

MORGAN COUNTY WEATHER THIS WEEK

Tue 16	67°/50°	
Wed 17	62°/58°	
Thu 18	68°/45°	
Fri 19	53°/39°	
Sat 20	59°/36°	
Sun 21	62°/37°	
Mon 22	65°/45°	

TN Senate approves legislation to protect adopted children from abuse



Veteran of the Week
Tomb of the Unknown Soldier



LEO of the Week
Rodney Price
Jake Branstetter



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PROTECTING CHILDREN IS A RESPONSIBILITY WE ALL SHARE



It is important for every person to:

- **TAKE CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT SERIOUSLY**
- **BE ABLE TO RECOGNIZE IT**
- **KNOW WHAT TO DO NEXT**

(NASHVILLE) – The Tennessee Senate today unanimously approved legislation requiring adoptive parents receiving subsidies to annually provide the Department of Children’s Services (DCS) with medical or school enrollment records to ascertain a health check. State senators cast their votes in favor of the legislation while standing in honor and remembrance of two children who suffered horrific deaths after being abused by their adoptive parents. Senate Bill 270, sponsored by Senator Ken Yager (R-Kingston), also authorizes DCS to initiate a face-to-face visit if the adoptive parent fails to provide the documentation and foul play might be suspected.

“This was an abhorrent crime,” said Sen. Yager, who represents Roane County in the Tennessee Senate. “About 99% of adoptive parents do an outstanding job. However, there is a fraction who abuse children while pocketing their adoption subsidy, which is intended to help support the child’s needs. That is who this bill targets. We must do everything we can to ensure this never happens again.”

The arrest warrant said the children were fed a “starvation diet of light bread and water” by their adoptive parents. They were also locked in a basement and caged in isolation. Roane County law enforcement authorities found the body of one of the deceased children, a young girl, buried in the family’s barn in Roane County. The second child, a boy, was found buried in the back yard of the adoptive parents’ adult biological son in Knox County. Authorities believe the children were buried several

years before discovery. The adoptive parents continued receiving financial benefits for both children after their death.

“This legislation would ensure that DCS receives an annual notification on any child when the adoptive parents are receiving subsidy payments,” added Sen. Yager. “Most importantly, it provides DCS with the authority to check on the child when that information is not received and foul play is suspected to hopefully prevent such tragedies.”

The adoptive parents each face multiple counts of felony murder, abuse of a corpse, aggravated child abuse and aggravated child neglect. They also each face counts of abuse of a corpse, theft, TennCare fraud, and falsification of educational or academic records. The adoptive parents had claimed the children were home schooled.

Presently, DCS gives an incentive for foster families to adopt their foster children by promising a monthly adoption subsidy until the children are age 18 to 21. Once the adoption is finalized, DCS caseworkers do not check back in. Parents are requested to sign an affidavit to promise they are adhering to the agreement every two years.

The bill now must pass the House of Representatives, where it is sponsored by Representative Mary Littleton (R-Dickson), before it goes to the governor’s desk for his signature.

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Diana L. Summers, 63

Mrs. Diana L. Summers, age 63, of Harriman formerly of Wartburg passed away Sunday, March 3, 2021. Diane worked at the 27 Quick Stop and Life Care of Morgan County for many years.

She is survived by her son, Chris Summers of Knoxville; daughter, Crystal Broum and husband, Darrell of Kingston.

Due to Covid-19 pandemic no services are placed at this time.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Robert Lee Hall and Lucy Marie Miller Hall; husband, Donnie Summers.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Mrs. Diana L. Summers.

Lowell Thomas Hannah, 85

Lowell Thomas Hannah, 85 of Clinton, TN quietly stepped into the arms of Jesus on March 3, 2021 with his daughter, Debbie, by his side, holding his hand.

He married Genevieve "Ginny" Landrum and they were married for 55 years. Lowell was a Navy Veteran and proudly served his country for 4 years. Lowell was an Ironworker for 52 years in Indiana and retired in Tennessee. Lowell was a man of God and was truly loved by everyone that knew him. Lowell and his wife were members of Batley Baptist Church in TN.

He is survived by his daughter Debbie (Hannah) Land, grandson Kyle Land, (wife Marcela), great grandson John Paul of San Antonio TX, grandson Benjamin Land of Crown Point IN & brother Harold Hannah of Maryland.

Lowell was preceded in death by his wife Genevieve, daughter

Donna Hawkins, parents Alfred & Iva Hannah, Sisters Eunice & Silvia, Brothers Bobby & Samuel Hannah.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, services will be private.

In lieu of flowers, the family asks that you please donate to your choice of one of the following:

VFW Veterans of Foreign Wars 406 West 34th Street Kansas City, MO 64111 in the name of Lowell T. Hannah.

Disabled Veterans National Foundation, Inc. Donation Processing Center P.O. Box 2005 Milford, NH 03055-2005 in the name of Lowell T. Hannah.

Paralyzed Veterans of America National Processing Center P.O. Box 758589 Topeka, KS 66675-8589 in the name of Lowell T. Hannah.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Lowell Thomas Hannah.

Jimmy Kincer

Mr. Jimmy Kincer of Lancing passed away March 6, 2021 at his home. Jimmy was an avid outdoorsman who loved fishing, hunting, camping and watching his chickens in the yard. He was a Marine Vietnam Veteran for 4 years and served our country proud.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Dorothy Kincer; sister, Mattie Grant and Elender Craft; brother, D.W. Kincer and Tro Kincer.

He is survived by his daughter, Monica (James) Mashburn; son, Nelson (Michelle) Kincer; 6 grandchildren; brother, Ben Kincer and a host of nieces, nephews and friends.

The family is honoring Jimmys wishes to be cremated. No services are scheduled at this time.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Jimmy Kincer.

Kenneth Duane Biles, 65

Kenneth Duane Biles January 27, 1956 – March 10, 2021

Kenneth Duane Biles passed away March 10, 2021 at his home. He lived in Mossy Grove, Tn and was from Auburndale, FL. He attended New Life Apostolic Church in Mossy Grove.

He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Teresa Davidson Biles of Mossy Grove; daughter, Sonya Biles Gunther of Harriman; son, Jeremy Biles and wife, Savanna Human Biles of Mossy Grove; father, Joseph Eugene Biles; mother, Rozell Tidwell Biles both of Auburndale, FL.; brother, Michael and wife, Joy Biles of Lakeland, FL.; sister, Carolyn

and husband, Ron Louckes of Auburndale, FL.; granddaughters, Angela Gunther and Victoria Gunther; grandsons, Jacob Biles and Jude Gunther; brother-in-law, David and wife, Diane Davidson of Mossy Grove and a host of aunts, uncles and cousins.

The family will receive friends Saturday, March 13, 2021 at the New Life Apostolic Church in Mossy Grove from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. with a memorial service to follow at 2:00 with Bishop, Anthony Pemberton officiating.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Kenneth Duane Biles.

John Thomas Davis (Tommy)

John Thomas Davis (Tommy) went peacefully to join his heavenly family on March 5, 2021.

Tommy was preceded in death by his wife Patricia Fawbush Davis of Jefferson City. Father and Mother John R. and Madeline (Summers) Davis. Grandparents John R and Addi McCarrt Davis, Charles and Leona (Galloway) Summers. Brother in law Ray Shannon, sister in law Deloris Galloway Davis also many Uncles, Aunts and Cousins from both sides of his family. He is now united with them all especially Judy, Bryant and Thomas Avery Parker who he was one of the few cousins that knew them before their untimely death as children.

