


MORGAN COUNTY WEATHER THIS WEEK


TUE 65°/37° 
APR 21

WED 66°/50° 
APR 22

THU 63°/51° 
APR 23

FRI 70°/53° 
APR 24

SAT 66°/45° 
APR 25

SUN 58°/39° 
APR 26

MON 62°/44° 
APR 27

Class of 2020: Honor In The Face of Crisis



Veteran of the Week
Donald R. Mathis



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*\$20,000 Bonus
*Job Training

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Like & Follow us on Social Media.



Adopt - A - Senior

The Facebook group, "Adopt-a-Senior" was created to help 2020 graduates celebrate their achievements in this time of social distancing. The original Adopt-a-Senior Facebook group has more than 20,000 people and is now getting results for high school seniors. Parents from all over have posted their children's pictures and strangers are adopting them one by one. Some are sending words of encouragement while others are choosing to adopt the seniors to send them cards and gifts to celebrate.

You can support local seniors on Facebook by going to the Morgan County Adopt-a-Senior Class of 2020 group page. Morgan County residents are certainly showing their support of this year's graduates by taking advantage of this wonderful Facebook group. Hundreds of photos among thousands of post and comments have been published to the page.

Morgan County resident Cathy Bird is showing her support of Coalfield Seniors on April 20, 2020 by publishing this post on the Morgan County Adopt-a-Senior Class of 2020 group page. "COALFIELD

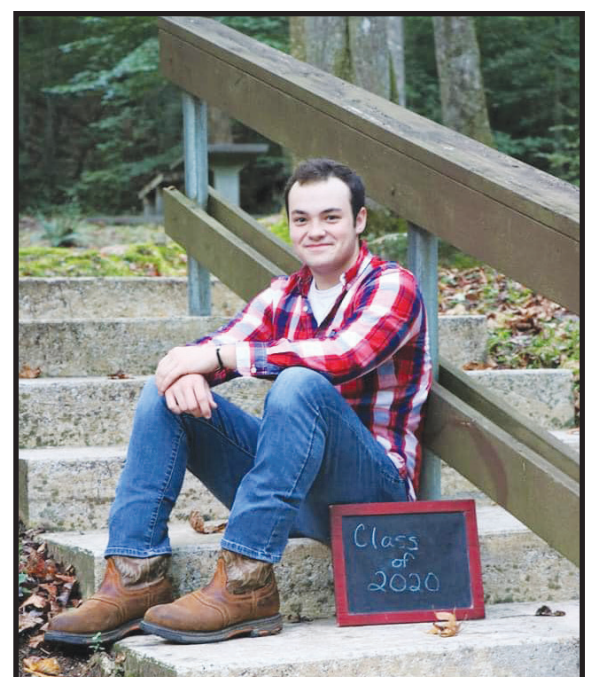


SENIORS: Once everyone receives their cap and gown, I am going to schedule pictures for anyone wanting some taken (outside the school). If we are allowed in the school, I would also like to do some "Last Walk" photos, but I will have to see if we are allowed to do that. It would consist of about a 20-minute ses-

sion, and contain up to 15-20 edited photos for each of you. I would love to do some group shots, but that will have to wait for another time, when it's deemed safe to do so. I will set up a day (or several days, depending on how many kids want pictures) and time slots. Hopefully we can do this in the next few weeks."

On April 19, 2020 Johnboy's BBQ published this post on the Facebook group page, "Johnboy's BBQ and Sweet Treats, Anita Daughtery are teaming up to feed Morgan County's High School Seniors. We will be on location in our food truck to sell to the public and provide each senior with a meal of a pulled pork sandwich, chips, drink, and dessert. Our menus will be posted and we have created an event for each location.

Here's the dates for each school;
Coalfield April 20th,
Wartburg April 22nd,
Sunbright April 27th, and
Oakdale April 30th.



Morgan County residents are also showering graduating seniors with praise and honor in countless ways outside of social media. Wartburg Central High School is recognizing their seniors by displaying a beautiful collage of their senior class at the school's front entrance. To all the graduating class of 2020 high school and college seniors, Morgan County Today congratulates you on your great achievements and wish you all the very best and brightest futures!

Proudly serving Morgan, Roane, Anderson & the East TN region since 1924



All types of services including your monument needs.



Wartburg



Sunbright

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Heather Francis
Editor

Each One Reach One

We are coming into the last week of April's Child Abuse Prevention Month. For this reason, I wanted to talk about Foster Care. In the last three years Morgan County has seen 52 children coming into state custody. Last I checked Morgan County had less than five foster care homes! Here in Morgan County there is a need for loving homes for children who are victims of abuse.

I know making that decision to be a foster parent isn't easy. I have family members, friends, and siblings that have come out of foster care and it is difficult. Even in the difficult moments I can say that pouring into a child and offering a home for a child there is no greater gift or sacrifice you could do.

Often we are motivated by self-gain or avoiding the hard stuff in life. I would like you to consider the challenge of doing the hard stuff. Step out of your comfort zone and consider giving a loving home to a child/children. If enough loving families and the church became

the leaders to love and help a child what would our communities look like 10 or 20 years down the road!

There are many ways that people can help a foster care child without being the foster home. You could help support a family that is fostering. Provide meals, respite care, or give a monetary donation to a family or help fulfill a need within the home. Have you heard of Tennessee Kids Belong organization?

This organization is help-

ing mobilize the church to be the leader in providing and supporting foster care homes.

There are so many ways to help an abused and neglected child/children. Would you consider helping a child? To become a foster care parent, visit this website for more information you can call 877-DCS-KIDS. There is a child in need and you can make the difference!

Send Letters to the Editor
Editor@mocotoday.com



Fostering Heart break

Fostering Heartbreak, I commend you all for choosing the path of foster Care! There are so many children that need loving homes to come too and not enough loving homes. Even if you were unable to adopt the love these children felt by you and your husband will be a lifetime impact for a child who needed it the most! Maybe giving some space in between the last placement would be beneficial for you and your husband to reconnect. A no today maybe won't be a no tomorrow once some healing and time has gone by. I would love to see great homes continue to serve our most vulnerable population. If this is something you two can do together as a team, I would encourage you to consider this a gift to give to a child. Even if the outcome isn't adoption you could be lovingly impacting children just by keeping your

Dear Lady Laurel, Me and my husband have been foster parents for three years. We were hoping to adopt but each time it hasn't worked out. I would like to continue to try but my husband is ready to quiet. Should I be the one to give in?

home open.

L.L.

Dear Lady Laurel, This quarantine has me singing the blues! There is only so much "bonding" me and my husband can take! Not to mention the lovely homeschooling we are doing too. How can I manage the stress of working from home, schooling, and living full-time with the husband! Quarantine Woes

Quarantine Woes, So, many people can relate to your situation! I've seen ideas ranging from trying to new things as a family and documenting it! Going on nature walks, planting a garden, and incorporating game time! Schooling can be a challenge but if you have the capabilities try setting up a video chat with classmates so they can "school" together. That may take some of the pressure off of you to allow peer to peer learning. As far as the husband goes I hope you have a large home to gain some space. If not maybe investing in a "little home" for the husband may be a great way to garnish some space and alone time! Remember to allow yourself alone time to be in a quiet place for reflection and self-care. Women need that! L.L.

Bobby "Dean" Lamance, 79

Bobby "Dean" Lamance, age 79 of Lancing, TN. passed away Sunday, April 19, 2020 at home surrounded by his family.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Vane Lamance and Amy Knight Lamance; brother, Ralph Lamance; sister, Faye Leopper.

He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Deborah Lamance; daughters, Karen (William) Brown, Pamela (Kelly) Hamby and Bobbie (Eddie) For-

sythe; son, Matthew (Sydney) Lamance; 5 grandson; 5 great grandchildren and a host of nieces and nephews.

A special Thank You to friends and Amedisys Hospice Services for their love and compassion in his final moments.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family for Bobby "Dean" Lamance.

Oakdale Alumni Association will hold an online auction on Facebook beginning at 9:00 a.m. Friday, April 24 and ending at 9:00 p.m. Sunday, April 26. All funds raised will benefit Oakdale Alumni Association with future events.

Do you have a question for Lady Laurel? Send them to ladylaurel@mocotoday.com

NEWS TIPS
Call: 423-346-2329
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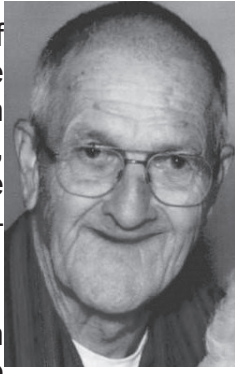
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Rates in Morgan County
\$40; \$35 for senior citizens & Veterans
Out of County Rates
\$55; \$50 for senior citizens & Veterans

Clayton Potter, 85



Clayton Potter, age 85 of Lancing, TN went home to be with the Lord on Wednesday, April 15, 2020 in the Life Care Center of Morgan County.

Clayton is preceded in death by his loving wife of 42 years, Sabra Potter.

He is survived by a host of children, grandchildren and extended family including sister, Wilva Nelson.

Clayton was a member of Shady Grove Baptist Church in Lancing and truly loved the lord and his church family. He also enjoyed raising a garden and sharing his

produce with others.

The family would like to thank Life Care Center of Morgan County for their care. A special thank you for the love and extended care to Clayton and his wife Sabra by their dear friend, neighbor and landlord, Janet Aulidge.

The family will have a graveside service Saturday, April 18, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. at Potters Chapel Cemetery in Lancing with Rev. Bill Durham officiating.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Clayton Potter.

Arttie Marie Melhorn, 98

Arttie Marie Melhorn, age 98 passed away April 15, 2020 at Life Care Center of Morgan County. She was born November 13, 1921 to Andy and Bessie Beasley.

She is preceded in death by her husband, Herman Melhorn; sons, Tom Melhorn, Jim Melhorn and Claud Melhorn; daughter-in-law, Annie Melhorn.

