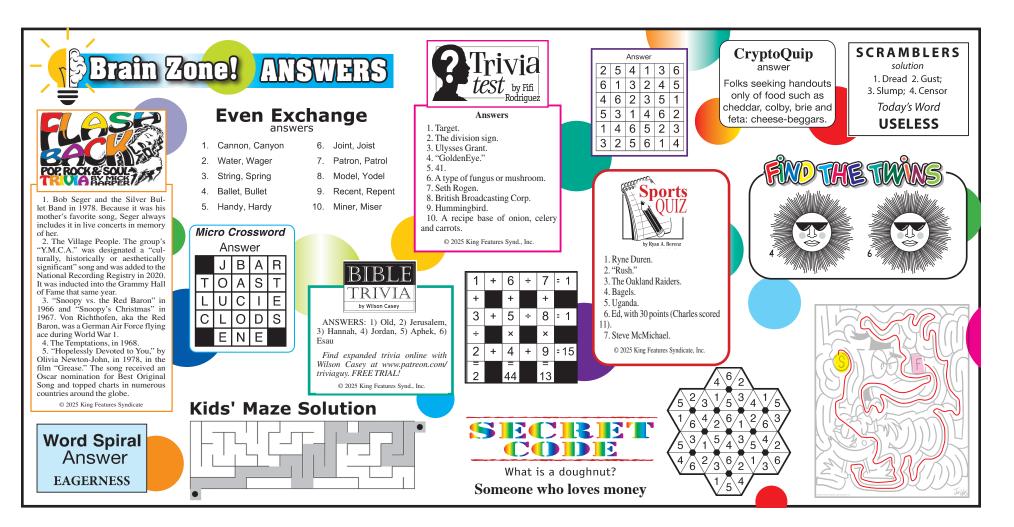
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between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday.

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

Meet Pilot!

This sweet boy has been through more than any dog should. Pilot was found tied to a pole with no food and water, abandoned and left behind. Despite it all, he still has a gentle spirit and a loving heart. Pilot is completely blind, which is his biggest challenge, but he handles it bravely. Because of his condition, he may get

Meet Farron & Fallon!



overwhelmed around high-energy dogs, so a calmer environment or a home where he's the only pet might be best. We're not sure how he does with other dogs yet, but slow introductions would be important. He's looking for a safe, patient, and loving home that will give him the care and compassion he truly deserves.

scooter



peach pup who just needs a little time and patience to truly shine. He's a timid soul, but once he feels safe, his gentle personality starts to blossom. Scooter isn't the kind of dog who'll jump into your arms right away—but give him your time, kindness, and a quiet space, and you'll earn a loyal, loving companion for life. He's looking for someone who understands that the best bonds are built slowly, and that trust, once earned, is unbreakable. Could that someone be you?

Farron &



a heart full of love and a world of potential. She and her sister Baron are littermates who, like many pups from larger litters, just need a chance. Fallon is ready for someone to train her, love her, and help her grow into the wonderful dog she's meant to be. She's eager to learn and even more eager to be loved—could that someone be you?

The adoption fee is \$85 and includes everything your new pet needs to be on track for a happy, healthy life: vaccinations, a microchip, spay/neuter, and heartworm test.

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