Tommy is survived by his children Scott Thomas Davis of Wartburg and Emily Suzanne Davis of Sunbright, Tracy Fawbush and Anne Fawbush of Jefferson City. Grandchildren, Cole Tilley, Riley Tinch and Alex Slaven whom he loved more than anything, Dharma and Cainan Fawbush, HD and Gigi

Stills. Brothers Charles R. Davis and Benny Davis (Paula), Betty Presley, of Sunbright and Brenda Shannon of Wartburg. A host of nieces and nephews and several great nephews and nieces. Tommy served in the United States Army in Korea, was a member of the Masonic Lodge of Sunbright and a member of the Sunbright Methodist Church. He worked for TVA for many years as a sheet metal journeyman and for the Morgan County School System as a Vocational teacher, teaching CAD. Tommy will forever be missed by his remaining family.

The family will receive friends Tuesday, March 9, 2021, from 5-7 pm Schubert Funeral Home, Sunbright. Funeral Service will follow at 7 pm. with Bro. Herb Judkins officiating. Graveside services for with Military Honors will be Wednesday, March 10, 2021, 11 am Sunbright Cemetery.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of John "Tommy" Davis.

Billie Faye Davis, 60

On Sunday, March 7, 2021, Billie Faye Davis, also known to many as "Faye", gained her heavenly wings and joined her Lord and Savior at Diversicare Healthcare in Oak Ridge, TN. She was born on March 1, 1961 to Billy Joe and Sylvia Hamby Beasley formerly of Wartburg.

Billie is preceded in death by her Father and Mother Billy Joe and Sylvia Hamby Beasley. She is survived by her two sons, Toby Beasley of Wartburg, Cody and husband Adam Landrum of Wartburg; three grandsons, Trevor Beasley, Noah and Roger Landrum - all of Wartburg; a special niece that she considered a daughter, Sylvia and husband Shannon Morton of Wartburg; three sisters of Wartburg; and one brother, Andrew and wife Beverly Beasley of Wartburg; a special friend, whom she considered a sister, Missy Phillips of Lancing; special great nephew and great niece, Eli and Elizabeth Morton of Wartburg and a host of other nieces and nephews.

Billie never turned her back on anyone and would give you the shirt off her back. She most often put others first to see a smile on their face. She enjoyed sitting on her front porch and "people

watching" to help keep an eye on her neighborhood. She was rarely seen without a Diet Mtn. Dew and a cigarette in her hand. Billie was an avid VOL fan and greatly enjoyed spending her Saturdays watching a UT football game, throughout the week you could catch her watching The Price is Right, The Young and the Restless, Law and Order: SVU, Wheel of Fortune and of course, Wrestling. Billie also greatly enjoyed spending time with her grandsons and having sleepovers with her oldest grandson, Trevor.

The family would like to extend sincere gratitude to the Nurses and CNAs at Diversicare Healthcare and a very special roommate for the care provided.

The family will receive friends Wednesday, March 10, 2021 from 5:00pm - 7:00pm at Schubert's Funeral Home in Wartburg. Funeral service will follow at 7:00pm with Bro. Perry Spurling officiating. Graveside services will be Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 11:00am at Armes Chapel Cemetery in Wartburg.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Billie Faye Davis.

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

The Morgan County Library Board will host its regular board meeting on Monday, April 5th at 5 p.m. in the lower level of the Wartburg Public Library. Discussions on the status of the Oakdale Public Library and Deer Lodge Public Library will also take place during this regular board meeting. Everyone is welcome to attend.

BOATERS SAFETY CLASS

Brian Miller will be teaching a boater safety class on March 20th at Central High School in Warburg. The class will start at 8:00 am and last until around noon. Anyone born after January 1, 1989 needs this to operate a boat, jet ski, etc. You must be 12 years of age, "per the state" to take the class and exam. You can register on TWRA website under boating classes, his will be listed under 37887 or 37748 (Cumberland) area, or just show up morning of the class. You will need a type 600 permit to take the class and exam. Permits can be purchased online or anywhere hunting and fishing license are sold. The cost of the permit is \$10.00 and he teaches the class for free.

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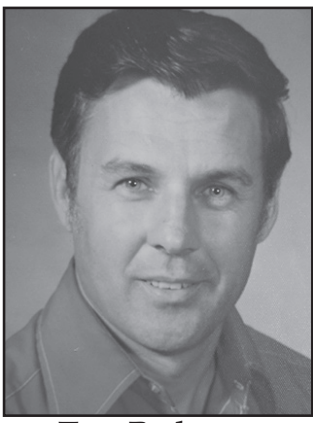
Rates in Morgan County

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

Out of County Rates

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

The Sweat Family and Three WWII Veterans



Tom Redmon
Columnist

It was 1934-35, right in the middle of the depression when George and Tennie Sweat's property in Union County was taken over by the government. They were told that al-

though the water that Norris Dam backed up would not cover all their land it would make it difficult for them to get in and out. They loaded up all their belongings and headed for the Joyner Community in Morgan County. This is where George and Tennie would raise a family of twelve children. Like all the other families of East Tennessee they had to work hard to provide for their children.

Jobs were hard to get so George had to purchase a good piece of land to farm. He did go up to Indiana and Michigan to pick cherries and other crops, but he decided not to go back up there because when he came home his children hardly knew him. He did work at the prison farm a short time.

George and Tennie had six boys and six girls. The girls were Elizabeth, Orpha, Bonnie, Minnie, Stella, and Lucy. Lucy is the only one still living. The boys were Emmett, Jesse, Brice, Verlin, Howard, and Houston. Verlin and Houston are the only two who are still living. The Sweat family had three boys who were in World War II at the same time. Jesse was in the Army Air Corp and his four years in service to his county meant he spent all four years in WWII. Brice also spent four years in the Army Air Corp from 1943-47. Verlin served in the Navy from 1944-1946.

I can only imagine what Tennie, their mother went through with three boys fighting overseas at the same time. This was our worst conflict in the 20th century. Lucy the youngest daughter told me her mother was always reading the papers

and listening to the radio to see where the battles were taken place. It had to be a difficult time for all mothers. If any of you remember the movie Saving Private Ryan, you know that Private Ryan's mother had already lost two sons in the Normandy invasion so to save her third son, Ryan who had parachuted out behind enemy lines, she went to the Minister of War. A group of U.S. Soldiers went behind enemy lines to retrieve Private Ryan. The mother of the Sullivan Brothers from Iowa had no chance to save one of her five sons because all of them died on the light cruiser Juneau on November 13, 1942 when it was sunk off the coast of Guadalcanal. Sixty-three brothers died at Pearl Harbor and only four bodies were recovered. Serving on the USS Arizona was a father and son and twenty-three sets of brothers.

I'm happy to say that all the Sweat brothers made it home safe.

T5 Brice M. Sweat was drafted into the Army but worked with the Air Corp (1943-47). His training was at Fort Bliss, Texas in Company B A38 AA Battalion. He served in France, Belgium, Germany, Holland, Austria and other places. He was right in the middle of Europe where the fiercest battles were fought. For his service he received a battle star. Brice married Jimmie Wilson who passed away in December, 1991. Because of her health they moved the family to Arizona.

After being released from the Army Air Force in 1947 Brice came back to the Joyner Community. Brice and Jimmie had three children (all girls). They were Doris who married Joel Price, Vivian married Warrenathey and Lillian who married Mark Lester. They have five grandchildren, all from Tucson, Arizona.

Brice kept very busy after returning to Tennessee. He drilled wells for a while,

owned a store in Joyner, and worked in Oak Ridge. In his spare time, he enjoyed fishing and hunting. On special occasions he enjoyed cooking a special dish or meal for relatives.

