

Rural King's 65th Event

MUSCLE SHOALS—Rural King continues its 65th Anniversary celebration for a second week with specials through August 20 at their store on Woodward Avenue in Muscle Shoals. Enjoy a free hot dog on Saturday while supplies last. Take advantage of some limited time offers like the one on Saturday and Sunday, August 16-17. Buy one Rural King 65th Anniversary 5-gallon bucket for 65¢ and receive 20% off any regular price apparel that fits inside. You can also register for a bushel of prizes that will be given away. There are some exclusions and parameters that apply on each of these two offers so check your Rural King flyer from last week or check details at the store. We'll see you there!

NAMC is Best in COPD Care

FLORENCE – North Alabama Medical Center (NAMC) has been named among *U.S. News & World Report's* 2025-2026 Best Hospitals edition as a high-performing hospital for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) treatment. This is the highest distinction a hospital can earn as part of *U.S. News' Best Hospitals Procedures & Conditions* ratings.

The ratings are designed to assist patients and their health care providers in making informed decisions about where to receive care for

See SHORTS... on Page 2

58,000 Homes Through the Mail!

Volume 141 Number 42

August 13, 2025

POSTAL PATRON

Courier Journal

Serving Northwest Alabama and

219 W. Tennessee St. Florence, AL 35630 256-764-4268

USPS Circulation Verification Available

Turning the Page



Saturday
August 16
4:30pm
7:30pm

Classic
Seger
Creates
that
Vintage
Sound

SHEFFIELD—The Ritz Theatre invites you to an unforgettable night of classic rock with "Classic Seger: Travelin' Man World Tour" on Saturday, August 16. This spectacular show features a world-class tribute act, performing masterful renditions that bring the energy, excitement, and raw power of a vintage Bob Seger concert to the stage, bringing fans to their feet

singing, dancing, and screaming for more! Performances are at 4:30 and 7:30pm. Relive the magic of timeless hits and rock anthems - such beloved Silver Bullet Band classics as "Night Moves," "Turn the Page," "Old Time Rock & Roll," "Against the Wind," "Hollywood Nights," alongside deeper

See CLASSIC... on Page 7



For information about advertising in premium positions like this, please call 256-740-4701.

Dog Days Here

SHOALS—The Courier Journal's Summer Dog Days Classified Special is underway offering 2 Extra Lines FREE on all private party, yard sale, real estate, and business classified ads. This special annual promotion runs through Friday, September 12 and for issues any time between August 20 and September 17...



See DOG DAYS... on Page 8

A Tribute to the Opry Legends

ST. JOSEPH, TN—The Cadillacs present grand old Opry "A Tribute to the Stars" at 7pm Saturday, August 16 at the Saint Joseph Civic Center. The center is located at 10 Park Dr. in St. Joseph, TN. The event will feature tributes to George Jones, Tammy Wynette, Hank

Williams, Loretta, Lynn, Chubby Checker, Dolly Parton, Marty Robbins, Ray Charles, Percy Sledge, Patsy Cline, Trisha Yearwood, The Beach Boys, The Righteous Bros, Elvis, Chubby Checker,

See OPRY... on Page 7

INSIDE this Issue

Automotive Inside



Advance Auto Sales

- Medicare Minute
- Ask the Attorney
- Commentary

Brain Zone!

- Watermelon Festival
- Computer Skeptic
- Hocus



- Adopt-a-Friend
- Insurance Insights
- Strange, But True
- On Your Debt

SIGNS of the PAST

Online Only:

- Alabama Outdoors
- Web Poll
- Mystery Photo



Visit us Online: www.CourierJournal.net

Facebook.com/
FlorenceCourierJournal



- ★ **EXPERIENCE MATTERS.** Education, training in economic and community development, plus over 40 years working toward new jobs, new and expanded businesses, and industry recruitment.
- ★ **PROMISES MADE. PROMISES KEPT.** More than 500 new businesses and almost 3,000 new jobs achieved during first term as Mayor (despite the Covid crisis, during which our city never shut down, thanks to strong leadership and wise management). Florence grew and thrived!
- ★ **CONSERVATIVE BUSINESS LEADER.** Understands the importance of transparency, balanced budgets, and proven plans for economic growth. Does the right things for the right reasons.



STEVE HOLT welcomes the opportunity to speak with you personally:
(256) 810-2992
SteveBHolt1@gmail.com
Facebook.com/SteveHoltFlorenceMayor
VOTE HOLT ★ AUGUST 26th
Paid Political by STEVE HOLT FOR MAYOR, PO Box 381, Florence, AL 35631

High Heat



(25

Warning

If your A/C fails, we
can have you up
and running right
away. No sweat!



(66) 381-7195

AL HVAC 91114



TLC IRRIGATION SERVICES

30 Years Experience
•New Installations •Repair
•Maintenance •Add-ons
Free Estimates
Call Reggie 256-324-5023
Licensed + Insured

LARGE SHOP FAN, Cherry Picker, Safestep Walk-in Tub, Dorm size Refrigerator, Call 256-710-2140

CHEVROLET: SUBURBAN, 2006 \$4,950. Z71, 2-wheel drive, 153,275 miles, black, leather, dual power front seats, loaded, mechanically in good shape, \$4,950. Call 662-396-1136

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

DOG DAYS CLASSIFIED SPECIAL – 2 Extra Lines Free* in the Courier Journal with most business and private party classified ad placements. Explain more, include more, SELL more! Pay as little as \$5.50/wk! *Offer valid on all private party, yard sale, real estate, and business classified ads. Some restrictions apply. Offer expires after Sept. 12, 2025. Please call 256-764-4268 to place your Dog Days ads

Shorts...

NAMC is Best in COPD Care

Continued from Page 1

challenging health conditions or elective procedures.

"We are honored to be recognized among the highest performing hospitals for COPD treatment," said **Mike Howard**, CEO and Market President of North Alabama Medical Center. "National recognition such as this is made possible by the caliber of our medical staff, nurses, clinical staff, and colleagues who lead in delivering best in class care that is always patient-centered."

U.S. News evaluated more than 4,400 hospitals across 15 adult specialties and 22 procedures and conditions; only one third of them earned an award. The rankings methodology and ratings methodology measure patient outcomes using data from over 800 million records of patient care.

NEED HELP?

CONTACT 2-1-1

Your link to community resources

Need to Vote Absentee?

SHOALS – City residents who are unable to vote at the polls on Municipal Election Day August 26 may vote absentee. Request an application to vote, absentee or by voting early at city clerk's office.

Call your City Clerk's office to have an application mailed to your residence. Deadline to request an application: August 19. Mail the completed and signed application with a copy of your valid photo ID to the address that will be provided. Once your application and ID are received and verified, an absentee ballot will be mailed to your home address. Mark your choices and follow the instructions included with your ballot.

Return your completed ballot by mail or in person to the City Clerk's Office.

Deadline to return ballots in person: August 25 (CLOSE OF BUSINESS)

All mailed absentee ballots must be received at the Clerk's Office by NOON on Election Day – August 26.

Only one application per envelope is allowed.

You may also choose to vote absentee in person. Please reserve 20 minutes to do in-person voting and bring a valid photo ID. Any questions? Please call your City Clerk's office.

About Rides and Rockets

HUNTSVILLE–Rev Your Engines for "Rides and Rockets" at the U.S. Space & Rocket Center Thursday, August 21.

Rides and Rockets is

RIDES AND ROCKETS
Thursday,
August 21



your chance to cruise in with your street-legal vehicle, see a replica of one of the Apollo 12 Corvettes, glimpse the most powerful Corvette ever made, and enjoy a unique evening under the Saturn V.

See a replica of astronaut **Pete Conrad's** 1969 Apollo 12 Corvette! Chevrolet will also be on site with the 2026 Corvette ZR1X Electrified Hypercar, whose engine is codenamed Gemini, the most powerful Corvette ever.

Enjoy German-themed food and beverages, and live music under the magnificent Saturn V in the Davidson Center. (Biergarten runs Thursdays from 5–7:30pm.)

Bring your car, motorcycle, trike, or any street-legal vehicle! All are welcome to participate.

Where do I park for Rides & Rockets?

Feel free to park in any available parking spot that has not been designated. Handicap spots are for authorized vehicles with valid placards or license plates only. Electric charging stations are for E-vehicles only.

Parking begins at 4pm.

The restrictions include no burnouts, no racing, no speeding, no excessive revving, no loud music, or anything else that would disturb guests. Please occupy only one parking space per vehicle. The speed limit on USSRC property is 15 mph.

See SHORTS... on Page 6

BUILDERS CHOICE

-BUILD BETTER-

Hardware - Home Center



Professionalism at its best!

Let us save you money on your project!

Killen

256-386-1156

Sheffield

657405-1



GENERAL MERCHANDISE

Fresh Meat • Groceries • Hardware

6591 Chisholm Rd. (Hwy. 17 North)

Florence • 256-764-9179

We sell Gas!

FRESH MEAT

Ad Valid:

August 13-19, 2025

We Accept EBT Cards,
Credit Cards & Debit Cards

LIKE Us On
FACEBOOK



HOURS: M-F 6-10;
Sat. & Sun. 7-10

Ground Beef \$4.29 Lb.

Beef Patties \$4.29 Lb.

T-Bone Steak \$6.99 Lb.

T-Bone Steak 4/\$26.99

New York Strip Steak \$8.99 Lb.

New York Strip Steak 5/\$27.99

Ribeye Steak \$10.99 Lb.

Ribeye Steak 4/\$29.99

Sirloin Pork Chops \$1.99 Lb.

Pork Steak \$2.59 Lb.

Whole Baby Back Ribs \$2.99 Lb.

Boston Butt Pork Roast \$2.29 Lb.

Pork Neck Bones \$1.79 Lb.

Whole Pig 80-90 Lbs. \$1.79 Each

Whole Corn 50 Lbs. \$9.00

Camel Corn 50 Lbs. \$11

Chicken Whole Wings \$2.99 Lb.

Boneless Chicken Breast \$2.99 Lb.

Farm Raised Catfish Fillet 4 Lb. BOX \$19.99

Chicken Leg Quarters 10 Lb. Bag \$8.99

Whole Rabbits \$15.99 Each

Frog Legs \$7.99 Lb.

Tasty 10 50 Lbs. \$8.50

Goat Feed 50 Lbs. \$12

5-Way Scratch 50 Lbs. \$12



St. Vincent de Paul THRIFT STORE

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Serving Families of the Shoals

Wall Art & Picture Frames 1/2 OFF

659 South Poplar Street, Florence

(Conveniently Located in Downtown Florence Off Veterans Drive)

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www.facebook.com/SVDPFlorence

657412-1

Yard Sales

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)

TUSCUMBIA: CARPORT SALE
1105 Kentucky Ave 7 am until Downsizing sale, a lot of name brand clothes and household items. Baby clothes. Large Variety.

