

Morgan County Today

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75¢

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PSALM 100:3

May 25, 2021

MORGAN COUNTY WEATHER THIS WEEK

Tue 25	85°/64°	
Wed 26	86°/64°	
Thu 27	85°/65°	
Fri 28	77°/59°	
Sat 29	72°/55°	
Sun 30	79°/57°	
Mon 31	81°/59°	

Baseball Jackets Fall to North Greene in Substate 12-0



Above: Coalfield's Luke Treece prepares to throw to cut off a runner as North Greene's Micah Jones slides into home. Right: Coalfield's Cole Hines leaps into the air to snag the throwdown from catcher Luke Treece and tags out the runner. [Photo by Terry Futrell]

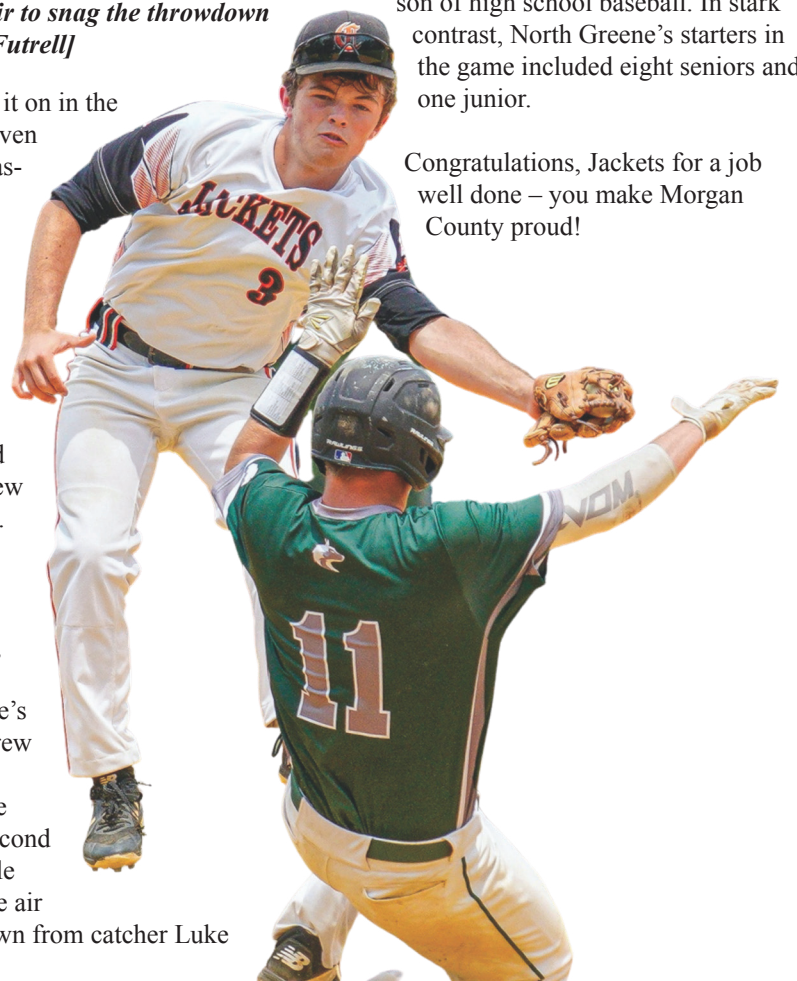
Treece, and in one fluid motion reached down to tag out Campbell. The Jackets went hitless in the bottom of the fourth and North Greene's lead remained 12-0.

North Greene place one runner on base in the top of the fifth but was stymied by Coalfield's fielding. The Jackets followed suit in the bottom of the fifth, placing a runner on base via a walk. North Greene's defense held and it was four up-three down for the Jackets, ending the game with a 12-0 North Greene victory.

Cole Hines opened the game pitching for Coalfield. Brayden Burgess and Zach Armstrong pitched in relief for the Jackets.

While the loss was a disappointment for the Yellow Jackets, the fact that the young Jackets captured the Region 2A championship and made it to the substate is a phenomenal accomplishment. With only two seniors on the team, no juniors, nine sophomores, two freshmen, and four eighth graders, the future looks bright for Coalfield baseball. Also, for 15 of the 17 player on the roster, this was their first season of high school baseball. In stark contrast, North Greene's starters in the game included eight seniors and one junior.

Congratulations, Jackets for a job well done – you make Morgan County proud!



By Terry Futrell

Some say that youth has its advantages, but such was not the case Saturday afternoon as Coalfield hosted North Greene in Class A baseball substate competition. The youthful Yellow Jackets were no match for the seasoned North Green Huskies, who defeated Coalfield 12-0 behind the one-hit pitching of Carson Whaley. The loss brings an end to Coalfield's season and North Greene earned a spot in the state championships.

The Huskies took a 4-0 lead in the top of the first inning with two singles, two walks, and one error by the Coalfield infield. It was three up-three down for the Jackets, who failed to hit beyond the infield.

North Greene added another run in the top of the second with a single, a walk, and a hit batter. Zach Armstrong led off for Coalfield with an infield single. Jericho Lowe drew a walk, but the Jackets could not advance the runners and left two on as the inning closed with North Greene leading 5-0.

The Huskies poured it on in the top of the third as seven batters circled the bases to make the score 12-0. North Greene hit three doubles, four singles, and two walks. The Jackets could not get a hit in the bottom of the third and left one stranded on first base who drew a walk from Whaley.

The Coalfield defense stepped up in the top of the fourth, holding the Huskies hitless. North Greene's Chance Campbell drew a base on balls, but was thrown out as he attempted to steal second base. Coalfield's Cole Hines leaped into the air to snag the throwdown from catcher Luke



Veteran of the Week
Charles C. Hagemeyer



LEO of the Week
Chris Oberheim



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Nance and Futrell Presented ETHE Awards of Distinction



Left: Terry Futrell and Michael Nance display their book *Civil War Sourcebook: Morgan County, Tennessee* that received an Award of Distinction from the East Tennessee Historical Society. Right: Michael Nance and daughter Morgan feature his award-winning book *Blood on The Water: The History of the Clear Creek Community, Morgan County, Tennessee*.



Michael Nance, Morgan County Historian, and Terry Futrell, Morgan County Today Columnist and Sports Photographer, were presented Awards of Distinction on May 20 by the East Tennessee Historical Society for two Morgan County projects completed in 2019.

Michael received an Award of Distinction for his book *Blood on The Water: The History of the Clear Creek Community, Morgan County, Tennessee*. The Society acknowledged Michael's "passion and commitment to chronicling a nuanced and accurate history of the Clear Creek Community fostered a better regional understanding and appreciation, and this powerful book is an

excellent reference work and piece of scholarship."

Terry and Michael received a joint Award of Distinction for their book *Civil War Sourcebook; Morgan County, Tennessee*. The Society recognized that the "comprehensive compilation of primary records provides a foundation for deep exploration of the Civil War as it affected Morgan County and offers a new understanding of the region's history and heritage."

Both books are available for purchase on Amazon.com. *Blood on the Water* is also available at the Morgan County Genealogical and Historical Society.

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Wartburg



Sunbright

Melinda Moffitt, 41

Melinda Moffitt, age 41, of Dyllis passed away May 12, 2021 at her home.

Crystal McMinn, Ed & Elise and Nick; aunt Teresa & Joe Huff, aunt Rita and a host of extended family whom she loved.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Marlan and Jewell Wittaker.

She will be great missed by all who knew her.

She is survived by her husband of 24 years, Ronnie Moffitt; step-daughter, Natasha Ann Moffitt; sister, Carrie Cardwell; 4 nieces, Carina, Brianna, Adriana and Delanna; best friends, Vickie Adkisson, George &

There will be no memorial services at this time.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Melinda Fay Moffitt.

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

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Don't waste your breath
proclaiming what's really
important to you. How you
spend your time says it all.

