

YSP Receives \$527K Grant

MUSCLE SHOALS-- The Youth Success Program at Northwest-Shoals Community College has been funded for \$527,549 for the coming school year by the Alabama Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). This is an increase of over 20% from last year.

"We are ecstatic with our increase in funding over last year and hope to continue the growth of our program," said Youth Success Program Coordinator, **Cindy Statom**. "With this increase we will be able to help more young people reach their goals."

"I'm glad to see Cindy and her staff rewarded for their hard work over this past year," said Associate Dean of Institutional Effectiveness/Distance Education and Development, **John McIntosh**. "They have been a shot in the arm for this program."

YSP at NW-SCC serves out-of-school youth ranging in age from 16-24 who need guidance and assistance with services such as job skills/employment training, GED support, college tuition assistance, tutoring and mentoring.

For more information, call 256-331-5262.

Lake Auction is Absolute

ATHENS-Garner Auctions is hosting an Absolute Auction for a special property at a special time this week. The event is



scheduled for Thursday evening, July 14 at 6:30pm at the property located at

9350 Curtis Road in Athens.

The gorgeous waterfront brick home features 4 bedrooms and 2.5 baths on 12.6 secluded acres with a private boathouse and spectacular water frontage on the Elk River. It's private and beautifully landscaped with a paved circular driveway.

From Highway 72 east of Rogersville, turn north on CR 70. From US 72 west of Athens, turn north on New Cut Road. Follow signs. Additional pictures may be seen at GarnerAuctionsInc.com or call 1-877-941-SOLD for details.

CORRECTION: Last week's article about former Veterans Service Officer, Lenita Riedel, included a photo of her being presented with a state award. The award was actually from VFW Post 4919 and the presenter in that 2008 photo was James Farley, District 1 Commander and the Post 4919 Adjutant. Farley has since passed away.

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

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Northwest Alabama

Bank Independent Business Bankers Welcome New Team Members

SHEFFIELD-- Bank Independent's founders firmly believed that when the businesses in our area thrive, the entire community benefits. The bank has supported this philosophy since 1947 by providing a wide range of business services and personalized local support.

Bank Independent recently reaffirmed its commitment to support the economic development of the community with the addition of two members to the business banking team. Cody Holder of Florence and Tiana Brook of Sheffield have joined the Business Banking Department. Holder is a Business Banking Specialist. Brook is a Business Banking Representative.

"We're excited about the addition



Pictured clockwise from bottom left: Denise Jones, Cody Holder, Tabitha Brewer, Buddy Whitlock, Derek Pepper, Tiana Brook, and Stephanie Higgs.

Bank Independent photo

of Cody and Tiana," said Bank Independent Senior Vice President - Sales Officer, Buddy Whitlock. "Our lenders work closely with our Business Banking team to ensure that we identify and meet all of our business customers' financial needs, from loans and checking accounts to mobile banking and credit card machines."

Whitlock explained that Bank Independent has never kept "banker's hours" and understands this type of flexibility is especially important to business owners.

"We know that a lot of business owners are too busy during the day to come to the bank,"

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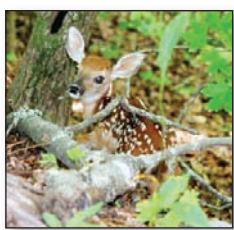
Poster has a Feel of Centuries Past

FLORENCE--The 30th Annual Alabama Renaissance Faire poster was unveiled at the Florence/Lauderdale Tourism Office & Visitor Center last week. This year's Alabama Renaissance Faire dates are October 22-23, 2016 in Wilson Park in Florence.



The poster artist, Alice Cook, selected an image of a stained-glass window entitled, "Moses Presenting the Tablets of Law," by a Frenchman named Valentin Bousch who created the window in 1532. The image hangs in the

See FAIRE... Page 3



Fawns Are Better Off in The Wild

MONTGOMERY - The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR) encourages anyone who finds a seemingly abandoned fawn to leave it in the wild. Attempting to "rescue" a fawn can actually do more harm than good.

For several weeks after birth, a doe will leave its fawn alone for hours at a time. The fawn may appear lost or abandoned, but its mother's apparent absence is purposeful. She avoids

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• The End Is Nigh

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- Shoals Dining
- Ask the Attorney
- Jr. Whirl • Dr's Quiz



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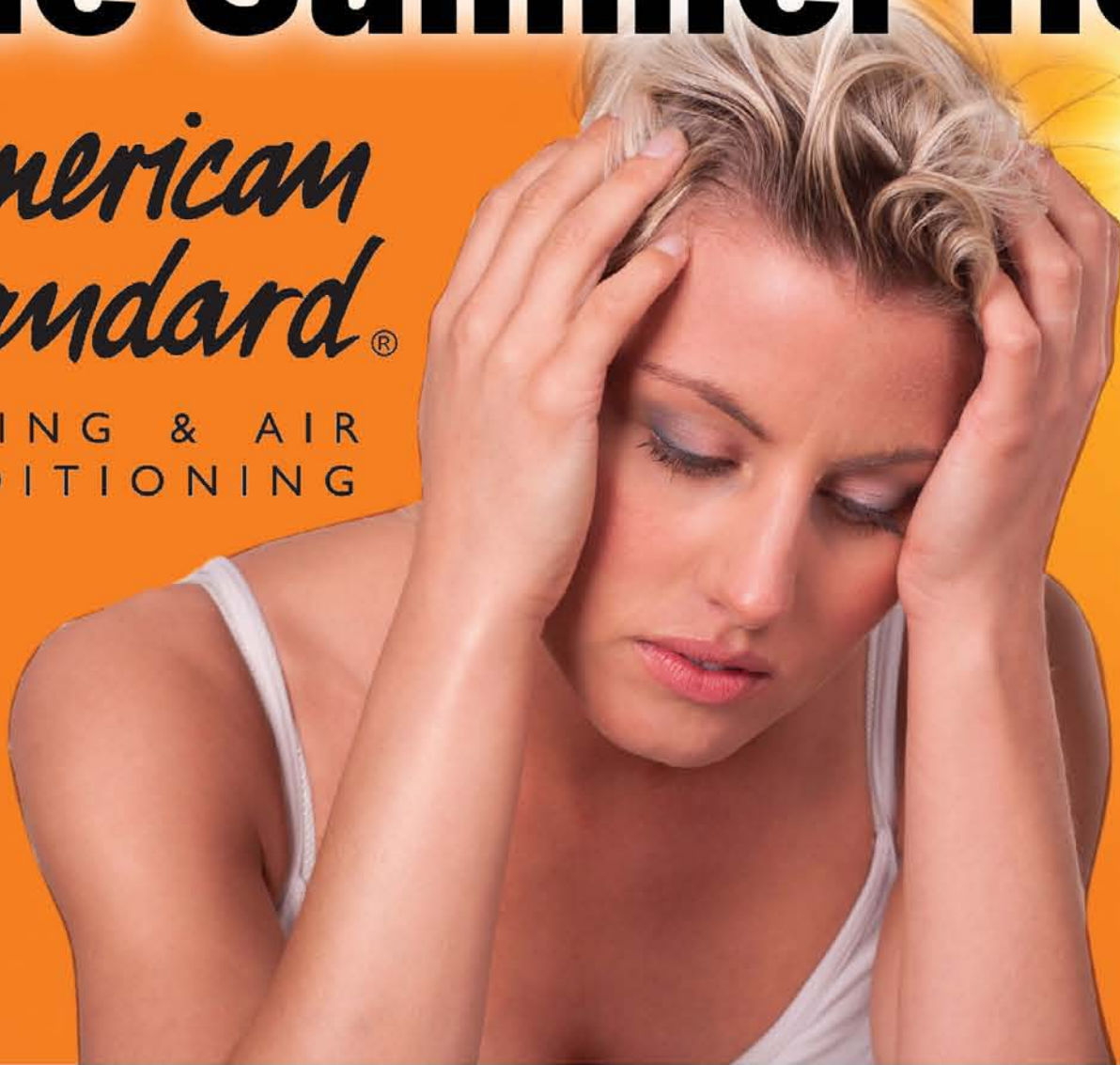
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Faire...

Continued from Page 1

Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. "That's where I got a picture of it," Cook said.

Cook was inspired by the beautiful work of art and explained, "I loved the idea of using the image of an original work of art from the 16th century for the Faire poster. Since this is the thirtieth year for the Alabama Renaissance Faire, I felt we needed something authentic to represent this special occasion.

What better choice than a beautiful stained-glass window by Valentin Bousch?"

School Supply Give-A-Way

Saturday, July 23

9am until supplies are gone

South Highland

Free Will Baptist Church

704 State Street, Muscle Shoals (behind Regions Bank and the car wash)

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Community Notes

NAMI Shoals Family Support Group for families with adults and/or children who have brain disorders (mental illnesses) and NAMI Connection Recovery Support Group for people who have been diagnosed with a brain disorder and are in recovery meets Tuesday, July 12 at 7pm at the NAMI Shoals office, 749 Thompson St., Suite A, Florence. Need directions or more information, call 256-765-2081.

Reynolds/Wise Can Plant Reunion will meet July 16, 2pm at Shoney's in Florence. To RSVP or for more info, please contact Sharon Allen 256-275-1521.

Neighborhood Watch Meeting Monday, July 18 at 7pm at Cloverdale Community Center.

Zion Hill Baptist Church VBS - 1480 County Line Road in Leighton, Kick off Saturday, July 16 at 2pm. Registration, dunking booth, carnival snacks/food. VBS Sunday, July 17 - Thursday, July 21 from 6-8:35pm. Family night on Friday.

Gospel Meeting at Appleton Church of Christ Sunday, July 17 - Thursday, July 21, 10am Sunday, nightly 7pm. Rodney Livingston, speaker.