She is survived by her children, George S. Melhorn, Anna Melhorn Human, Jessy (Sheila) Melhorn, David (Kathy) Melhorn and Harold (Judy) Melhorn; and a host of grandchildren, great grandchildren and great great

grandchildren who will miss her dearly.

In light of current events, the family understands that not everyone feels comfortable coming out to show their respects. Therefore, the family has requested that the funeral service be webcast on Schubert Funeral Home Facebook page at 2:00 p.m. Saturday, April 18, 2020 with Rev. Bill Durham officiating. Interment will follow at Wartburg City Cemetery in Wartburg.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family for Arttie Marie Melhorn.

Eugene (Fiddler) McGhee, 87



Ghee; Sister, Lois West; Eight Grandchildren and thirteen Great-grandchildren. And a host of other family members and

Eugene (Fiddler) McGhee, age 87 of Oliver Springs passed away at his home Monday, April 20, 2020. He was born in Caryville, TN on August 28, 1932. He was an original member of the Bluegrass band, The New River Boys. He was preceded in death by his Parents, Caleb and Bessie McGhee; sisters, Gerene Cross, Aubrey McGhee, and Sue McGhee; Son-in-law, Steve Melton.

He is survived by his wife of 68 years, Betsy McGhee; Daughters, Glenda (Stephen) Scarbrough, Gail (Ken) Vespie, Phyllis Melton; Son, Jerry Dale (Tina) McGhee; Brothers, Leon and Gordon Mc-

good friends.

Eugene loved playing the fiddle and mandolin. He was a master craftsman, making hand-crafted fiddles and mandolins sold in music stores throughout Tennessee. He was a member of Beech Fork Baptist Church and listened to Dr. Charles Stanley each Sunday Morning. Eugene chose cremation with no services to be held.

To leave a note for Eugene's family or to share a memory, please sign the online guestbook at jacksonfuneralservices.com

Dean Anderson Duncan, 57

Dean Anderson Duncan, age 57, passed away April 10, 2020. He was of the Christian faith and was a beloved son, brother, and uncle.

He is preceded in death by parents, Bert Duncan and Judy Ann Gaddis Caughorn; and sister, Becky Ann Duncan.

He is survived by brothers, Phillip Shane Duncan and Greg Allen Duncan; sister-in-law, Kathy Duncan, and nieces Hannah,

Amanda, and Gracie.

Dean loved the East Tennessee mountains, so his ashes will be spread in a location of the family's choosing at a later date.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family for Dean Anderson Duncan.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family for Dean Anderson Duncan.

Obituaries must come from a funeral home to be in the newspaper.

Opinions expressed by readers and columnists do not necessarily reflect those of Morgan County Today

GUN AUCTION

Morgan County Sheriff's Office

Is hosting an on-site SEIZED GUN AUCTION

April 25, 2020 at 10:00am*

414 Main St. Wartburg, TN 37887

NO BUYERS PREMIUM

Purchased guns will be available for pickup starting April 27, 2020 at Mid-County Pawn. Buyers will pay a **\$25.00** (per gun) registration and background fee and complete the required paperwork when the guns are picked up.

*Dates Subject to change

J.C. Higgins	10255	16 Gauge
Winchester	1200	12 Gauge
Marlin	25	.22
Stevens		16 Gauge
Marlin	336	.35
Glenfield	25	.22
H&R	88	20 Gauge
Remington	350H	.410
Mossberg	100ATR	.270
Remington	870	16 Gauge
Eureka		.22 short
RG	23	.22
North American Arms		.22 mag
Colt	MK series 80	.380
Star		9 mm
Colt	Mustang	.380
Ruger	P94DC	.40
Beretta	1934	9 mm
Lorcin	L9	9 mm
Llama	Micro	.32
Ruger	P89	9 mm
AMT	Back-up	.380
Charter Arms	Undercover	.38
Smith & Wesson	64-3	.38
North American Arms		.22 mag
SCCY	CPX-2	9 mm
RJ Newland	Omega	.38 spl

Brand	Model	Caliber
Kimber	Custom II	.45
Desert Eagle	41-44 CA	.44 Mag
Glock	21	.45
Bersa	Thunder	.380
Smith & Wesson	22A-1	.22
H&R	922	.22
Stevens	22/410	.22 / 410
H&R	SB2	.243
Ruger	10/22	.22
Smith & Wesson	M&P 15	.223
H&R	088	.410
Marlin	80	.22
Norinco	SKS	7.62X39
Marlin	30AW	30-30
Smith & Wesson	M&P 15	.223
Thompson	New England	.50
Winchester	270	.22
Remington	870	12 Gauge
J.C. Higgins	66	12 Gauge
Stevens	311 Double Barrel	20 Gauge
Mossberg	500A	12 Gauge
Thompson	Carbine	.50
Marlin	917	.17
Mossberg	320K	.22
Stevens	9478	20 Gauge
Mossberg	88 Maverick	20 Gauge
Charles Daily	KB1	20 Gauge
J. C. Higgins	20	16 Gauge
Remington	1100	12 Gauge
Savage	340C	30-30
Savage	110	30.06
Ruger	LC9S	9 mm
Ruger	Mark1	.22
Star	SA	.22
German	LA Deputy	.22
Smith & Wesson	M&P 15	.223
Marlin	1849	.44 mag
Winchester	94AE	30-30
Mossberg	Maverick 88	12 Gauge
Rossi		20 Gauge
Savage	Mark II	.22
Winchester	70	30.06
Marlin	1894	.44 mag

An Unlikely Warrior Becomes Tennessee Hero: Vietnam's First Casualty



Tom Redmon
Columnist

The United States lost over 58,000 men in the Vietnam War. President Johnson first sent combat

troops to Vietnam in 1965, but we had men there as early as 1961 during President Kennedy's administration. trying to get close enough to locate the insurgent transmitter location. They were traveling down provincial highway #10 where everything seemed to be routine as the truck rumbled along the dusty road, there was aloud explosion. The bed of the truck went up into the air and ended with a jarring crash. All at once the Vietcong who were hiding in the brush, came out to attach the ARVN troops who had been thrown into a tangled mess. They were dazed, pos-

lose over 58,000 more good men. But the Army Security Agency's secret war in Vietnam would go on until 1973.

Tom Davis had dropped out of college to serve his country. He had a wife and a daughter who would never get to know her dad. Tom had been told that in the ASA team that they should be relatively safe because they would be advisors and not fighters. At first, he told his parent in his letters that he seemed to think he was

lition was later waived and the family was presented with his medal posthumously.

Tom Davis would have many things named in his honor. The students and faculty at Livingston named the football stadium "Tom Davis Memorial Stadium." He had played football on this field at Livingston Academy just a few years prior to this. The VFW Post 5062 is named in his honor and so is VFW Post 1246 in North Brook, Illinois. The ASA Training Center at Fort Devens, Massachusetts built a new library and named it the Davis Library. The fellow ASA soldiers at Tan Son Nhut named the 3rd RRU Base/living quarters "Davis Station."

In 1961 President Kennedy secretly ordered what was called the Whitebitch Team to Vietnam. Initially the advisors didn't even wear uniforms. They were required to wear civilian clothes because they were not supposed to be there. These men were sent there not to fight, but to advise the Republic of South Vietnam troops (ARVN). They had been sent to Fort Devens, Massachusetts for specialized training, what was known as the Army Security Agency (ASA). Whitebitch consisted of three officers and seventy-four enlisted men. Later on, the ASA would grow to include a larger group of men. They were trained in intelligence and most of the members had received Top-Secret security clearances.

This story is about one of the unlikely warriors from Tennessee. Twenty-five-year-old Tom Davis, from Livingston (Overton County) was one of the first enlisted soldiers to be sent to Vietnam as a member of the ASA team. Tom was born on June 1, 1936, and was a typical all-American boy who loved growing up in a small country town. His father was a WWII veteran who was a pharmacist in Livingston. Tom was the oldest of five children, and he worked in the family drug store. He was a good student of Livingston Academy where he played defensive-back on the Wildcat football team.

After high school Tom married his high school sweetheart, Geraldine Martin. He decided he wanted to get a college education so for three years he attended Tennessee Tech in Cookeville. He majored in engineering. He decided to forego his senior year and enlisted in the U.S. Army. He was sent to Fort Jackson, South Carolina for his basic training and where he would take a battery of aptitude tests and his scores were very high. This was just the caliber of recruits that the Army wanted in the ASA. He would be sent to Fort Devens to become an RDF Intercept Operator.

Tom Davis would take his place in history as a member of the original Whitebitch Team that President Kennedy secretly ordered into Vietnam. His orders were dated May 10, 1961. On December 22, 1961 Davis would become the first soldier (U.S.) to die there. This was not supposed to happen to an unlikely warrior who was sent to Vietnam as an advisor and not as infantry.

Davis and his crew consisting of the Vietnamese driver and nine members of the ARVN mobile PRD-1 left their base at Tan Son Nhut



Tom Davis (Photo Submitted)

sibly injured by the explosion, and were gunned down as they attempted to get out of the vehicle.

Davis was stunned but uninjured. He grabbed his weapon and scrambled outside into the total chaos of the attack. Can you imagine how this 25-year-old country boy from Livingston felt when he heard the roar of automatic weapons, grenade explosions and the screams of the men who were riding in the back? Since he had been taught that this was a secret mission the first things

in a tropical paradise. But later on, he asked his father to send a .38 special because he and his fellow soldiers had not been issued side arms. He also told his father that it looked like the bad guys have gotten the word to start giving us hell.

Within a few minutes after the VC had stripped the fallen soldiers of their weapons, along with the radio equipment that had been mounted on the truck, a unit of the ARVN arrived on the scene. The Vietcong insurgents had melted into the country side. There was no evidence

of freedom in its maximum hour of danger. This is our good fortune." A few days later, however when asked if we were involved in the fighting in Vietnam, Kennedy answered, "No".