Eric Zorn

- | | |
|---|---|
| Morgan County Sheriff's Office has 16 surplus items to sale by bids only: | 13. VIN- 2FAF-P71V38X134545
08' CROWN VIC |
| 1. VIN- 1FMEU73E37UB07410
07' EXPLORER | 14. VIN- 2FAFP71V18X123754
08' CROWN VIC |
| 2. VIN- 1FMEU73E77UB07409
EXPLORER | 15. VIN- 1FM5K8ARD-FGB98442
15' EXPLORER |
| 3. VIN- 2FAFP71V18X134544
08' CROWN VIC | 16. VIN- 1FM-5K8ARZFG98443
15' EXPLORER |
| 4. VIN- 2FAFP71W31X150811
01' CROWN VIC | Bids can be mailed to PO 250,
Wartburg TN 37887 or dropped
off at the Morgan County
Courthouse Finance Office,
third floor. Bid opening date
will be May, 21, 2021 at 9:30
a.m. at the Morgan County
Courthouse 3rd floor confer-
ence room. All purchases shall
be paid for in full within 7 days
of bid opening. Items must be
paid for by check or money
order. Checks are to be made to
Morgan County Sheriff's De-
partment. Items must be paid
before renewal of item. Morgan
County Sheriff's Office reserves
the right to refuse or reject any
or all bids. |
| 5. VIN- 2FAFP71WZYX188394
00' CROWN VIC | |
| 6. VIN- 2FAHP71WF3X188875
03' CROWN VIC | |
| 7. VIN- 1FMEU73E77UB07409
07' EXPLORER | |
| 8. VIN- 2FAFP71WZXX178169
CROWN VIC | |
| 9. VIN- 2FAFP71V28X127151
07' CROWN VIC | |
| 10. VIN- 2FAFP71W21X130954
CROWN VIC | |
| 11. VIN- 2C3DXAT8DH549843
CHARGER | |
| 12. VIN-
1FMZU72K55UA49497
EXPLORER | |

The Sunbright Veterans Memorial Dedication will be held on
May 29, 2021 at 12 Noon. Special Guest Speakers.
Refreshments to follow at the Community Center. Everyone
please come out in support of your loved ones whose names are
placed on the Memorial Wall .

LICENSED & BONDED CONTRACTOR NEEDED

Estimates wanted for three projects.

Project 1: Renovation of offices, restrooms
and exam rooms.

Project 2: Addition to building.

Project 3: Increasing parking lot.

Projects may involve electrical, plumbing and HVAC.

To express interest and request additional
information respond by email only to
info@morgancountymedical.com

MCMC Morgan County Medical Center
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* This health center is a Health Center Program grantee under 42 U.S.C. 254b, and a deemed Public Health Service employee under 42 U.S.C. 233(g)-(n). This health center receives HHS funding and has Federal Public Health Service (PHS) deemed status with respect to certain health or health-related claims, including medical malpractice claims, for itself and its covered individuals. For more information, please see <http://www.bphc.hrsa.gov/ftca/>



Morgan County Today

Tommy Lee Francis: Publisher
Email: publisher@mocotoday.com

Heather Francis: Editor
Email: editor@mocotoday.com

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Coal Dust: Do What is Right

By Terry Futrell

Do what's right, no matter what the others say...

These simple instructions given to me by my mother from her deathbed in 2000 serve as a fitting epitaph for the godly woman who had a greater positive impact on my life than any other person.

Born Lassie Phoebe King in Vasper in Campbell County, Tennessee, on March 10, 1916, she was the daughter of Nannie Freels and William Riley King. Descended from Edward Freels, who settled in Anderson County in the early 1800s, her veins were filled with Irish blood, accounting for her fierce determination and work ethic. She was also descended from David Staples, President Thomas Jefferson's first schoolteacher, and his son John Staples, a Revolutionary War soldier who settled on the south side of the Emory River around 1814 before Morgan County was established from the northwestern portion of Roane County.

Mother's paternal great-grandfather, Jeremiah King, was one of the original Methodist circuit riders in the late 1700s, at one time responsible for the district that included Williamsburg and Jamestown in Virginia.

She was also descended from James Glass, a Cherokee Indian who was an early settler in McMinn County and who was believed by some to be the son of Cherokee War Chief Thomas Glass, commonly known as "The Glass", who served as the last great chief of the Chickamauga Cherokee in the early 1800s.

Though she was poor and struggled most of her life, my mother had quite a pedigree. She never knew about her important ancestors, but they were honored by the way she lived every aspect of her life.

Growing up in the Coalfield, Devonia, and Caryville mining camps, my mother knew the hardships of life as a coal miner. Her father was killed in a mining accident when she was only eleven years old. She married at sixteen and experienced the death of her first child at seventeen. Somehow, she fed and clothed four kids while her husband was away in the Army during World War II.

In the early 1950s, with five kids still at home, she took my invalid grandmother into our simple four-room house and cared for her around the clock for six years, still cooking, canning, doing laundry, and caring for her own family of seven. She used a washboard and a hand-cranked set of wringers when washing clothes, hanging the wet garments on an outdoor clothesline to dry. Even on the hottest days of summer, she cooked and canned in a small kitchen that was made even hotter by the wood-fired Home Comfort cook stove.

I can't imagine there ever being a more selfless person than my mother. She was very smart – she was permitted to skip second grade and finished eighth grade at the top of her class. Yet, she was perfectly satisfied to have her dreams fulfilled through her husband and children. As she expressed in a written description of her life in 1984:

I think I can truthfully say I have always tried to put my husband and children before myself. If anyone had to stay home, I stayed. I couldn't do as much for them as I wanted to, but I always found time to see that they had hot meals on time and the best I could get for them to wear. I really enjoyed my family, even down to the snow ballings they gave me when I would go to milk the cows or go to the outside bathroom.

Mother was not just selfless regarding her own family, but to neighbors as well. When Kenneth and Louise Scarbrough lived nearby and their daughter Margaret was just a baby, they had no washing machine, and washing the cloth diapers that everyone used back then was quite a chore. We were fortunate that my dad had begun to work in Oak Ridge, and an electric washing machine with an agitator in the tub and wringers was an early purchase. Mother insisted that Louise regularly bring her laundry to our house and use our washing machine. This was the kind of helpful, neighborly attitude that prevailed throughout our community.

On the other hand, being a selfless person did not mean mother was a softy or pushover! Discipline, either with a belt or freshly cut switch, was a fundamental part of our upbringing. When I was about five years old, I sneaked a box of matches out of the house. After burning a couple of small things sheltered from view at the side of the house, I went for broke and set the field out back on fire. Fortunately, my mother was watching out the kitchen window. After receiving a good thrashing, I was then further embarrassed by being forced to stand in the corner in front of my siblings and some visiting cousins. I never did that again!

My last whipping at the hands of my mother came

when I was about fourteen years old. My sister Sue and I were arguing about who would pick which rows of strawberries. Mother came out of the house, picked up a large board that was laying behind the house, and whacked both of us. I was already a foot taller than mother and the board was so large that she could barely swing it. It didn't hurt at all. My sister got mad, though, and ran away – she traveled at least a hundred yards down the road before returning home. I just laughed at the whipping and then picked the rows that I wanted while Sue was gone. I like to think that my relatively good behavior led to my mother never feeling the need to discipline me in such a manner again.

Sometimes, mother didn't have to say a word to express her displeasure. In the mid-1960s, I borrowed a pellet rifle from my friend Ronnie. As I walked back into our front yard with the gun, a bird landed about 75 feet away to the left rear of the house. I immediately raised the rifle and shot at the bird, killing it instantly. The bird was visible from our kitchen door, and my mother just happened to be watching as I ended the bird's life. As I walked to where the bird lay, my mother stepped out of the kitchen door and told me simply by the look on her face that I should not have done that. Not a word was spoken, but I got the message loud and clear! I have never shot another songbird since that day.

My mother was not a gourmet cook, instead preparing what she called "rough grub". I don't think she ever tasted a grilled steak until I had finished college – she only knew about cubed steak rolled in flour, fried, and served with

mashed potatoes and gravy, and that was a rare treat. One of our special treats was homemade chocolate gravy and biscuits for breakfast. At times, she made chocolate syrup that was served over pancakes. Both are family traditions that have now been passed down to my own children and grandchildren.

Despite the simplicity of her meals, my mother made the best stack fruit cakes and fried apple pies that I have ever eaten. I have no hesitation in saying they were the world's best! She always seemed to have as many orders for stack fruitcakes as she could fill during the holidays. I could always count on finding one to snack on when I returned from a basketball trip during high school. Mother's fried apple pies were made with freshly sliced apples instead of dried fruit, and they were fried in a cast iron skillet rather than deep fried. Using a fork, she punched holes in the crust so the melting sugar would seep through

and form a sweet glaze on the outer surface of the fried pie. Each of her fried pies was as large as the skillet

and one would cover a plate. No meal could be better than one that consisted only of a single fried pie and a cold glass of milk. Oh, her fried pies were to die for!

I am filled with amazement at how this little lady lived and worked, enduring hardships that few of us could imagine today. Yet, she never lost the faith gifted to her by God, imparting that same faith to her children. While she was a strong disciplinarian, it was the tender, caring side of her personality that is foremost in my mind. She never drove a car in her life and was basically homebound. Yet, it was she who provided the lasting spiritual influence during my early formative years. I remember the times that she would sit down with me when I was a young child and read stories from the Bible, somehow finding the time to focus just a few minutes on me at the end of a very busy day.

She only weighed about 75 pounds in her later years and was only about four feet ten inches tall, but she was a giant of a woman. When hospitalized at the age of 82, she defied the nurse's orders to stay in bed and went to the bathroom during the night, dragging her IVs with her and ripping loose the monitoring connections. As three nurses attempted to strap this tiny woman into bed, she delivered a hard punch directly to the jaw of one of the nurses. Until the day she died, she always said "If I had my gun, I would have shot her!" – and she meant it!