Join the fun at Vacation Bible School - July 18, 5:30-7:30pm at Bethel Cumberland Presbyterian Church, 410 East Alabama St. A high energy environment for students filled with learning God's word, fun-filled crafts and incredible snacks.

Monthly Covered Dis Luncheon and Program at the Zip City Community Center, 10511 Hwy 17, Florence, on Thursday, July 21 at 11:30am. Please bring a covered dish. Everyone is welcome.

Sons of Confederate Veterans, E. A. O'Neal Camp No. 478 Meeting at 6:30pm July 21 (every 3rd Thursday of the month) at Pope's Tavern & Museum, 203 Hermitage Drive in Florence. 256-764-4945

Hot BBQ! Cool Blues! will be presented on Thursday, July 21, from 6-8pm at GAS Design Center, 109 W. 6th St., Tusculmbia. Music by Max Russell Trio. BBQ by L.O. Bishop. Tickets: \$12.50; purchase in advance at Fiddledee DI 111 S. Main St., Tusculmbia. Sponsored by Tusculmbia Retail Development with proceeds benefiting business growth. For info: 256-383-9797.

Fourth Saturday Breakfast at the Zip City Community Center on July 23, 6:30-9am. Menu includes eggs, sausage, bacon, biscuits, gravies, grits, juice and coffee. Adults \$6, children under 10, \$3. Proceeds used for Center expenses. Everyone is invited.

Bradshaw High School's 50 Year Celebration will be held on Saturday, July 23, from 3-6pm at Woodmont Baptist Church, East Campus. Open to everyone who attended the school. Walk-through of school, 4-5pm. Friday, July 22 with a Bradshaw section in Wilson Park at 7pm. Free. Head count needed. Email Bill Norvell at wknorv@gmail.com if planning on attending.

LifeSouth Blood Drives for July ECM Center, 205 Marengo Street, Florence, 256-765-7038. The hours are: Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm; Saturday, 9am-3pm; Sunday, 1-5pm.

Keller Center, 1208 S Jackson Highway, Sheffield, 256-383-3535. The hours are: Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm.

Wednesday, July 13, 9am - 3pm, Lauderdale County Health Department, 4112 Chisolm Road, Florence

Friday, July 15, Noon - 7pm, Walmart, 1706 Military Street S, Hamilton

Saturday, July 16, 10am - 4 pm, Shoals Flea Market, 65 Sportsplex Drive, Muscle Shoals

Sunday, July 17, Noon - 6pm, BAM, 318 Cox Creek Parkway, Florence

Monday, July 18, 9am - 4:30pm, Colbert County Court House, 201 North Main Street, Tusculmbia

Tuesday, July 19, 5am- Noon, E.S Robbins, 2802 E Avalon Avenue, Muscle Shoals

Wednesday, July 20, Noon - 6pm, E.S Robbins, 2802 E Avalon Avenue, Muscle Shoals

Thursday, July 21, 7am - 5pm, Helen Keller Hospital, 1300 South Montgomery Avenue, Sheffield

See NOTES... page 34

piggly wiggly

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YARD SALE!
FLORENCE: 2530 FLORENCE BLVD. Saturday Multi-Family & Business, July 16th @ 6 a.m.

FLORENCE: 160 CO RD 172 Fri - Sat July 15 & 16, 6a.m.-?. Toddler clothes up to size 16/Boys, Men & Women clothing & misc. items.

MUSCLE SHOALS HUGE GARAGE and YARD SALE, 6865 River Road, Friday, July 15th and Saturday, July 16th, 7 am until? Baby clothes, boys and girls, newborn-youth, men's and women's clothes and shoes, lots of DVDs and much more!



FORD: FUSION SE, 2012 \$10,990. White/ Pearl, 4 door, 71,541 actual mi. 3.0 Liter V6 Fuel Flex engine. Good matching tires/tread. Looks/ Drives Like New! Price Is Firm. 256-520-5593

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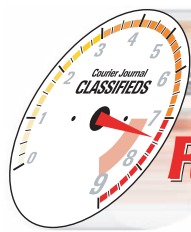


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Bank...

Continued from Page 1

said Whitlock. "That's why most of our drive-thru locations are open until 8 o'clock Monday-Saturday. It's also why our lenders and business banking team members are happy to make on-site visits to businesses in our community."

Whitlock oversees the Colbert County team of lenders from his office in Muscle Shoals. That includes Derek Pepper in Tusculumbia and Denise Jones in Muscle Shoals.

In addition to Holder and Brook, the Business Banking Department Shoals support team includes Business Banking Officer, Stephanie Hipps, and Business Banking Specialist, Tabitha Brewer.

"As Business Banking Specialists, Cody and Tabitha are available to meet with local company owners and managers at the business' location to evaluate their needs and offer solutions," said Hipps. "Tiana offers an additional layer of local support with hands-on, on-site merchant services equipment setup, training, and ongoing consultation. Bank Independent is one of very few providers in the area to offer live local support after the sale, not an out-of-town number to call with questions."

Hipps emphasized that today's businesses are looking for options to support all of the new ways that customers want to pay such as credit/debit card readers that attach to

Bank Independent has never kept "banker's hours"...

Buddy Whitlock
 Sr. Vice President
 Sales Officer

mobile devices, wireless and Bluetooth readers for additional in-store mobility, and terminals that accept chip cards, and contactless payments, like Apple Pay.

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Medicare Minute

"Medicare Part A Part 1"

On a Medicare card Part A will have the word "Hospital" beside it. Because of that Medicare Part A is most commonly known as the inpatient or hospitalization part of Medicare. This means when a Medicare beneficiary is admitted into the hospital most of the services that are received are filed under Medicare Part A. This sounds simple but sometimes it's not.

Medicare Part A has a deductible of \$1,288 per benefit period. Notice two things here. First is the deductible of \$1,288. If you are admitted into the hospital and had Original Medicare only, you would owe the first \$1,288 of your stay. This deductible covers hospital services, including semi-private rooms, meals, general nursing, drugs as part of your inpatient treatment, and other hospital services and supplies.

The second thing to notice is the term "benefit period". This tells you the deductible is not an annual deductible but could hit you more than once in a calendar year. A "benefit period" begins when you are admitted into a hospital or skilled nursing facility and ends when you haven't received any inpatient care for 60 consecutive days. If you are admitted as an inpatient after the 60 days of no inpatient care a new benefit period begins, meaning another \$1,288 deductible. Also if you are confined to the hospital for 60 consecutive days your deductible will cover you but on the 61st day you will begin paying a coinsurance.

The good news is for most Medicare beneficiaries Part A is free. Free meaning you don't pay for it. The reason for this is while you are working you pay 1.45% of your pay check into Medicare. If you did that for 40 quarters you're entitled to Part A for free. Next week will discuss the other benefits of Medicare Part A.

If you have questions regarding any aspect of Medicare or Medicare health plans feel free call us at Alabama Health Guidance (256-284-7249), stop by our office at 879 Florence Blvd (Four Lane Shopping Center) or email me at ikey@alabamahealthguidance.com.

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Q My wife had a car wreck in March. The guy who caused the wreck's insurance company wants to record her over the phone telling them about what happened, should she do it?

Glenn, Russellville, AL

A The short answer is NO. While you are obligated to cooperate with your own insurance company and give your own insurance company a statement, this does NOT require you to give a recorded statement to the other driver's insurance company. In fact, you should never give a recorded statement until you have consulted with an experienced personal injury lawyer. Insurance companies' claims adjusters are professional negotiators with extensive experience. They are well trained to ask questions in a manner designed to hurt your claim. Insurance adjusters are trained to save money for the insurance companies. If they can do that by making fault questionable or by establishing that your medical claims are

unfounded or unrelated, they may avoid having to pay for the full extent of your injuries.

Usually the insurance adjuster taking the statement is not the insurance adjuster who handles the property damage and the adjuster that handles the property damage claim is not the one who handles the personal injury claim. The one who wants you to talk can be charming. The one who wants to pay you as little as possible won't be.

I also don't believe that these questions really can be answered accurately after an accident. Yet we all know that any inaccuracy will be used by the insurance company to make it appear as if you were lying. The problem is that the impressions left in memory after a sudden accident aren't accurate. There is no substitute for going to the scene with an attorney and foot-looking at skid marks, scuff marks and debris left on the pavement as well as having a look at the distances involved. Only after you know the facts should you attempt to state the facts.

Buckle up and drive safely.

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

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

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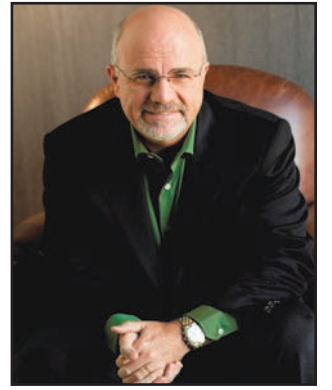
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DAVE Says

by DAVE RAMSEY



COMMONSENSE CALCULATION

Dear Dave,

I make \$80,000 a year, and I was wondering if there's an easy way to determine how much money a person would need to live comfortably after retirement.
John

Dear John,

A commonsense rule of thumb, if you've got your money invested in good growth stock mutual funds, is to pull from those funds at a rate that is lower than which they are growing. Otherwise, you'll destroy them, right? I tell folks if they want to pull off six percent to eight percent — I'm comfortable doing eight percent — then you've got to decide exactly how much you want to live on and what that means for your nest egg. If you want to live on \$80,000 a year, it means you have to have a \$1 million nest egg. If you want to live on \$40,000 a year, then you need a half-million dollar nest egg for what we're talking about here.

To get into that a little bit further, I would advise going to Chris Hogan's website. He's got a tool on there that takes just a few minutes, and it will give you exact numbers on what you need to do. It's ChrisHogan360.com, and the tool is called the R:IQ — your Retire Inspired Quotient.