Tom Davis and other men like him were heroes regardless of what politicians say Tom gave his life in what he thought was a just case.

Tom Davis lies in the Good Hope Cemetery in Livingston, Tennessee among his beloved Tennessee hills where he roamed as a boy. Not far from Livingston in Fentress County, in the little community of Pall Mall lies another war hero by the name of Alvin C. York. Most of you know the story of SGT York, and maybe some of you have seen the movie. Believe it or not but Tom Davis died before York did. Davis died in 1961 and York died in 1964.

I didn't have the honor of meeting Tom Davis at Tennessee Tech but we were there at the same time. Maybe we were in the student union at the same time, or maybe he was at a table next to me eating lunch in the cafeteria. We never know who will be our next hero. At this same time, I was rooming with Carl Stiner, a country boy from Campbell County.

Who would have thought that one day he would be a Four-Star General? We have a lot of heroes in this part of East Tennessee.

I want to thank Robert (Bob) Neger for providing the material I needed for this article. Bob was in the Army Security Agency and was in Vietnam in 1968 when the fighting was pretty fierce. In the near future I would like to write an article about this Morgan County boy. In the meantime, pray for our country, our military personnel, our medical teams who are working tirelessly to conquer this terrible coronavirus.

Please tell all your friends and neighbors about the Morgan County Today. We have a lot of good writers. God bless you all- Stay safe.



Davis Station (Photo Submitted)

he did was to throw his bag containing top-secret communications into a nearby rice paddy to prevent them from falling into the hands of the enemy. The second thing he did was to pull his driver, who was injured out of the vehicle, and drag him into the culvert where the driver concealed himself in the water beneath the truck.

Davis called for his team to run for it, and to draw fire away from them and his driver, he ran up the hill about fifty yards away from the vehicle. He fired only four of five rounds at the enemy before he was hit by a bullet to the head. He died instantly. Spec 4 James Thomas Davis, became the first American soldier to die in Vietnam. Before this conflict would be over in 1975, we would

of any Vietcong casualties only the driver whom Tom Davis had saved remained alive to tell the story of his heroism.

It was a dark December night in 1961 when a cabdriver delivered the sad news of their son's death to the Davis family. They had expected Tom to be home soon and the unexpected death of their son was hard to accept. After all the United States was not in war, at least not yet.

Spec 4 James Thomas Davis was buried with full military honors at the Good Hope Cemetery on January 3, 1962. He left behind his young wife Geraldine, and daughter Cindy, and a host of grieving family and friends. Since the U.S. was not at war when Tom Davis was killed they couldn't award him a purple heart, but the regu-

Latest Stimulus News



David Zubler

The IRS has created a new program called Get My Payment with features to let taxpayers check on their Economic Impact Payment date and update direct deposit information.

This new tool will help address key common questions. Get My Payment will show the projected date when a deposit has been scheduled, similar to the "Where's My Refund tool" many taxpayers are already familiar with.

Get My Payment also allows people a chance to provide their bank information. People who did not use direct deposit on their last tax return will be able to input information to receive the payment by direct deposit into their bank account, expediting receipt.

"Get My Payment will offer people with a quick and easy way to find the status of their payment and, where possible, provide their bank account information if we don't already have it," said IRS Commissioner Chuck Rettig. "Our IRS employees have been working non-stop on the Economic Impact Payments to help taxpayers in need. In addition to successfully generating payments

to more than 80 million people, IRS teams throughout the country proudly worked long days and weekends to quickly deliver Get My Payment ahead of schedule."

Get My Payment is updated once daily, usually overnight. The IRS urges taxpayers to only use Get My Payment once a day given the large number of people receiving Economic Impact Payments.

It is only available on IRS.gov, the online application is safe and secure to use. Taxpayers only need a few pieces of information to quickly obtain the status of their payment and, where needed, provide their bank account information. Having a copy of their most recent tax return can help speed the process.

Get My Payment will show taxpayers the payment amount, scheduled delivery date by direct deposit or paper check and if a payment hasn't been scheduled. They will need to enter basic information including social security number, date of birth and mailing address used on their latest return.

Get My Payment is updated once daily, usually overnight. The IRS urges taxpayers to only use Get My Payment once a day given the large number of people receiving Economic Impact Payments.

You cannot add your bank account information after a payment has been scheduled. The IRS portal gets overloaded at times. Many people have already expressed frustration with getting these error messages on the site that says "payment status not available." If you get this message the system is overloaded so you should try again periodically.

IRS impersonators are requesting your personal information and claiming it is needed for your stimulus. The IRS will never request your personal information by email, text messages or social media. Be careful giving out any personal and financial information.

David Zubler has an accounting degree and computer science degree and has experience as an accounting manager and controller in manufacturing, and has owned his bookkeeping/tax business since 1990. David Zubler is the founder and president of Your Tax Care. The company provides business and tax education to the public at its website, YourTaxCare.com. David can also be contacted by email at zublerdavid@gmail.com.

If you have a memorial you would like to get printed for your loved one, send it to editor@mocotoday.com. We are thankful for our readers and always want to ensure your needs are met with the paper.



Trade Time

Join host Goose Lindsay for Trade Time each weekday morning at 10:30 am on 101.3 FM / AM 940 / 95.5 FM.

If you have items to buy, sell, or trade, call 423-346-6300 or toll free 1-888-882-1013

1991 S-10 parts (865) 603-7480

Utility trailer (865) 354-1394

Eggs for sale (423) 346-7203

1971 VW (865) 256-4542

Generator (931) 863-4607

Gas range (423) 369-3272

Log splitter (423) 539-4752

JOIN CASA OF THE TENNESSEE VALLEY IN

BLUE SUNDAY APRIL 26TH



WHAT IS BLUE SUNDAY

Blue Sunday is a National Day of Prayer for children who have been abused. Blue Sunday began with some twenty churches and has now become an international event of 7.5 million plus participants.

WHO IS INVOLVED

CASA- Court Appointed Special Advocates are citizen volunteers who advocate in the court system for children who have been abused and/or neglected.



STRONGER WITH PRAYER

Churches and Local places of worship across Loudon, Morgan and Roane Counties are invited to celebrate Blue Sunday.



A CALL FOR VIGILANCE AND ACTION.

Celebrating Blue Sunday is a call for vigilance and action for the most vulnerable in our community, who need our intervention. Pray for those who work to make a difference in a child's life. (Foster, socialworkers, volunteers)

SHOW YOUR SUPPORT

You can participate in different ways, including registering your church, sharing a short video of your prayer and/or tweeting the event or sharing on Facebook. WEAR Blue on April 26th!



CHILD ABUSE FACTS

There are over 3 million confirmed cases of child abuse in our nation annually. Of the 1640 deaths from child abuse most were children under the age of 3.



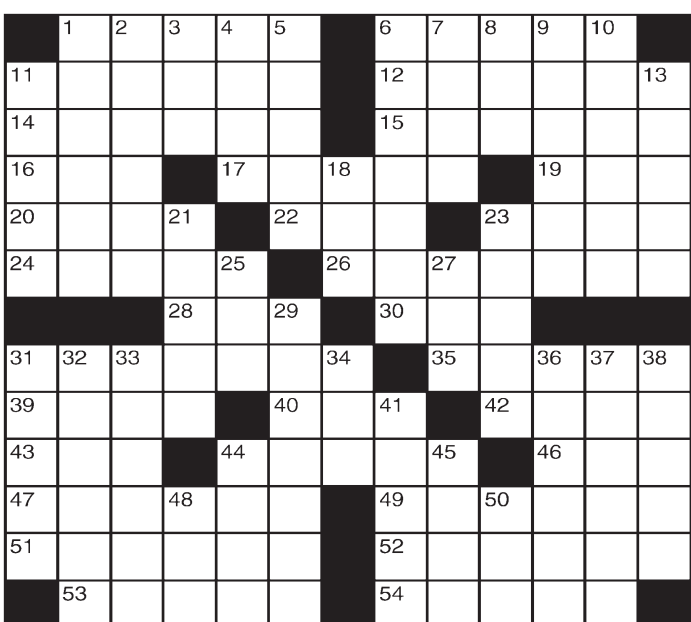
ABUSED CHILDREN SHOULDN'T HAVE TO PRAY ALONE. CAN THEY COUNT ON YOU?

VISIT
WWW.CASATNVALLEY.ORG
OR
WWW.BLUESUNDAY.ORG

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Resided
- 6 Things
- 11 Demosthenes or Cicero
- 12 Cancel out
- 14 Ubiquitous fastener
- 15 Early spring bloom
- 16 Feedbag tidbit
- 17 — the manger
- 19 Owns
- 20 Press
- 22 Ballet step
- 23 — song (cheaply)
- 24 Force measures
- 26 Decorum
- 28 Quite some time
- 30 Actor Stephen
- 31 Went sour
- 35 Contents of some trays
- 39 Responsibility
- 40 Court
- 42 Story
- 43 Donkey
- 44 Impostor
- 46 Sudden turn
- 47 Traditional usage
- 49 Love apple
- 51 Medical prioritization
- 52 Portuguese island group



DOWN

- 1 Cheerless
- 2 "The Compleat Angler" author
- 3 And so on (Abbr.)
- 4 Tennyson title
- 5 Cavalry unit
- 6 Canine's neighbor
- 7 Sea bird
- 8 Id counterpart
- 9 He-men
- 10 George Washington portraitist
- 11 Egg-shaped
- 13 English composition
- 18 Leg, slangily
- 21 Must have
- 23 Banquet
- 25 Scale member
- 27 Part of the Justice Dept.
- 29 Cronkite, Rather, et al.
- 31 Work together
- 32 Doubtful
- 33 Neighbor of Georgia
- 34 Female deer
- 36 Risk
- 37 Cheers up
- 38 Some lilies
- 41 Lash — (berate)
- 44 Comic strip possum
- 45 Nap
- 48 Body art, for short
- 50 Calendar abbr.