After my dad died in 1995, we moved mother into a house next door to my sister Margaret near Oliver Springs where she could be better cared for. After a few days, she gathered all her things in one room, then called my brother-in-law over and said, "Are you taking me home or do I need to call a taxi?" Though the house was almost new, it wasn't in her community and could never be her home. Needless to say, she was moved back to Coalfield immediately.

She was independent, hard-working, and a woman who would defend her family against all odds. Mother was my primary source of support and encouragement as I pursued my dream of a college degree and an engineering career.

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Terry's mother Lassie a few months before her death in 2000 at the age of 84. Less than five feet tall, she was a giant among women. [Photo: Terry Futrell]

Historically Speaking

Our own Airmail Beacon House

By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

On April 12, 1939, a bright red Stinson Reliant plane swooped down out of the sky in Latrobe, Pennsylvania snatching a container of mail suspended on a rope between two poles. This event kicked off a unique chapter in airmail history.

At that time, airmail service was restricted almost exclusively to metropolitan centers, out of reach of the majority of the country's population." The above quote comes from Air Pick-Up by James O'Donnell, an article published in Enroute Volume 9, Issue 1 January-March 2000. Rural America was about to get airmail by a most unusual delivery method!

Gordon Fee recalls just such occasions when he, at 12 years of age and living in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, was a part of that historic airmail expansion effort. Gordon's job was to put the outgoing mail bag on the rope and hoist it up between the two poles. He also was tasked to pick up the incoming mail bag the airplane dropped and take it to the Post Office for mail distribution.

How did I learn this? What connects Oak Ridge with Canonsburg, PA or airmail? I never cease to be amazed at the new and interesting facts I learn in writing these Historically Speaking articles.

In November 2007, I received an e-mail from Pat Parr, Oak Ridge National Laboratory's Oak Ridge Reservation Area Manager. She said that when TVA was clearing the right of way for an expansion of an electrical power line near ORNL an unusual small building had been discovered. She wondered if I knew anything about its history. I did not but was sure interested. She said TVA personnel had called the building a "Beacon House."

As is my usual approach to such "unknowns" that pop up periodically in my research for Historically Speaking, my first thought and immediate action was to e-mail Bill Wilcox and Bill Sergeant. I have found them to be very reliable sources of accurate information about Oak Ridge's history. However, neither of them had ever heard of such small buildings on the Oak Ridge Reservation nor had they ever heard of a "Beacon House" at all.

I replied to Pat, asking to see the Beacon House. She agreed that would be a good idea and set about making it happen. She asked Ernest Ryan, of her staff, to arrange a visit to the site. She also sent a map showing the location of the building as being north of ORNL on top of the first rise of Chestnut Ridge. What a strange location. Why would such a small structure be located there in the midst of the woods? When was it built and for what purpose? The map just raised more questions than ever. I had to see that building!

Ernest and I did not get together right away, but in mid-December, I received an e-mail from him asking if I still wanted to see the Beacon House. He also had been doing some research and now better understood what a Beacon House was used for and why it would have been placed on top of that ridge. I was now even more intrigued and anxious to go see for myself.

So, we travelled to the site and to my surprise, the building is in good condition, except for the single door being missing and some rust on the tin roof and metal siding. I photographed the building and examined the surrounding area thoroughly. There are two concrete foundation blocks just east of the building that obviously served to support the fuel tank that powered the generator housed inside the structure.

There were also two depressions that seemed located exactly where two of the four foundations for the light tower would have stood. There is no trace of the large concrete arrow that would have likely been there as a visual indicator of the direction to the next beacon house. They were located approximately 30 miles apart, according to the information I have found on the placement of the beacon houses. There remains the evidence of a road down the ridge from the building. Ernest and I surmised this road had been an access road from a nearby home where the family living there would have been employed to start the generator each evening and stop it each morning.

According to the Postal Museum's web site, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the bill into law authorizing this experimental airmail service on April 30, 1938. There were two routes opened in early 1939. The first route went from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia. The other went from Pittsburgh to Huntington, West Virginia. One reason for the support for this service was that it would bring airmail service to rural areas, such as East Tennessee, North Carolina, West Virginia and other Appalachian

areas.

The pilot of that first historic air pick-up flight on April 12, 1939, was Norman Rintoul. He also was the pilot on the final flight of the service on June 30, 1949. He later purchased a Stinson Reliant plane when All American Aviation upgraded its fleet in 1949 and donated it to the Smithsonian Institution. That plane is on display at the Smithsonian's Postal Museum.

Dr. Lytle Adams, dentist and inventor, formed



Historic Beacon House located just north of ORNL in TVA's electrical power line right of way (Photo Submitted)

All American Aviation. He thought the Air Pick-Up service would soon expand into both North and South America. While that was not the case, the service actually only lasted ten years, his company expanded to passenger service, dropped the air pick-up service and eventually became US Airways.

In an article published in The New York Times on Sunday, October 1, 1922, F. A. Collins wrote in, LAND LIGHTHOUSES; Future Airways Will Be Illuminated for Nocturnal Fliers, that he foresaw a network of lights that would serve to guide airplanes. He was right, but technology soon surpassed his vision for the future.

These Beacon Houses as foreseen by Collins were located approximately 30 miles apart. They were powerful lights. There were also base lights to allow the pilots to see the numbers on the roofs and the giant concrete arrows



Interior of Beacon House showing concrete footers on which the generator sat that powered the airway light (Photo Submitted)

showing the way. The main lights pointed straight up so as to not shine in the pilot's eyes. Many rotated to be more noticeable by the pilots. Often a mirror was used as the motion device with the light shining horizontally into the mirror that reflected it upward.

The following timeline of the history of aviation may help put our Beacon House into better perspective.

On December 17, 1903, Orville Wright in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, made the first powered flight of 120 feet and stayed aloft for 12 seconds. Powered air travel began.

Then on February 7, 1911, Fred Wiseman made the first official airmail flight of 14 miles from Petaluma to Santa Rosa, California. It took two days to complete

Next on May 15, 1918, the Army Air Corps carried the first regularly scheduled airmail between Washington, DC, Philadelphia and New York City for the US postal service. Lt. George Boyle, pilot of this first air mail flight from Washington, DC and Philadelphia lost his way and was forced to land at Waldorf, Maryland. He again tried to get to Philadelphia and again lost his way. He was denied a third attempt.

On August 12, 1918, the United States Post Office took control of the nation's airmail service hiring pilots, purchasing aircraft and mapping out routes. And August 21, 1924, marked the first transcontinental flight from San Francisco to New York with the portion from Chicago to Cleveland being flown over the new lighted airways. Here is where the history of Beacon Houses such as ours began.

On September 8, 1920, the first transcontinental airmail service was established with airplanes

being used to fly the mail by day and trains used to transport the mail by night. The elapsed time from coast to coast was 76 hours.

On February 2, 1925, Congress passed the first Air Mail Act or Kelly Bill for commercial aviation to provide airmail service through airmail contracts. And on February 19, 1934, the Army Air Corps took over airmail services after congress accused the postal service of favoritism in contracting out the service.

By April 12, 1939, when air mail service was expanded into the rural areas of Appalachia, our Beacon House was likely a part of a much larger effort to light the airways for night flights of these courageous pilots who flew in all kinds of weather to "deliver the mail."

So, by the time of the Manhattan Project in Oak Ridge, the Beacon House on Chestnut Ridge in all probability had been in existence for some time, may have even been in regular operation and had likely been operating for a number of years. What happened to it when the Army moved in? Was it already out of service? Was it maintained by the Army - unlikely as Bill Sergeant knew nothing of it?

Did it just get lost in the transfer of land and buildings for the Manhattan Project? Obviously, I have more questions than answers. I am going to seek to find it on Don Raby's photographic record of structures here before the Manhattan Project.

The Beacon House was NOT torn down as were other buildings. Was that just because it was remotely located and not in the way of anything the Army wanted to do during the Manhattan Project era? Or, was it still functioning as an airway light in the early 1940's. Remember, the expanded airmail service using the lighted airways did not stop until 1949.

I do feel that this "Beacon House" located near ORNL may well be the ONLY such structure remaining intact for miles around. It surely may just be the ONLY ONE IN TENNESSEE! I am told there is a "Beacon House Restaurant" near Dickson, TN. However, there is no evidence of the Beacon House for which it is named, only the knowledge that there was once such a beacon house located nearby.

Vhf Omni-directional Radio range or VOR began to be widely used in the 1950's using vacuum tube technology and by the 1960's when solid state electronics allowed reduced maintenance and increased reliability, VOR became the primary navigational system for the airways. Airmail delivery soon returned and has continued to function as a primary method for quick delivery over long distances.