You can walk through it, and in just a few minutes you'll know exactly what's going on and what needs to happen!
—Dave

IT'S FOR EVERYONE!

Dear Dave,
My husband and I have seven kids. What parts of your program work best for large families?
Karen

Dear Karen,
My entire plan works for a large family. Larger families just have more expenses. What does change — and you already knew this — is that it can be a larger financial burden. This isn't criticism; it's just a mathematical fact.

When you kick things into overdrive like you folks have done, two things have happened. One, you've extended the time that you're going to be supporting the kids financially. Two, you've got a lot of baby birds to feed and clothe. Unless you have an astronomical income, it slows down the process of hitting financial goals like getting out of debt, because you've got a drain on the math side of things. It's a wonderful drain; it's a glorious drain; but mathematically speaking where the money is concerned, it's still a drain.

You really don't have any choice but to do a budget. Having seven kids doesn't give you an excuse to live out of control or mean that living out of control without a plan is the definition of success. You've got to set more emergency categories aside in your budget. You've got to budget heavier for food, medical, transportation and things like that, because you've got more things pulling at you — and your money!
—Dave

Dave Ramsey is America's trusted voice on money and business, and CEO of Ramsey Solutions. He has authored five New York Times best-selling books. The Dave Ramsey Show is heard by more than 8.5 million listeners each week on more than 550 radio stations. Dave's latest project, EveryDollar, provides a free online budget tool. Follow Dave on Twitter at @DaveRamsey and on the web at daveramsey.com.

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Hi, my name is **LYLA!** I am a pretty girl with the markings of a rottweiler but will be much smaller. I was born February, 2016. I am sweet and loving with my foster mom but can be rough and tumble with my foster brothers and sisters. I am crate trained and working on housebreaking. You will fall in love once you meet me!! I'm spayed, up to date on my shots, and micro chipped. If you're interested in giving me a forever home, please call PAWS at 256-383-0690



HEIDI is a beautiful tan husky mix. She's approximately 12 weeks old. She loves to play with her toys and take naps. Heidi will mature into a medium sized adult love bug. If interested in giving Heidi her forever home please contact Kim @256-303-7146 with Changing 42 Animal Rescue.




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8. We help you stock your refrigerator and cabinets with food you were doing without because you were using those much needed funds to pay greedy creditors.
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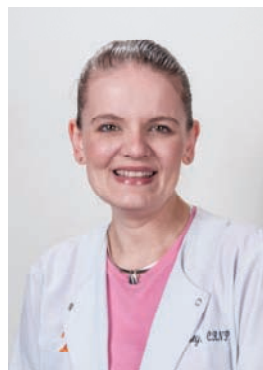
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"Don't forget to show hospitality to strangers, for some who have done this have entertained angels without realizing it."
Hebrews 13:2

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Justice Questions from Local Case

A recent court case in Lauderdale County now has many baffled although it would appear to have been a formality. The names are not as much of the point as is the process. The evidence clearly shows that in April of 2015 a nineteen year-old male was driving over 80 mph south on Darby Drive in Florence while under the influence of a controlled substance. The defendant admitted such. During the escapade the accused ran a red light at Cloyd Boulevard and killed a 47 year-old single mother of two who was on her lunch break. The defendant was free on bond awaiting trial with the stipulation that he was subject to random drug screens. He failed one and was then sent to a treatment center and subsequently dismissed for doing drugs. Put him under the jail, right? Wait, this was also the defendant's fourth car wreck, all of which have been his fault.

Understanding that there are always circumstances which only those in the courtroom hear, that evidence must have been much more impressive to the jury than it was to the judge and others in the courtroom. The judge had some stern words for the defendant and the jury after the defendant was convicted of a misdemeanor instead of

See JUSTICE... on Page 25

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

In A Few Words



TOM MAGAZZU
Editor

Courier Journal

THIS WEEK



July 13, 2016

Soals
July 13, 2016
WEEK

Ronnie Milsap Iron Horse Headline Saddle Up



by **Dennis Sherer**
Colbert County Tourism

TUSCUMBIA—Riders from across the south and midwest are getting ready to saddle up their horses at Gardiner Farm in Tusculumbia and help fight childhood cancer.

The 20th Annual Saddle Up

for St. Jude Trail Ride and Festival is Friday, July 15 and Saturday, July 16 at Gardiner Farm, 85 Underwood Road in Tusculumbia. The festival includes trail rides, wagon rides, pony rides, concerts, an auction, arts and crafts, food vendors and activities for children. It is the nation's largest trail ride for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

in Memphis, Tenn.

This year's headline entertainers are Iron Horse on Friday night and Ronnie Milsap on Saturday night. Milsap is a country music superstar whose hits include "Smoky Mountain Rain", "Any Day Now" and "Pure Love."

Jimmy King, coordinator

See SADDLE... on Page 29

The Saddle Up for St. Jude Trail Ride is July 15-16.

Photo: Dennis Sherer

PINE HILL CHURCH OF CHRIST IN WATERLOO

is hosting Vacation Bible School "Away We Go! Soaring to Bible Places" Friday, July 15 with a 5:30pm cookout, 7-8:30 VBS and Saturday, July 16, 9am-1pm. The VBS is for all ages with singing, classes, snacks, activities, and more. Pine Hill located at 1024 County Road 10. For more information, call 256-415-1777.

CHILDREN CAN LEARN

what it takes to be an Olympian of Faith July 16 from 9am-noon at McFarland Park. Olympian Training Day involves children ages 4-6th grade. Free crafts, games, and Inflatables. Lunch will be provided by Wood Avenue Church of Christ. Bus pick-up and drop off is available. Visit woodavenue.com or call 256-764-9642 for more information.

THE SHOALS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE is

accepting applications for the 28th Leadership Shoals class through July 15. Class size is 25-30 and spans nine sessions from August-May. The \$800/person cost of the program covers all meals, event admissions, travel, and lodging costs for two overnight stays. Applicants must also be a Chamber member. For more information, call Chelsea at 256-764-4661. ckauchick@shoalschamber.com or

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

at Cloverdale Church of Christ takes place July 17-20 from 6:30-8pm. The theme is: "Away We Go! Soaring to Bible Places." Enjoy skits, singing, a hike, and refreshments with classes for all ages.

Traditional VBS and Family Seminars

SHEFFIELD—Vacation Bible School/Family Conference Seminars take place at First Missionary Baptist Church located at 1103 Sterling Blvd. in Sheffield Monday-Wednesday, July 18-20 from 6-8pm nightly.

An exciting traditional Vacation

See SEMINARS... on Page 33



Gatsby

SHEFFIELD— J & L Productions, L.L.C. presents F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great*

Gatsby July 14-17 at Cypress Moon Studios in Sheffield. Performances begin at 7:30pm Thursday-Saturday and at 2pm Sunday. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$14 for children 12 and under.

Jay Gatsby is a self-made millionaire who

See GATSBY... on Page 33

Good for the Sherrods.

Good for the Shoals.



Listerhill
CREDIT UNION

YOUR Letters

Your Courier Journal welcomes tastefully presented 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 subject to editing. Please limit letters to 400 words. All letters become the property of the Courier Journal and may not necessarily reflect opinions of the Courier Journal staff, its advertisers or a majority of readers. Please submit typed or neatly written letters to: Editor-Courier Journal

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

Blessed with a Variety

Dear Sir:

I have noticed a great deal of attention in your recent issues to the charmingly anachronistic idea of the United States as a Christian nation. In actual fact, the U.S. is the most religiously diverse country on the planet. Surely God has blessed us with this variety of religious opinions for a reason. Perhaps it is part of our mission as a nation to provide an example to the world of unity in diversity, an example sorely needed in this age of religious extremism.

In any event, all of these religions teach a version of the Golden Rule as a central idea. One could conclude that God really does require us all to treat one another as we ourselves would wish to be treated.

Jacqueline Osborne
Florence

The do-nothing cowardly Republican congress could stop this insanity if they really wanted to.



Guide for Social Order

Dear Sir:

I am writing to comment on a letter written by Brandy Heathcock who took exception to the idea that the US was founded on Christian principals. There are several problems with the logic presented. First is the accusation that those who believe that Christianity played a part were relying on opinion. A reference to a speech by Andrew Siedel was offered as proof, but that is his opinion rather than fact. It is fact, however, that the colonists were fleeing oppression by the Church of England and were predominately Christian. This includes the founding fathers. The idea behind the National foundation was rejection of a theocracy to the extent that freedom of religion was

a major part of the original concept. This is unique to America since many religions such as Islam dictate a system of government. The founding fathers rejected this idea. That in itself is a unique Christian principle.

The student of the Bible will find that Jesus never made reference to any form of government and took pains to separate his movement from such. Hence, the separation of church and state. The U.S. is a Christian nation in spite of claims to the contrary by Hussein and others. I submit that these principles are an excellent guide to maintaining social order and individual morality regardless of your belief in God or your claimed lack thereof.

Jimmy Wayne Cosby
Rogersville

See LETTERS... on Page 15

Letters...

Continued from Page 14

But By Grace Through Faith

Editor:

Within each one of us lies a conscience. We know without being told the moral law of our Creator. It just makes sense. However, somewhere along the way we fail, and the guilt, dishonor and fear set in. For if we fail in one thing, we are a creation that has not functioned as designed. All of us have experienced this, no matter how small the offense. We find it impossible to save ourselves. The reason it is impossible is because it requires the Creator to refurbish or recreate the broken, dysfunctional creation. We were created to be better.

So, it is by the grace of the Creator that we can be saved. However, what we find is even though we are saved by grace it is through faith. It is not grace alone or faith alone, but by grace through faith that we are saved in the process of recreation.

