

## Kirby with Athens Team

MUSCLE SHOALS— First Metro Bank and its Board of Directors are pleased to announce the addition of **Heath Kirby** to their team in Athens, serving as Mortgage Loan Originator.

With over 20 years of experience in the financial field and 15 years of mortgage lending knowledge, Kirby will serve First Metro's Mortgage Team in Limestone, Madison, Morgan, and Cullman counties as well as the surrounding areas.



A native of Hartselle and an alumnus of Troy University, Kirby's service-oriented and community-centric mindset align with First Metro's culture of civic engagement. He is currently

See **SHORTs...** on Page 2

Volume 141 Number 43

August 20, 2025

POSTAL PATRON

# Courier Journal

Serving Northwest Alabama and beyond with direct mail, saturation coverage

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USPS Circulation Verification Available

**End of Summer Buy Back Sale**  
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## Special Delivery- Better Outcomes

FLORENCE – North Alabama Medical Center recently announced the launch of the Special Delivery Program; an initiative aimed at improving postpartum care and reducing maternal mortality. This innovative program provides postpartum patients with wristbands to wear for six weeks after delivery, helping ensure they receive timely and appropriate care for any potential

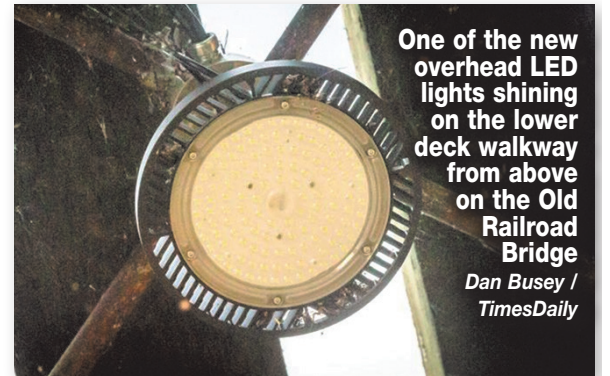
See **DELIVERY...** Page 4

## LED's On

RC&D Grant Adds  
Visibility to Bridge

by **Russ Corey**  
Times Daily Staff Writer

SHEFFIELD — New LED lighting has been installed on the Old Railroad Bridge, thanks to a \$20,000 grant from the Northwest Resource Conservation & Development Council. Angela Broyles, chairwoman of the



One of the new overhead LED lights shining on the lower deck walkway from above on the Old Railroad Bridge  
Dan Busey / TimesDaily

Old Railroad Bridge Company, said the installation of the new electric lights has

See **NEW LIGHTS...** on Page 6



## Municipal Election Day Tuesday, August 26

Please consider those who have chosen to inform you of their candidacy and positions through the Courier Journal in recent weeks.



## Music for the Ministry

Kim Terry Glover, left, is pictured here with 14-year-old Sawyer James, who participated in Darrell and Kim' Glover's Free Guitar Camp in Lexington the week of July 21-25. The Glover's Jesus Christ Followers Club music ministry hosts the annual camp to equip young Christian musicians with free guitars, extra strings, speed winders, straps, and tuners to help them get started making music for the Kingdom. Darrell Glover helped James learn to play several Gospel songs and is shown here with his new Cort guitar and accessories that Kim gifted him. *Courtesy photo*

## INSIDE this Issue

### Automotive Inside



Ray Miller GMC  
Advance Auto Sales

- Medicare Minute
- Ask the Attorney
- Commentary
- Municipal Candidates

- Special Narmore Concert
- Adopt-a-Friend



- Hocus Focus
- Dog Days Classified Special

SIGNS of the PAST



## Online Only:

- Alabama Outdoors
- Web Poll
- Mystery Photo

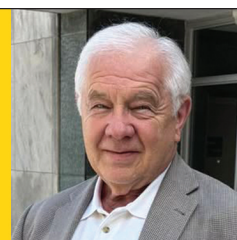


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- ★ **EXPERIENCE MATTERS.** Education, training in economic and community development, plus over 40 years working toward new jobs, new and expanded businesses, and industry recruitment.
- ★ **PROMISES MADE. PROMISES KEPT.** More than 500 new businesses 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



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**Save money on yo**





# Summer

# Back Sale

our new installation!

our Trade-In Values

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ater Heater \$200



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AL HVAC LICENSE #91114

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## Shorts...

### Kirby With Athens Team

Continued from Page 1

involved in a number of organizations, a few of which include board member for Habitat for Humanity, the Affiliate Council for the Morgan County Board of Directors, a leader for First Priority at Barkley Bridge School, a member of the Hartselle Rotary Club, and a member of the Hartselle City Board of Zoning Adjustment.

"I love how First Metro is always active and participating in local events and organizations. I look forward to being a part of the relationships that First Metro has cultivated in the communities we are a part of," says Kirby.

**Chris Estave**, Vice President and Mortgage Lending Officer, stated, "Heath has shown a tendency of providing top-level customer service in his career, and we are excited to have him represent First Metro Bank in the community to meet our customers' mortgage needs."

### Sign-ups for Day of Caring

FLORENCE—United Way of Northwest Alabama is now accepting project proposals for its annual Day of Caring, which is set for Thursday, September 25, 2025. This impactful day brings together volunteers from across the Shoals community to tackle hands-on service projects that help local nonprofit and church organizations address pressing needs.

Nonprofits and churches are encouraged to propose projects that can be completed in a single day by a team of volunteers — such as painting, organizing, cleaning, garden beautification, meal prep, or administrative support. To submit your proposal, please complete the Day of Caring Agency Project form by Tuesday, August 26, 2025, via: United Way of Northwest Alabama Project Submission Form: <https://www.uwnwal.org/form/day-of-caring-agency-project-24>.

Projects must benefit a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit or church within Colbert, Lauderdale, Franklin, or Marion Counties.

Each project must be designed to be completed in a single day.

The hosting organization must provide all necessary materials and supplies for volunteers.

When submitting, assign an Agency Planning Coordinator who will serve as the key point of contact with United Way staff.

Organizations are urged to submit their proposals early to increase the likelihood of securing a volunteer team. For more information or assistance, please contact United Way of Northwest Alabama at 256-764-5892 or by emailing [kerry@uwnshoals.org](mailto:kerry@uwnshoals.org).

Blackberry Trail Golf Course in Florence. Team entry is \$400. Hole sponsorships are \$100 each. Two mulligans are available \$5 each, and a Putting Contest is featured at \$5/putt. The entry fee includes team breakfast and lunch. A Lexington High School and UNA graduate, Littrell served as senior vice president in Lauderdale county, manager, and branch manager at First Metro Bank's Lexington office for 17 years.

To register a team or become a hole sponsor, contact **Tara Nava** at 256-229-1100 or [tnava@firstmetro.net](mailto:tnava@firstmetro.net).

### Another Open Mic Night

FLORENCE – Florence Art and Museums will host another night of heartwarming poetry at Open Mic Night on Tuesday, August 26 at 6:30pm at the Southall House in downtown Florence. For this event, poets are invited to share their original works that explore the theme of something found.

This event will also feature readings by **Tom Gordon**, a longtime journalist and poet residing in Birmingham. The event will be followed by an open mic for audience participation. Our goal is to promote poetry and create a welcoming space where both published and unpublished poets can share their work while bringing together our diverse communities.

This program is free and is sponsored by the City of Florence Department of Arts and Museums. Southall House is located at 209 E. Tuscaloosa St, next door to the Kennedy-Douglass Art Center. Call 256-760-6379 for more information.

