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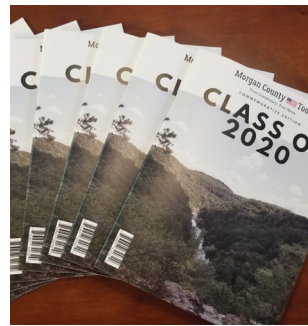
VOLUME 06 • NUMBER 21

PSALM 100:3

May 26, 2020

MORGAN COUNTY WEATHER THIS WEEK

TUE MAY 26	85°/67°	
WED MAY 27	83°/67°	
THU MAY 28	82°/67°	
FRI MAY 29	80°/64°	
SAT MAY 30	73°/56°	
SUN MAY 31	71°/54°	
MON JUN 1	73°/54°	



Class of 2020: Commemorative Magazine

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We Remember



SFC Stephen Kennedy

Memorial Day is a day of remembrance and honor to many military service members who gave their life in service to our country. Memorial Day is held on the last Monday of May but it should be a day that is honored in every American's heart each and everyday.

Jesus Christ quoted in John 15:13 **“Greater love hath no man than this, that he should lay down his life for his friends.”**

President George H.W. Bush quoted on Memorial Day in 1992, “Each of the patriots whom we remember on this day was first a beloved son or daughter, a brother or sister, or a spouse, friend, and neighbor.” President Franklin D. Roosevelt quoted, “Those who have long enjoyed such privileges as we enjoy forget in time that men have died to win them.”

President Harry S. Truman quoted, “Our debt to the heroic men and valiant women in the service of our country can never be repaid. They have earned our undying gratitude. America will never forget their sacrifices.” Arthur Ashe quoted, “True heroism is remarkably sober, very undramatic. It is not the urge to surpass all others at whatever cost, but the urge to serve others at whatever the cost.”

Claudia Pemberton quoted, “America without her soldiers would be like God without His angels.” As I write this Memorial Day article, I can't help but remember two fellow brothers-in-arms who have gone before me. SFC Stephen Kennedy and SSG John McHugh. These two fine men served alongside each other in the Tennessee Army National Guard during Operation Iraqi Freedom III in 2004-2005. Tragically SFC Kennedy was KIA on April 4, 2005. He was killed in Balad Ruz, Iraq while trying to save two Iraqi Army soldiers who were pinned down by enemy small arms fire.

Although SFC Kennedy gave his life for our country in the pursuit to save two ally soldiers, he did not die alone. SSG McHugh held his beloved friend in his arms as

he took his last breath. SSG McHugh joined his friend SFC Kennedy in Heaven on March 23, 2018.

Although I mentioned SFC Kennedy and SSG McHugh I know they would be humbled and not want attention to themselves, for Memorial Day is to honor all of their brothers and sisters-in-arms who dedicated and gave their lives in protecting our freedoms and the freedoms of others. Let's all do that this day.

“We Remember”
by
Steven Curtis Chapman

This is for the ones who heard the fight for freedom calling
For the ones who answered, “I’ll do what I can”
For the ones who ran to battle
Who believed that freedom mattered
Oh, this is for you

And this is for the ones whose orders took them to the front lines
For the ones who fell and never made it home
For the ones who came back broken
With memories too hard to be spoken
Oh, this is for you

We remember
We remember
We are thankful
We are grateful
We know freedom isn't free
We remember
We remember

The gift you gave
The price you paid
Is not in vain
And it will never be forgotten
‘Cause we remember

And this is for the ones whose war is wondering and waiting
For the moms and dads and families back at home
Those with pictures by their beds
Who had to learn to live again
Oh this is for you

We remember
Every time we chase our dreams
Or pray out loud
Speak our minds

And even when we disagree
Oh, we remember
And though sometimes we've lost our way
We're still the land of the free and the home of the brave

And we remember
We remember
And we are thankful
We are grateful
We know freedom isn't free
We remember
We remember
The gift you gave
The price you paid
Is not in vain
And it will never be forgotten
We remember



SSG John McHugh

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Heather Francis
Editor

I am not an expert on Homesteading but I love the idea! For the last several years I have been reading and dabbling into the idea of homesteading. I wanted to be self-sufficient. Since COVID has come and changed the lives of so many my desire to become a homesteader was even greater! I went and purchased two dairy goats! The reason the idea of being able to get my own milk was important to me was my recent experience at a local grocery store. If you follow our family any you know we are not the average size family. We have been

blessed with six amazing and beautiful children. Milk is a big deal at our house. When I go to the grocery store and they limit me to one gallon that's a big deal! Two under the age of two need milk. My efforts to solve this crisis was to get the dairy goats.

One thing I love about homesteading is that any amount of land you can manage into a small homestead to meet your families need. I love gathering my own eggs and vegetables. Gardening is calming and just mentally and physically healthy for a person. Now with these new goats of mine I have found I love goats! They are sweet and love to bond with their families. I do have one baby goat in the mix and they are a joy to watch too.

I have only dabbled in

gardening, chickens, and gardening. Homesteading can go into compost and growing your own feed for animals. Creating your own cheese, yogurt, bread and a host of things that you can make from your own farm. You don't have to be a big producing farm you can start small and do what is fun and enjoyable to you and what will meet the needs of your family.

If you are looking for something to do as a family, there is no greater joy than homesteading with your family. It is a fun thing we get to do together and the many things they learn and we as parents get to watch them learn! We are learning too!

Homesteading is not just a family thing either. I love building my community

around homesteading. The many families and friends I have made by the connection of homesteading. These bonds and friendships bring me much joy. Living here in Morgan County there are many people to connect with that are doing homesteading! What a fun thing to do in our community.

I love learning new things and meeting new people and feeling like I'm doing something with and for my family. We have many people who can assist if you are interested in learning about homesteading in our community. We have an amazing team at the UT Extension office in Wartburg and an active Cattlemen's Association. These are just two groups that can help you get started!

In Loving Memory

Donna Gay (Morgan) Pritchett

Donna Gay (Morgan) Pritchett, formerly of Morgan County, went home to be with the Lord on Monday, May 18, 2020, in Madisonville, TN.

miah Wilson and granddaughter Erica Adams. She is also survived by sisters Connie Adams (Myrl) and Nancy Morgan and brother Doug Morgan (Nancy).

She was preceded in death by her parents Clemon and Geraldine Morgan and her son Eric Wallace.

The family will have a private service at a later date.

She is survived by her daughter Sarah Wallace, grandson Jere-

Serenity Funeral Home in Etowah is in charge of the arrangements.

Our Daddy

Estel Carroll
"Pap"

2nd Anniversary in Heaven
August 1, 1926 - May 28, 2018

A grieving son, a grieving daughter.

The little things I miss about my dad.

The smell of coffee, the smell of smokes, cherry vanilla pipe tobacco, smell of Johnson baby powder, smell of Listerine, and Brut aftershave.

An empty house.

Your empty chair, an empty porch, WECO gospel station, a storyteller with one more story then I will hush.

The times we shared, the times you made me so MAD, the stories you told, the special times we shared at church. You always telling me how to drive.

A daddy no longer there.

A broken heart, tear filled eyes, no more counting butterflies, no more fly swatting bumble bees. A few things we miss about our dad.

Nothing is the same since you went to your home going.

Time seems to stand still, when you're missing your dad.

Happy Anniversary in Heaven.
We miss you daddy.

Robert, Mary Lou, Jackie,
Ricky, Tammy, Ann Patten, grandchildren, and family.

Remembering you is so easy.
I do it every day, missing you is the heartache that never goes away.

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

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.

