

Morgan County Today

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VOLUME 06 • NUMBER 52

PSALM 100:3

December 29, 2020

MORGAN COUNTY WEATHER THIS WEEK

Tue 29	48°/37°	
Wed 30	53°/48°	
Thu 31	53°/50°	
Fri 01	56°/37°	
Sat 02	46°/31°	
Sun 03	44°/27°	
Mon 04	49°/32°	

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For the first time in history, Morgan County EMS will have a paramedic on every ambulance on every shift since they've been running four ambulances. Morgan County Executive Brian Langley and Morgan County EMS Director Doug Lamance have had it in their plans since December of 2018 to make this a reality.

“I am beyond excited for Morgan County EMS, and even moreso for the citizens of Morgan County. Having a paramedic on every ambulance is huge for a number of reasons, but most importantly it improves patient care,” said Langley.

When Langley was elected in 2018, the system only had six paramedics on staff. Since then, there have been five that have went through paramedic school and another paramedic hired to give the department 12 paramedics.

Dusty Barnett and Dustin Thompson completed their paramedic schooling and passes the test to make it official and gives Morgan County EMS a dozen paramedics on staff.

“Morgan County EMS would like to congratulate Dusty Barnett and Dustin Thompson on their accomplishment of graduating from the Roane State Paramedic Program and passing the National Registry Paramedic testing requirements. Both are awaiting the State of Tennessee to process their applications so they can get their State of Tennessee Paramedic license and start serving the people of Morgan County,” said Lamance.

Barnett has been employed at Morgan County EMS since August 8, 2016 and Thompson has been employed since July 8, 2018.

“Both of these men have been great employees and have given their best on every call they have responded, while giving the highest quality of care to the patients they have served. We have no doubt that they will continue to be a huge asset to the service and the citizens of Morgan County. Both Dusty and Dustin are husbands and fathers and we understand the sacrifices that they had to make during the past year of Paramedic class. We the employees of Morgan County EMS are thankful for your willingness to do what it takes to not only complete the Paramedic Program, but to continue to do an outstanding job at work while juggling the role of student, husband, and father. We at Morgan County EMS are set up to have paramedics on every ambulance that responds to the call for help in Morgan County. This has been a dream and a top priority for us, and we are thankful to County Executive Brian Langley and the Morgan County Commissioners for their support and all the help they have given to Morgan County EMS as we have worked toward this goal. We the employees and the citizens of Morgan County are truly blessed to have you both working to serve us. I am thankful to have

such valued employees and proud of you both and most of all I am thankful to call you a friend. Thanks for your Service,” said Doug Lamance.

In addition to better patient care, the reimbursement rates will be higher, which in affect will help ease the burden of the taxpayers in the subsidy funding for Morgan County EMS. So, it will be a winning combination for Morgan County moving forward.

Robert Byrd, Morgan County Commissioner serving the 4th District said, “I am thrilled to see Morgan County with a paramedic on every ambulance. The people win! County Executive Brian Langley delivered this plan the first week of his Administration. It is so refreshing to see political promises develop into reality. Doug Lamance and Brian Langley have proven to be an effective team truly serving the people. It is even more refreshing to see this public safety improvement while simultaneously reducing this department’s taxpayer burden. Godspeed Morgan County EMS staff.”

Langley praises the job Lamance and the entire Morgan County EMS staff is doing.

“We are extremely blessed to have such a great group of people working at Morgan County EMS. Doug Lamance is doing a great job leading as EMS Director and has a vision on making EMS better each and every day,” said Langley.

Since being elected as Morgan County Executive a little more than two years ago, Langley has made it a priority to improving Morgan County EMS. Some of those improvements include: increased pay rate for paramedics, upgraded facility, more funding for future expansion, and more focus on grant funding for new ambulances.

“I have really focused on making sure that our Morgan County EMS department has all the resources they need to be successful. I will continue making sure Morgan County EMS has my full support to help them any way I can. I appreciate the support our Morgan County Commission has given to EMS. Ultimately, I want Morgan County EMS to be leading the region and the State of Tennessee in providing patient care and top-notch service to the citizens of Morgan County. I want it to be a system that other counties look to as being the best,” said Langley.

Currently, one more person for Morgan County EMS is scheduled to enroll in classes for paramedic school in January. Also, Morgan County is applying for a CDBG Grant to fund two new ambulances.

“We are continuing to do what we can to improve Morgan County EMS each and every day. I want my focus on doing what I can to make sure we have the best services we can have with least burden to the taxpayers of Morgan County possible,” added Langley.

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Faye A. Zorsch, 99

Mrs. Faye A. Zorsch, age 99 of Sunbright, passed away Sunday, December 20, 2020 at Life Care Center of Morgan County. She was born April 18, 1921 in Mt. Clemens, Michigan to the late Guy and Clara Miller Briggs.



Faye was an accountant having achieved the honor of being an Enrolled Agent – licensed to practice before the IRS. After retirement she opened her own accounting office and retired for the second time at the age of 89. Faye enjoyed traveling, a favorite trip was to attend the Stratford Shakespeare Festival in Stratford, Ontario.

She was preceded in death by her husband: Gerald Zorsch. One daughter: Carol Gail Carl. And one great granddaughter:

Julie Carl.

She is survived one son and daughter-in-law: Gerald and Jody Zorsch of Sunbright.

One daughter: Bonnie Stevens of Prescott, MI. Seven grandchildren, and several great grandchildren and great-great grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers donations can be made to Senior Dog Lodge \$ Animal Rescue, 997 Mill Creek Road, Sunbright, TN 37872

Davis Funeral Home, Wartburg, is honored to serve family of Mrs. Faye A. Zorsch.

Condolences may be sent to the family at: www.davisfuneral-homes.com

Rosella (Redmon) Schubert, 88

Rosella (Redmon) Schubert age 88, of Wartburg, passed away at home with her loving family at her side on Friday, Dec. 25 2020 .