MUSCLE SHOALS GARAGE SALE, Fri., Aug. 15th, 4pm-7pm and Sat., Aug. 16th, 7am-noon, Lots of baby stuff, tools, games, baseball cards, furniture, lots of old stuff, fishing items, lots of trophies & much more!

FLORENCE: ESTATE SALE
219 McGough Blvd August 15th and 16th Fri. 7:30 AM, Sat. 7:30AM, All personal items: Furniture, Glassware, Kitchen, Christmas decorations and antiques.

ESTATE SALE SHEFFIELD
1901 Crestview Ave (Near Cliff Haven)
Thursday-Saturday, August 14-16
Thurs. 2 to 6 p.m., Fri. & Sat. 9 am to 4 pm
See details on www.estate-sales.org
CountrySide Auction Company, LLC.
706-970-0422

CHEVROLET: 1500, 2002 \$2,500. (256) 668-2810 Tusculmbia.

CHIMNEY NEED ATTENTION?
Is it time to clean? Smells, Water, Animals? Dryer vent cleaning. Black Hearth Chimney Sweeps 256-710-0292

WALK-IN SHOWER
Professionally installed. Replace that old tub in three days or less, \$6,800. Call 256-627-8007

1997 CHEVY SILVERADO Step-side pickup, V8 automatic, runs good, looks good, drive anywhere, \$5,500. Call or text 256-856-2545

LA-Z-BOY SOFA, with manual recliners on either end. Grey, Like New! \$700, 256-335-5925



JXJ LLC
Septic Pumping & System Install

256-412-9478

Book Online • JXJConstruction.com

FOUR PLOTS IN TRI-CITIES MEMORIAL GARDENS, Florence Garden of Chrisus. With Perpetual Care \$9000 256-303-0985

2019 HARLEY DAVIDSON ROAD KING, Silver, 11,650 miles, \$15,000, Call 256-710-1838

RICK'S STUMP GRINDING

Low prices and Free estimates, 256-740-2363
if no answer, leave message

44th **F R A N K L I N C O U N T Y**

Watermelon Festival

Russellville, AL

AUGUST 15 & 16
2 0 2 5

Friday

Saturday

OPENING CEREMONY 🍉
6:30 PM

🍉 **THE MIDNIGHTERS**
6:00 PM

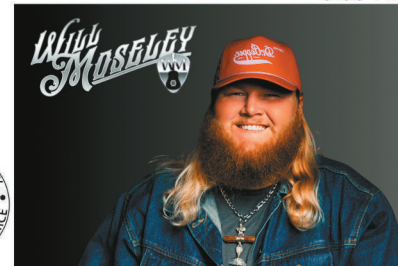
MUSIC CITY MISFITS
7:00 PM

DIXIE MAFIA
7:00 PM

AUSTIN BOHANNON
8:30 PM

WILL MOSELEY
8:30 PM

FREE
Admission



FRANKLIN COUNTY: THE WATERMELON CAPITAL OF ALABAMA SINCE 2013!

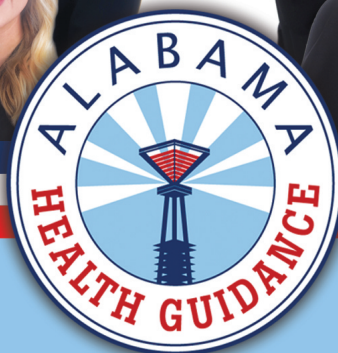
Local Medicare Insurance Specialists

Florence Office - 885 Florence Blvd.

Muscle Shoals Office - 410 S. Wilson Dam Rd.

Hope Stamps | Ikey Fowler | Lee Fowler | Erica Vaughn
Judy Keenum | Anah Whitehead Fowler | Beverly Stamps White | Caycee Fowler

Kay Holland | Kelly Davis | Marianna Honeycutt
Paul Sanderson | Mark Sanderson | Conner Sanderson



Are You Turning 65?
There's never a fee for our services.

- Are you a Veteran?
- Do you need Extra Help?
- Are you coming off of your Employer's Insurance?

Any Medicare Questions?
We can provide answers to help.

- Low Income Benefits
- Customer Service to the policies you have with us



256-648-5710

www.AlabamaHealthGuidance.com

256-648-5220



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

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ONE TOUGH PAINT JOB



Community Notes

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

Splash Pad Schedule: After August 10, the splash pad will close Monday-Thursday and be open only on weekends: August 15-17 (Fri-Sun) August 22-24 (Fri-Sun) August 29-31 (Fri-Sun) September 1 (Monday - Labor Day) Final Day for 2025: September 1

Shoals Artists Guild Meeting Every 3rd Friday of the month, (August 15), 10am-Noon at the Southall-Moore House, next to the Kennedy-Douglass Art Center, Downtown Florence. For more info, contact Carolyn Wear, 256-710-6854.

Summer's favorite fruit takes center stage during the annual Franklin County Watermelon Festival in Russellville August 15-16. The Watermelon Festival offers arts and crafts, a variety of watermelon contests, car and truck show, food vendors, children's activities, games, and musical entertainment, along with free samples of watermelon. The festival weekend begins with opening ceremonies at 6:30pm on Friday with live music taking the stage both days. Contests centered on watermelons, including watermelon seed spitting, the largest melon, best tasting melon, most unusual and best-dressed melons, are a highlight each year entertaining festival goers of all ages. Over 100 vehicles are expected for the car and truck show on Saturday morning, and additional activities include a 5K run and 1-mile fun run, character guests to entertain the children, and the Franklin County Extension Office contests.

All activities take place along Main Street (Jackson Avenue). Hours are 6-10pm on Friday and 10am-10pm on Saturday. Admission is free. For more details, visit the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce website at www.franklincountychamber.org and click on the Watermelon Festival link or call 256-332-1760. For the latest information, like the Franklin County Watermelon Festival page on Facebook and Instagram.

FORD: F-150, 2012 \$16,900. Lariat, 105,000 mi. Clean, loaded, garage kept, Call 256-366-4119

TOPPS PAPA DELTA 5" Neck Knife with holster \$40; Call 256-810-1808 Russellville, Leave message

ESTATE SALE - Sheffield 1901 Crestview Ave (near Cliff Haven)

**Thursday-Saturday,
August 14-16**

Thur. 2-6pm • Fri. & Sat. 9am-4pm

See Details on www.Estatesales.org

Countryside Auction Company LLC

706-970-0422

658992-1

VOTE Alisa Dickson

City Council District 3

- ✓ A PROVEN COMMUNITY ADVOCATE
- ✓ SUPPORTER OF LOCAL BUSINESS
- ✓ YOUTH EMPOWERMENT
- ✓ COMMUNITY DRIVEN LEADERSHIP
- ✓ FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY
- ✓ PUBLIC SAFETY & INFRASTRUCTURE

www.alisadicksonforcitycouncil.com

Paid political advertisement paid for by Alisa Dickson for City Council 2701 Mall Drive Suite 7 PMB 165 Florence, AL 35630

"WORKING WITH YOU TO
BUILD A BETTER FLORENCE!"



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- CONSTRUCTION ACCIDENTS
- MEDICAL MALPRACTICE
- BIRTH INJURIES
- NURSING HOME ABUSE
- ASSISTED LIVING ABUSE
- AND NEGLIGENCE
- WRONGFUL DEATH
- BURN INJURIES
- DOG BITES
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- SPINAL CORD INJURIES
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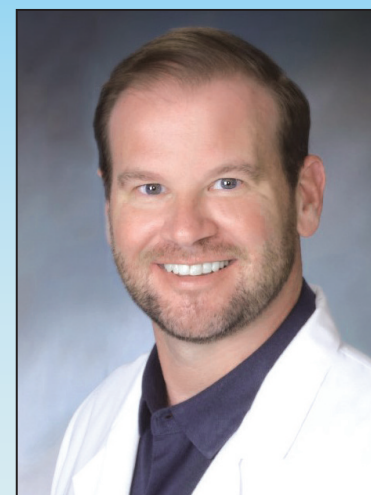
FREE CONSULTATION 256-500-1199

No representation is made that the quality of the legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers.



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**Dr. Brad
Ginevan**
is Welcoming
New Patients
in Sheffield



Monday-Thursday • 8am - 5pm

MOST INSURANCE ACCEPTED • MEDICARE PATIENTS WELCOME

Walk-ins are Welcome



342 Cox Boulevard
Sheffield
256-383-4473

shoalsprimarycarellc.com

654903-1

See NOTES... page 14

Meat & Three - Only \$9.97!

Includes Tea or
Lemonade

Monday
Pasta

Tuesday
Hamburger
Steak

Wednesday
Meatloaf

Thursday
Chicken Quarters
or Pork Ribs

Friday
Fried Catfish **\$11.99**

Bring your appetite and
enjoy down-home cooking
at a price that feels like family.

Dine in or take out — we're here to serve you!

FAMILY TIMES DELI & THRIFT

3017 N. Jackson Hwy, Sheffield, AL • 256-712-8831

Choose from
These Classic Sides:

Mashed Potatoes
Side Salad
Fried Okra Tomatoes
Macaroni & Cheese
Beans

657117-1

In District 1, WE ARE ONE. I Want Your Words To Be Heard

My experience as a former Councilman in Florence District 1 is a huge asset. I know that a squeaky wheel will get the grease. Streets need to be repaired in a timely manner. Money for sidewalks in district one should be used for that purpose. Street lights should be repaired in a timely manner and more security light poles installed with lights.



Smith

A power station should be installed to prevent long outages because of overload. We should work together to get things done. We need a road to direct away from West Irvine. The road could be directed around west Irvine and go to West Mobile and West College Streets. West Mobile Street also needs to be open to North Pine Street.

We need a direct walking trail away from Mt. Calvary Cemetery. We need a gym installed at WC Handy Recreation

Center. Beautify more places in District 1 with flowers, trees, plants, etc.

Do research on any building that is destroyed. We should accelerate our efforts for grant money from the state, US government, and private organizations. We need a Mayday in District 1 to compete against all districts in the city.

Together we can get most things done for DISTRICT 1.

Vote for and Re-Elect Dave Smith to the Florence City Council District 1 on August 26. 256-710-9057

★★★★ RE-ELECT ★★★★★
DAVE SMITH
DISTRICT 1
Florence City Council

Paid political advertorial by Dave Smith, PO Box 1221, Florence, AL 35631

NASCAR JACKET, \$30. TODDLER Pack & Play and slide, \$40. 256-565-1109 Decatur

WE PAY TOP PRICES for Junk Cars, Tractors and Equipment, with or without titles, 256-577-7911.

FORD: F-150 TRUCK, 2013, \$15,000, black, garage kept., 132,000 miles, Call 256-702-9167

DOG DAYS CLASSIFIED SPECIAL – 2 Extra Lines Free* in the Courier Journal with most business and private party classified ad placements. Explain more, include more, SELL more! Pay as little as \$5.50/wk! *Offer valid on all private party, yard sale, real estate, and business classified ads. Some restrictions apply. Offer expires after Sept. 12, 2025. Please call 256-764-4268 to place your Dog Days ads

LARGE ROLLS 5X5 NET No rain. Tight. 7 rolls. \$290 256-339-5283 Morgan County

GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPPIES AVAILABLE NOW! For Sale, Please call 256-284-2275 muscleshools.com. Available for pickup in Sheffield, Alabama.