When the Sweat Family moved to Tucson, Arizona he worked and retired as foreman of a copper mine.

Seaman First Class Verlin Sweat's training was at Camp Perry, Virginia. He was assigned to the USS Amsterdam CL 101 (3rd Fleet in the Pacific). He told me when they were on the way to Tokyo, Japan where they would spend a lot of time off the coast, he was assigned lookout duty when he spotted a Jap plane coming toward their ship. He called the gunnery officer and the plane was shot down. Verlin said in one battle their task force was being hit pretty hard and luckily, they escaped, but other ships were hit hard and some were sunk. The USS Amsterdam

saw action around Guam the Philippines, Pearl Harbor, and Okinawa. Verlin was discharged in 1946 and returned to Tennessee to live. He married Maxine Wilson. They had two children and a number of grandchildren, and great grandchildren. Like his brother Brice, Verlin tried his hand at many jobs. He worked at

Oak Ridge, owned a grocery store near Harriman, worked at Gobey and did various jobs in Georgia before he retired. He was also a county commissioner. Verlin and Houston are the only boys living. Verlin lives in Crossville.

Corporal Jesse L. Sweat was drafted in January 1942, so he spent his four years of service in the Army which covered all of WWII. He was stationed in Panama,

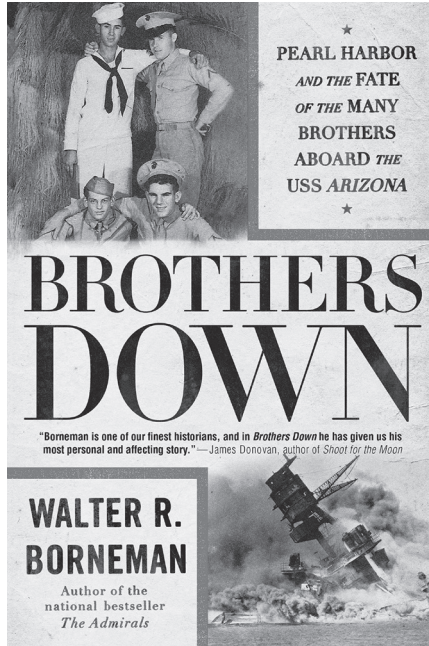
and the Mariana Island which consist of Guam, Saipan, Tinian and Rota. He also served at other spots in the Pacific. His four years were spent with the Air Force Communication in the Army's 325th Signal Company. Since I had no opportunity to talk to Jesse, I can only speculate what he saw in Guam and the other Mariana Island. Some fierce battles were fought there especially on Guam and Saipan. Jesse and his first wife Cordia Kite (1923-1988) had two sons Jerry of Sweetwater and James of Crescent City, Florida.

Private First-Class Howard Sweat, Arthur (Red) Jones, a childhood friend of Howards, joined the National Guard at Clinton before being inducted into the Army. They were in an Artillery Battalion at Fort Devens Massachusetts, Pine Camp, and West Point, NY. Howard and Arthur were transferred to Alaska. These men

were in the Army during the Korean War. Several large families in the United States had multiple boys in the service during WWII and some in Morgan County probably did. I know that the Tucker family from Petros had several boys in the Navy in the 1940's and 1950's. If anyone out there knows another family in Morgan County who had more than one boy in WWII please call me at 423-346-8850.

Lucy told me that her three brothers said very little about their time in battle. I only got to talk to Verlin but to me all three of these Sweat boys are heroes. They were right in the middle of Europe or the Pacific where the battles were being fought. I know with out a doubt they saw a lot and Tennie surely prayed for them a lot.

Lucy the youngest Sweat was in my class in school. She worked hard on the farm, as all the children did. They cut poplar wood together and raised a big crop of sugar cane. I went out to see them make molasses a couple of times. The way I look at this family is that they didn't have it easy but they worked together and stayed close all their lives. Lucy got two college degrees and taught school in Morgan County for many years. You couldn't ask for a better person than Lucy Sweat. Her good parents must have been a big influence in her young days.



Parenting Perversion



John Burns
Opinion Columnist

This is the hardest truth I have ever confronted in my life. I am the victim of an upbringing that looked great on the surface, but from a Bible perspective I am a victim of Satan's deception. I forgive the people involved and pray for their salvation alone in the blood of Jesus Christ.

God entered into the first covenant in the Bible in Genesis 2 verse 24. For this reason, shall a man leave his mother and father, and cleave unto the bosom of his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. The reason for this covenant is singular in nature and it is an irrevocable covenant. To find out why the reason is singular one must study the book of Malachi. Chapter 3 in Malachi teaches a believer that God poses a question "And Wherefore One?" Why does God allow one man and one woman to become one flesh? Because he was seeking Godly offspring. That is the answer as to why God allows marriage between two consenting adults. It is a lifetime covenant and it mirrors God's devotion to Israel and the gentile Kingdom of true believers. God hates divorce!

God does not require a man to leave his mother and father until he is ready to be Biblically responsible for a woman. The Hebrew mind reminds us that most men are not ready for marriage until about 30 years of Age. The Levirate marriage is one of total responsibility for the bride to be. The father of the groom must petition the would-be bride's father and he must first pay the dowry to show that the man's father is behind their son and they will honor the commitment to provide for the bride for life financially. The covenant is initiated when the father of the groom finds a potential bride for their son. The father then approaches the bride to be's father with the proposal. Upon acceptance of the offer, the groom to be, has the father initiate a financial dowry to prove it is now a lifetime commitment. The groom returns to his father's house and begins to build a room addition onto his father's house and he patiently awaits the marriage. The bride is veiled, as proof that she is committed and she will accept the marriage proposal. She awaits word that her home is prepared and the date is set for her to be married.

In my life, none of these Biblical requirements were initiated by my father. I have yet to meet a Christian who has? The reason for this is that every religion practiced in America is anti-Semitic and eugenic in nature. America has gone the way of Baalim. While pretending to know the God of the Bible, Americans cling to Roman Church tradition. Martin Luther's reformation failed miserably to reform the Church into an act of the Apostles Church. While understanding faith alone through Grace can save a sinner, Luther was devoutly anti-Semitic and did not return to teaching mercy and grace from and Old testament perspective. He allegorized scripture, and failed to recognize the kingdom from God's perspective as outlined in the Old Testament. Jesus Christ every word in the New Testament is a repeat of His words from the Old testament. He is the God who keeps his promises for eternity and he has not changed. He has never replaced Israel or his requirement to stay married for life. Train up a child in the way they should go and when they are old, they will not depart from it. My father divorced my mother and I divorced my first wife. Blasphemy.

The Marriage covenant is a mirror image and paradigm for teaching us the eternal covenant Jesus Christ entered into on the Cross of Calvary. God entered our dimension of time to enter into a marriage covenant with anyone who will believe in his death to pay their sin debt. The resurrection of Christ should revive your dead thinking about marriage and its single purpose in God's eyes. The single purpose for getting married is to provide God with offspring that love and believe in his plan of redemption. That plan is also singular. God became a man in the womb of a virgin Jewish girl to be born King of the Jews. That is Jesus Christ inheritance from the Father. He will one day receive the kingdom of David in Jerusalem. That event occurs after the final seven years of gentile reign on Earth. Jesus Christ is returning to judge all of the kingdoms of the Earth. But not before he receives his reward for dying for all sinners from

all eternity. His reward is a Gentile and Jewish bride of believers in His debt payment plan. He died to pay the only debt that matters when we die: Our sin debt to God the Father. Hallelujah.