She was preceded in death by her husband, Jimmie Schubert; father and mother: Perry and Winnie Redmon; brothers; Willie Jay, Shirley, and Glen Redmon; sister, Gladys Whaley.

Rosella is survived by daughters; Donna (Mike) Maples of Oakdale, Debbie (Keith) Bullen of New Tazewell; son, Ricky (Jacqueline) Schubert of New Tazewell; brothers; Tom (Margret), Louis (Betty), Herbert (Sharon) Redmon ; sister; Mary Ellen Lamance all of Wartburg; 14 grandchildren; 3 great grandchildren; and a host of nieces nephews and other family and friends

Rosella was a lifelong member of Liberty Baptist Church in Wartburg where she was a mission minded Christian. She had a keen sense of humor

and loved to see people laugh and have a good time. Rosella worked at Tennford Weaving Company until the company closed, she retired at that time. She will be remembered for her beautiful smile that could light up the room. She loved her family, church family, and work family.

Family and friends may come by to pay their respects on Tuesday December 29 between 9:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M. at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg. The graveside service will be at 3:00 P.M. at the Liberty Baptist Church Cemetery in Wartburg, TN with Dr. Paul Frick officiating.

The family request in lieu of flowers that donations be made to Liberty Baptist Church building fund in her memory.

Pallbearers : Grandsons and Great Grandsons

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Rosella Schubert.

Leo Samuel Nelson, 104

Leo Samuel Nelson, age 104, of Wartburg (born April 3, 1916 in Catoosa, TN), passed away Wednesday, December 23, 2020. He was a lifetime member of Shady Grove Church in Lancing where he served as a Deacon until his final years. He was a dairy farmer and farmed the family property all his life.

He is preceded in death by his wife of 71 years, Ernestine Bonham Nelson; infant son, Donald Lee Nelson; grandson, Michael Nelson; great-grandson, Tucker Howard; parents Sam and Emma Nelson of Catoosa; sister, Glenna Scott; and brothers: Lester, Lonnie, and Lloyd.

He is survived by son, Benny Nelson of Catoosa; daughters and sons-in-law: Diana (Wesley) Howard of Wartburg, Wanda (Barry) Fowler of Nashville, Martha Nelson of Knoxville and Evelyn Jane (Carlos) Brooks of Tellico Village; sister, Anna Mae Drake of Dayton, OH; brother-in-law, Kenneth Bonham of Knoxville; grandchildren: Tim Nelson, Shelia Mullican, Mar-

vin Howard, Monty Howard, Amy Creech, and Chris Fowler; 15 great-grandchildren; 7 great-great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces and nephews.

A private Graveside service will be held with Rev. Bill Durham and Rev. Ralph Nance officiating. Friends may come by Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg throughout the day Wednesday December 30, 2020 to pay their respects to Leo.

Due to COVID restrictions, the family will hold a memorial service/celebration of life at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial donations be made to your favorite charity or church.

The family would like to express their appreciation to the employees of Lifecare Center of Morgan Co. for their love and care for Leo.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Leo Nelson.

Elbert (Bud) Cochran, 92

Elbert (Bud) Cochran, age 92 died of natural causes on December 23, 2020. He is preceded in death by his beloved wife of 68 years, Maxine. He is preceded in death by his parents, Roy and Tennie Cochran; sisters Jean Chambers, Ann Vought, Marilyn Shillings, and brother Stanley Cochran.

He is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, Steve and Teresa Cochran of Harriman; by his sister Faye McCartt (Robert) of Harriman, TN; brother-in-law Wayne Honeycutt (Rena) of Ft. Oglethorpe, GA, extended Cochran and Honeycutt family nieces and nephews; his best friend Melissa Burney (Ray) of Harriman; and his beloved Piney Baptist Church (Oakdale, TN) family.

Bud was married to Maxine, a beautiful, caring and wonderful woman and he loved her beyond measure with the sure knowledge that she loved him. Their love story began in the Harriman Halls Dime Store where they both worked at a young age. As told by Maxine, "he followed me around at work all the time and would never talk much but I knew he liked me. He would climb a ladder to put in lights or fix the fan or something and stay longer up over my counter where I worked so he could watch me. If he had to sweep or mop, he took longer where I was at, working." Eventually Bud asked her out for a date. Years later celebrating their 65th anniversary at Piney Baptist Church, the pastor asked Maxine how a marriage could last so long. In front of the congregation she replied, "I must be crazy." Well, they were crazy for one another.

Bud served in the U.S. Navy in

World War II for forty-six months. He was on the U.S.S Missouri and was a Gunner's Mate. In January 1947, Bud was on the ship traveling from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil to Norfolk, VA with President Harry S. Truman and family onboard.

Bud worked at the Oak Ridge K-25 Plant as a foreman for 37 years. He and his wife also worked many hours as devoted members of Piney Baptist Church. He served in many roles in the church including the Sunday School Secretary and Trustee. He filled his desk candy dish every Sunday for the children (and adults) and enjoyed greeting everyone walking by his desk. He considered his Church his family.

Bud was a quiet and humble man, always doing for others. He was from the "Greatest Generation" that worked hard, learned to build and create; sacrifice and share. He was talented, intelligent, committed and dependable; tough and tender. All these qualities inspired all who loved him.

The family appreciates the prayers, cards, and kindness during this time shown by friends and neighbors as well as the excellent care and respect shown by the staff at Signature Healthcare of Rockwood Rehab and Wellness Center. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Piney Baptist Church, P.O. Box 174, Oakdale, TN 37829.

There will be no receiving of friends due to safety precautions for the current pandemic. A private graveside service will be conducted. Let us not forget that Jesus is the 'Reason for the Season.'

