

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

Volume 134 Number 13

January 24, 2018

POSTAL PATRON

9 Hopefuls at UNA Pageant

FLORENCE – A bevy of contestants will once again take the stage at the University of North Alabama for the 2018 Miss UNA Scholarship Pageant.

The pageant will take place January 27 at 5pm in Norton Auditorium. It will be hosted by the current Miss UNA, Victoria Roose, and the current Miss Alabama, Jessica Procter.

Nine contestants are seeking the title of Miss UNA this year, but only one can win!

Tickets are available for \$12 online at www.una.edu/missuna or \$15 at the door.

SRD on 5th Open House

TUSCUMBIA- Singing River Dentistry will host a Grand Opening and Open House Friday, January 26 for its new children's location on Friday January 26. SRD on 5th is located at 115 E 5th Street in Tuscombiana.

The Grand Opening and Open House takes place from 11:30am-4:30pm on Friday with ribbon cutting at noon.

Bring the kids. They will receive a free goodie bag and can have fun in the inflatable bounce house. Lunch will be provided after the ribbon cutting! For more information, call 256-320-5778.

11:30am-4:30pm Friday

Tax Tips for Students

Income tax season is approaching and students may want to consider these tips from KHEAA-Alabama to help the process go more smoothly.

Although you may not have earned enough to be required to file, you may be able to get a refund if your employer withheld taxes from your pay. Before you file, discuss the situation with your parents. They may be able to claim you as

See SHORTS... on Page 2

Automotive Inside NOW
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Courier Journal

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Blue Highway Here

Bluegrass Mainstays Will Celebrate with Landers, Iron Horse

SHEFFIELD — Blue Highway will headline the annual Jake Landers Bluegrass Concert on Saturday, February 10. The 7pm show takes place at the historic Ritz Theatre in downtown Sheffield. It also features Iron Horse and a special performance by the Jake Landers Reunion Band. Tickets are \$25 each and can be purchased at the Tennessee Valley Museum of Art at 511 N. Water Street in Tuscombiana, at 256-383-0533, tvaa.net or ritztheatre.ticketleap.com. All seats are reserved.

Tony Robertson of Iron Horse will present a free demonstration at 6pm on vintage instruments titled "Wires & Wood: A Walk Through Time with Master Luthier Lloyd Loar." Robertson will showcase a collection of his vintage instruments and discuss

their history. "I am really looking forward to playing the Jake Landers Bluegrass Concert at the

See LANDERS CONCERT... on Page 6



Blue Highway

Isbell Headlines Foundation Event

HUNTSVILLE- Huntsville Hospital Foundation announced recently that two-time Grammy Award winning singer-songwriter, Jason Isbell, will headline its 30th annual Huntsville Classic on Thursday, May 10 at 8:30pm at the Von Braun Center Propst Arena.

Isbell and his band, the 400 Unit, will perform for a crowd of more than 5,000 during the Classic concert. The group's new album, *The Nashville Sound*, was

See ISBELL... on Page 20



TOY SHARE ACROSS NORTHWEST ALABAMA

Donations Surpass 2016 Total

SHEFFIELD- Over 3300 toys and \$1,125 were donated to the seventh annual Bank Independent and WAFF48 Toy Share toy drive over the holidays, surpassing 2016 totals and helping hundreds of families across seven counties.

Since the first Toy Share drive in 2011, partner organizations have distributed 21,793 toys and over \$6000 to local families. Toys were collected in all bank sales offices, several Dollar General locations, and through a drive at downtown Florence's Flobama restaurant and music venue. Proceeds were



Bank Independent's Annual Toy Share Drive continues to grow through local participation and area partnerships.
Courtesy photo

presented to partnering charitable organizations for distribution to local

See TOY SHARE... on Page 7

Inside this Issue

Online Only:

- Dave Ramsey
- Adopt-a-Friend
- Soap Operas
- Cat & Kids
- Your Financial Garage



- Aquarium Discount
- Medicare Minute
- Computer Skeptic
- Ask the Attorney

- Place your Sweetheart Sentiments
- Hocus Focus
- The Wooden Bowl
- Junior Whirl!

- Outdoors
- Web Poll
- Mystery Photo
- Pet Talk



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Water Heater Tune-Up

Important reasons to have a water heater tune-up



Tune-Up Item

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- 2 Check the condition of the **anode rod**
- 3 Check for proper **flame** and **gas**.....
venting (gas models)
- 4 Check the condition of the
heating element (electric models)
- 5 Check the **pressure relief**
valve's operation
- 6 Check **thermostat**



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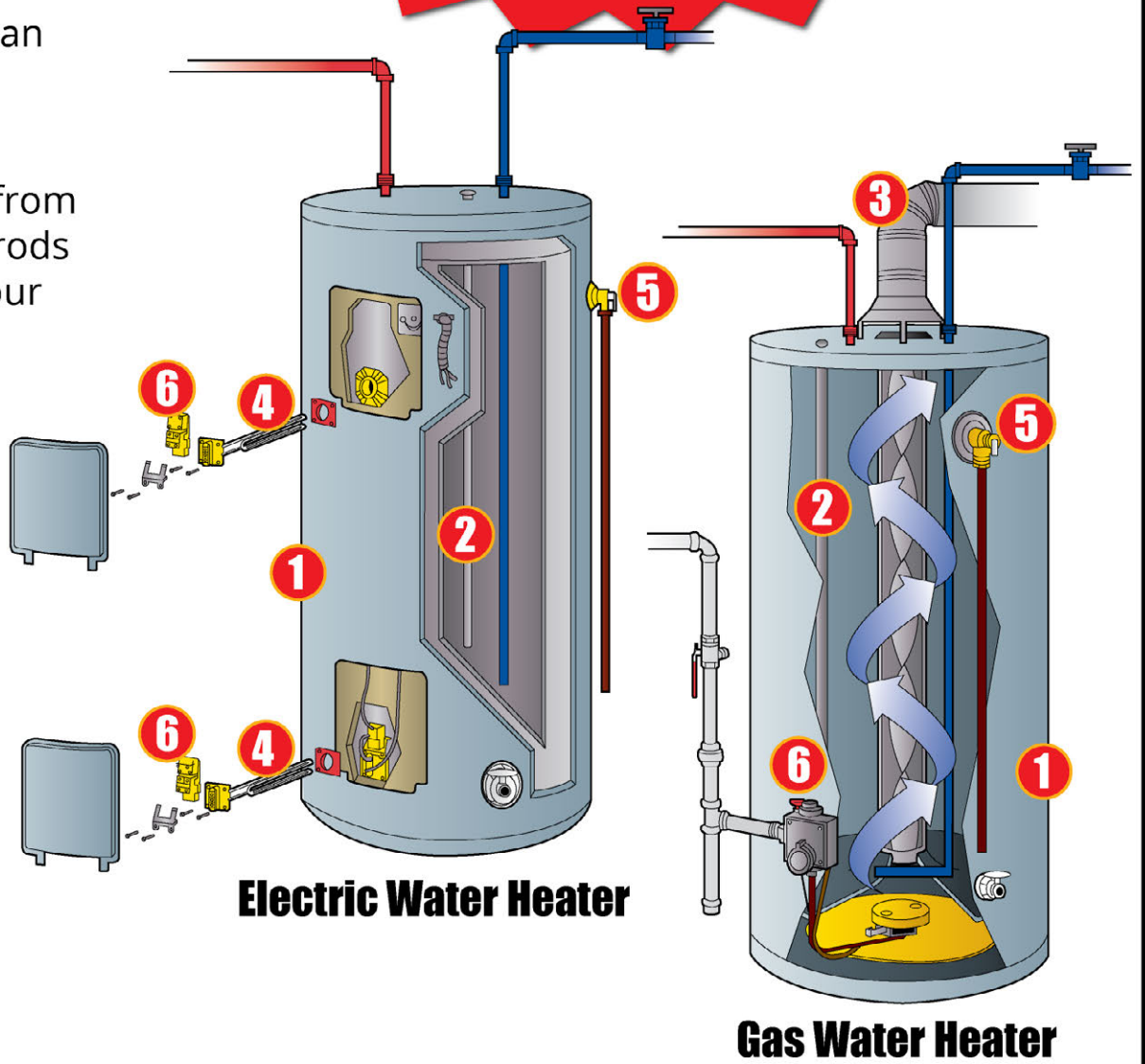
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Shorts...

Tax Tips for Students

Continued from Page 1

a dependent, which could save them thousands of dollars.

Students and parents may be able to take advantage of these programs on their federal taxes:

- **American Opportunity Credit** is available for the first four years of college.

- **Lifetime Learning Credit** is available if a taxpayer or a dependent is taking college courses to acquire or improve job skills.

- **Tuition and Fees Deduction** lets taxpayers deduct qualified college education expenses paid during the year for themselves or a dependent.

- **Student Loan Interest Deduction** lets people deduct up to \$2,500/year on federal taxes for interest paid on federal student loans.

For more detailed information about federal programs, go to www.irs.gov to download the free Publication 970 Tax Benefits for Education. Tax rules may change from year to year, so make sure you have the most up-to-date information before filing.

KHEAA is a public, non-profit agency established in 1966 to improve students' access to college. For more information, visit www.kheaa.com.

Wine Fest at Wilson Park

FLORENCE—Florence Wine Fest returns to the Shoals on Saturday, March 10. The annual festival in downtown Florence showcases unique wines from around the globe, local food favorites, and live entertainment. Festival proceeds benefit Raising the Bar, a community fund designed to assist UNA students pursuing careers in creative fields.

Organizers are excited to offer the addition of a Friday evening Champagne Kick-Off Party at the GunRunner Boutique Hotel presented by Jean-Noël Haton Champagne House. Organizer, Jason Allen, promises an exciting evening filled with beautiful wine, tasty nibbles, and live entertainment by internationally-renowned pianist and showman, Christopher-Joel Carter and Company. Commenting on the cocktail attire of the kick-off party he said, "Everyone loves a great excuse to dress up, too!"

Festival tickets are available for purchase online. Ticket packages will be structured to provide greater flexibility with an option to mix-and-match features and experiences in 2018.

In response to its exponential growth since 2016, Florence Wine Fest 2018 will move around the corner from cozy

Mobile Plaza to spacious Wilson Park North where organizers plan to host a crowd of more than 1,000 wine enthusiasts. Florence Wine Festival is a rain or

shine event.

Additional information and tickets are available at www.florencewinefest.com

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The Utilities Board City of Muscle Shoals Water & Wastewater Department will accept sealed bids on the following vehicle until 3:30pm on October 19, 2017. The vehicle listed may be inspected at the office located at 2210 E. Second Street, Muscle Shoals. This vehicle will be **SOLD AS IS**.

2012 Ford F150 Pick Up
White Exterior
1FTMF1CF8CFC82122

The Utilities Board City of Muscle Shoals Water & Wastewater Department reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any informality in any bid, and to accept any bid considered being advantageous to the owner.