CHILD'S BROWN RECLINER, \$20. Call 256-566-9047 Somerville

CHIHUAHUA PUPPIES, REGISTERED AND full blooded, females, \$735 + males, \$630. Call Ralph 256-303-2406. We deliver!

DECKS AND FENCES - FREE Estimates. Call me at 256-856-4662. References available.

WE BUY JUNK CARS, Trucks or Vans with or without titles, Call Joel 256-303-7609

Introducing the new invisible hearing solution
See the all-in-one hearing glasses at Renaissance Eye Care!



NEW PATIENTS WELCOME



Optometrists:

**Dr Hamp Moore,
Dr Kathy Warner &
Dr Lisa Campbell**

Opticians:

**Jason Roberson &
Rachel Espinoza**

**CALL TO MAKE AN APPOINTMENT OR SCHEDULE
ONLINE AT renaissanceeyecare.com**



RENAISSANCE EYE CARE
1593 Darby Drive • Florence • 256-767-5000

Located in English Village

Hours: Mon., Wed. & Thur. 8-5:30 • Tues. 9-5:30 • Fri. 8-4

Thanks for voting us #1 Urgent Care Walk-In-Facility!

Hamilton Family
URGENT CARE
Walk-In Urgent and Family Care



OPEN 7 DAYS :
Mon. - Fri. 8am-8pm;
Sat. 8am-8pm; Sun. 2pm-6pm
Accepting New Patients

NOW OPEN
at 108 Avalon Ave.
MUSCLE SHOALS



Covid Testing • Televisits Available • We See Kids! • On Site X-Ray
256-284-7706 • www.hamiltonfamilyurgentcare.com

Convenient Online Registration • Most Insurance Accepted Including Medicare and Medicaid

Dog Days CLASSIFIED SPECIAL

2 Extra Lines FREE

ON ALL CLASSIFIEDS!

Courier Journal

**Offer valid on all private party, yard sale, real estate, and business classified ads. Not valid in combination with any other discounts, offers, or packages. Regular rates apply to all other ad upgrades or attention-getters. Offer expires Sept. 12, 2025



TNValleyStuff
.com

As an added bonus for our advertisers, all classified ads placed in the Courier Journal are also online at TNValleyStuff.com.

ONLINE – at our Website...

Go to www.courierjournal.net and click "Place a Classified"

PHONE – 8AM-5PM Mon-Fri

Charge to Credit/Debit Card by calling **256-764-4268**

FAX – 24 HRS - Charge to Credit /

Debit Card by faxing an ad to **256-760-9618**. Include exp. date. List how many weeks the ad is to run.

MAIL – Mail your written ad to address at right. Include your phone number. We will call to finalize your ad. List how many weeks the ad is to run.

OFFICE – Drop by our office at your convenience 8-5 Monday-Friday and write/submit it there.

ADVANCE PAYMENT IS REQUIRED in cash, check or Credit/Debit Card. Phone-in Ads MUST be Charged to Credit/Debit Card! NO EXCEPTIONS! NO REFUNDS!

DEADLINE: Friday 5pm

Private Party Rate 4 LINES Each additional line - \$1.50 - Prepay - NO REAL ESTATE • 1 item per ad - 4 Weeks/4 lines 1 ITEM \$16 Each additional line - add \$4.50

\$5.50
Week

Commercial Rate 4 LINES Each additional line add \$1.50 – applies to anyone engaged in sale of goods/services on a recurring basis or for profit, licensed or not – including pets. 6 Weeks \$39 - Each additional line - add \$7.50 total

\$8.00
Week

Real Estate Rate 5 LINES Each additional line add \$1.50 – applies to agencies, individual, developers and anyone engage in selling, renting, leasing structures and/or properties in Real Estate or General section. 6 Weeks \$36 Each additional line - add \$7.50 total

\$8.00
Week

Yard Sales 6 LINES Each additional line - \$1.50

YARD SALES – An exclusive listing of the area's better sales prominently placed

\$14.50
Week

Employment 6 LINES Each additional line - \$2.25

EMPLOYMENT - Looking for employment or Businesses looking for employees

\$16.00
Week

Private Party Auto Rate Up to 8 LINES for 4 weeks.

Each additional line - \$2.25

\$17.00
4 wks

*one line is approx. 30 characters

Name

Address

City

State

Phone

➔ **HOW MANY WEEKS?** Multiply the number of weeks - X - the cost of the ad.....

YES! RED LINE MY AD! ☐ PLEASE CHECK THE BOX **only \$4 additional**

MAILING ADDRESS: Courier Journal, 219 W. Tennessee St., Florence, AL 35630

Please Print Ad Clearly. NOT RESPONSIBLE for illegible handwriting

Questions? Call our office at 256-764-4268.

Shorts...

Continued from Page 2

Memorial Tennis Event in Russellville

RUSSELLVILLE –The Kay Cantrell and Ann Garrard Memorial Scholarship Tennis Tournament will be held on Saturday, September 20 at the Russellville Tennis Complex, 229 Rube Courington Dr. - Russellville, AL

Kay Cantrell and Ann Garrard were great friends and avid tennis players.

To honor their memories, their families have established scholarships for local tennis playing seniors in their names.

This tournament is hosted where Kay and Ann raised their families and funds the scholarships. Scholarships were awarded to 2025 graduates at local schools in Northwest Alabama. Let's do more in '26!

Business, Individuals & Group Sponsorships are available: GOLD - \$300, SILVER \$150, BRONZE \$75 are available

Registration for the tournament, began on August 1 and is \$30.

Those interested in registering for the tournament or

sponsoring the event can contact **Paige McCluskey** at 256-668-3434 or **Katie Hester** at 256-460-0519, or email KCGAtennis@gmail.com

Historic Plaques Are Available

FLORENCE – Historical Plaques Again Available - After a few years of unavailability, the plaques to mark individual historical homes and buildings in Florence are being offered once again by popular demand.

To be eligible for a plaque, the home or building must be at least fifty (50) years old and must not have had its street side facade significantly altered. Heritage Preservation, Inc., a local non-profit organization, is producing the plaques in lots of 50 or more, and the cost is \$100 each, prepaid. Therefore, when as many as 50 have been ordered, the company will go to press. To receive an application for ordering a new plaque or replacing an existing one, please contact **Billy Warren** at 256-718-5020 or by email at: brwarren@florenceal.org

Courier Journal

Personnel

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Monday - Friday
8:00am - 5:00pm

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DEADLINES: Issues Published Every Wednesday

INSERTS - 5 pm Thursday

DISPLAY ADS - 5 pm Thursday

CLASSIFIED ADS - 5 pm Friday unless otherwise specified

219 W. Tennessee St.

Florence, AL 35630

256-764-4268

Fax: 256-760-9618

Your Courier Journal is published for total saturation, direct-mail delivery every Wednesday to 51,892 Shoals area and surrounding homes. It is Alabama's Largest Weekly-Mailed Direct, and enjoys a larger circulation than all local subscriber based newspapers combined.

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

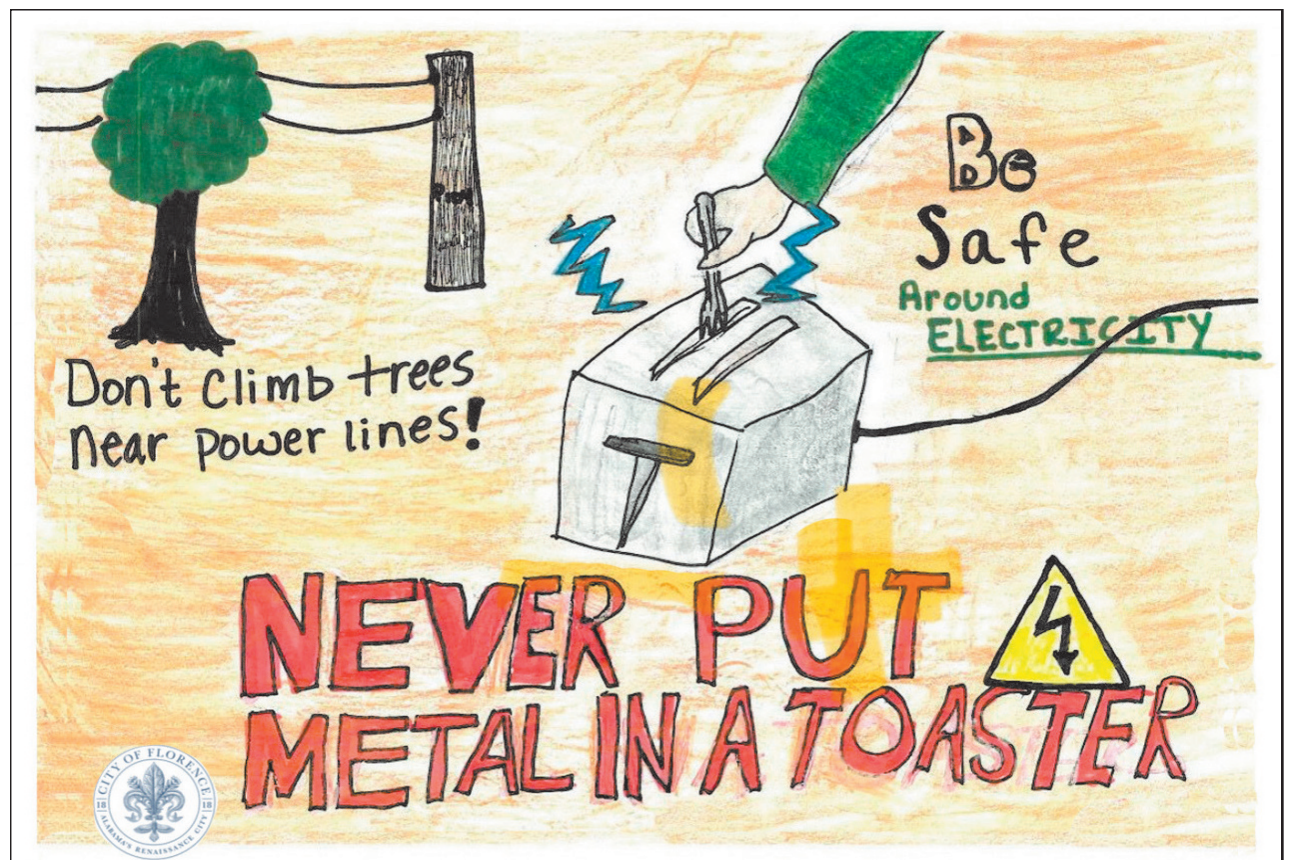
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or email to:

editor@courierjournal.net

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Continued from Page 1
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RE-ELECT *Jimmy* **OLIVER**



Florence City Council District #6
August 26

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Opry...
Continued from Page 1
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In her free time, she enjoys spending time with family, traveling, reading, and discovering new coffee shops. We are excited to have Dr. Holcombe join our team and look forward to the positive impact she will make on our patients and community.