### Walker Gets an Extension

FLORENCE – Last Thursday was a special day for UNA soccer coach, **Chris Walker**, and that was before his team's season opening match with East Tennessee State. Walker had the

See SHORTS... on Page 7

### On the Course for Littrell

FLORENCE—First Metro Bank will host the **Steve Littrell Memorial Golf Tournament** on Friday, September 12, benefiting the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Participants will have a shotgun start at 9am at



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 <p><b>Country Style Pork Ribs</b> \$1<sup>99</sup> Lb.</p> <p><b>Pork Steak</b> \$2<sup>59</sup> Lb.</p>	 <p><b>Whole Spare Ribs</b> \$2<sup>49</sup> Lb.</p> <p><b>Boston Butt Pork Roast</b> \$2<sup>29</sup> Lb.</p>	 <p><b>Goat Meat (6-way cut)</b> \$5<sup>99</sup> Lb.</p> <p><b>Pork Belly (Skin On)</b> \$3<sup>99</sup> Lb.</p>	 <p><b>Whole Corn</b> 50 Lbs. \$9<sup>00</sup></p> <p><b>Camel Corn</b> 50 Lbs. \$11</p> <p><b>Deer Draw</b> 50 Lbs. \$14</p> <p><b>Tasty 10</b> 50 Lbs. \$8<sup>50</sup></p> <p><b>Goat Feed</b> 50 Lbs. \$12</p> <p><b>5-Way Scratch</b> 50 Lbs. \$12</p>
 <p><b>Chicken Whole Wings</b> \$2<sup>49</sup> Lb.</p> <p><b>Boneless Chicken Breast</b> \$2<sup>99</sup> Lb.</p>	 <p><b>Farm Raised Catfish Fillet</b> \$19<sup>99</sup> 4 Lb. BOX</p> <p><b>Chicken Leg Quarters</b> \$8<sup>99</sup> 10 Lb. Bag</p>	 <p><b>Chicken Drumsticks</b> \$1<sup>59</sup> Lb.</p> <p><b>Whole Rabbits</b> \$15<sup>99</sup> Each</p>	



# Yard Sales

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

**FLORENCE NEIGHBORHOOD YARD SALE**, 209 W. Sequoia Blvd., The Cedars Subdivision, Sat., Aug. 23rd, 7am-11am, Multiple Residences participating. Come ride & shop! Home Decor, Rugs, Toys, Clothing of all sizes, Shoes, Purses, Tools, and much more! Rain or Shine.

## ARDMORE, TN.: BIG, THREE-FAMILY YARD SALE.

24865 Morrow Rd. Behind Country Club, next to Dog Day Flea Market. Fri. Sat. Sun. Daylight to Dark. Glassware, jewelry, tools, yard tools, hand tools, cookware, cast iron, pots and pans, fishing stuff, lures, rods and reels, wheelbarrows, old glassware and old tools, knives, sports stuff, books, toys, old iron wheels, signs, antiques, hardware, goats, and lots of neat stuff!

**ESTATE SALE**  
6585 County Road 200  
Florence 35633  
Friday August 22nd  
9:00 - 3:00  
Saturday August 23rd  
9:00 - 2:00  
Numbers given out on  
Friday & Saturday at 8:30  
Sunday August 24th  
1:00 - 3:00

\*Wi-Fi\* Due to no cell phone connection, we can only take cash and checks.  
1985 Chevy S-10 Pick-up truck, Coca-Cola 36" Metal Button signs, Coins, pocket knives, 1957 Chevy hood, bumper, grills, rocket ornaments, Southern Pottery jug, Milk Bottles including Cloverdale, Sunbeam Bread Door Sign, Alabama/Bear Bryant Collectables, Nascar/Stock Car racing programs, Autographs, Martin Cast iron skillets, pots, #13 lid, Coke, Pepsi, Dr. Pepper Coolers & collectables, Jade-ite, Pyrex, Corningware, Jewelry, Cigarette lighters, Vintage toys, Christmas Blow molds, Concrete fountains, statues, Wrought Iron furniture.

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Tennessee Valley Museum of Art The Ritz Theatre



AUGUST 23RD AT 7:00 PM

Don't miss this high-energy, adventurous string band from Alabama that blends bluegrass, swing, and folk with a playful modern twist!

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TONY MEZA, MD, MPH



Now accepting patients!

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Shoals-area native, Dr. Tony Meza, has joined the team at Medical Associates of the Shoals and is now seeing patients full-time at the Greenhill clinic. Dr. Meza received his medical degree from UAB and completed his residency in Family Medicine at UAB-Huntsville.

## The Yellow Dandies

### ARTworks Member Show

featuring our talented TVAA Members through August 23rd at the Tennessee Valley Museum of Art in Tusculumbia, AL



## AT THE RITZ

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23RD  
**THE YELLOW DANDIES**

A HIGH-ENERGY STRING BAND FROM ALABAMA BLENDING BLUEGRASS, SWING, AND FOLK WITH A PLAYFUL, MODERN TWIST.

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**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

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## Delivery...

Continued from Page 1

complications.

The Special Delivery Program reflects NAMC's commitment to prioritizing early intervention and raising awareness about the risks associated with the postpartum period. The wristbands act as a visible reminder for patients, families, and healthcare providers to remain vigilant about postpartum health during this critical time.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), In 2022, the U.S. maternal mortality rate was 22.3 deaths per 100,000 live births which is significantly higher than rates in other high-income countries. Alarmingly, the maternal mortality rate for Black women in the US is even higher at 69.9 deaths per 100,000 live births.

Many postpartum complications, such as anemia, hypertension, heart conditions, and infections, occur days or weeks after delivery, and

53% of pregnancy-related deaths happen between 7 and 365 days postpartum.

"By providing tools for early identification of potential complications and encouraging community awareness, we are enhancing care during a critical time," said Mike Howard, CEO and Market President of North Alabama Medical Center. "This program underscores our dedication to improving health outcomes and ensuring that every postpartum individual has the resources and support they need."

As a part of this program, postpartum patients will be provided with a Special Delivery wristband before leaving the hospital. This discreet but effective tool helps identify postpartum patients and ensures healthcare providers are aware of recent pregnancies, ultimately reducing the risk of misdiagnosis.

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**DEADLINES:** Issues Published Every Wednesday

INSERTS - 5 pm Thursday

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CLASSIFIED ADS - 5 pm Friday unless otherwise specified

**219 W. Tennessee St.**

Florence, AL 35630

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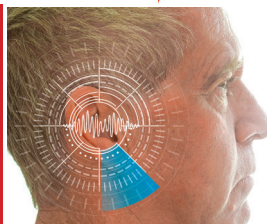
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or email to:  
[editor@courierjournal.net](mailto:editor@courierjournal.net)

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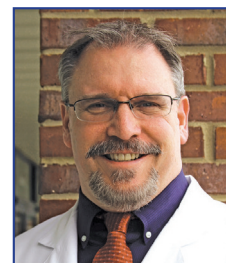


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## LEGAL AD

It is hereby given that on the **30<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF AUGUST, 2025 AT 10AM,** the following units will be sold at **Florence Blvd. Self-Storage located in Florence, AL**  
*Tenant may satisfy their indebtedness prior to the time of sale.*

NAME	UNIT	NAME	UNIT
Laketa Doxie	C12	Casey McKinney	J21
Brianna Quarles	D15	Ashley Franko	F56
Winton Hill	D25 D29 G9	Randall Gifford	H23
Jamie Byrd	E1	Larry Barnett	K28
Justin Cornelius	F1	Charles May	H49
Ryan Anderson	F7	Mitchell Benton	J4
Lori Archer	F33	Emily Portugues	K32

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# EMPLOYMENT Opportunities

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*Colbert County Commission is an equal opportunity employer.*

## NIGHTSHIFT DELIVERY DRIVERS NEEDED

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

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

## Former Mayor Steve Holt Seeks Second Term

FLORENCE—Former Florence Mayor Steve Holt is seeking a second term to serve the City of Florence. "I felt led to run again for Mayor," he said. "We were blessed during our first term to have accomplished many good things for Florence, but our work was not finished. We have a lot more to do."