LIVING ESTATE SALE

1811 Marietta Ave.
Muscle Shoals, AL

Jan. 27, 9am-Noon & 1pm-3pm

- Antique buffet • Drexel china cabinet, table, chairs & hostess cart • Bamboo style metal table & chairs • Mid-century dresser
- Waterford • Oriental • Wrought Iron Furniture
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 Sale conducted by Hodgepodge Estate sales.

Check EstateSales.net for pictures



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GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION Friday, January 26

for our new CHILDREN'S LOCATION of Singing River Dentistry, SRD on 5th.

- Join us for our Grand Opening & Open House 11:30am-4:30pm.
- Ribbon cutting at noon.
- Lunch will be provided!
- Children will receive a free goodie bag!
- Bring the kids and join us for lunch and inflatable bounce houses!



ACURA: MDX TOURING, 2005 \$8,500. Silver with grey leather, 1-owner. Under 100k, sunroof, all and 4 wheel drive, V6, On Star, seats 7, GPS, and more! 256-766-9067.

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TOYOTA: TACOMA, 2001 \$3,000. SR5 3.4L V6 automatic, 121K miles, has a clean title without mechanical problems. \$3,000 Call:813-419-7682.

1992 FORD: RANGER XLT, 4 cylinder, 5 speed, 74,000 original miles, bedliner, interior like new. \$1,995, Call 256-577-1168.

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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

LOOKING FOR A S10 Chevy Truck or Ford Ranger. 256-275-3747.

SNOW SKIS: ROSSIGNOL 72", Marker Bindings, poles, carry case, \$120. Olin Mark II 65", GEZE bindings, poles, \$90. Magnetic car ski rack for 2 pair skis, \$15. 256-270-9181.

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• um wheels, add-ons. \$8,900.
• 256-324-1960
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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

1993 CHEVY GEO METRO, 5-speed transmission, 3-cylinder motor, 40-50 MPG. \$300, or trade. Albertville area, 256-226-1944.

LOOKING TO BUY AB doer 360. 256-394-1918

HONDA: ACCORD LX, 2010 \$7,500. GREAT condition! Garage kept, 111K miles, black/tan, new tires and brakes, 256-616-6737.

TWO ADORABLE BLACK MALE Registered F1 Labradoodles. 6wks old, first shots and wormed. \$800ea. Call or text 256-476-1728 before 9PM. Mother on site, Father's photo available.

2002 JEEP LIBERTY LIM-ITED 4x4. New tires and battery, 126,000 miles, \$3,200, 256-483-8352.

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

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2002 GMC SIERRA, 161,000 miles, \$7,500 256-350-2396

HAVE YOU SEEN KIDSVILLE News! Yet? It's the Shoals' fun, family newspaper for parents, teachers and kids K-6th grade and IT'S FREE! Kidsville News! is delivered in the classrooms. Copies may also be obtained at any local library, several area merchants that cater to kids and the Courier Journal business office, 219 W. Tennessee St., Florence.

\$REWARD\$

TRI-COLOR MALE BEAGLE, 35 lbs., Missing since 1/04/18 from corner of CR 154 & CR 81 in Central/Cloverdale area.

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ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE
Day You Went Away

Today's the anniversary Of the day that I lost you. And for a time it felt as though My life had ended too. But loss has taught me many things And now I face each day, With hope and happy memories To help me on my way.

And though I'm full of sadness That you're no longer here, Your influence still guides me And I still feel you near. What we shared will never die It lives within my heart, Bringing strength and comfort While we are apart.

Love Always,
Cliff, Terry, Lorie, Alisha, Josh, Christy and families

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Community Notes

COMMUNITY NOTES may be submitted for non-profit, civic or church-related events and published free of charge. Community Notes must be submitted in writing by 3pm Friday for consideration in the following week's issue. As space is available in the Courier Journal.

- Email to editor@courierjournal.net;
- Look for "Submit News" on our website at www.courierjournal.net.
- Fax to 256-760-9618;
- Mail to 219 W. Tennessee St., Florence, AL 35630; or
- Bring in person.

All properly submitted Community Notes which are dated will be posted weekly at www.courierjournal.net. Visit our website for a complete list.

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<p>PIGGLY WIGGLY 1/2 GAL. PLASTIC JUG Orange Juice 2/\$4</p>	<p>PIGGLY WIGGLY 2 LB. BAG Frozen Crinkle Cut French Fries 2/\$5</p>	<p>PIGGLY WIGGLY 15 OZ. BOX Crackers 2/\$3</p>
<p>FIORA Heavy Duty Paper Towels 6 ROLL PK. 4.99</p>	<p>PIGGLY WIGGLY 14 OZ. BOX Snack Crackers 2/\$5</p>	

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.

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!

Florence Kiwanis Club Meets at noon on Fridays at Marriott Shoals Conference Center. Speakers-January 2018
January 26 - Angie Hamilton, Assistant District Attorney, Lauderdale County, Talking about Criminals

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

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 Sherrad Avenue Church of Christ in Room 103 to discuss "Tips Relative Child Care Providers Can Use to Guide Children's Behavior." Elysia Ergle 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://corinth.alcornanimalshelter.com/2018-fundraiser-calendar-2/ or email alcornpets@gmail.com
Calendars: \$15 each plus \$4 standard shipping

Living With Autism - Autism Spectrum Disorder Support Group, Thursday, January 25, Florence-Lauderdale Public Library, 350 N Wood Ave in Florence, 10am - 12pm Refreshments Served. Contact Information: email: bridgethedges4@gmail.com. 256-740-2532 or 256-712-5943

Meets Monthly on the 4th Thursday

See NOTES... page 9

THE DOLLAR Stretcher

 Want to live better on the money you already make? Visit TheDollar-Stretcher.com for hundreds of articles to help you stretch your day and your dollar!
c. 2018 Dollar Stretcher, Inc.

a week I used to spend waiting for machines and doing reps can be used to rake leaves, trim trees, and garden. I'll save the cost of the gym and maybe even have some fresh veggies in the deal.
Annie

CLEANING OUT A WASHING MACHINE

I've found that laundry soap builds up in my washer. I tried using less laundry soap with each wash, but that wasn't enough. About every six months, I now do a few loads of laundry using baking soda as my detergent. It does a great job of not only cleaning out my washing machine, but also removing a bunch of soap from towels or whatever I'm washing.
Allyson

OVERWHELMING MEDICAL BILLS

If you have a big hospital bill, ask them about a payment plan. Most will gladly have you pay monthly instead of walking away from the debt. If you pay it off as agreed, you'll protect your credit score, too.
A

NO COST EXERCISE PROGRAM

Instead of paying to join a gym, I'm going to commit to doing physical chores around the house this year. The four hours

CLEARING OUT CLOSETS

When the new season comes (be it summer's short-sleeved items

or fall's long-sleeved items), I hang all the items with the hangers facing backwards. When I wear and wash the item, I return it to the closet facing the proper way. At the end of the season, it's easy to tell which of the items I never wore, and those are the ones I donate for someone else to enjoy.
Suzie

REPURPOSED ENTERTAINMENT CENTERS

Last Christmas, we got a TV that was too big for our family room entertainment center. Instead of giving it away or trashing it, I turned the entertainment center into a kitchen for my daughter. She loved it! Since I like repurposing things, I've found other free entertainment centers on the social lists. I've already turned three into kid's play stations. One became another kitchen. Another became a hair salon and the third became a workbench with hangers and storage for tools. I sold them for \$50 each! I'll probably make a few more this year.
Cory

BETTER GROUND TURKEY

I like to cook with ground turkey for health reasons, but subbing it for ground beef can make for tasteless meals. I've learned to work in some spices the night before I cook the ground turkey. For instance, if I'm making chili or tacos, I add some garlic, onion, and pepper. If I'm doing spaghetti, I add some Italian spices. I could add the same spices when I cook, but it doesn't seem to have the same effect.
Tyler

See DOLLAR... page 8

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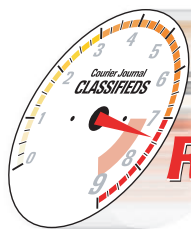
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Iron Horse
courtesy photo

Landers Concert...

Continued from Page 1

historic Ritz Theatre in this musically rich part of Alabama," said Wayne Taylor, bass guitar, vocals for Blue Highway. "Blue Highway doesn't play in Alabama very often, so this is a real treat for me. Not to mention the opportunity to see Jake Landers himself perform. This should be a great night of music."

Blue Highway has earned 27 collective International Bluegrass Music Association Awards and three Grammy nominations as a band, plus two Grammy Awards among its current members. Blue Highway's #1 album, *Original Traditional*, was nominated for a 2017 Grammy Award for Best Bluegrass Album.

"Blue Highway is absolutely the crème de la crème of bluegrass music," Robertson said. "They write, they perform, and they are virtuosos on their instruments. It's going to be a heck of a show with these guys. They bring everything to the table."

Iron Horse performs at concerts across the U.S. and Canada. The group creates much of its own music and is known for the ability to cross genre to bluegrass. Iron Horse performs with a spirit and sense of style that pays the most gratifying compliment to acoustic and bluegrass lovers.

The concert will open with a special performance from the Jake Landers Reunion Band, which includes

Landers, Robertson, Tony Lee, Scooter Muse, and Vance Henry. The band harkens back to when Robertson, Lee, and Henry performed with Landers, touring and doing festivals.

"Jake brought the real deal to our endeavors into music," Robertson said. "He had already written songs for Bill Monroe and Vassar Clements and others who were already icons in bluegrass. He was important to us because he brought that legitimate association."

The Bluegrass Concert was created in 2010 and to honor Shoals bluegrass artist, Jake Landers, who performed at the Grand Ole Opry and was one of Bill Monroe's "Blue Grass Boys." He is an award-winning songwriter and Grammy nominee. Landers is an Alabama Music Hall of Fame Music Achiever and was inducted with the first class into the Alabama Bluegrass Hall of Fame.

The Jake Landers Bluegrass Concert is a sanctioned event by the Alabama Bicentennial Celebration. Its mission is to engage residents in educational programs, community activities, and statewide initiatives that celebrate the history of the state. This program has been made possible by grants from the Alabama State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts and Pettus Mechanical.

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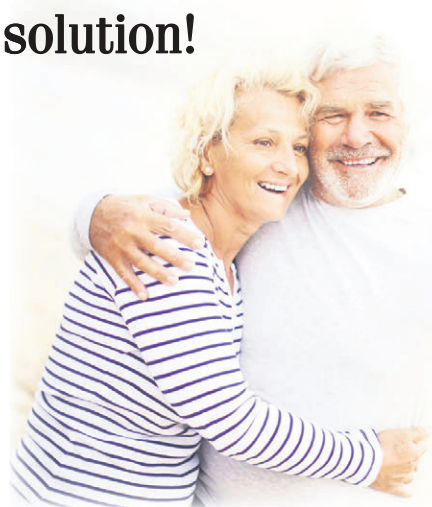
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FORD: EXPLORER SPORT TRAC, 2009 \$16,750. 90k, 2nd owner. Bed cover, towing package, excellent condition. Call 256-476-1930 (no texts)(Decatur)

Toys...