The Koinonos of God, which gentile believers refer to as the Church, is Jesus Christ's bride. His death, burial, and resurrection were rewarded by God, by the Father providing the Holy Spirit to find Jesus a suitable bride. He is the bridegroom of creation. His bride is anyone who answers the still soft voice of God when he says I stand at the door and knock. If any man hears my voice I will come in and sup with him. That is God's marriage proposal for his son. It is God the Holy Spirit who asks for our hand in marriage. It is eternal, and when you say I believe, he will never leave you, nor forsake you. He will provide all of your needs according to his riches in glory. Marriage is eternal in God's kingdom. Will you accept the dowry Jesus Christ payed on calvary to have God betroth you to Christ for all eternity?

When Jesus Christ ascended to heaven after the resurrection, he returned to the father's house to build us a mansion. The pattern is continued from Genesis 2. Instead of building a room onto the Father's house Jesus Christ is building every believer a mansion to spend eternity with Christ. This proves the exalted position of the bride of Christ. It is a subset of the body of Christ. The body of Christ has a future different from the bride of Christ. The bride of Christ are those believers who are willing to die for Jesus and that belief leads to missionary outreach with all of your endeavors. The command to go ye into all the world and preach the gospel is for every believer. If you are dependent on Church tradition for your salvation, you are probably not the bride of Christ. You may be a member of the body of Christ but you will not be going to the marriage supper in heaven at the rapture. You will go through the tribulation, and your only hope then is martyrdom.

God reminds believers that divorce is only acceptable if the bride has committed adultery. Every church in America commits adultery every Sunday when they worship on a day other than God's established sabbath. It is Friday evening through Saturday evening. It happens to be one of the two days Jesus Christ will be in the millennial temple during the millennial reign. The other day is the new moon. God is on a lunar cycle in keeping time while church commits adultery by serving Rome on a solar cycle. There are 360 days years in the Bible, yet professing Christian's practice syncretism and meld Roman pagan beliefs with a little bit of Earthly Jesus. Every holiday venerated by Christian churches in America are adulterous at best and completely Pagan in practice. Christmas, New Years, Valentine's Day, Easter, Birthdays, Mother's Day, Father's Day, funerals and yes weddings are all pagan fertility practices and they got their foundations in Babylon. God is on a Jewish liturgical schedule and it will continue on into eternity. He does not play let's make a deal. He gave us the Word of God and said this is the deal. Jesus Christ worshipped on God's schedule when he walked the earth and he will worship on God's schedule in the millennium when he and I receive his kingdom. Hallelujah.

Staff Sergeant John Burns enlisted into the United States Army on September 23, 1987 as an IIC Infantry Mortarman. He graduated from the 7th Infantry Division, Ranger Class 11/89 and served in the invasion of Panama, Desert Storm and the Battle of Mogadishu while assigned to the 75th Rangers.

Some of his many decorations, awards and badges include; Bronze Star Medal for Valor, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, Sniper Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Combat Infantry Badge and Expert Infantry Badge. Through his prestigious military career, he traveled to forty-five countries on five continents and all but two states while serving in the military.

He currently serves as the Chaplain for the Special Operations Warrior Foundation. His devout faith demonstrates to all he comes into contact with that he believes nothing but the blood of Jesus Christ can cleanse us from all unrighteousness. He enjoys writing and teaching God's Word while sharing his faith with a dying world.

Historically Speaking Oak Ridge and the Red Cross, Part 1

By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

As we wrap up the July 6, 1944, troop train wreck, let me say that I have thoroughly enjoyed researching the history of the train wreck. I especially want to give thanks to Bill Sergeant and Scott Chippendale for their encouragement to do the series and their assistance by providing research contacts and materials.

Much of the earlier materials I used, military reports, etc., came from Bill. Scott provided a wealth of materials on the Red Cross and I have saved that information until now. While a good bit of information exists regarding Red Cross involvement in the response to the troop train wreck, there is so much more to their story. I wanted to give it added emphasis by telling that story independently.

My look at the Red Cross involvement in response to the troop train wreck tragedy led me to a better understanding of the history of the Red Cross. I also learned a bit about the history of the Anderson County Red Cross and Oak Ridge Red Cross organizations, now consolidated and known as the American Red Cross – Appalachian Chapter. They serve all of Anderson County, including Oak Ridge, Clinton, Oliver Springs and Lake City.

To learn the history of the Red Cross in Oak Ridge, we must first look at the early years of the American Red Cross. This will help us to better understand how that organization came to be active in Anderson County and Oak Ridge. It will also help us appreciate why the Army Corps of Engineers, when faced with growing humanitarian needs during the Manhattan Project, came to use the Red Cross to address those needs in both the military and civilian population of early Oak Ridge.

It may surprise you to learn just how the system operated in light of the necessary secrecy required to assure Oak Ridge remained a “Secret City” that did not exist on any maps or in correspondence. Some people in Clinton knew quite a bit about Oak Ridge and came here often. Maurine Owen, executive secretary of the Anderson County Red Cross, was one such individual. She made numerous trips through the gates to interview individuals and families who needed the help of the Red Cross for one reason or the other.

So, let’s take a look at the origins of the Red Cross organization. As you may know, Clara Barton, a Patent Office clerk, through her simple acts of kindness began a movement that came to be known as the Red Cross. During the Civil War, when the Sixth Massachusetts Regiment stopped in Washington, D.C., after a particularly tough skirmish, she noticed they had lost their supplies. So, she cooked food and ripped sheets into towels and handkerchiefs to give the exhausted soldiers.

From this beginning, Barton tirelessly continued to bring comfort to sick and wounded soldiers. She went to the front lines taking food, supplies and medicine to the troops. She captured the imagination of the people who soon dubbed her the “Angel of the Battlefield.”

After the war ended, Barton continued to push for services for the military and their families. She worked to help reunite families with their missing soldiers. She continued to work feverishly to help all the military in any way she could until finally, told she needed rest, she traveled to Europe in 1869. Here she found Henry Dunant, a Swiss businessman who had suggested neutral volunteer organizations be used to provide care and treatment to wounded soldiers. The Red Cross Movement was born from Dunant’s ideas. Barton determined to begin a Red Cross Movement in the United States.

After years of work, Clara Barton founded

the American Association of the Red Cross in 1881. She also pushed hard for the United States to sign the Geneva Convention, an international agreement regarding treatment of soldiers. A year later President Chester A. Arthur did sign the Geneva Convention. Interestingly, the first major activities of the newly formed Red Cross in the United States was not in support of the military but rather were responses to natural disasters. Forest fires and floods were the driving forces that caused the Red Cross to mobilize disaster relief operations that provided food, shelter and medical care to thousands



American Red Cross founder Clara Barton as she wished to be remembered (Photo Submitted)

of victims.

One of the most famous responses by the early Red Cross volunteers was to South Carolina’s coastal islands, devastated by a terrible hurricane on Aug. 27, 1893. The Gullah people, who were free blacks who had been slaves primarily from the West African rice-growing coast, were the hardest hit. Over 2,000 people died and over 30,000 were made homeless by the 16-foot tidal surge. Nearly every building along the low country coast was damaged beyond repair. This hurricane was one of four that were active on Aug. 22, 1893. It was a horrible hurricane season.

Clara Barton’s fledgling Red Cross was stretched to the limit attempting to respond to these natural disasters. She stayed with the Gullah for 10 months before declaring victory because the people were again raising food and had places of shelter. Without her dedicated help, these people would have had to fend for themselves, as they had been doing since being freed. The plantation owners had virtually abandoned the huge rice plantations. They would not live there because of the disease and the oppressive heat. No relief was provided from the time of the hurricane until the Red Cross went there on Oct. 1, 1893; the plantation owners ignored the Gullah people, the government did not send help.