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Dog Days Classifieds...

Continued from Page 1

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KAYTRINA P. SIMMONS: City Council President Seeking re-election for District 1

A lifelong resident of Florence, Simmons brings a leadership style that is both compassionate and courageous, grounded in service, and fueled by a deep love for her community and city.

"I'm running for re-election because I still believe in the power of people, and I know that our best days are ahead," said Simmons. "I lead with transparency, integrity, and heart—but I also lead with determination. I will always fight for what's right, what's fair, and equality."

Simmons is known for her accessibility and her relentless, strong community presence, and in her next term she plans to continue her fight for:

- Stronger infrastructure throughout District 1 and beyond, including improved neighborhood streets, lighting, sidewalks, and connectivity.
- The reopening of the West College Street bridge which has been closed for over 30 years cutting off access, opportunity and progress for too many.
- Reopening of West Mobile and Tombigbee Streets.



Simmons

- The revitalization of the 7-Points area, is also a top priority. The area is a staple in the community and it's thriving and growing.

- Community policing and crime reduction, working hand in hand with residents and law enforcement to make Florence safer, more trusting, and united.

- Support for our first responders, ensuring they are respected, trained and well-equipped with the resources needed and recognized for their service to the community.

"I believe where you live is part of your quality of life, and no community should be left behind," Simmons said. "I support clean, safe, and strong neighborhoods—and I'll continue to fight to hold property owners accountable while working to protect our residents."

Kaytrina P. Simmons invites voters to join her on August 26th in building a better Florence, District 1—where people come before politics, and community always comes first.

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ON YOUR DEBT

Why Rising Credit Card Interest Rates Are Driving More Families in Alabama Toward Bankruptcy

Overwhelmed by soaring credit card interest rates? Learn how families in Alabama can protect themselves and explore bankruptcy relief options.

Why So Many Are Feeling the Squeeze Credit card interest rates have climbed to levels most of us haven't seen in decades. In many cases, balances are now carrying rates over 20%, and that's before penalty APRs kick in.

For families in Alabama, where wages often trail the national average, these rates aren't just frustrating—they can make even the minimum payment feel like a losing battle. Every month, more of your payment goes to interest, and the balance hardly moves.

What's Driving Rates So High?

A few key factors are behind this squeeze:

- The Federal Reserve has raised rates repeatedly over the last few years, which pushes borrowing costs higher.

- Inflation has driven up daily expenses, leaving less room to tackle debt.

- Penalty interest rates—sometimes near 30%—are slapped on accounts that miss a payment or two, creating a hole many can't dig out of.

When you're juggling bills, these rates can quickly lead to collections, lawsuits, and wage garnishments. And once things reach that point, it can feel impossible to turn things around without help.

How Bankruptcy Can Help Break the Cycle

If you're buried in credit card debt, you're not alone—and there are legal tools that can help. Bankruptcy may not be right for everyone, but for many, it can:

- Stop lawsuits, repossessions, and

garnishments immediately under the automatic stay.

- Eliminate or reduce unsecured debts, including credit cards and medical bills.

- Protect your property—in most cases, people who file keep their homes, cars, and household items.

- Offer a structured path forward, whether through a Chapter 7 discharge or a Chapter 13 repayment plan.

At the Bond & Botes Law Offices, we've spent over 35 years helping people get relief from overwhelming debt while protecting the things that matter most.

Will Bankruptcy Ruin My Credit Forever?

One of the biggest misconceptions we hear is that bankruptcy "destroys" credit. In reality, most people see their scores start to recover within months because they've eliminated the accounts causing late payments and maxed-out balances. Many of our clients are surprised at how quickly they can begin rebuilding their credit and moving forward.

Talk to Someone Who Can Help

If sky-high interest rates and credit card balances have made it impossible to keep up, don't wait for the lawsuits and garnishments to pile up. We can help you explore your options, free of charge, and see if bankruptcy or another solution is right for you.

You Don't Have to Carry This Alone

Every day, we sit down with good, hardworking people who are just trying to make ends meet. Many have never missed a payment in their lives until now. Life happens—job loss, illness, rising costs—and when it does, there are steps you can take to get control back.

If you're feeling like things are slipping through your fingers, we're here to help.



B. Grant McNutt
Managing Attorney

LEXUS: RX 330, 2005 1 owner, full power, 6-cyl., black with tan interior, runs good, looks good, new tires. Call to text me at 256-740-2967 Muscle Shoals

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DOG DAYS CLASSIFIED SPECIAL - 2 Extra Lines Free* in the Courier Journal with most business and private party classified ad placements. Explain more, include more, SELL more! Pay as little as \$5.50/wk! *Offer valid on all private party, yard sale, real estate, and business classified ads. Some restrictions apply. Offer expires after Sept. 12, 2025. Please call 256-764-4268 to place your Dog Days ads

ELECT THOMAS SPENCE

Florence City Council District

5

Fresh Voice With A Proven Commitment

I want to bring visibility, openness and integrity to District 5 with deep roots in the community and a track record of collaboration.

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- Improve Roads, Strengthen Infrastructure And Revitalize Blighted Properties
- Support First Responders And Community Policing
- Keep Residents Informed Through Community Meetings & Social Media
- Ensure Smart, Transparent Spending Of Tax Dollars



Your Voice, Our Future

Paid for by committee to Elect Thomas Spence, 430 Roxie Dr., Florence, AL 35633

Courier Journal ADOPT A FRIEND

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



Velvet

Full of Energy and Even More Love! She's an 8 month old Shepherd mix with a playful, energetic personality and a heart full of love. Velvet would thrive with an active family or someone who enjoys outdoor adventures and playtime. She's ready to bring fun and companionship into your life!

Tweed

He is currently working on some new tricks in his foster home while learning how to sit! Tweed is an 11-month-old Border Collie mix, weighing around 20 pounds. He's a calm, gentle soul who has done wonderfully in his foster home living with several other dogs. Loves to play for about 10 minutes then its nap time or cuddle time!



Coco

Coco has been in foster care for 350 days, patiently waiting for her forever home. She's just as sweet and beautiful as her name suggests. Coco is a 3-year-old brown mixed breed weighing around 36 pounds. She walks beautifully on a leash, adores car rides, and has been living in a foster home with four other dogs. Coco does best with calm, independent dogs - no puppies or high-energy companions, please. She loves treats, thrives on attention, and will happily climb into your lap for cuddles.

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.

Please call or come by Florence Lauderdale animal services 256-760-6676 to meet these wonderful companions.

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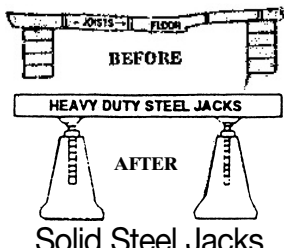
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Commentary

The Urge Has Been With Us Always

I appreciate all the calls and comments, both pros and cons, from the July 30 column entitled, "NEWS FLASH: It's Not Always About Us." Feedback was mixed as would be expected.

Descent largely seemed to channel the need for "loving our neighbor" to override all else - "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." No argument here, but what does that Biblical love entail? It's not an unequivocal "live and let live." If we see someone dangerously close to soft soil by a cliff edge, do we let them navigate on their own and hope for the best or do we warn them?

If loving our neighbor only means we should have no questions and spare all comments, we are in trouble.

So many assume that a lack of unquestioned love and acceptance equates to some type of animosity.

For previous generations, 2 Timothy 3: 15-17 carried more familiarity. "... and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise

In A Few Words



TOM MAGAZZU
Editor

See AN URGE... on Page 28

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

Courier Journal

in the Shoals

THIS WEEK

August 13, 2025

Happening THIS WEEK

Watermelon is too Good That Can't be a Fruit

RUSSELLVILLE – Plenty of sweet juicy fun is on tap the third weekend in August when summer's favorite fruit takes center stage during the annual Franklin County Watermelon Festival in Russellville. Set for August 15-16, the Watermelon Festival offers arts and crafts, a variety of watermelon contests, car and truck show, food vendors, children's activities, games, and musical entertainment, along with free samples of watermelon.

The festival weekend begins with opening ceremonies at 6:30 pm on Friday with live music taking the stage both days.

See WATERMELON... on Page 20

FLORENCE ARTS AND MUSEUMS' STORYTIME AT THE MUSEUM series continues on Friday, August 15 from 3:30-4:30pm at the FLW Rosenbaum House, located at 601 Riverview Dr. in Florence.. The city's museum educator is inviting children ages 5-8 to celebrate traditions within the Jewish culture. August 15 also marks the anniversary of Stanley and Mildred Rosenbaum moving into the home.

This event will feature a reading of Jancie Fried's *A Mezuzah on the Door*. Participants are encouraged to come with a family tradition in mind to help with the creation of a mini family traditions poster. This event is free to the public.

This program is sponsored by the City of Florence Department of Arts and Museums. For more information, call 256-760-6379.



652364-1

EOE

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

THE 4TH ANNUAL STAYIN' ALIVE DISCO DODGEBALL for St. Jude will be at 10am Saturday, August 16 at the Mars Hill Bible School old gymnasium. All proceeds benefit St. Jude. \$15 per person to play dodgeball. Youth and adult teams may enter. (church groups, family and/or business teams). A donation is requested for admission. Register, donate, purchase event shirt and/or livestream at benandtravis.com/dodgeball.

YOUR Letters

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

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Trees & Power Lines

Editor,

After carefully reviewing the information I gathered from utility workers, it appears as though the way forward with respect to putting more power lines underground is to start with neighborhoods where an abundance of trees are close to power lines. Downed trees and limbs are fundamentally the main reason for downed power lines and power outages according to these utility workers.

It does not make the entire system immune because the underground buried cables are still connected to above ground cables in other areas. These are still subject to high winds

and thunderstorms. However, we should bury power lines under these preselected areas with heavy tree population so that we would begin to reduce the number of possible incidents. Determining the neighborhoods with trees close to power lines would not be difficult since our utility company has a record of where they have gone because of downed power lines and what caused them.

Our city council and new mayor should take note of this recommendation.

What is your conclusion?

Charles Van Heyden
Florence

Look Where You Brought Me From

Editor,

Are you and I not glad that God has mercies that are new each morning?

See LETTERS... on Page 18

America treats its politicians like the kid in that old Seinfeld episode, "The Bubble Boy"



STRANGE but TRUE

• **Beef and liver paste**, squeezed from a tube, was the first meal eaten in space, consumed by Yuri Alekseyevich Gagarin, who chose it because it was space-friendly.

• **Cigarettes were once advertised** as a source of relief for asthma and hay fever.

• **September is the only month** to have the same number of letters in its name as its number in the calendar year.

• **A full head of hair** can support the weight of two elephants.