"We need to get a program of re-paving our streets going again. We must have thorough transparency with city government and communicate with our citizens," Holt said. "Safety and protection of all people in all areas of the city is crucial to our future. We have to get control of government spending and manage our resources more efficiently."

During Holt's first term, he promised to focus on "Jobs, Not Politics." Under Holt's leadership Florence successfully attracted more than 500 new businesses and nearly 3,000 new jobs. Almost 100% of those jobs and businesses were small businesses.

"We are passionate supporters of small business," Holt said. "However, we must also provide a way to attract larger manufacturing companies, and that requires the development of a new

industrial park to accommodate their location. This will be of highest priority to me."

"The city of Florence is blessed to have excellent employees in all departments," said Holt. "We will continue to look for ways to take care of their needs and provide the best equipment available to enable them to do their jobs successfully."

Holt is a graduate of the University of Tennessee with a BS degree in Public Administration. He is also a graduate of the American Economic Development Council's

Economic Development Institute at the University of Oklahoma and held the designation of Certified Economic Developer (CED). Holt also graduated from the United States Chamber of Commerce Institute for Organization Management and held the designation of Certified Chamber Executive (CCE).

Holt and his wife, Susie, are the parents of five children and eleven grandchildren. They are members of First Baptist Church of Florence.

*Paid political advertorial by Steve Holt for Mayor, PO Box 381, Florence, AL 35631*



**Steve Holt**

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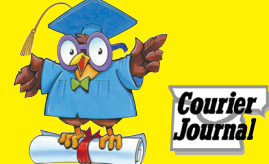
**Primary requirements:** 5 years' experience in plant or automobile mechanics required. Electrical troubleshooting skills needed: AC/DC motors, drives, relay's, safety circuits, starters. Mechanical skills needed: welding, hands-on, pipe fitting, pumps, forklift. Must be knowledgeable in refrigeration equipment, able to perform preventive maintenance, lift, and carry heavy items as well as work on elevated levels.

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## Shorts...

### Walker Gets an Extension

**Continued from Page 2**

2026 option from the two-year extension he signed in 2023 picked up Thursday. Walker, who is entering his 13th season in Florence, also had an option for 2027 added. UNA Director of Athletics Dr. Josh Looney made the announcement. Financial details of the arrangement were not disclosed.

"We are proud of the accomplishments of our women's soccer program under Chris Walker's

leadership," said Looney. "In our short NCAA Division I history, Chris has led the program to two Atlantic Sun final appearances while delivering outstanding success in academics and community engagement. He is a prominent and well-respected figure in the Shoals and in the soccer community."

Walker is the first coach in UNA's recent Division I history to lead a program to two conference tournament finals, doing so in 2018 and 2023. He owns a 4-2-1 postseason record since UNA joined the

ASUN in 2018. The 2023 season was special for Walker and his team. They tied the UNA Division I era record for wins and broke the DI era records for win percentage (63.6) and overall points with 11 wins and six ties. A cascade of injuries made the 2024 season challenging, but success is the plan for 2025 with the return of former first team all-conference forward Alice Bussey, fellow captains Molly Parham and Adelyn Speight, and added depth in the form of 11 freshmen and seven transfers.



## Commentary

# Expense, Emotions Can Be Excessive

**T**here was a time when I was a strong death penalty advocate, and I still am in certain cases. However, it is often easier to realize the benefits of the alternative: life without parole.

It is easier on the families with fewer years of stress navigating the anguish of the ridiculously extended death penalty process.

Sure, we will have to house and feed the murderers for life. However, it will be in general population rather than housing these inmates separately. Defense attorneys won't be soaking the taxpayer for decades through the highly extended appeals process, which is neither financially judicious nor a deterrent for others against committing similarly heinous crimes.

The repeated publicity that invariably comes with any court appearance for decades after the crime can serve to inspire the convicted felon. Allowing the system to be manipulated to such a degree when the convicted is indeed guilty should be avoided in the majority of

See LIFE... on Page 16

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

## In A Few Words



**TOM MAGAZZU**  
Editor

## Courier Journal

in the *Shoals*

# THIS WEEK

August 20, 2025

## Happening THIS WEEK

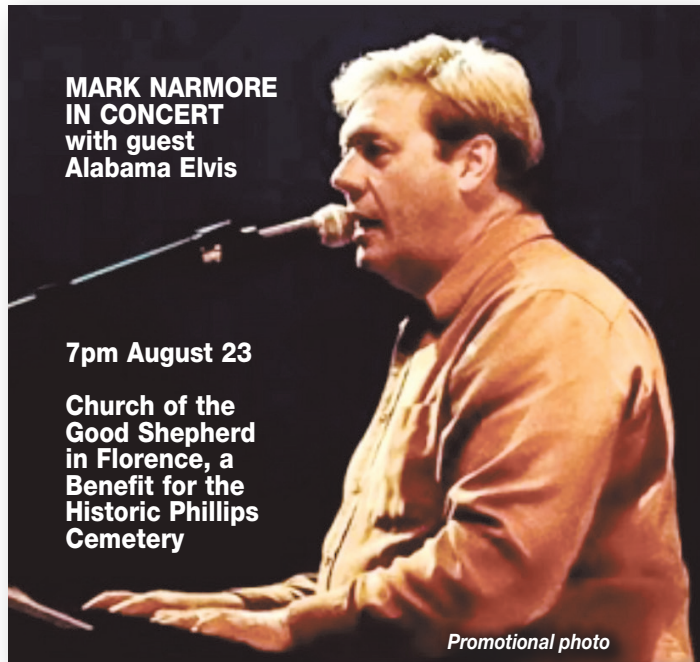
# For Historic Reasons

## Special Narmore Performance

**MARK NARMORE**  
IN CONCERT  
with guest  
Alabama Elvis

7pm August 23

**Church of the Good Shepherd in Florence, a Benefit for the Historic Phillips Cemetery**



Promotional photo

**FLORENCE**—A local historical restoration and maintenance effort through the Phillips Cemetery Association (Center Star, AL) will receive all proceeds from a special live show at 7pm Saturday, August 23 with Hall of Fame singer, songwriter, and keyboardist, Mark Narmore and guest, Alabama Elvis.

The one-time event, billed as "A Concert to Benefit a Historical Project," takes place at the Church of Good Shepherd, 2001 Cloyd Blvd in Florence (corner of Cloyd Blvd. and Darby Dr.) Admission is free thanks to a sponsor, but donations toward the Phillips Cemetery are appreciated.

A native of Muscle Shoals, Narmore wrote Craig Morgan's #1 country hit "That's What I Love

See SHOW... on Page 20

**THE YELLOW DANDIES WILL BE AT THE RITZ THEATRE**, located at 111 Third Street in Sheffield, from 7-9pm August 23. Tickets are \$15-\$25.

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

**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, September 27, October 25, November 15, December 20 from 9am-12:45pm. All adults are welcome.

**GAME DAY AT ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S CHURCH** is the 3rd Thursday of the month (August 21) from 1-3pm. Games provided or bring your own. For more information, call 678-372-3526. All are welcome, for fun and fellowship. The church is located at 1900 Darby Drive in Florence,

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## YOUR Letters

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

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

## Is There Effective Communication?

Editor:

Can someone explain to me why there are Spanish speaking workers with the tree contracting company working for Florence Utilities? I'm not talking about the one or two guys who get out of the truck to speak to the residents, the ones who can speak some English but sometimes only marginally. I'm talking about the ones who stay in the truck until the work starts and communicate in Spanish.

Hazardous occupations, according to OSHA, require employees to be a minimum age of 18. At that age, I can think of no reason they would be

legally here and legally working here without also being fluent in English and/or having English as their first language. There are plenty of qualified citizens to work for these companies that there would be no need for someone working on an H-1B, H-2A, or any other temporary work visa.