Send Letters to the Editor
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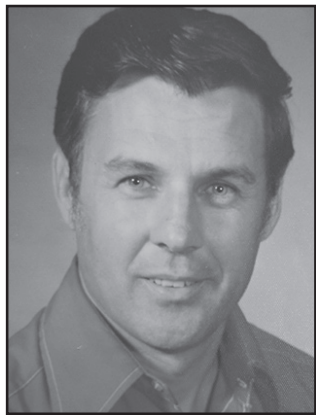
Rates in Morgan County

\$40; \$35 for senior citizens & Veterans

Out of County Rates

\$55; \$50 for senior citizens & Veterans

The Car Smash



Tom Redmon
Columnist

In 1967 I began teaching school at Putnam Senior High in Cookeville, Tennessee. The 1967-68 school year would become an eventful year for me and the high school. First of all, Cookeville would have an undefeated football season and become state champs. Mack and Watson Brown were the stars and in the world of sports Mack would coach at the University of Texas where he would win the National Championship. The second thing to happen at the Senior High School was the formation of the Key Club. Where the Circle K was the Kiwanian offering for college boys, the Key Club was the same for high school boys. Mr. Bill Mills the principal recommend me to be their advisor. It was to become one of the best experiences that I had in my teaching career. Here I was in my first year of high school teaching and I was to start a new club in a college town. I had no trouble getting boys to join the Key Club. I ended up having forty-two members and I could have had a hundred. I had to cut the membership at forty-two and I wondered how I would handle that many.

We had an election and the president of the club was a great young man by the name of Mark Draper. With Mark at the helm my job as advisor was easier. The 1967-68 school year was one that I'll never forget. We did so many successful projects for the school and community, and the Key Club became almost as popular as the championship football

team. We made the newspaper a lot.

Mark Draper and several others in the Key Club graduated in May 1968. In the fall of 1968, the club elected new officers. It didn't take long for me to realize that the 1968-1969 Key Club was going to be a lot different with a young man by the name of Steve Everett as the president. Steve was a good boy, the son of an engineer professor at Tennessee Tech, but he was not a leader. I had to step in and take control of the meetings and approval of all the projects we would have.

As the year went on,



we had some successful projects in the community but nothing like we had had in 1967-1968.

In the spring of 1969, the boys came to me and asked if they could have a car smash. They said the Circle K at Tech had one and it brought in a lot of money. I asked them to explain to me what a car smash was all about.

They said that you get an old car, paint the names of students and teachers on it, have a sledge hammer handy, and charge the students 25 cents for ever time they hit the car. From the start I didn't like the sound of it. I told them I would not approve the project.

I was a Kiwanian and several members at our monthly meeting came to me and wondered why I wouldn't approve of the car smash. I

told them I didn't think it was good to put names of teachers on the car, and I didn't think it would bring in much money. I didn't like anything about it.

The boys were not about to give up. They came to me again and said they knew of a deserted car up in the hills above Cookeville and that a Kiwanis member who had a wrecker was willing to pull the car to the school. Again, I said no. I said, "boys there are many money-making projects you can have, just look at last year."

Again, a committee of boys came to me and said,

meeting I told them that I hoped they had learned something from their insistence that we have a car smash. But the big surprise was yet to come.

On the Monday after the car smash, I got a call from the Putnam County Sheriff. He told me that a gentleman who was taking a welding class at the vocation center had looked out the window and saw his car all beaten up. He had to find out how long the car had been deserted and what the Tennessee law said. The sheriff was a Kiwanis member who knew of the great work we had done at the school and in the community.

On Tuesday I met with the boys who had begged me to have the car smash. This is what I told them. "Boys we are in trouble we have smashed a man's car and he is really upset. We could be fined or even go to jail." These boys were sweating blood. The sheriff called me a few days later and told me we were in the clear because the car had been abandoned for over two years. When Steve's father heard this, he asked me to not tell the boys for a week or two. He said, "it would be good for them to sweat a while. They need to learn a lesson." I told Dr. Everett that I planned on doing that, but I certainly was glad to have his support.

The Key Club boys are all out in the world now and I often wonder how many of them have been successful in life. As teenagers we all are guilty of making mistakes and hopefully this is one way, we can learn some valuable lessons. I enjoyed working with the student in extra curriculum activities. I got no pay and I spent hours working with the Key Club. What I got from it was some precious memories of seeing young men growing into adulthood knowing that all their education is not contained in textbooks.

they really wanted to have the car smash. I told them, for the third time I didn't like it but I would talk to the Kiwanis Club again and the member who had the wrecker to see how things would go. I would also talk to the principal. The "Car Smash" was approved. The car was brought in on a weekend and the boys got busy painting names on the vehicle. The car sat out behind the school near the vocation center. I didn't even want to see it.

The car smash lasted for one week. Students were allowed to go out during their free or lunch period and take a swing with the sledge hammer. At the end of the week there sat the old beat up car and we had made less than \$25.00. The boys were ashamed to tell me how much we had made.

At our next Key Club



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Historically Speaking

John Hendrix – eyewitness to his death: provided by Ed Westcott

By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

The following story is taken from handwritten notes made by Ed Westcott in 1965. I have retained Ed's first-person account and have edited it only where more recent history has shown additional information and for clarity. – Ray Smith

By November 1942 work was nearing completion on army camps, air bases, dams and enemy internment camps in seven southern states where I photographed many areas for site selection and construction progress reports for the US Corps of Engineers. I was one of the last of the ten cameramen to leave the Nashville District office of the Corps of Engineers and the only one to accept a transfer with the engineers. Having a choice of a project in Alaska or a new job starting near Knoxville that would take a predicted five years to complete, I selected Knoxville. Remembering the stories of Sam McGhee from Tennessee and how he froze to death while blinded with the midnight sun helped me make up my mind to join the Manhattan Engineer District, known then as the Clinton Engineer Works, Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

No one suspected that the sole purpose of the Manhattan Project was entirely meant to produce the Atomic Bomb. My photography covered every conceivable type one could think of. It covered the range from climbing around steel structures to photographing surgery for doctors of the medical corps who manned the government hospital. Everything in the city and the sites was operated by the government and with a workforce of 120,000 workers photography played an important role although it was highly restricted and none other than official cameramen were allowed to possess cameras on the 59,000 acre reservation. Even what seemed to be the simplest photograph had to be screened by Army intelligence and public relations officers before they were determined cleared for publication. Through working closely with the public relations office and the government weekly newspaper The Oak Ridge Journal, Sgt. Richard (Dick) B. Gehman, Associate Editor, got wind of a yarn told by old timers of the communities of Scarborough, Robertsville and Elza, small communities that were located in the area that came to be Oak Ridge. He passed it on to me and I started on the story of John Hendrix – The Prophet sometime in mid-1944. This was a full year before the plutonium “gadget” atomic bomb was tested in the New Mexico desert and before the news announced by President Truman that the uranium for the

first atomic bomb used in warfare and dropped on Hiroshima, Japan was produced in Oak Ridge.

The lid was placed on Dick's story and my photographs because intelligence wanted to prevent any attention to be attracted to the concentration of industry in Oak Ridge. However, a story featuring John Hendrix, written by Joe Oakes, was eventually published in The Oak Ridge Journal on November 2, 1944. (That story will be published in a coming issue of Historically Speaking – Ray Smith) For the past 21 years John Hendrix has haunted me and has become more a re-



Photo by Ed Westcott: Clay Seals who knew John Hendrix and was present when he died (Photo Submitted)

ality rather than a legend. The old timers that are left will tell of their parents telling the story of Uncle John. I have talked to a dozen or more but not until June 1965 have I ever met a man that actually knew Uncle John.

On June 9, 1965, my two youngest sons, Bill (14) and John (7), and I took our oldest son, Jim, to Lenoir City, located about 25 miles south of Oak Ridge. It was Jim's first day on duty as a radio announcer for a new broadcast station there. Before returning to Oak Ridge we drove toward Loudon to stop at a drive-in restaurant for lunch. We noticed an old gentleman standing in front of the drive-in watching our car as we parked. We spoke to him and shortly he came to the car and explained he had been down on the railroad tracks to pick some wild berries for a pie and found they were not ripe yet. He said he liked the real wild berries and he found there were wilder on the tracks than anywhere. Explaining to us eh was not begging but was old and shouldn't be walking on a busy highway to Loudon. If we didn't mind him riding with us he would be grateful.

I explained we were not going to Loudon but back to Lenoir City. He asked if we lived in Lenoir City and I said, “No, we lived in Oak Ridge.” “Oh, yes,” he said, “I used to live there

before it was Oak Ridge.”

