

Morgan County Today

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75¢

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December 1, 2020

MORGAN COUNTY WEATHER THIS WEEK

Tue 01	36°/21°	
Wed 02	48°/27°	
Thu 03	46°/37°	
Fri 04	45°/29°	
Sat 05	47°/28°	
Sun 06	47°/28°	
Mon 07	44°/26°	

Obed WSR Announces Photo Contest Winners



“Milky Way Panorama—Lilly Bluff Overlook” by Mark Leckington of Cookeville, Tennessee

WARTBURG, Tennessee: The National Park Service (NPS) announces the winners of the annual Obed Wild and Scenic River photo contest. Photographers were invited to submit striking digital images highlighting the spectacular views, dark night skies, historic sites, recreational opportunities, and diversity of life in the park. Entries to the contest were judged by members of the Southern Appalachian Nature Photographers.

The winners of this year’s contest were as follows:

First Place, Youth Category: “Yellow Twins” by Lilly McDonald of Oak Ridge, Tennessee
 First Place, Recreation Category: “Lunch Break” by Rob Herchenrider of Knoxville, Tennessee
 First Place, Dark Skies Category: “Milky Way Panorama—Lilly Bluff Overlook” by Mark Leckington of

Cookeville, Tennessee

First Place, Flora and Fauna Category: “Fence Lizard” by Bill Merrick of Crossville, Tennessee

First Place, Landscapes: “Melton Branch Falls” by Jeff Parlow of Harriman, Tennessee

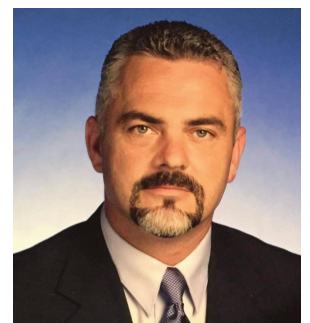
Adult runners up in the contest included Nicole Newport of Helenwood, Tennessee, Richard Yaeger of Corbin, Kentucky and Travis Tracey of Rocky Top. The youth runner up was Kamden Rountree of Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

Photographers are encouraged to grab their cameras and visit the Obed Wild and Scenic River. The park will be announcing its 2021 photo contest soon.

For more information on Obed Wild and Scenic River, please call (423) 346-6294, or visit online at www.nps.gov/obed.



Veteran of the Week
Mark Patton



LEO of the Week
Jerry Lester



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Inside This
Edition

Obits	Page 2
Local	Page 3
History	Page 4
Games	Page 5
Faith, Family	
Freedom	Page 6
American	
Heritage	Page 8
Heroes	Page 9
Trending	Page 10



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Oakdale’s November Eagle Leaders

The following Oakdale students are named as our November Eagle Leaders of the month due to the fact they went above and beyond in demonstrating Novembers’ Character word “Notable”. Those students chosen were: first row, Miracle Holt, Kylar Gilmore, and Noah Gemignani. Second row, Camden McCartt, Marcus Koontz, Kathlena Sparks. Third row, Will Muncy, Skyanne Swafford, Tucker Tapp, Bella Ochoa, Deianira Hodge, and Madalynn Hodge. Fourth row, Kirk Kennedy, Landry Smith, Ben Stout, and Ashton Wright. Absent, Cheyenne Simms



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Wartburg



Sunbright

Lawrence D. Keller, 87

LAWRENCE D. KELLER, a resident at the time of Silverado Memory Care in St. Charles, IL, passed away peacefully with family at his side on Wednesday, November 18th, 2020 at the age of 87.

Lawrence is survived by his children; Zita Blatti (Dan), Brian Keller (Janet), Lisa Keller (Robert Springer), and Trina Ruitter (Keith); a brother Clarence (Sharon) and sister Rosalie Blue. As well as a number of grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews, other relatives and friends.

He is preceded in death by his loving wife of 47 years Elizabeth, parents Luther and Rhoda Elizabeth Keller, brother Donald and four sisters; Beulah Jones, Frances Clayton, Virginia Pierce and Doris Ann (in infancy). Lawrence was born in Creston, IA. He later moved to Joliet, IL where he met his wife, raised his family in New Lenox, IL and then retired to Crossville, TN. He served eight years in the Navy including time during the Korean War. He was a retired member of the United Auto Workers Union working at the Ford Motor Company Chicago Stamping Plant in Chicago Heights, IL for

over 41 years. Lawrence had a passion for cars, enjoyed fishing, woodworking, building and repairing things, and could always be found tinkering around in his barn or garage with his tools. He was proud of his family and worked tirelessly to support them however he could, always appreciated a good joke and was known for his warm smile, and adored by all of his caregivers.

In lieu of flowers, memorials to the family can be made.

Visitation services with military honors will be held on Monday, November 23rd, 2020 from 1:30-4:30 at Overman-Jones Funeral Home in Plainfield, IL. Interment will be at Union Grove Cemetery, Sunbright, TN. Graveside services will be held on Saturday, November 28th, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. EST. Arrangements will be managed by Schubert Funeral Home, Wartburg, TN.

Local arrangements were made by Overman-Jones Funeral Home, Plainfield, IL.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Mr. Keller.

Dewey "Wayne" Brown, 52

Dewey "Wayne" Brown, 52, Of Harriman TN, passed Monday November 23rd 2020 at Roane Medical Center in Harriman TN. Wayne is survived by his son Austin Brown of Harriman TN, several Brothers, Sisters, Nephews, Nieces, Aunts, Uncles, Cousins and lots of friends. He is preceded in death by his Mother Elizabeth Duncan Philips, Father Gems France

Brown, Sr and Step Mother Judy Maxwell Brown.

Wayne is loved and will be missed by all.

A graveside service will be held Wednesday, November 25, 2020 at 3 PM in Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Harriman.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Dewey "Wayne" Brown.

Joyce Ann Crabtree, 71

Joyce Ann Crabtree, 71, born February 6, 1949 passed peacefully at home on November 28, 2020. She was preceded in death by her father Enmon Rich; mother, Ola Mae Rich; husband of 52 years, Thomas Crabtree; brothers, Fred, Ed, Ted and Jack Rich.



say, Patrick Bunch, Brandon Bradshaw, Nicolas Crabtree, Meghan Petrey, Kelsey Crabtree and Chris Aydelotte and a host of family and friends.

The family will receive friends Wednesday, December

2, 2020 at Schubert Funeral Home from 12:00 – 2:00 with the funeral to follow at 2:00 p.m. with Bro. Charles Webb officiating. Interment to follow at Armes Chapel Cemetery in Wartburg.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of.

She is survived by her children, Kermit (Amy) Crabtree, Susan West (Harold Clark), Teddie (Amanda) Crabtree and Joy Crabtree (Barbara Carroll); grandchildren, Thomas Bradshaw, Justin Bunch, Josh Kinsler, Hope Langley, Elise Lind-

Omia Gunter Voiles, 95

Omia Gunter Voiles (95) went home to be with her Lord & Savior on November 21, 2020. She was born to the late William Herbert & Elizabeth Shannon on January 9th 1925 in Sunbright, Tennessee and was the oldest of their 10 children.

Omia was a devoted and loving daughter, wife, mother, grandmother & great grandmother. She had many interests & hobbies such as gardening, canning, crocheting, knitting, sewing & quilting. She also held many jobs over the years such as Derm Printing, Centennial Packing, Brooks canning factor, Branners Green house and Floral Shop, Avon lady for many years and Ball Corporation. Besides her family her greatest accomplishment was giving her heart & soul to Jesus Christ. Family & friends are comforted by the knowledge that she is now in His loving arms and that they will see her again. Omia was a devoted member for many years to Westside Baptist Church. She was also a member of the White Shrine and Avondale Sympathy Club.

Omia was preceded in death by her husband and father of her children Millard Ford Gunter and the late Elmer P. Voiles. Two of her infant children Carolyn Sue & David Ray Gunter. Brothers

Manus, Lonas & Ambers Shannon. Sisters Ina McCluskey & Imogene waters. Nephews Earl & Dennis Shannon, Herbert McCluskey, Lynn & Jerry Waters.