Most all the beacon houses of the early era of aviation are now long gone and were soon forgotten. But we in Oak Ridge have an excellent example of a site that contained a generator building, still has the footers for the fuel tank and the remaining evidence of two depressions where two of the four footers were located that supported the tower on which the light was installed to get it elevated over the surrounding trees.

This structure is being submitted to the National Register of Historic Places, and rightly so. It is truly a piece of aviation history that is unusual and may well be the only such structure left in our state or even surrounding states. The unique situation of the Manhattan Project created an isolation that preserved the structure for future generations to appreciate. It should be preserved and even restored.

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.



John Burns
Opinion Columnist

Memorial Day. The one day in America where people pretend to understand the sacrifices made by soldiers who volunteer to defend America. The day when soldiers who have actually exchanged gunfire with the enemies of America, gather to remember those we have lost on battlefields most Americans know not exist. The distinctly American conundrum. My family is one where service prior to Vietnam was something that was considered a responsibility as an American. My grandfather Burns was an Engineer in the Pennsylvania National Guard at the onset of World War 2.

My biological grandfather and grandmother on my mother's side were Ukrainian-Jewish immigrants. He and my grandmother Olga Luster escaped persecution that was promulgated upon the Ukrainian Jewish population as a result of the fall of the monarchy in Russia during the communist uprising of 1919. I would meet my biological grandparents one time in my life, but I came away with memories that led to finding the truth about who they were. I can only imagine what they felt about Hitler's master race. My father remarried and my grandfather on my step mother's side became a profound influence on my life. It was he who served in Chesty Puller's storied 1st Bn, 7th Marine regiment during WW2. He was wounded on three different occasions while participating in the beach landings at Guadalcanal, and Saipan. He came home from war and became a police officer and he was a jailer at the township jail. He tried to influence men who found themselves struggling with addiction as they came home from Vietnam. I Had no idea just how much I would need Pop-Pop Smith's words of encouragement, after I returned from persecuting total war. Sadly, he would succumb to alcoholism at the youthful age of 59. I miss my grandfathers terribly, and neither got to see me become an Airborne Ranger and eventually lead men in combat on two occasions. I pray I met their standard of soldiering.

How-ever there is a major problem facing America. The foundations of America have been eroded to the point where soldiers have to choose between God and country. It is very dangerous. America is only great when Elohim is praised and Jesus Christ's message is taken by soldiers to the battlefields where they lose brothers in order to plant the cross of Christ. I am an unabashed nationalist. I am not a national socialist. I am not an isolationist, however children in countries where Jesus Christ is not preached have taught me that when America does great, they do great. It is hard to comprehend what great is to these children for they live in abject poverty. I often share a story of a little girl in Somalia. I would often walk out to the perimeter fence on our airfield base to watch the Somali people in their daily lives. The first thing I began to question about my America, is what does any American have to complain about? If we gave a Somali woman \$900 a month, she would make it last a year. She would plant a garden after purchasing seeds. She would buy livestock and feed her entire village. She would make everyone in her village have a life that is just a little better. The little girl I mentioned would walk every day with an enormous water jug on her shoulder. Down a long road and I would not see her return for at least two hours. I enquired of an interpreter to ask where she was going and why. Her answer profoundly impacts my life every time I see my own wonderful children and grandchildren. She explained that she needed to walk to a United Nations watering point to retrieve clean water for her mother to bathe her baby brother and her mother could also provide food and clean water for the family. Her father was killed by Islamic extremists and her mother was left with five children between the ages of ten months and nine years old. Yet still this eight-year-old girl walked to get the water! My God loves that little girl. This is the point in my life where God began to teach me empathy. Praise God!

My time in service had seen me travel to 45 countries on five continents. I have seen absolute human suffering. All the thoughts of man are only evil continually. The United States was brought forth by God to be the light in the darkness and I fear darkness has manifested in America and the world will suffer because of it. Memorial Day has taken on a different tone for me now. I refuse to accept that my brothers died to protect any other morality than the one God proclaims in His word. It is a morality based upon sacrifice. It says we cannot save ourselves from sin. We have a Holy God and we are an unholy people. The gulf that exists between God's righteousness and our sin is so great that only the death of God himself could bridge the gulf. No greater love hath a man than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. The conundrum of every American who volunteers to serve our country in times of war. I wonder how many soldiers actually know what they have been fighting for?

I served under two presidents. One Republican, George H.W. Bush and one Democrat, William J. Clinton. I proudly served during the invasion of Panama in 1989. I deployed to Somalia Africa in August of 1993 as part of Task Force Ranger. What was the mission the president gave us? In Panama, Noriega had become an unwanted dictator. He was a thorn in the side of the American president. So, we removed him and placed our man in charge. Where did it get us? Well today the Chinese control the Panama Canal. Panama is basically a communist country and puppet state of rising Chinese influence in the region. America went from being the country that collected money for transit through the canal, to the largest payer of fees to get our products to the world markets. And we built the canal. It was considered the greatest engineering feat in world history when it was completed. Thousands of Americans lost their lives building the canal. Americans lost their lives during the invasion of Panama to only have our politicians give it away during their spending frenzy. They needed to borrow money to persecute Bush's Gulf War so they got China to cosign on our debt to remove Saddam Hussein. Men lost their lives in Iraq and we did not remove Saddam Hussein. The Bush's got incredibly wealthy and in 2003 we would be back removing Saddam Hussein for another Bush. Somalia would prove to be a watershed moment in American history. An American president choosing a side in the Sunni-Shia schism that haunts the Middle East. Our Task force was alerted, trained, and prepared to go into Somalia and remove an Islamic fundamentalist general persecuting his own starving people. Somalia had plunged into civil war as a result of the world community damming the upper Nile so more people could have water in Egypt and Ethiopia. No thought for the consequences to the Somali people. Water became an issue in Somalia. Every drop of water came from the yearly floods that the upper Nile produced and then flowed into Somalia. When the water dried up, the twelve clan families that had existed in Somalia began to fight over water. By the time we got to Somalia in August 1993, Mogadishu was in chaos. Our job was to kill or capture Mohammed Farah Aided. He was considered by Bill Clinton as the major warlord causing the genocide. He was hijacking UN food convoys and he was selling water to a population without jobs or money. His klan, the Habr-Gdr, had persecuted people and planned to annihilate every person who was not in their Islamic family. So, Task Force Ranger settled in and began the hunt. We were relatively successful in taking out the apparatus that financed aided. We executed a few missions where we did capture persons of interest. Aided was proving to be a worthy adversary. He had an incredible network of people who feared him, and fear is a powerful ally to a dictator. Oc-

Memorial Day

tober third 1993 saw the American military fall prey to the national command authority demanding results. We were night-fighters. Launching a daylight raid in a crowded city, took away every advantage and made us equal to the Somali fighters trained by Al-Qaeda. They had been fighting on these streets for years and we fell into their trap. Clinton wanted results, and being Rangers, we were more than happy to violate principals of patrolling to succeed. We lost eighteen men on October third. One more on October fourth. 19 dead Americans and 60 injured to some degree in one Ranger Task Force. The Somali people would lose thousands. What did we gain from our efforts?

Bill Clinton went on TV to announce that Rangers had failed and he was bringing them home. Never mind the fact that Generals who never fought war advised Clinton to take away our trump card, the AC 130, Specter Gunships, yet still we agreed to the audacious move to do the raid in daylight. In the middle of the largest open air gun market in the world. We went into their neighborhood armed and ready for a fight and we got one. Thank the Lord it worked out like it did, because it led to major changes in SOCCOM when they would begin the war on terror. Task Force Ranger is still saving lives on battlefields. What did Somalia get America? It proved that American Presidents are culpable for the loss of American lives when they decide to destabilize governments based upon their own political interests rather than the interests of America as a whole. Does an America with Judeo-Christian foundations need Islamic immigration? Clinton went on to appease Somalia and he brought 10,000 Somali families to Minnesota. Ilhan Omar continues to lecture me on what will make America great. She is an Islamic puppet. Women have no rights in Islam so do not try to convince me that she is doing the bidding of Minnesota voters. She is working to Islamize the Democratic policy so one day, she can wage war against the Jews and Christians of America. Islamic Eschatology calls for total jihad once their Mahdi is identified. She will advocate for the killing of Americans right here in America, make no mistake about it.