Frances Franklin Ooten, 84

Frances Franklin Ooten, 84 , ascended to heaven on December 23, 2020 in Kingston TN. Originally from Oakdale TN, she raised her family in Knoxville and lived the last 20 years in Kingston TN. She was a member of Redeemer Lutheran Church.

Frances traveled the world throughout her life and was fortunate to visit over 20 foreign countries all 50 states and 9 Canadian provinces. She will always be remembered as a loving wife and mother to her children. She was a lifelong member of the church where she often performed as a pianist and organist. She was a self-taught seamstress and a natural homemaker. She had an uplifting spirit for all who were fortunate to meet her. Frances had an infectious aura of laughter. The rooms she entered will never be as bright again.

She is preceded in death by her parents, George Burton and Hermenia Unger Moore; Husband, Joe E. Franklin and Daughter, Arlevia Anne Franklin Broyles.

She is survived by her husband, Felix Ooten; sister Barbara Jean Lancaster (Bill); sons, Joe E. Franklin Jr. (Ronda) and Randall John Franklin (Melinda); Stepdaughter Connie Lynne Ooten-Hopkins (Jerry); Grandchildren: James William Broyles, Andrew Nicholas Broyles (Kristina), Lindsay Jaye Franklin, Meghan Anne Franklin, Samantha Anne Franklin, Wesley Joseph Jacobson and step-granddaughter, Elizabeth Lynne Hopkins.

There will be a graveside service Tuesday December 29, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. at Highland West Cemetery in Knoxville, TN with Pastor Michael Miller officiating. The family requests memorial contributions to be made to Redeemer Lutheran Church at 1658 Roane State Highway, Harriman, TN 37748.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Frances Ooten.

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

Morgan County Today

Tommy Lee Francis: Publisher

Email: publisher@mocotoday.com

Heather Francis: Editor

Email: editor@mocotoday.com

Periodical postage paid at Wartburg, TN

USPS Publication Number

(15400)

Published every Tuesday by Morgan County Today, LLC

**P.O. Box 451
510 Main Street
Wartburg, TN 37887**

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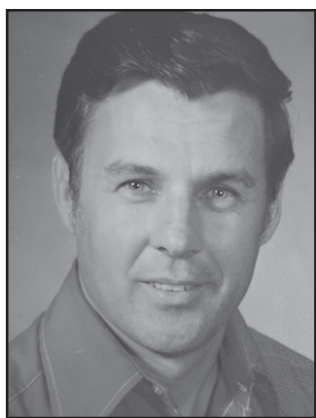
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We Say Goodbye to a Special Sister



Tom Redmon
Columnist

I had another article planned for today but something that happened on Christmas day changed all of that. You can read about it in the local paper or you can go into the internet and look at Schuberts obituaries where you will find the name Rosella Redmon Schubert and a short biographical account of her life. But you will not find the real story of this great woman; not the story that I know, for you see Rose was my oldest sister and she was special.

Rose was born on February 4, 1932 the third child for Penny and Winnie Redmon. It was a very dark and bleak time for our great nation because we were in the great depression. As Mom looked down at her little baby girl, she could not imagine what this little girl would go through in life.

Rose's responsibilities would start very early in life because at four years of age she would be in charge of watching me while mom went over to the barn to milk the cow. Mom said to her, "now Rose you don't pick the baby up, if he cries you just shake the bed. I won't be gone long."

There would be six siblings to come after Rose was born. We would all be lucky to have a sister like Rose. We were all born about 18-19 months apart and when another baby came along Rose's responsibility increased.

I have many fond memories of Rose. When we were growing up, she never seemed to get down. She always seemed to be in a good mood and had a smile for everyone.

Rose was in the 2nd grade when the Wartburg Central School burned down. She had a vivid memory of the day and how her teacher reacted to the fire drill. At first, she told the students to set still there was no way she

would take the kids out in this bleak weather. When they did go out, they didn't have time to get their coats and there they stood in sub-freezing weather until some high school boys were sent into the building to get their coats.

I'll always remember Rose as a practical joker or one who liked to scare people. When she was around fourteen years of age and I was ten she really pulled a good one. It was Halloween 1946 when she had dressed up to scare the younger siblings.

I told her she should go down and scare Mom and Dad as they came back from Walter Graces' Store.

She dressed like a convict and her and our sister Gladys went down to what is now Mill Road, and did she scare

Mom and Dad? I told this story in my article titled "Run Daddy Run" in the paper and it is included in the stories in my book. Rose and I probably told this story a hundred times or more. Rose could tell it better because she carried it out perfectly.

Rose and I learned to drive about the same time in life. She was around sixteen and I was twelve. We would take Dad's old 1946 Chevrolet truck up to the pasture and practice driving all day. Then when she and her husband Jimmy Schubert went up to Chicago and bought a 1937 car with a rumble-seat we would take it to the pasture and hone our driving skills without running over a cow. I loved that cow.

In high school Rose was a great athlete, especially in basketball. She was captain of the basketball team when she was a freshman. Her best friend was Vergie Mae Hamby and together they scored a lot of points on the basketball court. She told me that she scored 36 points against South Harriman: her highest score during her career.

Rose attended Liberty Baptist Church all her life. She was loyal to the church and supported it with her tithes and work in Sunday school and BWU. When I came back from Florida and bought a house in Kingston, I told her that I loved First Baptist Church in Kingston. She told me it was okay to attend there but I couldn't join. "You belonged at Liberty". I was over seventy-five and she was still giving me good advice.

My three youngest siblings



Rose Schubert Redmon and her three brothers still living (Photo Submitted)

might not

remember it but Rose took care of them a lot when they were real young. No doubt she changed a lot of diapers and washed a lot of clothes and hung them on the clothes line. Being the oldest girl in a family of nine children put Rose in that spot, but it didn't seem to deter Rose from enjoying life.