Omia is survived by her children Wilma Watters (husband David) Millard Lee Gunter, and Janice Snodgrass (husband-Martin). 5 grandchildren Portia Frecker, Conley Watters, Cordy Bubenzer, Nicole Oldfather, Terra Garvey and 13 greatgrandchildren. Her surviving siblings are Amous, Coy & James Shannon a sister Zonie Thomas and many nieces & Nephews. Omia will be deeply missed by all that knew & loved her.

Viewing hours will be at Schubert Funeral Home in Sunbright, Tennessee and she will be laid to rest beside her first husband Millard and their two children at Human Cemetery also in Sunbright, Tennessee. Funeral services will be officiated by Rev. Larry Waters and Rev. Mike Carroll.

In lieu of Flowers any donations can be made to her church Westside United Baptist Church 3021 West Cornbread Rd. Muncie, IN 47302.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Ms. Omia Gunter Voiles.

Richard Karl Woods, 74

Richard Karl Woods, age 74, passed away November 24, 2020 at his home. Richard loved fishing, racing but most of all he loved spending time with his family who he loved dearly.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Melvin, and Imogene Woods; wife, Opal "Ruth" Woods; brother, Ronnie Woods.

He is survived by his sons, Wayne, and William "Bill" Woods; grandsons, Anthony and Christopher Woods and Maddox Roysden; sisters, Juanita "P-Nut" Beeler and Mel-

ba Levy; brothers, Raymond and Roscoe Woods and special extended families, the Ferguson and Russell families.

The family would like to thank Quality Home Health nurses for the great care during this difficult time most importantly, Blake, Josh, Tabitha, Missy and Donnette.

The family will be having a memorial service at a later date.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Richard Karl Woods.

Minnie Leona Sweat White, 96

Minnie Leona Sweat White, age 96 went home to be with her Lord and Savior on Thursday, November 26, 2020. She was of the Baptist faith and a member of Union Baptist Church. Minnie was born in Sharp's Chapel in Union County, Tennessee June 6, 1924.

Cooking, canning and gardening were a few of her hobbies but spending time with her family is what she loved best.

Minnie is preceded in death by her parents, George Thurman Sweat and Easter Tennessee Longmire Sweat, daughter, Conchita Hope Phillips, siblings, Emmett Sweat, Mary Elizabeth Harmon, Orpha Holloway, Jesse Sweat, Hubert Sweat, Brice Sweat, Bonnie Jones, Cloman Sweat, Howard Sweat and Stella Davis.

She is survived by two sons, William (Bill) Thurman White and wife Mary Jane and Wayne Thomas (Tom) White and wife

Loretta, two daughters, Wanda Pearl Taylor and Kathryn Faith Ward. Nine grandchildren, Paul (Jody) Taylor, Monica (Dale) Brown, Cheryl (Dusty) Lane, Shawn (Nellie) Phillips, Tina (Craig) Napier, Vikki (Brett) Sandlin, Billy White, Felicia White and Brittney White, fifteen great grandchildren, fourteen great great grandchildren, a host of nieces and nephews, best friend Carole Novak and three siblings, Verlin Sweat, Lucy Sweat and Houston Sweat.

The family will receive friends Sunday, November 29, 2020 at 1:00 at Schubert's Funeral Home in Wartburg. The funeral service will be at 2:00 with Reverend Mark Caldwell officiating.

She will be laid to rest near her daughter at Union Cemetery in Joyner.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Minnie Leona Sweat White.

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

Send Letters to the Editor
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Morgan County Today

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Rates in Morgan County

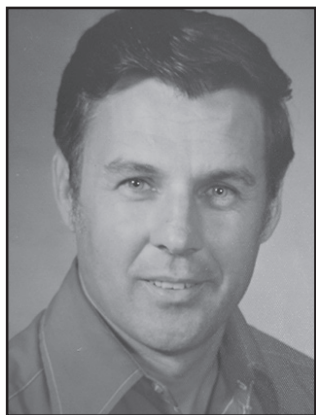
\$40; \$35 for senior citizens & Veterans

Out of County Rates

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

Peter Henry and Jacob Zorrist Union Soldiers from Morgan County

By: Diana Cagley



Tom Redmon
Columnist



To: Tom Redmon's loyal readers,

The below article was written by Diana Cagley and provided by Tom Redmon. He has recently fought a health battle and has recovered well but felt that it was best to share this article written by Diana in place of his to allow him a moment of rest. He will provide an article in next week's paper.

Peter Henry and Jacob Zorrist
Union Soldiers from Morgan County
By: Diana Cagley

Peter Henry (Heinrich) was born in Luin, Switzerland on March 9, 1845 to Peter Henry and Elizabeth Gassman. In 1846 he emigrated to the United States with his mother and step-father, Bernhard Zobrist. Arriving at New Orleans by ship, they traveled by boat upriver to Nashville then walked from Nashville to Wartburg where there was a large German settlement. Peter's half-brother, Jacob Zobrist was born in Wartburg in 1847.

Peter and Jacob lived with their parents on Catoosa

Road near Wartburg. When he was around sixteen-years-old, Peter was plowing the family garden plot when word came to him that a group of Confederate soldiers was coming through Wartburg and were conscripting all age-appropriate young men to fight for the Confederacy. Not wanting to fight to preserve the institute of slavery but rather the union of the states, Peter left his mule and plow in the field, and he and young Jacob headed norther about 50 miles to Kentucky to join the Union Army. Both boys enlisted with the 1st Regiment Tennessee Cavalry Volunteers and served until their terms were completed.

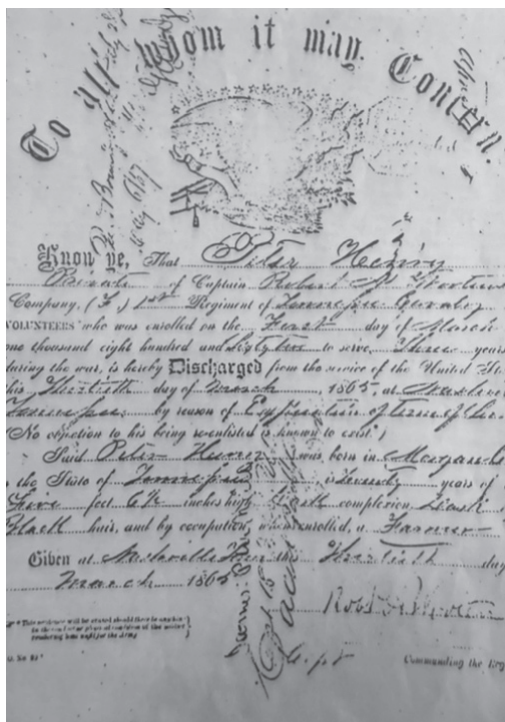
Peter was wounded in battle in 1864. After their discharge in 1865, Jacob died of cholera in Nashville. He was never married.

Peter Henry returned to Morgan County and later married Augusta Kreis, daughter of Deadrick and Elizabeth (Stanger) Kreis. They had seven children; Benjamin Jacob Henry, Elizabeth (Bonifacius), Mary (Everhart), Al-

ice (who died in infancy), Anni (Haag), Dora (Newberry), and Charles D. Henry. After Augusta's death, Peter married Cynthia (Jones) Kreis and they had two children, Peter Henry Jr. (who died at the age of two years), and Parlia (Van Norstran). Cynthia also had three children by her first husband, Charles Kreis; Lizzie, Glenna (Ott), and Carl Kreis.

Peter Henry died in Wartburg in September, 1926. He is buried beside his parents, Bernard and Elizabeth Zobrist, and many other relatives in the old cemetery in Wartburg.

Like so many other Morgan Countians, though perhaps never rich or famous, Peter Henry was an immigrant child, farmer, carpenter, family man and a patriot.



Gary L. Hardie, 60

Gary L. Hardie, age 60 of Kinmundy, IL, passed away at his home on Monday, November 16, 2020.

