

*2016 CVC Readership Survey / Audit

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

Volume 134 Number 12

January 17, 2018

POSTAL PATRON

Miller Earns State Honor

SHEFFIELD – Edith Miller recently received the 2017 Leadership Award from the Alabama Association of Medical Staff Services (AAMSS). Miller is the Medical Staff Coordinator at Helen Keller Hospital and serves as the 2018-19 Treasurer and current Bylaws Chair for AAMSS. Miller was nominated by fellow AAMSS members as the embodiment of the following criteria:

- Contributions to the association
- Support of the association's mission, values, and goals
- State leadership experience
- Achievement at state and national levels
- Professional expertise
- Personal character and skills

AAMSS was founded in 1982 by a small group of Birmingham medical staff managers to develop networking and educational opportunities. AAMSS is the state chapter of the National Association of Medical Staff Services and is an affiliate of the Alabama Hospital Association.

Tracker Show Hosts Evers

FLORENCE—Tracker Boating Center will host its annual in-house boat show January 18-20 from 8am-5pm each day.

Be sure to register to win a \$100 Bass Pro gift card and a Tracker Boats Topper 1036 skiff. In addition, be sure to come and meet 2016 Bassmaster Classic® Champion, Edwin Evers. He will be at Tracker Boating Center on Saturday, January 20 from 10am-1pm. There will be free food and drinks Saturday while supplies last along with plenty of free parking and free giveaways. It is the perfect opportunity to check out the new 2018 Tracker models and take advantage of special boat show incentives on all three days.

Tracker is located at 4120 Florence Blvd. in Florence. Call 256-757-5000 for details.

See SHORTS... on Page 6

Automotive Inside NOW
Ray Miller Buick GMC
EZ-Ride Auto Sales
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Verification of weekly circulation upon request



CIRCULATION PRINTED WITH SOY INK

Northwest Alabama and beyond

Doo Wop & Do More

Second Annual Event Benefits One Place of the Shoals

SHOALS—The Cadillacs will present the 2nd Annual Grand Ole Opry Impersonation Show for One Place of the Shoals this Saturday. This family-friendly tribute to the Grand Ole Opry and Doo Wop greats will take place at 7pm on January 20 at the Florence-Lauderdale Coliseum.

Musical performances by special guests will include George Jones, Tammy Wynette, Johnny Cash, Patsy Cline, LeRoy VanDyke, Martina McBride, The Righteous Brothers, The Judds, Hank Williams, Sr., Emmylou Harris, Ernest Tubb, Oak Ridge Boys, J.D. Sumner (The World's Lowest Bass Singer) and more!

One Place of the Shoals, Inc. provides crisis care services to victims of domestic violence, adult rape

See DOO WOP... on Page 6

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Blackburn

Newest Burrell Slater Class Set for Induction February 2

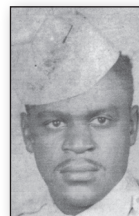
FLORENCE—The annual Burrell-Slater High School Athletic Hall of Fame dinner takes place Friday, February 2 at 6:30pm at the old Burrell-Slater Gym located at 610 College Street in Florence. Tickets are \$20 and are available by contacting Dave Smith at 256-719-9057 or John Humes at 256-764-1144.

The 2018 inductees are:

Charles Blackburn: Charles was an outstanding offensive and defensive lineman for the 1956 football team. He also went on to a stellar business career.

Charles graduated from Alabama A&M University with honors. He joined the United States Army, rising to the rank

See BURRELL... on Page 3



Simpson



Suggs

Sweetheart Sentiments

You can start placing your Sweetheart Sentiments now for inclusion in our February 14 Valentine's issue!

Tell your cherished ones just how much you love them in your own words. The price is only \$7 for 4 lines and that includes a bold red heart.

Look inside for all the details!



Inside this Issue

- Medicare Minute
- Soap Operas
- Mike Randall
- Dave Ramsey
- Your Letters
- Adopt-a-Friend



- The Space Between
- Ask the Attorney
- Savvy Senior
- Knight's Korner



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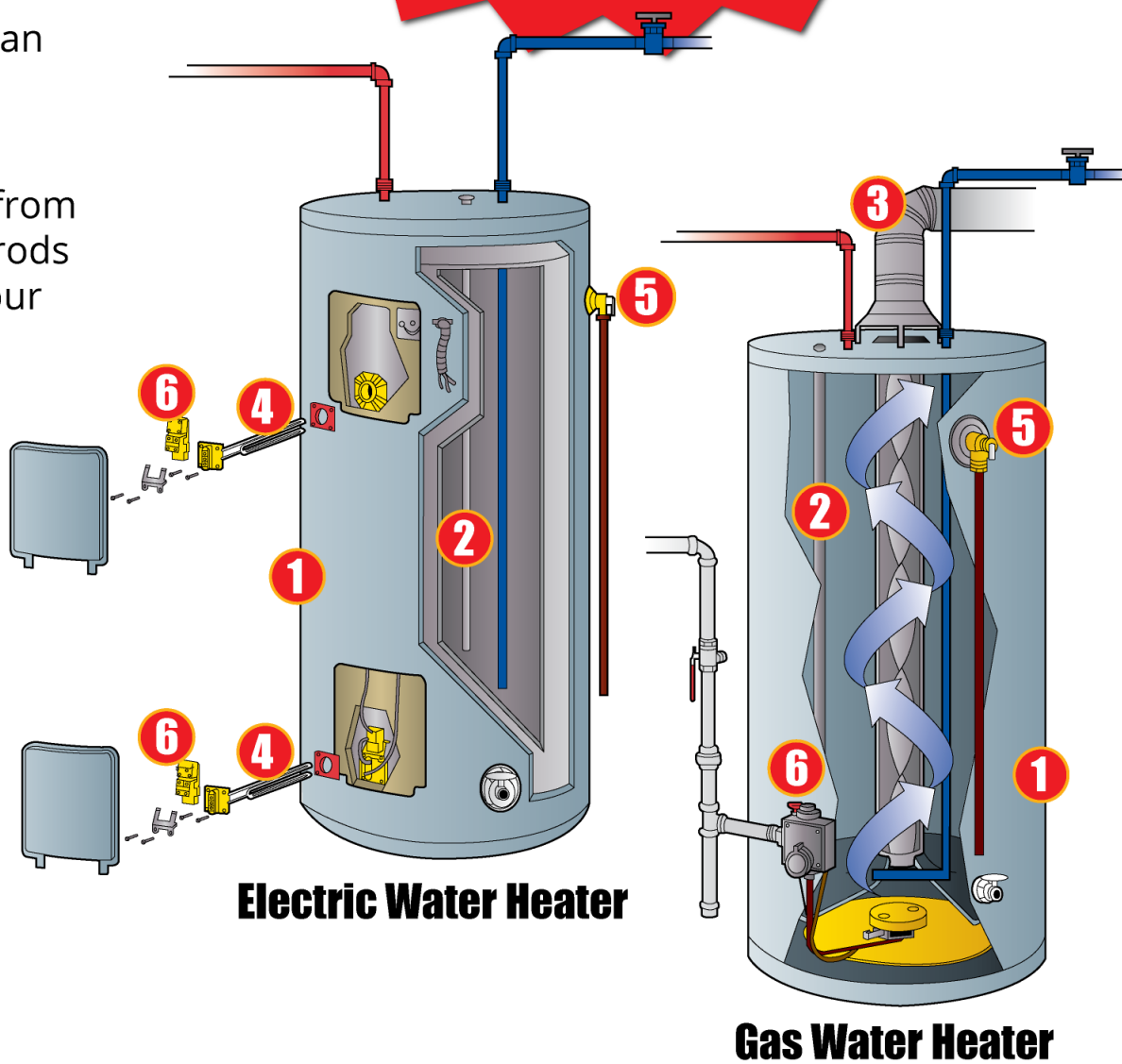
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REDLINE Your Ad! - See Page 6

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Burrell...

Continued from Page 1

of Specialist E5 before he was honorably discharged after serving three years.

He settled in the Washington D.C. area and found employment in the corporate world, eventually establishing an international automation equipment-manufacturing corporation. Several patents were granted for Hugh Speed Packaging Systems and Optical Detection Systems.

Charles established a Real Estate Development Company that built a Manufacturing Plant in Maryland and a Spice Processing Plant in Ghana, Africa.

He obtained a Charter from the National Credit Union Administration, NCUA to open a Federally insured multi-million-dollar Community Credit Union that was subsequently merged with a larger Credit Union.

Shirley White Moulton was high scorer and star player for the 1949-51 women's basketball team at Burrell Slater. Elizabeth Shirley White was born to Augusta and Jimmy White in Tuscaloosa in 1933. She moved to the west side of Florence, Alabama where the family was active in community activities.

Shirley was very popular at Burrell High School where she excelled in sports. Her pleasant personality, radiant smile, beautiful eyes, athletic body, and fashionable dress turned many heads.

She gained even more attention by her great athletic ability to shoot the ball.

In the late 1940's and the early 1950's the rules were different as only one girl from each team was allowed to move all over the court. Therefore, the constant directive for the Burrell Crimson Tigers was to get the ball to Shirley. She made phenomenal shots!

After graduation Shirley moved to New York City with her brother, but she eventually made her way back to Alabama. She was employed by the State of Alabama, Automatic Electric, and Chrysler Corporation.

She passed away on May 3, 2017. She will be remembered as the best female basketball shooter



The 1951-52 Girls basketball team at Burrell Slater that won the AHSAA Championship. Courtesy photo

in the history of the school.

Curtis Simpson was an all-conference running back who played from 1945-48. Simpson was athlete extraordinaire, a gentleman, and admired citizen. Curtis excelled in sports at Burrell High School during the late 1940's when he distinguished himself as an outstanding running back in football and center in basketball. He was coached by W.H. Lewis who urged him to accept a college scholarship.

Curtis is quoted in 1994 by the *TimesDaily* as saying, "Mr. Lewis was a good coach and he demanded your attention. We had a great football team and only lost one game in two years." The reputation of the Burrell Tiger football team was such that the Parker High team of Birmingham backed out of a scheduled game to keep from being defeated.