Barton’s Red Cross made a huge difference in the area. They brought food and helped the local Gullah get back on their feet. Even today, the memory of the Red Cross and the help provided the island-dwelling Gullah people can still be seen in their history.

The next major change in the Red Cross was made by Jane Delano, a registered nurse who established the Red Cross Nursing Service in 1909. The nursing service included the Rural Nursing Service that sent nurses into isolated communities that did not have adequate medical care. It also provided 24,000 nurses to the military in support of World War I. Some 15,000 Red Cross nurses assisted with the 1918 influenza epidemic that killed 20 million people worldwide and 675,000 Americans as well as 223 Red Cross nurses. More than 70,000 American Red Cross nurses assisted the military during World War II and still others helped on the home front.

It would have been those helping on the home front who would have been involved in the response to the July 6, 1944 troop train accident at Jellico, Tenn. The Anderson County Red Cross and the Secret City of Oak Ridge’s Red Cross joined forces to help respond to the wreck that killed 32

military personnel and two L&N Railroad employees, as well as injuring 98 soldiers.

Before leaving the history of the American National Red Cross, it is worthy of note to show that Clara Barton once spent two years in Clinton, New York. In an April 23, 2006, article in The Courier in Clinton, Richard L. Williams, village and town historian, said, “In late 1850, at age 29, Clara enrolled in the female division of the Clinton Liberal Institute, the Universalist school, which started here in 1832 and had a male division at the corner of Utica and Mulberry streets. While Barton was a Baptist in her earlier years, she had become a Universalist, the denomination which founded the Clinton Liberal Institute in 1831.”

Williams’ article continues, “The then-new female building at 13 Chestnut St. was not quite finished so Barton stayed at the old Clinton House, a typical old-time tavern on West Park Row, conducted by Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Bertram for a brief time. Miss Louisa M. Barker was the principal of the female division. Barton had not expected so charming a teacher, according to reports. Clara never told anyone she had been a teacher, and it’s doubtful she told anyone her age (at the time she was 29).

“She took math, languages, and natural sciences and mingled with the CLI girls as well as some male admirers in the community. All-male Hamilton College was one mile away so readers can speculate as to her contacts there. Her costs were \$35 per term for room, board, and tuition. After three terms she left Clinton upon getting news of her mother’s death...” So soon was Clinton’s interaction with the great lady who started the American Red Cross at an end.

Williams concludes by stating, “Clara Barton was pro-women’s rights and anti-slavery; she was exposed early in life to being industrious and hard-working, traits she continued throughout her long life. While shy in her earlier years, she had charismatic charm, a magnetic personality, and was a rational, self-possessed leader, who was American Red Cross founder and its president until 1902. Work was her ticket to the recognition she needed. Barton died April 12, 1912, at the age of 91, ending a remarkable 19th century career when most women usually stayed in the home to tend to children and household chores.”

Such individuals as Clara Barton rise up occasionally in our history, and their contributions to others resound throughout history. More hard-working and devoted volunteers like her are needed today.

Next, we will focus on the Red Cross response to the July 6, 1944 Troop Train Wreck and the early years of the Red Cross in Oak Ridge.

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.

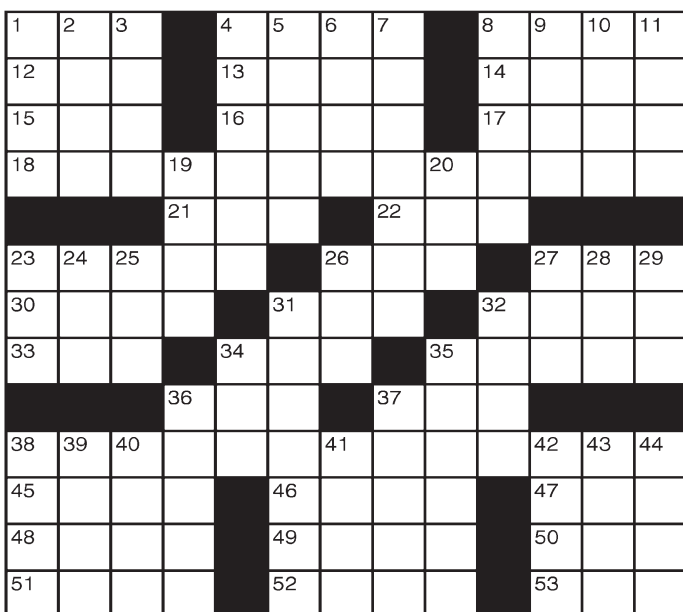
Oak Ridge began in war, has continued to support our nation’s efforts through the Cold War, and even now in the age of terrorism. Oak Ridge has also produced nuclear medicine, nuclear power and fuel for the US Navy nuclear submarines and ships.

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.

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Gearwheel tooth
- 4 Baby elephant
- 8 Bar bills
- 12 Coffee vessel
- 13 — about (circa)
- 14 Panache
- 15 Salty expanse
- 16 Chills and fever
- 17 — avis
- 18 Driver's aid
- 21 Superlative suffix
- 22 Inlet
- 23 Protractor measure
- 26 Actress Lucy
- 27 "See ya!"
- 30 Old salts
- 31 "The Bells" author
- 32 Edge
- 33 Sea, to Henri
- 34 Periodical, for short
- 35 Belt holders
- 36 Summer cooler
- 37 "Alice" waitress
- 38 Fortress on the Thames
- 45 Pearl Harbor site
- 46 Stage show
- 47 Docs' bloc



- 7 Giveaway
- 8 Towel material
- 9 Jai —
- 10 Hoedown site
- 11 Unforeseen problem
- 19 Morays
- 20 Vichy water
- 23 \$ dispenser
- 24 Scot's denial
- 25 Spike's warning
- 26 Journal
- 27 Buddy
- 28 Shriek bark
- 29 Type measures
- 31 Magnificent
- 32 Benefit
- 34 Ruin the veneer
- 35 British insurer
- 36 Vendettas
- 37 Be on either side of
- 38 Raiments
- 39 Rowboat needs
- 40 "Huh?"
- 41 Dog bane
- 42 Stupor
- 43 Actor Epps
- 44 Scruff

DOWN

- 1 Point
- 2 Sandwich cookie
- 3 Chew (on)
- 4 Sandpaper type
- 5 Uneasy feeling
- 6 LummoX

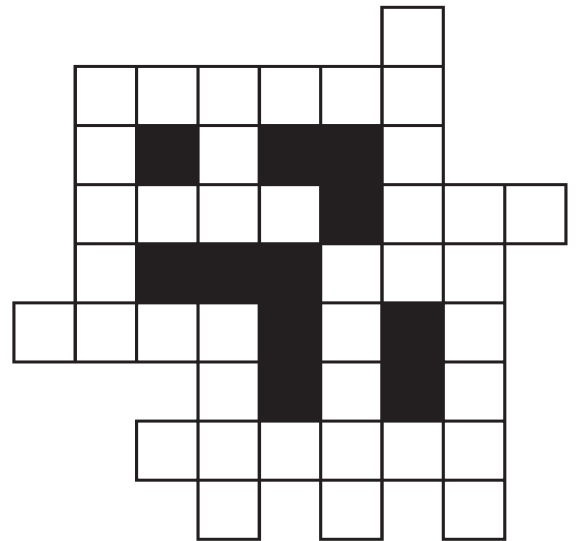
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FEAR & TRIVIA

By: rj johnson

DOUBT? ...OR DARE!