Gary was born on January 27, 1960 in Joliet, IL at Silver Cross Hospital. Gary was the son of Charles L. Hardie and Shirley (Leadingham) Hardie. He married Jeanette (Keifer) Phillips from Kinmundy, IL and they later divorced. He then married Jackie (Lyons) Hardie from Joliet, IL and they later divorced. Survivors include a son, Chris Hardie and wife Jessica (Piper) Hardie of Salem; daughter, Kayla (Hardie) Purdy and husband Joe of Salem; grandson, Eli Purdy of Salem; nephew, Eli Hardie from Hariman, TN; two nieces, Olivia Hardie of Knoxville, TN and Samantha (Hardie) Snow and husband Heath Snow of Oakdale, TN; two grand-nephews, Cade and Jace Snow of TN; brother, Jimmy Wendell Hardie and fiancé Tammy Hall of Rockwood, TN. Also surviving are numerous cousins and friends. Gary was preceded in death by his parents, Charles and Shirley Hardie and grandparents, Elijah Leadingham and Mable Leadingham Hall and Oma Hardie Hill.

Gary was a crane operator for the Boilermaker Union at Universal Lockport Corp. in Lockport, IL for 3 years. Gary worked for Carter Lumber in Odin, IL as a truck driver for two years. Then later he worked for 18 years for Waste Management for the Teamsters Local #179 in the town of Rockdale,

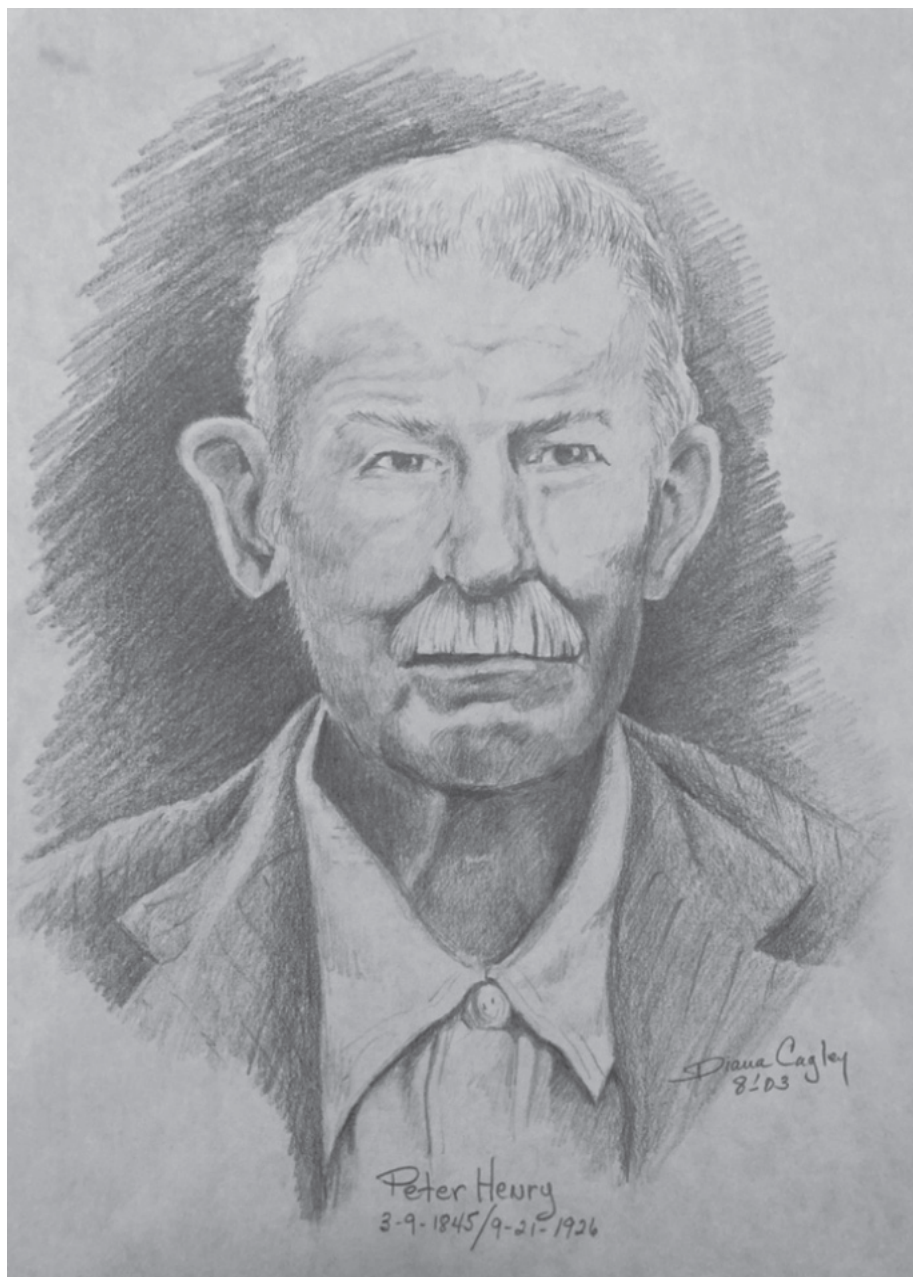
IL. He then spent 11 years working for Dale and Debbie Rhodes at Deb's Way Trucking in Wilmington, IL. He did construction work and drove a dump truck and retired in 2016. Gary had 29 years with the Teamsters Local #179 Union.

He attended Gompers Junior High School in Joliet, IL and graduated from J.T. Central High School in Joliet, IL.

Gary enjoyed going to stock car races and like to watch NASCAR. He liked muscle cars and enjoyed going to car shows. He like to take to pictures and film cars and his family.

Funeral services for Gary Hardie will be held on Thursday November 19, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. at Crouse Funeral Home in Salem. There will be a visitation from 1:00 p.m. until the time of the service. Graveside services will be on Saturday, November 21, 2020 at Crab Orchard Cemetery in Oakdale, TN with a visitation prior, from 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. at the Shubert Funeral Home, Wartburg Chapel. Memorial contributions can be made to the Donor's Choice and will be received at the funeral home.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Gary L. Hardie.



Historically Speaking Bill Sergeant, internationally re- nowned local hero, Part 1

By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

In each of our lifetimes, if we are lucky, we come in contact with someone who exemplifies greatness, who is humble yet powerful, who is heard yet quiet, who is dedicated to a cause and who gives unselfishly of their time, energy and resources for the betterment of mankind. Unfortunately, we often don't recognize them and sometimes fail to appreciate their achievements.

Almost without fail, they are more fully appreciated by others than by their hometown family. We who know them personally all too often take them for granted, use them up and unintentionally tend to downplay their accomplishments. This should not be.

I can name several such individuals in Oak Ridge and East Tennessee. As opportunity presents itself in Historically Speaking, I plan to continue to feature these individuals as I have done in the past with articles about Ed Westcott, Bill Wilcox and others. Today we look at Bill Sergeant, Rotary International's highly decorated and longstanding polio eradication champion, a personal hero of mine and one of my most admired friends.

Bill was born in was born in Richmond, Virginia, in 1919. His parents were not very well educated and never had much money. Bill remembers the depression, recalling that it seemed to have "lasted a lifetime." He observed that one does not seem deprived if everybody else is just like you are.

Another event that affected his early life was the Civil War. It wasn't over that long, particularly in the capital of the Confederacy.

The old Soldier's Home was a state home for veterans of the Civil War from Virginia. Fairly often the boys that Bill ran with would decide to "go to the old Soldier's Home." He recalls there were hundreds of the old soldiers left and they all wore their uniforms and they sat on park benches and they delighted telling the boys stories.

Bill could not understand how the South lost the war. Because in the stories these old soldiers told, they won every battle and the Yankees always ran away. Another incident that influenced Bill's early thoughts about the Civil War was a story in his family. His grandmother lived in Richmond when Richmond fell and when the Yankee troops came in, she remembered sitting on a porch singing a "ditty" that was derogatory about the Yankees. And some Yankee officer came up and told her father to make her stop singing that song.