I believe that Rose was one of the best cooks in Tennessee. Her green beans always tasted better than anyone else's. Her chicken and dumplings were proclaimed the best at every get together we had at Liberty. Her cakes and pies could be beat. We found out later in life that she not only liked to back cakes and pies, she also loved to eat them.

Rose got married when she was seventeen-years-old. Her and Jimmy had three children; two girls and a boy. She loved her family dearly and helped them in everyway she could. Most of her married life she worked outside the home. Like most of us the roads she had to travel was not always smooth, but she always seemed to make

good decisions. She kept a good home and when you went there you were always welcome. All eight of her brothers and sisters seemed to be drawn to Rose for advice.

Later in life when mom got disabled and couldn't take care of herself Rose was the one who came to her aid. She lived nearby and many days went to her house to get her clothes that needed washing. She also took food to her. The responsibilities never seemed to abate for Rose, and Rose never seemed to complain or get discouraged in life.

I cannot forget when Rose and Gladys would baby sit at a very young age, and many times they would spend their earnings on their younger siblings. They helped Mom and Dad out by being able to buy their own clothes. They made life a little brighter in our home.

I know most of you out there have lost a brother or sister. Maybe some of them were like Rose and had a special place in your heart. If so then you know how I feel.

I knew several weeks ago that Rose didn't have long here on earth. Margaret and I were out there to see her and she seemed to be at peace. I held her hand and told her that she was a special sister and I loved her. Margaret held her hand and talked to her about their past. Margaret loved Rose and Rose in turn loved Margaret. Their friendship goes away back. Rose didn't want to turn her hand loose.

Today is December 26, 2020 and as I write this the tears are flowing. I've not only lost a sister I have lost my best friend. I have lost my 2nd mother and my advisor. No longer can I call Rose on the phone after a Tennessee football game, nor can we share our joy over something our children have done. Her children and grandchildren will miss her; her many friends will miss her and I feel like I've lost a part of me. Life for me will never be the same, but Rose is in heaven rejoicing with the angels. One day we'll see her up there.

Historically Speaking Oak Ridge and the Korean War

By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

I had a most unusual offer from Deborah (Deb) Schenk, who is the daughter of a longtime Y-12 co-worker now retired, Dave Medovich. She had recently moved to Oak Ridge and brought with her a bent toward historical research and writing.

She desired to take on some assignments for things I had in the works for Historically Speaking but was not able to get done. And, boy, are there a lot of those as readers continually give me suggestion for stories. Finding time to do the necessary research is tough, so I gladly accepted her offer.

Deb has since taken on a full-time position with a local bank and has, of necessity, had to immediately slow down on the list of many potential stories I gave her. However, this story is one she completed and one that I am sure you will enjoy.

She interviewed Bill Sergeant to get the details of the deployment of the 194th Engineer Battalion led by Bill to the Korean War. Almost, if not all, of the members of the battalion were from Oak Ridge.

You will recall an earlier Historically Speaking column, Happy Valley in Korea, where Bill described the sign placed in a certain location in Korea by the predominantly Oak Ridge men who fondly recalled their own "Happy Valley" and saw the similarities to the one they named in Korea.

Now for Deb's story from Bill Sergeant:

In the beginning, Oak Ridge was a job site, not a home, to the many people who lived here. Everyone still associated themselves with wherever they had moved from to come here. In the fall of 1950, Bill Sergeant saw that sentiment begin to change.

In 1946, Bill Sergeant was a Captain in the United States Army stationed in Oak Ridge and working for the Clinton Engineer Works. When the Atomic Energy Commission took over the oversight of all of the nation's atomic energy activities, Oak Ridge came under that new organization as well.

As Bill's term of service came to a close, he was offered to stay in his position as a civilian with a generous salary. Bill had gone overseas during World War II and, seeing no advantage to staying in the service, was glad for the opportunity.

At this same time, the Federal Government was rebuilding the National Guard, which, of course, had been decimated by the war. The decision had been made to place a unit in Oak Ridge. Bill, being the most experienced and highest-ranking officer left in Oak Ridge at the time, was asked to lead this unit in 1947. The way Bill figured the situation, he would get a promotion in rank and be able to make a few extra bucks with a minimal commitment.

So, a combat engineer unit comprising about 300 enlisted men and officers was formed. They met Tuesday nights and spent two weeks during summers at Fort McClellan in Alabama. Even as the situation in Korea heated up, Bill knew they were in no danger of being called up. After all, they had been to war. Men didn't go to war twice in a lifetime. Besides, the AEC had insisted that the unit not be available for state use, only federal. Clearly, they would fall at the bottom of the list when Tennessee was asked to give their share.

Despite the power of rationalization, the 194th Engineer Battalion led by now Lt. Col. Sergeant, was one of three Tennessee units called in July, 1950. They would be part of the first wave to head for Korea. The men were given only three weeks to settle their affairs.

The most critical affair for most was housing. The vast majority of homes in Oak Ridge were still owned by the AEC and only for use by employees. With the men away for an unknown time, any wives who didn't work would lose the right to stay in



Bill Sergeant leads his battalion in the March 19, 1949, Gate Opening Ceremony Parade – Bill's wife is in the crowd just to his left (Photo Submitted)

their homes. Of course, not all of the men were government employees by the time and had a range of other issues as well.

Still, the inevitable approached. The unit was inducted on August 19th of 1950 and began preparations to leave for training at Fort Lewis, Washington, on August 30th.

As the date grew nearer and nearer, an impromptu sendoff grew to spectacular proportions. Every civic group in Oak Ridge found a way to contribute. The Oak Ridge High School band turned out to play. The Oak Ridger reporters were on hand and WATO planned a live broadcast, though technical difficulties prevailed. The paper described "scores of well known Ridge figures...mingled with the send off crowd." All told, an estimated 4,000 turned out to see off the unit.