I asked him where did he live there? He said, “Well, you know where the Y-12 Plant is?” pointing in that direction. “Well, I lived on a hill east of there.” I said, “On Pine Ridge?” He said, “Yes, on Pine Ridge just up the ridge from Bear Creek Valley where the Y-12 Plant is now.”

I said, “Well, you have probably heard the story of John Hendrix, the Prophet?”

Well, Clay Seals' mouth started quivering, his voice trembled with fast shorts bursts of breath as he said, “Yes, I knew John... John Hendrix. We called him Uncle John. I logged with him and furthermore, I'll have you know that I was in the room with him when he died. Nobody but Perry Raby and his wife, Paralee, and I saw him take his last breath. Uncle John gave that farm to Perry Raby to take care of him till death. John died with pneumonia fever. He must have been 55 or 60 years old” (actually John Hendrix was 49 years old when he died, likely of tuberculosis – Ray Smith).

Seals said he could remember as if it were yesterday how John would tell his predictions of the future. He said, “A many a time after we had hauled logs to the John Dover saw mill Uncle John would tell the fellers,

‘My name is Levi Tuffi, the tuffest man that ever breathed a breath of fresh air. I clum a thorn tree with no pants on, walked a barbed wire fence with no shoes on, I squoze a she-bear till his brains were all on the ground. Now, if you ever want to know where I live, I live on Tuff Street, the further you go down the tuffer it gets and I live in the very last house.’ (Recalled by William Westcott as being what Clay Seals told the kids in the car with their father, Ed Westcott)

Oak Ridge was created as a part of the Manhattan Project in 1942 to help stop World War II. The atomic bomb, Little Boy, fueled by uranium 235 separated at Oak Ridge helped to do just that.

Oak Ridge began in war, has continued to support our nation's efforts through the Cold War, and even now in the age of terrorism. Oak Ridge has also produced nuclear medicine, nuclear power and fuel for the US Navy nuclear submarines and ships.

This “Secret City” nestled in Appalachia near Morgan County and where many from Morgan County go each day to work, continues today to produce scientific discoveries used worldwide and still routinely makes history. These Historically Speaking stories will provide insight into the people of Oak Ridge and the work they do to help humankind.

Historically Speaking is written by D. Ray Smith, Oak Ridge City Historian, retired Y-12 National Security Complex Historian and Vietnam Veteran.

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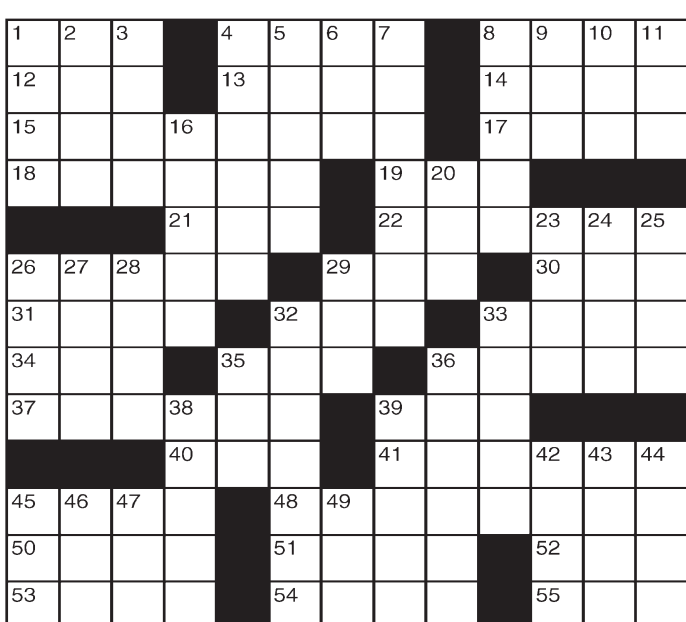
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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Dallas cager, briefly
- 4 Frat party supply
- 8 Prejudice
- 12 Expert
- 13 Sicilian spouter
- 14 St. Louis landmark
- 15 Flogged
- 17 Tardy
- 18 Vigorous
- 19 Puncturing tool
- 21 Fa neighbor
- 22 Pulverized
- 26 Pitch
- 29 Irritate
- 30 Foreman opponent
- 31 Check
- 32 Calendar pgs.
- 33 Pageant winner's address
- 34 Scepter topper
- 35 Fido's foot
- 36 Insertion mark
- 37 Ran
- 39 Scull tool
- 40 Mentalist Geller
- 41 Eaves dropper?
- 45 Deserve
- 48 Played in water
- 50 United nations



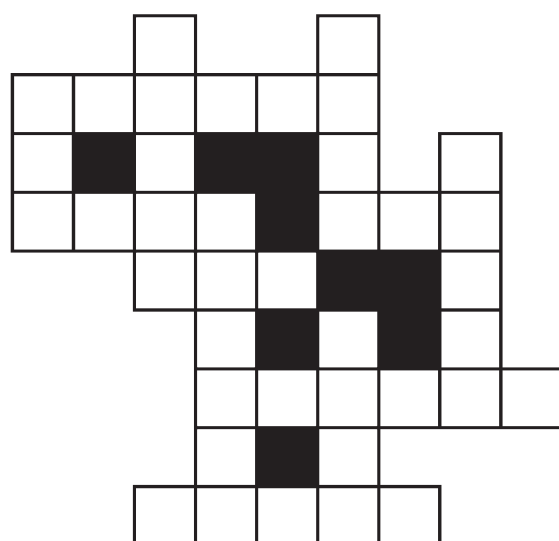
- 52 Singer DiFranco
 - 53 "Little Women" woman
 - 54 Agrees silently
 - 55 Banned bug killer
- DOWN**
- 1 Numbers course
 - 2 Liniment target
 - 3 Couturier
 - 4 Give Wang
 - 5 — alcohol
 - 6 Compass pt.
 - 8 Poolroom supply
 - 9 A Gershwin brother
 - 10 Performance
 - 11 The girl
 - 16 Insurance fraud factor
 - 20 Tussaud's medium
 - 23 Barber's concern
 - 24 Otherwise
 - 25 Mi. or km
 - 26 Walked hard (on)
 - 27 Juno's counterpart
 - 28 Barbecue
 - 29 Promise
 - 32 Midwestern capital
 - 33 Breaker of Ruth's record
 - 35 Apiece
 - 36 Chocolate sources
 - 38 Intuitive feeling
 - 39 Lubricated
 - 42 African nation
 - 43 Give temporarily
 - 44 Fix manuscripts
 - 45 Recede
 - 46 Heady quaff
 - 47 Deteriorate

FEAR KNOT

By: rj johnson

DOUBT? ...OR DARE!

- GLU
- ♥ULTOES
- ♥TEGER
- ♥ERLE
- ♥PELINU
- ♥ANP
- MEGR
- RPNUS
- ♥RMA
- ♥RASMET
- LMSLE
- LUEP



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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"If everyone does a little, no one has to do a whole lot."