Continued from Page 1

families prior to Christmas Day. "This program grows every year thanks to our generous communities," said Macke Mauldin, Bank Independent's President. "Every year our community partners distribute toys to more

and more local children. We express our gratitude to everyone who helped us make this Christmas brighter for our neighbors and friends."

Recipient organizations included the Angel Tree Program in partnership with Lexington High School, Committee on Church Cooperation of Morgan County, William Porter Foundation in the Shoals, Safeplace of the Shoals, Cornerstone Church in Lawrence County, North Alabama Christian Children's Home, Department of Human Resources of Franklin County, Department of Human Resources of Lawrence County, Department of Human Resources of Limestone County, Christmas Charities Year Round in Huntsville, and the Rogersville Volunteer Fire Department.

Toy Share was the last of four annual share drives hosted by Bank Independent in 2017 to give back to the community as part of Bank Independent's Helping Hands initiative. The first share drive of 2018, Shelter Share, will run through the month of February. Shelter Share offers all Bank Independent locations as convenient donation points for pet food and supplies to be donated to area animal shelters.

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THE DOLLAR Stretcher

Continued from Page 5

RESOLUTION ASSISTANCE

If you have trouble keeping your resolutions, try having very specific goals. For example, instead of having a goal of getting in shape, you should have a goal of losing two pounds each month this year. Another goal may be to add \$100 to a credit card payment each month. Not only is it easier to measure if you're reaching your goal, but also having a specific target helps you to plan what you'll need to do to reach it. When you achieve your target each month, you can pat yourself on the back for a job well done!

Matthew

LOSING HEAT AND MONEY THIS WINTER

Although icicles may look pretty hanging from your house after a big snowstorm, they are indicators of substantial heat loss! They show the places where escaping heat has melted the snow causing it to drip and freeze. Take note of where they are on your home, and check the areas out to see if extra insulation is needed. It's amazing to see just how many homes have them.

M.

CLEAN AND EASY STORAGE

I recently discovered a time-saving item. We have a large family and I have accumulated banquet-sized tables to seat everyone at our family events. Yesterday, as I was moving the tables back into our shop, I suddenly thought of using the large Christmas tree disposal bags to put the tables in to keep them clean and dust free until the next party. I purchased them at 59 cents each at Home Depot in the Christmas clearance aisle. They will also be used to cover my stacked chairs.

A

EASIER PULLED PORK

I do pulled pork every year for our annual BBQ, and this year, instead of a Boston Butt, my husband grabbed seven rib pork roasts. I stuck them in the slow cooker on low for about 10 hours with about a cup of water on the bottom and they shredded to pieces easier than any before. I didn't have to contend with bones, fatty gristle, or waste. Also, everyone raved about the pork this year (they do every year, but especially this year).

Lisa via Facebook

See DOLLAR... page 19

ASK THE ATTORNEY



Thomas McCutcheon

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

Q My ex-husband was ordered at our divorce hearing to pay child support in the amount of \$186 every two weeks for our two children and to keep them on his insurance. He hasn't done either one. The children are on All Kids and Medicaid health insurance. He is over \$10,000 past due on child support. He is not working right now and hasn't paid child support in several months. Is he in contempt? I've been told no. He never helps with the kids. He can see them anytime he wants to, but he chooses not to see them much at all. He never helps out with buying their clothes or anything they need. I've been told that there is nothing I can do. Would you please advise me on what rights I have?

Holly, Florence, AL

A Your children deserve better and it must be very frustrating to see this happening.

You have raised a number of issues and they are, unfortunately, more common than they should be. First, the fact is that the children are covered medically and that is great. If they were not eligible for publicly funded programs and you purchased commercial health insurance you could potentially make your ex-husband pay you back for the cost you incur.

I say potentially because he is not paying anything now.

Back when I did divorce work I always advised my clients to turn their case over to DHR after the divorce became final. It costs little and they are aggressive. They have so many cases that they can not be as fast as a privately paid lawyer, but good lawyers are expensive.

To answer your question as to whether or not he is in contempt of court would require more information than I have but I will give you the legal analysis that the courts typically use:

- If the father is working and not paying he is in contempt. His bills and living expenses are not a factor, child support comes first.
- If, on the other hand, the father is injured or disabled to the extent that he can not work then he can not be held in contempt.
- If the father is voluntarily not working, he can be held in contempt.
- If the father is voluntarily under employed, i.e., a dentist choosing to work in a car wash, he can be held in contempt.

All of these must be proven in court. I hope I have given the information that you need to answer your question.

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

Please send the questions to:

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Community Notes...

Continued from page 4

Do You Know Of A Tree In The City Of Florence That Is 200 Years Old?

The Florence Tree Commission is gathering information from Florence citizens who may know of a tree in the City that could be 200 years old or more. Should you wish to submit a tree and its location for our search, please send us a note with your contact information to the Florence Tree Commission, P.O. Box 98, Florence, AL 35631.

Come enjoy a great meal of ALL YOU CAN EAT fish and chicken at the Underwood-Petersville Volunteer Fire Department on Saturday January 27 from 2-7pm. Meal includes fish, chicken fingers, or a combination of the two, and homemade slaw, homemade hush puppies, fries, onions, sauces, sweet or unsweet tea, and coffee. Bring the whole family for a great meal and fellowship. 25 years and going strong. Dine in or carry-out. Adults \$11 Children 8 and under \$5

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

Thursday, January 25, 7am - 5pm, ECM Hospital, 205 Marengo Street, Florence

Friday, January 26, 1-7pm, Walmart, 517 West Avalon Ave, Muscle Shoals

Saturday, January 27, Noon - 7pm, Sky Zone, 250 Mangum Street, Florence
Sunday, January 28, 10am - 4pm, Books A Million, 318 Cox Creek Parkway, Florence

Monday, January 29, 11am - 7pm, Workout Anytime, 992 Cox Creek Parkway, Florence

Tuesday, January 30, 9am - 4pm, Heritage Christian University, 3625 Helton Drive, Florence

Wednesday, January 31, 7:30am - 4pm, Brooks High School, 4300 Hwy 72, Killen

Schedule at The Club (Senior Center) 450 Country Club Drive, Florence 256-760-6642 Smoke free, alcohol free facility.

Nutrition Program, LUNCH, \$1, 60+ years old. Monday-Friday, 11 am. Seating for 35 people by 10:30am. Drop by for a monthly menu.

Joints in Motion, chair exercise class, M/W/F 8:45am. All ages. No charge.

Social Dance, music covering several decades, by the Browns, Tuesday nights, 6:30-9pm, \$5. 18 + years.

Singing River Squares, Winter Beginner Lessons Mondays, 6:30-8:30pm

January 22-March 26. Singles, Couples, Families welcomed. First two weeks are FREE! After week three, we will not be able to accept new dancers for this class.

Singing River Squares, Friday Nights, 6:20-9pm. Seasoned square dancers. \$5. Caller Chuck Bermele. Mainstream, Plus.

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 hksiblingsclass@gmail.com.

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 February 8 at 10am at the Sherrod Avenue Church of Christ in Room 103 to discuss "Healthy Habits." Alisha Albright from the Family Guidance Center of Alabama will discuss fun and interactive ways to teach your child healthy eating and hygiene habits. For more information call Alisha Albright, Kids and Kin Program, at 334-465-9205.

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.

Couples Line Dance Class-Florence Parks and Recreation Department is sponsoring a Couples Line Dance Class at Broadway Recreation Center. The class is on Fridays in February from 7-8:30pm. The fee is \$40/couple and \$30/individual. Call to reserve your spot: 256-760-6418

For details on the class call Jan Ownby at 256-627-0052. Broadway Recreation Center is located at 300 N. Broadway St. in Florence.

The annual Burrell-Slater High School Athletic Hall of Fame Dinner takes place at 6:30pm on Friday, February 2 at the old Burrell Slater Gym, 610 College Street in Florence. Tickets are \$20 each and are available by contacting Dave Smith at 256-719-9057 or John Humes at 256-764-1144. The 2018 inductees are:

1. Charles Blackburn (Outstanding lineman for 1956 football team)
2. Curtis Simpson (all conference running back -1945-48)
3. Albert "Dusty" Suggs (Legendary halfback and one of the famous Suggs brothers who played in the 1940's)
4. Shirley White Moulton (high scorer and star player for the 1949-51 women's basketball team)
5. 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)

3. Albert "Dusty" Suggs (Legendary halfback and one of the famous Suggs brothers who played in the 1940's)

4. Shirley White Moulton (high scorer and star player for the 1949-51 women's basketball team)

5. 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)

An added feature will be a Special Tribute to the seven coaches who have led these teams to victory. Everyone is invited to this outstanding recognition dinner.

Underwood-Petersville Community Center Breakfast -- please join us for our first Saturday Breakfast, February 3 from 6-9am. Menu: scrambled eggs, sausage, bacon, biscuits, pancakes, grits, wonderful chocolate gravy, sausage and regular gravy, orange juice, regular and decaf coffee. Adult plates are \$6 and children 8 and under is \$3. Proceeds go toward the Center expenses.

See NOTES... page 30

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To see more about this exciting opportunity and apply, please visit www.walgreens.com/careers/corporate and search job number 59204BR. "Walgreens is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer committed to diversity in the workforce. EOE Minorities/Women/Disabled/Veterans"

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THE TECH INDUSTRY HAS been quaking with the news of flaws that were discovered in the Central Processing Units (CPUs) made by Intel, AMD and ARM (the chips used in most cell phones). Put simply, researchers found a way to trick your processor into giving up personal data. Malicious software has to be installed on your computer for this to happen. These flaws have been ominously named Meltdown and Spectre. Every computer you own is affected; Mac, PCs, iPhones, Android devices--everything. It sounds scary but, as usual, some of this fear is a bit exaggerated--at least for us little people.



Fisher

A processor works like a series

BUG COLLUSION

by "The Computer Skeptic"

of millions of rivers of data that eventually empty into an ocean called Operating System. There are many dams along these streams that control the flow of information. Information in those little streams is normally strictly isolated from the less secure operating system.

But chip makers have been working on ways to supercharge the transmission of data in those little rivers so much that the dams sometimes overflow. That excess data is put into a separate reservoir called a cache that is eventually released back into the stream after the blockage

is cleared. That cache is less protected than the tributaries. Someone found a way to access that cache. Most of that cached data is indecipherable but some of it, under analysis, contains snippets of secure data such as passwords, websites visited, and your secret chicken and dumplings recipe.