He was an active combat veteran in Korea after which he served in the Army Reserve. Curtis married Vera Cooper and they parented three children.

Curtis was employed by Rogers Department store and retired from the United States Post Office. He passed away in January of 1997.

Albert "Dusty" Suggs was a legendary halfback and one of the famous Suggs brothers who played in the 1940's. The Suggs brothers were STAR football players. They were Fred, Dock Jr., Lewis and Dusty. Another brother, Joe, played for Sterling High School in Sheffield. These brothers were so well known in northwest Alabama that few people

knew their given names. They were always called by their nicknames or referred to as "dem bad a-- Suggs boys."

Over two seasons Dusty's team at Burrell out-scored opponents 360-55 including 155-0 in 1945.

Dusty moved to Indiana where he attempted to play for the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Indiana. However, racism was as prevalent in the north as it was in the south. He certainly had skills and talent to play college and even professional football, but the 1940's were not the right time for black players to integrate the game.

After living in Indiana with his first wife and where his sons were born, he moved back to Florence. Dusty passed away in September of 1968.

The 1951 - 1952 Championship Women's Basketball Team

Members: Jo Willie Beckwith Foreman, Dora Lee Crittendon Goodloe, Vera Cooper Simpson, Lena Hawkins Foxie, Juanita Ingram, Myra Brown Howell, Nina Hart Stovall, Evelyn Larkins Ingram, Virginia Cunningham Hill, and Jacquie Thompson Vaughn.

In addition, to these people being recognized, a special tribute will be paid to all coaches who have led these teams to victory. You will not want to miss this extraordinary presentation focusing on the seven esteemed coaches of Burrell-Slater High School.

All are invited to attend this outstanding dinner of recognition.

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Community Notes

Poverty Simulation - A Day in Their Shoes Thursday, January 18, 8:30-11:30am at The Richards Center, 541 Riverview Dr., Florence. RSVP: eventbrite.com or call 256-764-5892.

Please join us! Room in the Inn Shoals and United Way of Northwest Alabama have teamed up along with Alabama Possible to offer an interactive experience that aims to provide a more realistic understanding of the challenges faced by individuals in our own community who are living at or below the poverty level.

This even is of no cost to participants and volunteers. Please visit www.eventbrite.com or call 256-764-5892 to register or to learn more.

Monthly Covered Dish Lunch January 18, 11:30am at the Zip City Community Center, 10511 Hwy 17, Florence. Please bring a covered dish. Everyone is welcome.

2018 Paws & Pumpers Calendar - A joint effort between the Florence-Lauderdale Animal Shelter, the Florence Professional Firefighters IAFF Local 270, and the Florence Fire Department. \$15 available at Station 1 on Dr. Hicks Blvd. Get Yours Today!

LifeSouth Community Blood Drives for January - Keller Center - Monday thru Friday 9am - 5pm, 1208 South Jackson Highway, Sheffield - 256-383-3535

ECM Center - Monday thru Friday 9am - 5pm, 205 Marengo St., Florence, 256-765-7038

Wednesday, January 17, 11:30am - 4:30pm, Tusculumbia Post Office, 599 Highway 72 W, Tusculumbia

Thursday, January 18, 7am - 5pm, Helen Keller Hospital, 1300 S Montgomery Ave, Sheffield

Friday, January 19, 11am - 5pm, Bert Bretherick State Farm, 204 Cox Creek Parkway, Florence

Saturday, January 20, 10am - 5pm, The Shoals Flea Market, 65 Sportsplex Drive, Muscle Shoals

Sunday, January 21, 11am - 3pm, First Southern Baptist Church of Muscle Shoals, 3806 W Wilson Dam Road, Muscle Shoals

Monday, January 22, Noon - 6pm, Florence Nursing and Rehab, 2107 Cloyd Blvd, Florence

Tuesday, January 23, Noon - 6pm, Bargain Hunt, 149 Cox Creek Parkway, Florence

Wednesday, January 24, 11am - 5pm, One Main Financial, 525 West Avalon Avenue, Muscle Shoals

Florence Kiwanis Club Meets at noon on Fridays at Marriott Shoals Conference Center. Speakers-January 2018

January 19 - Timothy D. Butler, PhD Director, Steele Center for Professional Selling & Assistant Professor of Marketing Department, UNA

January 26 - Angie Hamilton, Assistant District Attorney, Lauderdale County, Talking about Criminals

The Tennessee Valley Strummers will return to the Florence/Lauderdale Visitor Center in McFarland Park to play folk dulcimer music in the Gallery on Friday, January 19, from 2-4pm. The Tennessee Valley Strummers will be performing at the Visitor Center the 3rd Friday of every month.

Others that play the dulcimer or other folk instrument are always welcome to join the group. "The Visitor Center has become a venue and gathering place for free cultural events and entertainment," Alison Stanfield, Director of Operations said. "Our visitors thoroughly enjoy the entertaining folk music we are delighted the strummers are performing here on a monthly basis.

Visitors are encouraged to join the Strummers in playing. Under organizer, Jack Brewer, the Tennessee Valley Strummers also play at the Wayne County Welcome Center in Collinwood, Tennessee; Tupelo, Mississippi and local nursing homes. The strummers enjoy playing for locals and interacting with their listeners. "We usually have more people in Florence from the local areas," Brewer said. "It's always good to have a big and lively audience and that is why we enjoy playing in Florence."

Visitors are encouraged to come out and listen to the music and tour the Center. Admission is free.

For more information, call the Florence/Lauderdale Tourism Office at 256-740-4141.

Keller Hospice LHC of Tusculumbia is currently seeking volunteers and also donations for our Hospice Promise foundation. Contact: Barbie Johnson, 256-314-1204 or email Barbara.Johnson3@LHCgroup.com

See NOTES... page 30

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<p>BONELESS, SKINLESS Fryer Breast 1.99 LB.</p> <p>BONELESS CENTER CUT Pork Chops 2.59 LB.</p>	<p>ROMA SALAD SLICING Tomatoes 1.29 LB.</p> <p>SUPER SELECT Cucumbers EACH 2/\$1</p> <p>PIGGLY WIGGLY Ketchup 2/\$3 34 OZ. SQ. BTL.</p> <p>PIGGLY WIGGLY Chili With Beans 1.39 15 OZ. CAN</p> <p>PIGGLY WIGGLY Deluxe Mac & Cheese or Shells w/Cheddar 1.59 12-14 OZ. BOX</p> <p>PIGGLY WIGGLY Shredded Cheese 2/\$4 8 OZ. BAG</p>

Boneless Beef Minute Steak lb. 3.99	John Morrell Hot Dogs 12 oz. pkg. 99¢	Eckrich Sliced Bologna 14 oz. pkg. 1.19
Gwaltney Sliced Bacon 12 oz. pkg. 3.49	Seabest Frozen Tilapia Fillet 16 oz. bag 3.99	Bryan Smoked Sausage All Varieties 14 oz. pkg. 2.39
Bryan Sliced Ham or Turkey 10 oz. pkg. 2.59	Kraft Cheese Singles 16 oz. pkg. 3.29	

PIGGLY WIGGLY Sugar 4 LB. BAG 1.69	Pepsi and All Pepsi Products 3/\$11 12 PK. 12 OZ. CANS 4/\$9 6 PACK, 1/2 LITER BTLs.	BUSH'S BEST BEANS Great Northern Pinto, Mixed or Black 16 OZ. CAN 79¢
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MAXWELL HOUSE Original Coffee 12 OZ. BAG 1.79	PIGGLY WIGGLY Bread or Buns PKG. OR LOAF 99¢	PIGGLY WIGGLY Bath Tissue 12 ROLL PK. 4.69
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Savvy SENIOR

Financial Tips for Retiring Abroad

Dear Savvy Senior,
What are some financial factors to consider when retiring abroad? My husband and I will be retiring in a few years and are interested in living in a foreign country that's cheaper than the U.S.

Frugal Couple

Dear Frugal,
Retiring abroad has become a growing trend for millions of U.S. retirees who are looking to stretch their retirement savings. Here are some tips and resources to consider that can help you prepare.

Researching Tools

For starters, you can find lots of information and articles on the countries and cities you're interested in retiring to at websites like InternationalLiving.com and EscapeArtist.com.

Another good tip is to talk or network with some expatriates who have already made the move you're thinking about making. They can give you tips and suggestions on many issues, as well as the advantages

and disadvantages and day-to-day reality of living in a particular country. Some popular sites for finding expat resources are ExpatExchange.com and ExpatForum.com.

But before committing to location, most experts recommend that you visit multiple times during different seasons to see whether you can envision yourself living there and not just exploring the place as a tourist. Also, consider these financial factors:

Cost of living: Retiring abroad used to be seen as a surefire way to live beyond your means, and for some countries it still is. But the U.S. dollar isn't what it used to be, so your money may not stretch as far as you think. See Numbeo.com for a country-by-country cost of living comparison.

Taxes: No matter what foreign country you decide to retire in, as long as you're a U.S. citizen you must file an annual tax return reporting all income above certain minimums, not matter where it's earned. For details see the IRS publication 54, "Tax Guide for U.S. Citizens and Resident Aliens Abroad" at IRS.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p54.pdf.

Health care: Most U.S. health insurance companies do not provide coverage outside the U.S., nor does Medicare. Check with the embassy (see USEmbassy.state.gov) of your destination country to see how you can be covered as a foreign resident. Many countries provide government-sponsored health care that's inexpensive, accessible and just as good as what you get in the states, or you may want to buy a policy through Medibroker (Medibroker.com) or Bupa Global (BupaGlobal.com).

Also know that most people who retire abroad eventually return to the U.S., so you should consider paying your Medicare Part B premiums. If you drop and resume Part B, or delay initial enrollment, you'll pay a 10 percent premium penalty for every 12-month period in which you could have been enrolled.

Banking: Opening or maintaining a bank account abroad has become more difficult because of the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act, a U.S. law designed to prevent Americans from hiding assets abroad. So, you may have to establish a savings and checking account with an institution that has international reach like Citibank. And/or consider maintaining your U.S. bank account that you can access online, and get U.S. credit and debit cards that don't charge foreign transaction fees.