Shining Light Testimonials

Stories of Salvation and Faith
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Volume I

Fred C. Mize III



Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

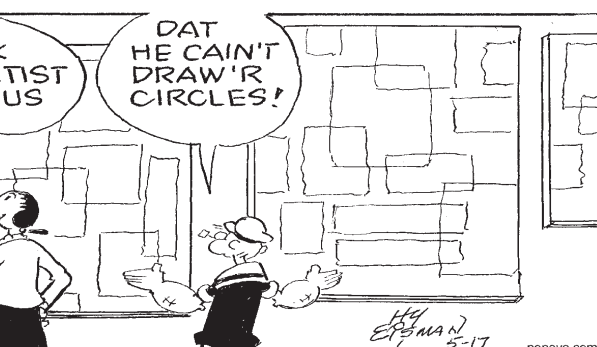
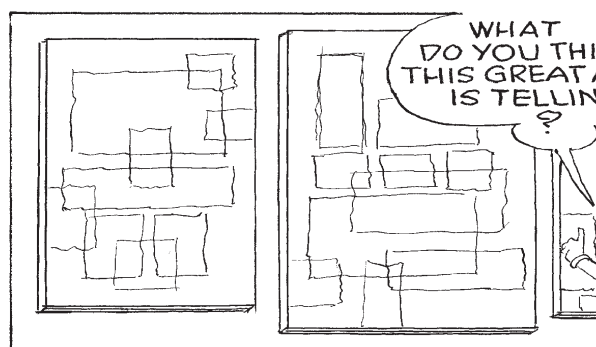
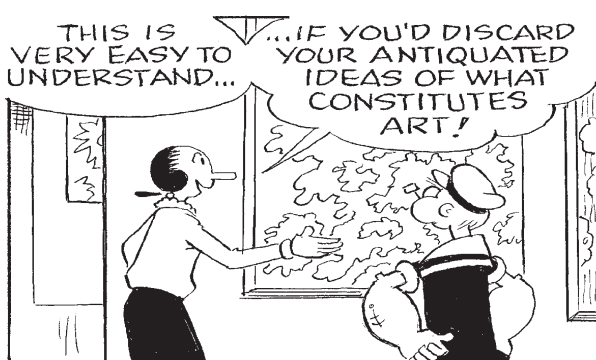
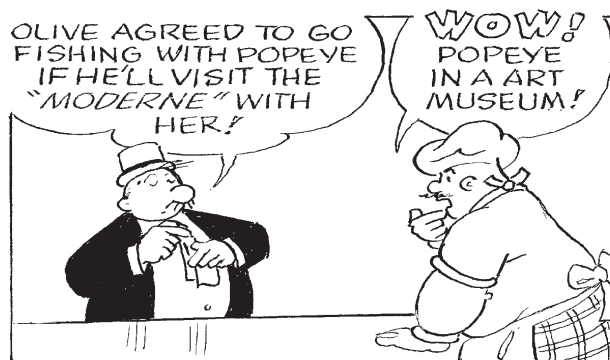
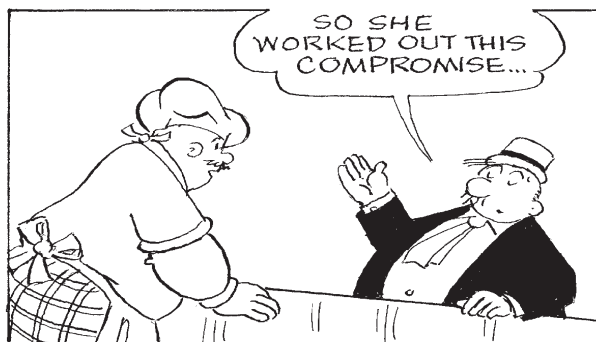
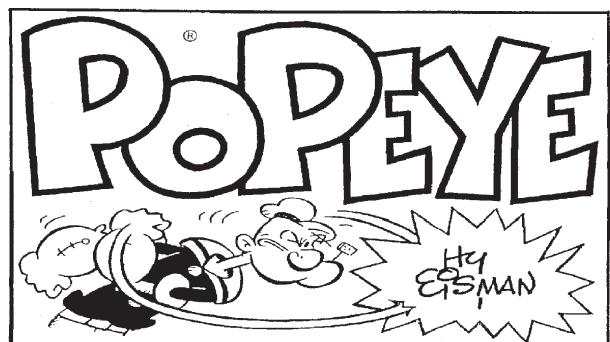
4			2		3			
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3			6			9		
	4		1		8			7

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 KNOT

answer



Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 27 mins.

M	A	V		B	E	E	R		B	I	A	S
A	C	E		E	T	N	A		A	R	C	H
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			S	O	L		M	A	S	H	E	D
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MIA'S View From the Mountain: Unexpected Heroes: Ginger Martin

I am so excited for you to meet my dear sweet friend Ginger Martin. Ginger is an amazing person, always ready and willing to assist or help anyone in need. I first met Ginger when she was Vice President of a local bank. She soon became President of the Bank, American National Bank, Fort Lauderdale Florida. Ginger came from humble beginnings. Her parents had her when they were 15 (mom) and 16 (dad) years of age. She is a small town girl, her high school graduating class was a total of 25 in Cimarron, NM. She attended college on a basketball scholarship. Ginger now holds an MBA in Finance. Her life was not always easy and as a young girl she suffered abuse in many different ways. Ginger and I met through a prison ministry. At that time, I was a Regional Executive Director for an International Prison Ministry. Ginger volunteered to become a Mentor to a female inmate in Broward Correctional Institution. Ginger has stayed her mentor and boss for the past several years. That is another story for another time. Ginger is the first and only woman I know that has ever climbed Mount Kilimanjaro. She is the only person I know personally, that has ever climbed a mountain. Since, Kilimanjaro, Ginger has gone on to climb several other mountains around the world. Here is her story about Mt. Kilimanjaro.

Ginger Martin remembers the exact moment that led her to Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest peak in Africa.

She was in Colorado on a relatively easier climb — seven 14,000-foot peaks over four days in the Rockies — when one of the women on the trip showed a video, talking about how the climbers were raising funds to rescue girls held as sex slaves.

The video was set to music. The song: Do Something by Matthew West. The lyrics: “I woke up this morning. Saw a world full of trouble now. Thought, how’d we ever get so far down. ... People living in poverty. Children sold into slavery. ... So, I shook my fist at Heaven. Said, “God, why don’t You do something?”

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Martin made the trek through Freedom Climb, a nonprofit organization dedicated to

empowering girls and women around the globe, giving them the financial, psychological and educational tools needed to climb out of abject poverty and enslavement. The \$800,000 funded 50 projects in 30 countries.

Freedom Climb made its debut in January 2012 when 42 women from seven countries climbed Kilimanjaro, raising \$70,000.

At the Seven Summit Climb Ginger was not completely committed to the Kilimanjaro climb. For one thing the degree of difficulty. Taking two weeks off from her job as president and CEO of American National Bank, a family-owned bank in Oakland Park, Florida. Most daunting: Asking people for money — each climber had to raise at least \$50,000.

“That number scared me,” she said. “My initial response was, I’ll write a check. I mean, I’ll write a big check. But, man, I don’t want to ask people for money.”

She came back from Colorado and talked to a mentor, who persuaded her to let others decide whether they wanted to donate. She went to her boss first — 92-year-old Richard Ingham, the bank’s owner. He quickly signed on, giving her \$5,000 from the bank as a corporate sponsor and \$5,000 personally. He also gave her two weeks off without charging vacation time.

Martin’s enthusiasm bubbled over to others. Soon, bank customers, employees and friends were chipping in — \$10 here, \$20 there. “It’s been kind of a neat thing,” said Timothy Ingham, the bank’s board chairman and Richard’s youngest son. “She really got the support of the bank, from the customers, to the employees, to the board and the company. She has a way of getting people excited about things.” In the end, Martin raised \$63,000 — \$13,000 more than the minimum.

Next up: training. Martin found a Broward County park — Vista View in Davie Florida— that had been a former landfill. It had rolling hills, perfect for hiking up and down. She also walked on the beach — a lot. She didn’t begin training until the end of November. Day One of Kilimanjaro was Feb. 28. “I kept procrastinating; I wasn’t sure whether I was really going,” she said. Looking back, Martin says she learned rich lessons from the climb.

For one, overcoming fear — especially after one of her teammates got altitude sickness and had to be taken down the mountain. Another turned back two hours into the summit ascent.

“Every night I would lie in the tent and had to face my fears: What’s tomorrow going to bring? Am I going to be able to do this? What if I get sick? What if I don’t make it?”

What kept her going was thinking about the women and children she was trying to help: “You overcome fear by believing in something bigger than yourself.”

And you accomplish things in life with a team, she added. The climbers had guides who carried their gear and coaxed them up the

mountain. Nor did Martin want to disappoint those who supported her, both emotionally and financially.

Sometimes the steps were small. On the steepest part of the mountain, climbing to the top, Martin’s guide, Tito, reassured her they were moving.