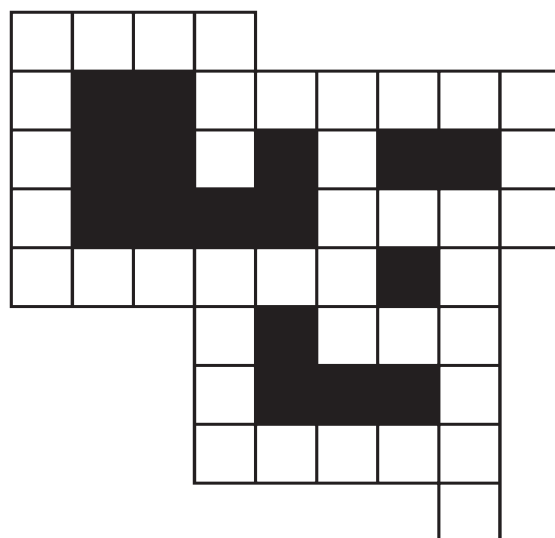
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FEAR KNIGHT

By: rj johnson

DOUBT? ...OR DARE!

- ♥ GTO
- CIACAA
- LOTHE
- RBCI
- GORAND
- ♥ HSA
- ♥ GHSA
- ♥ GNOAM
- ♥ DBA
- TALCET
- ESDAC
- HUCO



Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. HAGNEC becomes CHANGE). Prepare to use only ONE word from any marked (♥) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. ♥RATHE becomes HATER or EARTH or HEART). Fit each string's word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.

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Volume I

Fred C. Mize III



Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

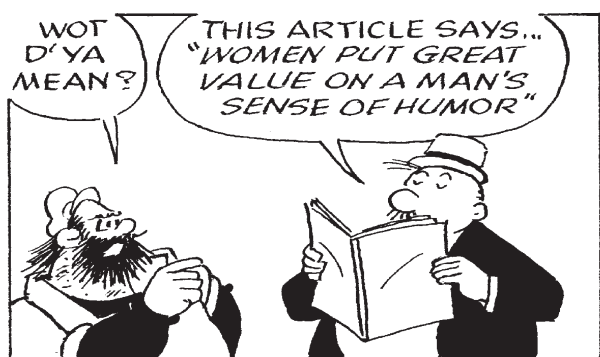
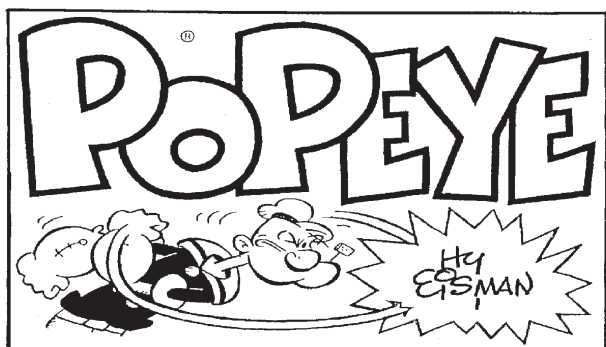
		7		6	8			
8				1	7		4	
	3		5					9
	8			2		4	6	
		3	8					1
1					5	9		
	4		2				7	
	6	1		3		5		
7					4			2

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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FEAR KNIGHT

answer

C	R	I	B																
A				A	C	A	C	I	A										
S				D				M											S
E									O	U	C	H							
D	R	A	G	O	N														A
				A					G	O	T								
				S															T
				H	O	T	E	L											
																			E

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

9	1	7	3	4	6	8	2	5
8	5	2	9	1	7	3	4	6
6	3	4	5	8	2	7	1	9
5	8	9	1	2	3	4	6	7
4	7	3	8	6	9	2	5	1
1	2	6	4	7	5	9	8	3
3	4	5	2	9	1	6	7	8
2	6	1	7	3	8	5	9	4
7	9	8	6	5	4	1	3	2

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 24 mins.

D	W	E	L	T		I	T	E	M	S									
O	R	A	T	O	R		N	E	G	A	T	E							
V	E	L	C	R	O		C	R	O	C	U	S							
O	A	T				D	O	G	I	N		H	A	S					
I	R	O	N			P	A	S			F	O	R	A					
D	Y	N	E	S		M	O	D	E	S	T	Y							
						E	O	N		R	E	A							
C	U	R	D	L	E							A	S	H	E	S			
O	N	U	S			W	O					T	A	L	E				
A	S					P	S	E	U	D		Z	A	G					
C	U	S	T	O	M							T	O	M	A	T	O		
T	R	I	A	G	E							A	Z	O	R	E	S		
E	A	T	O	N								T	E	N	D	S			

Jesus Christ or Catholicism

1 John 4:1 "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world."

John 8:32 "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

A Catholic priest (on youtube) attempting to validate why they: "Quote" "baptize babies". Why don't we wait until they can make that decision for themselves? When I think of our western civilization, he says, where we wish to choose our own path, but when we look at the history of the catholic church with our tradition.

Neither Catholic-Islam-nor any religious tradition can replace the clear teaching of Jesus Christ. Luke 24:46-47

Matthew 28:19 "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:"

Mark 16:15-16 "And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." Believers; hear Jesus.

Jesus words these transcend all culture and traditions of men and going back to the very words of God and has not authorized any man to deviate from his revealed way to save the souls of men.

The Catholic priest says: we need to see what the scriptures say and what our tradition says. He says: look at what the Bible says but they say and do not. Their tradition they repeat and that they practice.

1 Peter 4:11 "If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God; if any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen."

Colossians 3:17 "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him." (By the authority of Jesus, your judge).

There are many different churches (not speaking of buildings) which bind their traditions for membership in their religion. There is only one authorized church, Jesus is the head of that body (Col. 1:18).

Jesus calls these (denominations) the broad way leading to destruction. Matthew 7:13-14 "Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: 14 Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."

The catholic says: we must see what the Bible and the catholic church say, but they do not use the Bible, but only their church tradition and this is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 15:6-9 "And honour not his father or his mother, he shall be free. Thus have ye made the commandment of God of none effect by your tradition. 7 Ye hypocrites, well did Esaias prophesy of you, saying, 8 This people draweth nigh unto me with their mouth, and honoureth me with their lips; but their heart is far from me. 9 But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrines the commandments of men." (That's Catholicism).

Colossians 2:8 "Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ."

Thessalonians 2:15 "Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle." (The scriptures are sacred traditions).

Mark 7:8 "For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men, as the washing of pots and cups: and many other such like things ye do."

The Catholic priest seeks to validate catholic baptism of infants based on God commanding the children of Israel to circumcise their baby boys on day eight. That is so corrupt it is not even funny. God did not command baby girls to be circumcised under the Law of Moses, does that mean females under the covenant of Christ should not be baptized, obscured the way of Satan is evil.

Jer. 31:31-34 is quoted in Hebrews 8:11 "And they shall not teach every man his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest."

The children of Israel were born into the kingdom of Israel at birth, knowing nothing about God and his will for their way of living. They were supposed to learn years later.

Under the covenant of Christ any human on earth is to be drawn to God by Christ on the cross and having learned many things about God, Jesus and his church, the kingdom of God, one is moved to desire for this the body of Christ and upon ones personal commitment to obey the Lord he or she will request to be baptized into Jesus for remis-

sion of their sins. Acts 2:41 "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls." John 6:45 "It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. Every man therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me."

The catholic seeks to validate baptizing infants because Lydia and her house hold were baptized. The catholic has no clue how young the members of her household were. Acts 16:32-34 "And they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house. 33 And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their stripes; and was baptized, he and all his, straightway. 34 And when he had brought them into his house, he set meat before them, and rejoiced, believing in God with all his house."

No babies mentioned here either. Catholics therefore I beg of you who do actually believe in God and his son to flee from that house of bondage while you can.

John 3:1-5 Jesus tells an older man Nicodemus you must be born again. Nicodemus is a descendent from Abraham and is in the kingdom of Israel already. Jesus what more can you ask or demand to enter your kingdom. Nicodemus is being drawn by God, but he must receive a lot of teaching before he will be moved to submit to King Jesus enough to repent and be immersed (baptized) into Jesus for remission of his sins and live in compliance to the New Testament.

Catholic's say: baptize them as quickly as you can to wash away that original sin of Adam and Eve, they say that this sacrament washes away that original sin. That is so false it could only come from Satan the father of lies.

Ezekiel 18:2 "What mean ye, that ye use this proverb concerning the land of Israel, saying, The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge?"

Ezekiel 18:4 "Behold, all souls are mine; as the soul of the father, so also the soul of the son is mine: the soul that sinneth, it shall die."

Ezekiel 18:20 "The soul that sinneth, it shall die. The son shall not bear the iniquity of the father, neither shall the father bear the iniquity of the son: the righteousness of the righteous shall be upon him, and the wickedness of the wicked shall be upon him."

Matthew 19:14 "But Jesus said, Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the kingdom of heaven."

Matthew 18:2-4 "And Jesus called a little child unto him, and set him in the midst of them, 3 And said, Verily I say unto you, Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven. 4 Whosoever therefore shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven."

2 Samuel 12:23 "But now he is dead, wherefore should I fast? can I bring him back again? I shall go to him, but he shall not return to me." (Babies that die go to paradise. They have not inherited Adam's sins).

Isaiah 59:1-8 "Behold, the LORD'S hand is not shortened, that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: 2 But your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear. 3 For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity; your lips have spoken lies, your tongue hath muttered perverseness. 4 None calleth for justice, nor any pleadeth for truth: they trust in vanity, and speak lies; they conceive mischief, and bring forth iniquity. 5 They hatch cockatrice' eggs, and weave the spider's web: he that eateth of their eggs dieth, and that which is crushed breaketh out into a viper. 6 Their webs shall not become garments, neither shall they cover themselves with their works: their works are works of iniquity, and the act of violence is in their hands. 7 Their feet run to evil, and they make haste to shed innocent blood: their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity; wasting and destruction are in their paths. 8 The way of peace they know not; and there is no judgment in their goings: they have made them crooked paths: whosoever goeth therein shall not know peace."

