

Morgan County Today

Psalm 100:3

Volume 07 Number 28

Tuesday, July 13, 2021

Your Community. Your News.

75¢

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American Flag Flying High in Wartburg



Morgan County  Today
Your Community. Your News.

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**I'D
RATHER
BE
READING.**

#mocotoday

Like Father, Like Son








Goodrich Follows in Father's Footsteps

Billy C. Goodrich served honorably in the United States Army. He was deployed to Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm as a Sergeant with the 82nd Airborne as a Combat Engineer. Billy passed away in 2013. 30 years after he fought in the middle east, his son David Goodrich has taken up the call to service. He will be in the Army as a Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic and shipping to Fort Sill. David got his haircut in preparation for his upcoming military service and donated his hair to those in need.

Thank you, David for your willingness to serve, and we honor Billy for his service. They indeed are great Americans.



MORGAN COUNTY WEATHER THIS WEEK

Tue 13	83°/67°	
Wed 14	83°/66°	
Thu 15	86°/67°	
Fri 16	87°/68°	
Sat 17	87°/67°	
Sun 18	86°/66°	
Mon 19	86°/66°	

Summer weather means
it's time to PLAY!!!



Motorcycle/ATV



Boat



RV/Motorhome

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In Loving Memory

John Dale Cooper, 69

John Dale Cooper, age 69, passed away July 7, 2021 at his home in Burrville, TN.

He is survived by his parents, Clovis A. Cooper, Sr. and Eva (Greer) Cooper; brother and sister-in-law, Clovis A. Cooper, Jr. and Bridget (Smarsh) Cooper; niece, Dawn Cooper Bohanan and husband, Tim.

He is survived by his niece, Crystal Cooper Doss and husband, Dwayne; great nephews, Willie (Samantha) Doss, Benjamin (Nicole) and Shane (Christina),

Christopher (Jordan) Bohanan and Wesley Bohanan; great niece, Jessica (Dillon) Williams; 3 great great nieces and 2 great great nephews; special companion and care giver, Shirley Dishman and family.

John's wishes were to be cremated. The family will have a graveside service Monday, July 12, 2021, at 5:00 p.m. at Mt. Vernon Cemetery in Burrville.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of John Dale Cooper.

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

Letter to the Editor: Emergency Services. Who needs them?

We do. We all do. Unfortunately Morgan Co. is facing a very real crisis in recruiting and keeping people when it comes to these jobs.

The problem is, as it often is, money. We need to be paying them more. And not just for their sake but for ours. The Ambulance Service is paying new EMT's \$10.22 an hour. New hires at the Sheriffs Dept. start in the jail at \$11.50 an hour for the privilege of being vomited and peed on and having feces thrown at them.

Right now Wendy's in Oak Ridge is hiring new people at \$13 an hour. Wal-Mart in Scott Co. is paying new hires \$13 dollars an hour. Right here in Wartburg Taco Bell and Hardies pays \$10 an hour to start. That is only 22 cents an hour less than an EMT who has had to put himself through a 15 week program costing thousands of dollars..... "Would you like fries with that?"

Cumberland Co. starts an EMT out at \$11.67 an hour, Scott Co. at \$13.27 and Campbell Co. at \$12.15 + .20 cents an hour for every year they have been an EMT, anywhere. So if they have 10 years experience somewhere else, they can start out at \$14.15 an hour.

Morgan County has long been a training ground. They start here, get some time and experience under their belt then move on. And you cannot blame them for doing it. After all, your first duty is to provide for your family. (1 Timothy 5:8 "But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.") If you can go somewhere else and do the same job you are doing now but for 20% to 30% more, it is going to take some pretty strong reasons to stay. Thank God some have found those reasons and have stayed. Many have not.

The cost to the county to hire someone new and send them off to get trained so they can be a deputy is about \$12,000 dollars. Then they have to ride with someone else until they gain at least a little experience. After they get that time under their belt it isn't long before they start looking around and see that they could go elsewhere and get that 20% to 30% or more pay and they are gone and the whole process has to start all over again.