Somalia brought about the rise of Barak Obama. I agree, America was ready for a President of Black heritage. I do not agree Obama is the right man. His leanings toward everything Islam have destabilized more governments than all presidents since Eisenhower. I do not need his birth certificate to prove he is an Islamic Fundamentalist. His middle name tells a story. The Name Hussein is given to Muslim men at the age of twelve when they pledge allegiance to the Sunni, Wahabi brand of Islam. Their allegiance is to the King of Saudi Arabia. That is why Barak Obama had no interest in pulling out of Afghanistan or Iraq. Isis was an easy target for the president to hide behind as he waged a proxy war on behalf of Saudi Arabia in Yemen. Yemen is predominantly Shiite. The Iran deal was an appeasement to win an election for Hillary Clinton. But all that came apart when Obama backed the sworn enemy of God's people, Israel. His United Nations envoy actually moved to sanction Israel on his last day in office. How any Jewish voter could vote for another Eugenic elitist Democrat is beyond my comprehension? Hillary lost the election, and America had a judge sent by God to warn us of our upcoming fall from world power. America once again refused to return to belief in the God of the Bible. It is past the time for America to return to the God of the Bible. It is our only hope to make America great again.

America needs a King David at the helm. David was willing to do God's will to the letter. He did not enter treaties with the enemies of God. He united the monarchy and the nation of Israel for the last time, until Messiah is accepted by the Jewish remnant. David was a man who knew when he violated God's covenants, and he repented and never made the same mistake twice. David was a man born out of adultery. His mother was formerly the Queen married to the Ammonite king. Jesse committed adultery and David was born. Psalm 51 explains. God knew David's interior character. David was a shepherd. He had killed a lion and a bear by the time he was twelve. That is why he is a man after God's own heart. David understood that it was sin that drove him to rely on God's salvation. It was his faults that made him totally dependent on God's promises. David loved God the most and he Gave us the Psalms which lay out God's plan for our redemption. David was a flawed man. Yet God states in Acts that he searched for a man after God's own heart and he found David. Our president needs the heart of King David. David completely relied on God for his mission and his blessing. When he cheated and killed Uriah, he pleaded with God not to turn him over to men but rather he placed himself in the arms of God's mercy and grace. Our God is just and His justice cannot slumber forever. Teshuva!

Memorial Day holds special meaning to me as an American Ranger. The regiment I served in has now lost many men on the battlefields of the Middle East. I have personally lost friends who survived October third in Mogadishu. These men are who I will toast and talk about till God calls me home. I have friends in USSOCCOM who are deploying to the sandbox the day after Memorial Day. I will pray for their return home and eagerly await their successes protecting our Judeo-Christian way of Life.

Memorial Day is also the day I will toast my ancestors who have faithfully served America. If you are an American serving in harm's way, I will toast you also. I will pray that you look introspectively at our America and know that God is on the throne. America is under the abandonment wrath of God because of the immoral path our presidents have taken. God is indeed a globalist but not the Republican or Democratic type. He is a monarchist who will place his son on the throne in Jerusalem and put an end to America's march toward immorality. American presidents have waged wars for their own personal gain at the behest of common Americans. The true 1 % in America are not the billionaires, rather they are the families who continue to send their sons to fight on battlefields where the values of the president are not Judeo-Christian. Only 1 % of our population in America has ever volunteered to serve in a time of conflict. The other 99 % spend their days criticizing the men in the arena who actually have born the blood and guts of battle. I cannot stand oxygen thieves! So, this Memorial Day, do not thank a service member, but rather pray for our country to return to the Bible. Our soldiers need to know that while the government may enact laws outlawing the love of God we will never surrender! Our love for America is not based upon immorality but rather the true moral compass guiding America: The Lord Jesus Christ! He was crucified on a cross of wood yet he created the hill upon which it stood.

RLTW even so come Lord Jesus Christ. John Burns 5-21-2021 Happy Memorial Day Brothers!!!!

Staff Sergeant John Burns enlisted into the United States Army on September 23, 1987 as an 11C 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. Throughout 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.



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said unto thee,
Ye must be born again.

John 3:7

- Jesus

May 20, 2021 – Post 149 will conduct their monthly meeting which will start promptly at 7:00 pm.

May 31, 2021 – Memorial Day. Post 149 will observe Memorial Day at 9:00 am at the Wartburg Court House. They will have some snacks and drinks afterwards at Post 149.



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Gunter Named Volunteer of the Year



Pam Gunter, Wartburg resident, member of The Morgan County Tourism Alliance, Downtown Wartburg Revitalization and Tanner Store Restoration has been awarded Volunteer of the Year by The Middle East Tennessee Tourism Council (METTC). The award was presented at the annual Awards for Excellence at the May meeting in Morristown, Tennessee.

Julie Graham, Executive Director of The Middle East Tennessee Tourism Council made the announcement with the following narration.

Winner Pam Gunter- Morgan County Nomination Narrative:

It is estimated the value of a volunteer is worth \$27.20 an hour. For anyone that works with volunteers, that number does not adequately represent the “value” of volunteerism. This year’s winner not only dedicates her time, but has often put her own money into the work. Way back in 2015, a group of citizens got together to revision their community. The group was made up of business owners, local residents, newcomers, and preservations. They continued to meet to create events and develop tour-

ism opportunities. From their collective efforts, an annual festival was launched and a town was about to slowly be revitalized. This person has worked tirelessly on behalf of the Wartburg Community. She has been a driver in not only preserving a historic building, but in renovating the building right down to rolling her sleeves up to clean and paint. This has been a grassroots effort of many volunteers, but this person has consistently been at the table moving the vision forward.

This year’s winner is a retired Oak Ridge National Laboratories computer-systems specialist who now beams her energies into promotional efforts for the Morgan County Tourism Alliance. Congratulations to Pam Gunter.

We, of the Morgan County Tourism Alliance congratulate Pam on this award and thank her for the continuous hard work she does to make the Tourism projects successful. She is an example of the members we have in our organization who are dedicated to serving the people of our county through tourism development.

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

Around The World and Back Again

with Zack Ballinger

Angie’s Place



Angie Pollard is native to Wartburg, TN. She moved to the Morgan County Community at the age of 6. Angie is a hair stylist and owner of “Angie’s Place”. She has been cutting hair in Wartburg, TN for over 25 years. Angie used to cut my hair as a teenager. She was always very busy with repeat customers. I kept up with her over social media for many years. I was able to interview her and learn more about the passion behind her career as a salon owner/hair stylist.

“You can do anything”. “Don’t let anyone tell you that you can’t”, said Pollard. Angie joined The Zack Ballinger Show on Friday, September 18th to discuss her career journey as a hair stylist and owner. I knew in high school Angie really loved her job. She always spent extra time with her clients, educated customers on different hair styles, engaged her customers in meaningful conversation, and took pride in her work. Angie really is a

perfectionist and makes sure the customer is 100% satisfied with their hair cut.

Angie talked about starting off as a hair stylist over 25 years ago in Wartburg, TN. She took walk in appointments at first and eventually through hard work gained a loyal customer base. Pollard recommends starting off as a hair stylist in a salon before pursuing ownership. This will give you a chance to build up your clientele and see if the ownership route is right for you. If you are a high school student interested in being a hair stylist, Angie recommends taking some vocational classes in cosmetology. She also recommends you job shadowing before pursuing a path in this particular career field. I would also recommend you talking to some current hair stylist and gather more information from them.

Angie’s Place is a well-established business with a lot of repeat customers. There is an opportunity to still book with her. Some clients haven’t returned since the Coronavirus and this creates an opportunity for you. This is a rare opportunity to support a

local business right in Morgan County. Angie has a great reputation as a hair stylist and is a pillar of the community. If you would like to learn more about her or listen to our interview see below the following information:



Zack Ballinger

How can I find or listen to The Zack Ballinger Show? The show will have 2 to 3 guests per week on various careers in The United States. You can listen live via YouTube by searching for Zack Ballinger and subscribing. The show is also streamed live on Facebook on www.facebook.com/thezackballinger. What if you want to listen to a podcast? The show can be found on iTunes and Spotify: search for The Zack Ballinger Show and you can find all the episodes.

“Don’t let the size of your town determine the size of your dreams”.
- 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 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.



This page intentionally
left blank to honor those
who gave their all for our
freedoms.



Davis Funeral Home's Veteran of the Week

This week we honor former United States Army, Combat Medic, Specialist Fifth Class Charles C. Hagemeister, who received the Medal of Honor after he raced through withering enemy fire during a Vietnam War ambush to care for wounded comrades, died Wednesday, May 19, 2021, in Leavenworth, Kansas. Hagemeister was seventy-four-years-old.

There are now only 66 living recipients of the nation's highest award for valor in combat, according to the National Medal of Honor Museum Foundation, which announced Hagemeister's passing. A cause of death was not stated.

Hagemeister's Medal of Honor actions took place March 20, 1967, in Vietnam's Binh Dinh province. At the time, he was a specialist fourth class serving as a medic with 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. He was subsequently promoted to Specialist Five (Sp5c.) and awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions.