But, what is faith? Faith is believing that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. He doesn't demand perfection within us alone, but requires that we diligently seek Him, that we try with all of our might. He even tells us how to diligently seek Him. We add to our belief that He is virtue, realizing there is a standard, there is truth. We add to virtue, knowledge. We can know the truth.

We add self-control to knowledge because despite what people may think, we can control ourselves to the truth or the standard. We do it all the time when we set our mind to it. Then we remain steadfast, diligently seeking, continuing to exercise ourselves in the truth. As we travel down this path we inevitably end up asking what we must do to be saved. What about you? If you haven't asked the question, you will.

I can tell you where it starts once you get to this point because the apostles told the first believers in Christ to repent and be baptized for the remission of your sins. We can sit here and wonder why they would say such a thing. They spend a lot of time in the New Testament explaining it. The bottom line is, He asked us to do it. So, if we are diligently seeking Him, we know what we must do. What about you? What are you waiting for? If he asked you to do any number of things, you would, so what are you waiting for when it comes to this? (Matt. 19:17-20, James 2:10, Romans 3:23, Eph. 2:8-9, Heb. 11:6, 2 Pet. 1:5-8, Acts 2:36-38, Acts 22:16) In need of your own Bible study plan? Go online to: jason-howton.worldbibleschool.org.

Jason Howton
Florence

See LETTERS...on Page 32

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JULY 29TH IS FAST approaching. Why should you care? Well, on that date in 1958, president Eisenhower signed the Space Act that created NASA is why! Isn't that cool? Oh, and it's also when Microsoft will stop giving you a free upgrade to Windows 10. After July 29, the price will reportedly be \$120 for the Home version and \$200 for the Pro version. Microsoft isn't being clear on the prices so don't hold me to this. Microsoft expected to have millions more users jump on the "free upgrade" bandwagon but many of you simply waved as the bandwagon rolled by. As a result, Microsoft might consider extending some sort of free or discounted offer but I wouldn't count on that.



Fisher

THE END IS NIGH

by "The Computer Skeptic"

One positive thing will probably happen, though. Microsoft says they will remove the "nag screen" July 29 that so many of you are sick of seeing.

So, should you upgrade? Probably. We've upgraded hundreds of computers to Windows 10. Out of those only a very small percentage had problems afterward. So, from a reliability and compatibility standpoint, I give it two thumbs up.

Windows 10 starts up faster which makes your old computer run like a newer one. It has some

security features under the hood that supposedly make it more secure than previous operating systems. Microsoft always claims that with new releases. I'm not sure I buy it.

From our experience, Windows 10 computers are just as susceptible to virusy stuff as previous operating systems. I'm not enough of a software nerd to know what additional mechanisms are in place to protect you, but I don't see a difference here in the real world.

Microsoft claims that Windows 10 will be the last

numbered operating system (OS) upgrade it ever releases. From now on, instead of major numbered OS upgrades, there will generally be 3 incremental upgrades every year similar to the strategy Apple has used for years.

Some benefits of the upgrade include "unification" of all your devices. The stuff you store on one computer will be available on your other computers as well. It doesn't have the annoying "tiles" introduced in Windows 8. Actually, they are there but presented in a much less obnoxious manner. Battery life on laptops is longer for Windows 10 users.

So, if you are a home user and have been waiting for my permission to upgrade; go for it. The fact is that all of us who use home computers will eventually have to get used to Windows 10 anyway. You may as well take

advantage of it while it is free.

If you are a business user, you'll want to make sure any specialized software is compatible with Windows 10 before upgrading. Windows 10 has been out long enough that the initial bugs have been worked out. Alas, if you upgrade and decide you don't like it, it's really easy to go back to your previous operating system—as long as you do that within 30 days of the upgrade. After 30 days, you're stuck with it.

Jim Fisher owns Excel Computer Services in Florence. Reach him at www.ExcelAL.com

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4	I	M	P		
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6			I	M	P
7	I	M	P		
8			I	M	P

A DEVILISH WORD CONTEST! In the grid shown here, there is room for eight "impish" words. Each contains the word "IMP." Using the following hints, see if you can solve this puzzle before our friend finds another target.

- A light way to travel.
- What a teen-ager hates.
- To complain and whine.
- To obstruct the progress of.
- To be stingy with.
- Tarzan's friend.
- Regal or majestic.
- To be frugal.



CLOWNING AROUND! Which of these "lefties" gave Dusty the Clown a quick bath?

Answers On Page 34

HOLY WORD-SQUARE, BATMAN! At the right is a word square grid. Can you find the four five-letter words that match the definitions below? All words used must read the same both across and down.

- A toothy villian (given).
- Provides food and liquid.
- The wind is their friend.
- A significant occurrence.
- What a sick person does.

J	O	K	E	R
O				
K				
E				
R				

A TRICKY QUICKIE! To the right is an incorrect equation. Can you make it correct by adding one straight line to it? $11+11+1=1,152$

Illustrated by David Coulson
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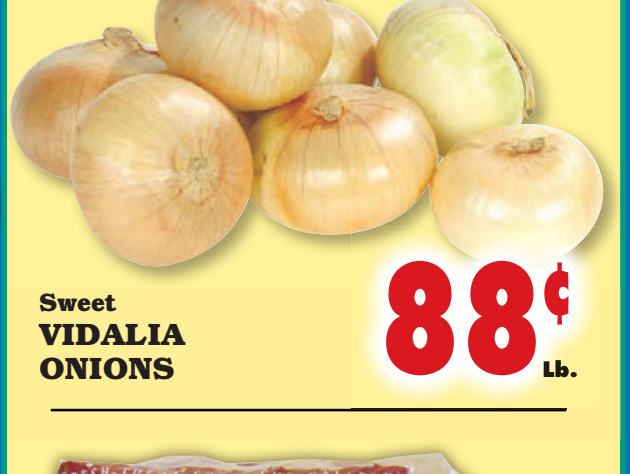
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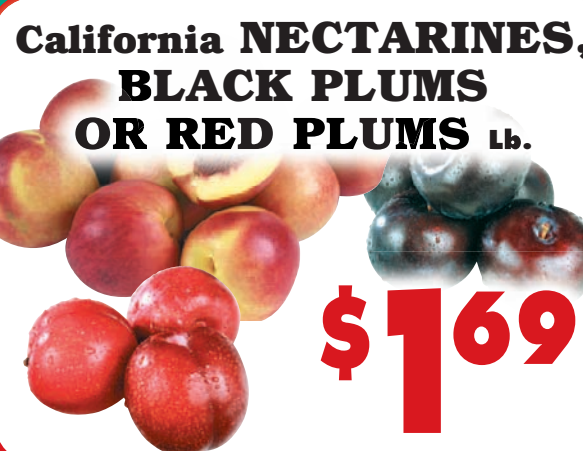
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2 Lbs. **\$5.79**

MEAT



Zeigler SLICED BOLOGNA
All Varieties
12 Oz. **\$1.49**



Zeigler Premium Bacon
Slow Smoked & Special Sliced
\$2.79
Zeigler SLICED BACON
12 Oz.



Zeigler SLICED HAM OR TURKEY BREAST
All Varieties
8 Oz. **\$1.99**



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Sara Lee BUTTER BREAD
20 Oz. Loaf **2/\$4**



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3/\$10



All Varieties Golden Flake POTATO CHIPS
5 Oz. **4/\$5**



Food Club DRY ROASTED PEANUTS
16 Oz. **\$1.98**



Hormel COMPLEATS
7-10 Oz. **2/\$4**



Idahoan MASHED POTATOES
4 Oz. **5/\$5**



Food Club COFFEE K-CUPS
12 Ct. **\$3.98**



Food Club POWDERED COFFEE CREAMER
10-15 Oz. **\$2.98**



Food Club APPLE JUICE
64 Oz. **2/\$3**



Food Club Select Variety CANNED FRUIT
15 Oz. **\$1.18**



Valu Time FOAM PLATES
40 Ct. **98¢**



Bounty PAPER TOWELS
8 Rolls **\$6.98**



Sprite, Dr. Pepper Or COCA-COLA
2 Liters **4/\$5**



Dasani PURIFIED WATER
24 Pk. .5 Ltr. **2/\$7**



Arnold Select HAMBURGER OR HOT DOG BUNS 8 ct.
2/\$5



Frito-Lay All Varieties FRITOS OR RUFFLES
Potato Chips 9-9.5 Oz.
2/\$6



Blue Bell All Varieties ICE CREAM
1/2 Gallon **\$4.98**



Betty Crocker FUDGE BROWNIE MIX
18-20 Oz. **5/\$5**

PRODUCE



Baby Bella SLICED MUSHROOMS
8 Oz. **\$1.69**



California BROCCOLI CROWNS
Lb. **\$1.89**



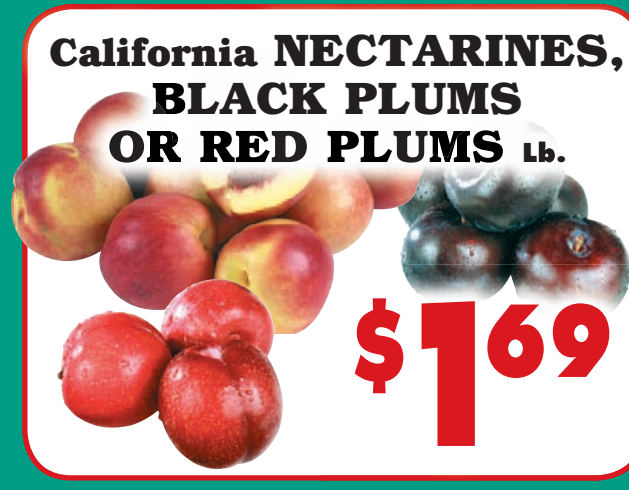
Dole Chopped: BBQ Ranch, Chipotle Cheddar Or Bacon Bleu SALAD KIT
Each **\$2.99**