Some cool facts about this: The flaw is 20 years old. It was only recently discovered by Google employees and at least three other independent researchers--all within weeks of each other which is very strange. So strange that they

gave it a name: Bug Collusion. It is certainly possible that some hacker somewhere discovered this flaw years ago and has been using it all this time.

In a statement responding to flaws, Intel noted that, "these exploits do not have the potential to corrupt, modify, or delete data," though they do have the ability to spy on privileged data.

Is this something you should worry about with your own PC? Not really, unless you are North Korea, a high-value spy, terrorist, or the CEO of a company that stores sensitive data that hackers find juicy. All the major players have already released software patches making this whole thing fairly innocuous. But big companies such as Amazon, Google, and the Federal Government certainly are a bit worried because they have been high value targets for many years and no telling what,

if anything, was already stolen.

There is not much that you as an individual can do about this other than making sure your operating system is up-to-date on your phones, computers, and tablets. Otherwise, the headlines are probably much scarier than the actual threat. And if you really want my chicken and dumplings recipe, there's no need to break into my CPU. Just ask.

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



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What Do You Do On A Snow Day?

STAN DEAN

As I write this we are having a "snow day." We do not get too many of these in this part of the country, so when we do, it can be kind of a big deal. My wife had gone to the grocery store a couple of days before, so we were well-stocked with milk and bread. I have never quite understood the "milk and bread necessity" when it snows, but it made us feel prepared anyway.

So, what is one supposed to do on a snow day? Of course, for some professions there is no such luxury, but for others there is. For me personally, I can do a lot of my work from home (like write articles), so it does not interrupt my day completely. But I still took some time to enjoy this special day.

While this is not an exhaustive list, here are a few "snow day possibilities." First, just enjoy it as one of God's wonders. God once asked Job, "Have you entered the treasury of snow?" (Job 38:22). There are a few things we know about snow, but plenty we do not. But if we observe just the beauty alone then we receive a blessing. How often do we get to see our surroundings being blanketed with this treasure from God's storehouse?

For Christians, seeing a snowfall can serve as a great reminder of the forgiveness from God. When we behold this brilliant purity of white we should remember God's comforting words, "Though your sins be as scarlet, they shall be as white as snow..." (Isaiah 1:18). Thus, I spent a portion of my day thanking God for the wonder of His creation as well as the beauty of His forgiveness through Jesus.

Snow Days can also be a natural set-up for great family time. When our kids were at home, we always built snowmen, had snowball battles, made snow cream, slid off hills, took hikes, et.al. Now that the kids are grown and gone, my wife and I do not do those things so much. But we did watch a movie together, which is kind of a rarity for us. It was nice not to feel the pressure of having to be somewhere or meeting a deadline.

Finally, I got to take a guiltless nap! Oh, I like to work and stay busy. But every now and then a nap is in order. Even Jesus occasionally gave His apostles a "snow day" (Luke 9:10).

We could go on, but hopefully the point has been made. What should do on a snow day? Enjoy it - - and thank God for it!

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Commentary

Assorted Holes Here and There

Apparently, no one else in the closed-door meeting with President Trump except Sen. Dick Durbin heard the word sh-- hole in describing some third-world countries.

Although others in the room including the president admitted that there was some tough language used, no one agrees THAT wording is what was used.

So, Durbin likely embellished it and the all-too-eager press wanted to know all about Durbin's juicy inaccurate recollection. They apparently use journalistic license to anoint the allegedly referenced countries with human characteristics, thus allowing for easy generalizations about racist statements. Durbin does a few interviews, arranges a hearing on the matter and we have worldwide racial discontent about America. Congratulations democrats. Well played... again.

Let's just go ahead and say that Trump DID use such a reference for some countries in Africa and Central America. SO WHAT?!

Many of us residing in our own La La Land want to pretend that all societies and cultures are identical, and if there are differences, none should be mentioned out of fear we might offend someone or exacerbate a stereotype.

If there were no differences in the United States and all other countries...

See HOLES... 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

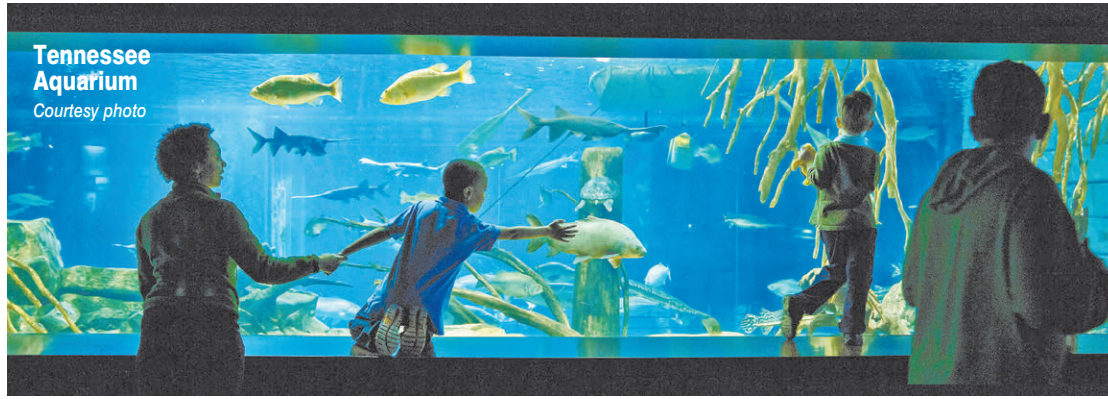
in the

Shoals

January 24, 2018

THIS WEEK

Happening THIS WEEK



Tennessee Aquarium
Courtesy photo

FEBRUARY FUN

Half-Off Aquarium for Scouts & Others

by Casey Phillips

CHATTANOOGA – College students, staff, faculty, and members of scouting organizations can take advantage of half-price admission to the Tennessee Aquarium and IMAX 3D Theater during the month of February. Discounts apply to Aquarium tickets, 45-minute IMAX film screenings and combo ticket

purchases.

Scouts must wear their uniform or sash to receive the discount. College students must be enrolled at or employed by a physical or online institution and present a valid student ID or online transcript. College faculty and staff can take advantage of the discount by presenting a pay

Feb. 1-28

See AQUARIUM... on Page 13

5 Reasons to Clean Out Your Financial Garage

It's amazing how much stuff piles up in a family garage over the years. The stacks get higher every year because, presumably, the items within them hold value. It becomes harder to throw anything away.

NOW

While ignoring all those old bicycles, cleaning

supplies, and other odds and ends in your garage may not change your life, the same cannot be said for ignoring all the financial clutter accumulating in your bank accounts, 401(k)s, IRAs and other investment storage

See FINANCIAL... on Page 14

THE WADE HALL COLLECTION: THE EXHIBITS, THE POSTCARDS, AND THE STORIES will be presented on Thursday, January 25 at 11:30am in the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library. Ruth Elder from Troy University will give a presentation about the exhibit, which is on display at FLPL throughout January. The presentation will be an overview of Dr. Hall's collection of over 25,000 vintage postcards, the creation of the postcard exhibits, and stories of the Alabama represented by these historic cards. The exhibition consists of two parts. The Historical Buildings exhibit includes courthouses, post offices, schools, and churches throughout the state. The digital exhibit is available at <https://trojan.troy.edu/library/wadehall>. Elder is Troy University's cataloging librarian and the main researcher, writer, and organizer for the Wade Hall Postcard Traveling Exhibits. She has two masters degrees and over 35 years of library experience.

A WALTZ DANCE WORKSHOP followed by a dance will be Thursday, January 25 at the Dance Academy located at 2801 Mall Drive in the Parkway Shopping Center, Florence. Casual - FUN - Affordable. 6pm workshop, 7-9:30pm: Ballroom Dancing, Line dancing & Country 2 Step. Attire is casual. The night is FREE for all 2018 NADC MEMBERS. May pay at the door. Yearly dues are \$25. If you do not want to be a member, simply pay \$8 fee and join in. For questions, call 256-740-1661.

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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Women
Flowers Hall
Thurs. Jan. 25 • 6pm
vs West Florida
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Flowers Hall
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vs West Florida
Sat. Jan. 27 • 3pm
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YOUR Letters

The internet fad puts teens at risk for rashes, severe internal burns, and scarring from detergent chemicals.



Spills Vile Comments

Editor:

One of your frequent letter writers recently called our new Senator a baby killer and intimated that all Democrats, including me, are baby killers as well.

Well, Mr. E White, where do you stand on healthcare out of the womb for children? Where do you stand on giving kids with seizures CBD Oil or other cannabinoids to alleviate those seizures?

Hey man of conservative family values, why have you stood silent when a child of ten was brought into this country with the WOW of a new adventure only to be deported 30 years later after starting a family, holding

down a good job, and earning a college degree?

Additionally, where do you get off telling a person who has a legal right to a medical procedure that they are condemned to hell just because you do not like that procedure? Really Mr. E? How would you like me to insert myself into your medical life and pass judgement on a needed surgery?

And that goes for the editor of this fine weekly newspaper. You let people like Mr. E spill vile comments on people like me, and you do and say nothing. How nice for you, Tom, to have such power.

Oh Tom, if E. White can name names in his posts, I want that same right.

Mike Soroczak
Muscle Shoals

The Real Racists

Editor:

Overt Institutional Racism: The enactment, the enforcement, and/or the administration of a law, regulation, or policy that grants favor to or creates a disadvantage to a person or persons based on skin color.

Consider two groups: Each group has 20-25 million persons. The persons in each group are mostly poor to impoverished, non-educated, non-English speaking, and Catholic or Protestant.

The approximate 23.8 million white Europeans that came to the U.S.

See LETTERS... on Page 20

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

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Aquarium

Continued from Page 12

stub. The discount is available to the entire visiting party and applies to all visits from February 1-28. This discount arrives just in time to offer a reprieve from slate gray winter skies and frigid temperatures.

The Aquarium's Ocean Journey and River Journey buildings are full of charismatic, colorful animals from leaping lemurs, romping otters and fluttering butterflies to cruising alligators and a world-famous tweeting Electric Eel.

Visitors arriving in February will be able to catch up on many recent additions to the Aquarium, including vividly violet purple-stripe Jellyfish and a new display of freshwater pipefish. The exhibit arrived in late 2017 and features an engaging suite of interactive and high-tech displays, including a holographic animation focusing on the importance of small fish and human behaviors that impact water quality.

Across the street in the IMAX 3D Theater, visitors will have a choice of two exciting giant-screen films. *Amazon Adventure* 3D follows the real-life exploits of English naturalist Henry Bates who spent a decade in the world's largest rainforest. There he conducted research that he believes supports

Charles Darwin's theory of natural selection. The newest addition to the theater's slate, *Conquest of the Skies*, presents a stunning examination of what science estimates at a 300-million-year history of nature's domination of the skies, from Paleozoic winged reptiles to darting hummingbirds and graceful Whooper Swans.