Specialist Hagemeister's Medal of Honor citation reads: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity in action at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty. While conducting combat operations against a hostile force, Sp5c. Hagemeister's platoon suddenly came under heavy attack from three sides by an enemy force occupying well concealed, fortified positions and supported by machine guns and mortars. Seeing two of his comrades seriously wounded in the initial action, Sp5c. Hagemeister unhesitatingly and with total disregard for his safety, raced through the deadly hail of enemy fire to provide them medi-



cal aid. Upon learning that the platoon leader and several other soldiers also had been wounded, Sp5c. Hagemeister continued to brave the withering enemy fire and crawled forward to render lifesaving treatment and to offer words of encouragement. Attempting to evacuate the seriously wounded soldiers, Sp5c. Hagemeister was taken under fire at close range by an enemy sniper. Realizing that the lives of his fellow soldiers depended on his actions, Sp5c. Hagemeister seized a rifle from a fallen comrade, killed the sniper, three other enemy soldiers who were attempting to encircle his position and silenced an enemy machine gun that covered the area with deadly fire. Unable to remove the wounded to a less exposed location and aware of the enemy's efforts

to isolate his unit, he dashed through the fusillade of fire to secure help from a nearby platoon. Returning with help, he placed men in positions to cover his advance as he moved to evacuate the wounded forward of his location. These efforts successfully completed, he then moved to the other flank and evacuated additional wounded men despite the fact that his every move drew fire from the enemy. Sp5c. Hagemeister's repeated heroic and selfless actions at the risk of his life saved the lives of many of his comrades and inspired their actions in repelling the enemy assault. Sp5c. Hagemeister's indomitable courage was in the highest traditions of the U.S. Armed Forces and reflect great credit upon himself.

Law Enforcement Officer of the Week

Presented by Jerry Duncan Ford

This week we honor the service and sacrifice made by fallen Police Officer Chris Oberheim. Officer Oberheim served as a member of the Champaign Police Department in Champaign, Illinois. On Wednesday, May 19, 2021, Police Officer Chris Oberheim, of the Champaign Police Department, died from injuries sustained on duty.



Officer Oberheim responded to a domestic disturbance call at an apartment in the early morning hours. He and fellow Officer Jeffrey Creel arrived on scene and were

encountered by Darion Lafayette who was involved in the domestic disturbance as they were walking from their patrol cars. Darion Lafayette

opened fire, fatally wounding Officer Oberheim and wounded Officer Creel. Officer Creel, was shot three times, and has been released

from the hospital. Officer Oberheim was fatally wounded and Lafayette died at the scene. Officer Oberheim served with Champaign PD for thirteen years and had also served the Decatur Police Department for seven years. He is survived by his wife and children.

The new child tax credit payment will be coming in July



David Zubler

The payment was created to help millions of families who have been financially affected by the pandemic.

The new child tax credit is part of the American Rescue Plan which passed in March. It increases the credit from \$2,000 to a maximum of \$3,600 for younger children and \$3,000 for older ones, for the 2021 tax year.

Normally parents must wait until they file their income tax return to receive the child tax credit.

However, parents will now be able to get money

throughout the remainder of the year.

About 39 million families will be eligible for monthly payments of up to \$300. The newly expanded child tax credit payment will start in July 15 and will continue through December. The payments that represent the first half of the year will be made later in a lump sum.

Eligible families will qualify for up to \$300 per month for each child under 6 years old and up to \$250 for each child between the ages of 6 and 17. The credit ends in the year a child turns 18.

The amount of the payment could be smaller depending on the parents' income.

Married parents filing joint returns and qualifying widowers will receive the full payment if their incomes are under \$150,000. The amount will be reduced for couples with higher incomes. If you file your return as head of household and make up \$112,500 you will receive the full amount. If you are filing status is single, you can make up to \$75,000 before the payment is reduced.

The IRS will determine the amount of your payment based on your 2020 tax return. However, the 2019 tax return will be used to determine the amount of the qualified payment if the 2020 tax return is not processed in time.

The IRS is urging people to file their returns to ensure that they are eligible for the appropriate payment amount.

The payments will automatically be deposited into your bank account that is on file with the IRS.

You can decline the checks if you don't want the advance payment and would prefer the full tax credit when you file your tax return.

This boost is currently only temporary. However, President Biden is en-

couraging Congress to make the expanded child tax credit permanent.

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.

NOTICE OF ADVERTISEMENT FOR BID

The Morgan County Highway Department will receive sealed annual bids for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. Products must meet all state specifications and be able to comply with all state regulations. ANNUAL BID must be printed on the outside of the envelope on bid. More information can be obtained from the Highway Department office at 3519 Morgan County Highway Wartburg, TN from 7am-5pm, Monday through Thursday. You may also contact us by phone at 423-346-6661.

Sealed bids will be publicly opened on June 2, 2021 at 10am on the following categories:

- Asphalt-Hot Mix
- Emulsified Asphalt
- Corrugated Metal Pipe
- Crushed Stone
- Road Striping
- Salt

The Morgan County Highway Department reserved the right to reject any and all bids.

Joe H. Miller Jr.
Superintendent of Highways
Morgan County

Sandra Helton's weekly column

Oakdale Area News

email: kvhelton@highland.net



Congratulations to the Oakdale High School Class of 2021. Their graduation was held Friday, May 21. This year's OHS Valedictorian is Hannah Nelson. The Salutatorian is Zeke Moore and the Honor Student is Haley Spears.

Oakdale Kindergarten Class of 2021 celebrated the end of their year with a celebration at Oakdale Park on Friday, May 21. Many parents and grandparents attended to enjoy a picnic of pizza, chips, cupcakes and other good food. The children enjoyed playing on the playground, painting rocks, playing with water balloons, bubbles, sidewalk chalk and other fun games. As the afternoon heated up, they had snow cones. Diplomas, attendance awards and gift bags were presented to the students.

There will be no school for Morgan County students Wednesday, May 26. Students will be dismissed at 11:30 on Thursday, May 27. The first day of the 2021-22 school year will be Wednesday, August 4.

Be sure to support local cemeteries by making contributions for upkeep.

It is almost Bible School time. Several local churches have scheduled VBS and everyone is welcome to attend any or all of them.

Piney Baptist Church will have Vacation Bible School June 7 -11 with supper beginning at 6:00 and VBS from 6:40 - 9:00.

First Baptist Church Oakdale will have Vacation Bible School June 14-18. They will serve a meal at 5:30 and VBS will be from 6:00 - 8:45.

White Oak Baptist Church will have Vacation Bible School July 12 - 16 from 7:00 - 9:00 each evening.

Rankin Chapel Baptist Church will not have Vacation Bible School this year.

Mt. Vernal Baptist Church will have Vacation Bible School June 7 - 11 from 6:30 - 8:30 each evening.

Cheryl Johnson and her sons, Ethan and Seth, visited Rugby for the first time Saturday, May 15. They did the guided tour and movie. They enjoyed touring the buildings. They really enjoyed it and hope to visit again soon.

On Saturday, May 15, Pam and Hayden Barber were honored by their family with a surprise birthday party. Pam celebrated her 50th birthday on May 16 and Hayden turned 21 on May 18. They were surprised and everyone had a good time celebrating the two of them.

Folks traveling on White Oak Road Sunday, May 16 were treated to multiple roadside signs ending with a huge banner with Pam Barber's picture and a cute poem.....She's So Shifty. Look Who's 50! Pam saw it for the first time on her way to church! Thanks to her family for sharing the fun with the community.

Families in TN can sign up online to receive free decodable readers for K-2 students delivered right to their door. Reading for 20 minutes a day can help slow that "Summer Slide." Follow this link and the steps and enjoy summer reading with your children. <https://decodablerequests.powerappsportals.com/decodable-requests/>

Bunt and I enjoyed a visit from Tabitha and Sophia Hamby last Friday night. We spent some time sitting on the river bank listening to the frogs croak, seeing the fish jump and watching the trains go by. It was a peaceful time and a good visit.

Oakdale Public Library is now open 12 hours weekly. Kim Colston has accepted the position of Library Director. This week, the library will be open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 4:00 - 7:00. June hours are posted on the door. On Saturday, June 5, from 9:00 - 2:00, there will be a grand re-opening of the Oakdale Library and a kickoff for the summer reading program. Randy Raccoon will make an appearance and will be giving out books. The Oakdale Fire Truck will be available for photos with little fireman. A few community members will be bringing animals to talk about pet care. There will be a used book sale with children's books and adult literature. Anyone wanting to donate books to the sale is welcome to do so. Pets (stuffed animals) will be available for children to adopt. After choosing a pet, children will receive an adoption certificate and will be asked to read to their pets as often as possible. Pet adoption will begin during the kickoff and will continue until all pets are adopted. Anyone wishing to donate a pet to be adopted or would like to give money for the purchase of pets, can contact either me or Kim by June 1 and we will be happy to help you.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Carl "BoBo" Kilby who passed away last week. He is survived by his wife Peggy and his children, Anita and husband Donnie, Teresa and fiancé David and Scott and wife Paige. He is also survived by his brother Tom Kilby, Sr. and wife Sharon, several grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews and other family and friends. The family received friends on Friday, May 21 at Crossville Memorial Funeral Home. Funeral services were held Saturday, May 22 at New Life Baptist Church with his nephews Tommy Kilby and Keith Kilby officiating. Interment was in the Kilby Family Cemetery.