As Bill looked back on this send off, he found himself homesick for Oak Ridge. With that came the revelation that he considered Oak Ridge "home." The gravity of the event had moved people who worked together and played together to truly pull together the way a city does in a time of change or crisis.

Overnight, Oak Ridge had grown from a job site into a real city and home.

There you have it. Deb, recently returned to Oak Ridge, interviewed Bill Sergeant, one of the true "old timers." She learned a lot quickly, don't you know. The only thing I could have done that would have gotten her immersed into our history even more quickly was to ask her to also interview Bill Wilcox. One "Bill" is likely enough to put her through at one time, huh.

The reason I know of this story is that Bill Sergeant had called me earlier and told me that he thought the story of Oak Ridge's contribution to the Korean War was not well known. He felt that Oak Ridge history was tied to the Manhattan Project and World War II, and rightly so, as the material for the first atomic bomb used in warfare came from Oak Ridge. Yet, the contribution of the 300 men from Oak Ridge was a huge one. They were among the first wave of troops sent to Korea!

Bill's desire was to be sure Oak Ridgers to-

day understood the impact on the city when 300 of its men were called to war. That may well have been the single largest call up from a city in the nation during the Korean War. He wanted us to appreciate the sacrifice Oak Ridgers made so soon after the end of World War II brought on primarily by the contribution of Oak Ridgers to produce the material for the atomic bomb.

It is apparent the city understood at the time as the huge sendoff event seemed to materialize without any formal leadership. It seems to have "just come together" almost spontaneously. The community spirit that springs forth at such times is so very powerful and a wonder to see.

If we could capture that spirit in Oak Ridge today, we would not be bothered by the lack of retail sales, available housing in key locations and affordable price ranges, school demographics that have radically changed to where we have 35% free and reduced lunches, several empty retail locations, a number of partially filled industrial parks and stagnated growth overall.

It is good to dream and to know that our city has pulled together on occasion (look at the recent Oak Ridge High School renovation) and to review the times of the past when the city acted with one accord to pull off significant events. We can do it again...it just takes the right catalyst.

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.

**Budget Meeting January 11,
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said unto thee,
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John 3:7

- Jesus

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MSG Fred Mize
This afternoon I couldn't help notice a pathway in the snow made by the warming sun, as I walked on the crunching white snow in my backyard, to feed our animals. As the snow crunched beneath my feet two of my favorite Bible verses ran through my mind. Proverbs 16:9 A man's heart deviseth his way: but the LORD direc-

teth his steps. Psalm 139:3 Thou compassed my path and my lying down, and art acquainted with all my ways. Looking up these Bible verses led me to the Bible verse that is always listed on the front page of the Morgan County Today, Psalm 100:3. I feel led by God to share with you not only that single verse but Psalm 100:1-5, 1 Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. 2 Serve the LORD with glad-

ness: come before his presence with singing. 3 Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and

the sheep of his pasture. 4 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. 5 for the LORD is

good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations. As 2020 comes to a close and 2021 opens a new let's not dwell of the heartaches of our past but look toward the future with joy in our hearts. We as born-again Christians can always have true joy in our hearts and be glad for whatever tomorrow brings because our path will eventually lead to His gates and into His courts. We can and

should enter them with thanksgiving and praise. If you are living your life on a path that doesn't lead to the LORD, I beg you to change direction now before taking another step forward. Drop to your knees and ask God to direct your steps and your path. Amen!



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

Around The World and Back Again

with Zack Ballinger

There is an App for that

“There is an app for that!” There are numerous phone applications that are available at your fingertips. In fact, there are about 2 million phone apps that exist in the world. There are so many

faxing or scanning multiple documents to people or customers? TurboScan is an app that can help achieve greater efficiency. This app allows you to take a pictures of documents, then the app automatically uploads that picture into a PDF document. You can than email the document just as if it were faxed or scanned. TurboScan has saved me a lot of time, hassle, and allows greater efficiency in document up-

personal finances get back on track. It follows the zero-based budget approach recommended by Dave.



Zack Ballinger

loading. 3. MyFitnessPal: Do you have a goal to live a healthier lifestyle? MyFitnessPal is the most popular app for health and fitness. This app allows you to track your food and calories, customize your diet, record activity & exercise, get support from others, and customize workouts to your schedule. The app basically gives you your own personal fitness & nutrition coach. MyFitnessPal does cost about 49.99 a year, but well worth the expense for better health.

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.

4. Career Test: 70% of Americans hate their job. Are you one of them? What is your passion? What career should you choose? I have advocated for personality profile tests to students and professionals around the world. I have some great news! There is an app for that. The Career Test app sorts through 900 careers and gives you an idea of what you may be good at in life. Download the app and begin answering the surveys to find out a potential new career path.



5. EveryDollar: Do you have a goal to get out of debt? Dave Ramsey is the master at leading people out of debt. He has led millions of people on a debt free journey for over 30 years. In his NY Times bestselling book, The Total Money Makeover, Dave teaches us how to get out of debt, live on less than you make, and save for the future. The Everydollar app is a budget planner and expense tracker that helps your



apps, but which ones could help us the most? Here are 5 must-download phone apps that will help you accomplish your 2020 goals.

1. Acorns: Acorns is an app that takes your spare change and invests into the stock market. You set the maximum amount, but it basically rounds up your everyday purchases from your credit or debit card and invests the spare change into an account. The money is invested in mutual funds and bonds. You can select your risk tolerance and the app provides you a detailed explanation of the investments. This is not a replacement for retirement investing and you won't get rich from this app, but it forces you to save small amounts. It gets your feet wet especially if you have had trouble saving money.

2. TurboScan: Do you find yourself

Sandra Helton's weekly column

Oakdale Area News

email: kvhelton@highland.net



There have been some good things happen in 2020. The two largest planets in our solar system, Jupiter and Saturn, aligned on Dec. 21 to create what's sometimes referred to as the "Christmas Star". When the planets lined up on the day marking the start of the winter solstice, they appeared to form a double planet. It was beautiful. And.....we had a White Christmas! Although it was bitterly cold, it was a beautiful scene.