If babies were born in sin, all babies who die or are murdered in the womb by evil adults will go to hell. How stupid can grown men be?

The catholic priest claims they are giving the teaching of Jesus Christ to these babies. Catholic doctrine is not the doctrine of Christ Jesus. Christ never taught the multitude of distortions in Catholicism. Jesus commanded us not to call anyone father on the earth, religiously speaking. I know God is grieved to hear man call another sinful man holy father. He knew that the evil of Catholics was coming and that catholic priest want the little children that they may rape and sodomize them. They sprinkle a bit of water on a baby soon as possible not to save this child, but for the simple fact that the sooner they claim this child the more likely they are to get his money later. Satan has power and he it is who gives Catholicism power. Catholic neighbor's, if you love babies or yourself flee from that house of corruption leaving your garment behind.

Catholicism is more evil than Islam because of their pretence to be Christian's.

Answering the Error@GBNTV.ORG Why Do Catholics Baptize Infants?



MELVIN HOWARD

Melvin Howard's Weekly column is sponsored by
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MIA'S View From the Mountain: Victory

As we discussed in the past, through life you meet people who have overcome horrendous circumstances in their lives and have become exceptional people. They looked beyond their circumstances and, through Jesus Christ, have found ways to pass on blessings to others. My friend John is one of those people. I met John in a prison in South Florida. He was part of a program training inmates to be Pastors. John was part of the first The Urban Ministry Institute graduating class in South Bay Correctional Institution in South Florida. We were able to have a graduation with cap and gown. Families were in attendance, and it was a wonderful occasion. I lost track of John over the years until one day I started receiving prayers, scriptures and blessings via text. It was John. I was unaware that he had been released from prison and was now living in the free world. Between twitter, facebook and other social media, you can be found. Here is John's story in his words.

I accepted Jesus Christ as my savior in Salt Lake City Utah in 1973. My Cousin Eugene was a Minister For Agape Ministries and he was on a mission in Utah converting Mormon's to Christianity. I was a 13 year old lost kid from NY in a world of trouble. I was sent there by my parents in an effort to save me from a life of severe consequence. I know today without question that from the day I accepted Christ to now, I didn't always walk with Him, but He always walked with me.

I struggled with addictions of many kinds. At different times, I experienced some freedom from the many prisons, I was physically, spiritually, emotionally and mentally experiencing. Many I know, I created myself. In 2006, I was in a horrific automobile accident where two women and myself were killed. Yes, I died that day. It was a head on collision in South Florida. The three of us were taken to the hospital by the Flight for Life Helicopter. One woman died in flight to the hospital. Myself and the other woman did make it to the hospital.

Once, being stabilized and put on life support the administration proceeded to contact our families. My wife had passed away three months earlier leaving me with two sons, John 8 years old and Joseph 7 years

old. My Mother was fragile and could not be told. My younger brother Patrick was my only relative that could make the decision to keep me on life support or remove me from life support. My diagnosis was a five percent survival. If I did survive, most likely would be a vegetable in a nursing home. I would never be able to function normally again. The other female passenger in the car was removed from life support and passed away. At the time, my brother was in New York. He told the doctors keep John on life support because he will be there soon. After I came out of a six week coma the medical staff put me in an induced coma due to the severity of my injuries. I had massive head injuries, cerebral hemorrhaging of the brain, my facial bones were all fractured, eye oracles fractured, clavicles fractured, punctures, fractured arms and both my legs had been crushed. My right foot was to be amputated. The doctors performed many orthopedic surgeries and saved my foot. I was severely burned due to the vehicle going on fire. A passer by that day, broke into a nearby business and got a fire extinguisher and put the fire out that was burning my body. Three weeks later I began to come out of the induced coma. A nurse monitoring the machines witnessed me opening my eyes. She was shocked and I heard her say, 'Oh my God, you were dead'. My reply to her was there is a heaven.

She shook her head and left. Soon after I woke again and the surgical team that saved my life was at my bedside checking vitals and disconnecting machines. The head surgeon started asking me questions. He said, you are a miracle. I had experienced an after life experience and knew the Lord saved me for a purpose. The Lord told me that I would have aftercare houses to help others that are lost. I had many God moments and revelations of the why, how, where, when, and what had taken place in my life and how I was to help others. I was eventually arrested for vehicular homicide and vehicular man slaughter and sentenced to 15 years in prison. See, I was the driver in that automobile accident that caused the lives of those two women to be lost. I was in the worst of the worst of places but continued to receive the best of the best of God. I was transferred to Belle Glade Cor-

rectional was there four years when the The Urban Ministry Institute was introduced by Chuck Colson /Raeanne Hance of Prison Fellowship. I was selected as a candidate and chosen to be one of the prisoners to be turned into pastor's.

Then, the closing of that prison (a futile attempt at preventing what was to be) failed, and the program thankfully was transferred to South Bay Correctional. As one of the many well deserved tributes to Chuck Colson /Raeanne Hance and always our Lord, I was part of the first graduating class of Tumi. I was released from prison early. I now work for a company called Nationwide Transport Services. Who is also, an ex-offender. We only hire ex-offenders as a second chance. I call it Nationwide Transform Services. As I daily assist turning one time liabilities in our communities into assets in our Communities. We are also, working on opening the Halfway house "All The Way". I am forever thankful to the Lord Jesus Christ for saving me.

"Create in me a clean heart, O God, And renew a steadfast spirit within me. Do not cast me away from Your presence And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation And sustain me with a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Your ways, And sinners will be converted to You."

□□Psalms□ □51:10-13□ □NASB□□□□□□□□□□

Side note: John works everyday in the vision the Lord gave him during that time between life and death.

Mia is a wife to a wonderful man of 44 years, mother of three grown and married children, grandmother of twelve, great grandmother to one. She and her husband have three dogs, one feral cat, two roosters, seven hens and two baby chicks. She loves Jesus with her whole heart. Please feel free to contact her through Morgan County Today Paper.

Historically Speaking

Otto Yang Story - Covid-19

By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

Benita Albert brings us another story of an Oak Ridge schools graduate. This time she has found someone on the front line of the battle with the unseen enemy, Covid-19. When I learned of this connection, I immediately looked Otto Yang up on the internet. I was amazed by what I saw. The most recent was an interview by the Los Angeles Times. Seeing an Oak Ridge Schools graduate so effectively answering questions about the current situation we face was amazing. You will be amazed too when you read Benita's perspective of our own, Otto Yang:

*** Dr. Otto Yang is a former Oak Ridge High School (ORHS) student, Class of 1983, now pursuing research studies on the COVID-19 pandemic. He describes himself as a 'physician-scientist' at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) David Geffen Medical Center, a position which now places him on the forefront of research as well as patient care.

An internet search under his name provides numerous links to several recent press interviews in print and video. Watching him speak so articulately on the history of coronaviruses, on the scientific challenges of COVID-19, and on cautionary health measures is both reassuring and inspiring. His explanations are offered in an informal and relatable style suitable for general public understanding.

In an April 3, 2020 interview, Otto describes the pervasiveness of the disease: "The coronavirus, like all viruses, is basically just a piece of genetic information that enters into a cell and then hijacks its machinery so that the cell starts producing the virus' genetic materials rather than its own." In a further question that asked why seemingly healthy people are getting very sick and why, Otto answered, "I think of the immune system like the police and the virus like criminals. If the criminals are easily brought under control, then the police don't do much collateral damage to the city. But if there is all-out war with equally matched sides, there is a lot of collateral damage. That's what we are seeing in the sickest patients." <https://www.latimes.com/science/story/2020-04-04/why--kills-some-people-and-not-others>

Otto was my student for two years of Calculus at ORHS, and he continued with several advanced math courses in his undergraduate studies at Brown University. However, Otto planned from an early age for a future in medicine, an educational dream he accomplished by 1990 via a combined program for a BS and MD at Brown.

As I write Otto's story, I am reminded of the eager, bright, and disciplined student he was, and of his great class peers in an ORHS class that counted twenty-five National Merit Scholarship Semi-finalists (Otto included) and fifteen National Merit Commended Scholars. Otto recalls his time at ORHS as being "one of the happiest times of my life." He was immersed not only in all the advanced academic course offerings but also in a variety of extracurricular pursuits. He was a member of numerous clubs: Future Doctors, Computer, French, International Relations, Bridge, and Ski. He played cello in the ORHS orchestra and was a member of the National Honor Society.

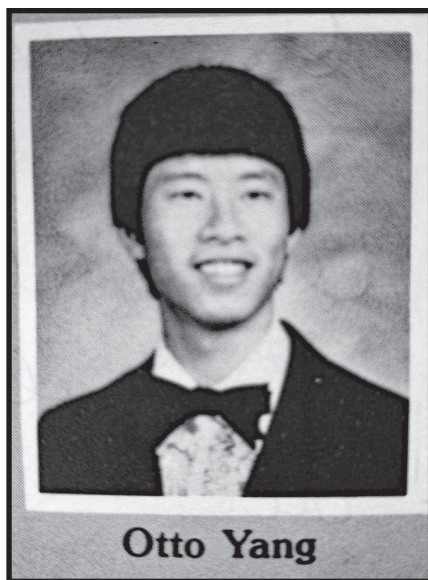
The ORHS 1983 yearbook, The Oak Log, describes the Future Doctors Club as an opportunity to encourage students in their medical career choices through hospital visitations and talks from area doctors and veterinarians. The club had fifteen members, and recently viewing a picture of its members, I am aware that most pursued a medical career. I point this out to say that, though this article features only one ORHS graduate, medical studies were a highly rated choice by many students over my teaching career. I would love to be able to recognize all the ORHS graduates who are now deeply involved in the current crisis evoked by COVID-19. Certainly, it brings me solace and hope knowing that ORHS students are on the job as doctors, researchers, nurses, emergency responders, public health service officials, and so many other critical and essential support assignments.