- ENM
- MARDLE
- ♥DIGLE
- HING
- DAWNOR
- URE
- YNHM
- ♥TREIM
- ♥DGO
- ♥RIGULE
- WYNDO
- ♥NHWE



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

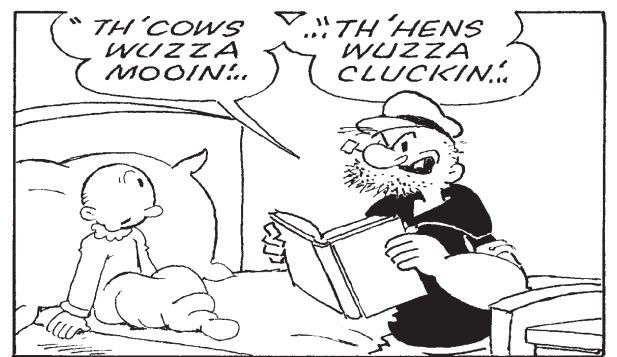
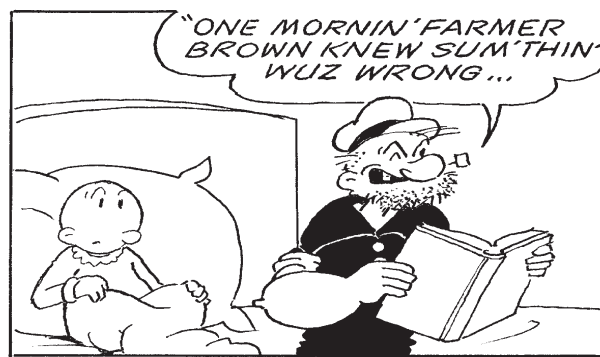
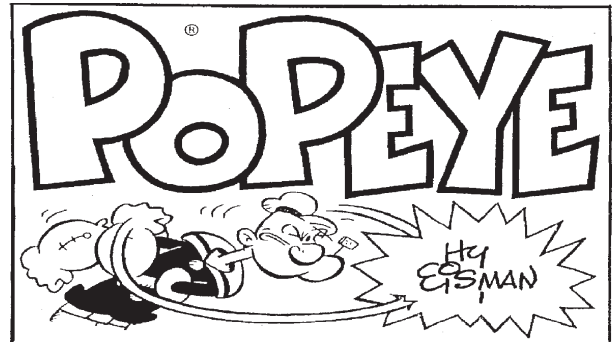
	3		2			1		
2		1		9				7
		6			7			4
4			6			9		
		2		3				8
	5				9	7		3
3					5		1	
	8		3	6		4		
		9		8				5

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

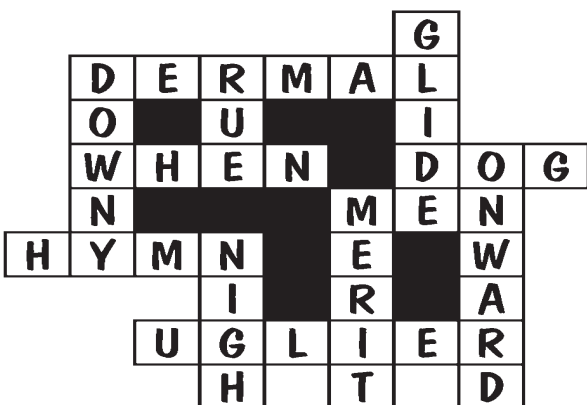
- ♦ Moderate
- ♦♦ Challenging
- ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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FEAR & TRIVIA

answer



Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

C	O	G		C	A	L	F		T	A	B	S
U	R	N		O	N	O	R		E	L	A	N
S	E	A		A	G	U	E		R	A	R	A
P	O	W	E	R	S	T	E	E	R	I	N	G
				E	S	T			B	A	Y	
A	N	G	L	E		L	I	U		B	Y	E
T	A	R	S		P	O	E		B	R	I	M
M	E	R		M	A	G		L	O	O	P	S
				F	A	N		F	L	O		
T	O	W	E	R	O	F	L	O	N	D	O	N
O	A	H	U		P	L	A	Y		A	M	A
G	R	A	D		L	E	N	D		Z	A	P
S	S	T	S		Y	A	K	S		E	R	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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God Knows Our Sins

By: MSG. Fred Mize



MSG Fred Mize
Genesis 3:6-12 tells us of the first sin of the human race.

6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat.

7 And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together, and made themselves aprons.

8 And they heard the voice of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God amongst the trees of

the garden.
9 And the Lord God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

10 And he said, I heard thy voice in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.

11 And he said, Who told thee that thou wast naked? Hast thou eaten of the tree, whereof I commanded thee that thou shouldest not eat?

12 And the man said, The woman whom thou gavest to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I did eat.

Genesis 3:21 tells us, how God clothed Adam and Eve after they had sinned.

21 Unto Adam also and to his wife did the Lord God make coats of skins, and clothed them.

Genesis 4:8-12 tells us of Cain killing his brother Abel.

8 And Cain talked with Abel his brother: and it came to pass, when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his

brother, and slew him. We cannot hide our sins from God. He knows of our sins for they cry out to Him like the blood of Abel

following about sin. The punishment of sin is death. For, God slain animals and made Adam and Eve coats of skin to clothed them after they had sinned and had shame of their nakedness.

But I bring you good news! Jesus Christ took the complete punishment of our sins. He paid the price for us so that we can be free from the punishment of sin if only we believe in Him.

John 1:29, 29 The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.

Revelation 13:8, 8 And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

John 3:16-18 (There is hope for all of us!)

16 For God so loved the world, that he gave his

only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

17 For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.

18 He that believeth on him is not condemned: but he that believeth not is condemned already, because he hath not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. All will worship the LORD Jesus Christ even those whose names aren't written in the book of life. For He is worthy, Amen!



brother, and slew him. 9 And the Lord said unto Cain, Where is Abel thy brother? And he said, I know not: Am I my brother's keeper?

10 And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground. After reading these Bible passages I learned the

cried out to Him from the ground.

With sin comes shame, just as Adam and Eve were ashamed of their sin and hid themselves from God. God knows the source of sin.

We cannot blame others for our sin. We must take ownership of the sins we commit.

American Legion
Post 149
March Events

March 18, 2021, the Legion will conduct their monthly meeting which will start promptly at 7:00 pm.

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

Around The World and Back Again

with Zack Ballinger

Accomplishing YOUR Goals

You begin to change something in your life when you begin the goal-setting process. Researchers say that people change and accomplish success once they have goals. The goal-setting process drives big changes in your life.

Let's walk through it. Goals must be specific. "I need to lose weight" isn't a specific goal. As soon as you lose just one pound, you've met this goal. Instead, try "I need to lose 30 pounds." Now we are talking. You have pinpointed a specific target achievement and provided a deadline.

Goals also need to be measurable. "I am going to lose 30 pounds". When are you going to lose all that weight? 10 years from now? If you are on my diet plan, then that's probably the case. "I want to lose 30 pounds by December 31, 2020" adds a measurement to achieve your goal.

Here's another important tip. You need to handwrite your goals. Most people don't do this. Research has shown that people who handwrite their goals get things accomplished. So, make sure you write out your specific goal; for example, "I want to lose 31 pounds by July 2020 by reducing my calorie content. I will weigh myself every week to track the progress."

Your goals also need to be reasonable and obtainable. If you start the new year proclaiming, "I want to lose 50 pounds by January 9", you've set yourself up for failure. You should set a reasonable goal

that you know you can achieve. Does this mean it won't be hard? No.