• **The original recipe for Oreos**, which were originally called Oreo Biscuits (though it's not clear where "Oreo" came from), included pork fat for the cookie's creamy center.

• **Ninety-five percent of books** that are submitted to traditional publishers are rejected.

• **Senet, or senet net hab** ("game of passing through"), the oldest known board game, dates back more than 5,000 years and has been found in the tombs of Egyptian royalty, including King Tut.

• **Canada's Parliament once argued** about the appropriateness of using the word "fart" on the chamber floor.

• **In medieval Europe, animals, especially pigs**, were put on trial for crimes, with prosecutors, defense attorneys and judges.

• **Oct. 31, 2000, was the last day all humans** were together on Earth. Since that time, there has always been at least one person in space.

• **In early 2019, an 18-karat gold toilet named "America,"** made by Italian artist Maurizio Cattelan and valued at \$6 million, was stolen from Blenheim Palace in England. The four thieves responsible were captured, but the toilet's ultimate fate remains a mystery, though authorities suspected it may have been melted down.

• **The bite of a mountain gorilla** is twice as strong as a lion's.

• **A whale shark's spot pattern** is as unique as a fingerprint.

• **While working as a weatherman** in Indianapolis, late-night talk show host David Letterman once congratulated a tropical storm for being upgraded to a hurricane.

• **The estimated temperature** at the sun's core is 27 million degrees Fahrenheit.

• **The cash register, invented in 1870** by James Ritty, was originally dubbed "Ritty's Incorruptible Cashier" and was designed to keep the employees of his saloon from stealing from him.

• **Kids and adults with autism** are immune to the effect of observing someone else yawn.

• **Since a Krispy Kreme donut contains 350 calories**, and a 150-pound man can burn around 380 calories in 30 minutes, said fellow could burn off that quickie breakfast with a quarter-acre lawn mow -- unless he simply preferred going to the gym.

• **Target will let customers breastfeed** anywhere in the store.

• **Besides being the final resting place** for many Hollywood celebrities, Forest Lawn in Southern California features a museum with rotating exhibits and special art, music and educational events.

• **It is possible to make actual cheese** with bacteria from foot sweat.

• **And speaking of cheese**, it's the most stolen food in the world.

• **The previous record for the world's longest train** was broken by the BHP Iron Ore in 2001. Measuring 4.5 miles in length, it was made up of 682 wagons and required eight engines to run.

• **Research has shown** that throughout a sofa's life, it will host roughly 782 visitors.

• **Actress Megan Mullally was fired from her role** in "Finding Nemo" for refusing to reprise her high-pitched Karen Walker voice from the TV series "Will and Grace."

• **Seventy percent of the dirt** on your clothes is invisible.

Thought for the Day:
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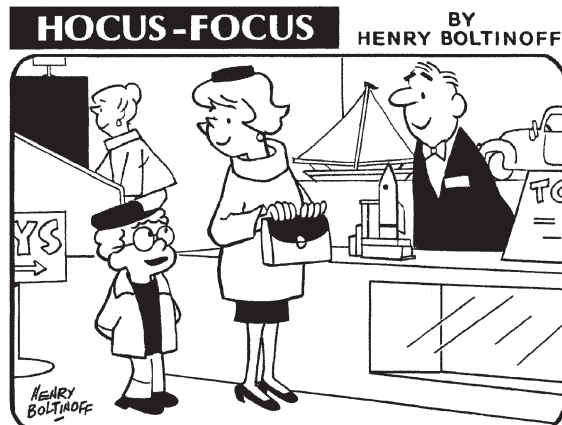
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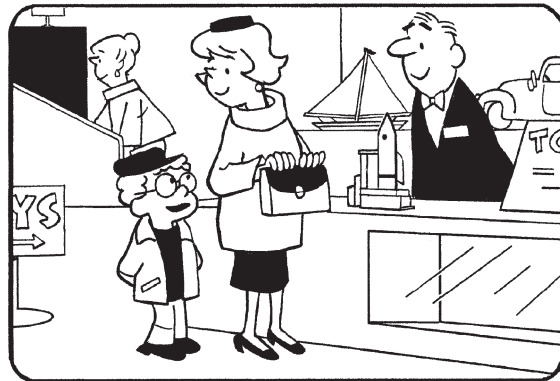
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Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Leg is longer. 2. Sign is lower. 3. Sailboat is smaller. 4. Skirt is longer. 5. Pocket is added. 6. Boy is moved.

ASK THE ATTORNEY

Courtroom Behavior



Thomas McCutcheon

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

Being late to court is the worst way to start. I personally always go to a courthouse I haven't been to before and find where I'm going to park, what door I'm going to use and the courtroom I'm going to be in and the table where I'm going to work.

Don't underestimate the time that court will take. Schedules shift and judges often have to hear emergency petitions, so always allow extra time so that you can finish your business. No baseball caps or hats in the courtroom. I tell people to dress like they are going to church.

I hate to say this, but I have seen judges ask people to wait outside with their children if they have children that cry or if what's going on in court is more appropriate for adults. Turn your cell phone off or to silent mode.

You should not speak to the judge first. The court usually will call the docket with all the cases, and you should answer when called. The judge is in control of his or her courtroom and that is a rule that will not be broken lightly. When you do address the court, try and say yes, Your Honor, or no, Your Honor to show respect for the court.

If you have evidence whether it's photographs or documents, go over the evidence with your attorney first. Don't just pull out a file full of papers or pictures without knowing why you have them or your attorney looking at them first. Remember that what happened to you seems as if it's a fact, but only to you, because for the court or jury, your testimony is merely evidence. Your lawyer can help you find and present evidence to support the issues in your case.

Court appearances are stressful because they are important. The more you work with your lawyer and understand your role and what you are to do, the less stressful it will be.

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

Please send the questions to: "Ask the Attorney,"

P. O. Box 38, Florence, Alabama 35631 or visit our website at: www.mhatty.com

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Notes...

Continued from page 4

Shoals Community Theatre — The 2025-26 Zodiac Players and Gingerbread Players theater season at the Shoals Community Theatre, 123 N. Seminary St., Florence: "Barefoot in the Park," play, Zodiac Players, 7:30 p.m. Aug. 14-16 and 2 p.m. Aug. 17, directed by Adam Neal. For information regarding tickets, upcoming shows, or season tickets, go to www.theshoalstheatre.org or call 256-764-1700.

Mustang and All-Ford Show and Shine — The Shoals Mustangs present the 16th annual Shoals area Mustang and All-Ford Show and Shine from 8am - 2pm Saturday, Aug. 16 at McFarland Park, 200 James M. Spain Drive, Florence. Registration is from 8 a.m. to noon. Registration fee is \$20 for first car and \$10 for additional cars. www.shoalsmustangs.com

Oak Grove AME Church Choir #2 cordially invites you to our Annual Tea, Sunday, August 17 @ 2:30pm. Guest speaker - Florence City Council President Kaytrina Simmons and Guest soloist Mrs. Carmine Thompson.

\$5 donation. Come join us for finger foods and tea. There will be door prizes. Must be present to win.

The American Legion Colbert County Memorial Post 31 meets at 6pm on Monday, August 18 in the Post meeting hall, located at 110 1/2 N. Main St. in Tuscumbia. A stair-lift is available, if needed, to the upstairs location. A meal will be provided. All Veterans are invited. For more information, please call 256-762-5950.

TVAA Member Show Now - Aug. 22 ARTworks at Tennessee Valley Museum of Art, 511 N. Water St., Tuscumbia. The museum is open from 9am to 5pm Tuesday-Friday and from 10am to 5pm Saturday. Admission: \$5, \$3 for students and free for members.

See NOTES... page 23







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Justin Cornelius	F1	Charles May	H49
Ryan Anderson	F7	Mitchell Benton	J4
Lori Archer	F33	Emily Portugues	K32

658698-1

Letters...

Where You Brought Me...

Continued from Page 12

Or do you feel that because you have been above fortunate you never felt you really needed God?

I am reminded of the scripture that says, "What can a man give in exchange for his soul?" It is a reminder to all of us that at the very end of our lives on earth we have to give account of what we have done in these bodies. Will you have an advocate to stand before God pleading your case? Infinity stretches out there and where we choose to spend eternity must be decided here on earth.

You may say that this is hearsay. Have you truly looked into the life of a Christian to understand what holds them bound to their faith? We all need faith of some kind. However, the faith that comes from above in royal faith that endures as we

keep in contact by reading our Bible. You see, it is written in the Bible, "Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."

Spending time hearing what God has to say has great gain, not only in this life but in the one to come. We have a chance every day to make it right with God. That means we let go of our lives and let God steer the helm.

We are told in Scripture that "all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God." Those are God's words. We cannot deny it. Either we humble ourselves or we can miss out with God.

Let us reach out in humility, acknowledging our wrongs and asking forgiveness. It is far better to get right with God before our end comes. Lord Jesus will be the propitiation for our sins. He took our place on the cross, bearing everyone's sins. He did it out of love because there was no other way. Jesus Christ is God the Father's answer for a lost and broken world.

Let Him be your answer today.

Barbara Gill
Aiken, S.C

Bubble Boy Pols Attack

Editor,

NORAD scrambled fighter jets on August 3 to intercept a civilian aircraft that entered a "Temporary Flight Restriction" zone in New Jersey. What was this very special, very sensitive

zone? A golf club. Why was it so special and so sensitive? U.S. President Donald Trump was enjoying a round of golf there.

The day before that, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers increased the outflow of Little Caesar Lake into Ohio's Miami River at the request of the Secret Service. Why? Vice-president JD Vance went kayaking on the river and a higher water level was required "support safe navigation of U.S. Secret Service personnel."

Or maybe not. An anonymous source, The Guardian reports, says the real purpose was to create "ideal kayaking conditions" for the Very Special Important Politician.

At this point, I should mention that I'm only picking on Trump and Vance because they happen to be in office. This kind of thing is far from new, but it got old a long time ago.

In 1992, my now wife was eating with friends at a hotel restaurant when the Secret Service came in and demanded that everyone leave. Then-president George H.W. Bush was on his way to that hotel, and The Little People needed to get out of his way.

Over the 12 years I lived in St. Louis, I lost count of the times that air and ground traffic were disrupted for hours at a time because apparently it's unthinkable for the hoi polloi to use runways, roads, or sidewalks during (or for hours before) a big-name politician wants to fly in on a special plane and proceed by motorcade (without regard to the publicly posted speed limits, of course) to wherever he or she happens to want to go.

America treats its politicians like the kid in that old Seinfeld episode, "The Bubble Boy" -- isolated and coddled lest contact with regular human beings harm them.

The rest of us apparently exist only to provide these power-mongers with votes and occasionally with audiences carefully curated for high levels of adoration and applause. Outside those contexts, we're to be neither seen nor heard.

Okay, that's not completely true. We also fork over \$3 billion per year for the Secret

Service, \$800 million for the Capitol Police Department, and heaven only knows how much for military air cover, etc., to ensure that Very Special Important People never experience discomfort due to unintentional contact with us mere mortals. They want to hear from us, or at least our employers' payroll departments.