“I could look at that two ways. From a humorous standpoint, he’s telling me I’m moving because I’m going so slowly and he just wanted to reinforce the fact that I really was moving,” she says, laughing. “The more serious version is, ‘Hey, no matter how slow you’re going, if you’re taking one more step, you’re moving. And if you’re moving, then you’re going toward your goal.’”

Finally, there were times she wanted to quit.

Like the night they left to scale the summit, leaving Kibo Hut and the warmth of their tents at 11.30. (They leave at night so they can get to the top by early the next day, as the weather gets more volatile the later you are on the mountaintop. Plus, it takes four to five hours to get back to base camp.)

“On the summit night, I wanted to quit,” Martin said. “I remember saying to myself, ‘Man, I’m tired. I’m cold. I’m exhausted.’ But in my head, I would say to myself: I’m going to take one more step, one more step for one child, for one woman, for one life.”

And she was reminded of a phrase that everyone who scales Kilimanjaro knows: Pole. Pole. Pronounced Polay Polay, it’s Swahili for “Go slowly.”

“So when I think about life, and sometimes how we’re in such a big hurry, I think of that.”

Her takeaway?

Pace yourself. On the mountain. And in life. Pole. Pole.

Yesterday, Ginger told me that she sees mountains as symbolic of life. It is an uphill journey; it is hard; it is risky; it takes preparation and training, and it is unpredictable. Climbing mountains to fight human trafficking has taught her many lessons to apply to life. She emphasized that the key is taking one more step and not giving up. Her current mantra is “climbing higher and taking others with me”. Two of her favorite scriptures are Psalm 121:1 ESV- “I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?”

□□And Proverbs 3:5-6□□ “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.”□□

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.

Happy May Birthdays!

May 1 Tom LeComte

John Ryker
Spurling
Katelynn Rickett
Riley Wolfe
Shirley Thomas
Tristen Burdette

May 6
Dray Cooper
Joel Seaton
Ronnie Phillips

May 7
Matthew Armes
Tim Hall

May 8
Eric Bowlin
Logan Simmons

May 9
Abby Byrd
Ryan Bowlin

May 10
Kirsta Stevens
Kirsta Stevens
Lincoln Gilson
Matt Miller

May 2
Brandon Krupp
Eula Hopper

May 3
Aaron Nance
Courtney Dispain
Noah Freels

May 4
Aayden Cooper
Courtney Massey
Wayne Bedford

May 5
Kelly Byrd
Gosnell

May 11
Michael Taylor
Yvonne Neese

May 12
Angie Hamby
Armes
Randy Gibson

May 13
Denise Krupp

May 14
BJ Wright
Rick Wright

May 15
Braden Monroe
Elisha Corbin
Logan Brown

May 16
Benny Miller
Joy Nell Armes
Tyson LeComte

May 17
Hazel Frederick
James Pointer
Kermit Justice
Trevor Sexton

May 18
Denny
Richardson
Hayden Barber

May 19
Billy (Gilly)
Scarbro
Dennis Wilkes

May 20
Derrick
Richardson
Lyric Massey

May 21
Jennifer Jones
Ruben Dial

May 22
Jonathan Wilson
Timmy (Timbo)
Daughtery

May 23
Ali Watson
Ashton Brown
Ellie Cooper
Makenna Brown
Olivia Best
Titan Williams

May 24
Bub Abshire
Ike Duncan
Jonathan
Shepherd

May 25
Caleb Wright
Issac Inman
Jordan Haynes
Wild Bill Bunch

May 26
Angela Mathis

May 27
Hayden Diden
Joshua Matheson

May 28
Hayden Wright
Tyler Steinmetz

May 29
Kamdyn Melton
Skylar Kennedy

May 30
Mariah Russell

May 31
Scott Armes



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MSG Fred Mize

Like Trees

By: MSG. Fred Mize

like trees in many ways. Some are small, while others are mighty in stature.

Think about all the trees you've seen throughout your life.

Some are small, while others are mighty in stature. Some are blessed to grow in fertile soil, while others are forced to grow in dry rocky ground.

Some bear fruit, while others are covered with vines and thorns. Some collapse and break in heavy rain or snow, while others handle the strongest storms with ease.

People are

Some are blessed to grow up in wealthy, supportive families, while others are forced to grow up in poor, unsupportive families. Some are fruitful in that they do good for others, while others are self-consumed and help no one but themselves. Some collapse under pressure, while others seem to bear burdens for many.

Although there are many comparisons be-



tween us and trees, we are far different than trees in one way, for we are created in God's image.

We learn this in Genesis 1:27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.

We should all be like trees in one other way. Just as the trees stretch their mighty branches toward the sun, so should we stretch our arms toward the Son in praise.

Around The World and Back Again

with Zack Ballinger

Don't Be A Zombie: Discover Your Passion and Purpose Part 3

David knew what he wanted to do since he was a child. He majored in elementary education, and volunteered at the local church, tutoring children. If he weren't around children, he would live a very miserable life. My goal was to one day be David—joyful and fulfilled in my career—but how could I ever achieve this goal? I never had a passion for a



career when I was growing up. I had pretty much picked my college major because time was running out and I had to choose something in order to graduate in four years. Business seemed liked the easiest route to make the most money. I figured magically, one day, I would wake up and the answer to my life's calling would flash before my eyes. For years, I waited, but the epiphany never came. At this point in my life, I doubted it would ever appear.

My revelation of my calling never came as an "aha" moment, like I always assumed it would. I spent years reading,



praying, and meditating. I spent most of my free time reading books on career decisions, because I hated my day job. I recall reading a book called Start by renowned career author and speaker John Acuff. I read Acuff's first book, Quitter. Both of his books helped me along my journey. I was a big fan of his thoughts, ideas, and advice. This was my second time reading his book, and a simple statement spoke to me the second time (it usually takes me two reads, then studying, to have true comprehension). Acuff said in the book Start, "I always wanted to be in a plane crash". When I first read this, I thought, "Wow! He was really suicidal about his career at the time." As I read farther, Acuff explained that he never heard a story from someone who had survived a plane crash and then come home and not fulfill dreams. After coming so close to death, they didn't waste the precious small amount of time they actually had on earth. "His point was how many people [who] had a near death experience, that survive, come back in life and say, 'Wow! I really wished I had watched more television!'"

People who survive a near-death experience often come back and live a more fulfilled life. It was time for me, personally and metaphorically, to crash a plane in my life and come back. It was time for me to start investing every single waking moment thinking, meditat-

ing, pondering, and soul-searching with a renewed vigor to identify the ultimate career path.

I wanted to mentally have a near-death experience that would ignite a fire that would light the way through the path of a better life for me.

I went back to the drawing board to find my passion and calling in life. Over eight years, I had accumulated a wealth of self-help books, articles, and hand-



written notes to myself. I thought maybe something would speak to me through the books, journals, and articles the second time around reading and studying. I remained diligent and focused, but once again, another year had passed without any significant progress. I never gave up searching to find my passion.

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

Sandra Helton's weekly column
Oakdale Area News
email: kvhelton@highland.net



I hope everyone had a nice Memorial Day weekend. I will share a bit of history about how Memorial Day came to be. Memorial Day, an American holiday observed on the last Monday of May, honors men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971.

The 2019-2020 school year for Morgan County has officially ended. Although traditional school ended in March, there was still some academic activity occurring virtually. I wish everyone a wonderful summer break. I am sure we are all anxious to see how the next school year unfolds.

I have had the privilege of riding a school bus during food distribution over the last couple of months. It was truly a pleasure to see families along the bus route. I am kind of sad to see that end.

The Summer Feeding Program for Morgan County children will begin Monday, June 1. This is a free program for all children 18 and under. You can follow Morgan County Schools or Morgan County Food and Nutrition on

Facebook to keep up with the schedules. If I understand correctly, Grab and Go meals will be available at Oakdale School on Mondays and Thursdays from 11:00 – 12:30. Meals to cover the extra days will be provided on those days. On Thursdays, a week's worth of meals can be picked up at Pine Orchard Community Center from 11:45 – 12:15 and at Oakdale City Park from 12:30 – 1:00.