I get the feeling the crew is something like that of a crew I worked with in

...While they may have praised them for their work, they often denigrated them as humans...

”

south Mississippi going on 25-30 years ago. There were 15 of us with me being the only one that spoke fluent English. There was one guy among the rest that spoke enough English to handle their business, renting apartments, buying cars, etc. Break times, including lunch time, were extremely boring for me because I had no one to talk to. Eventually, I found out from the "lead" guy had come in on a school visa but never started school. He told me this himself.

I'm estimating it has been about 25 years ago that the city of Florence had Asplundh doing the trimming along the power lines. After several complaints from residents that the workers didn't speak English and therefore couldn't communicate the

See LETTERS... on Page 18



# Spence for District 5 - Florence City Council

FLORENCE—My name is Thomas Spence, and I'm running to represent District 5 on the Florence City Council.

Throughout this campaign, I've had the opportunity to talk with you in our district. I've listened closely to your concerns, your hopes, and your vision for what Florence can be. One thing is clear: we all love this city, but we know it's time for meaningful change in how we grow, how we invest, and how we serve our people.

That's exactly why I'm running.

I have called District 5 home for 27 years and have worked here in Florence for over 36. This community has helped to shape who I am. I know the people here, and I understand both the challenges we face and the potential we haven't yet unlocked.

Many have shared your thoughts with me about what District 5 truly needs. If elected, I will focus on ensuring our tax dollars are spent wisely and transparently, with clear accountability at every step. I'll work to improve our roads and strengthen infrastructure so our neighborhoods are safer, better connected, and well-maintained. I will prioritize revitalizing neglected and blighted properties, restoring pride in our streets and communities. I'm committed to expanding housing options and supporting small business development, so we can create more opportunities and smart, steady growth. I will continue to support our first responders and promote strong community policing because everyone in Florence deserves to feel safe. And I'll keep the people of District 5 informed and involved through open

community meetings, a newsletter, and communication on social media. You deserve consistent, transparent communication.

At the heart of all this is one simple truth: strong communities are built on strong relationships. I believe in cultivating deeper connections between neighbors, local organizations, and city leadership. When we build trust and strengthen relationships across our district, we create the foundation for real progress. Whether it's through collaboration, outreach, or simply showing up and listening, I will work every day to foster unity, respect, and a shared commitment to bettering our city together.

Florence is a hidden gem. It's a place people want to come back to, a place to raise a family, a place with a strong sense of community and deep-rooted pride. But too often, those who want to return can't, simply because the opportunities aren't here. I want to be a part of changing this.

I'm not a career politician. I'm a resident, a working man, and someone who believes deeply in this city and its people. I want to be a voice for District 5: someone who listens, who shows up, and who puts your needs first.

We can do better. We can grow smarter, invest wiser, and build a Florence that works for everyone. Let's do it together.

Your Voice, Our Future.

*Paid political advertorial by the Committee to Elect Thomas Spence, 430 Roxie Drive, Florence, AL 35633*



Thomas Spence



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 Mr. Charles Van Heyden owner of VG Publishing is now also doing business as: **Expert Driving Instruction Institute** [expertdrivinginstructioninstitute.com](http://expertdrivinginstructioninstitute.com) is the website /s/ Charles Van Heyden Date: Aug. 14, 2025

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# ASK THE ATTORNEY

## Nurse Case Managers



**Thomas McCutcheon**

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

Joel and I handle a lot of workers compensation/on-the-job injury cases. We are seeing a rise in the number of cases where nurse case managers are aggressively seeking lower restrictions and reviewing medical records looking for prior injuries. In short, these nurses are not looking after the injured person but instead looking after the insurance company.

That's not just Joel and me saying that. Read the opinion below written by the Alabama Court of Civil Appeals. If you or someone you know has an on-the-job injury you can ask the nurse not to be present while you meet with your doctor who was chosen by the insurance company. The judge said:

"I want to briefly address an abhorrent and, unfortunately, growing practice increasingly used by workers' compensation insurance carriers in which the insurance carriers hire nurses to monitor the recovery of the injured employees. The nurses usually are paid to accompany the employees to all appointments with doctors and physical therapists, to review the employees' medical records, and to even make home visits to check on the employees' progress..."

"My objection to this practice is not so much that the insurance carriers are employing these nurses, but that the nurses are usually not forthcoming in revealing the existence, nature, and purpose of their employment. Thus, injured employees are presented with nurses, who appear to be assisting them when, in actuality, the nurses might very well testify in court using information gained through the employees' trust in them. In my opinion, insurance carriers and nurses involved in this practice are treading perilously close to misrepresentation and suppression, if they have not crossed the line already."

Reid v. Aetna Cas. & Sur. Co., 692 So. 2d 863, 865 (Ala. Civ. App. 1997) (Monroe, Concurring) (emphasis added).

We send a letter to nurse case managers that states:

1. My client does not consent to your meeting with the physician regarding a medical impairment rating without my client being present for the conversation. 2. My client (and your client) does not consent to your meeting with the physician for the purpose of requesting an FCE without my client present. 3. My client (and your client) does not consent to your "redirecting" my client's medical care. 4. My client (and your client) does not consent to your canceling my client's medical appointments because the date is not convenient to you. 5. My client (and your client) demands that you copy my client with all reports, letters, and other documents that you write or receive as part of my client's file.

*Buckle up, drive safely and consider who those nurses are working for!* 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](http://www.mhatty.com)

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**Charmin Essentials BATH TISSUE** 9 Mega Rolls Or **Bounty Essentials PAPER TOWELS** 6 Double Rolls

**\$4.99**

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<b>Post HONEY BUNCHES OF OATS OR RAISIN BRAN</b> 12-16 Oz. <b>2/\$6</b>	<b>Food Club K-CUP COFFEE</b> 12 Ct. <b>\$3.99</b>	<b>Peter Pan PEANUT BUTTER</b> 40 Oz. <b>\$5.99</b>	<b>Kellogg's POP-TARTS</b> 8 Ct. <b>2/\$5</b>
<b>Food Club COLAS OR FLAVORS</b> 2 Liters <b>4/\$5</b>	<b>Food Club Deluxe MAC &amp; CHEESE Or SHELLS &amp; CHEESE DINNERS</b> 12-14 Oz. <b>2/\$4</b>	<b>Little Debbie Little Packs CREME PIES 6 Ct. OR COSMIC BROWNIES</b> 4 Pk. <b>3/\$5</b>	<b>Nunn-Better Mini Chunks DOG FOOD</b> 15 Lbs. <b>\$8.99</b>
<b>Dr. Pepper, Sprite, Mello Yello Or COCA-COLA</b> 12 Pk. 12 Oz. Cans <b>3/\$13</b>	<b>Dr. Pepper, Sprite, Mello Yello Or COCA-COLA</b> 6 Pk. .5 Liters <b>3/\$12</b>	<b>Dasani WATER</b> 24 Pk. .5 Liters <b>\$3.99</b>	<b>POWERADE</b> 28 Oz. <b>4/\$5</b>
<b>RUFFLES CHEETOS OR FRITOS</b> 7-9 Oz. <b>2/\$7</b>	<b>Golden Flake CHEESE PUFFS OR CURLS OR PUFF CORN</b> 6 Oz. <b>3/\$5</b>	<b>Blue Bell ICE CREAM SANDWICHES</b> 12 Pk. <b>\$5.99</b>	<b>Blue Bell FUDGE, MOOO OR KRUNCH BARS</b> 12 Pk. <b>\$4.99</b>