Condolences to the family of Wendell Kasior who passed away Friday, May, May 14. He is survived by his Mother and Stepfather, Martha and Barry Mathis, his son Shannon (Miranda) Kasior, his daughter Tierra Paige (Tristin) Pressley, his grandchildren Slater Kasior and Grace-Lyn Pressley and his Step-Grandmother, Jackie Mathis. Services were held Monday, May 24. Interment was in Roane Memorial Gardens.

"Long before Zacchaeus needed to see Jesus, God planted a tree."
Jessica Miller - #THEWELL

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

Romans 5

(Romans 5:1-5) the benefits of justification: Paul continues his theme of justification; note the "therefore" connective. He affirms these saints had been "justified." The verbal action was completed already. When? That is answered in chapter six: when they were "raised from the dead" to "walk in newness of life" (6:4; v 7). This occurred at the time of their baptism (6:3). The expression, "by faith," explains the means of justification. It is the obedient faith discussed so frequently in this letter (1:5). The result is "peace with God" (no more enmity (Eph. 2:16). From the divine side, such is achieved as a result of Christ's death. This entire process allows one "access...into this grace." Clearly, grace is not unconditionally bestowed, as numerous religionists contend. Moreover, in this state we must "stand" (the verbal tense suggests with abiding resolution (Acts 13:43) if we would embrace the "hope of the glory of God."

With this confident realization, we can even rejoice under tribulations (various kinds of pressures). When one embraces the proper attitude, tribulation produces many positive qualities, endurance, tested character, and the hope that never disappoints us. Our confidence should not waver because we may be certain of God's love as a result of the Holy Spirit that generously was given (a past action with abiding results) to us. Most likely this refers to the gift of the Spirit subsequent to our baptism (Acts 2:38; 1 Cor. 12:13; Gal. 4:6). It is not miraculous in nature or an intermittent infusion; moreover, it provides no special "illumination" into the meaning of the Scriptures. Our knowledge thereof, however, is wonderfully comforting. The Spirit guides us through his inspired word (Eph. 6:17) and providential operations (1 Cor. 10:13; Phil. 2:13; Phil. 15).

(Romans 5:6-11) the necessity of Christ's death: an example of God's love for the Christian lies in the fact that even when we were "weak," "ungodly," "sinners," and "enemies" (6, 8, 10), Christ died "for" (in the place of) us. Paul's next point issues from a premise of lesser objection to one greater. It sometimes is the case that one is willing to sacrifice his life for a good person; it almost is never the case that one is willing to die for a wretch. Yet Jesus died for wicked humanity! How breathtaking is it then that God's love is so richly generous that he gave his Son to die in our place (7-8)? Utterly incredible! The Christian is "justified" (counted as just), therefore, by means of the sacrifice of Christ, in the shedding of his blood as the atoning payment. As a result we "shall be saved from the wrath of God" (v. 9). Note the future tense "shall be saved"; this is the final consummation of our salvation when earthly life is over (13:11; 2 Tim. 2:10; 4:18). Prior to his conversion, the Christian was an enemy of God because of his sinful conduct. We simply do not fathom the enormity of sin! But we were reconciled to God by means of his Son's death. Reconciliation involves bringing together formerly

estranged parties. That reconciliation also is confirmed by Christ's life, his resurrection (4:25) and his ongoing intercession (Heb. 7:25). For this beneficence we rejoice.

(Romans 5:12-21) the effect of Adam's sin: through one man (Adam; Eve was complicit) sin entered into the world. Physical death came because of sin (Gen. 2:16-17; 1 Cor. 15:22). There is no support for the theory that all humans inherit the "guilt" of Adam's sin. Adam, as the representative of the human family, was on trial; he was the "stand-in" for the whole of humanity. When he sinned he became subject to physical death. All his offspring suffer the same fate, for the whole race sinned in the representation of its original father. We inherit the penalty of Adam's sin, through not the personal guilt (f. 12). Before the law of Moses was given, sin was in the world (therefore there was law (4:15; Jn. 3:4); but physical death (from Adam to Moses) was not due to personal sins. It came as a result of Adam's sin (v. 13).

In some sense, Adam was a "figure" of Christ (v. 14). But the figure is more of contrasts than similarities: (a) Adam introduced a reign of sin and terror; Jesus brought a system of righteousness and peace. (b) Adam opened the door to death; Christ opened the door to life. (c) Adam was disobedient; Jesus was obedient. (d) Adam's actions introduced sin-guilt; Christ death provided a way of forgiveness from sin-guilt. (e) Adam's sin had a temporal consequence, the death of the body; Christ gift of grace issues in eternal glory.

Some see verse nineteen as a proof text for universal salvation. Such a conclusion would conflict with scores of texts teaching the doctrine of eternal punishment for the wicked. The correct sense is this: As a result of Adam's disobedience, sin entered the world (v. 12). Subsequently, Adam's offspring ("the many"), by the exercise of their own will power, committed sin; hence were constituted sinners. By way of contrast, through Christ's obedience in dying for sin, a plan of redemption was made available for "the many" (equivalent to "all") (v. 12). In obeying the requirements of that plan, Christians are released from the guilt of their sins (6:17-18); hence are accounted as "righteous" (3:21-26).

In the concluding two verses, the apostle seems to be responding to a question. "What then was the purpose of Moses' law?" It was given to throw a spotlight on the nature and consequence of sin (7:7, 13). Thus, by the law's illumination sin was shown to be more comprehensive and hideous than anyone could have imagined. On the other hand, the contrast of salvation makes the effect and beauty of grace all the grander. Finally, as sin brought a reign of death, even so the reign of grace resulted from the mission of Christ. Heaven's plan for righteousness (1:16) issues in eternal life.



MELVIN HOWARD

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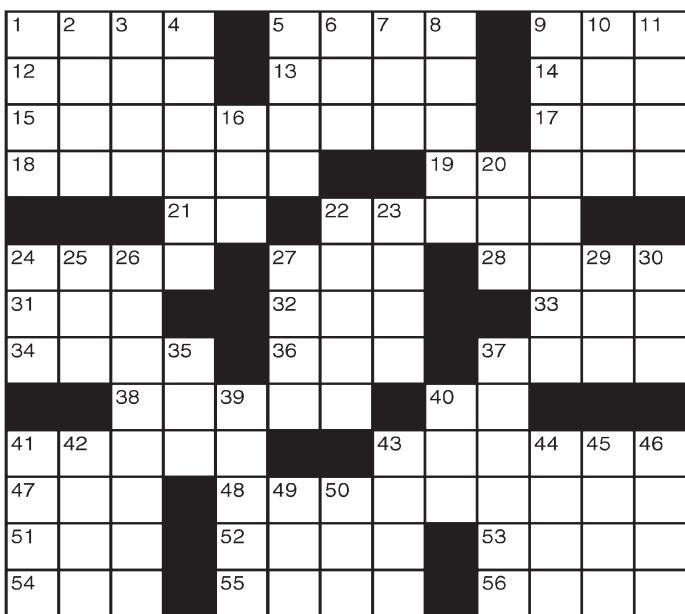
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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Met melody
- 5 "CSI" settings
- 9 Apply cream
- 12 Fender bend-er
- 13 Gumbo need
- 14 Mode lead-in
- 15 Instrument panel
- 17 Homer's neighbor
- 18 Thread hold-ers
- 19 "Tiny Alice" playwright
- 21 "Heavens!"
- 22 Spud
- 24 Green gem
- 27 Church seat
- 28 Ken or Barbie
- 31 Glamorous Gardner
- 32 Shoe width
- 33 Teeny
- 34 Baseball glove
- 36 British "Inc."
- 37 — B'rith
- 38 Soil
- 40 Opposite of nyet
- 41 "Yippee!"
- 43 Vile
- 47 Ghostly greet-ing
- 48 Music group at a New Year's Eve party



- 51 Wall St. debut
 - 52 Jacob's twin
 - 53 Author Ferber
 - 54 "A mouse!"
 - 55 Peel
 - 56 Optimistic
- DOWN**
- 1 Tosses in
 - 2 Harvest
 - 3 Not — many words
 - 4 Not on the road
 - 5 Novelist Anita
 - 6 Alias letters
 - 7 "It's c-c-cold!"
 - 8 Nasser's suc-cessor
 - 9 "The Da Vinci Code" author
 - 10 Out of the storm
 - 11 Ordered
 - 16 Journalist
 - 17 Nellie
 - 20 Started
 - 22 Pearly whites
 - 23 Dumbstruck
 - 24 Bread spread
 - 25 Bird (Pref.)
 - 26 Appointment tracker
 - 27 Hide
 - 29 Meadow
 - 30 Tiki bar neck-lace
 - 35 Eastern path
 - 37 Sweeney Todd, for one
 - 39 Actress Winona
 - 40 Female hare
 - 41 Theater award
 - 42 Aspiration
 - 43 Gulf War mis-sile
 - 44 Pedestal part
 - 45 Hostels
 - 46 Crucial time
 - 49 "— was say-ing ..."
 - 50 Indian bread