Bill's parents did not finish high school and in those days during the depression, it was very unusual one to go to college. His parents could not have possibly afforded to send Bill to college. But his mother's brothers and sisters (who were prominent lawyers and business people) helped.

They decided that Bill should go to Virginia Polytechnic Institute (Virginia Tech), since "Billy liked military" and VPI was a military school, a state school (less costly) and far away from home, yet still in Virginia. No one ever even asked Bill if he wanted to go or where he wanted to go...they just sent him. And off he went at age 16 to a faraway college, like an obedient child should do!

While Bill finished college with a degree in general science because it was the only one they had that was general in nature, what he really got out of college was a military commission as a Second Lieutenant. However, he would have to wait on that to be official. He was too young. Everyone else in his class got the commission on graduation, but Bill was not 21. He had to wait until his birthday in October.

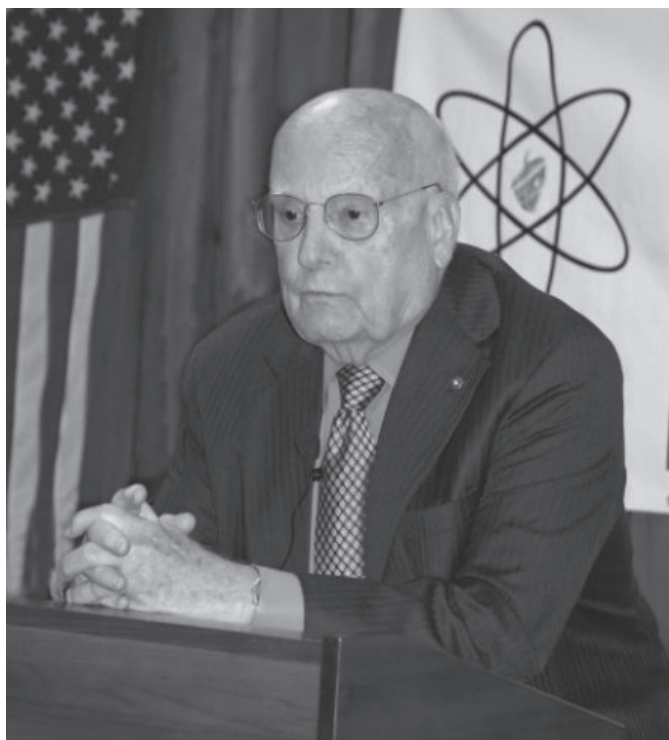
He also had to take a job teaching school as he needed some way to earn a living. As luck would have it, the school where he taught also had a young lady teacher living in the same farmhouse where he rented a room. She was a beautiful young lady and Bill determined right away that she was someone he wanted to know better. Eventually, Bill would become engaged to this young

lady.

Bill's teaching career was interrupted when he was called for active duty in the Army. He recalls vividly when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor and his one-year enlistment changed to "for the duration" of the war. Bill spent some two years in Puerto Rico and then was sent to Provost Marshall General School on his rotation back to the states.

On his way there, he managed to go see that pretty school teacher and gave her an engagement ring. Then it was off to Battle Creek, Michigan. What he found there made him look for any way to get somewhere else. He found soldiers in charge of simple things and boring duty while the greatest war ever was going on. When he learned of someone interviewing for a special assignment, he signed up for an interview.

He was selected to go to Oak Ridge, TN. What was actually told him was that he was selected for the Manhattan Project. Immediately he was overjoyed as



Bill Sergeant, a Servant Leader – speaking to an Oak Ridge Heritage & Preservation Association meeting (Photo Submitted)

the only "Manhattan" he was aware of was in New York City, where that pretty schoolteacher was located to whom he had just recently become engaged.

However, the next sentence sent him for a loop. It said he was to report to Oak Ridge, TN.

He could not find anyone who could tell him where Oak Ridge was located. Finally, someone said, just go to the train station and ask for a ticket to Oak Ridge, TN. This is exactly what Bill did. The person at the ticket counter looked through the large book of train stops and did not find Oak Ridge.

Just when Bill was about to give up and try something else, a lady sitting in a booth next to the ticket counter said, "I know where that is, my nephew works there. Sell him a ticket to Knoxville, TN. And when you get to the Knoxville stop, tell the conductor that you actually want to go to Oak Ridge."

That is exactly what Bill did. The conductor laughed at him when he told him he wanted to stay on the train until it got to Oak Ridge, "This train does not go to Oak Ridge, you will have to get off in Knoxville and take a bus." So, Bill got off in Knoxville and went to the bus station to get to Oak Ridge.

When he got there and asked for the bus that goes to Oak Ridge, he was told that a bus ran every 15 minutes 24 hours a day to Oak Ridge, just take the next one he saw. His ride to Oak Ridge was an eye opener. Here he was dressed in his Army dress uniform and the other folks had muddy boots. He began to wonder just what was going on at Oak Ridge.

What he found was even more intriguing. Bill had no idea what was really being done there, but he saw a huge amount of dormitories and it seemed most of them were young ladies. The first night he was in Oak Ridge, a group of ladies whistled at him. Now, that was something

else. He immediately wrote his Army buddies who were still in Puerto Rico telling them of his good fortune.

Bill was planning to visit New York to see that schoolteacher again when he got a letter telling him she had found someone else and that she was breaking their engagement. Bill was surprised to find that he was not as heartbroken as he thought he might be. You see, there were dormitories full of pretty women in Oak Ridge and he had already seen several that had caught his eye.

It was not long until he made friends with another Army captain and his wife. The wife considered Bill's single status to be a challenge to her to find him a wife. She did just that when she told him that a young lady, Isabelle Emma Morrison, from Albany, NY, where she worked for a state senator, was coming to visit in Oak Ridge. She wanted to fix Bill up with a date with this young lady and Bill readily agreed.

She was beautiful and Bill would have fallen for her immediately, but he thought she was only visiting and would soon head back to New York. Yet, this was not to be. Because of a unique set of circumstances, Bill was able to impress her with his ability to make things happen.

It seems she was here for a friend's wedding. When the wedding was about to begin, the street in front of the wedding location was being paved. This was going to ruin the wedding, so she called Bill and asked if he could do anything to help. Bill called in a big favor to the man in charge of roads and grounds for the city. The paving equipment was moved to another street and the wedding went off without a hitch. Bill even got a phone call to ask him to attend the wedding reception as the young lady's guest.

Bill's ability to make things happen impressed the young lady so much that she changed her plans entirely and stayed right here in Oak Ridge rather than returning to New York. She got a job as a secretary. Bill was pleased with himself and in about eight months they were married and later had four children.

Barbara Hood, Bill's youngest provides the following family details: "My mother was from Malone, New York where her dad was the local Sheriff. My dad and mom met in 1946 and married in February 1947. They had four children, David, Kathy, Patty and me (Barbara). Bill now has eight grandchildren and nine great grandchildren. All four of the Sergeant children graduated from Oak Ridge High School spanning the years of 1966-1975. Mom and dad bought their first house, a "D" house in 1955. It was located at 439 East Drive. They moved to 943 West Outer Drive in 1966."

The next Historically Speaking column will reveal Bill Sergeant's involvement with Rotary and will show his leadership role in the world-wide effort to eradicate polio. Let me go ahead and tell you about a special recognition event coming Saturday to recognize Bill Sergeant for his international leadership role in Rotary's effort to eradicate polio.

On February 21, 2009, there was held a special "End Polio Now" benefit recognition tribute to Bill Sergeant at the Pollard Technology Conference Center from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM that recognized the accomplishments of our own internationally renowned hero, Bill Sergeant.

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.

Randell Kennedy, 81

Randell Kennedy, age 81, passed away November 25, 2020 at his home surrounded by his family.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Kathryn; parents, Dillard & Sallie Kennedy; brothers, Merle, Carl and Jackie Kennedy; sisters, Phyllis Thompson and Annalee Smith.