I talked with Pauline Hawn last week. She asked me to share with her friends that she got a good medical report. NO CANCER! Pauline said that although she recently had a hospital stay she is doing better and wants to give all Praise and Glory to God. She thanks everyone for their prayers and asks that those prayers continue.

Remember the upcoming elections on August 6 and November 3. Now is the time to register to vote if you haven't already done so. Also, if you have a change of address or have a name change, you should contact the Election Commission Office in Wartburg to make the necessary changes. It is more convenient to take care of these things before election time. Important dates to remember for the August election

are:

First Day to Request an Absentee Ballot Friday, May 8.

Voter Registration Deadline Tuesday, July 7.

Early Voting Friday, July 17 – Saturday, August 1.

Absentee Ballot Request Deadline Thursday, July 30

Happy 90th Birthday to Zelma "Iney" Bingham who celebrates her special day on June 1.

Happy 40th Wedding Anniversary to RB and Velma Helton Human who were married May 17, 1980. Wishing you many more happy years.

Belated Birthday Greetings to Shaylyn Melhorn who celebrated her special day on May 22.

Happy Birthday to Melinda Massey who celebrated her birthday on May 25.

Happy Birthday to Sawyer Smith who will turn 6 years old on May 27. Zach Collins and Natalie Rogers also celebrate their birthdays on May 27.

Happy Birthday to my cousins Donna Tilson and Eric Goldston who celebrate their birthdays on May 28. Eric will celebrate being one half century old and Donna was 15 when Eric was born. See...I didn't tell their age!

Happy Birthday to our niece, Victoria Human Claybough who

celebrates her birthday on May 29.

Happy Birthday to Todd Smith of Pine Orchard who will have a birthday on May 31.

May is always a month of reflection and memories for me. My parents were married on May 22, Mother's Day is in May, Daddy's birthday was May 11 and Mother's birthday would have been May 31. I was blessed with wonderful Christian parents and I try to honor these days by remembering the good times.

Please keep praying for our nation and our leaders, our churches and our pastors, our educators, our homes, our military, the sick, the grieving, the lonely and most of all pray for the lost. God knows our needs and the desires of our hearts but He also wants us to come to Him in prayer.

This quote is in honor of Memorial Day. May we never forget.

"Those who have long enjoyed such privileges as we enjoy forget in time that men have died to win them." –Franklin D. Roosevelt

**Morgan County Today
Community Calendar**

Roy Freels Singers
May 31, Woodland Park Baptist Church, Oak Ridge, Pastor Tim Kimsey

The Deer Lodge Abner Ross Memorial Center will have a Called Meeting on Thursday, June 4, at 6pm to vote on and appoint a committee to organize the 4th of July Parade and Celebration. Other business items will be discussed such as a possible "junk in the trunk" yard sale for Jun 13.

Patti's Unicorns Fundraiser
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First Baptist Church of Wartburg "Virtual" Bible School (VBS)
Come join us on a new fun-filled adventure through God's Word! June 22nd – June 26th FBC Wartburg will host a "Virtual" Bible School. On Monday, Wednesday and Friday of VBS week, we will deliver Bible Lessons, Crafts, Games & Snack to your home! Each night at 6pm, we will live stream from our Facebook page and our website your Bible lesson for that evening! We hope you will join us for this unique VBS! Registration is required and can be filled out on our website at www.fbcwartburg.org. The deadline to register for VBS is June 15th, so don't delay! For more information, please contact the church office at 423-346-3550, First Baptist Church Wartburg on Facebook, or our website!

The Church

Jesus said: I will build my church. Did he? Yes he did, 2000 years ago. Through the apostles he built the church. The Holy Spirit delivered the specifications (the keys) of this spiritual body to the apostles. The specifications of the Lord's spiritual body were recorded and are on record today. By this record, we will be judged on Judgment Day. We will not be judged by emotional experiences. We will not be judged by words from the preacher; but they will be. The apostles, Jesus and God spoke as one and in so doing built the kingdom of God. By using the words of Holy writ and Holy writ only which is the seed of the kingdom, then the church will be today the same as it was 2,000 years ago. Denominationalism is the broad way of destruction.

2 Peter 2:1 "But there were false prophets also among the people, even as there shall be false teachers among you, who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction."

2 Peter 3:16 "As also in all his epistles, (Paul's) speaking in them of these things; in which are some things hard to be understood, which they that are unlearned and unstable wrest, as they do also the other scriptures, unto their own destruction."

Matthew 7:13 "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:"

The Lord's Church, the Kingdom of Christ began on Pentecost day (Acts chapter 2). The Holy Spirit, through the apostles, gave the method on that day which was the beginning day of the last days, meaning the last and final method and span of time which God will communicate and guide mankind before the Judgment day. On that glorious day 3,000 people were saved and of course added to the Lord's Church by the Lord Himself (Acts 2:47).

The Lord did not and is not adding anybody to Islam, to Catholicism, nor to any denomination on the earth today.

If you have desire to hear the Lord say on Judgment Day (and I know you do) Matthew 25:34 "Then shall the King say unto them on his right

hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:"

Then you must obey the apostle's doctrine as it was delivered Acts 2:38 "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." That message is the gospel of Christ, obedience to it and to all of the new covenant of Christ which is still applicable today. 1 Corinthians 13:8 "Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away." Today we must study the scriptures and try the spirits (John 4:1).

If you obey the gospel as the people did in Acts 2:38 and continue to live in the light (1 John 1:7 "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin"), you will not hear the lord say on Judgment Day depart from me, I never knew you. Most preachers today say: you don't have to be baptized into Jesus for remission of your sins. Which one is right the preachers of today or Jesus Christ himself?

Ephesians 4:4-6 "There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; 5 One Lord, one faith, one baptism, 6 One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all."

The Lord died to save us and to save us we will all have to be in His one body, therefore in prayer He prays: John 17:20-21 "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; 21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me."

For by grace are ye saved through faith in the word of God. Ask the Ephesians (Acts 19:5). Apollos was a good man (Acts 18:25), but he was incomplete.

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MELVIN HOWARD

Melvin Howard's Weekly column is sponsored by
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said unto thee,
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John 3:7

- Jesus

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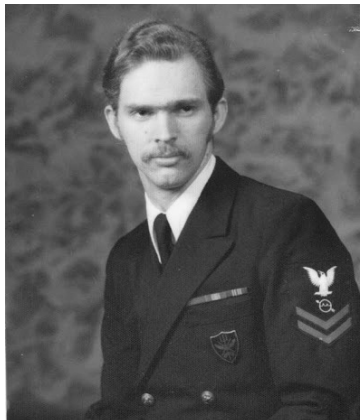
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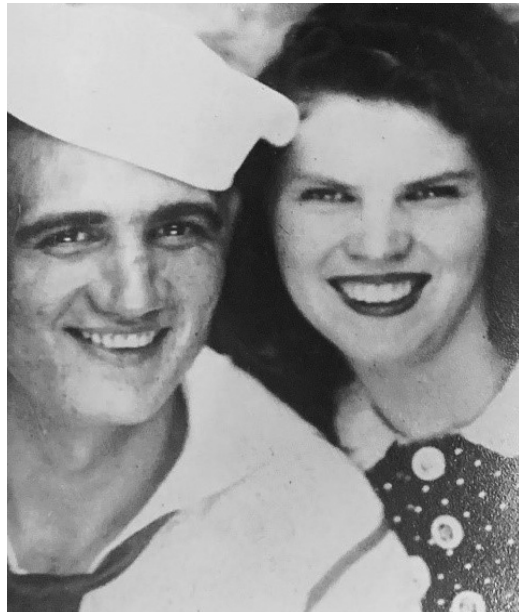
Davis Funeral Home's Veteran of the Week



This week Morgan County Today is taking an opportunity to show appreciation of the entire Mathis family, for their service and sacrifices by serving in the military for several generations. We honored William R. Mathis, Donald (Buzz) R. Mathis, Larry Mathis, David R. Mathis, James R. Mathis, and Donald R. Mathis over the past several weeks as our Veterans of the week.