College and Scout Day Discount Rates*:

Tennessee Aquarium: \$15 (adults and college students) / \$9.50 (ages 3-12)
 IMAX*: \$6 (adults) / \$5 (ages 3-12)

Tennessee Aquarium/IMAX combo ticket: \$19 (adults) / \$13.50 (ages 3-12)

* Ticket purchases must be redeemed during the month of February. IMAX discounts valid on 45-minute screenings, not feature-length films.

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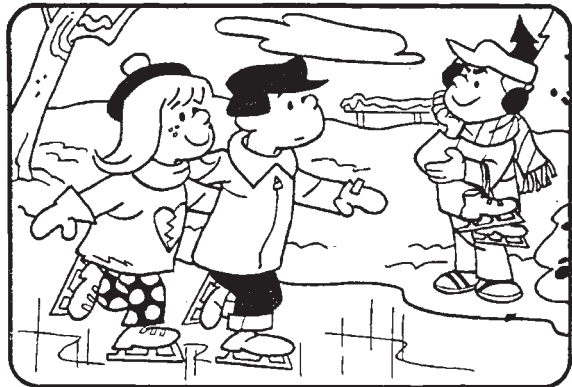
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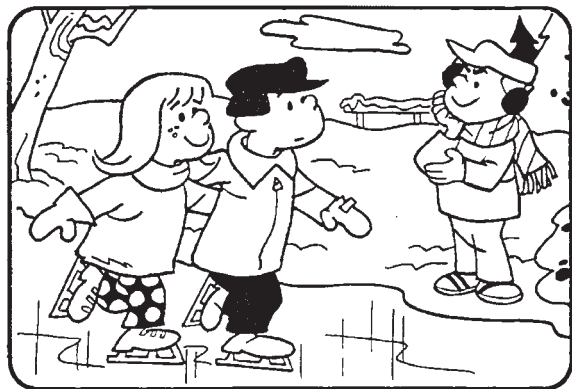
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BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Hat is missing. 2. Heart is missing. 3. Cloud is missing. 4. Cuffs are missing. 5. Arm is missing. 6. Skates are missing. 7. Hat is moved. 8. Skates are missing. 9. Hat is smaller. 10. Cloud is missing. 11. Cuffs are missing. 12. Heart is missing. 13. Cloud is missing. 14. Cuffs are missing. 15. Arm is missing. 16. Skates are missing. 17. Hat is moved. 18. Skates are missing. 19. Hat is smaller. 20. Cloud is missing. 21. Cuffs are missing. 22. Heart is missing. 23. Cloud is missing. 24. Cuffs are missing.

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Financial...

Continued from Page 12

units. Eventually, your money, your investments and your financial plans need a good cleaning and reorganizing.

"Financial products, investments and plans have a shelf life," says Mark Fried, president of TFG Wealth Management (www.tfgwealth.com) and author of Road Rules for Retirement. "You have to be aware of that and focus on it. The reason they have a shelf life is because your life changes - you have kids, lose jobs, have parents to take care of, or you make

a lot more money. Like items in an overstuffed garage, some things in your financial garage might be outdated - or need to be found and updated."

Fried lists five areas to reorganize in your financial garage:

- **Your Basic Financial Plan.** Some people purchase a plan when they're young, but put it aside. "For folks who have one, they had it done probably because the person was trying to sell them something," Fried says. "Now it's sitting in the back of the garage under the car wax they don't use anymore. If you have a retirement plan, you have to re-evaluate it and make sure it's something you can use and depend on."
- **Old Investments** Investments that seemed to make sense years before should be re-evaluated. "You need to know why your money is where it is," Fried said. "Why did you buy that partnership, or why did you buy this stock or this mutual fund? Now you're at a different stage of life, and the reason you had for buying it then isn't valid now."
- **Missing Money** As in a garage, things go missing. The workforce of the twenty-first century is highly mobile. Every time you change a job there is a 401(k) or pension that has

to be tracked. "Now there are software packages that allow you to track all your investments or retirement accounts," Fried said. "You can easily track your old employer plans."

- **All Insurance** Policies for life insurance, health, auto and homeowners all are worth a careful review. Fried points out that these reviews can lead to money savings. Empty nesters may want to restructure their auto policy since the kids aren't driving the parents' cars anymore; or a whole life insurance policy could be tweaked to bring more value. "A good insurance agent is reviewing your policies every year," Fried says.

- **Estate Plan.** Wills may need updating. "A lot of people have a will, but they did it when their kids were very young. Now the kids are 27 and 31. The estate laws change. The power of attorney language could be out of date. Or maybe you have gotten divorced and not changed the beneficiary. It all has to be coordinated."

"You've collected all this stuff over the years," Fried said, "and you need to see what serves a purpose and what does not."



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1. A violent whirlpool.
2. A small South American monkey.
3. A great composer.
4. A performer of great skill.
5. An intent gaze.
6. To demolish.
7. Body of water.
8. In the same manner.
9. Your grade for this test?

Illustrated by David Coulson

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	21	25	
24			22
	27		
			26

[75]

Answers On Page 30

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Commentary

Holes...

Continued from Page 12

• What would be the problem with sending ALL illegals back home? Their lives should be just as rewarding in their native lands as they would be here.

• Why do so many people risk their lives entering the U.S. illegally by land or sea?

• Why don't we all flock to all these comparable countries to vacation the way we do areas in Europe, California, or the Caribbean?

• Why aren't people risking their lives to leave here and go to those countries illegally?

So America is no better than Haiti, El Salvador, Venezuela, or other Central America, South American, or African nations? Some Americans honestly do not think so. They do not believe our constitution is better, that our economic system is better, that our religious diversity is better, our freedom of opinion or freedom to peaceably assemble are better, or our top-to-bottom lifestyle is better.

We need to all be honest for a moment.

In an apples-to-apples comparison, certain countries ARE less desirable. Many of the countries with miserable human rights records, corrupt officials, communist philosophies, a floundering currency, oppressive/false religions, treat women as subhuman, and those with very few desirable vacation destinations would generally top the list. There was no mention of skin tone, race, or ethnicity. Only those on the left read that into any alleged statement.

Make no mistake. The evidence of racism is all around this situation. However, it is only through the fact that so many objectors are only concerned with the alleged insult to those residing in African nations. They don't care about anyone or anywhere else.

As a country we have been spending tens of billions of dollars in health, agricultural, military, and economic aid in many of these countries primarily because in many aspects they ARE sh--holes that need rescuing. Why is there suddenly a problem admitting it? Unfortunately, the colorful term could just as easily be used in describing American politicians and journalists who would rather create distraction and domestic and international turmoil than entertain an honest debate of ideas.

Yes, the president is less refined than others. It is a drawback for him but is also part of his appeal. At least we are hearing the truth about delicate subjects.

For decades we have let political correctness and this global mindset overtake common sense and our Constitution which was written for the benefit of the United States and its citizenry, NOT for a socialist new world order. That includes dismantling the current absurd immigration policy.

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THE DOLLAR Stretcher
Continued from Page 8

INSTEAD OF RESOLUTIONS

Instead of New Year's resolutions, I have a few goals that I'll be working towards this year. Resolutions always seem like an all or nothing deal, but I can reach for my goals as slowly or quickly as I want. For instance, I want to bring my lunch to work. Therefore, I plan on doing it as often as I can until it becomes a habit. Then I'll move on to my next goal, which is clearing the clutter in our house. I have six goals I hope to work on this year.

Nichole

MY EXERCISE PLAN

I want to get in better shape this year, but I don't have the time or money for a gym. Therefore, I'm going to do more physical work around the house. Last summer, I paid a teenager to cut my grass. This year, I'll do it myself. I'll also look for ways to get extra exercise in my daily routine. For instance, I won't look for the closest parking space. It is better to walk a bit. You get the idea. I know it's not as good as a formal workout, but it's what I can afford.

Lori

CLOTHES DRYER EFFICIENCY

Most of us use dryer sheets. Until recently, I didn't realize they left a residue on the lint catcher that attracts lint! This means that I need to clean the lint catcher weekly. If I don't, the dryer takes longer to dry clothes and that costs money.

Kaley

DISHWASHER CARE

Hard water was building up on my dishwasher until I started adding a cup of white vinegar to every fourth load. I put a coffee cup face up in the top rack and fill it halfway with vinegar. Then I run a normal cycle. This keeps my dishwasher clean and running fine!

Jeanette

BIRD FEED

We like to bird watch, and to encourage them, we put out birdseed every day. It was getting expensive until I went to the local farm feed store. They have chicken scratch in 50-pound bags that costs about half what regular birdseed costs. Now we can indulge our feathered friends and not worry about the cost.

Tonya

See DOLLAR... page 28

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

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

Jason Isbell...

Continued from Page 1

named the No. 5 best album of 2017 by *The Ringer*, and is nominated for Best Americana Album at the 2018 Grammy Awards. A song from the record, "If We Were Vampires," also received a Grammy nod for Best American Roots Song. "We cannot think of a more exciting or current artist than Jason Isbell for our 30th annual Classic," said Beth Richardson, Progress Bank Madison market president and 2018 Huntsville Classic co-chairman. "He is a Muscle Shoals native, and we are thrilled to host him here in Huntsville to benefit this worthy cause."

General admission tickets for the 30th annual Huntsville Classic go on sale Friday, Jan. 12, at 10 a.m., and can be purchased at the VBC Box Office or online at Ticketmaster.com. Concert-only tickets start at just \$25. Tickets for the Classic Dinner to be held on the Arena floor

prior to the concert and the Isbell performance are \$200 per person and can be purchased by calling the Foundation office at (256) 265-8077.

The 2018 Classic, hosted by the Foundation and founding sponsor Hexagon, will benefit Huntsville Hospital's Orthopedic Surgery department.

"Huntsville Hospital is such an integral part of our community, impacting the lives of our employees and their families through education, diagnostics and health care," said Scott Moore, Hexagon PPM chief financial officer/ chief operating officer and 2018 Huntsville Classic co-chairman. "In 1989, Intergraph became a Founding Sponsor of the Huntsville Classic. Our parent company, Hexagon, continues its commitment to this event as we celebrate the 30th year of this very important cause."

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*Discounts provided every day; marked prices reflect general U.S. market value for similar products.

Letters...

The Real Racists

Continued from Page 12

through Ellis Island were required by law to sign or make their mark on a form that included the Pledge of Allegiance. The estimated 20 million brown Latino immigrants who have not signed or made their mark on a form that includes the Pledge as required by the Progressives, the Liberals, and the Moderates have met the same legal, regulatory, and/or policy requirements as the white Europeans.

Which political philosophy has the greatest number of Overt Institutional Racists? - Progressives, Liberals, Moderates or Conservatives?

Vic Billingham Killen

Responsibility is an Option

Editor:

The ladies (oops!, females) of ABC's *The View* are constantly picking on evangelicals for voting Trump.