Otto's humility and sense of humor

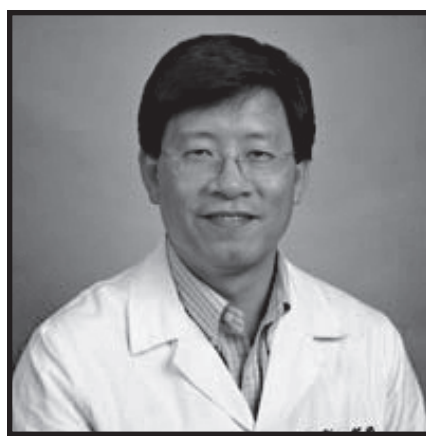
flooded over me when I read his written comments in my '83 Oak Log. I think he would not mind that I share them, and sharing same also speaks to his early dreams. After saying nice things about my course, he continued his writing with the following: "Unfortunately, I am not following the superior doctrine of mathematics, but following science (medicine) in hopes of an MD. I do plan on continuing math, however." He closes with, "Here's my signature, which is unlikely to be of any worth."

His signature in both English and Chinese followed. I now smile at his latter comment, remembering that I instructed my students to please at least sign my yearbook so that I would have proof of their presence in my classroom, and perhaps I could 'cash in' on their later fame and fortune by possessing their autograph. Otto's signature is now especially 'priceless' and special to me given the important work he has done and the current, vital research he is leading.

Otto and I connected via email recently, and his response to my request for a story was quickly honored.



L - Otto Yang in Oak Ridge High School/R-Dr. Otto Yang/Bottom-Future Doctors Club with Otto in the back far left (Photo Submitted)



He described his medical journey after completing degree-work at Brown: "I chose to do a residency in internal medicine at Bellevue Hospital/NYU in New York City, because I wanted a roll-up sleeves training experience, and boy did I get it! This was the height of the AIDS epidemic, 1990-1993, at the epicenter of the epidemic. About half of my patients were HIV+, so I literally treated thousands of patients with this disease and watched most of them die during my training."

He continued, "I always planned on being a physician-scientist, originally in oncology, but in that era, science was more directly applicable to infectious diseases and still distant from application for cancer. So, my interest was steered to HIV and immunology. I then did infectious diseases training at Massachusetts General Hospital/Harvard, which included the usual clinical training plus extra training in laboratory research, from 1993-1997. There I focused my efforts on the immune system and its interactions with the virus, with the goal of developing immune-based treatments and/or vaccines. I guess you could call me a molecular virologist-immunologist in training."

Before his move to California, Otto completed the above-mentioned training, started an independent research career, and joined the junior faculty at Harvard for two years. Otto wrote, "I was recruited by UCLA where I started in 1999 as an Assistant Professor. Here I have had a busy laboratory, continuing research on T-cells and HIV, branching out to touch on other viruses and organ transplantation immunology. I'm the Associate Chief of Infectious Diseases and have a joint appointment in the Department of Microbiology, Immunology, and Molecular Genetics. Through the latter department I am a PhD-granting mentor."

He reports being both a thesis advisor to eight of his own students as well as serving on thesis committees for many more. Otto continued describing his assignments: "On the medical front, I spend about 5-10% of my time seeing patients in the hospital, during which I train infectious disease physicians under my wing."

Of his current, urgent assignment he says: "I am up to my eyeballs in the response of the UCLA Medical Center to COVID-19. I'm in

charge of experimental therapeutic trials in our division, and (I) have coordinated the Remdesivir trial. I'm also working on developing antibody-based treatments, and collaborating on immune-modulating treatments. My unique niche as a physician-scientist has put me in the forefront of our research response since my interests straddle the spectrum from treating patients to molecules in the lab."

Researching 'Remdesivir trial' for this story, I found that, with approval of the European Medical Agencies, certain European countries have recommended Remdesivir treatment of COVID-19 patients under compassionate-use rules. Such treatment is offered, outside of ongoing clinical trials, to COVID-19 patients with extreme breathing difficulties. An April 3, 2020 press release from UCLA Health states, "UCLA is one of seventy-five sites around the globe participating in a (Remdesivir) clinical trial sponsored by the National Institutes of Health."

In a recent online interview, Otto provided a summary of coronaviruses, including mention that at least four coronaviruses are found in 30% of common colds. He described COVID-19 as 86% genetically similar to the 2002 SARS virus, but it is even more mysterious and concerning due to its greater capacity to spread. He scoffs at internet postings on various "miraculous treatments," advising the public to be cautious, to check informational sources, and to understand that: "There is no magic pill or solution at present."

He suggests that if he were in charge, and if his fantasy could be honored, he would recommend that everyone be tested for COVID-19. He concurs that ongoing limitations insist that the medical community prioritize testing for those persons most at risk and/or symptomatic. When queried as to whether COVID-19 recovered patients have immunity, his answer was: "The immune system is a big black box." He observed that it is strange how the immune system can be effective against some viruses and not others, also noting that some COVID-19 cases may be showing reinfection and/or short immune periods after recovery. He poses that these uncertainties could suggest bad news for a possible vaccine.

As a part of his closing comments, Otto offered a take home lesson, proposing that if you understand how the virus spreads then you can protect yourself and others. He strongly advocates for the Center for Disease Control's Covid-19 guidelines of frequent hand washing and social distancing.

Otto ends the interview with a hopeful message: "Don't panic, we will get through this." To view more of his interview, entitled, "Understanding the -Infectious Disease Expert Dr. Otto Yang Explains Fact From Fiction," go online to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tFvEDk-7W1Rg> In a follow-up email correspondence, Otto wrote of his hometown: "I have to admit to you, high school comprised the happiest years of my life. I was surrounded by wonderful friends and teachers...in an insulated bubble. College was a rude awakening, to learn that smart kids were ostracized as 'nerds' and 'geeks' in their high schools and even at (college), and that being smart wasn't a popular quality like at ORHS."

As a former teacher of Otto's and so many other bright and service minded students on the forefront of this crisis, it is my humble opinion that we have never needed 'nerds' and 'geeks' more. More importantly, we all need each other's respect and caring to prevail.

I am grateful to Otto for his willingness to share this story with his hometown, for his dedicated medical career, and for the excessively long hours and the undying determination he now brings to the race for treatments and a cure for COVID-19. Public support, cooperation, and resoluteness is essential in both the race to save lives and for uplifting a medical community under enormous stress.

*** Well, there you have it. An amazing story brought to us by Benita Albert. Otto Yang is right in the front line of Covid-19 struggle. With his skills which began to be developed in Oak Ridge Schools, I am sure you are convinced as I am convinced that we are in the best of hands when it comes to the war we are in with the invisible enemy of Covid-19!

Peace in the Blood

By: MSG. Fred Mize



MSG Fred Mize

If you're anything like me you may cringe within just a few minutes of watching or listening to either the local or national news today. Our minds are continually bombarded with bad news as if the mainstream media wants the American people to live in fear.

God does not want His people to live in fear or to feel overwhelmed with the tribulations of this world. Regardless of the bad news that fills the airways, we as Christians can rejoice in

the fact that Jesus Christ has power over all flesh and He alone has the power and authority to give eternal life. We are taught this by Jesus Christ in John 17 (KJV).
John 17

1 These words spake Jesus, and lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:

2 As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.

3 And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.

During this time

of uncertainty, we as Christians can have peace not through our own actions or by the actions of our government but by being justified by our faith in



Jesus Christ. Even during our tribulations, He can bless us with patience. With each new experience we can gain hope for the present time and future. Because of the love of God, Christians have no reason to be ashamed of their

past before they accepted Jesus Christ as their LORD and Savior. Let's rejoice in having absolute peace in our lives and love in our hearts by being

blessed with the Holy Ghost which is given unto us and for being justified by the blood of Jesus Christ! We learn all of this in Romans 5 (KJV).

Romans 5:1-9

1 Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace

with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

2 By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

3 And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience;

4 And patience, experience; and experience, hope: 5 And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

6 For when we were yet without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly.

7 For scarcely for a righteous man will one die: yet

peradventure for a good man some would even dare to die.

8 But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

9 Much more then, being now justified by his blood, we shall be saved from wrath through him.

Father, I pray that we place our faith in you during our walks in the valleys and mountain tops. You are love! You are our strength! You are our peace! You are our hope! You are our justification! You are our LORD and Savior and we will rejoice! Amen!

Around The World and Back Again

with Zack Ballinger

Morgan County Small Business

It's no secret most big corporations, non-profit agencies, state governments, and educational institutions are suffering from the economic shut down due to COVID-19. Many have taken loans, suspended business operations, furloughed & laid off employees, etc. Small businesses are the backbone of the US economy. They are in essence the engine that runs productivity. Rural areas rely on small businesses for our daily functions and they play a major role in our economic production.



worry a lot about our small businesses in Morgan County during these unprecedented times. President Trump indicated that he will allow the states to make decisions on reopening businesses with certain phased guidelines. Governor Bill Lee has a Stay-At-Home Order that has shut down all non-essential business until at least April 30th. The phase approach is dependent on the states COVID-19 cases, but all signs point to some areas of Tennessee opening by May 1st.

In this article, I want to outline 3 common sense ways to come together as a community and support our local small



businesses. Many of them run on very little retained earnings and rely on week to week revenues to operate. Let's pull together as a county and show up strong to support small businesses. When they do open, let's flood the gates and show them our support.

1. Local Economy: As soon as the doors open, let's (with social distancing) bombard the doors with spending. I realize some of you may be furloughed our laid off, but for the rest of us lets show support in strong numbers. Grab a meal at your local diner, purchase home improvement supplies for a project, meet with those local insurance agents, purchase an extra item you may need later, book elective health procedures, buy a gift card, schedule that much needed haircut, give an extra tip at your local restaurant, donate some time or money to the local charities, etc. Ask yourself the question: Can I buy what I want or need in Morgan County?