The Mathis family has honorably defended our freedoms by their combined service in the United States Army, Navy, and Air Force. They served in WWII, Vietnam, The Cold War, Desert Storm, and during the Global War against Terrorism.

Seaman First Class William R. Mathis



served in WWII, Sergeant Donald (Buzz) R. Mathis was KIA in Vietnam, Operation Specialist 2 Larry Mathis served

during Vietnam and the Cold War, Master Sergeant David R. Mathis served during the Cold War and Desert Storm, TSgt James R. Mathis served during the Cold War, Desert Storm, and during the Global War against Terrorism, and Specialist Donald R. Mathis served in Iraq, Pakistan, and Afghanistan during the Global War against Terrorism.

The Mathis family has given so much of themselves to our country. They have defended our rights and freedoms that we enjoy each and every day. We thank them for their patriotism, dedication, selfless service, and ultimate sacrifices.

Law Enforcement Officer of the Week

Presented by Wartburg Family Medical Center

Morgan County Today is pleased to honor Correctional Officer Austin "Spanky" Swint as this week's law enforcement officer of the week. Correctional Officer Swint, grew up in Wartburg and graduated from Wartburg Central High School in 2018. He still resides in Wartburg and enjoys coaching both football and basketball for Wartburg Central High School and the Wartburg Boy's and Girl's Club, during his off duty time. He

is also a member of Calvary Missionary Baptist Church.

Correctional Officer Swint doesn't have any children of his own but he sure knows all about childhood nicknames. He's known by

"Spanky" to many which is his father's nickname that was passed



on to him.

Austin "Spanky" Swint is a Correctional Officer for the Morgan County Sheriff's Department. He began working at the MCSO in October of 2019 and is very thankful for the

new opportunity in his life.

At the end of his interview for

this article Correctional Officer Swint requested to give a special shoutout to his parents Melissa and Randy "Spanky" Swint. Most importantly a special thank you to his lord and savior Jesus Christ for saving his soul and for all of his amazing blessings.

Correctional Officer Austin "Spanky" Swint, Morgan County Today, thanks you for your service and courage in new beginnings.

The IRS is Beginning To Reopen its Phone Lines



David Zubler

This is good news since millions of Americans are still waiting to get their stimulus checks (otherwise known as the Economic Impact Payment). Understandably, most people are anxious to find out when

their stimulus will finally arrive. Some people would just like to know if they're even getting one.

Until now, the IRS has urged people to refrain from calling the service and instead turn to IRS.gov to find out information about when, where, and how your stimulus check is coming. That's due to the fact that many IRS employees still have not returned to their offices, as well as the volume of people attempting to call the IRS.

But now the IRS has announced that it is increasing its telephone service capabilities to help answer questions about the stimulus payments. It will begin adding 3,500 telephone representatives which will handle questions about the stimulus.

The IRS anticipates bringing back additional assistors as state and local advisories

permit.

People who call the Economic Impact Payment helpline will still first deal with an automated message for answering their questions. However, if callers still have questions after the automated message concludes, they can now stay on the line to be given an option to talk with an IRS telephone representative. However, the IRS isn't publicizing the number because it still wants most people to access answers to their questions online.

To speak to someone, you will need to call the phone number you were given on your letter informing you of the stimulus checks (that letter was called Notice 1444 and should have been mailed to the last known address the IRS had on file for you).

If for some reason you didn't receive the letter (Notice 1444) try calling 800-919-9835. If you can't get through on this number, the general customer service phone number for the IRS is 800-829-1040.

The IRS stopped accepting direct deposit requests last week, but you could still get a stimulus check in the mail or via a prepaid debit card.

If you missed the May 13 deadline to give the IRS your direct deposit information, that doesn't mean you missed your chance to

receive your stimulus. You'll just get your payment a different way.

Most people will now be receiving the stimulus by check. However, the Treasury Department said it is also sending up to 4 million of those payments as "economic impact payment cards" "instead of paper checks.

Expect long waits when calling the IRS. Even before the pandemic, the IRS has struggled to provide responsive customer service as Congress repeatedly cut its budget and its overall staffing levels fell by 20 percent since 2008.