Rent versus buy: Buying a home in a foreign country can be complicated, so it's usually cheaper and simpler to rent, unless you know you're going to live there for a long time.

Social Security: You can receive your monthly Social Security benefits almost anywhere you live around the world (see SSA.gov/international/payments.html). Your benefits can be deposited into your bank account either in the U.S. or in your new home country, but there are some exceptions.

The U.S. State Department offers a handy checklist that can help you think through all the issues on retiring abroad. To access it visit Travel.state.gov and search for "retirement abroad."



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

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NOTICE OF SALE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned intends to sell the personal property described below to enforce a lien imposed on said property under The Self Service Storage Act. The undersigned will sell at public sale by competitive bidding on **Thursday the 18th day of January, 2018 at 10:00 AM on Lockerfox.com**. Said property is **iStorage Florence, 4121 Florence Blvd., Florence, AL, 35634 Lauderdale County**. Paden, Leah, 309 Rivermont Rd, Florence, AL, 35634; 617 Misc items for refurbishing. Purchases must be paid for at the time of purchase by cash only. All purchased items are sold as is, where is, and must be removed within 48 hours of the sale. Sale is subject to cancellation in the event of settlement between owner and obligated party. Dated this 1st Day of January, 2018 and 8th Day of January, 2018.

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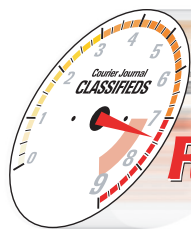
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Doo Wop for One Place

Continued from Page 1

and sexual assault, child sexual and physical abuse, and elder abuse. It is only the second facility of its kind in the state. This ground-breaking collaborative family justice center provides a safe and comforting atmosphere with state-of-the-art facilities for victims and their children facing this most difficult part of their lives.

Dennis Odem, producer and director, said, "This show is even bigger and better than last year's presentation. We require all entertainers to strive to be as good or better than the original artist. And this show's line-up of entertainers is sure to be a real crowd-pleaser."

The entire cast is all volunteers.

All proceeds go to One Place of the Shoals. (For victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and child or

elder abuse.) Odem added, "You'll get your money's worth the first fifteen minutes and the rest of the show is absolutely free."

Advance tickets are on sale at the following outlets -- TVA Community Credit Union, Counts Brothers Music, Odem & Odem Attorneys at Law, Laura's Studio of Performing Arts, One Place of the Shoals, and online at www.OnePlaceOfTheShoals.org. Adults tickets are \$10, Youth ages 10-1 are \$7, Children under 10 are FREE. Tickets on the day of the show will be \$15 for adults and \$10 for youth.

All event proceeds benefit One Place of the Shoals.



Shorts...

Continued from Page 1

Carter Added to HoF Show

FLORENCE—Clarence Carter has been added to the list of performers for the 2018 Alabama Music Hall of Fame Induction Banquet and Awards Show. Carter will be attending the show and singing "Patches" as a tribute to legendary producer Rick Hall who passed away recently.

The Induction Banquet is scheduled for Saturday, February 3 at the Marriott-Shoals Conference Center. Ticket sales have been brisk, but there are still a few tables left. Tables of

ten in preferred seating are \$5,000 and \$2,500. A few individual seats are available in the back of the room for \$150 each.

Other performers will include Rolling Stones keyboardist Chuck Leavell, Jamey Johnson, Mac McAnally, Walt Aldridge, Guy Davis, and a few surprises. The stage band will be the Muscle Shoals All-Stars which is comprised of legendary musicians who have played on hundreds of hit records.

AMHOF 2018 Inductees include Mac McAnally, Walt Aldridge, Odetta Holmes, and Eddie Hinton.

To purchase tickets or for more information, call 256-381-4417

Courier Journal

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In most cases, if you are already drawing your Social Security or Railroad Retirement Board benefits you should automatically be signed up for Part A and Part B. If you are not drawing your Social Security or RRB benefits and want to sign up for Medicare you can do so by signing up online at ssa.gov, visit your local Social Security office or give our office a call and we can help direct you.

If you have questions regarding any aspect of Medicare or Medicare health plans feel free call us at Alabama Health Guidance (256-648-5710), stop by our office at 885 Florence Blvd (Four Lane Shopping Center) or email me at ikey@alabamahealthguidance.com. Alabama Health

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ON YOUR DEBT

Financial Resolutions for the New Year



B. Grant McNutt
Managing Attorney

Taking control of your finances is extremely liberating. This is the time of the year when people set financial goals for the year. Here are some of the more popular financial resolutions and some tips for meeting your goal.

Common Financial Resolutions (And How to Achieve Them)

1. Save More Money

If your goal is to save more money this year, I would certainly recommend so. Make saving automatic. Go ahead and set part of your paycheck to be deposited straight into a savings account. It is also helpful to set a manageable goal. Depending on your situation, it might not be reasonable for you to save \$5000 in a year. But, if you save just \$20 a week, you'd have over a thousand dollars saved at the end of the year.

2. Beat Down Debt

First, make a list of all your debt, including the balances and interest rates. After that, decide how you want to tackle the debt. The two most common methods are the Debt Avalanche Method and the Debt Snowball Method. In the Debt Snowball Method, you pay off the debt with the lowest balance first. Once paid, you throw all of the money you were paying toward the lowest balance debt to the next lowest balance debt and so on as you work your way up to the larger debts. The Debt Avalanche Method is where you pay off the debt that has the highest interest rate first regardless of the balance so your money goes further toward future balances as interest is a powerful force. When using either of these methods, check with each company or lender to make sure these payments will be applied to the principal.

3. Spend Less

I am a big fan of budgeting. Many people are unaware of how they spend their money each month. This is due to lack of budgeting. First, figure out exactly how much money you bring in every month. Then, figure out exactly how much you spend. You will probably need to track your spending closely for several months. I recommend an online budgeting tool such as mint.com for assistance. After you figure out on what you are spending your money, you will probably be able to easily see how you can cut back.

When it comes to spending less, some have had good success with the envelope system. In the envelope system, you withdraw cash for however much you want to spend in an area. For example, put cash in an envelope labeled "Groceries or Food". When you go grocery shopping, you only spend cash out of that envelope. When you run out of money in the envelope, you're done with spending on groceries for the month. This can provide a good visual as to how to divide an amount of money throughout the month.

If you can't find your way out of debt to begin your financial goals, please contact us to schedule an appointment for a free initial consultation. In many situations, you can recover your credit rating faster and less stressfully by pursuing a bankruptcy option under either Chapter 7 or Chapter 13. If you would like to discuss your options for dealing with your debts, please contact us as filing for bankruptcy might be the kick start you need to get on your way to make your financial resolutions a reality. We can help you!!

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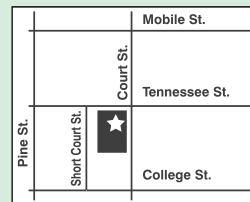


B. Grant McNutt
Attorney at Law



Nicholas H. Gajewski
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VOLKSWAGEN: PASSAT SE. 2012. \$10,986. 88k. Leather. Financing available. Call JD 256-577-1056 or 256-764-3351.

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76 hrs and 642 miles. Premi-
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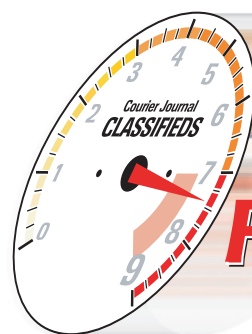
NISSAN: ALTIMA 2.5SV, 2015. \$11,998. 83k. Cloth, automatic. Financing available. Call JD 256-577-1056 or 256-764-3351.

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GMC: SIERRA 1500, 2006 \$21,000. V8 engine, 4x4, black with chrome accessories, running boards, On Star system, tinted windows, leather interior and bed cover, 65K miles, excellent condition. Must see to appreciate! Call Tony 256-577-2586 Cherokee

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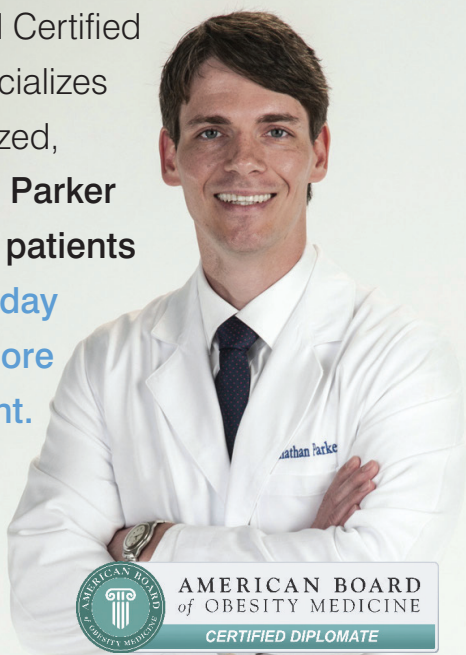
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Commentary

DACA is More About Votes than Humanity

Illegals were once again a major topic of discussion last week as U.S. District Judge William Alsup temporarily blocked the Trump administration's decision to phase out the DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) program.

The court said lawyers in favor of DACA clearly demonstrated that young immigrants were likely to suffer serious, irreparable harm without court action. DACA came into being in 2012 as one of President Obama's executive orders. DACA granted minors protection from deportation, a pathway to amnesty and work-permit benefits. It was blatantly unconstitutional and illegal on several fronts.

Obama's DACA directive stated that immigration laws could not be used against a group of 1.7 million illegal aliens who consciously and unlawfully chose to violate our sovereign borders. That is not consistent with a President's duty to faithfully enforce the peoples' properly-enacted laws. The changing of such law is supposed to go through congress first. The President is not allowed to create such laws under the guise of executive discretion. In fact, the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) requires that such an action be presented to the public for notice and comment as well.