2. Smile: Many of our small businesses face a lot of anxiety, stress, and many sleepless nights. I have had so many interactions out in public with people using fear as an excuse to mistreat someone. Show up to these local business with smile. Let them know you appreciate them. Say please and thank you. Show up with love and compassion for employees. Don't freak out over the little things. When you enter

a business, come with a smile. It will help them get through these challenging times.

3. Marketing & Advertising: The best way to promote small business is word of mouth. If you recommend a business to someone studies show that 7 other people will listen. When you have a good experience with a local small business, tell your friends via phone, text message, or post it on social media. This is basically free advertising for these small businesses. Many of the small businesses do not have the revenues to pay for advertising at this moment. This will help them with advertising.



Zack graduated from Wartburg Central High School in 2001 and from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville in 2004. Since graduation he has become a TedX Motivational Speaker, Author, and Career Consultant. He travels the world giving back and hosting seminars teaching people on various topics. Zack has established an ongoing annual scholarship at his Alma Mater, Wartburg, which has inspired others to give back as well.

Visit www.zackballinger.com for more of Zack's travels and events.



Zack Ballinger

Happy April Birthdays!

April 3 Jackie Morgan Michael Spurling Tammy Lloyd Xander Shelley	Adam Foster Daniel Rickett Tony Taylor	Mallory Moore Nan Kilby	Honeycutt Harold Dean Swint Jessica Huffman Logan Justice Meagan Hamby Oakley Brashears Olivia Justice Serenity Massey	Stephanie Neal
April 4 Genny Matheson Vera Sexton	April 10 Madison Robertson Ramsey Daugherty	April 16 Serenity Russell	April 21 John Paul Smith Krasha Tobeck Wyatt Richards	April 26 Betty Shannon Doyle Dane (Sam) Hamby Tommy Ritter
April 5 Blake Hamby Carol Hensley	April 11 Brenda Shannon Gabriel Shelly Kym Hedden-McGhee Liam Miller	April 17 Adam Terry Bradly Miller Brantley Greene Samantha Waters	April 22 Anzley Bruglio Leona Miller	April 27 Arabella Rushing Erica Taylor Noah Shannon
April 6 Janice Cook JD Gunter Larry Lavender	April 12 Melissa Richards	April 19 Angel Brown Balin Moore Cade Brown Mauri Jonquet Peyton Sargent	April 24 Rank Hammock	April 28 Robin Potter Steven Shannon
April 7 Tinzlee Vann	April 13 Autumn Kamer Reece Whaley Sherry Cromwell	April 20 Addison Berrier Alana Ellis Angie Robinson Ashley	April 25	April 29 Betsy McGhee Brooklyn Ward Heather Reed Katie York Ruby Hamby
April 8 Dakotah Miller	April 14 Lynn Redmon			April 30 Kayleigh Lowe
April 9				

Morgan County Today Community Calendar

The Oakdale School Wide Reunion will be held on Saturday, June 27, 2020 from 2:00 - 10:00 p.m. Day-time activities are free; if you would like to attend the dinner at 6:00 p.m., cost is \$20.00. Monetary donations are also being accepted to help cover the cost of the event and continue to build the Oakdale Alumni Association. To purchase tickets or make a donation, please contact alumni treasurer, Becky McClurkan at 865-719-8671 or beekymc@bellsouth.net.

Sandra Helton's weekly column

Oakdale Area News

email: kvhelton@highland.net



Hello Friends! Although things were different, I hope you had a good Easter. We were able to watch several pastors deliver their message via Facebook. I know there are some who were a bit reluctant to go live on social media but I, along with many others, would like to thank those who stepped out of their comfort zone to provide a time of worship for us.

Morgan County Schools will remain closed for the rest of the 2019-2020 school year. Though students and teachers will not be in the buildings, Morgan County Schools will continue to provide meals, learning opportunities and other supports for the remainder of the school year. Academic lessons and resources will be made available through mid-May. Teachers will monitor student progress and provide feedback on completed work. Graduations will not be cancelled but instead will be rescheduled at a time that is deemed safe by the appropriate agencies. Grab and Go Breakfast and Lunch will continue to be provided on Monday and Thursdays by bus route delivery or designated site pickup through May 22nd.

On Friday, April 10, many came together to provide meals and fun for Morgan County children. All children 18 and under could pick up a meal at Central Elementary which included bbq from John Boy's BBQ, a dyed Easter Egg and lot of other goodies. The Easter Bunny was there to greet families. There was a Easter BINGO drive through game in the City of Wartburg and WECO tossed candy into car windows for children. I am afraid I will overlook someone if I try to thank everyone who made this happen so I will just say "Thank You for taking time during Spring Break to make a lot of children smile."

Kerry Ruppe preached from Boswell Chapel Easter Sunday morning and streamed it on Facebook. Later, Kerry and Jennifer Ruppe hosted Easter dinner for their family. Jennifer prepared tur-

key, ham and every side dish to be thought of. Her daughter, Valerie Disney, made pineapple upside down cake. After lunch, they hid Easter eggs. Jayla found the most prize eggs winning \$7 total.

Congratulations to Justin and Erica Coffey on the birth of their son, Carter Reign Coffey. Carter was born Tuesday, April 14 and he weighed 7lbs 6oz and was 20 inches long. He is welcomed by his siblings, Marissa, Treyson and Kameron. His very proud grandparents are Daniel and Kathy Coffey and Tabitha Roberts.

We are enjoying some of the prettiest blooms right now. Dogwoods, Red Buds, Azaleas and Wisteria have been beautiful.

A huge shout out to Mickey and Jeanie Bingham who have been walking to the Oakdale Post Office. That is not an easy hike! Keep up the good job Mr. B and Ms. Jeanie.

Happy 19th Birthday to our nephew, Kinley Hamby who will celebrate his special day April 23. We hope you have a great day.

Happy Birthday to a couple of cousins who celebrate their birthday on April 22. Cole Tilson will turn 19 and Randy Chapman will turn.....I guess I better not say. Happy Birthday Fellows!

Our neighbor, Blake Miller will celebrate his 19th birthday on April 23. Happy Birthday Blake.

Belated anniversary wishes to Jonathan and Becky Snow who celebrated 15 years April 16. Wishing you many more blessed years.

Sometimes, we should all have the attitude of a child. Last week, Becky Snow asked her children, Kyeli and Dane, their thoughts on our current situation. She asked Dane if he knew about the Corona virus and he replied that he didn't understand much about it. After they discussed it, Dane said "I think we should pray for dinosaurs to eat the virus and for unicorns to make sick people feel better." Dane also said he likes to see the bus coming on food distribution days. He said "I like the yummy food but the bus makes a noise that kinda scares me."

He demonstrated the noise and it seems to be the brakes.

Kyeli said "It makes me sad that people are sick and that we can't go places or visit. It makes me sad that some of the sick people might not know Jesus. We need to spread the word about Jesus. I wish we had a houseful of medicine to give the sick people." Kyeli said she likes for the bus to come and likes it when the bus driver blows the horn at them. Both Dane and Kyeli said they loved the teacher parade following the bus and especially liked the cars with balloons.

Oakdale Alumni Association will have an online auction Friday - Sunday, April 24-26. Hopefully, the June 27 Reunion will go on as scheduled. If it has to be postponed, it will be nice to have funds available to make it a nice banquet. If you would like to donate to the auction, please reach out to me and I will make arrangements to pick up your donation before next weekend's auction. You can call me at 423-369-3112, email me at kvhelton@highland.net or send me a Facebook message. This is a PARTIAL LIST of items received: Ruby Tuesday Gift Card, O'Charley's Gift Card, Bed Bath & Beyond Gift Card, McDonald's Family Pack Gift Certificates, Shoney's gift certificates, Mel's Diner Gift Certificates, Ripley's Combo Pass good for 8 attractions, (2) Morgan County News 1 Year Subscriptions, Massage Therapy Gift Certificate, (2) Angi Makes Cakes Gift Certificates, Rock City Family Pass, Rain Forest Adventures Family Pass, Cumberland County Playhouse Tickets, Courtney's Diner Gift Certificate, (3) Brushy Mountain Tours tickets, Country Music Hall of Fame tickets, The Sweet Life Gift Certificate, WonderWorks Gift Certificate, (2) Ashley Ruppe Photography Gift Certificates, Diana Smith's Homemade Sour Dough Bread, Thirty One item, Bath and Body Works, Candles and more items on the way!

Even though the Roane State Academic Festival was cancelled for live events, the online submissions were still open, and Oakdale High School had the following students enter in these categories:

Macee Brackett - Photography

Ivy Tilson - Digital Art and Photography

Hanna Allen - Photography

Mary Willis - 3D Sculpture

Lindsay Elswick - Drawing

Willow Jones - Poetry

Amanda Pennycuff - Poetry

Reece Perkey - Fiction Short Story

Isabella Peters - Argumentative Essay

Bethany Gibson - Solo Vocal

Shelby Stewart - Solo Vocal

Oakdale School had two winners as well. Ivy Tilson placed 3rd in Digital Art and Shelby Stewart placed 1st in Solo Vocal. Congratulations to all these students for their hard work and a job well done.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Sue Tapp who passed away Saturday, April 11. She is survived by her husband, Dee Tapp of Harriman and four children, Baron (Cheryl) Tapp, Tonya (Chad) McCarroll and Justin Tapp all of Harriman and Travis (Jill) Tapp of Oakdale. She is also survived by eight grandchildren, eight siblings and a host of other family and friends. Graveside services were held Friday, April 17 at Willard Park Cemetery.

Please continue to pray for our country and our leaders, our churches and our pastors, our missionaries, our military, our schools, faculty and students, the sick, the grieving, the lonely and the lost.

"Contentment is an attitude that says, I will be satisfied with what God has given me." - Anonymous



Davis Funeral Home's Veteran of the Week



Morgan County Today is humbled and honored to praise United States Army Veteran, Donald (Buzz) R. Mathis, as this week's Veteran of the week. Donald (Buzz) Mathis like so many men in the 1960's and 1970's was drafted into the United States Army to serve his country during the Vietnam War.