California VALENCIA ORANGES
4 Lbs. Or GRAPEFRUIT 3 Lbs. **\$3.99**



Cut & Clean KALE, COLLARDS, TURNIP GREENS OR MUSTARD GREENS 1 Lb. **\$2.29**



California NECTARINES, BLACK PLUMS OR RED PLUMS Lb. **\$1.69**

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Totino's PIZZA ROLLS
90 Ct. **\$5.99**

Food Club WHIP TOPPING
8 Oz. **98¢**

Chungs All Varieties EGG ROLLS
9-12 Oz. **2/\$5**

Food Club Garlic BREAD OR TOAST
8-16 Oz. **2/\$3**

DAIRY

Borden Select Variety CHEESE SHREDS, SHREDS OR CHUNK
5-12 Oz. **2/\$4**

Food Club All Varieties YOGURT
6 Oz. **2/88¢**

Food Club BUTTER QUARTERS
1 Lb. **\$2.98**

Florida's Natural ORANGE JUICE
59 Oz. **2/\$5**

Food Club
SUCRALOSE OR STEVIA
 9 Oz.
\$3.98

Sweet Baby Ray's
BBQ SAUCE
 28 Oz.
2/\$5

Charmin Soft & Strong
BATH TISSUE
 12 Dbl. Rolls
\$6.98

Southeastern Mills
GRAVY MIX
 All Varieties
 1-2.75 Oz.
2/88¢

Mio, Kool-Aid Or Crystal Light
LIQUID ENHANCERS
 1 Oz.
2/\$5

Nunn Better DOG FOOD
 Hi Protein, Golden Gravy,
 Butcher's Best Or Puppy
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LIQUID CLEANER
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\$2.98

Cascade
ACTION PACS
 15-20 Ct.
\$3.98

Tide
LIQUID DETERGENT
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\$5.98

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 55-64 Oz.
2/\$4

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LIQUID SOFTENER
 34 Oz.
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\$7.99

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WINE
 1.5 Ltr.
\$10.99

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BEER
 24 Pk.
 12 Oz. Cans
\$20.99

New Age
WINE
 750 ml
\$8.49

Not Available At All Locations!

Papa Enzo's
PIZZA
 Select Variety
\$6.99
 Each

Skinner
CINNAMON ROLLS
\$2.89
 18 Oz.

DELI & BAKERY

Not Available At All Locations!

Sue's 1 LAYER
CAKES Caramel,
 Strawberry Or Italian
\$5.99
 21 Oz.

Charter Reserve
CHICKEN
 All Varieties
\$5.99
 Lb.

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 3413 Woodward Ave. • 7am-11pm • 256-978-6093
- SHEFFIELD** Foodland Plus • 106 Towne Plaza • 7am-10pm • 256-381-6552

- TUSCUMBIA** 103 West 1st Street • 7am-11pm • 256-383-9425
- FORD CITY FOODLAND** River Road • 7am-10pm • 256-446-5842
- ELGIN CROSSROADS** ELGIN Forest Plaza • 7am-11pm • 256-247-1958
- ROGERSVILLE** Rogersville Shopping Ctr. • 7am-11pm • 256-247-1805
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All Varieties
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\$1.88 10 OZ. BAG

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Oatmeal Creme Pies Or Nutty Bars

99¢ REGULAR SIZE 12 CT. BOX

Whole **Boneless Pork Loin**

\$1.59 LB.

Family Pack **Boneless Pork Chops**

\$1.99 LB.

John Morrell
Hot Dogs

59¢ 12 OZ. PKG.

Dean's Regular Or Buttermilk
Sausage & Biscuits

\$2.99 12 CT. PKG.

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- Frozen **Chicken Breast** Lb. **\$1.58**
- Hillside Lodge **Danish Ribs** 10 Lb. Box **\$17.99**
- Frozen **Riblets** 10 Lb. Box **\$11.99**
- Fresh **Neck Bones** Lb. **99¢**
- Smoked **Bacon** 10 Lb. Box **\$14.99**
- Georgia Special **Smoked Sausage Or Red Hots** 5 Lb. Pkg. **\$7.99**
- Eckrich **Bologna Or Jumbo Hot Dogs** 14 Oz. Pkg. **99¢**
- **Whole Beef Tenderloin** Lb. **\$9.99**
- **Whole Top Sirloin** Lb. **\$3.99**
- Dean's **Sausage Patties** 45 Oz. Pkg. **\$5.99**
- Rick's **Bar-B-Q** 1 Lb. Box **\$5.99**

Cabbage

38¢ LB.

All Varieties Food Club
Soda
2/\$1 2 LITERS

Charking Instant Light
Charcoal
\$2.98 6.2 LB. BAG

Bananas

38¢ LB.

Mayfield Select Varieties
Frozen Treats
4/\$5 6 CT. BOX

Food Club
Ice Cream Sandwiches
\$3.98 24 CT. BOX

- Frosty Morn **Chub Bologna** 2.5 Lbs. **\$3.19**
- Purity **Lemonade** 64 Oz. **99¢**
- Food Club Fridge Pack **Ketchup** 38 Oz. Btl. **\$1**
- Food Club Squeeze **Mustard** 8 Oz. Btl. **3/\$1**
- Sauer's **Mayo Or Salad Dressing** 30 Oz. Jar **\$1.98**
- Coffeemate **Creamer** 35.3 Oz. **\$3.98**
- Folgers Classic Roast **Coffee** 38 Oz. Can **\$6.98**
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NISSAN: ALTIMA, 2015 \$15,474. 2.5S, cloth, 40k, Financing available, Call Shannon 256-412-1551 or 256-764-3351

MITSUBISHI: OUTLANDER, 2015 \$15,729. Sport ES cloth, auto, 21k, Financing available, JD 256-577-1056 or 256-764-3351

HOME IMPROVEMENTS, all types of remodeling. 256-381-7762 or 256-349-3703

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CHEVROLET: SUBURBAN, 1999 \$3,495. C-2500, 4x4, V8, auto. new 12,000lb wench, 2 new batteries, great work/hunting vehicle, 256-710-2556

"SKID STEER WORK" DIRT Work, Lots Cleared and Leveled, Gravel Spread plus Driveways built. 256-710-9407

FORD: FUSION, 2015 \$16,688. SE, cloth, Auto, 27k, Financing available, Call David 256-415-0331 or 256-764-3351

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CHEVROLET: CRUZE, 2014 \$13,881. 1LT, cloth, 31k, Financing available call Trey 205-365-7236 or 256-764-3351

I TEAR DOWN BARNs, sheds, old houses and chicken houses and haul off items. 256-221-7814.

FORD: F-150, 2015 CREW cab XLT, 4x2, 3.5i Ecoboost, 32k, \$28,974. available, Call JD 256-577-1056 or 256-764-3351

TOYOTA: TACOMA, 2004 \$8,500 obo. PreRunner, 4 door. Pearl red, 2.7 4 cyl., auto, power windows/locks, 185k, nice and clean in and out. Call 256-529-7199.

TAKING ORDERS FOR TAME blackberries. Phone 256-766-3325. Blackberry plants also available. \$10/gallon.

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30 SYLVANIA FLUORESCENT LIGHT bulbs, 4 foot. Asking \$50. Call 256-582-9559.

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TOYOTA: CAMRY, 2013 \$15,989. Hybrid LE, cloth, auto, 34k, Financing available Call Tony 931-213-1386 or 256-764-3351

1988 CHEVY SCOTSDALE ONE Ton Long Wheel Base Club Cab, 118,000 miles, \$2,750. 256-810-9320 Shoals area.

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13,000 miles

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1999 CHEVROLET LUMINA, 31,221 actual miles, has some damage to right rear fender, runs good, \$1,800. 256-773-0283

FORD: E250, 2004 \$4,250. 4.6 liter engine, alarm system, metal storage bins inside, locking ladder rack. 139k mi. 256-483-7009

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16.9 OZ. BTLS. - 6 PACK **5/\$10**

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35.3 OZ. - ORIGINAL ONLY **\$3.99**

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BEST CHOICE FROZEN SLICED STRAWBERRIES
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64 OZ. **99¢**

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24 OZ. SQUEEZE BTL. **69¢**

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2 QUART PACK SELECT VARIETIES **10/\$1**

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SWEET VIDALIA ONIONS
LB. **89¢**

FRESH SLICING TOMATOES
LB. **99¢**

FRESH SOUTHERN PEACHES
LB. **99¢**

ALSO AT YOUR REQUEST - PICK-5 MEAT SALE CONTINUES DAILY!!!

FRESH CHICKEN LEG QUARTERS
LB. (SOLD IN 10 LB. BAGS FOR \$4.90) **49¢**

USDA SELECT FAMILY PACK BONELESS TOP SIRLOIN STEAKS
LB. **\$4.79**

USDA CHOICE BONELESS BOTTOM ROUND ROAST
LB. **\$2.79**

BEST CHOICE SLICED BACON
REGULAR OR THICK SLICED
YOUR CHOICE **\$2.99** 16 OZ.

GRACE'S SALADS
CHICKEN, PIMENTO, HAM, TUNA, OR JALAPEÑO PIMENTO CHEESE
YOUR CHOICE **\$1.99** 10.75-11 OZ.

BAR-S SLICED COOKED OR HONEY HAM
16 OZ. **\$2.79**

BEST CHOICE CORN DOGS
16 COUNT BOX **\$4.99**

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LB. **99¢**

FAMILY PACK FRESH 75% LEAN GROUND BEEF
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Fawn...

Continued from Page 1

spending time in the fawn's location in order to decrease her scent in the area or otherwise attract predators to the fawn. While the mother is feeding nearby, the fawn avoids detection by hiding motionless in a grassy area.