On Saturday, December 19, several people were blessed by a group of carolers from White Oak Baptist Church. They traveled in separate cars and stayed distanced while singing. Bunt and I enjoyed hearing them and I know others did too.

On Friday, December 18, Ruth Headrick enjoyed a visit from her son and daughter in law, Dean and Debbie Headrick from Crossville and her granddaughter and her husband, Lindsey and BJ Newman and their children, Elle, Brigg and Beckett from Franklin, TN. As always, she was happy to see them.

I had been very sad about churches not having Christmas programs. Our church Christmas program has always been the highlight of my Christmas. I have such fond memories of programs, the fun play practices and the singing of songs about the birth of Christ. When I was young, we would walk down the aisle carrying candles with aluminum foil around the base to catch dripping wax and we stood on the stage and sang Christmas songs. It was a reverent time. Drama productions varied from nativities to plays with a comedic twist but always revealing the true meaning of Christmas. As an adult, I have enjoyed watching my children along with all the church youth continue the tradition. I now have grandchildren and I want them to have the same memories. On Sunday,

December 20, there was an impromptu program at White Oak Baptist Church with the young people wearing costumes and creating a nativity scene along with some good songs. I appreciate those who made sure that we had a program to recognize the birth of Christ.

Congratulations to Rachael Clipson and Jordan Miller who were married in a small, private ceremony on December 26 at her sister Robyn Langley's home. They plan to have another ceremony on January 2 at Piney Baptist Church.

Congratulations to Paul and Leslie Yeary who celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary on Christmas Day!

Happy Birthday to Cian Kirby who celebrated his 8th birthday Saturday, December 26 with a pizza party at home with his family. Cian's parents are Jon and Amber Kirby and his sister is 4 year old Teagan.

Margie Hicks spent Christmas Eve night at her home place on Ellis Bingham Road with her son, Michael and his family. They enjoyed sharing memories and talking about the "Big" snows we had which included sledding, snowmen and snowball fights!

Justin and Valerie Disney hosted her parents, Kerry and Jennifer Ruppe, for Christmas Eve dinner. They had open faced roast beef and deer roast. They opened presents, the kids made ginger bread houses and then they had s'mores. On Christmas morning they opened gifts with the children and then went to her Uncle Kevin's home for Christmas breakfast.

The Holder Family held their annual holiday party Sunday, December 20 at the Roane County Park Cottage. Attendees included Barbara Holder, Debbie Holder, Kenny and Anne Holder, Phillip and April Holder and their children, Faith Davis, Tim-

my Holder, Hope Davis and Little Kenny Holder, CE and Bridgett Manis with Baylee and Charlee. Lots of lovely gifts were opened and yummy food was eaten. Due to Covid, some were unable to attend and they were missed.

Seven year old Baylee Manis, daughter of CE and Bridgett Manis of Harriman, spent Wednesday, December 23 with her Great Aunt, Debbie Holder. They distributed gifts in Kingston to the Henrys and Tiptons followed by lunch with Great Gran, Barbara Holder and family friend, Margaret Sims at Shoneys. They made a brief shopping trip for items to fill up the Blessings Box in Oakdale. They visited with Old Paw Phil Holder and with the kitties at Debbie's house. They ended their day with a tour of Christmas decorations in Harriman's downtown, both city parks and Cornstalk Heights.

Fayette Helton's family usually gathers on Christmas Eve but with the iffy weather, it was postponed until Saturday night. Four of her seven children, Velma Human, James Helton, Keith Helton and Melinda Massey were able to attend. Grandchildren attending were Bryant Human, Victoria Clabough, Jake Johnson, Talisa Helton, Keeli Redmon, Kayla Ruppe, Alesha Massey and Heather DeVaney along with many great grandchildren. Everyone enjoyed a soup supper with a lot of yummy sweets.

On Christmas night, Dennis, Tabitha, Kinley and Sophia Hamby and Kyle, Kayla, Clara and Hattie Ruppe and Gail Ruppe visited with us. We had good food and played some fun games and opened gifts.

Condolences to the family of Frances Moore Franklin Ooten who passed away December 23. She is survived by her husband, Felix Ooten, sister Barbara Jean Lancaster (Bill), sons, Joe E. Franklin Jr. (Ronda) and Randall John Franklin (Melinda),-Stepdaughter Connie Lynne Ooten-Hopkins (Jerry) and her grandchildren James William Broyles, Andrew Nicholas Broyles (Kristina), Lindsay Jaye Franklin, Meghan Anne Frank-

lin, Samantha Anne Franklin, Wesley Joseph Jacobson and step-granddaughter, Elizabeth Lynne Hopkins. A graveside service was held today, Tuesday, December 29 at Highland West Cemetery in Knoxville.

Sympathy to the family of Elbert "Bud" Cochran who passed away December 23. He is survived by his son and daughter-in-law, Steve and Teresa Cochran of Harriman, his sister Faye McCartt (Robert) of Harriman, TN, brother-in-law Wayne Honeycutt (Rena) of Ft. Oglethorpe, GA and extended Cochran and Honeycutt family nieces and nephews. A private graveside service was held at Piney Church Cemetery.

Although he lived in Lancing, not Oakdale, Mr. Leo Nelson was well known in Morgan County. At the age of 104, Mr. Nelson passed away on December 23. I came to know of Leo and his wife Ernestine when I was very young as he was a CO-OP customer. Condolences to the Nelson family.

I was asked by a friend, who wishes to remain anonymous, that if you are driving a car with an automatic start feature, you might want to be proactive and purchase batteries for the key fobs and leave them in the car. This friend recently learned that the battery in the key fob can suddenly be too weak to start the car with no warning.