## DAIRY & FROZEN

<b>Borden Cheese SHREDS OR CHUNKS</b> 8 Oz. <b>2/\$5</b>	<b>HOT POCKETS</b> 4 Pk. <b>\$4.49</b>
<b>Food Club YOGURT</b> 6 Oz. <b>59¢</b>	<b>BOMB POPS</b> 12 Ct. <b>2/\$5</b>
<b>Simply LEMONADE OR FRUIT PUNCH</b> 52 Oz. <b>2/\$5</b>	<b>Stouffer's Family Size LASAGNA</b> 32-38 Oz. <b>\$8.99</b>
<b>Food Club SPREAD</b> 45 Oz. <b>2/\$7</b>	<b>Hungry Man DINNERS</b> 14-16 Oz. <b>\$3.49</b>

## BEER & WINE

<b>Miller Lite, Coors Light Or Yuengling BEER</b> 24 Pk. Cans <b>\$24.99</b>	<b>Budweiser Or Bud Light BEER</b> 12 Pk. Cans Or Btls. <b>\$14.99</b>
<b>Rancho Gloria WINE COCKTAIL</b> 1.5 Liters <b>\$11.99</b>	<b>Barefoot WINE</b> 1.5 Liters <b>\$11.99</b>

**Not Available At All Locations!**

## MEAT

<b>Preferred Angus Beef NEW YORK STRIP STEAK</b> Family Pack <b>\$10.99</b> Lb.	<b>Prairie Fresh BONE-IN CENTER CUT PORK CHOPS</b> Family Pack <b>\$2.89</b> Lb.
<b>Cook's Hickory Smoked SHANK PORTION HAM</b> <b>\$2.19</b> Lb.	<b>Previously Frozen BONELESS SKINLESS CHICKEN BREAST</b> <b>\$2.79</b> Lb.
<b>Cook's Hickory Smoked BUTT PORTION HAM</b> <b>\$2.39</b> Lb.	<b>Zeigler DINNER FRANKS</b> <b>\$3.49</b> 16 Oz.
<b>Wright STACK PACK BACON</b> Applewood, Hickory Or Double Smoked <b>\$8.99</b> 24 Oz.	<b>Zeigler BOLOGNA</b> Reg. Or Thick <b>\$3.69</b> 16 Oz.
<b>Dean's SAUSAGE</b> Mild Or Hot <b>2/\$7</b> 1 Lb. Roll	

**AD GOOD AUG. 20-26, 2025**

**Prices Good At These Locations ONLY!**

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**SHEFFIELD** Foodland Plus • 106 Towne Plaza • 7am-10pm • 256-381-6552

Pick up a copy of this ad in a **Courier Journal** at our store OR go online to **Foodlandgrocery.com**

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**ELGIN CROSSROADS** ELGIN Forest Plaza • 7am-11pm • 256-247-1958  
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**CLASSIFIED FORM ON PAGE 4**

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Wheat Straw \$6 per bale;  
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All clean and well fertilized.  
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Council  
District #6  
August 26

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Our professionals make sure you get the benefits you need.

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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](http://Medicare.gov), 1-800-MEDICARE, or your local State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) for help with plan choices.





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**40 YEARS EXPERIENCE** Insured.  
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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

**1970 CHEVROLET C10** No engine or trans. Mack wheels. Some work already done. Will provide info on where to get low cost parts upon request. Asking \$2,300. Please call 256-577-1632

**ELECTRIC WHEELCHAIR, NEVER USED,** Motorized Scooter, Walker-like new!, Acorn Stair Lift, Whirlpool Tub, and other medical supplies. Call Melissa at 256-263-8778

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**WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE!**

Junk batteries, \$5 each. Ranger Battery Co. 426 Royal Avenue. 256-766-0473

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**No Referral Required**

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**Mystery Photo**

**WEEK OF August 20**

**WIN LUNCH FOR 2**

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in Downtown Florence

**ENTER ONLINE @**  
**www.CourierJournal.net**

**Week of August 13  
winner is**

**Jana Hutcheson of  
Muscle Shoals** who correctly  
guessed "Quad Cities Pediatrics on  
State Street in Muscle Shoals"



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



**1998 HONDA VALKYRIE F6-1500, TOURING TRIKE**, 31,500 miles, Very Nice Condition! Black & Chrome. Comes with a FREE Custom Trike Trailer, \$13,500 negotiable. Serious inquiries only call 256-767-4405

**ALLEN'S BUSH HOG SERVICE**  
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Leave Message

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

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Tree Trimming and Removal  
Free Estimates  
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Carpentry, Decks, Flooring, Pier/Dock Repair and Siding. Call 256-349-8241

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**RESTORERS DREAM! ORIGINAL 1941 Chevy 2-door Deluxe WW 16" Tires.** Good upholstery. Owner passed. Must sell auto items. Last offer, \$4,000 OBO. Info and pics call 770-458-0281, 850-348-8656, Tony, or email jantuck@att.net Blountsville

**GOLDEN RETRIEVER PUPPIES, PUREBRED, AKC**, vaccines & dewormed, available now, \$600. Call 256-284-2275 Sheffield.

**CAN YOU FIND THE DIFFERENCES** in the two drawings? Look for Hocus Focus each week, only in your Courier Journal.

### Raising Failing Generations

Training the generations to come to carry the mail. As the home goes, so goes the nation. AI is not going to elevate us to success. Getting rid of cell-phones, computers and tv's does nothing to help any nation assume responsibility, obey the law, go to work, honor God and have respect for themselves and the rights of others, AND LEARNING TO DO WELL! The subtle slide years ago began with the abandonment of absolute truth. Today, people hate the truth and love lying! Churches are dying, and trading for entertainment centers and non-doctrinal new names and new paths to God! The appeal now to youths is to enjoy and worship the things only enjoyable and make one feel good, LIKE AT HOME. My uncle told me it was wrong to have music in church. I replied: "If it was wrong at church, wouldn't it be wrong at home?" Sin is sin, no matter what color we give it! As a lost young man at home, I was taught morals, stealing and cursing were wrong, hard work was rewarded, and bad living confronted us at judgment.

When I got saved, a light went on in my soul that has never gone out. I was raised by sincere, religious parents. I was taught folks could save themselves. When I experienced the new birth from Jesus Christ, a whole new world opened up for me. I now see sin for what it is, a silent killer who has deceived the whole world. The condition of the world today is nothing but by-products of our raising! Perilous times aren't coming, they have been here for many years. Folks are being taught today; "no doctrine, no absolutes, no judgment, no accountability or answering for lawlessness, or bad living." The full crop of bad sowing is now coming in. It's obvious in the deterioration of churches, homes, schools and businesses and politics. Soon, schools will be giving degrees in stupidity, CLOAKED W/ AI JARGON! Your life is flying by like lightning. PREPARE TO MEET THY GOD! If you're already unsure of eternity, what do you have to lose by listening to someone else?

**Beacon Baptist Church**  
Bill Bishop, Pastor • Rogersville • 256-247-7733  
1.2 miles north from red light on Hwy. 207 on left  
Sunday services at 10am and 11am and 6pm  
*Visitors welcome!*

# Food Outlet

This Ad Good August 20-26, 2025

**2503 North Wood Ave. • Florence**  
**256-766-0456**

**Hwy 200 • Central Heights**  
**256-349-2377**

We Welcome WIC & Food Stamp Shoppers. Quantity Rights Reserved. None Sold To Dealers.