He is survived by his daughter, Tami (Michael) Branstetter; son, Brandon (Amanda) Kennedy; 7 grandchildren, Daniel (Laura) Griffith, Cody (Ashley) Branstetter, Dusty (Deita) Branstetter, Rickell (Hunter) Rogers, Kaley

Branstetter, Keegan and Karter Kennedy; brother, James (Debbie) Kennedy; 11 great grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews and friends.

The family will receive friends Friday, November 27, 2020 at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 2:00 with Bro. Doyle Nance officiating. Interment will follow in the Potters Chapel Cemetery in Lancing.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Randell Kennedy.

Dewey "Wayne" Brown, 52

Dewey "Wayne" Brown, 52, Of Harriman TN, passed Monday November 23rd 2020 at Roane Medical Center in Harriman TN. Wayne is survived by his son Austin Brown of Harriman TN, several Brothers, Sisters, Nephews, Nieces, Aunts, Uncles, Cousins and lots of friends.

He is preceded in death by his Mother Elizabeth Duncan Philips, Father Gems France

Brown, Sr and Step Mother Judy Maxwell Brown.

Wayne is loved and will be missed by all.

A graveside service will be held Wednesday, November 25, 2020 at 3 PM in Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Harriman.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Dewey "Wayne" Brown.

William "Ron" Hawm, 54

William "Ron" Hawm, age 54, passed away November 24, 2020 at Methodist Medical Center of Oak Ridge. He loved football and loved his family.

He is preceded in death by his dad, Randale Hawm; wife, Gina Hawm; daughter, Nicky Hawm.

He is survived by his mother, Patty "Deane" Hawm; sons, Matthew Hawm, RJ Hawm, and Anthony Dukes; daughter, April

Bradshaw; sisters, Donna Hamby and Savannah Hawm; brothers, Jerry and Randy Hawm and a host of nieces, nephews and friends.

The family will have a graveside service Friday, November 27, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. at the New Petros Cemetery in Petros.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of William "Ron" Hawm.

Joey Daugherty

Mr. Joey Daugherty of Harri-man passed away November 25, 2020. He was a retired coal miner.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Edith & Grover Daugherty; step-daughter, Martha Bedingfield.

He is survived by his siblings and spouses, Bruce (Nancy), Eddie (Becky), Anclé (Frances), Cookie (Bobby); son, Timmy

(Belinda) Carroll; step-daughter, Lola Bunch; grandchildren, Miranda & Kaylee Carroll; 4 step grandchildren; 3 great grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews and friends.

The family will receive friends Saturday, November 28, 2020 at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg from 6:00-8:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 8:00 with Bro. Gary Armes officiating.

King Crossword

ACROSS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14			
15				16			17			
18				19			20			
			21			22				
23	24	25			26			27	28	29
30				31				32		
33			34	35			36	37		
			38			39				
40	41	42			43			44	45	46
47					48			49		
50				51				52		
53				54				55		

- 1 "Grand"
- 5 Letterman's network
- 8 Out of control
- 12 Suspend
- 13 Weeding tool
- 14 Wise one
- 15 Killer whale
- 16 Lineage
- 18 Astronauts' descent to Earth
- 20 Locations
- 21 Comic DeLuise
- 22 Satchel
- 23 "Forget it!"
- 26 Nation
- 30 Lawyers' org.
- 31 Sly one
- 32 Nay opponent
- 33 Racism, e.g.
- 36 Aden's land
- 38 Bill and —
- 39 Adams or Ameche
- 40 Clean software
- 43 Turducken, e.g.
- 47 Immoderate devotion
- 49 Met melody
- 50 Taj Mahal city
- 51 Trouble
- 52 Ring up
- 53 Lecherous
- 10 Shrek, for one
- 11 Jailer's janglers
- 17 Jacob's brother
- 19 Plaything
- 22 Carton
- 23 Apprehend
- 24 Japanese sash
- 25 Witty one
- 26 Coquettish
- 27 Scot's hat
- 28 Deli bread
- 29 Longing
- 31 To and —
- 34 Eye-related
- 35 Forum garment
- 36 Second person
- 37 Intertwine
- 39 Senior member
- 40 Soap brand
- 41 Advantage
- 42 Drill
- 43 Front of a ship
- 44 Snare
- 45 Irritate
- 46 New Haven campus
- 48 Pair

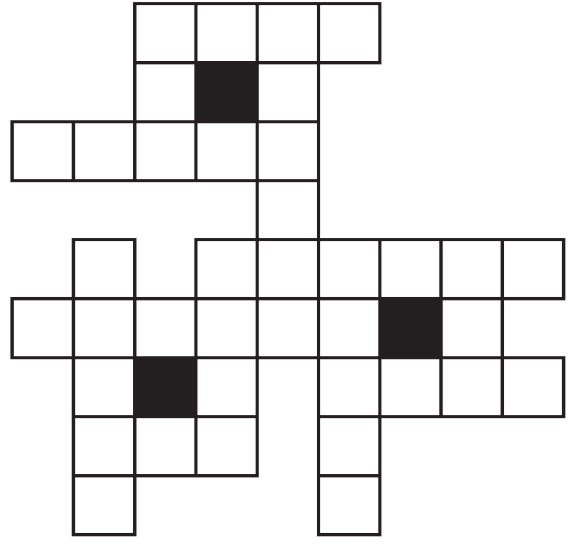
DOWN

- 1 Valhalla VIP
- 2 Aesopian also-ran
- 3 Formerly
- 4 Landlocked
- 5 African nation
- 6 Amulet
- 6 Skeletal
- 7 Moment
- 8 Delegate
- 9 Dillon or Damon
- 10 look
- 54 Possess
- 55 Duel tool

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- UCT
- ♥ CERPIE
- ♥ DRACE
- ♥ SPSA
- FECDEA
- ♥ WLO
- TUEL
- ♥ DESIL
- ♥ DSO
- ♥ CRESPA
- NOFLE
- DWRE