As I said earlier, this isn't just about them. It is a problem for all of us.

When you call 911 do you want that person to be experienced and know exactly what to do to get you the help you need as fast as possible? 911 hasn't had anyone turn in an application to work there in over 2 years. They have only managed to fill empty slots by going out and head-hunting new employees.

When you think some meth head is breaking into your house in the middle of the night do you want the deputy responding to be green as grass and never been under that kind of pressure before? That is how things can go very wrong, very fast.

Suppose your loved one is having a coronary or just had a serious accident with a car or a chainsaw. Do you want an EMT that may have never acutely seen a coronary or arterial spray before? Or worse yet an ambulance is parked because they couldn't man it and one is being dispatched from a neighboring county. And you are just going to have to wait for it. That "Golden Hour" they talk about in medical circles can slip by awfully fast when you are waiting for that ambulance to arrive.

So this isn't just about what is best for them. It is also about what is best for all of us.

Commissioner Jerry Zorsch



MORGAN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Thursday, July 22, 2021 Meeting Announcement

The Morgan County Chamber of Commerce will hold our Annual Meeting on Thursday, July 22, 2021. Lunch will be sponsored. Stay tuned for more details.

In addition, we will hear from Chamber members that are seeking a position on the Chamber Board of Directors in the upcoming election on July 22, 2021. If you are a current member of the Morgan County Chamber of Commerce as an individual or representative of a company or organization and would like to serve on the Board of Directors, please contact Bridget DeFee at chamber@morgancountytn.org or by phone at 423.346.5740. You will need to prepare and send a brief biography; be prepared to present during our meeting. The following board seats will be on the ballot:

Wartburg/Lancing Area

- (1) Currently held by Ashley Davis who will not seek re-election 2021-2022
- (1) Currently held by Kathy Beach who plans to seek re-election 2021-2023

Petros/Joyner/Coalfield Area

- (1) Currently held by Joe Duncan who plans to seek re-election 2021-2023
- (1) Currently held (At Large) by Vic Davis who plans to seek re-election 2021-2023

Sunbright Area

- (1) Currently held by Diann Stevens who plans to seek re-election 2020-2022

Deer Lodge/Burrville/Rugby/Chestnut Ridge Area

- (1) Currently held by Mike McGrath who plans to seek re-election 2021-2023
- (1) Currently held by Melissa Kreis who plans to seek re-election 2020-2022

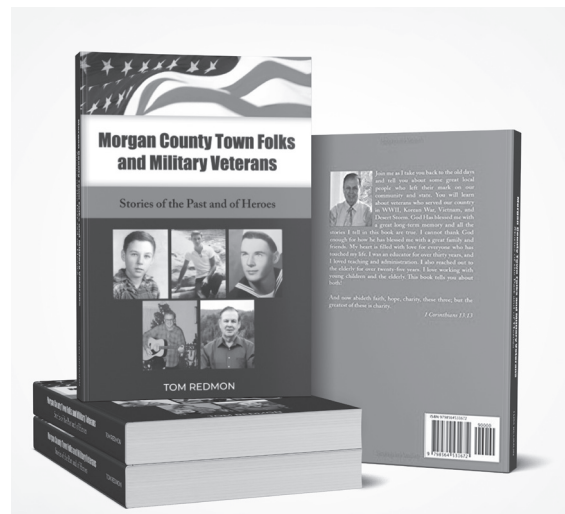
Oakdale/Pine Orchard/Mossy Grove area

- (1) Open seat (Vera Scarbrough has served her term limit) 2021-2023
- (1) Currently held by Lisa Collet who will not seek re-election 2021-2022

Per bylaws, director positions must be filled by a member located in the relevant designated areas. If no nomination is made for the specific location then nominations shall be open to the entire membership regardless of location.

The Chamber is moving forward. We are growing and providing value for our businesses and local community. Check out our updated website at www.morgancountychamber.com

Tom Redmon to Have Book Signing at Outdoor Show



Tom Redmon will be at the WECO Outdoor Show on Saturday, July 17, 2021. He will be located in the WECO tent for a book signing. His book, Morgan County Town Folks and Military Veterans, will be on sale for \$20.00 and if you have ordered your book on Amazon bring it by

and Tom will sign it for you. Tom's book of 436 pages contains stories of the past and of heroes mostly from Morgan County or East Tennessee.