Not only did Obama choose to circumvent

See DACA... on Page 19

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

in the Shoals

January 17, 2018

Happening THIS WEEK

Tourism Hosting LeBlanc

FLORENCE—Florence-Lauderdale Tourism and the Muscle Shoals National Heritage Area will host Lenny LeBlanc on Saturday, January 20 in the Florence-Lauderdale Tourism Visitor Center Gallery at 1pm.

Jan. 20

Andreas Werner with Crazy Chester Music will conduct the Q&A session at the event.



LeBlanc

LeBlanc was born in Massachusetts, grew up Daytona Beach, Florida where he learned to play the bass guitar and joined his first band during high school. He briefly moved to Cincinnati after graduation where he lived until 1973. LeBlanc's friend and famed guitarist, Pete Carr, encouraged him to relocate

See LEBLANC... on Page 29

TVMA Exhibition Through March 9

Benson Has Space Between

TUSCUMBIA—Aaron Tennessee Benson opens the Tennessee Valley Museum of Art's 2018 calendar on January 21 with an exhibition, "Veiled: A Space Between." It will run through March 9 at the museum at 511 N. Water St., Tuscumbia.

Benson's exhibition focuses on the ideas of time and eternity, questions that Benson as a Christian grapples with. The works illustrate the difficulty people have believing what they cannot see and challenges viewers to think beyond the obvious.

"My work stems a lot from understanding the eternal," he said. "Being a Christian I wrestle with understanding eternity and staking my entire life on this belief based on my faith. I don't have all the answers and don't believe I'll ever have all the answers. I create work that deals with the struggles I have with my faith."

See SPACE... on Page 23

Sheath Courtesy photos

WESLEY CHAPEL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH is celebrating its 200th Anniversary! A January event of interest is "Our History Retold" and luncheon honoring Mrs. Lena Morgan, our oldest member. It takes place January 21. The worship is at 10:30am with luncheon immediately following.

TENNESSEE VALLEY COMMUNITY CHURCH at 119 North Pine Street in Florence will be giving out boxes of food on Saturday, January 20 from 8am until all the food is gone. Food boxes are limited to one family per household. Please bring picture ID and recent utility bill.

HERITAGE PRESERVATION, INC. (HPI), a community-based organization dedicated to the preservation of local historic structures, sites and documents, will hold its annual meeting for the community at 2pm Sunday, January 21 in the beautifully-restored building known as Singin' River Live at 526 East College Street next door to Singin' River Brewery. Libby Jordan, Director of Arts and Museums for the city of Florence, will present an update on the museums owned and operated by the city. Billy Warren will discuss the upcoming events of Florence's exciting Bicentennial Celebration which will occur from March 12-November 30. Another highlight of the meeting will be the annual Capital Award presentation in honor of significant historic preservation projects which were completed in 2017. Admission is free and refreshments will be served.

Tickets: call the Ticket Office 256-765-5466 or Benjamin Ray UNA Athletics Director of Ticketing & Marketing 256-765-5467 • Baray@una.edu

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YOUR Letters

Voter ID Law is Ideal

Editor:

In a case challenging the constitutionality of Alabama's voter ID law, U.S. District Judge L. Scott Coogler of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama last week ordered the lawsuit filed by Greater Birmingham Ministries, Alabama NAACP, and individual plaintiffs against the State of Alabama be dismissed.

Today's decision to dismiss the lawsuit is without a doubt the right decision. Alabama's voter identification law is one of the broadest in the nation with procedures in place to allow anyone who does not have a photo ID to obtain one. The court order makes this point exceedingly clear:

"...a person who does not have a photo ID today is not prevented from voting if he or she can easily get one, and it is so easy to get a photo ID in Alabama, no one is prevented from voting."

I am proud of the hard work of my constitutional defense attorneys who spent the last fifteen months traveling this state interviewing dozens of witnesses including local election officials and private citizens who have fought voter fraud. Each of these individuals who volunteered their time to assist the State in gathering the facts deserves special recognition and our gratitude.

For anyone who would like a free

Subsequently, Oregon's Labor Commissioner Brad Avakian, whom CNN called a champion of the LGBTQ community, slapped the Kleins with a fine of \$135,000.

voter photo ID in Alabama, please visit the Alabama Secretary of State's web site: <http://sos.alabama.gov/alabama-votes> and click on the Photo Voter ID link

Steve Marshall
Attorney General of Alabama
Montgomery

Press Facts Troubling

Editor:

In her column, "Taking the measure of Trump," *Tribune News Service* columnist, Ann McFeatters, alleges that Donald Trump is the most dangerous president in US history.

Her rant includes charges that he fired FBI director Comey without cause. Comey deserves more than being fired. He should be charged with covering for Hillary Clinton's crimes and personally

See LETTERS... on Page 14

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LINCOLN: MKS AWD, 2009 \$11,988. 108K. Leather, navigation. Financing available. Call Eric 256-577-8449 or 256-764-3351.

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Celestial Thoughts

Have you ever taken a bus ride for any occasion? Most of us probably have and typically it starts in childhood on a big yellow school bus as it has for my youngest. She is now a teenager, so the school bus isn't the most enjoyable part of her day

That said, she has one of the most thoughtful bus drivers. He has learned all the names of the students so he can address them personally. When my daughter gets on the bus in the morning, the driver tries to have something positive to say or a compliment to give. She says about him, "He's so sweet." Aside from being "so sweet", and more importantly, he gets the children back and forth from school safely every day.

Thank you to my child's bus driver and all those bus drivers out there who carefully navigate the roads with all those precious souls on board!

Dawn

"See that you don't look down on these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels are always in the presence of my heavenly Father." Matthew 18:10

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NOTICE OF ABANDONED AND UNCLAIMED MOTOR VEHICLES

Pursuant to the Alabama Abandoned Motor Vehicles Act: Section 32-13-4 Code of Alabama 1975 as amended. Notice is hereby given that on **Saturday, the 17th day of February, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.**, the following motor vehicles will be sold at public auction for cash. The auction will be held at **Horne Wrecker Service, Inc., 1634 State Street, Florence, Alabama.** Horne Wrecker Service Inc. will accept proof of ownership should anyone care to submit same, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. until the day of the sale. **Vehicles may be viewed starting Monday, February 12, 2018 between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.**

YR/MAKE / MODEL	VIN#	TAG#	COLOR	TOWED FROM LOC
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01 BUICK LESABRE	1G4HP54K51U242618	41AN907	MAROON	N CEDAR ST
88 CHEVY S10	1GCDT19R1J8202543	44D9358	GRAY	COUNTY RD 539
98 CHEVY S10	1GCCS19X8W8154107	9441AT3	MAROON	HWY 157
01 CHEVY C3500	1GCGJ39G71E294420		GREEN	WOOD & DUNCAN
97 CHRYSLER SEBRING	3C3EL55HXVT551320	0827AM0	BLACK	SUNOCO H'VILLE RD
00 CHRYSLER VAN	1C4GP54R4YB728470	584APD	GREEN	HEATHROW APTS
05 CHRYSLER SEBRING	1C3EL56R65N522324	41FH263	BLACK	HWY 20 / BEVERLY
92 DODGE DAKOTA	1B7GL26X2NS540385	41DH443	WHITE S	ORLEANS ST
95 DODGE INTREPID	2B3HD46T0SH674147		PURPLE	W MALL DR
01 DODGE STRATUS	4B3AG52H91E008859	952QAN	SILVER	POLYNESIAN VILLAGE
05 DODGE MAGNUM	2D4FV48T75H500292	41FH542	BLUE	FLO BLVD @ JACKS
94 FORD F350	1FTJW35K0REA17914	41FA162	RED	20205 COUNTY RD 14
95 FORD MUSTANG	1FALP4045TF140331	20BZ984	BLUE	COUNTY RD 8 & 269
95 FORD RANGER	1FTCR10A6SUA66730	0852AM6	TAN	WILDWOOD PARK RD
99 FORD RANGER	1FTZR15V5XTA65992	41DJ920	BLUE	RICKWOOD & DARBY
02 FORD EXPEDITION	1FMPU16LX2LA95285	294EYM	SILVER	GRESHAM RD
05 FORD 500	1FAFP24185G128141	41FR774	GREEN	COUNTY RD 7
06 FORD MUSTANG	1ZVFT80N365152696	41FS431	RED	1913 HOLIDAY DR
10 FORD FUSION	3FAHP0HA3AR127442		BLACK	EDGEWOOD DR
10 FORD FUSION	3FAHP0HA7AR359610	52DG734	SILVER	COUNTY RD 13
00 GEO TRACKER	2CNBJ13C2Y6925167	41DZ860	BLUE	COUNTY RD 7
93 HONDA ACCORD	1HGCB7656PA149571		GREEN	HERMITAGE DR
00 HONDA CIVIC	JHMEJ6678YS006251	20CF571	BLACK	S PRAIRIE ST
98 ISUZU RODEO	4S2CK58W3W4333831	BPS2471	BLACK	SCHNEIDERS AUTO
00 KIA SPORTAGE	KNDJB7237Y5660727	41FC638	BLACK	COURTVIEW TOWERS
05 LINCOLN TOWN CAR	1LNHM81W25Y620622		BLUE	CROWN ST
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98 OLDS INTRIGUE	1G3WS52K0WF329304	41AR203	GRAY	FLO BLVD
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DODGE: CHARGER SE, 2011 \$11,998. 101K. Cloth, automatic. Financing available. Call JD 256-577-1056 or 256-764-3351.

Letters...

Press Facts Troubling

Continued from Page 12

leaking classified information to the press. McFeatters accuses Trump of ruining Americans' vital respect for institutions such as the FBI and the IRS. The IRS under Obama illegally discriminated against conservatives. The FBI under Comey covered for Hillary Clinton's crimes. McFeatters claims that Trump is unpatriotic and falsely accuses him of refusing to acknowledge Russian interference in our elections. Perhaps the most ridiculous of McFeatters' criticisms is that the president played golf while the Americans were celebrating the holidays. The accusation that Trump is using the presidency to make millions is laughable. He has been making millions for a long time. McFeatters accuses Trump of trying to undermine American reliance on facts to determine what they think.

If we were to rely upon what she calls the "free press" for facts, we would be in deep trouble.