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

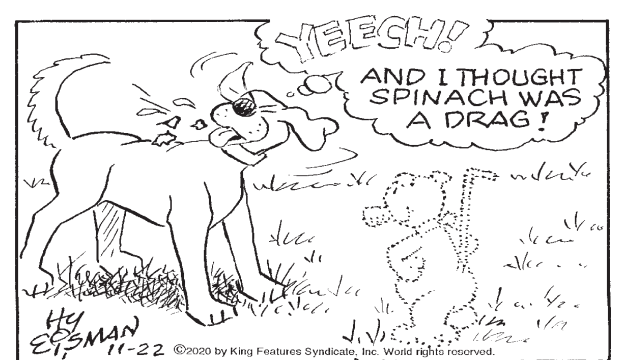
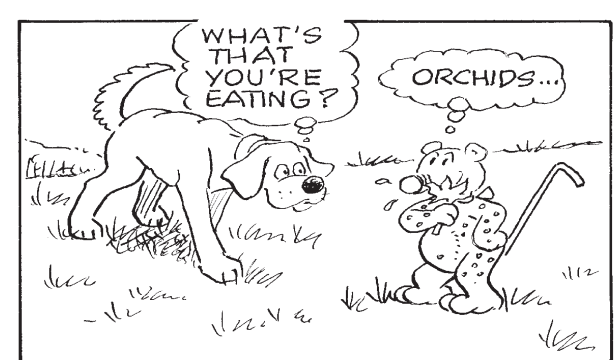
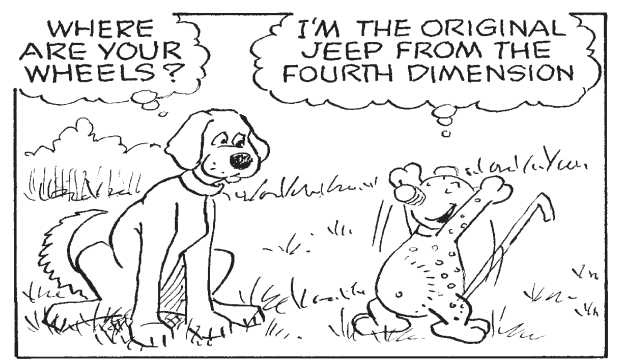
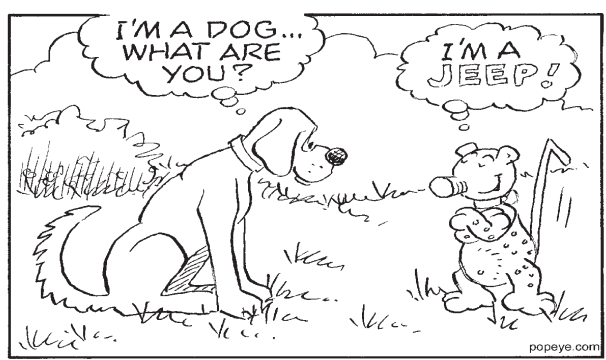
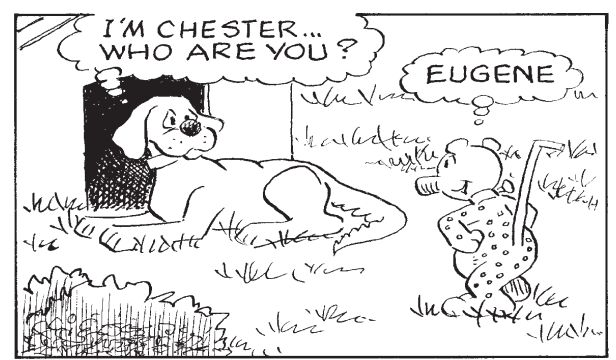
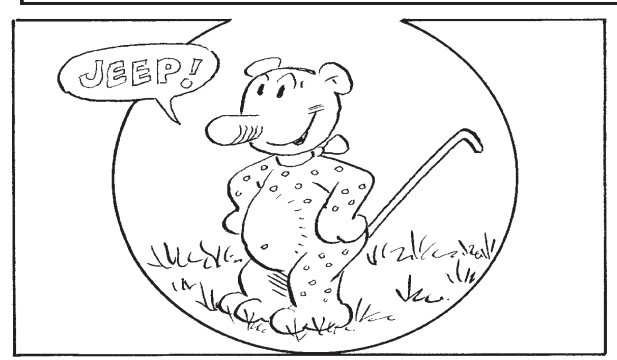
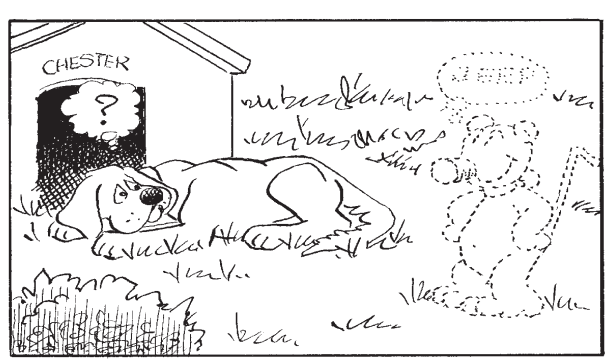
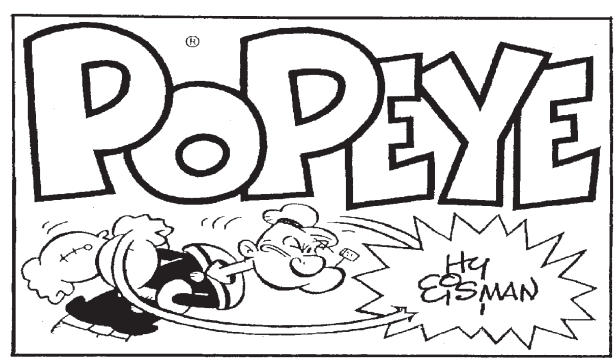
	7	2	5				6	
5					8	2		
		1		7	3			5
	5		4				3	
4				9				5
		8			2	9		7
		4		1				2
2			9			7		8
1	3				5			9

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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answer

	S	A	P	S						
	O			A						
C	E	D	A	R						
				S						
	S		D	E	F	A	C	E		
P	I	E	R	C	E			U		
	D					L	U	T	E	
	L	O	W							
E									N	

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

T	H	O	U		C	B	S		A	M	O	K
H	A	N	G		H	O	E		S	A	G	E
O	R	C	A		A	N	C	E	S	T	R	Y
R	E	E	N	T	R	Y			S	I	T	E
					D	O	M		B	A	G	
N	O	W	A	Y		C	O	U	N	T	R	Y
A	B	A			F	O	X		A	Y	E	
B	I	G	O	T	R	Y		Y	E	M	E	N
					C	O	O		D	O	N	
D	E	B	U	G		P	O	U	L	T	R	Y
I	D	O	L	A	T	R	Y		A	R	I	A
A	G	R	A		W	O	E		C	A	L	L
L	E	E	R		O	W	N		E	P	E	E

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

John 3:7

- Jesus

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The Sun Shall Rise Again

By: MSG. Fred Mize



MSG Fred Mize

This morning my wife and I witnessed a beautiful pink and crimson red sunrise as it peaked over our East Tennessee hillside. Moments of that beauty are brief and far in between which make them even more special. As we enjoyed watching the sunrise change before our eyes I thought of God's magnificence. I know that this year has been very hard on so many people. We've all

been touched by the pandemic that has swept across the nation. It has affected our health both mentally and physically. It has even affected many families' financial well-being. This year has also been full of tragic news of riots, civil unrest, and a crazy presidential election.

Just as we didn't know what 2020 held for us, we also haven't a clue as to what we will face in 2021. The one thing we can

count on is that no matter how dark the night, the sun will rise again. Most im-

portantly draw your strength in knowing that the Son rose again. Although we may never know a nor-

mal as we once did, I truly believe things will get better than they are today. I en-

lives that is rock solid and unchanging. Let's strive to live like Paul learned to am, therewith to be content. 12 I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound; every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. 13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.



portantly draw your strength in knowing that the Son rose again. Although we may never know a nor-

courage you to keep looking up toward God in both times of blessing and times of trouble. He is the one thing in our

live as he stated in Philippians 4:11-13, 11 Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I

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

Around The World and Back Again

with Zack Ballinger

The Blessings

Many of you celebrated the Thanksgiving holiday with family and friends. 2020 has been a challenging year for many of us; there's no doubt about it. I think most of us would agree we could skip 2020 entirely. I know even for me personally 2020 has been a tough year. I am looking forward to 2021. As I had time to reflect over the Thanksgiving holiday with family and friends, it reminded me of the blessings.

You might be thinking, Zack are you crazy? 2020 has been the worst year of my life and there's no blessings or good things that come from a global pandemic year. I agree this year has been extremely difficult, but this Thanksgiving I remind myself of the blessings. I am



for the blessing we have in America. This year I have gotten to explore some beautiful scenery in the US. I visited Montana three separate times, visited Mount Rushmore, and 7 new beautiful states. I wrote and published my new book, Don't be a Zombie: How to Find a Career You Love. This book is already helping hundreds find their purpose and passion with their careers.

I've met a lot of new friends and developed professional relationships with new professionals. This was possible via technology: the virtual world. I launched a new career podcast with some phenomenal guests. I was still able to visit my alma matter and provide my 3rd annual scholarship to a lucky student at Wartburg Central High School and speak to the students on purpose and passion. I could go on forever.

I love Christmas music and one of my favorite songs during the holiday is, The Blessing by the group, Alabama. The song reflects the blessing of life and to thank God each day for what we do have in our life. I'll end with my favorite lyrics of the song.

"The blessings, sent from above, oh, the blessings, a life full of love. When I look around, I can see, all that's been given me, so I lift my eyes up to the sky. I want to give my, my, my, my, my thanks for the blessings. Sometimes I fall asleep at the end of the day and I forget to thank you, I'm ashamed to



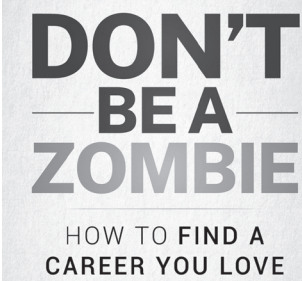
Zack Ballinger

say, but as I lay my head down to sleep, I pray the lord my soul to keep. know you can hear me here on earth, thank you for giving me more than I deserve." - Alabama, The Blessings

Follow me on Facebook: www.facebook.com/thezackballinger

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.



thankful for many things in my life. I am thankful for good health, a roof over my head, plenty to eat, an opportunity to make a living, family and friends, and most importantly another day to live. We take life for granted every day. I believe that each day is precious, and we need to embrace every moment. I am blessed to have another day to be writing this article.