Mathis' tour of duty began on September 24, 1970. Buzz, quickly moved up the enlisted ranks and earned the respectable rank of Sergeant within one year of service while serving in the Military Occupational Specialty as a Light Weapons Infantryman, in the 101st Airborne Division, 3rd Battalion, 187th Infantry, A Company.

Tragically on May 28, 1971 Buzz Mathis was killed in action in the Thua Thein Province of Vietnam. During SGT Mathis' honorable military service he earned the following awards; Purple Heart, Bronze Star, Air Medal, Combat Infantry Badge, Marksmanship Badge, Parachutist Badge, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam campaign medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Army Presidential Unit Citation, Vietnam Gallantry Cross, and an Army Good Conduct Medal.



Any reader of this article can clearly see that SGT Mathis was an excellent soldier just by the awards and rank he earned in such a short time. Anytime an American Soldier is killed in action while defending the freedoms and rights of Americans or anyone who cannot defend themselves not only does America but the world

Soldier writes school children prior to death

"I feel, that if my blood is spilled on this foreign soil, it will not be in vain as long as it helps to preserve our freedom in some small way and helps keep our next generation from having to go through the hardships of war.

These are the words of a homesick soldier from Morgan County who died in Vietnam on May 28 this year. Sp4 Donald (Buzz) Mathis, age 21, expressed these sentiments in a letter to the fourth grade class of his younger brother at Central Elementary School in Warburg. The letter, received in January, was one of the last received before Sp4 Mathis' death.

It was written in response to a gesture by the school children; each of them, about 40 in number, had written to Donald in Vietnam. The letter is reprinted here in its entirety.

Donald Mathis, who was born and reared in the Mossey Grove community near Warburg, entered the Army in April, 1970. He was a graduate of Central High School in Warburg. Following his graduation from high school, he was employed by the Magnavox Corporation in Jefferson City in the field of electronics. He was married to the former Wanda Jones, 19, of Coalfield. She still lives in the Mossey Grove community where they made their home.

Donald, who was in the infantry, received his basic training at Fort Jackson, S.C., and took his advanced training at Fort Pulk, La. He went to Vietnam where he served as a squad leader in an infantry outfit. In September, 1970, Donald was killed when a scout from his platoon stepped on a booby trap while on an operation in the jungle. It was later learned by his family that he had been promoted to the rank of sergeant the day before he was killed.

According to reports from the Army, received by his family, Donald was an efficient, helpful and dedicated soldier.

Throughout his high school days, Donald worked for a grocery store in Mossey Grove. He was in the band in high school, and showed an avid interest in electronics. He had planned to study further in the field after leaving the Army.

In addition to his wife, Donald is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W.R. Mathis, of Mossey Grove; one sister, Mrs. Corene Maddox,



DONALD MATHIS

Harriman; three brothers, Larry, stationed in Maryland with the Navy, David, a fifth grader at Central Elementary School, and James, a pre-schooler; grandparents, Mrs. Cora Mathis and Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Ooten, Harriman. Donald, who would have left Vietnam by September, was buried with full military honors in Mossey Grove.

Donald took his Rest and Recreation leave from Vietnam in mid-April. His wife joined him in Hawaii for a week, just one month before he was killed. Donald never said much about conditions in Vietnam in his letters, said his sister, Mrs. Corene Maddox. "He was just always counting the days until he could come home."

In giving this letter to The Harriman Record for reproduction, Mrs. Maddox said, "I just wanted people to know how at least some of the soldiers over there feel."

As for the kind of person Donald Mathis was - let him speak for himself; his letter tells the whole story.

Dear Mrs. Peery and children of the fourth grade:

I regret that time will not allow me to answer every single one of these thoughtful and encouraging letters. I am really happy to find out that our younger generation is growing up so well and appreciative of the freedom they have and that they realize the importance of protecting that freedom.

I realize that I'm only a single individual doing his small part

Jan. 26, 1971

Dear Mrs. Peery and children of the fourth grade, I regret that time will not allow me to answer every single one of these thoughtful and encouraging letters. I am really happy to find out that our younger generation is growing up so well and appreciative of the freedom they have and that they realize the importance of protecting that freedom.

I realize that I'm only a single individual doing his small part to preserve our way of life. I feel, if my blood is shed on this foreign soil, it will not be in vain as long as it helps to preserve that freedom in some small way and helps keep our next generation from having to go through the hardships of war.

I only hope and pray that these children's belief in America and "Old Glory" remains as it is now. If our country has nothing to fear from Communist Oppression or any other threat against the freedom that we so foolishly take for granted. God bless all of you for your letters and encouragement. You have made one lonely and homesick soldier a lot happier and have brought me a little closer home. You can never know how appreciative I am for your thoughtfulness.

Sincerely yours,
Sp4 Donald Mathis

have a great loss beyond all comprehension. Although most readers never met SGT Mathis, all can honor him and his ultimate sacrifice by taking a moment to reflect on and appreciate the freedoms we as Americans enjoy everyday. Morgan County Today, thanks SGT Donald (Buzz) R. Mathis and the Mathis family for their incomprehensible sacrifice and loss.

Law Enforcement Officer of the Week

Presented by Jerry Duncan Ford

This week's Morgan County Today Law Enforcement Officer of the week is a very special officer because he serves his community and his fellow brothers and sisters in uniform in numerous ways.

Kasey Stout has served as a Morgan County correctional officer for going on seventeen years. Throughout his career in law enforcement he has witnessed the dire need for correctional officers to have a tool and/or program to utilize with battling suicidal thoughts and ideations.

Kasey grew up in Sunbright and graduated from Sunbright School in 2002. He now resides in Kingston with his wife Amber and their two children Kaedyn and Malena. Kasey and his family are members of Courts of Praise Church in Harriman. They've attended church there for the past six years and Kasey is

thankful to serve God and his community as an evangelist.

During Kasey's walk with God he prayed fervently for God's guidance to show him how he can help his fellow law enforcement officers to turn away from suicide when coping with the stresses of serving in corrections.

God answered Kasey's prayers with the simplest clarity by speaking to Kasey's heart, "10-4". Kasey prayed again to God for scriptural guidance concerning God's reply and again God spoke to his heart but this time He said, "2 Corinthians 10:4." Kasey

looked up the Bible verse which reads, 2 Corinthians 10:4 (For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

Kasey continued to pray and God continued to lead. In accordance to God's inspiration, Kasey created "Operation 10-4" which is a 24/7 service provided Facebook page that correctional officers can freely like and follow. Kasey is the president of the page



and has put together a team of several other correctional officers and specialists who have administrative rights to the page. Together their team is able to monitor the page 24/7 so that anyone can reach out to them if they have thoughts of suicide.

As of today, at least fifteen correctional officers have been helped and possibly saved from suicide. Operation 10-4 has been so well received by correctional officers across the state that every Tennessee state prison may implement their own Operation 10-4 soon after COVID-19 subsides.

Officer Kasey, Morgan County Today thanks you for seeking God's guidance in your pursuit to help others and for having the courage to put His guidance into action.

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Veteran of the Week

Davis Funeral Home is proud to sponsor Morgan County Today's feature, Veteran of the Week. Each week, a different local Veteran will be spotlighted, and honored and appreciated for their service. The Veteran's name, branch of service, service dates and other pertinent data should be emailed to Editor@mocotoday.com or Publisher@mocotoday.com. Submissions will be printed in the order in which they are received, pending verification of information.

Marvel not that I
said unto thee,
Ye must be born again.

John 3:7

- Jesus



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Bid opening will be at the Morgan County Highway Department - 3519 Morgan County Highway Wartburg, TN 37887 at 10:00am on May 4, 2020. Mail bids to the Morgan County Highway Department at P.O. Box 250 Wartburg, TN 37887 or hand deliver to our office at 3519 Morgan County Highway Wartburg, TN. (**Fuel System Bid**) must be printed on the outside of the envelope. The Morgan County Highway Department reserves the right to reject any and all bids. The Morgan County Highway Department is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate. Any questions please call us at 423-346-6661.

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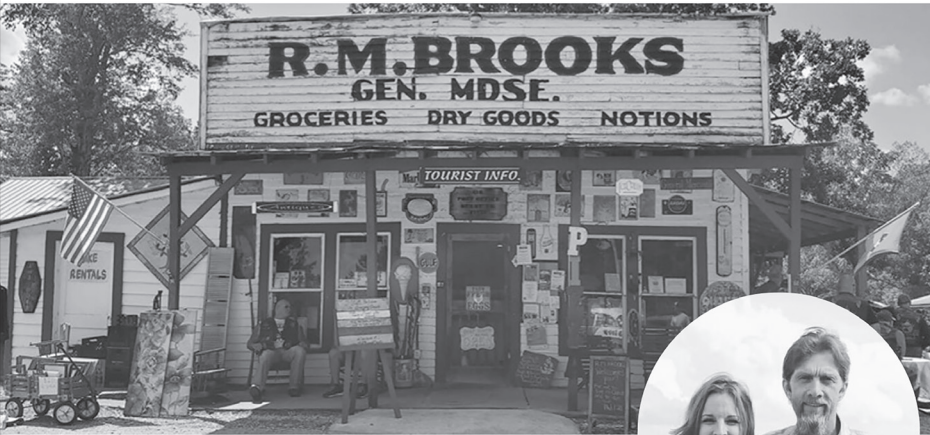
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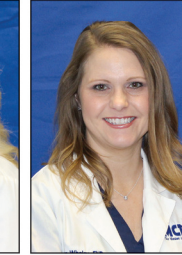
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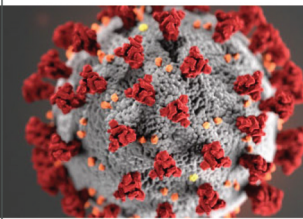
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