Euell White
 Florence

Beginning Farmers Stand to Benefit

Editor:

The average age of today's farmer is 58 years old. Over the course of the next five years (the duration of the next farm bill), nearly 100 million acres of farmland are predicted to change hands.

Some retiring farmers and ranchers will pass their land and operations to their children or other relatives. However, many are heading toward retirement without a succession plan in place.

Today's beginning farmers juggle a great deal in raising and marketing crops and livestock. We need to support policies that ensure they have the necessary tools and resources to be successful.

In November, congressional lawmakers introduced the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Opportunity Act to ensure the 2018 farm bill focuses on the future of American agriculture. The bill provides for programs and policies that would create opportunities for the next generation of farmers and ranchers.

The bill expands beginning farmer and rancher access to affordable land. It empowers producers with the skills needed to succeed in today's agricultural economy and it ensures equitable access to

See LETTERS... on Page 27



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Commentary

DACA...

Continued from Page 12

the legislative element on DACA, he also bypassed the regulatory elements.

Border-elimination advocates remained silent even though most knew this executive action would have been used long before now if it were it considered legal.

It is so easy for many of us to play semantics with the term illegal, or better yet, eliminate it from our personal vocabulary because we consider it mean-spirited and hurtful.

If my father steals a car when I am 14 years old, gets it repainted, and keeps it undetected long enough to where I can drive it when I am of legal driving age, the car is still stolen. The crime has yet to be corrected. When I get pulled over and it is discovered that the car is hot, it gets taken away and I may be arrested. The fact that my no longer having that car may cost me an undue hardship is not relevant.

And although our hearts may say that individual circumstances need to be considered, the fact remains that people are in this country illegally. We fail to realize that as US citizens we can enter no other country illegally. Those countries have serious and swift penalties for doing so, yet we are supposed to turn a blind eye and cover the adverse economics resulting from millions of addition people weighing on our system.

The related issue of the border wall also creates tremendous angst on the left. The proposed expense of \$18 billion over the next ten years to construct 700 miles of new or replacement barriers separating the US and Mexico has many up in arms.

Those same people think nothing of the \$679 billion that the Congressional budget office estimates will be spent on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) during that period, yet the border wall is only 2.7% of that. Moreover, the CBO projects that the taxpayer will spend \$5.23 trillion on Medicaid in the next ten years. The border wall amounts to one-third of 1% of that figure.

Without even closely crunching the numbers, it is clear that if we eliminate a few million border hoppers over the next ten years, we will more than save the taxpayer the border wall's \$18 billion expense by saving food, medical, educational, and housing expenses.

However, we ALL know it's not about the expenses, the taxpayers' wallet, the safety and security of our citizens, or the sovereignty of our borders. It's about adding to the democrat voter base and keeping downward pressure on worker wages, which benefits corporate fat cats on both sides of the aisle.

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OCCASIONALLY YOU MAY SEE an ad duplicated and printed several times throughout the paper. This is done at the request of the advertiser. Each ad is paid for. Thank You for reading your Courier Journal. TFN

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MidGard Self-Storage will hold a public sale to enforce a lien imposed on said property, as described below, pursuant to the Alabama Self-Service Facility Act, Alabama Code 8-15-30 to 8-15-38, on

Wednesday, January 24, 2018 at 12:00 PM located at 2708 W. Mall Drive, Florence, AL 35630.

Management reserves the right to withdraw any unit from sale. Registered or motor vehicles are sold "As Is / Parts Only," no titles or registration.

Name	Unit #	Brief Description of Items
CHRIS RUSH	B23	Box Spring, Couch, Love Seat
JONAS GRUBBS	0217	TV, Dresser, Chest
BRADY TRAPP	0222	Lawn Mower, Tools, Speaker
CHRISTOPHER PRIDE	0241	Entertainment Center, Dresser, Night Stand
CANDANCE HAWKINS	2021	Couch, Dresser, TV, Beds



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VOLKSWAGEN: JETTA SE, 2013 \$9977. 77k. Automatic. Financing available. Call Cody 731-925-0458 or 256-764-3351.

I BUY JUNK AND repairable vehicles and catalytic converters. Call Michael 256-702-8400

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SEWING MACHINE REPAIR, MOST makes & models. Free estimates. Ken's Sewing Center, 256-381-0161.

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Chris Seal, Muscle Shoals
Samuel Richardson, Tusculmbia

Gerald Herston, Florence
Lewis Hannah, Florence
Kenton Clark, Sheffield
Rose Russell, Florence
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VOLKSWAGEN: PASSAT WOLFSBURG, 2014 \$11,998. 46k. Financing available. Cody 731-925-0458 or 256-764-3351.

FORD: F-350, 1999 \$9,700. ▶7.3 Engine◀, 233K miles, GREAT truck, pulling “machine”. 2 wheel drive. 256-483-8230 or 256-412-5143.

MidGard Self-Storage will hold a public sale to enforce a lien imposed on said property, as described below, pursuant to the Alabama Self-Service Facility Act, Alabama Code 8-15-30 to 8-15-38, at

11:00 AM on Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2018, located at 4450 Chisholm Road, Florence, AL 35633.

Management reserves the right to withdraw any unit from sale. Registered or motor vehicles are sold “As Is / Parts Only,” no titles or registration.

Name	Unit #	Brief Description of Items
ACIRE JACKSON	A 38	Household Items
TONI MERCALDI	A 37	Household Items
REGINA WEEKLEY	D 11	Clothes, Household Items
CLEVEN BROWN	E 05	Household Items
BRITTNEY LOVELADY	H 817	Clothing, Household Items

TIMESDAILY & FAYE MANN PRESENT

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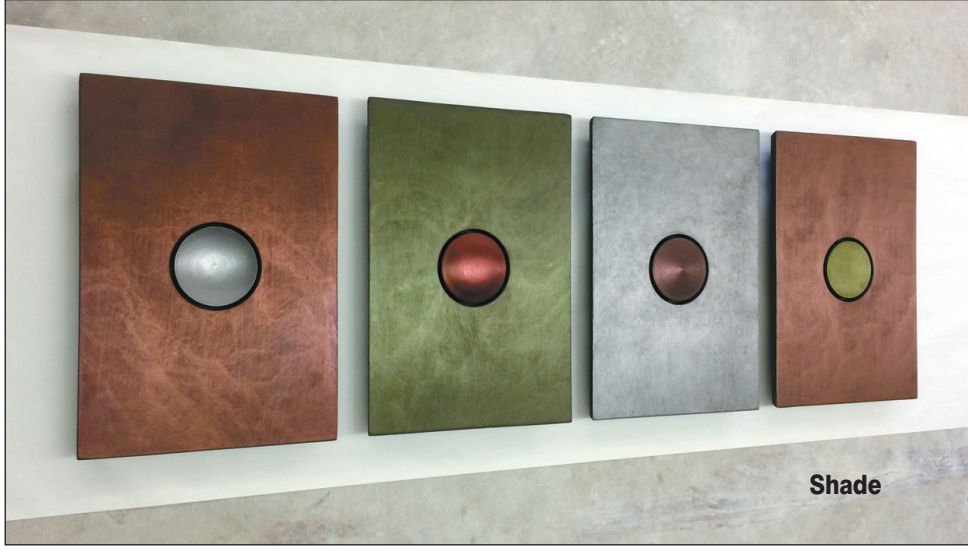
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Space...

Continued from Page 12

Struggles in a good sense: developing my faith as my own and not my parents' faith or my friends' faith and trying to understand the idea of eternity."

Benson said that while his work is spiritual in its conception, it's not in-your-face or trying to make a specific statement. "There's no hidden agenda," he said.

"If any deeper conversation comes about, it's through one-on-one discussion, through someone asking more questions," Benson said.

In graduate school and shortly afterwards, Benson said he worked on projects that had to do with time, a topic that relates to his current work regarding eternity.

I grew up in the studio with my dad...

Aaron Tennessee Benson



"Eternity is the absence of time," he said. "There's a time element in my work that's process oriented, but I'm also conceptually thinking about time."

Benson is an assistant professor of art at the University of North Alabama where he teaches ceramics, sculpture and 3D design. He earned his MFA from New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University after obtaining his BFA in 2009 from the University of Tennessee.

"I grew up in the studio with my dad," Benson said. "I fell in love with clay because I was around it and studied ceramics

both in undergrad and in graduate school. Most of my technical background is in ceramics and hand-building."

Benson will present a slide lecture at the opening reception on January 21 from 1-3pm. He will also conduct a workshop that will include demonstrations of clay techniques including wheel throwing, slab building and alternative processes. Dates for the workshops will be announced.

The museum is open 9am-5pm Monday- Friday and 1-3pm on Sundays. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$3 for students, and is free on Sundays.