As we approach another new year, let us all draw closer to God, love our families, friends and neighbors and do our part to make life as good as it can be. Pray for one another and our country. Happy New Year!

Acts Chapter 13

(Acts 13:1-3) Antioch: a mission Base: the church in Antioch was well-staffed with prophets and teachers, including Barnabas and Saul. Of special interest was Manaen, the foster-brother of Herod Antipas (who murdered John the Baptizer). The gospel touches honest hearts in all strata of society. The Holy Spirit, as a divine person, spoke and separated Barnabas and Saul for a special mission. Their Christian brothers fasted, prayed, and formally sent them forth by the laying on of hands (1 Tim. 4:14).

(Acts 13:4-12) preaching on Cyprus: the companion preachers traveled the sixteen miles to Seleucia and caught a ship for the sixty-mile trip westward to the island of Cyprus, John Mark was with them as an attendant. They "proclaimed the word of God" (v. 5) from the eastern end of the island to the southwestern shore, some ninety miles away. Here a conflict arose with a false teacher, Elymas by name, who attempted to distract a ruler, Sergius Paulus, who expressed an interest in the gospel. This "sorcerer" repeatedly withstood (the force of the verb) the gospel preaching; consequently, Saul (henceforth to be known as Paul), by divine power, pronounced a temporal judgment upon the man. He was to be blind for a season. The miracle produced an astonishing effect upon the ruler--he believed, which means he was converted, submitting to the conditions required (v. 12; 2:38). There is archaeological evidence of a "Sergia Paulla" from this area who appears to have been a Christian. She may have been the proconsul's daughter.

(Acts 13:13-16) into Asia Minor: Paul and "his company" (he has assumed the leadership) sail some one hundred seventy miles northward to the coast of Asia Minor. Their first stop is in Perga of Panphylia, where John Mark, for reasons unknown, decided to return home. His departure would later cause a problem (15:39). Paul and Barnabas proceeded farther northward, about one hundred miles, until they reached Antioch of Pisidia. They entered a synagogue on the Sabbath, where, after the reading of the Scriptures, they were invited to speak. Paul decided to take advantage of the situation and thus stood up to address the audience. They visited the synagogue for the purpose of teaching the Jews that Christianity is now the way of salvation.

(Acts 13:16-41) Paul's speech in Antioch of Pisidia: the apostle's presentation begins with a rehearsal of Old Testament history regarding the promise of the coming Messiah. (a) God chose the nation of Israel for his purpose. (b) He exalted the nation by powerfully bringing it out of a period of slavery in Egypt. (c) The Lord tenderly cared for Israel in the wilderness of Sinai for forty years. (d) Jehovah removed seven pagan nations from Canaan and gave the land to the people. (e) Later, he gave them judges, the last of which was Samuel. (f) When they asked for a king (contrary to their best interest), the Lord gave them one: Saul, son of Kish. (g) Finally, David, a devout--though sometimes flawed--man was raised up. From David's "seed," according to the divine promise, would come a Savior whose name was Jesus (17-23).

The immediate preparation for this Savior was initiated by John the Baptizer who preached a baptism of repentance for remission of sins to all Israel (Mk. 1:4). John declared he was not worthy to unloose the sandals of this Jesus, who was more than an ordinary man. The apostle directed the Hebrews and God-fearers to the thrust of his message, namely that "the word of this salvation," through this man, is available to you (v. 26). But he was not finished. Paul then chronicled the bloody history of the Palestinian Jews. Israel's ignorance of the Scriptures led them to reject this man. Though he was innocent,

they influenced Pilate to have him killed. But God raised him from the dead, and his resurrection was verified by many witnesses (v. 24-31).

The apostle continued by showing this Christ's resurrection was foretold by David in the Old Testament (Psa. 2:7; 16:10)---who could not have spoken about himself because he "saw (experienced) corruption." Therefore, the "sure mercies of David," proclaimed by Isaiah (55:3), now could be accessed. (Pre-millennialists refer Isaiah's text to an alleged one-thousand-years reign yet in the future; Paul, by inspiration, applies it to the current Christian dispensation.) Through "this man" forgiveness of sins is available now. Complete justification could not be obtained through the law of Moses (it had only animal blood (Heb. 10:4), but it may be by those who become the steadfast believing ones (the verbal force), who trust and obey him (v39). The apostle warned them about rejection, thus fulfilling the testimony of the prophets, an example of which is cited from Habakkuk (1:5).

Acts 13:42-43) the response to Paul's presentation: There seems to have been a favorable response to the apostle's presentation. They kept on begging him to speak again on the following Sabbath. Luke records that many Jews and devout proselytes (Gentiles who had received circumcision) "followed" Paul and Barnabas, who kept on urging them to "continue in the grace of God" (v. 43). This clearly implies their conversion. Compare 14:22, where "continue in the faith" was the exhortation to "disciples." If one does not continue in grace, the divine favor was "in vain" (2 Cor. 6:1). How do these texts make sense if it is impossible for a Christian to fall from grace?

Acts 13:44-52) Paul turns to the Gentiles: on the next Sabbath, almost the whole city was gathered to hear "the word of God." When certain Jews observed the crowds and the enthusiasm, they were furious. Consumed with jealousy, they disputed with Paul and reviled him with caustic, irreverent language. But God's men were not deterred. They continued to preach boldly, declaring to these Jews that they would leave them and turn to the Gentiles (Rom. 1:16), as indeed the prophets foretold (v. 47; Isa. 49:6), because: (a) these rebels had thrust from them the gospel (by their own will power), and (b) they had "judged themselves unworthy of eternal life" (v. 46). They were responsible for their own fate; such had not been foreordained by God.