Your target goal should be challenging, but also present the ability for you to hit that goal. "I want to lose 13 pounds by June 1, 2020." This goal is attainable (assuming you didn't set that target just a few days in advance) and can be accomplished. "I am never going to eat pizza, desserts, fried foods, or hot dogs for the rest of my life." This statement is unrealistic as well. You need to set goals and measure progress, but also have reasonable ways to achieve success.

The goal you set needs to be YOURS. "My wife wants me to lose 30 pounds, so I guess I'm on a strict diet starting, January 1, 2020." The minute you smell

surable: Goals need to be quantifiable. Attainable: Goals need to be realistic. Realistic: Goals need to be realistic and relevant to your passion. Timely: Goals need to have a clear and definite timeline.

What motivates the goal-setting process? It's your dreams. Think back to when you were a kid. What did you dream about doing? The dreams of a child are untainted by too much experience. They are purely emotional and stirred by genuine passion. Think about those dreams, and then fast-forward to the present.



Zack Ballinger



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

a chocolate chip cookie, your diet is going to go by the wayside. You can't make goals for others and expect them to accomplish it and you can't reach a goal just because someone wants you to achieve it. They have to your own goals, with the initiative firmly fired up within your soul.

Specific: Goals need to be specific. Mea-

ing 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.

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



There will be no school in Morgan County Friday, March 19. Morgan County Schools will be closed Friday, April 2 in observance of Good Friday and will also be closed April 5-9 for Spring Break.

West Side Baptist Church will have an Easter Celebration Friday, April 2 from 12:00 until 2:00 at the church. There will be food, story time and an egg hunt. Everyone is welcome and should bring a basket.

The City of Oakdale will have an Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 3rd at noon in Oakdale City Park. Everyone from 0-99 is welcome!

Alison Snow-Parker celebrated her birthday March 12 making her the same age as her big brother, Heath Snow, for one month.

Happy Birthday to two of our special nieces. Alesha Massey is celebrating her birthday today, March 16. Keeli Redmon will celebrate her birthday, Friday, March 19.

Happy 16th Wedding Anniversary to our children, Joe and Valerie Lake who live in Fayetteville, NC. We wish you a great day.

Happy Birthday to Bradley Rogers who has a birthday on March 19.

Birthday greetings to Kerry Ruppe and RB Human who both have a birthday on March 21.

Happy Birthday to Rachael Clipson Miller who has a birthday March 22.

Marilyn Hutchinson and her daughter China, of Nolensville, spent a few days last week at their family farm in Pine Orchard. They enjoyed two window visits with their cousin Becky Cochran at the Bridge in Rockwood. They had not seen her in over a year, so even through a window, it was a blessing. They also visited with their Aunt Ruth Headrick in Oakdale. They are thankful for time with family.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Dorothy Lawson of Texas. Her late husband was Raymond Lawson, formerly of Oakdale. Mrs. Lawson passed away Wednesday, March 10. Services were held Monday, March 15. In addition to her daughters Robin and Rhonda and their families, she is also survived by several family members in Oakdale.

Condolences to the family of Mr. Roger Thomas who passed away Wednesday, March 10. He is survived by his wife, Sandra Barr Thomas, three stepchildren, six step grandchildren and other family and friends. A graveside service was held Friday, March 12 at Crab Orchard Cemetery.

Continue to pray for the many sick all around us. Pray for those who are grieving. Pray for our nation and our leaders, our churches and pastors, our schools and educators, our military, our homes and families and those who are lost.

Brother Mike Winters shared this quote on Facebook last week and I looked it up. The author is unknown. It is so true!

"You don't have to attend every argument you are invited to."

I read another good one that I will share as well.

"Conflict cannot survive without your participation." Wayne Dyer

Public Notice

Morgan County has been petitioned to remove Jim McGill Rd. from the road list, in consideration of this move concerned parties should contact the Morgan County Highway Dept. and voice their concerns in writing. Concerns can be mailed to; Highway Dept. P.O. Box 250, Wartburg, Tn. 37887 or drop them off at 3519 Morgan Co. Hwy. at the office. A Public Hearing will be held at the next monthly commission meeting, 7p.m. April-12th. 2021 at the Morgan County Courthouse.

Acts Chapter 24

(Acts 24:1-9) Paul is charged: at the appropriate time, Lysias informed the Jews that Paul was now at Caesarea. As soon as they could get their affairs together, the high priest, certain members of the Sandedrin, and a legal expert named Tertullus came over to prosecute the case against Paul. The indictment was laid out as follows: (a) Felix was highly complimented as an excellent ruler to whom the Jews were indebted. The procurator would later demonstrate how flawed that evaluation was. He would murder the high priest and the Jews would turn against him, filing a complaint with Nero Caesar. (b) Paul was charged with being a plague on the nation and a ringleader of those who would overthrow Rome. That would strike a note of terror in this ruler. It could cost him his position. Felix had the reputation of dealing harshly with insurrectionists. (c) The apostle was accused of profaning the temple (21:28), and that was the justification behind the assault upon him at Jerusalem. (d) The prosecutor then essentially says he recognizes Felix possesses sufficient intelligence to recognize the validity of the charges and to agree with them in finding him guilty! The supporting Jews added their hearty "Amen!"

(Acts 24:10-21) Paul's response: it was now time for the defense, and Paul would speak on his own behalf. (a) The falsely accused defendant demonstrates his awareness of the current Roman political scene. Felix had been a judge of the Jewish nation for years (approximately seven). (b) He recounts that twelve days ago he had gone up to Jerusalem to worship (v. 11). (There is no evidence that he was worshipping according to the Mosaic code; Christians used the temple for worship until Jewish persecution finally drove them out. In fact, Paul may have viewed the offering he had brought for his people as an act of devotion (20:16-17). (c) He had done nothing antagonistic to the Jews--in the synagogues or in the city. (d) The charges leveled against him were void of proof. (e) The Way which he was advocating was not contrary to the Jewish Scriptures; rather, it was a fulfillment of what the prophets had proclaimed. (f) Paul identified himself with the "hope" entertained by the fathers, namely the general resurrection of the dead. (g) His conscience was clear respecting the changes made against him.

He also presents a counter case. (a) He had not acted in opposition to the Jews; he had come to the city to bring alms and offerings on behalf of the needy. (b) He had "purified" himself in the temple (a symbolic sanctification from Gentile corruption while traveling in heathen territories) in a quiet and non-controversial fashion. (c) His original accusers were foreign agitators from Asia--who did not even show up for this hearing! (d) What bona fide charge have the Jews present established? None! (e) The accusers' real problem (being mostly Sadducees) was Paul's teaching on the resurrection. This controversy, therefore, involved a religious issue--nothing civil over which Felix should be concerned.

(Acts 24:22-23) judgment postponed: Felix refused to be intimidated by the Jews. He deferred judging the case until Lysias, the chief captain, could come from Jerusalem with supplementary testimony. In the meantime, he gave the order that Paul should continue to remain under palace restriction, but with relaxed conditions and open visitation. This was an unintended revelation of how he felt about the strength of the charges leveled against the most famous preacher of his day.

(Acts 24:24-27) imprisonment by a crooked judge: whether Lysias ever came from Jerusalem remains unknown. The scene next resumes "after many days," when Felix and Drusilla, a Jewess, sent for Paul and heard him preach. Drusilla was the great-granddaughter of Herod the Great, who murdered the Bethlehem infants in an attempt to eliminate the Christ child. She was the great niece of Herod Antipas, who beheaded John the Immerser. She was the daughter of Agrippa 1, who martyred James (12:1) and the sister of Herod Agrippa II and Bernice, characters later mentioned in this book (25:13). She came from a bloody household, the inmates of which were deadly enemies of Christ and his cause. She was about six years old when her father killed James.