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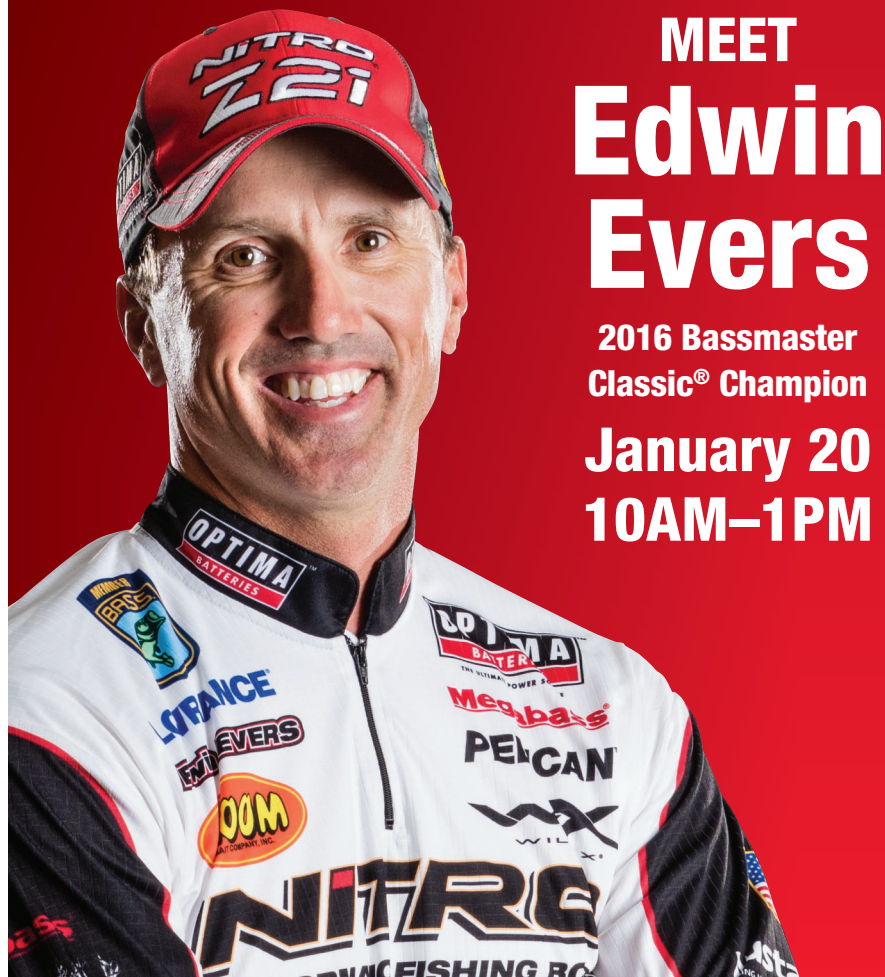
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ASK THE ATTORNEY

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Thomas McCutcheon

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The law offices of McCutcheon & Hamner will be preparing Wills for a donation of \$25 or more through Valentine's Day and all proceeds will be given to The Lexington Senior Citizens Center.

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Youthquake

STAN DEAN

Usually in January I like to take a look at the list of new words and most popular words and phrases from the past year. You probably heard the one that made the national news from Collins Dictionary for 2017, "Fake news." It was not a new phrase but one that became mainstreamed in 2017.

But there was another word that caught my attention as a "Word of the year" in 2017 according to Oxford Dictionary. The word is "youthquake." It is defined as "a significant cultural, political, or social change arising from the actions or influence of young people." It is not a new word, but it has been brought to the fore again.

Obviously, it is one of those words that could be used in a positive or negative way. Since we hear enough negativity associated with today's youth, let's go the positive route. Thankfully we do not have to look far to find young people who are making a positive difference with their lives - - but that is nothing new!

We can turn back through the pages of Bible history to over 600 years before Jesus was born. There we find a time period when God's people were living in dark and bleak spiritual circumstances because they had sold out to idolatry. God became so appalled by their sins He declared, "I am bringing such calamity upon Jerusalem and Judah, that whoever hears of it, his ears will tingle" (2 Kings 21:12).

But not so long thereafter an eight-year-old boy was made king by the name of "Josiah." Unlike his ancestors who had reigned before him, he devoted his heart to God. While he was still in his teens he began a series of reforms among God's people that made him one of the most outstanding leaders ever. The record says, "Now before him there was no king like him, who turned to the Lord with all his heart, with all his soul, and with all his might, according to all the Law of Moses; nor after him did any arise like him" (2 Kings 23:25). No doubt, Josiah started a youthquake in his day!

Turning to the New Testament, we learn of another young man whom Paul urged to be a youthquake. His name was Timothy. Paul wrote, "Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity" (1 Timothy 4:12). Like Josiah, Timothy also spawned a youthquake!

What is the message? Our youth still have the ability to make a powerful impact on our world for good. So, young people, be a youthquake for God!

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FIG. 1

THE PERFECT PYRAMID! Cut out the three puzzle pieces in fig. 1 and challenge your friends to arrange them to form a perfect pyramid.

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		A	M	
			E	
		E		
		N	E	

W
A
L
L
E
T

Find Big Words!

Using the definitions and the anagrams below, you must find the eight eight-letter words that fit into the framework pictured on the left. For each definition, the letters in the two anagram words must be unscrambled and used to form the word asked for.

1.	A						S
2.		L					M
3.			P			E	
4.				H	L		
5.				B	A		
6.			O			B	
7.		R					E
8.	P						T

DEFINITION:

- He had a foot problem.
- A cluster of flowers.
- Devotees of modern jazz.
- Having no pity.
- Eccentric people.
- An ancient weapon.
- A racing fool.
- A gradual discontinuation.

ANAGRAM:

case + hill
slob + moss
rest + ship
hurl + sets
sold + bald
sobs + crow
tars + dreg
soup + heat

Answers On Page 30

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Randall on Real Estate
News & Tips on the Shoals Market



Questions

A good indication that your home has made it on a buyer's "short list" is if the prospective buyer is asking questions.

Before making an offer, buyers usually have questions about the home they are considering. Many of these questions can be answered ahead of time, thus giving the buyer piece of mind to move forward with writing an offer on the property once they've decided this is the one.

While there's no way to anticipate every possible question or concern a buyer may have, there are many that we hear often enough that the information can be ready ahead of time.

Here are some common questions a buyer will ask if they are seriously considering a home:

Where are the property lines or do you have a copy of an existing survey? If you have a survey, it's a great idea to leave this out on the counter for showings and also have a digital copy that your REALTOR can easily send to prospective buyers or other agents. This will make a buyer feel very comfortable with the property, especially if you are selling acreage. This will also help them understand where the boundary lines are, if there are any known encroachments, etc... If you don't have a survey, provide a tax plat just to give a general idea.

How much are the average utilities? This question is asked about 99.9% of the time. While it might seem easy to just leave a copy of the utility bill on the counter, the buyer really wants to know the 12-month average. The utility department can provide you with a "Utility Summary" that will include the amount each month as well as the average for the year. Save a step in the consideration process and have this information ready.

How much is Homeowner's insurance? Most people are aware that homeowner's insurance premiums may fluctuate, but the annual amount you are currently paying will at least give the buyer an idea of the range in which they may anticipate paying and how it may affect their mortgage payment.

How much are the taxes? This information is readily available online and most agents will gather this for their buyer, however it doesn't hurt to have this available when the buyer is looking at your home so they can quickly see the amount and how it may also affect their mortgage payment. - mr

Please feel free to send your questions. Rest assured I will only use your first name when I answer your questions. Email to: questions@mikerandallhomes.com or mail to:

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FLORENCE: 409 N BROADWAY. 4 Bdrm, 2.5 Ba. \$650 rent/deposit. Appliances, central heat/air, washer/dryer connections. 256-764-3137.

TUSCUMBIA: 501 W AVA-LON. 1 Bdrm. \$325 rent. Appliances, window heat/air. 256-764-3137.

KILLEN/ CENTER STAR: 324 Wayne Dr., 2 bdrm, 1 ba, central heat/air, appliances. NO Pets/Smoking. \$525 mo. 256-366-2751 .

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TERMS & CONDITIONS: Personal Property: Cash or check with proper identification the day of the sale. All items will be sold "as is" with no warranties expressed or implied. **Real Estate:** A non-refundable deposit of 15% will be required the day of the sale with closing within 30 days. The seller will furnish a deed and preliminary title search. **A 10% BUYERS PREMIUM** will be added to the final bid price to determine the total contract price on the real estate. All other expenses, including closing cost will be charged to the purchaser(s). The real estate is being sold "as is" with no warranties expressed or implied. **The home was built before 1978. However, the seller can neither confirm or deny the presence of lead based paint. Anyone interested in the home can have it inspected any time prior to the auction at their expense.** Information contained herein believed to be correct but no guaranteed. Announcements made the day of the sale supersede any printed material. **Agency Disclosure: Auctioneers are acting as agents for the seller only. 2018**

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Letters...

Beginning Farmers Stand to Benefit

Continued from Page 14

financial capital and federal crop insurance. The bill also encourages commitment to conservation and land stewardship.

We stand with congressional sponsors of this legislation in supporting beginning farmers and ranchers. The Beginning Farmer and Rancher Opportunity Act should be included in the 2018 farm bill.

Anna Johnson
Center for Rural Affairs
Lyons, NE
annaj@cfra.org,

Oregon Court Denies Bakers

Editor:

A three-judge panel of the Oregon Court of Appeals on December 28, 2017 upheld a decision by Oregon's Labor Department that fined Sweet Cakes by Melissa \$135,000, forcing Aaron and Melissa Klein to close their bakery.

The appeals court had the audacity to write, "baking wedding cakes is not speech, art, or other expression" protected by the First Amendment.

The judges further noted the state did not "impermissibly burden the Kleins' right to the free exercise of religion" because it compelled the Christian bakers only to comply with "a neutral law of general applicability."

Oregon law prohibits businesses from refusing service because of a customer's sexual orientation, race, gender, and other personal characteristics."

The Oregon bakery owned by the Kleins declined to bake a cake for a lesbian couple who desired a special cake for their wedding in 2013. The Klein's refusal was based on religious convictions and conscience.

Subsequently, Oregon's Labor Commissioner Brad Avakian, whom CNN called a champion of the LGBTQ community, slapped the Kleins with a fine of \$135,000.

Commissioner Avakian said, "This case is not about a wedding cake or a marriage. It is about a business' refusal to serve someone because of their sexual orientation."

This ruling is a further assault by the state on the couple whose business had already closed.

In addition to the fine Commissioner Avakian placed a gag order on the Kleins, i.e., ordering them to "cease and desist" from speaking publicly about not wanting to bake cakes for same-sex weddings based on their Christian beliefs.

The Kleins did write on their Facebook page, "This effectively strips us of all our First Amendment rights. According to the state of Oregon we neither have freedom of religion or freedom of speech."

A final caveat: The former Labor Commissioner, Brad Avakian ran for Oregon's Secretary of State but lost to a Republican in a strong blue state!

Hollis Todd
Huntsville

A Martyred Woman

To Editor:

She is usually a woman who devotes her whole life to a lover or a family member and becomes a martyr, sacrificing too much. She may be treated like a door mat rather than a person with values. She may even be physically injured and yelled at consistently, feeling emotionally trapped, unable to muster the strength to get out of the bad relationship.