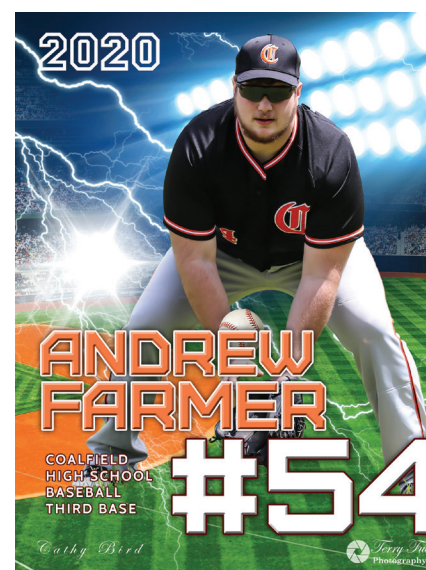
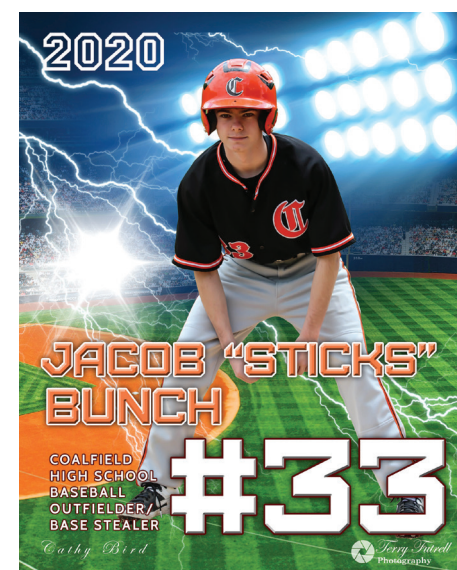
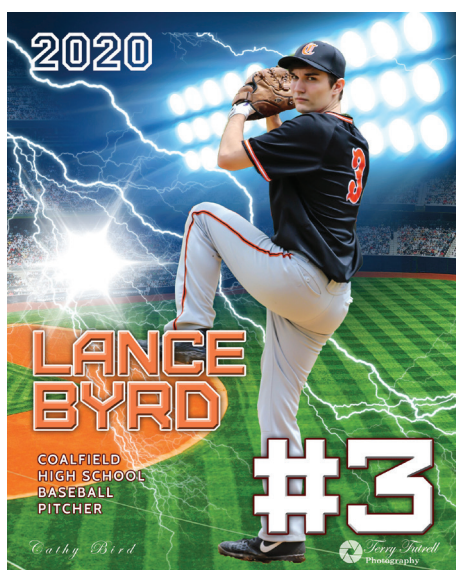
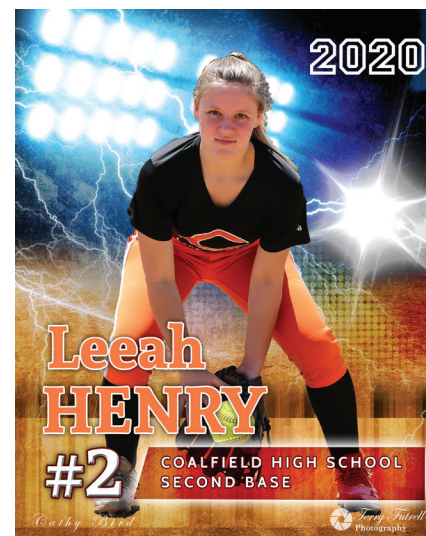
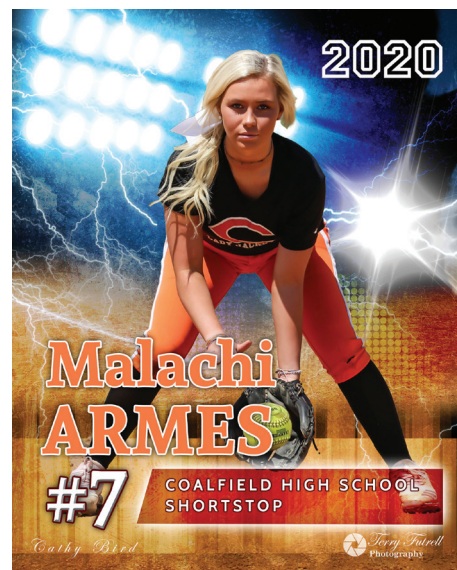
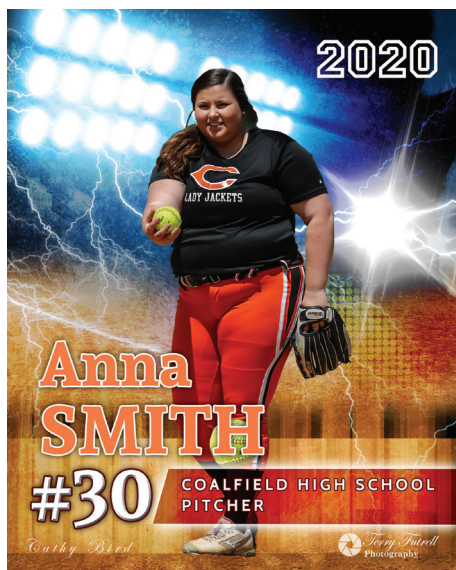
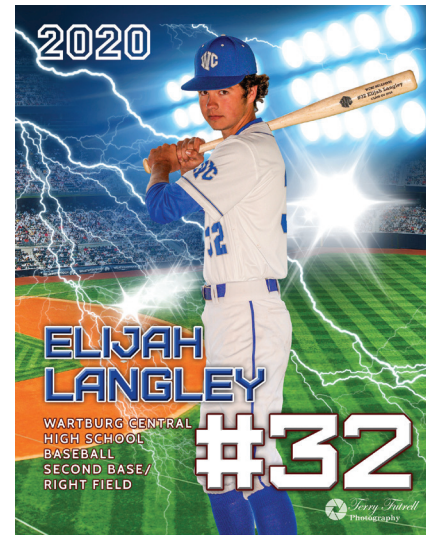
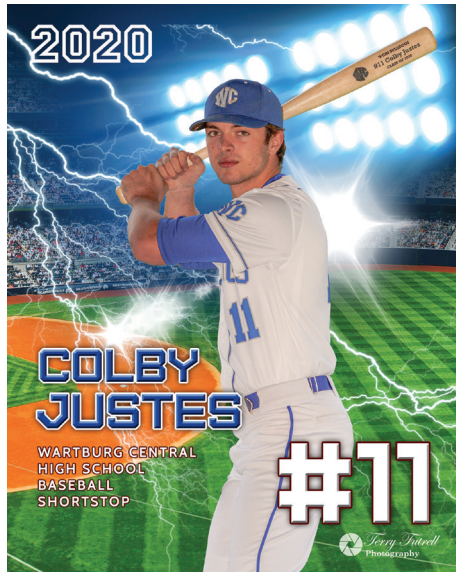
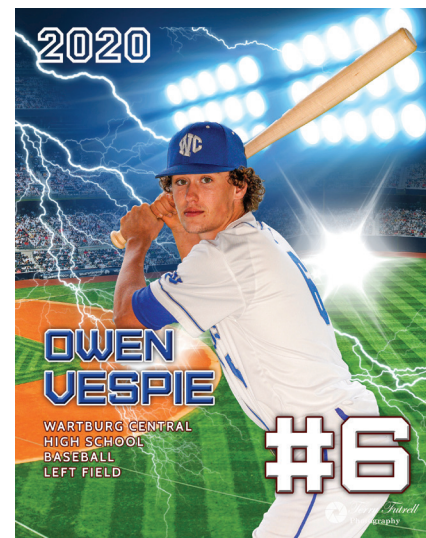
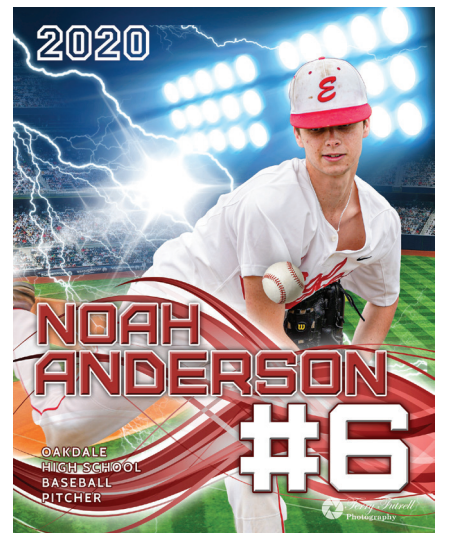
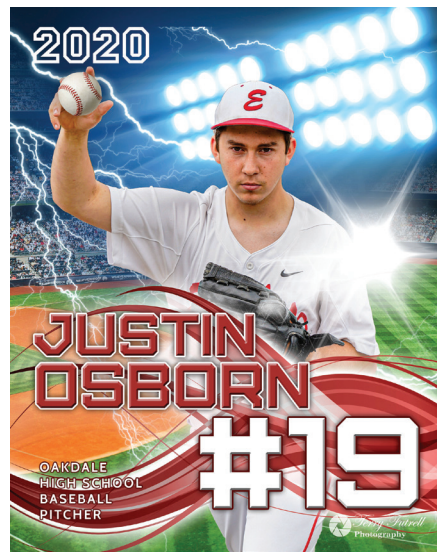
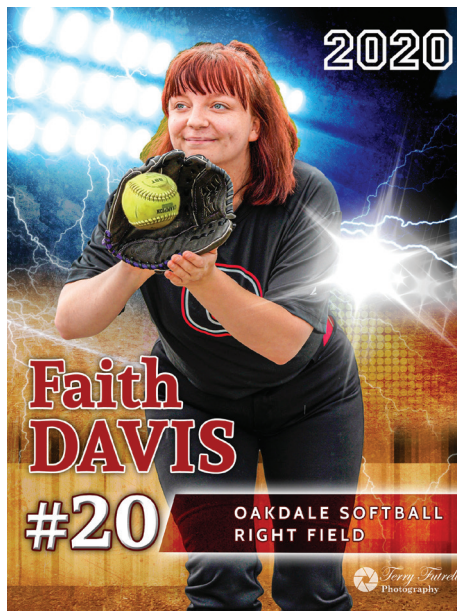
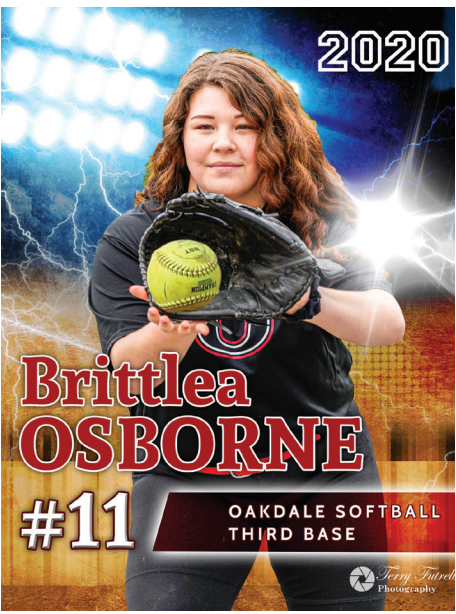
David Zubler is a tax accountant and Enrolled Agent in East Tennessee representing clients before the IRS and has over 25 years of tax experience. He is the author of four tax books and is the founder and president of Your Tax Care. The company provides business and tax education to the public at its website, YourTaxCare.com. David can also be contacted by email at zublerdavid@gmail.com

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MoCo Senior Baseball & Softball Players

Photos By: Cathy Bird (Coalfield), Photos/Posters By: Terry Futrell (Coalfield/Posters, Wartburg photos/posters, Oakdale photos/posters)

*Note some seniors not pictured based on availability due to Covid-19



If you have any Senior Baseball or Softball players who were not pictured but would like them to have a poster made please contact us at publisher@mocotoday.com