Paul's message was concerning "the faith in Christ Jesus," the gospel system. This would involve the history of the movement, obligations required to be identified with it, and blessings resulting therefrom. The apostle set forth a "reasoned" case pertaining to: (a) righteousness, God's plan for accounting people as righteous (this would embrace facts to be believed, commands to be obeyed, and promises made available); (b) self-control, suggesting the surrender of one's self to a higher power, namely the Creator; and (c) judgment, setting forth the reality of ultimate accountability---and either reward in heaven or an eternal punishment to follow earth's destruction.

This is the most serious message the human mind can possible entertain. As a pagan, Felix might have been virtually bereft of spiritual sensitivity; as a Jewess, Drusilla would not be (Eccl 12:13; Dam. 12:2). As this couple, immersed in debauchery and greed, listened, Felix was utterly terrified (an intensive expression). Drusilla's impression is unrecorded. Felix dismissed Paul, pledging to hear him again at a more "convenient" season. He did have further contact, but there is no indication such was spiritually motivated. The corrupt ruler left the apostle in bonds for two years, hoping he somehow might solicit money out of the arrangement (perhaps from Paul's friends), but obtaining nothing for his effort. He was not dealing with a man who could be bought. When Felix was removed from office (due to his political ineptness), he left Paul imprisoned, hoping to curry favor with his successor, Porcius Festus.



MELVIN HOWARD

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Davis Funeral Home's Veteran of the Week

This week we honor the Soldiers who sacrificed their lives in the defense of our country and are interred at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. We hope to educate our readers on the tomb's history and meaning.

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is a monument dedicated to deceased U.S. service members whose remains have not been identified. It is located in Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia, United States. The World War I "Unknown" is a recipient of the Medal of Honor, the Victoria Cross, and several other foreign nations' highest service awards. The U.S. Unknowns who were interred are also recipients of the Medal of Honor, presented by U.S. presidents who presided over their funerals. The monument has no officially designated name.

"HERE RESTS IN HONORED GLORY AN AMERICAN SOLDIER KNOWN BUT TO GOD" is engraved on the west panel of the tomb.

The Unknown of World War I: On Memorial Day, 1921, four unknown servicemen were exhumed from four World War I American cemeteries in France, Aisne-Maine, Meuse-Argonne, Somme, and St. Mihiel.

The Unknown of World War II: On August 3, 1956, President Dwight D. Eisenhower (a general during WWII) signed a bill to select and pay tribute to the Unknowns of World War II and the

Korean War. The selection ceremonies and the interment of these Unknowns took place in 1958. The World War II Unknown was selected from remains exhumed from cemeteries in Europe, Africa, Hawaii, and the Philippines.

The Unknown of the Korean War: The Korean unknown had been selected from four unknown Americans who died in the Korean War that were disinterred from the National Cemetery of the Pacific in Hawaii.

The Unknown of the Vietnam War: Many Vietnam veterans and President Ronald Reagan and Nancy Reagan visited the Vietnam Unknown in the U.S. Capitol. An Army caisson carried the Vietnam Unknown from the Capitol to the Memorial Amphitheater at Arlington National Cemetery on Memorial Day, May 28, 1984.

President Reagan presided over the funeral, and presented the Medal of Honor to the Vietnam Unknown, and also acted as next of kin by accepting the interment flag at the end of the ceremony.

We may not know the names of the American Soldiers of the Tomb of the Unknown. But we know that they were Americans through and through and their honor and sacrifices should never be forgotten or underappreciated.

Let's remember the "unknown" and acknowledge the supreme sacrifices they gave.



Law Enforcement Officer of the Week

Presented by Jerry Duncan Ford

This week we are pleased to honor two Morgan County Sheriff Deputies as our law enforcement officers of the week. We want to recognize both Deputies Jake Branstetter and Rodney Price.

Sheriff Wayne Potter recognized these two wonderful deputies last week at the Morgan County commission meeting but we too want to recognize them for their service and dedication.

Deputies Jake Branstetter and Rodney Price, went above and beyond the call of duty. On March 3, 2020, by taking

initiative to act in a time of need in both preparation and action. In the midst of a major storm, they placed chain-saws in their vehicles before their patrol shifts. Their readiness to prepare turned to action as they cleared county roads, freeing them of debris and fallen trees, after a tornado moved through the west end of the county. The following morning, four



ferred severe tornado damage. Sheriff Wayne Potter stated, "I cannot say enough about all of our employees here at the Morgan County Sheriff's Department. We as citizens, are

Morgan County Sheriff Department Officers went to assist the citizens of Putnam County as they suffered severe tornado damage. Sheriff Wayne Potter stated, "I cannot say enough about all of our employees here at the Morgan County Sheriff's Department. We as citizens, are

truly blessed to live here and to be represented by such great people and departments. Fire, Ambulance Service, EMA, Rescue Squad, E-911, Wartburg Police Department, Joe Miller, and the men and women at the County Road Department are what keep us great." Deputies Jake Branstetter and Rodney Price, we at Morgan County Today are proud of your courage and dedication that you exemplify daily as you dawn the blue. Thank you and may God guide and protect you!

Column Leaders are mounting pressure for income tax deadline to be extended.



David Zubler

House Ways and Means Committee chairman Richard E. Neal urged the IRS to extend the deadline until July 15, noting that the pandemic is continuing to impose a "titanic strain" on the agency and taxpayers. The National Association of Tax Professionals (NATP) is also asking for an extended tax deadline. The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) sent a letter to Charles Rettig the IRS Commissioner and Acting Assistant Secretary Mark Mazur, urgently asking for the deadlines for filing all 2020 federal income tax and information returns to be extended to June 15, 2021.

The AICPA said that due to the current environment, it's simply not possible for many taxpayers to meet with their tax advisers before the April 15 deadline for filing and payment obligations.

The pandemic has continued to cause difficult challenges and has consumed valuable time for both the IRS and tax professionals. The IRS had to delay the start of the tax season due to its involvement with second stimulus. Tax professionals have been assisting clients with the PPP first draw loan forgiveness process which is time consuming

The AICPA letter stated, "We now urge Treasury and the IRS to act immediately to provide tax filing and tax payment relief for taxpayers and tax professionals affected by the ongoing pandemic." "Specifically, we request that all 2020 Federal income tax, information returns, and payments (e.g., extension and estimated payments) originally due April 15, 2021 be granted additional time to file and pay until June 15, 2021."

The reason for the letter urging the extended deadline was due to many circumstances that include:

The delay of the start of the 2020 filing season until February 12. Many IRS forms are still not available for electronic filing which has also caused a delay.

The second round of the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loans. A challenging rollout of the program created additional burdens.

Tax professionals have continued to assist clients with the PPP first draw loan forgiveness process which has decreased their available time for tax return preparation.

Additionally, changes to the Employee Retention Credit (ERC), which required possible amendment of 2020 payroll tax returns prior to filing 2020 income tax returns has consumed tax professionals' time.

The Coronavirus shutdown caused delayed processing of 2019 returns by the IRS which resulted in many erroneous notices that they must deal with. The IRS's staffing was affected by the pandemic which limited its ability to respond to questions and notices and provide taxpayer assistance. Additionally, stay-at-home orders make it more difficult for people to

access necessary data.

Due to many reasons the AICPA letter stated, "Maintaining the April 15 filing and payment deadline does not reflect the real-world hardship and challenges imposed on taxpayers and tax professionals."

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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