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Hello friends! It's time to take a closer look at our trusty old external portable hard disks (HDDs). Many of us have relied on these devices to store precious memories and important documents. But as technology advances, it's wise to consider switching to Solid State Drives (SSDs). Here's why.

Traditional HDDs rely on mechanical components to read and write data, much like an antique clock. Over time, these parts wear out, increasing the risk of failure. SSDs, however, have no moving parts—making them more durable and reliable over the long haul.



Martin Dean

Time to Make the Switch: Why Replacing Old Hard Drives is a Wise Move

by "The Computer Skeptic"

You might ask, "Why change if my drive still works?" The answer is simple: aging drives can suddenly fail, risking all your stored data. And the cost of recovering lost files can be steep—often hundreds or even thousands of dollars. Replacing your old drive with a dependable SSD might seem like a bigger expense upfront, but it's a smart investment in peace of mind.

Speed is another benefit.

SSDs can read and write data up to five times faster than HDDs, meaning quicker access to your files and less waiting. Whether you're opening photos, videos, or important documents, you'll notice the difference.

Now, let me tell you about Mrs. Jenkins, a customer who came in a few months ago with a dead external drive. Loaded with decades of family photos, childhood videos, and vital

documents, her heart was heavy. She had backups, she said, but they were old and incomplete. We tried everything—connecting it to different computers, running recovery software, even opening the drive to see if we could fix it. Sadly, the drive was dead—mechanical parts worn out beyond repair. All those memories, lost forever. Mrs. Jenkins left visibly upset, realizing how vulnerable data stored on old drives really is.

I wanted to share this with you to show why replacing an aging drive can save you from heartache. No matter how much effort you put in, sometimes data recovery is impossible—especially when the hardware fails completely. Investing in a new SSD can prevent this stress altogether.

To make the transition easier, start transferring your critical files to a new SSD, then keep your old HDD as a secondary backup until you're confident everything is safe. It's a simple way to protect your most valuable data.

In summary, swapping an old HDD for an SSD isn't just about speed or modern tech; it's about safeguarding your memories, records, and documents. It's a sensible move as drives age, giving you greater peace of mind—and fewer sleepless nights.

Stay skeptical, my friends!

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Watermelons...

Continued from Page 12

Friday, August 15 Music Lineup

- 6:30pm – Opening Ceremony (National Anthem: Kim Clonts)
- 7pm – The Music City Misfits
- 8:30pm – Austin Bohannon

Saturday, August 16 Music Lineup

- 6pm – The Midnighters
- 7pm – Dixie Mafia
- 8:30pm – Will Moseley

Contests centered on watermelons are a highlight each year entertaining festivalgoers of all ages. These contests include watermelon seed spitting, the largest melon, best tasting melon, most unusual and best-dressed melons, and more. Over 100 vehicles are expected for the car and truck show on Saturday morning, and additional activities include a 5K run and 1-mile fun run, character guests to entertain the children, and the Franklin County Extension Office contests.

The event was voted Best Adults and Children's Events in the Tennessee Valley in a reader's choice poll conducted by the Franklin County Times for the past five years.

All activities take place along Main Street (Jackson Avenue). Hours are 6-10pm on Friday and 10am-10pm on Saturday. Admission is free. For more details, visit the Franklin County Chamber of Commerce website at www.franklincountychamber.org and click on the Watermelon Festival link or call 256-332-1760. For the latest information, like the Franklin County Watermelon Festival page on Facebook and Instagram.

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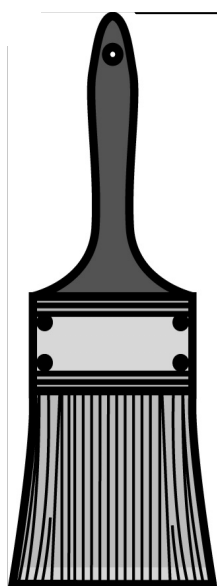


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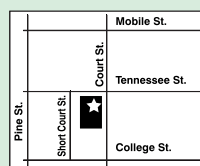
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Insurance Insights

"Below is a State Farm® Simple Insights® article about "Helpful car insurance tips for college students" is provided by State Farm agent Rebecca Stutts Hovater.



When your child goes away to a college and leaves their car behind, there are options to lower your insurance premiums while they're away.

You have plenty of big things to worry about with your child heading off to college — room and board, textbook purchases and the frequency of late-night pizza orders — so you probably haven't done much thinking about the effect on your auto insurance. But learning how your auto insurance works when your child attends a university or college away from home is an important item to consider. If you've worked with them on being a safe driver as a teen, then they might be ready for a car at college.

How does car insurance work when your child goes away to school?

In most cases, you need to notify your auto insurance company about your child leaving for school, even if you are leaving your car at home. Why?

Your child's car could still be covered when they come home for weekends and breaks

College, university and trade school students are typically covered under their parents' car insurance, as long as they live at the same address as their parents when not at school. Review your specific policy to see if your child is covered.

You might qualify for a different (and cheaper) auto insurance rate

Rates may change if your child is driving the car at school rather than leaving it back at home. For example, drivers in urban locations generally pay more for insurance than those in rural areas. If your child is going to school in an urban location, you might have to pay a higher premium if they take the car with them.

You might receive a discount for their grades

Students with solid grades may qualify for a good student discount.

If your child is in college, or heading off to school soon, get in touch with your insurance agent today.



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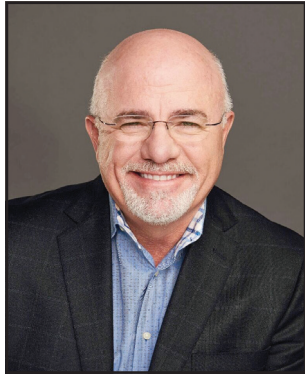
DAVE Says

by DAVE RAMSEY

DON'T KICK A GUY WHEN HE'S DOWN

(But don't let him throw a pity party, either)

Dear Dave,
Our son used to own and run his own small business, until it went bankrupt a few



months ago. We let him move in with us, because he hasn't been able to find another job and had nowhere else to turn. My husband and I are both getting close to retirement age, and we're not sure what to do in order to get our son

on his feet and back out in the world again.
Elisabeth

Dear Elisabeth,
As a parent, I understand where you're coming from. You don't want to kick a kid when he's down, but you don't want to participate in, or allow him to wallow around in, a bunch of self-pity. Everyone needs a little time to catch their breath when really bad things happen. But right now, you need to help him reset his mind and start taking practical steps toward being a productive, self-sufficient adult again.

First off, let's define what helping your son really means. In my mind, you haven't helped him at all if he's still living with you a year from now. That's called being an enabler. But it's not going to help him if you just shove him out the door saying, "You're a man! Handle it!" I think you and your husband—t o g e t h e r — s h o u l d formulate a progressive plan somewhere between those two extremes. One that includes a deadline date for him to move out, but in the meantime helps him rebuild his dignity and self-respect.

As part of living with you, I'd require him to do a few things. One is that he abides by your household rules. If he's going to live

in your home, he should help out around the place and behave in ways you and your husband consider appropriate. Another, is thinking about career steps. He could start with a part-time job to get some money in his pockets. Then, help him actively work on long-term career goals and how to attain them.

And don't let him neglect his physical and mental wellbeing during all this. He needs to be engaged in some kind of regular physical activity, even if you and your husband pay for it temporarily. An inexpensive gym membership, or used exercise equipment would be a great start. Exercise also stimulates the mind, and he needs that right now, too.

Going through what your son has experienced is tough on anyone, at any age. It can lead to depression if you don't engage regularly in activities and goal setting. Encourage him, Elisabeth. Walk with him during this time. If he's not involved with a good church, this would be a great time for him to start looking for one.

Your son has plenty of productive years ahead of him. He just needs a little love and support to get him back on his feet and moving again.

— Dave

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

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Notes...

Continued from page 14

Crafted Conversations - Thursday, August 21, 6-9pm, at the Singin' River Live, 526 E College St., Florence. Hosted by Dale Cohen with music by The Dirty Rain Revelers. Doors open at 6pm. Music

starts around 6:30pm.

Admission is free! Snacks provided. Bring a friend!

A unique evening of live music, interviews, conversations and community discussions on a chosen theme, which changes each month, with different musical guests each month.

Come join the Creative Crafters at the Killen Library. This is a craft group

for adult friends who draw, craft, paint, sew, quilt, embroidery, crochet, etc. (all adult artisans are welcome). Bring your project to work on and come join us! This group will meet at the Killen Library once a month. Here are the dates for the rest of the year....

All Saturday Mornings: August 23, Sept 27, Oct 25, Nov. 15, Dec. 20 from 9am-12:45pm. All adults welcome.

The Yellow Dandies will be at The Ritz Theatre, 111 Third Street, Sheffield, from 7-9 p.m. Aug. 23. Cost: \$15-\$25.

The Yellow Dandies group is a high-energy string band from Alabama blending bluegrass, swing, and folk with a playful, modern twist.

The Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts in Florence will present a fiber exhibition, "Holding on to Past & Present Memories" by Mississippi artist Lukulise Swanigan from Now - August 21. The Aberdeen, MS native is a self-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.

LifeSouth Bloodmobile Dates:

Wednesday, August 13 Colbert County High School, 2200 High School St., Art Building, Leighton, 8am - 3:30pm

Thursday, August 14 Collinwood High School, 401 N Trojan Boulevard, Collinwood, TN 8am - 3pm

Friday, August 15 Watermelon Festival, Franklin County Chamber of Commerce, 103 N Jackson Ave, Russellville 4:30pm - 8pm

Saturday August 16 Watermelon Festival, Franklin County Chamber of Commerce, 103 N Jackson Ave, Russellville 10am - 6pm

Sunday August 17 Foodland - Rogersville, 10am - 4pm

Monday, August 18 TVA Power Service Shops, Hwy 133 TVA Reservation Rd, 127 Power Service Center, Muscle Shoals, 10am - 5:30pm

Tuesday, August 19 Covenant Christian School, 1900 Covenant Dr., Tusculumbia, 8am - 3:30pm

Saturday, August 23 Boutique 72, 1408 Avenue E, Tusculumbia, 9am - 4pm

Tuesday night Social Dance at The Club/ Florence Senior Center, 450 Country Club Drive, in Florence. \$6. Doors open at 6pm.

Dance from 6:30-8:45pm. Texas two step, waltz, line dance, fox trot and more! The Browns provide the music from across the decades!

The 4th Annual Stayin' Alive Disco Dodgeball for St. Jude will be 10am Saturday, August 16 at the Mars Hill Bible School old gymnasium. All proceeds benefit St. Jude. \$15 per person to play dodgeball. Youth and adult teams (church groups, family and/or business teams). Donation for admission.

Register, donate, purchase event shirt and/or livestream at benandtravis.com/dodgeball.