**The Price You See On The Shelf, Is What You Pay!**

<p><b>USDA ANGUS GROUND BEEF</b> FAMILY PACK <b>\$3.98</b> LB.</p>	<p><b>GRADE A FRESH - SPRINGER MTN. WHOLE FRYERS</b> <b>\$1.68</b> LB.</p>	<p><b>USDA FRESH WHOLE BOSTON BUTTS</b> <b>\$1.68</b> LB. <b>1/2 BUTT \$1.98</b> LB.</p>
<p><b>USDA FRESH BABY BACK RIBS</b> <b>\$3.48</b> LB.</p>	<p><b>GWALTNEY SLICED BACON</b> <b>\$3.58</b> 12 OZ.</p>	<p><b>GRADE A BONELESS FRYER BREAST</b> <b>\$2.98</b> LB.</p>
<p><b>30 OZ. HELLMANN'S MAYONNAISE</b> <b>\$5.98</b></p>	<p><b>18 OZ. SWEET BABY RAY'S BBQ SAUCE</b> <b>2/\$4</b></p>	<p><b>16 OZ. KEN'S SALAD DRESSING</b> <b>\$2.98</b></p>
<p><b>13.5 OZ. KELLOGG'S POP-TARTS FROSTED BLUEBERRY</b> <b>\$2.98</b></p>	<p><b>24 OZ. HUNT'S PASTA SAUCE</b> <b>\$1.18</b></p>	<p><b>12-16 OZ. CHICK-FI-LA OR TEXAS ROADHOUSE SAUCE</b> <b>2/\$7</b></p>
<b>DAIRY SPECIALS</b>		
<p><b>52 OZ. SIMPLY LEMONADE</b> <b>2/\$5</b></p>	<b>PRODUCE SPECIALS</b>	
<p><b>5.5 OZ. CHOBANI YOGURT</b> <b>98¢</b></p>	<p><b>5 LB. BAG RUSSET POTATOES</b> <b>\$1.98</b></p>	<p><b>1/2 GALLON BLUE BELL ICE CREAM</b> <b>\$5.98</b></p>
<p><b>8 OZ. FOOD CLUB CHEESE SHREDS</b> <b>\$1.88</b></p>	<p><b>3 LB. BAG - FRESH MANDARINS</b> <b>\$4.98</b></p>	<p><b>36 OZ. WILD MIKE'S PIZZA</b> <b>\$6.98</b></p>
<p><b>LB. - FRESH YELLOW SQUASH</b> <b>\$1.38</b></p>	<p><b>10-12 OZ. EGGO WAFFLES</b> <b>\$2.98</b></p>	
<b>COKE PRODUCTS</b> 6 PK. 1/2 LITERS <b>\$3/\$12</b>		
<b>DASANI WATER</b> 24 PK. 1/2 LITERS <b>\$3.98</b>		



# Re-Elect ★ ★ ★ **WILLIS THOMPSON**

**MUSCLE SHOALS CITY COUNCIL**

★ ★ ★ **PLACE 3** ★ ★ ★



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CITY GROWTH**



**RETIRED AND  
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**We have over 30 years  
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## **MATTHEWS TREE SERVICE**

(Shoals Area)  
• Stump Grinding • Tree  
Trimming • Tree Removal  
Licensed, Bonded, Insured  
BBB Accredited  
Steven Matthews, Owner  
**256-483-5918**

## Commentary *Life...*

**Continued from Page 8**

murder cases.

To classify a given murder as more heinous and deserving of the death penalty just because a certain type of individual or occupation is associated with the victim is a knee-jerk reaction by government officials to play the voting public, most of whom have never been directly impacted by a murder. One family's pain is not among those with special circumstances.

Then there is the aspect of the wrongly convicted. Few murder cases are absolute slam dunks. With evidence in these cases later being found faulty, questionable, withheld, prejudicial, disallowed, etc., there can be a lot that the jury is not privy to, resulting in questionable convictions. Life without parole often makes more sense, especially when that is what a jury recommends.

There are occasional cases like the one involving David Lee Roberts, convicted in the 1992 murder of Annetra Jones and sentenced to die on August 21, 2025, by the judge in the case, despite the jury's recommendation for life imprisonment. His execution has been temporarily stayed by a Marion County judge to assess his mental competency.

The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled in the past that inmates who cannot understand their sentence or the reasons for it cannot be executed. That is not as troubling as the fact that he had shown signs of mental instability for many years before his crime, has a detailed family history of mental illness, and was in all likelihood unable to intellectually keep his own wits against the person who actually wanted Jones dead. Apparently, jurors were not convinced that Roberts was solely responsible for the crime and doubted whether the evidence presented supported a death sentence at all. One juror is even speaking out publicly about it.

There are so many aspects to consider for death penalty cases. We'd be better off if there were fewer prosecuted as such and fewer rendered.

## Medicare Minute *"Medicare Part B, 2"*

Medicare Part B is most used when you visit your primary care physician or specialist. But Medicare Part B is also used for many other medically necessary services. Medicare defines medically necessary as "healthcare services or supplies needed to diagnose or treat an illness, injury, condition or disease, or its symptoms and that meet accepted standards of medicine."

One of these other services covered by Part B is transportation by ambulance. Medicare covers and helps pay for ambulance services only if other types of transportation will endanger your health and will only cover and help pay for you to be transported to the nearest medical facility that's able to give you the care you need. If you choose to be transported to a facility farther away you may have to pay more.

Another service Part B covers is Durable Medical Equipment (DME). DME must be long lasting equipment that is used in your home for medical reasons and has an expected lifetime of at least 3 years. Medicare has a long list of equipment that falls under DME.

One of the most important benefits of Medicare Part B are the preventive services that it covers. These services include health care that is used to prevent illness or detect illness at an early stage.

Medicare.gov list 23 screenings and shots that fall under preventive services. They include things such as mammogram screenings, colorectal cancer screenings and flu shots.

Part B has an annual deductible of \$257 and a coinsurance of 20%. This means that if you have Original Medicare only, with no other supplemental coverage, you will owe the first \$257 filed on Part B each year and, after the deductible is met, you will be responsible for 20% of the cost of Part B services you receive.

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



**Ikey Fowler**

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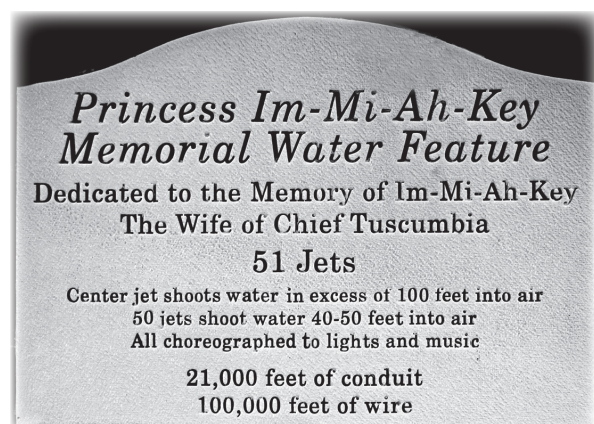
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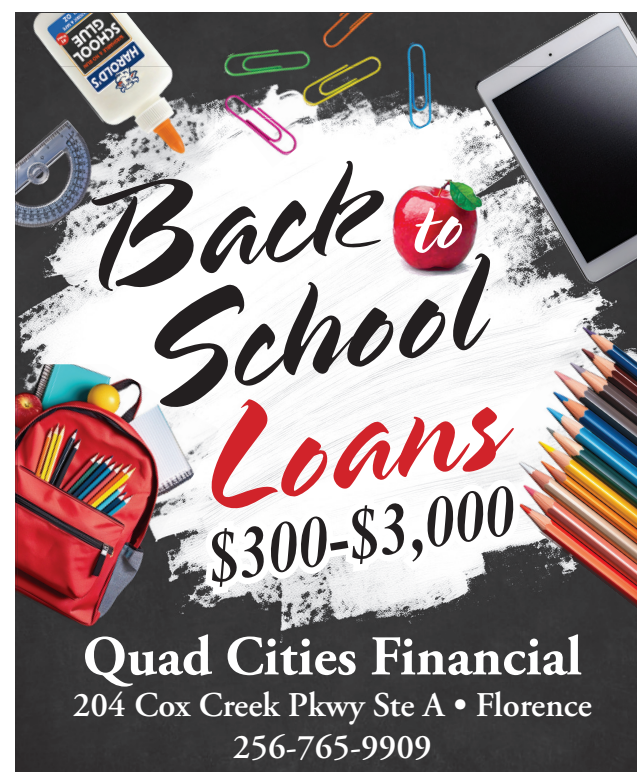
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## MaLeah Chaney: the Best Qualified for District 4 - Florence Board of Education

I am MaLeah Chaney and I am a candidate for the Florence City Board of Education, District 4.