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Sandra Helton's weekly column

Oakdale Area News

email: kvhelton@highland.net



It seems as if the school year just ended and it is almost time for it to start again. The first day for Morgan County students is August 4th with dismissal being at 11:30. The second day will be August 6th and will be a full day. All classes will be in person in the schools. There will be not be a virtual option in Morgan County this school year.

The Summer Feeding Program ends this week. This is the final week for Gus the Bus to be making deliveries and Friday, July 16 will be the final day for food pickup at schools. I want to give a huge shout out to Morgan County Food and Nutrition, Director Peggy Hamby, those who worked on Gus the Bus and the cafeteria workers who make this so successful. It takes a lot of work, planning and organization for things to run so smoothly. Thank You!

The 2021 WECO Outdoor Show will be this Saturday, July 17. Opening ceremonies will be at 9:00 a.m. and the event ends at 4:15. Approximately 80 vendors are expected to be there. Be sure to look for the Together Morgan County booth. We will have free books to give away.

The Morgan County Farmers Market began their 2021 season last Saturday. The market will be open on Saturdays from 9:00 AM to 12:00 Noon and on Tuesdays from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. The market will be held in the parking lot of the Morgan Co. Visitor Center in Wartburg (intersection of Hwy. 27 & 62). The market will be open the same times each week from now thru mid-October. The farmers market will offer locally grown vegetables and fruits, farm raised meats and eggs, baked goods, and local handmade crafts. Growers and crafters are encouraged to join the market. For information about how to sign up to sell on the market visit our Facebook page or contact Lela McNew at 423-965- 4818.

White Oak Baptist Church is having Vacation Bible School this week, July 12 – 16 from 7:00 – 9:00 nightly. Commencement will be Sunday, July 18 at 6:00 p.m. Proverbs 25:25.

Pine Orchard Baptist Church will have Vacation Bible School July 19 -23 from 6:00 – 8:00 each evening. The theme is Farm Fresh Faith.

West Side Baptist Church will be having vacation Bible school July 21-23 from 6:00- 8:30 p.m. Commencement will be on Sunday night, July 25 at 6:00 p.m.

Mrs. Bo Miles recently enjoyed a visit from her good friends, Barbara Kamer and Sue Hackworth.

The family of the late Walter and Lola Hamby Lawson met for their annual Lawson Family Reunion Sunday, July 4th at Camp Howard. Approximately 75 family members gathered to enjoy a day of wonderful fellowship, great food and making lasting memories. Four of the surviving children were in at-

tendance. They were Gene and Zelma who live locally, Bula of Georgia and Robert of Texas. Gene Lawson was the oldest family member present. Folks attended from Tennessee, Georgia, Connecticut, West Virginia and Washington D. C.

Betty Chapman's family gathered at her home on Saturday, July 3 for an Independence Day Celebration. Her whole family was able to attend including the youngest little firecracker, three month old Beau Chapman.

Mary Winters, Phyllis Langley and Janet Roddy recently took a "Friends Trip" to Ft. Myers, Florida. They enjoyed a week of relaxation and fun. Just one of the memories they made was playing Putt Putt when a downpour came. They continued to play even though they were drenched. Good times with good friends!

Gerald, Kim and Madison Clark recently vacationed in Florida. Kim shared the following. "A special thank you to Sarah Norris and Cade Snow for placing in the Regional Division of Beta earlier in Nashville. This provided our Oakdale Middle School Beta the opportunity to attend the National Beta Convention at Disney World. Congratulations to Sarah Norris for her outstanding performance. Looking forward to seeing her on stage again next year. Beta members attending were Jacey Bingham, Madison Clark, Chloe Collins, Riley Goodson, Sara Norris, Sawyer Newport, Morgan Scott, Jayla Show, and Riley Voyles. A special thank you to Phyllis Langley and Julia Norris for all your hard work in making this trip possible. A quote I recently saw stated "Life is meant for good friends and great adventures". Our great adventure started somewhere in Georgia when we passed our neighbors Bunt and Sandra Helton driving down Interstate 75. It really is a small world. Before we attended the convention we were able to visit St. Pete Beach. We had a great time watching God end the day with beautiful sunsets and making beautiful mornings. We enjoyed the parks and spending time with friends. Overall it was a wonderful trip and lots of wonderful memories made."