They lie saying it is not their place to judge, but they are bitter and derogatory toward evangelicals. Whoopi G. said if women could not legally get an abortion, they would go back to using coat hangers, throwing themselves down stairs, using LestOil etc. to abort.

Whoopi, if a woman does not want to risk getting pregnant then she should not have intercourse. If she can't practice abstinence, use a form of birth control.

If she can't use birth control and she gets pregnant, place the baby for adoption or the woman and the man can take the responsibility and raise the child that they created.

In any case, stop throwing the blame, guilt, and responsibility on everyone who did not commit the sexual act. Unless rape is involved, take responsibility for your own actions.

Paul Sabatino Florence

This Fad Focus is a Dead End

Editor:

As part of a bizarre social media trend, teens taking the "Tide Challenge" are posting videos where they put water soluble Tide detergent pods in their mouths, putting themselves at high risk for serious health consequences or death.

The nation's emergency physicians strongly advise not to attempt chewing or swallowing detergent or similar chemical products.

Parents are told to keep these products out of the reach of young children who might mistake the colorful spongy pods for candy or chewable toys. For older children, teens, or anyone else, to voluntarily poison yourself in search of internet fame is ill-advised and dangerous.

The internet fad puts teens at risk for rashes, severe internal burns, and scarring from detergent chemicals. In some instances, injuries can result in patients that require feeding through a tube in their abdominal wall or breathing through

See LETTERS... on Page 23

The Wooden Bowl

I remember hearing about a family that moved their aging Father/Grandfather into their home. At first the couple and their children had a hard time adjusting to the change. For days it seemed like things were working toward a blow up. For three meals in a row the old man had dropped his plate, covering the floor with broken china and food. In exasperation, the mother began to serve her father his meals in a wooden bowl. The old gentleman did not complain. He knew he would probably drop the bowl sometime – proving her right about him.

One day, after several meals, one of the children asked his mother this question, "Mom, how old do you have to be before we give you a wooden bowl?" The words hung in the air for what seemed like an eternity. She got up from the table and, with tears in her eyes, got down one of the good dishes and fixed her father a new plate of food. She then took that wooden bowl and threw it in the garbage.

Seeing the situation through the eyes of that child sure did cause a quick change. There is value in seeing things through another's eyes.

How often do we ask others for their opinion? Do we seek counsel from others? If we only do what we know to do, we are missing out on the treasure of knowledge others may be willing to impart. Such a search for knowledge could change us. Without a doubt, it would enrich our lives. We could find great blessings only available to us by drinking from wells we never dug.

Take someone to lunch this week and ask them what your life, business habits, etc. look like through their eyes. What are the perceptions others have about you? The truth is - all we have is our reputation. What do others see when they see you? Do you think you know? If you really want to know, ASK.

Oh yes, one last thing. Remember the Golden Rule. "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you." (Matthew 7:12)



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Sudden Destruction

Usually no one is ready for sudden destruction, but it's coming. As we see in **1 Thessalonians 5:3** "For when they shall say, Peace and safety; then sudden destruction cometh upon them, as travail upon a woman with child; and they shall not escape." Mothers probably grasp the meaning of this verse more than fathers. Helpless is one of the best words that can be used in a birth situation. Usually no one is prepared to lose everything. The Apostle Paul did. "See **Philippians 3:8**." One warning from God in **Luke 21:26** "Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken." Another warning in **James 5:1-3** "Go to now, ye rich men, weep and howl for your miseries that shall come upon you. Your riches are corrupted, and your garments are motheaten. Your gold and silver is cankered; and the rust of them shall be a witness against you, and shall eat your flesh as it were fire. Ye have heaped treasure together for the last days." We leave all at the grave. Right now there is a movement to buy precious metals. When the world's major food producing nations have a huge crop failure, panic will ensue. Metals will not digest.

Read your bible, *there are famines coming*. There are three world wars coming up. "See Revelation chapters 6, 19&20." Famines in **Mark 13:8** "For nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom: and there shall be earthquakes in divers places, and there shall be famines and troubles: these are the beginnings of sorrows." **Luke 21:11** "And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven." **Revelation 6:8** "And I looked, and behold a pale horse: and his name that sat on him was Death, and Hell followed with him. And power was given unto them over the fourth part of the earth, to kill with sword, and with hunger, and with death, and with the beasts of the earth." **Revelation 18:8** "Therefore shall her plagues come in one day, death, and mourning, and famine; and she shall be utterly burned with fire: for strong is the Lord God who judgeth her." Are you ready for sudden destruction? A split nation cannot stand. Are you saved? THIS NATION AND YOU JUST NEED JESUS.

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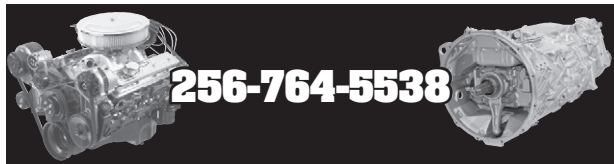
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NOTICE OF ABANDONED AND UNCLAIMED MOTOR VEHICLES

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.**

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98 MITSUBISHI MONTERO	JA4LS31PXW020786		BLACK	SCHNEIDERS AUTO
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Sweetheart Sentiments

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Sentiments will appear in our Valentine's Issue February 14!

- 5 WAYS TO PLACE A SWEETHEART SENTIMENT -

Email it to Classified@courierjournal.net Mail it to the address below or Fax it to 256-760-9618. We'll set it up and call you with a price.

You can place it in person at our office or CALL US at 256-764-4268.

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

Please print your Sweetheart Sentiment NEATLY below and give us your contact information below. We will contact you. Spacing does not represent actual lines in the paper.

Below please write YOUR Name, address & preferred phone # (will not be published)

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!

Only \$7 for 4 lines and that includes a **bold red heart**.



I LOVE YOU so much Jeremy! Happy Valentine's Day, Leigh

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY to our sweet mommy. We love the heater inside! Love, Allie Kat, Little Man, and Fuzzy Pants

Each sentiment is just \$7 for 4 lines including your special red heart
1.25 for each additional line.



DEADLINE: FRIDAY, FEB. 9

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Mystery Photo

Courier Journal
 of the week!

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 Enter at www.courierjournal.net

Last week's winner is Dan Kenney of Cherokee who correctly guessed "Joe Wheeler State Park Boat Dock, Rogersville"

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.

Letters...

This Fad Focus is a Dead End

Continued from Page 20

a hole in their throat. Eating detergent products can cause choking, trouble breathing, vomiting, abdominal pain, tearing of the stomach lining, sinus damage, neurological problems, and even death.

Please use these products as intended and directed on the label. If you, or somebody you know, ingests detergent chemicals you should contact a poison control center and take them to the ER immediately.

The 24-hour American Association of Poison Control Centers (AAPCC) Poison Help line can be reached at 1-800-222-1222 and www.PoisonHelp.org.

Paul Kivela, MD, FACEP
 President American College of Emergency Physicians
 Washington DC

Assured of the Scalers' Votes

Editor:

Tribune News Service op-ed columnist Dan Thomasson writes "The Walls don't work" and cites the Berlin Wall as proof of his statement. He writes, "If the Berlin Wall taught us anything, that was it." The Berlin wall was not built to keep people out. It was built by the Soviets to keep people in Communist East Germany.

I had duty as officer-in-charge of Checkpoint Charlie in Berlin during the winter of 1962-63. There is no doubt that the wall was effective in keeping the Germans in East Berlin (many of whom had family in West Berlin) from entering West Berlin. Of course, the Communists had armed guards to prevent people from scaling the wall.

We need the wall to keep criminals from crossing our borders. Anyone who enters without a passport and visa is a criminal. Of course, we would also still need our border patrol, but they can do a much better job with fewer casualties if we have a physical barrier like a wall. The only reason I can find for the Democrats wanting open borders is that they are virtually assured of votes for the Democratic Party. There is no doubt that illegals have been voting in recent years and all of them for the Democrats. The Democrats' claim to compassion for the illegals is largely a pretense.

Euell White
 Florence

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SEE PAGE 6



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LiO

BY MARK TATULLI



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NISSAN: ROGUE, 2011 \$9,500. 65,000 miles. One owner. Please text or call 256-443-1518.

BUYING BROKEN WASHERS AND dryers. No Front Loads, 256-275-7699

HAY FOR SALE, FERTILIZER Net Wrapped, 5 1/2 ft. x 5 ft. Rolls, \$40 per roll. 256-412-4840

WHIRLPOOL JACUZZI TUB, WHITE, all accessories, \$100. 256-350-5633 Decatur

NASCAR POSTER- DANICA PATRICK + 4 other drivers, 3'x6', \$35 obo. 256-263-7636. Must See!

1991 DAIHATSU CHARADE, 3 cylinder motor, s-speed transmission. \$300 or trade. Albertville area, 256-226-1944.

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OAKLEY'S PAINTING: RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, new construction, free estimates. No job too big or small. Licensed and Insured. 256-627-0448 or 256-765-3931.

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WASHER, \$150 AND Dryer, \$125. 256-566-8415

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MUSCLE SHOALS RECORD SHOP IS NOW OPEN AT 620 East 2nd Street (.near Woodward Avenue intersection) Over 10,000 vinyl records. New home audio equipment: **RECEIVERS, TURNTABLES AND SPEAKERS.** **MON.-SAT. 10 TO 6 SUNDAY 1 TO 5 256-320-9536**

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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.



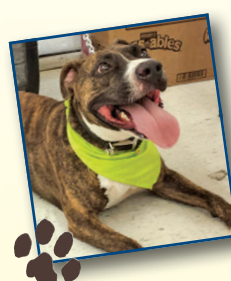
FAITH is a beautiful girl with a wonderful personality, she loves attention and affection. Weighing about 50 lb, Faith is very well-mannered and is loved by everyone. She has been at the shelter for months, please give her a chance, she's a great girl.

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!



BREN is a beautiful young Mountain Cur mix with the prettiest smile, she is already spayed and ready to go home with you. **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!**

Meet **MACK!** When he first came to the shelter he was very shy and scared but after some time & tender loving care he now feels safe and is starting to warm up quickly. Mack is a good boy and deserves a chance at a wonderful life, he is good with other dogs and is learning how to walk on leash. **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!**



CONNOR enjoys running, one-on-one playtime and lots of cuddling. He's a 4-year old fully vetted brindle mixed breed that loves adults, kids and other dogs. **ADOPTION IS \$50.** Call/Text REAL at 256-460-0596 after 5pm. REAL also offers pet preventive care assistance such as flea & heartworm preventions to local county residents. Contact us for more details!

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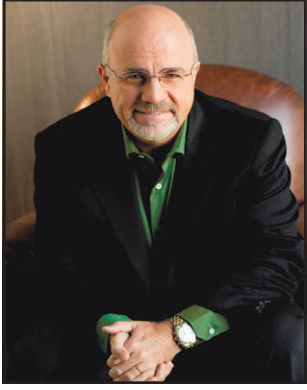
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For Appointments, Call 256-349-5275

In Our NEW Location 2095 Florence Blvd., Florence

DAVE Says

by DAVE RAMSEY



NO CASH BUSINESSES?