"Fawns raised by their mothers in the wild fare much better than those reared in captivity," said Keith Gauldin, Wildlife Section Chief for the Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries (WFF). "Well-meaning individuals can actually cause more harm by removing it from its hiding place. The best option is to take a photo and leave the fawn where it was found."

Most wild birds and mammals, including fawns, are protected by law and may not be legally taken from the wild or kept as pets. In the vast majority of instances, fawns will survive if left alone. Deer and other wildlife are difficult to rear in captivity and have the greatest chance for survival if left in their native habitat.

If a fawn is found with serious injuries or confirmed to be orphaned, contact the nearest wildlife rehabilitator permitted to handle deer. For a list of rehabilitators permitted by WFF, visit www.outdooralabama.com/current-wildlife-rehabbers.

The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources promotes wise stewardship, management and enjoyment of Alabama's natural resources through four divisions: Marine Resources, State Lands, State Parks, and Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries. To learn more about ADCNR, visit www.outdooralabama.com.

Fawn Facts



- Fawns are often left in protective cover until about three weeks of age.
- A doe will return two to eight times per day to feed its fawn.
- A doe will continue to care for its fawn, even if it has been touched by a human.
- A doe will accept a fawn that has been missing for up to 48 hours.
- If fed cow milk, fawns can dehydrate quickly from diarrhea.
- Deer raised by humans can become dangerous as they mature.
- Fawns are born completely odorless for the first few days of life. The doe relocates away from the fawn only returning for nursing. This prevents predators from detecting the fawn's scent and the location of the fawn.

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BASEBALL TEES Adult and Children's Sizes!!!!

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Children's Short Sleeve Tees.....	\$2.00
Onesies (white Only) size 6mo.-24mo.....	\$3.75
Men's Tanks (Size Small-XL).....	\$2.75
Men's Tanks (Size 2x).....	\$3.75
Beach Cover Ups (One size fits Most).....	\$5
Fleece Crewnecks (up to size 1x).....	\$5
Fleece Crewnecks (Sizes 2x & 3x).....	\$6
Fleece Sweat Pants (up to size 1x).....	\$5
Fleece Sweat Pants (Sizes 2x & 3x).....	\$6

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DODGE: NITRO HEAT, 2010 \$10,986. chrome wheels, 116k, Financing available, call Hoke 256-740-1297 or 256-764-3351

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Commentary

Justice...

Continued from Page 14

felony Manslaughter. Criminally Negligent Homicide without being under the influence of a controlled substance is only punishable by twelve months in the local detention center. Because of his bail-related antics, the defendant has already served six months of the sentence.

In hindsight the most curious aspect of the trial may be that the victim was a middle-aged black lady and the jury was all males and all white. Combined with what seems to be such overwhelming evidence of culpability by the defendant, I can certainly understand how family members and friends of the victim have serious concerns. From all that has been made public, they are demonstrating a tremendous amount of class and restraint. It's doubtful I could be equally subdued.

How could the striking process of the jury pool ever result in such a potentially incendiary make-up? Would they have ever assembled an all black jury for this case? If the defendant were black and the traffic fatality white, would an all-white jury ever be assembled?

Both are doubtful. We have a crime victim who CAN'T take the stand, getting short-changed by the legal system. Logic doesn't mirror the verdict. Therefore we are left with racial undertones that are very difficult to ignore.

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 Summer is a wonderful time to be outside with friends and family, but sometimes you just don't feel good. When that happens, visit us at **MedPlus in Muscle Shoals**. We'll help get you back on your feet and back to your summer fun. Be careful out there - and see us if we can help!



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Soap Opera Preview

THE BOLD AND THE BEAUTIFUL Feeling betrayed by her father's lies, Steffy confronted Ridge about other times that he possibly misrepresented himself. Eric found himself in a predicament over who should be Forrester's CEO. Deacon refused to give up on Quinn and his desire to reunite with her. While Rick planned his return as the chief executive, Thomas and Steffy also had their eye on that prize. Liam found himself in an awkward position when Bill gave him his next assignment, which involved Wyatt and Steffy. A mysterious guest arrived at Forrester Creations wanting to conduct business with the new CEO. *Wait to See: A young couple takes their relationship to the next level.*

est scandal. Maxie kept a close eye on her enemy. Liz and Franco delved into his criminal history and her tendency to always choose the wrong man. Carly became aware of Nina's efforts to find Josslyn's kidney donor. TJ made peace with Jordan. Kevin exposed another piece of Helena's legacy. Sam and Jason believed that justice would finally be served. Nathan made his intentions clear. Maxie was on to Claudette. *Wait to See: Lucas comes down hard on Julian.*

DAYS OF OUR LIVES Later, Chad and Jennifer disagreed over Thomas's well-being. Hope and Aiden slowly found their way back to each other. Jennifer sought advice from Doug and Julie. Dario accepted his father's job offer. Kate and Deimos set the record "straight" with the authorities. Philip considered signing Chloe to his record label. Summer continued her shady dealings. Chad and Jennifer's custody battle continued. Ciara confronted Chase, which resulted in his epic meltdown. *Wait to See: Blanca is haunted by her past.*

THE YOUNG AND THE RESTLESS Kevin received a call from Chelsea asking for his help in finding out the identity of Victor's accomplice. Phyllis couldn't keep her mind off Billy while being intimate with Jack. Later, Billy told Phyllis that he was ready to take their relationship public. Devon told his father that he was ready to fight to get Hilary back. Abby was upset that Stitch was shutting her out. Luca was secretly pleased that the rig workers went to the press to voice their complaints. Hilary collapsed. *Wait to See: Chelsea comes up with a dangerous plan to help Adam.*

GENERAL HOSPITAL Laura delivered some positive news to Lulu. Tracy and Hayden offered to come to Finn's rescue. Liz asked Franco to stop interfering with her family business. Epiphany was concerned that the hospital won't survive the lat-

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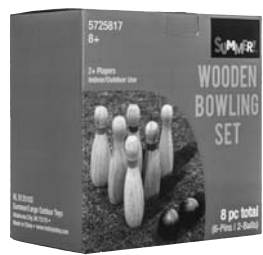
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Championship Recall

Colbert County High School has enjoyed numerous state championships in several sports in their school's history. Several months ago, the school celebrated the 35th anniversary of one of their state championship basketball teams. The year was 1981. The scene was Coleman Coliseum on the University of Alabama campus in Tuscaloosa. It was particularly exciting for me to do the play-by-play games during the Indians march to the state title. Head coach Arthur Andrews had become a long-time friend of mine from his playing days at Muscle Shoals High School, where he was the Shoals Area's Most Valuable Player as a senior to his being an analyst for several years

during my stint as "Voice of The UNA Lions." The road to the title would be a tough one for Colbert County. The Indians had to get by two of their fiercest rivals: Central and Russellville to advance to the state tournament. First up was Central in the Area 16 championship game. The Indians narrowly defeated the Wildcats 74-73 to capture the Area title. The Indians then traveled to Russellville to play the Golden Tigers on their own court for the Region title and a trip to Tuscaloosa. The Indians downed Russellville 68-57 and were on their way to battle In the opening round, the Indians dominated an undermanned UMS Prep of Mobile 75-57. In the

semifinals, the Indians faced a favored Leeds team who just happened to have a player by the name of Charles Barkley. Andrews' game plan was simply magnificent. Hall of Fame coach Steve Mask was Andrews' assistant coach and said: "coach Andrews was a tremendous coach." "He knew how to manage the kids and get the most out of them." "He certainly knew his basketball." The Indians harassed Barkley throughout the game and fouled him out in the third quarter. The Indians' 73-61 win put the Tribe in the state championship game. Few people were giving Colbert County a chance to win. After all, their opponent was Sparkman High School who entered the game with a perfect 32-0 record. But the Senators apparently were unaware of the school's great sports tradition. 12,000 fans packed Coleman Coliseum to watch the gigantic battle between these two powerhouses. Myron Hughes had an incredible game, pouring in 26 points and pulling down 15 rebounds, dishing out four assists and blocking four shots. He was named the tournament's Most Valuable Player. Denford Powers and Billy Lavender also made the all-tournament team. The Indians' 73-60 win gave the school their first state basketball championship since 1972 and ended with a 30-3 overall record. Andrews passed way several years ago but his high school coaching legacy will not soon be forgotten. He was a great player, a great coach, a great commentator and a great friend. I still miss him. E-mail comments and suggestions to: jerrywknight@comcast.net

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pet connection

DRAFT DOGS

Pulling a cart or wagon is bred in the bone for some breeds, but almost any dog can learn

By Kim Campbell Thornton
Universal Uclick

You've probably seen vintage photos of dogs pulling carts or wagons loaded with milk cans, large cheeses and other goods to market for farmers. Certain breeds specialized in this work, among them Bernese mountain dogs, bouviers des Flandres, great Pyrenees, greater Swiss mountain dogs, Leonbergers, Newfoundlands, Rottweilers and Saint Bernards. Dogs were less expensive to purchase and care for than horses and were sometimes referred to as "the poor farmer's horse."

Some modern dog owners, inspired by their breeds' heritage, are eager to teach their dogs to perform their traditional work. They've taken up drafting, also known as carting.

Laura Bullock of Charlotte, North Carolina, has had greater Swiss mountain dogs for nine years. "I really wanted to do all of the things that my breed is meant to do," she says. "It's something that is interesting and different and definitely challenging. It may look easy, but it's not."

Dogs who can pull a cart or wagon are popular for lots of reasons. They are crowd pleasers in parades, give rides to neighborhood kids, haul recycling bins out to the street, help bring home groceries and work as gardening assistants, pulling wagons loaded with potting soil, bark and trays of plants around the yard.

A framework of training and trust between dog and owner is necessary to

be successful. Before a dog starts training for carting, he should know and respond readily to basic obedience commands, especially "stay" and "come."