That is when she ties a knot at the end of her frayed nerves and seeks help from resources that can train her to make wiser choices for an empowered life of enthusiasm and anticipation!

Gwen Lening
Florence

Traffic Signals Are Poorly Synchronized

Editor:

In the many years I have lived in the Shoals, I have questioned engineering at state, county and city level. I have received many conflicting reasons for the varied signalization methods and archaic stop lights in the Shoals. The amount of gasoline wasted as motorists wait at senseless red lights has to be astronomical.

The traffic lights cannot be synchronized. In many parts of the country and this state traffic lights are synchronized with one another per the speed limit. The inconsistency of being able to turn left on a green light is incomprehensible. The reasoning of traffic count doesn't compute, nor does distance visibility. I could point out many intersections where these regulations cannot be valid.

As for traffic count, I do not believe Florence has an intersection of more than 25,000 vehicles per 24 hours. Yet, in many parts of the country where intersections have a traffic count of approximately 50,000 vehicles per 24 hours, vehicles may turn on a yellow light while traffic is green.

Governor's Drive in Huntsville is another example with a large traffic count. In front of the hospital there are flashing yellow lights for a left turn during the entire green sequence. How many times have motorists in Florence had to wait to turn left when no traffic is coming in their direction? Consider also when motorists have to wait through the complete sequence before they can turn left! Alabama DOT decides whether Shoals motorists can turn left safely by throwing a dart at a board. Will Florence and the Shoals ever have traffic signals which facilitate traffic flow, or will they have stoplights?

John Lee
Florence

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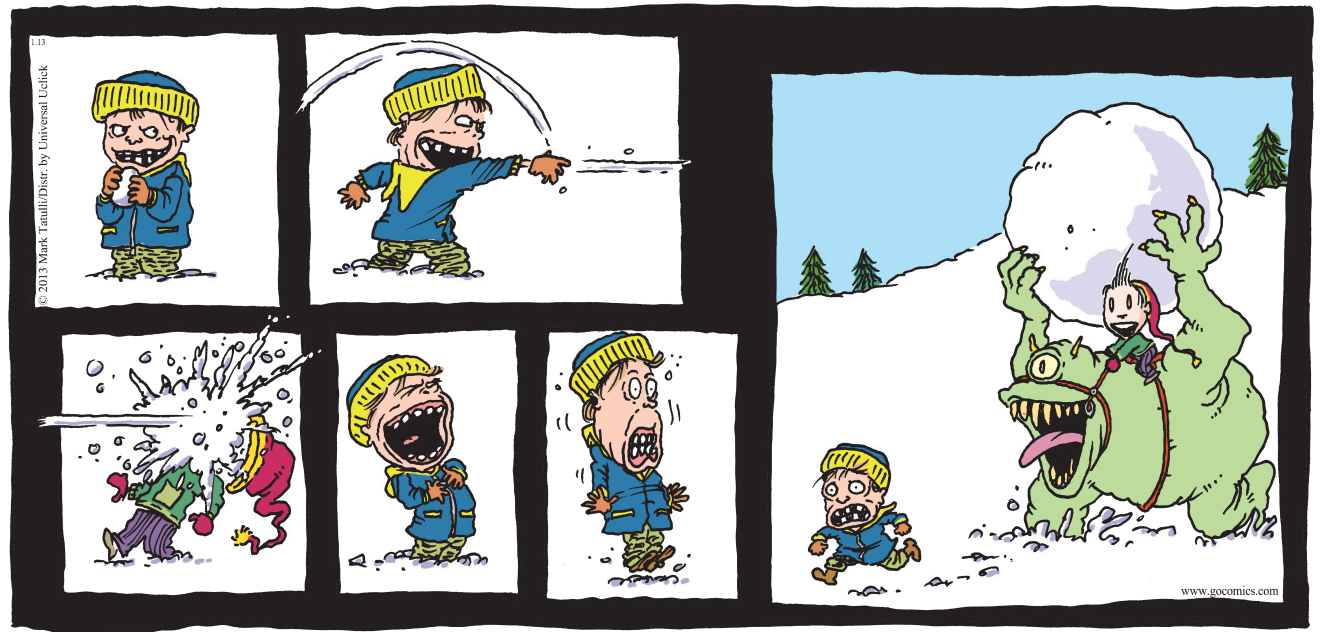

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BY MARK TATULLI



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BASEBALL CARD SHOW: SATURDAY, Feb. 10th, Coldwater Inn, Hwy. 72 Tusculumbia, AL. (Across from the Alabama Music Hall of Fame) 7 a.m. - 3 p.m. Free Admission.

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Unit #	Name	Brief Description of Items
604	CHARLES LEE DEAN	Chest of Drawers, Dressers, Desks and Household Items.
601	KANEISHA BYRD	Washer and Dryer, Small Kitchen Appliances, T.V.'s. Dining Room Table and Chairs, and Household Items
349	TAMMY MITCHELL	Living Room Furniture, Bookshelves, Refrigerator, Bicycle, Yard Equipment and Household Items
121	VANESSA THOMPSON	Exercise Equipment, Chest of Drawers, Dresser, Night Stand, and Household Items
235	ROMONIA KELLEY	Gaming system, Toys, Clothes, Tools, and Household Items

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LeBlanc...

Continued from Page 12

to Florence. LeBlanc soon began playing bass and singing background vocals with artists like Hank Williams Jr., Crystal Gayle, Etta James, Shenandoah, Ricky Skaggs, Sawyer Brown, The Supremes, Joan Baez, Amy Grant and Roy Orbison.

He recorded a solo demo in 1975 and producer Pete Carr sent a copy to Jerry Wexler at Atlantic Records. A few months later LeBlanc's first solo LP was released. Atlantic saw some great potential and teamed him with Pete Carr, resulting in three chart singles, including the top 15 hit, "Falling."

LeBlanc became a born-again Christian in 1980 and began recording Christian-themed music. Heartland Records released his first Christian album, *Say A Prayer*, in 1983. LeBlanc opened his own recording studio in Muscle Shoals, Alabama in 1987 where he does his own productions as well as others.

LeBlanc continues to write pop and country songs, including hits like "Treat Her Right" for Sawyer Brown and "You First" with Mac McAnally along with Christian compositions such as the highly successful "Above All" and "There Is None Like You." He still travels nationally and internationally as a Christian artist and serves on the worship team at Faith Church in Florence.

His latest project, *Love Like No Other* includes a newly recorded version of "Falling", as well as nine original worship songs. Willie Nelson recorded the Donnie Fritts co-write "Old Timer" on his latest album, *God's Problem Child*.

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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.

JADE is a gorgeous 1 year old white and brindle girl, weighing about 45 pounds. She walks great on leash and loves people. **THE PET OF THE WEEK SPECIAL ADOPTION FEE IS \$15 FOR DOGS & \$25 FOR CATS & INCLUDES SPAY OR NEUTER & RABIES! TO LEARN MORE, CONTACT THE COLBERT SHELTER AT 256-381-4073!**



Hi there, I'm **DUKE**, a sweet little guy, born in September of 2017. I will probably be medium size when we are each full grown. I'm fixed and will soon have the last of my vaccinations and be microchipped. I love to play and to meet new people. That includes you! Hope to see you soon! If you're interested in adopting me, please call PAWS at 256-383-0690



PATTY is as cute as can be, full of love and wants to be a lap dog. If you are looking for a companion to share your life with, Patty is your girl! She needs to be in a quiet home with no children. She is a Chihuahua Feist mix and is under 20 lbs. Patty will need to be an indoor dog with a fenced in yard. If you are interested in adopting her, please contact Casa Canine Pet Rescue at 256-320-8313 after 6:00 pm.



TONY is a 1.5 year old boy who is friendly and easy going. He is heartworm negative and ready to find a home! Adoption fee is \$85! For more information, call the Florence shelter at 256-760-6676!



This wonderful boy is **RD**. He is about 4 yrs old and fully vetted, neutered, house trained and great with other dogs, cats and kids. Yes, he is the perfect dog to add to your family! RD's favorite thing to do is going on hikes! He would need to be an indoor dog and needs a fenced in yard. Please contact Casa Canine Pet Rescue at 256-762-6052 for more info.



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January 20 & 21

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By Mail or In person? - Courier Journal Sweetheart Sentiments, 219 West Tennessee St., Florence, AL 35630


You can place your **Sweetheart Sentiments** now for inclusion in our February 14 Valentine's issue!

It's the perfect way to demonstrate your affection for all the cherished in your life! Great for parents, grandparents, children, brothers and sisters, nieces, nephews, friends, special human mommies and daddies, and of course, that SPECIAL SOMEONE in your life!

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Community Notes...

Continued from page 4

Florence Parks & Recreation - The Club (Florence Senior Center) would like wish everyone a happy new year!
 Joints in Motion, M,W, F 8:45am, Games 9:30-5pm each day, Social Dance Tuesday nights 6:30-9pm, Square Dance Friday 6:30-9pm, Knitting, Crochet, Games, Art Classes, BINGO. Hours Monday-Friday 8am-5pm. You are welcomed to come join us. Nutritional lunch served do those over 60 years young. Suggested donation \$1. 256-760-6642.

If you are expecting a new addition to your family, it can be confusing to the future big brother or big sister. Helen Keller Hospital will host Sibling Classes each month beginning January 20 in the Women's Center at Helen Keller Hospital. This class will be taught by our nurses from the Helen Keller Hospital Nursery. Each session will feature:
 - Story Time
 - Crafts
 - Big Sibling Safety
 - Tips on how to help out at home
 - What to expect at the hospital
 - A tour of the Women's Center
 - A goody bag to take home!
 For more information, or to register, call 256-386-4572 or e-mail hkhsiblingclass@gmail.com.

NAMI Shoals 4th Tuesday Educational Program on January 23 will feature a presentation by Sylvester White, Social Security Manager for Northwest Alabama, followed by questions and answers. Program begins at 7pm at the NAMI Shoals Office, 749 Thompson St., Suite A, in Florence (behind Burger King on Florence Blvd.) Call 256-765-2081 for further information.