I want to talk about some of the positive things that happen for me in 2020. I believe this self-reflection will allow us to focus on positively and thank God

Sandra Helton's weekly column

Oakdale Area News

email: kvhelton@highland.net



Our pastor used this quote a couple of Sundays ago. It is attributed to President George Washington. "It is impossible to rightly govern a nation without God and the Bible." I think we need to keep this in mind and to also remember, God is still God and He is in control.

Ruth Headrick would like to thank everyone for her birthday wishes and the many cards she received. She said she had a wonderful day. She was visited by several family members throughout the day. She received a beautiful birthday cake and some family members enjoyed cake and ice cream during their visit. Bunt and I visited her the night before her birthday. As always, we had a good visit.

The drive thru that was planned for Piney on December 5 has been canceled.

On Saturday, December 5, families can enjoy a free living literature drive thru at Frozen Head State Park from 10:00 – 1:00. The featured story will be The Night Before Christmas. Families will remain in their cars while viewing scenes from the classic poem. In addition to enjoying the scenes, items will be given away including snacks, books, candy and goody bags. Make plans to bring your family for this event sponsored by Together Morgan County.

The 2nd Annual Christ-

mas on the Square will be at Morgan County Courthouse this coming Saturday, December 5 from 11:00 – 5:00. Local vendors will be set up for your shopping needs and there will be yummy foods available. This event is sponsored by Morgan County Tourism Alliance and Downtown Wartburg Revitalization.

Trash pickup day has changed for the city of Oakdale from Wednesday to Thursday.

Our family enjoyed being with family during the Thanksgiving holiday. Bunt and I, Kyle, Kayla, Elijah, Clara and Hattie celebrated with Dennis, Tabitha, Kinley and Sophia Hamby in Wartburg on Wednesday evening before Thanksgiving. We had a fantastic meal and a great time of fellowship.

On Thanksgiving Day, Bunt and I had lunch with his mom, Fayette Helton. Also enjoying lunch were Keith Helton, Caleb and Keeli Redmon, Robert and Heather DeVaney, Melinda and Alesha Massey and Kayla, Clara and Hattie Ruppe. We missed everyone that couldn't be there.

Justin, Valerie, Cartie and Clay Disney attended family celebrations several times. On Saturday, November 21, Margaret Disney and her family gathered at Pine Orchard Community Center for their holiday meal. On Thanksgiving Day, the Ruppes gathered at

the home of Kerry and Jennifer Ruppe. The day after Thanksgiving, they gathered with the Maston Family at the home of Justin's sister, Chloe Reynolds. On Thanksgiving morning, they watched the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Cartie, Clay and Crusade were super excited when they saw Santa Claus.

The Oakdale School Family was saddened by the passing of Mr. John Strunk who has taught Spanish at Oakdale School for the past several years. Mr. Strunk passed away Friday, November 20. He was well liked by his peers and students. Mr. Strunk will be missed.

Condolences to the family of Jim Cook who passed away Saturday, November 21. He is survived by his wife, Mary Lou Gillis Cook, his son Daryl Cook, his daughter and son in law, Jan and Brian McKamey, his granddaughter, Bree McKamey and many cousins and friends.

Services were held Tuesday, November 24 at Davis Funeral Home in Harriman. Interment followed at Roane Memorial Gardens.

I heard of the passing

of a High School Classmate, Michael Rayder. Michael was so smart. He was fantastic with technology. I do not know any arrangements. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers.

Sympathy is extended to Debbie Coffey Kavadas, Larry Coffey, Lisa Coffey and Rachel Coffey due to the passing of their mother, Carole Lankford Coffey Walker on November 22. A graveside service was held Friday, November 27 at Swan Pond Baptist Church Cemetery.

"Thanksgiving was never meant to be shut up in a single day."
-Robert Caspar Lintner

Acts Chapter 9

(Acts 9:1-9) Saul's journey to Damascus: like a foaming-at-the-mouth mad dog, Saul of Tarsus vented his wrath against this disruptive "sect." Obtaining arrest warrants from the high priest, he started for Damascus, about one hundred forty miles to the northeast. If he found any of "the Way," man or woman, he would bring them back to Jerusalem for trial. As he drew near the city, he was overwhelmed by a great light out of heaven. He fell to the ground and heard a voice: "Saul, Saul, why do you keep on persecuting (force of the verb) me?" The bewildered zealot asked: "Who are you, Lord?" "Lord," was a mere title of respect at this point. The response was: "I am Jesus whom you persistently persecute (verbal emphasis). Rise, enter the city, and you will be told what you must do" (v. 6).

The men with Saul heard the sound, but they did not see Jesus. When Saul arose and opened his eyes, he was blind from the "glory of the light" (22:11), namely the resurrected, glorified Christ (v. 17, 27; 22:24; 26:16). He had to be led into the city where he fasted and prayed for three days (v. 9, 11). And yet for all his contrition and prayer he still was lost.

(Acts 9:10-19) Saul's conversion: the Lord spoke to a disciple in Damascus whose name was Ananias. The brother was told about Saul and given his location. "He is blind, but has been informed that you will come, lay hands on him, and he will regain his sight." (It is unwarranted to conclude that Saul received the Holy Spirit through Ananias. That the two are mentioned in the same sentence does not demand they were simultaneous.) Ananias was fearful indeed, for he knew of Saul's reputation and even of his deadly mission to Damascus.

But the preacher was told to go; this man had been chosen to be a "vessel," bearing Christ's name unto those of high and low estate, to Jews and Gentiles alike. In his ministry he would suffer many things on the Lord's behalf (v. 16; 2 Cor. 11:23). Ananias submitted and went as directed. He informed Saul that he had been sent by the Lord to restore his sight by the laying on of his hands; and, at some point, he would receive the Holy Spirit (v. 17). As observed above, the two acts did not necessarily occur together, as commonly believed. The reception of the Spirit was either the result of his baptism (2:38) or a supernatural endowment qualifying him for his apostleship. Immediately, the persecutor was immersed for the forgiveness of his sins (2:38; 22:16), took food, and was strengthened (v. 18-19).

(Acts 9:19-22) Saul preaches in Damascus: for a while (the length is not specified) Saul remained with the church in Damas-

cus. They obviously viewed his conversion as genuine. He went to the synagogues, continually proclaiming (the force of the verb) Jesus---that he "is the Son of God." His son-ship status has been retained, even in his glorified state. All that heard him were amazed, rehearsing his violent reputation. But Saul steadily increased in strength, debating and confounding his Jewish antagonists, "proving" that Jesus is the Messiah (v. 22). The term "proving" (to bring together) suggests that Saul used Old Testament prophecy, combined with facts about Jesus, to make an ironclad case for the Lord's identity.

(Acts 9:23-25) a plot to murder Saul: "many days" go by, during which Saul likely made his trip into Arabia (Gal. 1:17). The Jews' vengeance, therefore, may have referred to this second sojourn in the city. When their murderous plot became known, some of his converts helped him escape out of the city, and he made his way toward Jerusalem---from the frying pan into the fire. He was a tough man.

(Acts 9:26-30) a brief stay in Jerusalem: after the one-hundred-forty-mile trip back to the capital of Judaism, Saul approached the disciples and attempted to "join" them. But they were afraid of him, not believing his conversion was genuine (v. 26). The generous Barnabas escorted Saul to the apostolic band and informed them of his interview with the Lord and his conversion. He rehearsed his bold preaching efforts in Damascus. He was graciously received by the Jerusalem church. This says much for the credibility of Barnabas.