Before a dog is ever put into a harness or attached to a cart, he becomes accustomed to having a cart brought behind him and learns how it feels to have the shafts of the cart touching his shoulders. Experiencing that sensation is important because as the cart turns, the shafts will touch the dog's body, so it's something he needs to be prepared for.

More advanced lessons involve learning to go in circles, back up, pull uphill, control the speed of a cart going downhill and walk across different surfaces. In a draft test, to earn a title, a dog may have to pull his cart over dirt, grass or gravel, as well as over a bridge or through a gate. He needs to learn how it feels and sounds to cross those surfaces and how to make his way through narrow spaces. As he learns, he is rewarded with toys, treats and praise.

Dogs can become accustomed to wearing a harness and being hitched to a cart at any age — the earlier, the better — but depending on the breed, they must be 18 months to 2 years old before they can enter a draft test to earn a title. That's to ensure that the dog's bones and joints are fully developed.

Drafting isn't limited to large breeds. Any dog of any size can learn to pull for fun, exercise or utility, although a smaller dog's loads are limited. Breeds and mixes that have learned to pull include papillons, cockapoos, Shetland sheepdogs and collies.



Greater Swiss mountain dogs Dani and Hobbs train with their cart.

Before getting started, take your dog to the veterinarian. He shouldn't have any physical problems that could be made worse by the activity.

To learn more, contact a local Bernese mountain dog breed club. They often have drafting demonstrations and clinics at fun days or specialty shows so people can learn about the sport.

The benefits of carting go beyond earning titles or even doing work with it, says Kathe Vasquez, co-chair of the draft committee for the Bernese Mountain Dog Club of Southern California.

"It forms a really special bond between you and your dog. When you have that partnership, that teamwork, it's really a beautiful thing."

Q&A

Excess thirst, urine signal health problems

Q My cat seems to be drinking a lot more water than usual. She's even started having accidents outside the litter box. I think she can't get there in time. What could be causing this?
— via Facebook

A In vet speak, what's going on is called polydipsia and polyuria — excessive thirst and urination. The problem is that these signs can be symptomatic of any number of diseases. It can be really frustrating for veterinarians and owners to try to figure out the cause. Diseases that cause these signs include diabetes, kidney failure and hyperthyroidism, to name just a few.

The differential diagnosis — a term you may know from medical detective shows such as "House M.D." — involves a good history first. The veterinarian will want to know how long your cat has been drinking lots of water and whether you've noticed if she's urinating more frequently (pollakiuria) or going a normal number of times but producing greater amounts of urine (polyuria). Other questions may include what you feed your cat, whether you've noticed any changes in eating habits or unusual weight loss and whether you're giving her any medications or supplements.

A physical exam and lab tests are also part of the search for answers. A complete blood count, urinalysis and thyroid test are among the lab work your veterinarian may order. They can help to check such things as kidney and liver values, thyroid hormone levels, abnormal electrolyte levels and excess sugar in the urine. Again, there are many potential causes of these signs, so a veterinary visit is a must. — Dr. Marty Becker

Do you have a pet question? Send it to askpetconnection@gmail.com or visit [Facebook.com/DrMartyBecker](https://www.facebook.com/DrMartyBecker).

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Saddle...

Continued from Page 14

for the event, confirmed that once again all the profit from the festival goes to the hospital. More than 125 children from the Shoals are being treated at St. Jude.

"Since we started the ride in 1996 we have raised over \$1.7 million for St. Jude," King said. "We hope to drive that total over \$2 million this year. We're expecting a really big crowd this year with Ronnie Millsap. You don't need a horse to come join the fun."

Riders have more than 25 miles of trails spread over around 3,000 acres. King said riders choose their pace and the trails they want to explore. No all-terrain vehicles other than those used by St. Jude volunteers are allowed on the trails. More details are available at saddleup4kids.org.

Admission for the weekend is a \$35 donation for riders. Admission for non-riders is \$10 on Friday and \$20 on Saturday. Primitive camping is available.

The farm opens at 7am on Friday, July 15. Music begins at 6:30pm with Stampede followed by CC Jags at 7:45pm and Iron Horse at 9:15pm.

Music begins at 11am on Saturday with April Michelle. Showdown follows at 1pm with the Josh Brannon Band at 2:15pm. The auction begins at 3:30pm. Millsap's performance begins at 7:30pm.

"Saddle Up for St. Jude is one of the largest festivals in the Shoals," said Susann Hamlin, president and CEO of the Colbert County Tourism and Convention Bureau. "Although it's called a trail ride, you do not have to own a horse to participate. It's open to everyone who wants to listen to great music, eat delicious food, and help a very worthy cause. It's a great event for families."

For more details, call 256-

446-5392 or Colbert County Tourism and Convention Bureau at 256-383-0783.

Directions to Gardiner Farm

From U.S. 72 in Tusculumbia, turn south onto service road at Colbert County Farmers Co-Op. Go one block then turn left onto Frankfort Road. Travel south for 1.7 miles, then turn left onto Underwood Mountain Road. Travel 3.1 miles to County Farm Road and follow the signs.

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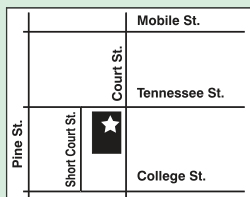


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1 Cor. 9:24 Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it.



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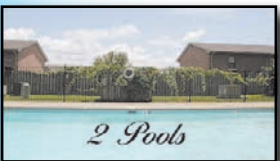
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Letters...

Continued from Page 15

Real Crisis Not Primary Focus

Editor:

Defense Secretary, Ash Carter, officially welcomed the gender confused into the military on June 30 just two days after the second major terror attack in two weeks. At a press conference Carter formally declared open transgenderism in the ranks of the military.

While the world faces some of the greatest evil ever unleashed on innocents, the president's plan for combating it is letting men dress like women (and vice-versa) in our fighting force. This president uses our military to fight culture wars instead of fighting real wars against the enemies of our nation.

His priority is not military readiness which should always be the Pentagon's first consideration. Secretary Carter has no explanation of how this new policy makes our military more capable of performing its mission. The focus of commanders at all levels will not be preparing to defend the nation against those who would destroy us, but implementing this insane and immoral policy.

The do-nothing cowardly Republican congress could stop this insanity if they really wanted to. Except for a few with the guts to take a stand, they sheepishly allow the administration to destroy our nation. One of the few who dares to challenge is Senator Jim Inhofe of Oklahoma, a senior member of the Senate Armed Services Committee. He said, "Our military is facing historic readiness shortfalls, putting our service members' lives at greater risk."

Addressing this crisis should be the sole focus of Obama administration but instead they continue to be more interested in forcing

their social agenda through the DOD. Should Hillary Clinton or any of the other possible democrats become president, there will be no improvement.

A vote for the democrats is a vote for the continuance of these destructive policies.

Euell White
Florence

Leavenworth is Perfect For You

Editor:

This is from an United States Navy Veteran. You had better sit up and take a serious look at yourself as to what you have become. Have you the foggiest idea as to what you are doing when it is your responsibility to take care of every veteran that comes to you for any kind of medical reason?

For the ones who have died while enduring long wait times to be treated for whatever reason, I am indeed sorry. I should hope that some relative of the deceased can bring charges against you as being criminally responsible for their death, resulting in

federal prison time for your inexcusable negligence.

I believe Fort Leavenworth would be a good one for you. You will be introduced to a boulder that you will pound into gravel for the roads that need it. Justly deserved, plus you might get a taste of the cat of nine tails. If that has been done away with, I am sure they will find something else to keep you occupied. Down deep wish that you had done your job right the first time. Had it not been for our warriors, we might just be under a different kind of government. There are some that would make our life miserable, no rights to speak of, and having to scrape by with very little food from day to day. My advice to you is that you smarten up and quit giving everyone in the United States a hard time. Get rid of all of the political red tape and open up lines of communication with some people who are former military and have been down that road before.

Joe Fairer
Muscle Shoals

Spring Valley Firefighters

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Doctor's Weekly Quiz - Topic: Post

1. The Post-WWII plan to rebuild western bears whose name
A.) Marshall B.) Stalin
C.) Churchill D.) Patton

2. C.W. Post made his first batch of Postum (later Post Cereal) in Battle Creek, MI
True or False

3. Post-its were invented in which state?
A.) New York B.) Alabama
C.) Kentucky D.) Washington

4. The double spade post hole digger is only powered manually.
True or False

5. In Post-WWII Japan, the Emperor was stripped of his divinity by order of the U.S.
True or False

Answers: 1: A 2: True 3: C 4: True 5: True

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No representation is made about the quality of the podiatric services to be performed or the expertise of the podiatrist performing such service.

Gatsby...

Continued from Page 14

passionately pursues the elusive Daisy Buchanan. Nick Carraway, a young newcomer to Long Island, is drawn into their world of obsession, greed and danger. The breathtaking glamour and decadent excess of the Jazz Age come to the stage in F. Scott Fitzgerald's classic novel and in Simon Levy's adaptation approved by the Fitzgerald Estate.

This is the third production for J & L Productions, and definitely its most ambitious. The show has been in the planning stages for over a year. The show will take the audience back to the twenties with its own little twist. The cast is stacked with talent and the show includes original music and Burlesque Dancing.

Cypress Moon Studios is located at 1000 Alabama Avenue by the riverfront in Sheffield. Pre-show festivities begin an hour before showtime. Doors open thirty minutes prior to showtime.