3rd Annual 70's Social Fundraiser - SPAN of Lauderdale County is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization that strives to prevent youth from continued involvement with the justice system by developing social, behavioral, academic, and family skills needed to become productive members of our community. SPAN of Lauderdale County is a non-residential, co-ed, comprehensive strategy for meeting the needs of at-risk youth and their families. This year it will be even bigger and better because we are expanding our social to another decade! The theme of our 3rd annual social is Duel of the Decades 70's vs 80's. This fundraiser is an exciting evening of music, dancing, musical performances, and games. Concessions will be available for purchase. The social will take place on January 20 at 7 pm at Burrell-Slater Learning Center at 610 West College Street, Florence (we are located next to W.C. Handy Museum). For additional information please call 256-246-2060.

Zip City Neighborhood Watch Meeting January 21, 2pm at the Zip City Fire Dept.

Kids and Kin is a free statewide program funded through DHR providing education and support to parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles raising children. We will meet January 25 at 10am at the Sherrod Avenue Church of Christ in Room 103 to discuss "Tips Relative Child Care Providers Can Use to Guide Children's Behavior." Elysia Ertle from Southern Wellness Services will discuss how to guide your children's behavior in positive, supportive, and age-appropriate ways. For more information call Alisha Albright, Kids and Kin Program, at 334-465-9205.

Singing at the Cloverdale Community Center January 26 at 7pm. Heavenly Blessed and lots more will be singing. Come out and enjoy good fellowship and food.

The 2018 Corinth-Alcorn Animal Shelter Fundraiser Calendar is now available!
 The calendar featuring pets who received top votes in our Pet Calendar Photo Contest. All proceeds from the entries, votes and sales of the full color, full-sized wall calendar will benefit the no-kill, nonprofit Corinth, Mississippi animal shelter. Each year, all photo entries are used to create a full color, full-sized wall calendar. Every dollar counts! The purchase of a 2018 calendar directly supports the thousands of abused, neglected, abandoned and injured animals that CAAS shelters each year. Calendars are available for purchase at the shelter at 3825 Proper Street in Corinth, MS. 38834. Call 662-284-5800, visit: <http://corinthalcornanimalshelter.com/2018-fundraiser-calendar-2/> or email alcompets@gmail.com
 Calendars: \$15 each plus \$4 standard shipping

Fourth Saturday Breakfast at the Zip City Community Center on January 27, 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.

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- 1 Inspect the tank for accumulated sediment:** Sediment decreases efficiency and can clog water lines.
- 2 Check the condition of the anode rod:** The anode rod protects your water heater tank and other components from rusting. Replacing corroded anode rods can significantly extend the life of your water heater.
- 3 Check for proper flame and gas venting (gas models):** Dangerous carbon monoxide can build up in your home, making your family ill. It can even be lethal.
- 4 Check the condition of the heating element (electric models):** Elements with calcium build-up or that are damaged or corroded use excessive electricity.
- 5 Check the pressure relief valve's operation:** Over-pressurized tanks can rupture or explode.
- 6 Check thermostat:** Thermostats are important for energy-efficiency and they protect your family from the danger of scalding water.

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Mystery Photo of the week!

Courier Journal

WIN A MEAL FOR 2 at **Rosie's CANTINA** Downtown Florence
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 Enter at www.courierjournal.net

Last week's winner is Shirley Jones of Florence who correctly guessed "Big Star Grocery in St. Florian"

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 12 Noon.

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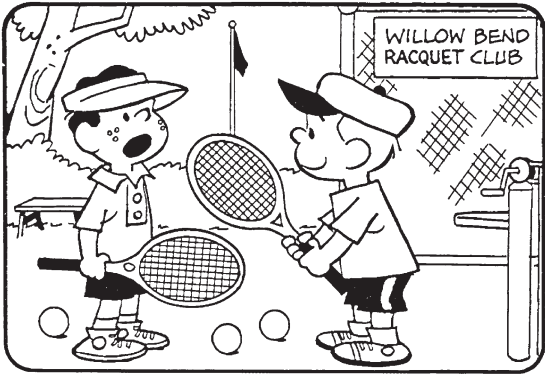
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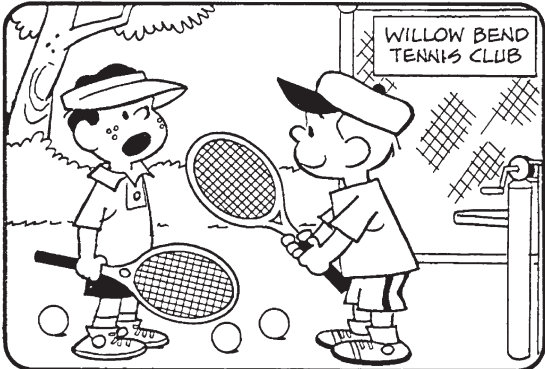
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Bench is missing. 2. Burton strip is shorter. 3. Racket is moved. 4. Flag is missing. 5. Sign is different. 6. Pants are different. ©2013 King Features Synd., Inc.

Knight's Corner by Jerry Knight



"OTT"

He was affectionately known as "OTT" by his teammates and friends. He was one of the Shoals area's most outstanding basketball players and coaches. I first became acquainted with Arthur Andrews in the mid 60's when I was starting my sportscasting career. My first assignment was as "Voice of the Trojans" basketball team. Arthur was named the 1966 Shoals Area Most Valuable Basketball Player. He wasn't big by any stretch. As a matter of fact, his approximate height was somewhere around 5'6. But he was one of the most dynamic leaders on the court and could shoot the lights out. He was an outstanding guard for coach Ed Billingham at Florence State Teachers College. Andrews continued his education by earning a BS Degree in Secondary Education for the University of North Alabama. IN 1970, Andrews embarked on what would become one of Alabama's most successful coaching careers. He was head basketball coach at Ardmore High School from 1970-72 and assistant basketball/football coach at Guntersville High School from 1972-74. In 1974, Andrews accepted the head basketball coaching job at Colbert County High

School. Over the next 15 years, Andrews would establish himself as one of the premier basketball coaches in Alabama. He was voted Class 3A-4A Coach of the Year four times by the TimesDaily. His crowning achievement came in 1981 when he led the Indians to the 1981 Class 3A State Championship. In the semifinal game against Leeds High School, Andrews devised a scheme that would foul out none other than Charles Barkley in the third quarter to put them into the championship game. Andrews was named Alabama Coach of the Year that season and coached the North All-Star team to victory in that year's All-Star game. He later became principal at Highland Park Elementary School until he retired in 1995. One of my greatest associations with Andrews was when he worked as my color analyst on the UNA basketball games for two years. His last coaching stop was as head basketball and assistant football coach at American Christian Academy in Tuscaloosa where he worked until his death. He was inducted posthumously into the Colbert County Sports Hall of Fame in 2004. E-mail comments and suggestions to: jerrywknight@comcast.net

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ONLY \$249****
PER MONTH

*Must finance thru GM Financial. W.A.C. See salesperson for details. **36 Mo/30K Miles Lease. W.A.C. See salesperson for details. ***39 Mo/32,500 Miles Lease. W.A.C. See salesperson for details. ****24 Mo/ 20K Miles Lease. W.A.C. See salesperson for details.



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18% BELOW MSRP

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\$5,568 Purchase Allowance
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\$7,551 BELOW MSRP

2017 LACROSSE



\$6,250 Bonus Cash
\$750 Customer Cash

\$7,000

PURCHASE ALLOWANCE

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ONLY \$199*
PER/ MO.

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**2017 CASCADA
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ONLY \$369*
PER/ MO.

*39 Mo/32,500 Miles Lease. W.A.C. Must finance thru GM Financial. See salesperson for details.

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13 Chevy Spark
#2171BA, 4 Door, Auto, Air, Great
MPG, Local
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\$6,988

10 Jeep Grand Cherokee
#5221BB1, 4 Door, V6, Full Power,
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Power, Nice
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08 Dodge Ram 1500
#7749BB, Reg. Cab, 83K Miles,
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Nice Local
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08 Pontiac Torrent
#6476BA, 4 Door, V6, Auto, Full
Power, Only
58K Miles!



\$11,688

08 GMC Canyon
#7311GC, Crew Cab, Leather,
4x4, Z71,
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13 Volkswagen Passat
#6136BA, 4 Door, Automatic, Full
Power, Nice Local
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12 Honda Accord
#6508BA, 4 Door, Leather, Full
Power, 1 Owner, Nice!



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10 Chevy Equinox
#18G-8321A, 4 Door, Full Power,
32 MPG Hwy!



\$12,888

07 Ford Explorer Sport Trac
#7526GC, 4x4, Limited, Leather,
Sunroof,
Nice!



\$12,888

11 Chevy Camaro
#9761GA, 2 Door, Leather,
Sunroof, RS Pkg,
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07 Ford F150 Lariat
#7679GA, Crew Cab, V8, Leather,
Nice Local Truck!



\$12,988

11 Buick LaCrosse
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\$12,988

12 GMC Terrain
#18G-8182A, 4 Door, Auto, Full
Power, 32MPG
Hwy!



\$12,988

14 Jeep Patriot
#6282GA, Limited, 4x4, Leather,
Sunroof,
Nice!



\$14,988

14 Buick Encore
#18G-2766B, 4 Door, Auto, Full
Power, 23K
Miles!



\$15,788

13 Ford Explorer
#5316GA, 4 Door, V6, Auto,
Nice Local
Trade!



\$15,988

16 Buick Encore
#2867GB, 4 Door, Auto, 33MPG
Hwy, 1 Owner,
Nice!



\$17,688

**13 Volkswagen Eos
Convertible**
#0454BA, 2 Door, Hard Top, Only
50K Miles!



\$17,788

14 Honda CR-V
#2000GA, 4 Door, Auto, Full
Power, Only
30K Miles!



\$17,788

09 GMC Sierra
#18G-5801A, Crew Cab, SLT,
Leather, Chrome
Pkg!



\$19,788

14 GMC Terrain
#4848GA, 4 Door, SLT, Leather,
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12 Buick Enclave
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65K Miles!



\$19,888

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