The Gentiles had an opposite attitude. They glorified the word of God (by yielding to it) and those ordained to eternal life believe (v. 48). Calvinists fantasize that this provides some support for their doctrine of predestination. Nothing could be further from the truth. The term "ordained" means to arrange or to set in order, to "determine." Here the word may be either a passive form, "where ordained," or a middle form, "determined themselves" (Lenski). The context indicates that the latter is the case, because these Gentiles are set in contrast to the Jews who thrust from themselves the message of salvation. Hence, the sense of the passage is this: "Those who believed were those who had determined for themselves that what they had been offered, they would gladly accept God's gift of eternal life." They received eternal life the same way that Paul did (22:16) being baptized to wash away his sins.

The cause of Christ spread throughout the region and a great multitude of both Jews and Greeks became Christians. But persecution continued and Paul and Barnabas decided their time was better spent elsewhere. Hence, they left for Iconium, about seventy-five miles eastward.

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MELVIN HOWARD

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Davis Funeral Home's Veteran of the Week



Morgan County Today is pleased to honor Specialist (SPC) Brock Dillon as this week's veteran of the week. SPC Dillon was inspired to enlist into military service due to having a strong desire to improve his life's circumstances and to fulfill his desire



to serve our country that he dearly loves. SPC Dillon's military career in the Tennessee Army National Guard began in February 2010 when he enlisted as a Combat Engineer as a member of the 190TH Engineer Company.

SPC Dillon served a combat tour of duty with the 190TH while serving in Afghanistan from April 2011 - April 2012. Throughout his tour of duty his assigned mission was convoy route clearance meaning that his company searched for and detonated improvised explosive devices (IED's) that the enemy sat along the pathway of convoys. His unit was successful in finding numerous IED's that potentially saved countless lives.

SPC Dillon continued to serve in the Tennessee Army National Guard until he completed his term of enlistment in 2018. He is thankful for his ability and opportunity to serve along the men of the 190TH EN CO. He misses the comradery and unique experience of working with ex-

plosives as a Combat Engineer, especially the immense blasts from crater charges.

Although SPC Brock's time spent alongside his comrades has past he certainly enjoys his added time with his loving wife Crystal and their all-American children; Gracie, Ashlyn and Nolan. This coming February will be Brock and Crystal's 10th wedding anniversary!

SPC Brock Dillon, Morgan County Today, can't thank you enough for your service and sacrifices you and your family have made for our grateful nation. We pray that God continues to bless you and your family as He has.

Law Enforcement Officer of the Week

Presented by Jerry Duncan Ford

This week Morgan County Today is honoring six heroes in blue for their heroic actions on Christmas morning. These are the six Nashville Police Officers who responded to the calls of gun fire but found themselves facing a bomb laden RV just moments prior to detonating in downtown Nashville. We choose to honor the heroes rather than focus on the horrible act.

Nashville Mayor John Cooper praised the six respond-

ing officers, saying they "took swift action and directed people away from danger to save lives, even at the time that their own lives were imperiled." Metro Police Chief John Drake celebrated the work his officers did to evacuate nearby buildings when the situation was fluid and uncertain.

"Those officers saved lives

today," he said. "They immediately began knocking on doors, not knowing if the bomb was going to go off immediately. They didn't



care about themselves, they didn't think about that, they cared about the citizens of Nashville."

Officer Brenna Hosey, has been with the department for 4 years.

Officer James Luellen, has

been with the department for 3 years.

Officer Michael Sipos, has been with the department for 16 months.

Officer Amanda Topping, has been with the department for 21 months.

Officer James Wells, has been with the department for 21 months.

Sergeant Timothy Miller, has been with the department for 11 years.

Year End Tax Tips for 2020



David Zubler

Under the CARES Act, if you or your spouse or dependent is diagnosed with COVID-19, or is economically harmed by a business closure or quarantine, you can take up to \$100,000 from your retirement plan in 2020 without incurring the 10% early distribution penalty.

Additionally, the income from this distribution may be taxed over a period of three years. The money from the withdrawals may also be put back into a qualified retirement plan at any time during the three-year period to avoid the taxable income.

The Cares Act eased some tax deduction limits on charitable giving for 2020. Cash donations to charities other than a supporting organization or a Donor-Advised Fund are deductible up to 100% of adjusted gross income (AGI) in 2020. Gifts of appreciated property are deductible up to 30% of AGI. Be sure to get acknowledgment letters from the charity for both cash and property donations over \$250.

You can deduct medical expenses that

exceed 7.5% of your AGI if you itemize. I've had clients who thought just receiving a medical bill during that year would enable them to deduct the bill on their return. Medical expenses must be paid in the year incurred to be able to deduct them. However, credit card payments are deductible in the year they are charged, rather than paid. Prepayment of medical services in advance of the year the services are performed may not accelerate the deduction. The medical deduction threshold will probably be increased from 7.5% to 10% of AGI for 2021. Donate appreciated stock to charity to avoid paying capital gains tax for stocks held for more than one year.

It's better to sell depreciated stock and donate the cash proceeds to charity. If you donate this stock to a charity you will lose the benefit of the stock loss. As an example, if you bought stock for \$5,000 and sell it for \$2,000, you will be able to donate the \$2,000 proceeds and take claim a loss of \$3,000. If you donate the stock you will be able to claim the \$2,000 deduction. However, you will lose the tax benefit of the \$3,000 loss.

Gifted appreciated stock to relatives (such as children or grandchildren) in a lower in-

come tax bracket may result in them paying no tax on long-term capital gains when the stock is sold.

Cash gifts in 2020 can help you avoid the estate tax in later years. Gifts of up to \$15,000 to each person are exempt from tax (\$30,000 from a couple married couple) You may want to consider keeping stock for at least 12 months since short-term capital gains are taxed at ordinary income rates. Selling stock that results in losses can offset capital gains recognized during the year. If you have a business that uses the cash method of accounting, you can delay billing and collections until next year. You can accelerate expenses by paying business expenses before the end of the year.

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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