Saul was "with them," going in and out of Jerusalem. Apparently he stayed with Peter and was in the city some two weeks (Gal. 1:18), preaching boldly in the name of Christ. He entered into a number of disputes (the verbal thrust) with the Grecian Jews, who feverishly initiated a plan to kill him. When the brothers heard about the deadly plot, they brought Saul to Caesarea, about sixty-five miles from Jerusalem, when he was put aboard a ship that would take him to his native Tarsus in Cilicia---perhaps some three hundred miles away. At some point, before he left, as he prayed in the temple, the Lord appeared to him, urging him to leave Jerusalem and to begin what would be a more fruitful ministry among the Gentiles (22:17-21). It is estimated he stayed in Tarsus some seven to ten years. We next read of him in 11:25.

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MELVIN HOWARD

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Davis Funeral Home's Veteran of the Week

Morgan County Today, is both pleased and honored to praise Specialist (SPC) Mark Patton as the veteran of the week.

Mark was inspired to enlist into the United States Army by a lifelong desire and to prove that he was fully capable to serve his beloved country in such a way.

He enlisted into the United States Army in 1990 during his senior year of high school. He completed Basic Combat Training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma where he graduated as a qualified Fire Support Specialist (13F).

In that military career field SPC Patton was responsible for serving in intelligence activities such as target processing for artillery units and brigade maneuvers. He operated equipment such as laser range finders, target designation and night observation devices. Was responsible for operating radio wire communication and speech security equipment. He also prepared fire support situation plans and maps, status charts, target lists, and other coordinating documents.

While serving in the United States Army



he served as a member of the 6th Infantry Division located at Fort Wainwright, Alaska. Once he completed his term of service in the United States Army, he enlisted into the Tennessee Army National Guard where he again served as a Fire Support Specialist for the 1st Howitzer Battery 278TH Armored Cavalry Regiment.

SPC Patton deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom III in 2004-2005 as a member of the 278TH Regimental Combat Team. Throughout his deployment he honorably served on the Forward Operation Base Caldwell Force Protection Team and even volunteered for numerous convoy route clearance missions where he served on a select team that searched for roadside bombs prior to major convoys fulfilled their route missions.

SPC Mark Patton, we at Morgan County Today, humbly thank you and your family (loving wife Angela and beautiful daughters Kaitlyn and Grace) for your service and sacrifices you've made for the state of Tennessee and the United States Army. Thank you all and God bless!

Law Enforcement Officer of the Week

Presented by Jerry Duncan Ford

Jerry Lester has been selected as the law enforcement officer of the week.

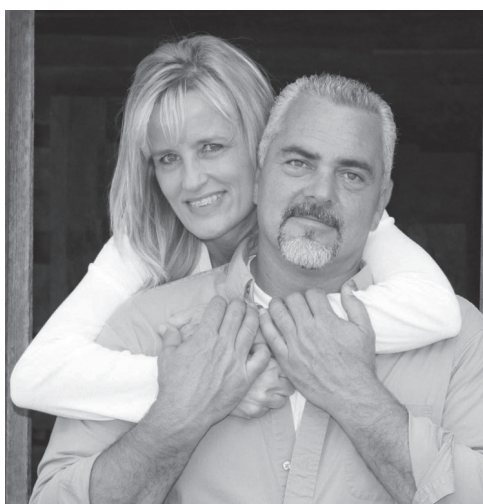
He grew up in Morgan County and is a graduate of Wartburg Central High School class of 1985.

Jerry has served our community and state in law enforcement and criminal justice since he was nineteen-years-old. He began his career working for the Tennessee Department of Corrections on July 13, 1987 as a Correctional Officer at Brushy Mountain.

Throughout his career he has served in many different capacities such as; Correctional Officer, Internal Affairs Special Agent for

East Tennessee, Tennessee Director of Internal Affairs, Deputy Warden at Riverbend Maximum Security Institution, Warden at Turney Center Industrial Complex and Warden at West Tennessee State Penitentiary.

You may have even seen Jerry in the television series, The Squad: Prison Police in 2010. Jerry retired from the Tennessee



Department of Corrections and now continues to serve our community at the Morgan County Sheriff's Office as a Correctional Officer, Court Officer, and plans to become a MCSO Patrol Deputy in the begin-

ning of next year. When Jerry isn't in uniform, he enjoys spending quality time with his loving wife Cheryl. Between

the two of them they have been blessed with four children, four grandchildren and have one great-grandchild on the way. When Jerry was interviewed for this article he quoted "it is both a privilege and an honor to complete the final years of my law enforcement career serving under the leadership and administration of Sheriff Wayne Potter." Jerry, Morgan County Today, thanks you for your amazing career in law enforcement and criminal justice. We pray that you continue to safely protect the citizens of Morgan County for as long as you desire to. Thank you and God bless.

IRS Offers New COVID Relief



David Zubler

The IRS has announced new relief options to help taxpayers affected by Covid-19.

"At the IRS, we recognize these are challenging times for everyone, and we understand that many Americans still face

COVID-related hardships," said Darren Guillot, the IRS Small Business/Self-Employed Deputy Commissioner for Collection and Operations Support. "I'm from Louisiana originally, and I know this has been a difficult year in many states dealing with both COVID and natural disasters. In times like these, dealing with tax issues can be tough. And, we want people to know our employees are committed to continue helping taxpayers wherever possible, including offering many options for those struggling to pay their tax bills."

"We're offering a wide range of taxpayer relief options. Our three main goals to help taxpayers are.

First, we want to do everything we can under existing rules for immediate, broad-based relief from unpaid liabilities resulting from COVID-19 issues, including those affected by IRS mail processing and correspondence delays.

Second, we'll remove bureaucratic barriers and expand flexibilities to all taxpayers whose financial condition has been affected by COVID-19. This includes those still facing longstanding tax issues.

And third, we'll balance the relief provided against the need to uphold the nation's tax laws. We'll make sure we have adequate resources available to work complex cases or address egregious non-compliance. And we'll work to secure the government's interests in the event of future bankruptcies to uphold the laws and help ensure fairness in the tax system." Guillot said.

I had the opportunity to meet Darren and work together to resolve one of my client's tax issues and was very impressed with his concern for taxpayers' rights.

The IRS's new initiatives will help in several ways.

Reasonable cause assistance for failure to file, failure to pay, and failure to deposit penalties.

For individual taxpayers receiving notices with tax liabilities up to \$250,000 for Tax Year 2019 only, you can set up an Installment Agreement with no lien filed. The IRS is extending the short-term payment plan timeframe to 180 days, which is normally 120 days.

The IRS is easing paperwork requirements to allow individuals to get Installment Agreements up to \$250,000 without fi-

nancial verification if the case is not yet assigned to a revenue officer. Consequently, it is in your best interest to set up an Installment Agreement as soon as possible to avoid having your case sent to a revenue officer.

Extend guidance to automatically include new tax year balances accrued in existing Installment Agreements (Individuals and Out of Business entities only).

The IRS will provide relief for taxpayers having difficulty meeting the terms of previously accepted offers.

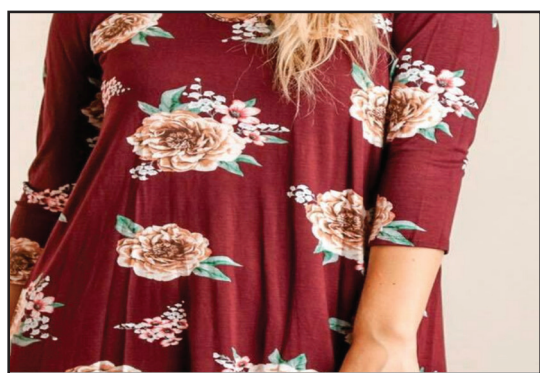
If you have questions about your options for paying your taxes, it's important that you do not ignore IRS letters. Your problems won't get better with time. Dealing with the IRs can be intimidating, but the employees are there to help you.

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 be reached at (865) 363-3019 or contacted by email at zublerdavid@gmail.com.

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