Chaney

I served on the Florence City Board of Education, District 3 in 2008-2012. I am currently serving on the Board of Directors with Florence Education Foundation since 2012. The Florence City Council also appointed me as a current Board member for Scope 310. I am presently serving as committee member for Shoals Homebuilders Association and as a volunteer with the Lowe's Heroes Program.

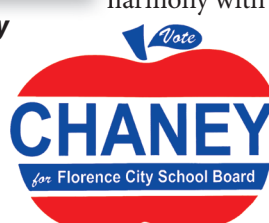
I am a member of Epsilon Sigma Alpha to help raise funds for St. Jude Children's Hospital. In December 2019, I was appointed to serve on Florence City School Board for District 4 due to a death of a board member.

I am a huge Florence Falcon fan and a supporter of our great school system. I love working with the school faculty and staff to make our system a positive

one and the best in the state. In my opinion, we have the best teachers and students of anywhere in the state.

I believe the duties of the school board should be transparency, honesty, accountability, determined, dedicated and working in harmony with each other.

I would enjoy the opportunity to work and represent my district as we continue to pursue excellence and accomplish our goals. I am humbly asking for your vote to elect me as your Florence City School Board member, District 4.



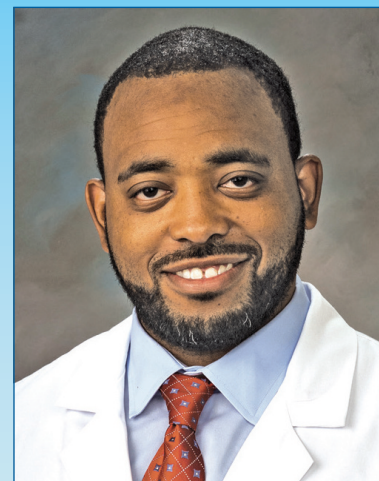
accomplish our goals. I am humbly asking for your vote to elect me as your Florence City School Board member, District 4.

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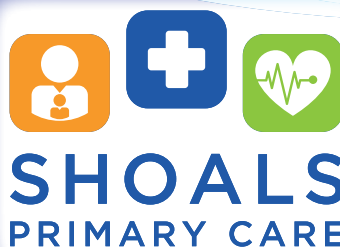
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## Letters...

### To Effectively Communicate

Continued from Page 8

extent of trimming on the residents' property the city had to replace them.

I was working a drink route just before that and knew something was up when an Asplundh truck pulled into the shopping center parking lot on Darby Drive and about a dozen "brown people", as the Democrats would say, got out with suitcases, tote bags, and backpacks and headed to the apartments next door. The fact that they were treated like that in the first place, transported in the back of a chipper truck like debris and likely sharing 1-2 apartments as I have

often seen in my work travel, should tell you how these contractors actually feel about the people that "do the work Americans won't do". What they really mean is they can get illegal immigrants to do the grunt work cheap and often treat them with little to no respect. One thing about "blending in" and listening and watching is that eventually you see and hear what an outsider wouldn't. I got along with the crew. They were people after-all and I respected them in that way, but I was also an insider and heard what some of the supervisors said about them. While they may have praised them for their work, they often denigrated them as humans.

So, are the employees of the tree crews legal immigrants and are they legally employed? I have my doubts.

Mike Kelly  
Florence

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- Vietnam Veteran
- Past Commander of VFW Post 5140
- Member of American Legion Post 11
- Fair & Honest Open Door Policy



### WORKS I HAVE DONE DONATIONS/FUNDS

- 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
- 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



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Don't Climb trees Near power lines!

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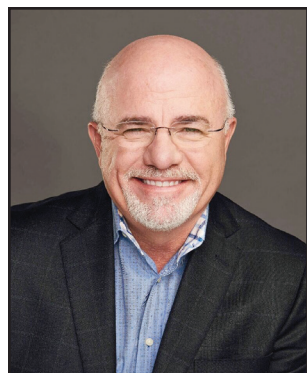


# DAVE Says

by DAVE RAMSEY

## GIVING INTELLIGENTLY AND RESPONSIBLY TAKES TIME AND EFFORT

Dear Dave,  
My wife and I have worked hard for many years. We've tried to be smart with our money, and follow your principles of saving, spending and giving. Our financial situation is pretty good now. We are debt-free, we're both



close to retirement, and we have a net worth of around \$2.7 million. We would like to start giving back at this point in our lives. There are several organizations we're interested in helping, but how can we know for sure which ones we can trust to use our money wisely?

Luis

Dear Luis,  
I hate to say it, but it's hard to be 100% sure about these kinds of things. I'm really proud of what you two have been able to accomplish together. I also love the fact that you both want to give and take the matter so seriously. But really, about the best you can do is to put in serious time digging beneath the surface of the organizations you have in mind. Devote lots of effort to researching them, and decide together which organizations are comfortable fits for you both.

My wife and I give most of our donations to Christian ministries. And it's not unusual for us to take a tour of a place to see what it looks like up close, and talk about the feeling we get while we're there. If the staff or management aren't open or forthcoming with anything we consider to be basic information, or if we see signs of financial mismanagement, you better believe it sends up a red flag.

Don't get me wrong. People who work for charitable organizations have as much of a right to make a decent living as anyone else. But if they appear to be a little too well off, it could be a sign they're not being responsible with their donations. Take a look at things like their administrative costs, what percentage of donations

goes directly to the cause they represent and anything else that would help you two make the right decision. You could even ask the leaders directly what they plan to do with the money from your donation. You have a right to know this.

Giving is like anything else, Luis. It takes some time and hard work to do it intelligently and responsibly. And don't forget to pray about it, too. Prayer should always be part of any big decisions you make!

— 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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Re-Elect **Tom**

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**WISSERT**

Florence City School Board  
District 4

Through my 16 years serving on the Florence City School Board I have seen many changes to our system. School consolidation, proration, and dealing with what is best for students during a global pandemic. During each of these events we have had great leaders who have made the decisions to do what is best for the students left in our charge. That will always be the primary goal of what we do as a school board and as a school system - **Students come first, period.**

I am running for one last four-year term to serve District 4 in our community. My service to this community and school system comes in many forms. **Through civic clubs, church ministries, and school functions, I have always tried to get involved and serve.**

**On August 26 I ask for your vote, so I can continue to serve our schools and our community to the best of my ability.**

Thank you for your past support.

Pd. Political Adv. Paid By Committee to Elect Tom Wissert, Florence, AL 35630





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## Show...

Continued from Page 8

About Sunday" and had hugely successful songs for Shenandoah, Blackhawk, T. Graham Brown, Reba, Toby Keith, Brandy Clark and so many more.

Narmore is donating his time for this event to raise money for the Phillips Cemetery Association. This cemetery is named for William C. Phillips, a veteran of the Seminole Indian wars from 1835-1842.

Also buried in the Phillips Cemetery are Capt. John Robert Mitchell and Lt. Benjamin H. Allen, Civil War heroes who were involved in the raid on union forces in Lauderdale County. They are also the subjects of a forthcoming book by Shannon Phillips, *Band of Brothers and Heroes*, the proceeds of which will also go toward the cemetery fund. Narmore is also a descendant of Capt. Mitchell.

Doors open at 6:30pm. The show starts at 7pm.