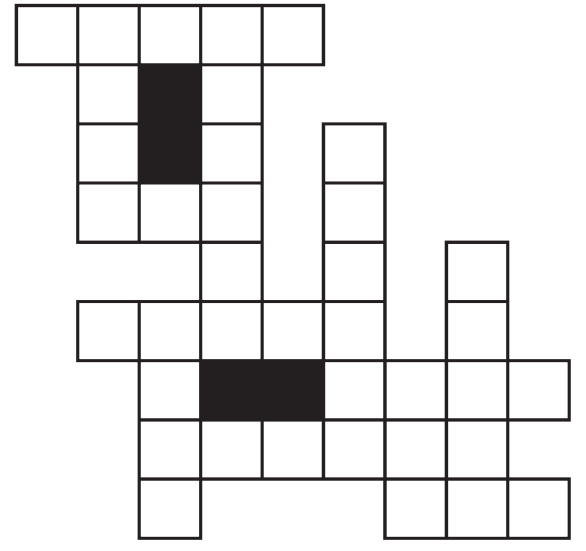
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FEAR & KNIGHT

By: rj johnson

DOUBT? ...OR DARE!

- AYD
- DILPED
- ♥ TEDPA
- ♥ YUBR
- ♥ KUSEQA
- DKI
- ♥ YDED
- ♥ KREBA
- AYK
- SABION
- DIOPA
- ♥ KDSI



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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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

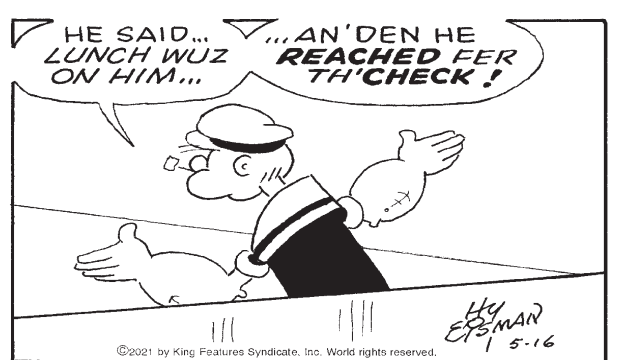
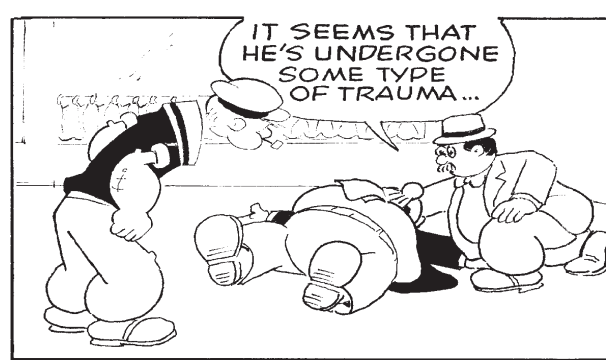
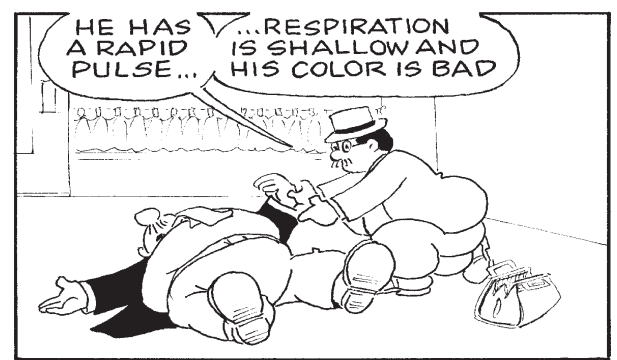
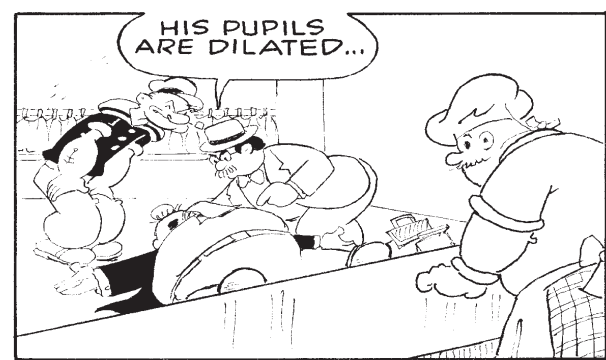
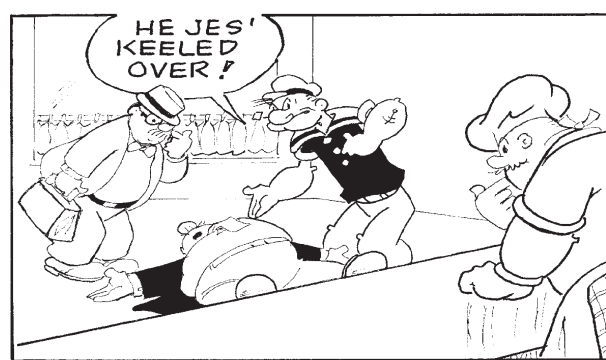
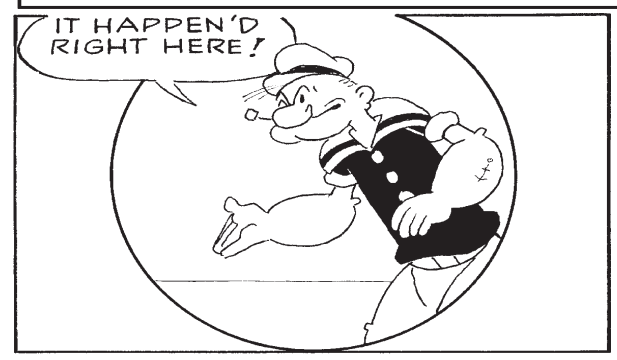
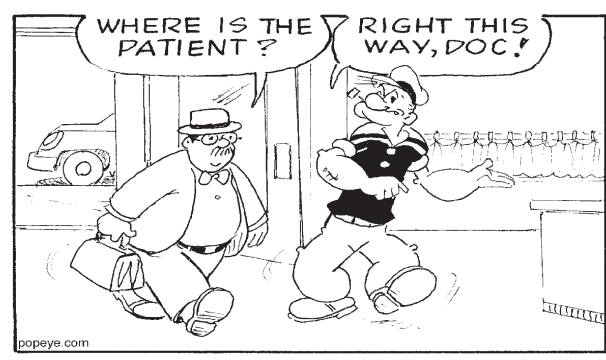
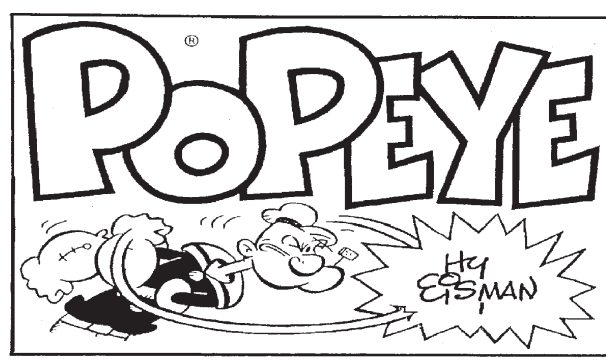
		2		5				9
1				4				3
	8	6	3			2		
9				2		7		
		8	4					1
	2				9	5	8	
		5		3				6
6					7		4	
	7		1	8		3		

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

- ◆ Moderate
- ◆◆ Challenging
- ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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FEAR & KNIGHT

answer

A	D	E	P	T						
	I			I						
	S			D				Q		
	K	I	D					U		
			L					A		P
B	R	E	A	K						
	U				E	D	D	Y		
	B	O	N	S	A	I				
	Y				Y	A	K			

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 25 mins.

A	R	I	A		L	A	B	S		D	A	B
D	E	N	T		O	K	R	A		A	L	A
D	A	S	H	B	O	A	R	D		N	E	D
S	P	O	O	L	S			A	L	B	E	E
				M	Y		T	A	T	E	R	
J	A	D	E		P	E	E			D	O	L
A	V	A			E	E	E			W	E	E
M	I	T	T		L	T	D			B	N	A
				E	A	R	T	H		D	A	
O	H	B	O	Y				S	O	R	D	I
B	O	O			D	A	N	C	E	B	A	N
I	P	O			E	S	A	U		E	D	N
E	E	K			R	I	N	D		R	O	S

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