THE GREAT GATSBY

CAST:
Nick Carraway- Austin Parsons
Jay Gatsby- Jesse Sockwell
Daisy Buchanan- Lily Holly
Jordan Baker- Elizabeth Long
Tom Buchanan- Nick Willis
George Wilson-Christian Hetrick
Myrtle Wilson- Chelsea Hughes
Meyer Wolfsheim - Joel Mitchell
Mrs. McKee - Amber Rhodes
Chester McKee - Micheal Terrell
Mrs. Michaelis - Leah Stanley
Policeman - Adam St. John

DIRECTORS:
Jesse Sockwell, Lily Holly
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR:
Amanda Perry
STAGE MANAGERS:
Will Duncan, Catherine Potts
LIGHTING & SOUND:
Martin Dean
ORIGINAL MUSIC
Composed By: Corey Keenum & his band, Chieftain
MUSIC PRODUCED BY:
Michael Ivey

Seminar...

Continued from Page 14

School will be experienced by the toddlers, the primary class, and the juniors class. However, the pre-teens, teenagers, and adults will benefit from several family conference seminars with various facilitators.

- Cindy Jackson, Principal of Hibbett Middle School in Florence will present to the pre-teens on Monday and Tuesday. The topics will be Becoming a Teenager, Bullying, and Dealing with Peer Pressure.
- Pete Key, professional motivational speaker and author from Florence will present to the teenagers on Monday. Topics will be Life Decisions, and Keys to Success.
- Rod Sheppard, principal of the Florence Freshman Center will be the teen presenter on Tuesday. His topics will be Being a Person of Excellence, and Respect for Yourself and Others.
- The single parenting seminar will be presented by Penny Freeman from Sheffield on Monday and Tuesday. She will discuss the Challenges of Single Parenting.
- The married couples seminar will be presented by Rev. B.J. Bonner from Russellville on Monday and Tuesday. He is the pastor of First Baptist Church in Russellville.
- Debra Coble, Esq. of the Potts & Young Law Firm in Florence will present to the senior citizens on Monday with the topic, Setting Your House in Order...do you have a Power of Attorney, a Living Will, or a Health Care Proxy?
- Sylvester White, district manager with the Social Security Administration in Florence, will present to senior citizens on Tuesday with the topics of Social Security, Disability Benefits, and Retirement.
- First Missionary's pastor, Jeffery Braxton, Sr., will present the Grief Seminar on Monday and Tuesday for those dealing with the recent loss of loved ones.

On Wednesday there will be a general assembly with a representative from each session sharing what he or she has learned.

Full Court Press

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"Don't let the noise of others' opinions drown out your own inner voice. And most important, have the courage to follow your heart and intuition." Steve Jobs

While this may be great advice for building a business, it isn't in matters of life, although most of the world follows this philosophy today. The Bible warns us in **Proverbs 28:26** "He that trusteth in his own heart is a fool." The Devil whispers in your ear, telling you that you are just as good as the next person. In a way, that is true. **Jeremiah 17:9** says, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" Yes, friends, our hearts are not only wicked but filthy. **Isaiah 64:6** "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousnesses are as filthy rags." The best that we can do is a pitiful, disgusting, stinking mess before God. This may hurt your pride. "Surely I'm not that bad," you say. Friend, I'm in the same boat: a sinner before God. That is where we must start. We must repent (change our mind about how we view ourselves and believe what God's word says about us) and turn from the world's advice to God's. **Acts 20:21** stresses our need for "repentance toward God, and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ." **Ezekiel 18:30-32** says, "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, saith the Lord GOD. Repent, and turn yourselves from all your transgressions; so iniquity shall not be your ruin. Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart and a new spirit: for why will ye die...? For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth, saith the Lord GOD: wherefore turn yourselves, and live ye." Friends, just trying our best or keeping a list of commandments and rules made by men or cherry picked from the Bible doesn't have any merit with God. Thankfully, God paid for our sins himself as revealed in **John 1:29** "The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world."

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Notes...

Continued from page 4

Murphy's Chapel Freewill Baptist Church located on County Road 8 in Waterloo will have Revival July 17-20. Sunday 6pm, Monday -Wednesday night 7pm. Guest evangelist is Marcus Morrow. Everyone Welcome.

James D. Vaughn Quartet Festival - July 27-30 at Crockett Theater, Lawrenceburg, TN. To order tickets: 1-800-547-6500 or www.lawrenceburgtn.gov.

Wednesday, July 27, 7pm - Legacy Five, The Hoppers, and Mark Trammel Quartet.

Thursday, July 28, 1pm matinee - Soul'd Out Quartet. 7pm - Inspirations, Primitive Quartet, McKameys

Friday, July 29, 1pm matinee - Southmen Quartet, plus induction to the Lawrenceburg Walk-A-Fame. 7pm - Gold City, Kingsmen, Perry, and The Guardians with Bass Vocalist Pat Barker.

Saturday, July 30, 1pm matinee - Freedom Quartet and The Caltons. 7pm - Triumphant Quartet, Brian Free & Assurance, Lefevre Quartet, and The Blackwood Brothers Quartet.

The Kellys will appear each evening. Sponsored by Main Street, Lawrenceburg.

Spring Valley Firefighters Rodeo July 29-30 at North Alabama Fairgrounds, Muscle Shoals. Johnny Holland in concert on Friday, July 29.

Bareback, Bull Riding, Roping and More! Ages 5 and under Free. Group rates available for 10 or more.

For more info, contact Rhonda at 256-483-2964. [Facebook.com/FireDeptRodeo](https://www.facebook.com/FireDeptRodeo).

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JULY 13 - Mike Benson (Oxford Church of Christ; Oxford, AL)

1. Which church is the right one?
2. Why aren't you more obvious? Why don't you just show yourself so unbelievers will become believers? Why is it a good thing to believe in you without proof?
3. Members of the three (3) monotheistic religions say you exist. The evidence is to the contrary. Those members also say that you are a loving God. The evidence is that you torture babies and children with disease and starvation. Those members also say you are paternal, but that you are also a vengeful God. I know many parents who aren't vengeful and don't torture their children when they make mistakes. Why are you like this? And please don't respond with a copout answer like "it's a mystery." That's no answer at all.

JULY 20 - Benjamin Giselbach (Lightwood Church of Christ; Millbrook, AL)

1. Why did you create me?
2. Why should I believe Jesus is your Son?
3. You've asked Abraham whether there is anything you cannot do and, when he didn't know anything to reply, you implied that you're omnipotent. That being said. Can you build a wall high enough that you can't climb it?

Note: Location designation next to the speaker's name indicates the congregation where he ministers. There will be a separate Bible Class activity for younger children each evening.

Please see this ad in the Courier Journal each week for new Speaker and Question Topic info.

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Junior Whirl Answers

by Charles Barry Townsend Illustrated by David Coulson

1 B L I M P

2 P I M P L E

3 W H I M P E R

4 I M P E D E

5 S K I M P

6 C H I M P

7 I M P E R I A L

8 S C R I M P

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<p>CAROLINA PRIDE SMOKED SAUSAGE</p>  <p>\$1.99 14 OZ. PKG.</p>	<p>OSCAR MAYER DELI FRESH LUNCH MEATS</p>  <p>\$2.99 9 OZ. PKG.</p>	<p>FROZEN BALL PARK FLAME GRILLED BEEF PATTIES</p>  <p>\$5.99 6 CT. PKG.</p>	<p>SUNNYLAND HOTEL BRAND BACON</p>  <p>2/\$5 12 OZ. PKG.</p>

DAIRY SPECIALS		FROZEN FOODS	
<p>COUNTRY DELITE FARMS ORANGE JUICE</p>  <p>\$3.49 GALLON JUG</p>	<p>ALL VARIETIES SHUR FINE SHREDDED CHEESE</p>  <p>2/\$3 8 OZ. BAG</p>	<p>PURITY PREMIUM ICE CREAM</p>  <p>\$2.99 48 OZ. TUB</p>	<p>TAIPEI FROZEN ENTRÉES</p>  <p>2/\$4 12-14 OZ. PKG.</p>
<p>PURITY SOUR CREAM</p>  <p>\$1.49 16 OZ. CARTON</p>	<p>SHUR FINE TEXAS STYLE BISCUITS</p>  <p>79¢ 10 CT. CAN</p>	<p>TOTINO'S PIZZA ROLLS</p>  <p>\$4.99 44.5 OZ. PKG.</p>	<p>SHUR FINE FRENCH FRIES</p>  <p>3/\$5 28-32 OZ. PKG.</p>

<p>NABISCO OREO COOKIES</p>  <p>\$2.99 10.1-15.35 OZ. PKG.</p>	<p>SHUR FINE PEANUT BUTTER</p>  <p>99¢ 16 OZ. JAR</p>	<p>SUNSHINE CHEEZ-IT SNACK CRACKERS</p>  <p>2/\$6 9.75-12.4 OZ. BOX</p>	<p>MARTHA WHITE FLOUR</p>  <p>\$2.39 5 LB. BAG</p>
<p>SHUR FINE SALAD DRESSINGS</p>  <p>2/\$3 16 OZ. BOTTLE</p>	<p>BETTY CROCKER BROWNIE MIXES</p>  <p>99¢ 18.3-20.5 OZ. PKG.</p>	<p>STARKIST CHUNK LIGHT TUNA</p>  <p>79¢ 5 OZ. CAN</p>	<p>MARTHA WHITE CORN MEAL MIX</p>  <p>\$1.99 5 LB. BAG</p>

<p>POST COCOA OR FRUITY PEBBLES</p>  <p>2/\$5 11 OZ. BOX</p>	PRODUCE SPECIALS		<p>ALL VARIETIES DUNKIN' DONUTS COFFEE</p>  <p>\$4.99 11-12 OZ. BAG</p>
<p>HUNT'S KETCHUP</p>  <p>89¢ 24 OZ. BOTTLE</p>	<p>FRESH ALABAMA PEACHES</p>  <p>99¢ LB.</p>	<p>RUSSET POTATOES</p>  <p>\$1.29 5 LB. BAG</p>	<p>PRE-PRICED \$3.29 LAY'S POTATO CHIPS</p>  <p>2/\$5 7.75-8 OZ. BAG</p>
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