## Notes...

Continued from page 6

### LifeSouth Bloodmobile Dates:

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

**Friday, August 22** Easter Seals Rehabilitation, 1615 Trojan Drive, Muscle Shoals, 9am - 1pm

**Saturday, August 23** Boutique 72, 1408 Avenue E., Tuscumbia, 9am - 4pm

**Sunday, August 24** Walmart - Avalon Ave., Muscle Shoals, 10am - 4pm

**Monday, August 25** Florence Nursing and Rehab, 2107 Cloyd Blvd., 8am - 4pm

**Wednesday, August 27** Allen Thornton Career Technical Center, 7275 US-72, Health Room, Killen, 8am - 2:30 pm

**Thursday, August 28** Shoals Christian School, 301 Heathrow Dr., Florence 9am - 3:30pm

**Applications for the Elk National Foundation's (ENF) Most Valuable Student** Scholarship program opened online as of August 1. Any high school senior who is a citizen of the United States is eligible to apply. Applications must be submitted online on or before November 12, 2025.

The scholarships range from \$1,000 to \$7,500 per year to the highest-rated applicants in this year's competition. Male and female students will compete separately. Applicants will be judged on scholarship, leadership, service and financial need. For additional information and to apply, go to [enf.elks.org/MVS](http://enf.elks.org/MVS) or contact Dr. Jean Love, Scholarship Coordinator, Shoals Elks Lodge 2860 at 256-762-5043 or email [djeanlove@comcast.net](mailto:djeanlove@comcast.net).

**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!

**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.

See NOTES... page 22

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# Notes...

Continued from page 20

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.

Swamper's Bar and Grille - Friday, August 22, 8pm. 10 Hightower Place, Florence.

From classic rock anthems to '90s country favorites, Martin Lane rocks the stage for a fun night at Swamper's Bar and Grille located in the NEWLY RENOVATED RENAISSANCE SHOALS by Marriott Bonvoy. Bring the family or your best friends and enjoy a delicious meal and live music!

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

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, Kassidy 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!

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!

The Lauderdale County Landfill will be closed beginning Saturday, August 30 and will reopen Tuesday, September 2. Meanwhile, the Lauderdale County Solid Waste Department for rural garbage pickup will be closed on Labor Day, Sept. 1 and reopen Tuesday, Sept. 2. Household garbage collections will be

See NOTES... page 23

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No titles offered!

### Saturday, September 20, 2025 • Sale Starts 9am

YEAR/MAKE/MODEL	VIN		
2010 AUDI Q7	WA1DVAFE8AD007732	2005 FORD EXPLORER	1FMZU73E65UC03630
2010 AUDI Q5	WA1LKAFF4AA069006	1992 FORD RANGER	1FTCR10A3NUC36546
2010 BUICK ENCLAVE	5GALRBED1AJ102477	2006 FORD CROWN VIC	2FAFP73V76X111375
2013 BUICK ENCORE	KL4CJCSB8DB197689	2018 FORD FLEX	2FMGK5C85JBA17444
2004 CADILLAC SEVILLE	1G6KS54Y54U160876	2018 FORD FIESTA	3FADP4BJ0JM103630
2011 CHEVROLET MALIBU	1G1ZC5E11BF215506	2012 FORD FUSION	3FAHP0HA2DR382893
2012 CHEVROLET MAILBU	1G1ZD5EU1CF255903	2012 FORD FUSION	3FAHP0JA4CR376023
2017 CHEVROLET MALIBU	1G1ZE5ST6HF266184	2010 GMC TERRIAN	2CTALBEW9A6390291
2003 CHEVROLET TRAILBLAZER	1GNDT13S732152515	2002 HONDA ACCORD	1HGCG56692A083055
2006 CHEVROLET EQUINOX	2CNDL63FX66106687	2006 HONDA ELEMENT	5J6YH18766L000881
2009 CHEVROLET IMPALA	2G1WT57K391268881	2007 HONDA CIVIC	JHMFA36287S006563
2011 CHEVROLET HHR	3GNBABFW1BS600283	2016 JEEP CHEROKEE	1C4PJLDB9GW114479
2009 CHEVROLET HHR	3GNCA13B09S623936	1999 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER	4M2ZU52P1XUJ38579
2013 CHRYSLER 300	2C3CCABG3DH556328	2013 NISSAN ROGUE	JN8AS5MT4DW010165
2006 DODGE CHARGER	2B3KA53H66H488641	2016 NISSAN ROGUE	KNMAT2MT9GP707384
2010 DODGE JOURNEY	3D4PG5FV2AT104314	2002 SATURN L	1G8JW84R12Y514772
2010 DODGE RAM 1500	3D7JB1EP2AG102073	2011 TOYOTA CAMRY	4T1BF3EK0BU698992
2006 FORD FOCUS	1FAHP34N86W227194	2005 TOYOTA SIENNA	5TDZA22C85S278088
2011 FORD ESCAPE	1FMCU0EG0BKA19304	1999 TOYOTA 4RUNNER	JT3GN86R7X0117111
2002 FORD EXPEDITION	1FMRU17W82LA48757	2005 TOYOTA 4RUNNER	JTEZU14R250058642
1998 FORD EXPLORER	1FMYU22E9WUD02864	2017 VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT	1VWAT7A30HC066858
		2010 VOLKSWAGON JETTA	3VWJX7AJ9AM022770

# SIMPSON'S WRECKER SERVICE

835 Rickwood Rd., Florence, AL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE: SIMPSON'S WRECKER SERVICE gives Notice of Foreclosure of Lien and intent to sell these vehicles on 09/20/2025, 09:00 AM at 835 RICKWOOD RD, FLORENCE, AL 35630-1367, pursuant to subsection 32-13-3 of the Alabama Statutes. SIMPSON'S WRECKER SERVICE reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all bids.

# HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

SPORTS

8-17

HENRY BOLTINOFF

SPORTS

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Bat is missing. 2. Tie is missing. 3. Nose is smaller. 4. Column is moved. 5. Ball is different. 6. Face mask is different.

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# Notes...

Continued from page 22

delayed by ONE day all week to allow employees to have a three-day weekend with their families. For questions call 256-760-5878

It is a benefit for a good cause and a night of fun as hit songwriter, Mark Narmore and guest, Alabama Elvis perform "A Concert to Benefit a Historical

Project," at 7pm Saturday, August 23 at the Church of Good Shepherd, 2001 Cloyd Blvd. in Florence. Admission is free thanks to our sponsor, but donations are needed appreciated, going to the restoration and maintenance fund for Phillips Cemetery in Center Star. Narmore is donating his time for this event. Doors open at 6:30pm.

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

**Open Mic Night - Get ready for a night of heart warming poetry** at our Florence Art and Museums' Open Mic Night, happening on August 26 at 6:30 p.m. at the Southall House, 209 E. Tuscaloosa St., Florence. For this event, poets are invited to share their original works that explore the theme of something found.

This event will also feature readings by Tom Gordon, a longtime journalist and poet residing in Birmingham. The event will be followed by an open mic for audience participation.

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Clear Drains  
Check Evaporator Coil for Cleanliness  
Check Blower Motor Capacitor

1 VISIT

VS

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Check Capacitor  
Tighten Electrical Connections  
Check Condenser Cleanliness  
Check Freon Pressures and Temps  
Check T-stat Operations  
Check Indoor Blower Motor  
Clear Drains  
Check Evaporator Coil for Cleanliness  
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AUGUST 26

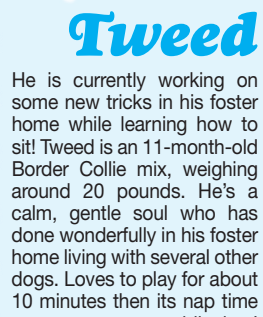
## Courier Journal ADOPT A FRIEND

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.



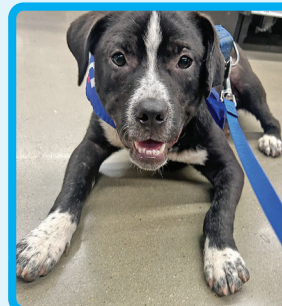
## Velvet

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.

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