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- Vietnam Veteran
- Commander of VFW Post 1450
- Member of American Legion Post 11
- Formally Endorsed by the ADC
- Fair & Honest Open Door Policy



WORKS I HAVE DONE

- Obtained \$3 million for Science Center at UNA
- Heating and AC for Burrell Slater
- Reduced Noise on West Mobile
- Crime rate down to 30% from the past 12 years
- Sidewalk repairs in District 1
- \$423,000 secured for homeless care
- 20 Dilapidated houses removed
- Supported the building of new Hospital
- Humane shelter moved from a residential neighborhood to an industrial park

DONATIONS/FUNDS

- Donated funds for 20 + families for utilities
- Donated to Florence City School System Span Program
- Obtained renovation funding for the disabled
- \$6,000 for the Community Action Agency
- Donated money to the Salvation Army for remodeling and expansion

Working hard for for District 1!
VOTE AUGUST 26

Paid political by Dave Smith, PO Box 1221, Florence, AL 35631

See NOTES... page 30

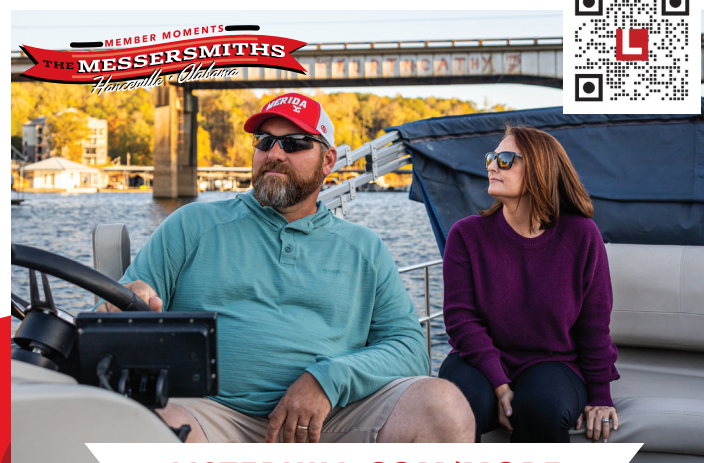


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Answers on Page 30

Brain Zone!

Even Exchange by Donna Pettman

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

1. Team member

___ L ___
2. Groucho's brother

___ ___ O
3. Circular

R ___
4. Talk turkey

G ___
5. Canonized one

___ A ___
6. Take aim

___ O ___
7. Put money into

___ ___ S
8. Kitchen furniture

T ___
9. Clamor

___ I ___
10. Napoleon's country

___ R ___
- Heavenly request

___ R ___
- Angelic instruments

___ ___ S
- Located

F ___
- Sway unsteadily

W ___
- Allotted period

___ T ___
- Emulate Picasso

___ A ___
- Turn upside down

___ ___ R
- Aesop's story

F ___
- From Oslo

___ R ___
- Prospective spouse

___ I ___

MINI SUDOKU

			6		
2					3
	5			6	
					2
		6	2	4	
5					

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

SCRAMBLERS

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

Remove

GRUPE

Grant

TEMPIR

Mist

PARVO

Good

CENTED

TODAY'S WORD

Micro Crossword By Elizabeth C. Gorski

Across

1 Pilgrim's destination

6 Radiating light

7 Long for

8 "Catch!"

9 Jazz legend Getz

Down

1 Jet speed units

2 Everglades wader

3 Santa ___ (Silicon Valley city)

4 Bewitching assembly?

5 Bedazzle

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Trivia test by Fifi Rodriguez

1. U.S. STATES: Which is the only state named after a president?

2. MYTHOLOGY: Which goddess is queen of the Roman gods?

3. LITERATURE: Who wrote the poem "Paradise Lost"?

4. HISTORY: Which monarch was known as the Sun King?

5. MOVIES: How many movies did Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers make together?

6. GEOGRAPHY: The country of Malta is on which continent?

7. CHEMISTRY: What is a substance that speeds up a chemical reaction?

8. FOOD & DRINK: What is tzatziki?

9. TELEVISION: What is the name of the family in the sitcom "Arrested Development"?

10. ANATOMY: What part of the brain converts short-term memory into long-term memory?

1. Which group released "Red Rubber Ball"?

2. Who had a hit with "A Rose and a Baby Ruth"?

3. Name the original group that released "Please Mr. Postman."

4. Which group did David Coverdale start in 1978?

5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "You tell me your best friend's world seems beautiful, but don't be fooled."

What did the ocean say to the pirate? Nothing, it just waved.

Why don't pirates shower before they walk the plank? Because they'll just wash up on shore later.

What happened when Bluebeard fell overboard in the Red Sea? He got marooned

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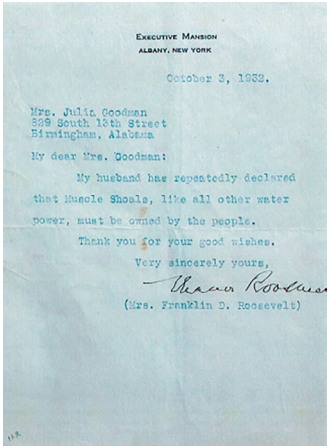
Billy Warren

Florence Then & Now

Eleanor Roosevelt Speaks

It is widely known, of course, that Eleanor Roosevelt, wife of Franklin D. Roosevelt, was heavily involved in her husband's presidency. A Roosevelt herself (daughter of Elliott Roosevelt and niece of President Theodore Roosevelt), Eleanor was both wealthy and well-educated. As a result, she understood the gravity of her husband's position, as well as the unyielding pressures of that position. So, she didn't just sit idly by or along the sidelines; she fielded questions and criticisms directed at him. The copy of her letter (see accompanying image) directed to a constituent in Birmingham, Alabama, on October 3, 1932, is an interesting example of her work. Obviously, she or FDR had received a question – or a criticism – regarding the Act that created the Tennessee Valley Authority from one Julia Goodman. Perhaps Ms. Goodman was praising the President for his determination to keep America's waterways under public ownership. Or the opposite might have been the case: Ms. Goodman was perhaps still upset that the waterway that included Wilson Dam had not been sold to Henry Ford ten years earlier. Regardless, what the letter does illustrate is that Eleanor Roosevelt was no wallflower, retreating from the political life of America; she expressed her opinions, both verbally and in writing, with no reticence whatsoever. Even a cursory read of her autobiography entitled This I Remember quickly illustrates that.

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



Answers
on Page 30

BIBLE
TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Ecclesiastes (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Luke 17, when Jesus healed 10 lepers, how many came back to thank Him? *1, 2, 5, All 10*
3. Who had seven sons who always celebrated their birthdays with a feast? *Eli, Job, John, David*
4. From Genesis 32, whose thigh went out of joint while wrestling with an angel? *Adam, Moses, Jacob, Lot*
5. The pool of Bethesda is/was near which gate to the city of Jerusalem? *Sheep, Camel, Horse, People*
6. Who was Caiaphas' father-in-law? *Annanias, Annas, Pilate, Nicodemus*



by Ryan A. Berenz

1. Name the owner of the Boston Red Sox who infamously sold Babe Ruth to the New York Yankees in 1920.
2. In motorsports, what does the acronym HANS stand for?
3. In June 2025, autonomous humanoid robots from Tsinghua University's THU Robotics team defeated China Agricultural University's Mountain Sea Team's robots in what sport?
4. Who did the Charlotte Hornets select 11th overall in the 2018 NBA Draft and then immediately trade to the Los Angeles Clippers?
5. Unicycling acrobat Rong "Krystal" Niu, a fixture at pro basketball halftime shows, is better known by what stage name?
6. In 2024, Amit Patel pleaded guilty to stealing \$22 million from what NFL franchise while employed with the team?
7. What 1978 National League MVP died 29 days before being inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame Class of 2025?

Answers

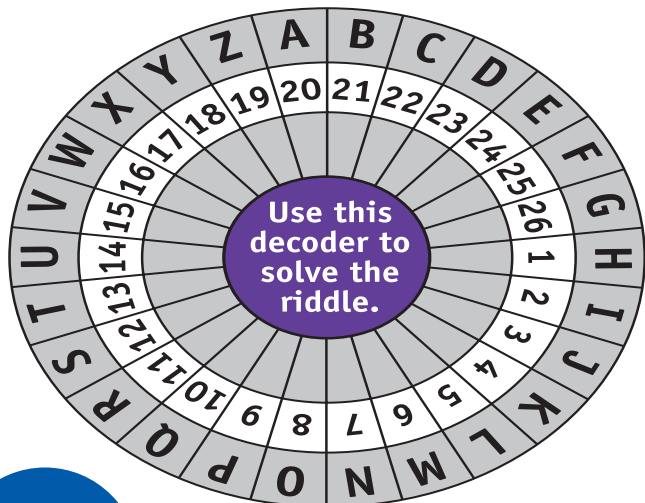
1. Harry Frazee.
2. Head and Neck Support.
3. Soccer.
4. Shai Gilgeous-Alexander.
5. Red Panda.
6. The Jacksonville Jaguars.
7. Dave Parker.



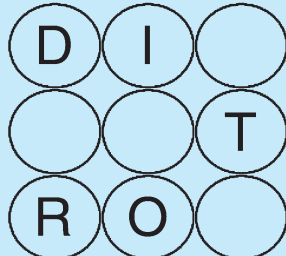
SECRET
CODE

What kinds of keys can
not open doors?

6	8	7	4	24	18	12	&	23	8	7	4	24	18	12
---	---	---	---	----	----	----	---	----	---	---	---	----	----	----



WORD SPIRAL



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

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

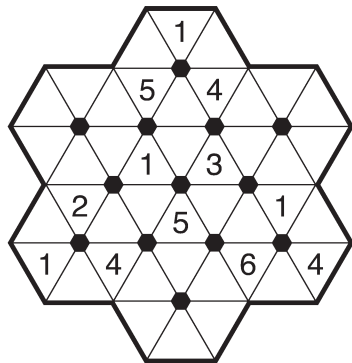
	+	5	-		=	6		
-		+		+				
	+		÷		=	6		
-		-		÷				
	+		÷		=	10		
=		=		=				
1		8		9				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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SNOWFLAKES

by Japheth Light

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



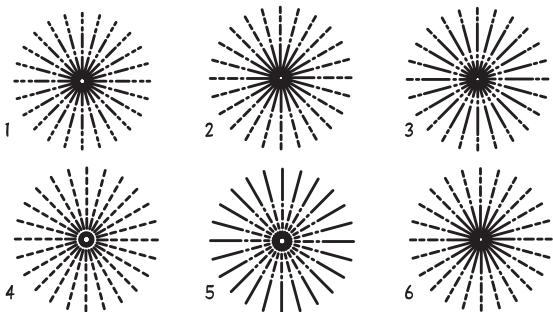
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Easy ♦♦ Medium ♦♦♦ Difficult

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FIND THE TWINS

WHICH TWO ARE EXACTLY ALIKE?