Dear Dave,
What is your opinion of businesses that no longer accept cash?
Heath

Dear Heath,
Honestly, I think the whole scenario is kind of silly. Businesses that are suddenly into the "no cash" thing lose out on a lot of transactions. Believe it or not, there are still tons of people out there who make purchases only with cash. So, from a business owner's perspective this philosophy can cut into your market share.

I really don't spend a lot of time thinking or worrying about the situation, though. When it comes right down to it, most businesses are doing that kind of thing for one or two reasons. Some of them just think cash is old school, and they want to give the impression they're cutting edge and into technology. Others do

it — depending upon the space they're in — because their sales using plastic are higher than with cash.

I'm a cash guy. There are some situations where I might walk away if someone wouldn't accept hard, cold cash, but in most cases I don't think anything about it. I'll just use my debit card, and buy what I need.
—Dave

WHEN CAN I HAVE SOME FUN?

Dear Dave,
At what point can you spend, and have a little fun, when you're following the Baby Steps plan?
Jen

Dear Jen,
Everyone likes having fun, and there's nothing wrong with spending some cash if you can afford

it. I just want people to make sure they have their finances in order first.

I recommend completing the first three Baby Steps before you run out and buy a bunch of toys. Just to review, Baby Step 1 is saving \$1,000 for a starter emergency fund. Baby Step 2 is where you pay off all debt — except for your home — using the debt snowball method. In Baby Step 3, you go back and fully fund your emergency fund with enough cash to cover three to six months of expenses.

Completing the first three Baby Steps puts you on pretty solid financial ground. At this point, once you've saved up the cash, it's okay to take a vacation or buy a reasonably-priced toy. But don't have so much fun that you forget about the other Baby Steps. Baby Step 4 means putting 15 percent of your income into pre-tax retirement plans, like mutual funds and Roth IRAs. Don't neglect saving for college if you have kids. That's Baby Step 5. Baby Steps 6 and 7 are paying off the house early, and building wealth and giving like never before.

Remember, there are only three things you can do with money — spend, save, and give. You can do all three without putting yourself in a bind by following my plan!
—Dave

* Dave Ramsey is CEO of Ramsey Solutions. He has authored seven best-selling books, including *The Total Money Makeover*. The *Dave Ramsey Show* is heard by more than 13 million listeners each week on 585 radio stations and multiple digital platforms. Follow Dave on the web at daveramsey.com and on Twitter at @DaveRamsey.

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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!
Only \$7 for 4 lines and that includes a **bold red heart**.

– 5 WAYS TO PLACE A SWEETHEART SENTIMENT –
Email it to Classified@courierjournal.net Mail it to the address below or Fax it to 256-760-9618. We'll set it up and call you with a price.
You can place it **in person** at our office or **CALL US** at 256-764-4268.
By Mail or In person? - Courier Journal Sweetheart Sentiments, 219 West Tennessee St., Florence, AL 35630

Each sentiment is just \$7 for 4 lines including your special red heart
1.25 for each additional line.

Please print your Sweetheart Sentiment NEATLY below and give us your contact information below. We will contact you. Spacing does not represent actual lines in the paper.

Below please write YOUR Name, address & preferred phone # (will not be published)

I LOVE YOU so much Jeremy! Happy Valentine's Day, Leigh

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY to our sweet mommy. We love the heater inside! Love, Allie Kat, Little Man, and Fuzzy Pants

Courier Journal

DEADLINE: FRIDAY, FEB. 9

Real Estate

FLORENCE: 507 S O'NEAL St. 2 bdrm, 1 ba. Appliances. No Pets/Smoking \$450 rent, \$400 deposit. 256-366-2751.

2 BDRM, 1 BA, 95% Owner Financing, No Banks, Colbert Heights, Tuscumbia 256-383-5996, 256-263-8716.

FOR SALE, MUSCLE SHOALS, 4 bdrm., 2 bath home, like new, large lot with carport and detached garage. \$128,000. Call 256-412-0205.

HOUSE FOR RENT: 3 bdrm. 2 ba., no pets. \$700 deposit, \$700 monthly. 256-366-2979

N. FLORENCE: 3 BDRM. HOUSE. Appliances, washer/dryer connections. \$595 plus deposit. 256-764-3986

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CAMPER, RV, OR MOBILE Home Space for Rent. 152 Point Rd., Muscle Shoals, AL. 73 ft. of waterfront on Wilson Lake. \$425 monthly includes utilities, or \$300 monthly without utilities. 256-460-1334.

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HOUSE FOR SALE: 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Owner will finance for two years. Serious buyers only. Call 256-766-3953

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- 5713 CR 33, Killen, 3BR, 1BA\$650
- 2510 Hwy 101, Rogersville, 2BR, 1BA.....\$600

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- 606 N. Atlanta Ave., Sheffield, 4 BR, 1 BA\$625
- 305 4th Ave, Tuscumbia, 3 BR, 1 BA\$500
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- 2929 Huntsville Rd., Florence, 8100 sq ft... CALL OFFICE
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Cat & Kids

by Cathy Turner

Be a Builder

They built me. Clinton Johnson, Sr. gave a King level speech on MLK Day. My take-away question: "Are you a builder or a wall?" Try this: list your builders. Many built me:

Ruby and Clinton Rivers birthed me in June of 1959 in a segregated hospital in North Carolina. They built me up in too many ways to mention.

My siblings, Ros, Dee, and Gary were successful acts to follow.

Louise Coleman, my grandmother took me to church, made me obey, and asked me what I wanted for breakfast.

My mom decided to put us in desegregated schools before it was mandatory.

Mrs. Thibideau, my fourth grade teacher, bragged on me for using 'insignificant' at a PTA meeting. That night my mom told me that I was smart, and so I was.

My mom had me tested to be in the gifted class for sixth grade.

In that sixth grade class, Mrs. Louvenia Martin, showed me the world through a merchant ship pen pal program.

Patty Jones - my first white girlfriend - her mom let her come to my house and she didn't care what was happening there (dad's drunkenness). Through her I learned to be myself everywhere. She just wanted to be my friend. I was okay. It was okay that I liked words, proper English, and all kinds of people. I found myself in that friendship. I didn't have a problem - my parents had a problem. She was the first person, who was different than me, with whom I did not have to pretend.

The LeStranges took me into their home and on their vacations. They showed me a lot of things to want. I went from junior high through college with their curly blonde-haired daughter.

Teachers, so many teachers (Randall, Jones, Pardue, Dalbec, Hawkins, Orr, Croft, etc), who honed me, loved and respected me, and let me do. They looked me in the eye, let me scream when I needed, and made me learn poetry, cosine, and a box of 1000 vocabulary words.

Tom Hetrick, our local YMCA Executive Director, hired me as soon as he could.

A Little Theater Director cast me as the fairy godmother to another blonde friend's Cinderella.

Brian at The Governor's School of North Carolina, a night guard who found me crying told me, "You don't have to give into atheistic teaching." Then we started a Bible study group.

That same sophomore summer, one night around midnight, Curtis Spease asked me, "Do you want to be baptized into Christ, right now?"

Jack Johnson, my high school guidance counselor, did the paperwork for me to take the A.C.T. I did not know what it was. I made a 28.

Walter, my first boyfriend, gave me my first real opportunity to take a stand - I choose to abstain.

Susan LeStrange - College freshman year, after taking a Calculus test together, my best friend said, "I was thinking through the whole test, 'Come on Ribs [me], you can do this!'" She knew my fear. Later after we moved into a house, she and my other roommates told me that only all "A" students

could live in that house. After that, no problem. They pushed me and I stepped up to my abilities.

Ken Snell, the Director at the Christian Student Center at UT-Knoxville made opportunities for me to get to know my future husband.

Preachers, many, David Sain and Neal Pollard, filled my cup and trained me in godliness.

Pat Asch gave me my first managerial position at the YWCA of Richmond, Virginia. From an interview and a photo portfolio, she only considered what I could do and then gave me the resources to do it.

Are you blessing this world by helping people take the ceiling off of their potential? Or is it all about you? Does it depend on how they look, their race, their age, of any other such nonsense? Are you building up the individuals in your family, your block, your company, your church, your community - in this world? Stop being selfish. Don't be a wall. Encourage others to stop being walls. I have been blessed by many builders; therefore, I am a builder.

Email comments or suggestions to CatnKids1@gmail.com

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AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: The RV Parts, Supplies & Furniture are new and used items from Tiffen Motor Homes.

DIRECTIONS: Auction is located at the intersection of Hwy 157 South & Hwy 20 East at Kimbrough Automotive in the forks of the intersection.

TERMS: Cash or good check day of auction. A ten percent buyer's premium will be used.

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Auction Terms: Live Onsite Terms: no buyers fees when bidding onsite. Sales tax will be paid unless you have a valid Tax Number (bring a copy for us to keep), Payment in full on auction day. Removal/pickup of items will be auction day until 7:30PM, Monday 8:AM until 4:PM then Tuesday and Wednesday by appointment only. Bring a truck or trailer and help to load. All items MUST be removed by Wednesday 1/31/18 at 3:PM. Online Bidding: will be subject to a 15% Buyers fee. Sales tax will apply unless you have a tax number. All other terms for online bidding can be found on our website or call Gatlin Hill at 256-710-8875 .

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THE DOLLAR
Stretcher
Continued from Page 19

PREPARING FOR DOWNSIZING

When my mom died and my dad downsized to an assisted living apartment, we taped signs to one empty room's walls with the names of various charities and organizations. As we went through stuff, we placed items under each sign. At the end of each day, the stuff was boxed and labeled with the name of the group. Once we were done, everything was delivered. We blessed ten groups with stuff ranging from clothes and canned goods to furniture and office supplies. It felt good and made it easier

for my dad to know their stuff was going to good use instead of being dumped somewhere.
Betty W.

CLEARING OUT CLUTTER

Looking to clear out odd items lying around the house? Sometimes there are things that just don't seem right for the charity bin. When this happens, I go to Facebook to search for local online yard sales or local "buy nothing" pages. For example, a woman was recently looking for a wooden crate to serve as a bookcase for kids' books. I happened to have such a crate, which I certainly couldn't have given to charity. I have sold or given away CDs, clothing, decor items, and more. Some people use the sites to borrow all sorts of gear for special occasions, too. Be sure to read the

group's rules, as they may differ from place to place.
C.

SUPER GLUE SECRETS

I use super glue quite a bit because I work with wood, so I get slivers. When I get a sliver, I put a dab of glue on it, let it sit for awhile, and then just pull the glue off. The sliver disappears. That being said, I was tired of always having to throw the tube away because it would seal up, and I could never get the top off again. I found if I apply a small amount of petroleum jelly on it, it will open up easier the next time it is used. This saves me a lot of money by not having to buy a new tube all the time. This trick works well on bottles of nail polish as well. Just make sure you don't get it into the actual polish.
Seva



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Soap Opera Preview

THE BOLD AND THE BEAUTIFUL After talking with Hope, Steffy was optimistic that Liam would give her another chance. Brooke was caught off-guard when Bill admitted that he was in love with Steffy. Wyatt told Katie what he loved most about her. Sally admitted to Darlita that she was hoping to win over Liam, but was secretly worried that his old flame, Hope, might make a play for him, too. Bill eventually found his way to Steffy and told her that she was on the only one for him. Liam told his brother that forgiving their father wasn't even in the realm of possibility. When the subject of Hope came up, Wyatt reminded Liam that Hope was not his wife anymore. *Wait to See: Two feuding brothers find a moment of reprieve.*

DAYS OF OUR LIVES Hope urged Roman not to get involved in the murder investigation. Sonny overheard an incriminating conversation between Brady and Eve. Will talked to Marlena about his attraction to Paul. Steve's dizzy spells continued. Roman lied to protect a loved one. Sonny confronted Brady about overhearing him confess to murder. Despite his reservations, Paul bonded with Will. Kayla worried about Steve's health. Abigail questioned Gabi about the murder. Lani squirmed as JJ looked forward to being a father. Valerie informed Eli that Lani was pregnant. Eric tried to hide his feelings for Jennifer, leading to a heated argument. The source of Steve's vertigo was revealed.

Wait to See: Lani makes a confession to Gabi.

GENERAL HOSPITAL Anna pleaded with Sonny. Jordan was greatly concerned. Laura updated Lulu, who was subsequently very frustrated. Bobbie had a run-in with Nelle. Carly decided to take matters into her own hands. Peter proceeded cautiously. Obrecht faced down her fears. Anna created a diversion. Jason made a declaration. Kim shared some very good news. Lulu tried to talk her way out of a tricky situation. Felicia accosted Finn. Anna greeted an unexpected guest. Finn found himself extremely grateful. Amy made a grand gesture. Dante was humbled by Nathan. Franco felt all alone in the world. Sonny and Jason arrived in the nick of time. Finn got in deeper. *Wait to See: Drew loses his temper.*

THE YOUNG AND THE RESTLESS Cane and Lily returned home from Paris. Charlie was thrilled about his parents' reunion, but sister Mattie told Lily that she didn't trust her dad. Abby video chatted with the Abbotts from Paris and learned about Dina's condition. On their date, Hilary scared away Ravi by bringing up her strong desire to have a baby. Later, Hilary decided she would sell GC Buzz so that she could afford to pursue fertility treatments. Ashley and Jack attended the arbitration hearing to determine who should run Jabot. Abby offered to have Dina come to live with her in Paris. Lily confided in Hilary that she was struggling to bond with baby Sam. Devon offered to buy GC Buzz. *Wait to See: Cane catches Lily in a lie.*

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Community Notes...

Continued from page 9

The exhibit "Just Maybe..." by Huntsville artist, Eric Bagwell continues at Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts through February 9. The new work is a series of contemplative abstracts centered in spiritual meditations of hope, grace, and longing. As the new year begins, this series of vibrant yet quiet visual relationships challenge the viewer while putting them at ease in consciously designed spaces.

"Using abstract form, color, and texture I try to capture the holy moments found in everyday life. I most often work in oil - occasionally in encaustic, watercolor, or even sculpt in clay or stone. If we are indeed made in the image of the one who created everything, then creating is an elemental part of what we are meant to do. I believe creating art connects us to our elemental human identity," Bagwell said.

Bagwell is a former Methodist minister and graphic designer. He has created several series that have been presented in art festivals across the state, including Arts Alive. To learn more about Eric Bagwell's artwork visit ericbagwellart.com.

Kennedy-Douglass Center for the Arts is located at 217 E. Tuscaloosa St. and is open, free of charge, from 9am-4pm Monday-Friday. Call 256-760-6379 for more information.

Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church is celebrating its 200th Anniversary this year. The February event honors all the couples who have been married in our church. You and your spouse are invited to attend and will be seated at tables of honor. The Valentine's Dinner is February 10 at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall. All attendees must have a ticket to enjoy the delicious meal. Tickets are \$20 and available for purchase from Patricia Haddock. Please call the church office 256-767-0017. All proceeds benefit the Children and Youth Ministry of Wesley Chapel UMC.

The 18th Annual Krewe of Columbus Jaguar Ball -- The Knights of Columbus are sponsoring their annual Mardi Gras dance February 10 from 7-11pm in St. Joseph's Gym. This year's event will benefit St. Joseph Regional School and St. Joseph School Foundation. Entertainment will feature music by "The Midnighters".

Tickets will be \$25 per person at the door and \$20 in advance. Reserved tables are available for eight people. They may be pre-purchased for \$190 by contacting Chris Tant wchristant@bellsouth.net or calling 256-702-8550.

The Knights of Columbus will provide a main dish of fried turkey and gumbo. Bring a dish or snacks to share at your own table. Set ups will be provided for your favorite beverage. For those who would like to participate, we will have a table decorating contest with a prize awarded.

Tickets will be available at St. Joseph School and Church offices as well as St. Michael Church office and Our Lady of the Shoals Church office. Tickets will also be available after masses on the weekend of January 28 and February 4 at St. Joseph and St. Michael Catholic Churches.

Dr. David Bronner, CEO, Retirement Systems of Alabama, Shoals Scholar Dollars Keynote Speaker Series / Dinner, Monday, February 12, 6:30pm, UNA Guillott Banquet Hall. Reserved Tickets: \$75. Corporate Table of 8 with Tent, Advertisement, Select Seating, Program Listing: \$1,250. Tickets available at: Shoals Chamber of Commerce 256-764-4661 or Online at www.shoalsscholardollars.com

REAL Rehome Educate Adopt Love offers the following pet preventive care assistance for dogs and cats in Lauderdale, Colbert and Franklin Counties:

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Want a job? Want a better job? Get your GED! Free GED Prep classes are located near you. The program is open entry with new students starting classes weekly. For more information, call the Northwest-Shoals Community College Adult Education Program at 256-331-5440 or 256-331-5438.

Do you have a family member or a friend with a disability?

If so, sign up for our Disability Advocacy Network email list to show your support for a family member or friend through The Arc's national movement.

By signing up you will receive reliable updates about state and federal legislative decisions so you can take action as an informed advocate.

Your elected officials will listen to you on issues that are important to the I/DD community by making a call or sending an email! Go to www.thearc.org to subscribe!

The 23rd Annual Urban Forestry and Horticulture Conference Takes place Friday, March 16 from 8am-3pm at Cross Point Church of Christ, 1350 Cox Creek Parkway in Florence.

THEME: "Spruce Up Your Spring" The public is invited. The cost is \$45 and includes lunch. Registration: www.florenceal.org

For more information, call the mayor's office at 256-760-6400

Conference is sponsored by the City of Florence Mayor and City Council, the Florence Beautification Board, the Florence Tree Commission and the City's Urban Forestry/Horticulture Department.

Recertification Classes for Green Industry Professionals Thursday, March 15 from noon-4:30pm, Florence-Lauderdale Tourism Office, McFarland

Park, Florence Cost: \$45 (includes attending the Conference on March 16 at no additional cost)

The 11th Annual Shoals Earth Day Fest for 2018 takes place on Saturday, April 7, from 11am-6pm in downtown Tuscumbia. Family-friendly activities are highlighted, including a children's activity tent, eco-entertainer Steve Trash, all-day live music, art and crafts vendors, food, juggling, recycling drop off, pet adoption, and earth-friendly booths with information on solar energy, organic gardening, and much more!

Rain location is the Roundhouse in Tuscumbia.

For more information to participate or sponsor, please call 256-767-2909 or visit www.ShoalsEarthMonth.com for continuing updates.

Northwest Alabama Reading Aides Presents The Margaret Green 2018 Community Spelling Bee The Spelling Bee is one of the organization's major fund raisers. The funds raised in this event will be used to increase the numbers served in the adult literacy program. The entry fee is \$250 per three person team or team sponsorship of \$250 and we will form a team. (12 Team Limit) Teams compete for fun and trophies.

The bee is Thursday April 12, 7pm at First United Methodist - McDowell Hall. Please call 256-766-5709 for more information.

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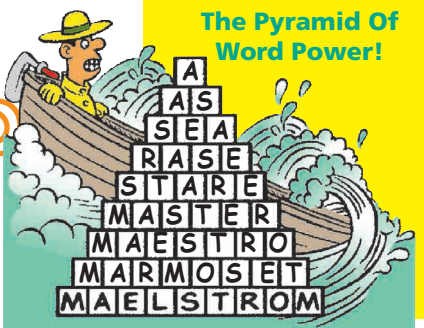


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Word Power!



A REBUS STUMPER!



Answer: "A misunderstanding between friends."
(STANDING is the tough part — ST AND IN G.)

18	21	25	11
24	12	17	22
13	27	19	16
20	15	14	26

[75]

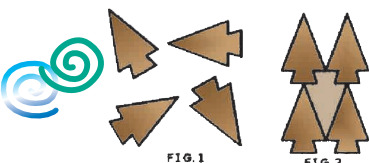


FIG. 1




FIG. 2

Figure 2 shows how this can be done.

Medicare Minute

"Signing up for Medicare Part 2"

Most Americans qualify for Medicare by turning 65 but there are other ways to qualify such as being disabled, having End Stage Renal disease (ESRD) or ALS. Today we are going to look at how you would sign up if you are disabled.

If you are under the age of 65 and disabled, you will automatically be enrolled in Part A and Part B after you have received Social Security or Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) benefits for at least 24 months. If you are disabled, covered by your or your spouse's group health plan and wish to stay on that plan, my suggestion is to contact the plan and confirm that you can remain on the plan even though you have Medicare. This may allow you to delay your Part B until a later date.

You are eligible for Medicare if you have End Stage Renal Disease and you've worked the required amount of time under Social Security, RRB or as a government employee OR you're already getting or are eligible for Social Security or RRB benefits OR you're the spouse or dependent child of one of the previous requirements. You should contact Social Security or the RRB for the amount of time worked to be eligible for Medicare.

If you're under 65 and have ALS your Medicare benefits should begin the first month you start receiving your Social Security or RRB benefits. Again contact Social Security or RRB for a list of the benefits.

Whether it's SSI or RRB disability, ESRD or ALS, I would encourage you to NEVER voluntarily leave your current health plan until you have covered all your bases with your current plan and Medicare. In most cases once you leave you cannot go back!! If you are faced with any of these 3 situations and need additional assistance feel free to contact our office.

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

Guidance is an independent insurance agency and is not affiliated with Medicare or any other government agency.



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See Page 6 for details!

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\$7,000

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Nice!

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