CryptoQuip

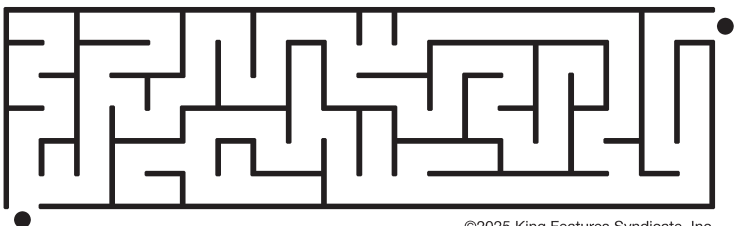
This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: X equals Y

MQKM XCTUO OTX VCZYD MC
PJYDD JYKVVX DNKJMVX, DC
H MCVP QHN "XCT'ZY AYYU
K ZYJX UKMMX ACX!"

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Kids' Maze



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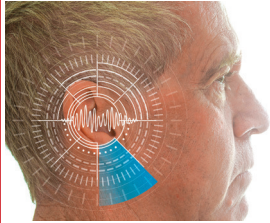
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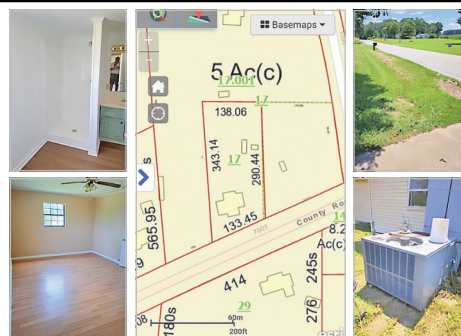
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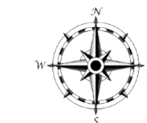


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- ★ Life-Long Resident of Muscle Shoals
- ★ 1982 Graduate of Muscle Shoals High School
- ★ University of North Alabama Graduate
- ★ Board Member of Northwest Alabama Cerebral Palsy Center
- ★ Employed at Flexco
- ★ Over 20 years Experience in the Financial Industry

- ★ Active Parent in the Muscle Shoals School System
- ★ Believes in Traditional Christian Family Values
- ★ Married to Kristi Nix Sockwell
- ★ 3 Children - Trey 2014 graduate of Muscle Shoals High School. Jay and Lauren - 8th grade at Muscle Shoals Middle School.

August 26

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Commentary

The Urge...

Continued from Page 12

for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work."

Verse 15 is glaringly applicable as just a few decades ago many more people were raised in church, read the Word, and were around different friends and better influences as they matured. They knew right from wrong. They just needed the Word as a reminder for those inevitable moments when they drifted.

Now, so many people have no spiritual foundation. Biblical verses and directives may seem more hostile, more of an imposition and out of style. That's not God's fault, it's ours – the generations that let their children down, forgoing that spiritual upbringing of their offspring for one reason or another.

Three other contributing factors of spiritual decline may include de-emphasizing the family unit or men abdicating their responsibility, government financially rewarding out-of-wedlock births, and the sexualization of society from an early age.

When we have adults

advocating and promoting sexual thoughts in toddlers and grade-schoolers, we are a demented lot. However, that is a topic for later.

Aggressive depictions of sensuality are all around us. Visual sex appeal is the primary focus of advertising, in one aspect or another. Most of us understand; we were all young at some point. It's more temptation.

Advertising equates casual sexual activity with dining out, weekend barbecues, outdoor events, music, hair products, clothes, and many other products.

If you listen to radio or watch television, commercial topics on enhancement, testosterone, performance, female grooming, and STD remedies are unavoidable.

It's just an assumed part of life and dating. It's hard to avoid and even harder to resist if you are in that single lifestyle and on that active schedule.

The decline of religious involvement referenced earlier directly correlates to society's view of sex outside marriage through recent generations. It has gone from being taboo to being reserved, then accepted, and now expected. We can't help who we love or how deeply, and we want to show it.

Faith leaders of every

ilk used to remind us without hesitation that sexual activity outside of a scriptural marriage was sinful. Now, many of them would be run out of the church building.

We've changed, but God hasn't.

I'm sorry to be a wet blanket, but Biblically there are no exceptions, not even for people deeply in love; those who are exclusive or engaged; friends with benefits; the truly committed who share a house and mortgage, or the married at heart (to maintain a better tax break).

We can be in love as much as one can possibly imagine, but to be right with God, sex is only right in scripturally approved marriages.

That is a huge challenge set before us if we are not married and we are attracted to another. While our perception of sex as a society has changed, God's hasn't. And the prevailing attitude is so much more difficult to temper now than it was in time past. And ask anyone who is alive; it was by no means easy "back then."

NEED HELP?

CONTACT 2-1-1

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Medicare Minute

"Medicare Part B"

Before we begin talking about Medicare Part B I would like to clear up something that was in last week's article concerning Medicare Part A. As I stated in the article Part A has a deductible of \$1,676 per benefit period. I also stated that if you paid into Medicare for 40 quarters that Part A was free to you. I was referring to the fact that you would not have to pay a premium to Medicare for Part A, not that it would exclude you from paying the deductible.

Medicare Part B is the part of Medicare that is billed when you receive services as an outpatient by a Medicare approved provider, such as your primary care physician (PCP) or specialist. Although a visit to your doctor is the primary way that you will use Medicare Part B, it also covers many other services. We will discuss the other services in next week's article.

If you are turning 65 in 2025, Medicare Part B will have a premium of \$185.00/mo. Because there is a premium attached to Medicare Part B this coverage is optional. This means you are not required to enroll in Medicare Part B. There are two important things to remember about Part B being optional. First, if you opt out of Part B you will have no coverage under Medicare for your outpatient services. Second, if you decide at a later date to enroll in Part B there can be a late enrollment penalty applied that will last as long as you live and have Part B. There are exceptions to the late enrollment penalty that we will discuss in future articles.

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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Notes...

Continued from page

Summer Games and Daytime Dancing at The Club (Florence Senior Center) Noon-2pm on the 1st, 3rd Wednesdays of August, and September. - 450 Country Club Drive in Florence (the former Florence Country Club property). Summer Daytime Fun - Dress accordingly, Finger food welcomed. \$5, proceeds go for the state Masters

Games in Trussville in October 2025. Supporting our athletes 50+ years young! The Club, Florence Senior Center, Florence Parks and Recreation Department. 256-760-6642 or 256.760.6420.

Clip and Save the Dates and Themes Who can be the most creative????? August 20, Picnic today - We'll have hot dogs, and chips - summer attire, September 3, 50's & 60's Sock Hop, Remember when? September 17, Tail Gate Party - Support your favorite team attire

A benefit for a good cause and a night of fun with songwriter Mark Namore & Guest Alabama Elvis. A Concert To Benefit a Historical Project, August 23, Doors Open 6:30 pm, - Show at 7 pm. At the Church of Good Shepherd, 2001 Cloyd Florence. Admission is free thanks to our sponsor, but donations appreciated

Underwood-Petersville Neighborhood Watch meets at 2pm the 4th Sunday (August 24) of each month at Underwood-Petersville Community Center, 840 Lauderdale 7, Florence.

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

Game Day at St. Bartholomew's Church, 1900 Darby Drive, Florence, the 3rd Thursday of the month. (August 21) 1-3pm. Games provided or bring your own. For more info, call 678-372-3526. All are welcome, for fun and fellowship.

The Lauderdale County Chapter of the National Alumni Association will be hosting the annual football kickoff event at 6pm on Tuesday, August 26 at Mugshots in downtown Florence. See you there! ROLL TIDE!

August 30: 4th Annual Remembering Our Veterans Through Music Concert - The City of Florence Parks and Recreation and Knox Media Group invite you to the 4th Annual Remembering Our Veterans Through Music Concert—a free community event honoring those who have served. Join us Saturday, August 30 at 12 PM for a powerful afternoon filled with music and

celebration at 450 Country Club Drive. Enjoy live entertainment from Howell Sledge & Revue, Cassidy McCorkle, Pat Jamar & Band, Encounter, Angela Hacker & Bae Simpson, Paul, Mona B, and DJ J-Rock.

Come out, show your support, and remember our veterans through music!

Florence Fly Fisher & Tyers meets the 1st Tuesday of every month (September 2) from 6:30-8pm at St Bartholomew Episcopal Church, 1900 Darby Dr. in Florence. Anyone interested is welcome and encouraged to attend.

"Hi Neighbors of the Shoals" meets at the Florence Public Library on the first Tuesday of each month (September 2) 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.

An afternoon with the Guardian Quartet will be on Sunday, September 7 at 2pm at Cypress Creek Methodist Church, 801 Lewis Bruce Lane off Cox Creek Pkwy in Florence. Free to the public. A Love offering will be received.

Please join us for the 2025 Shoals Woman of the Year AWARDS LUNCHEON

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Brain Zone! ANSWERS

1. The Cyrkle, in 1966. It had been written by Paul Simon, of Simon & Garfunkel, surprising many because he was at the same time writing more serious songs with Art Garfunkel. Years later Simon said he'd written "Red Rubber Ball" for the cash advance he would get.

2. George Hamilton IV, in 1956. The song spent 20 weeks on the charts. (And yes, that's the Baby Ruth candy bar in the song.)

3. The Marvelettes, in 1961. It was not only the debut single for the group, but was the first Motown song to top the Hot 100 chart.

4. Whitesnake. Their big hit was "Here I Go Again."

5. "Everything Your Heart Desires" by Hall & Oates, in 1988. The song became the duo's last Top 10 hit. They were inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame in 2003.

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Even Exchange answers

1. Player, Prayer
2. Harpo, Harps
3. Round, Found
4. Gobble, Wobble
5. Saint, Stint
6. Point, Paint
7. Invest, Invert
8. Table, Fable
9. Noise, Norse
10. France, Fiance

Micro Crossword Answer

M	E	C	C	A
A	G	L	O	W
C	R	A	V	E
H	E	R	E	
S	T	A	N	

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

ANSWERS: 1) Old, 2) 1, 3) Job, 4) Jacob, 5) Sheep, 6) Annas

"Test Your Bible Knowledge," a book with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in stores and online.

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Trivia test

by Fifi Rodriguez

Answers

1. Washington.
2. Juno.
3. John Milton.
4. Louis XIV of France.
5. 10.
6. Europe.
7. Catalyst.
8. A cold condiment of yogurt, cucumbers, garlic and seasonings.
9. The Bluths.
10. The hippocampus.

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Answer

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

CryptoQuip

answer

That young guy loves to dress really smartly, so I told him "You've been a very natty boy!"

SCRAMBLERS

solution

1. Purge
2. Permit;
3. Vapor;
4. Decent

Today's Word

PAMPER

Find the Twins

Sports Quiz

by Ryan A. Berenz

Answers

1. Harry Frazee.
2. Head and Neck Support.
3. Soccer.
4. Shai Gilgeous-Alexander.
5. Red Panda.
6. The Jacksonville Jaguars.
7. Dave Parker.

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