Congratulations to Cade Snow who came in 1st place in the Watts Bar Kids Fishing Tournament. He caught a total of 15.10 pounds and won \$100.

Will, Kristy, Taylor, Liam and Kelsey Smith took a family vacation to Florida. They stayed at Disney World for 5 days and visited all the parks. Everyone enjoyed the rides, especially the roller coasters. After that they drove over to Daytona Beach for a day to rest and relax a bit. It was a great week of family time.

On Sunday July 4, Jeremy and Melanie Hicks hosted friends and family to celebrate Rhylan's 15th birthday, which was July 8. The evening ended with a fireworks

show that lasted over an hour.

Kelsey Smith turned 9 years old on July 7. She celebrated at home with her family. She requested beef stroganoff for her birthday lunch! Then she went to the movies with her family to watch Boss Baby followed by ice cream. She is most looking forward to not having to ride in a booster seat anymore!

I have already mentioned a couple of these but I want to say "Happy Birthday" to the Ellis Bingham Road folks with a July Birthday. They are: Ryan Powers July 1, Glen Powers July 5, Kristan Headrick July 5, Kelsey Smith July 7, Anna Shelton July 8, Rhylan Hicks July 8 and James Helton July 29. I apologize if I missed anyone.

The first annual "Boom on the Bluff" was held July 4. This was a Helton/Disney production and was the idea of Zach Helton and Justin Disney. Their buddy, Tyrel Holman, was a sponsor. Zach, Justin and Tyrel are all OHS Alumni and love the idea of bringing the community together. The fireworks were shot from the home of Zach and Tabitha on the bluff where the big cross is and could be seen all around Oakdale. Cars were lined up along Airport Road as well as in the Bottoms. Zach Helton said "There were 20+ car loads of people at our house and many more down below. I'm so happy about the great turnout. We have had so many positive comments. It was a lot of work but was very rewarding. We can't thank everyone enough for their support. We are already making plans for next year and welcome sponsors that want to contribute." Thank you gentlemen and we look forward to this new tradition!

Larry and Marlene Goldston's family gathered at their home July 4 to celebrate Independence Day as well as Lyndell Goldston's 50th birthday.

Sarah Kate Norris competed in the Solo, Duo, Trio Performing Arts division at the National Junior Beta Convention in Orlando, Florida last week. Though she did not place in the top 10, she was honored to represent Oakdale School and appreciates the performance experience that she gained from the opportunity. Several members of her family traveled to Orlando to support Sarah Kate, including her parents, Darren and Julia, and brothers, Dakota and Jonah; Aunt Gina Hickling and cousin Riley Hickling; and cousins Zach, Emily, Landon, Whitley, and Zya Botkin. They enjoyed their time together visiting Walt Disney World and Universal Studios.

Paul and Leslie Yeary celebrated the 4th of July with some of their children, grandchildren great-grandchildren. The tradition of making homemade ice cream was enjoyed by everyone. The great-grandchildren really enjoyed the foam waterslide! A highlight of the day was getting a call from Paul and Leslie's grandson, Derrick Collins who is an Academic Advisor at a university in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

Mathew Adrian Reynolds, Jr. turned one year old July 5. Jr. celebrated with an astronaut birthday part on Saturday, July 3. His parents

are Mat and Chloe Reynolds. His sister, Ophelia, turned 3 on June 30th.

Stanley, Bridget, Ava, Landry and Sawyer Smith vacationed in Florida last week. They visited the Everglades which they found to be awesome. They went to the Everglades National Park and did some hikes on boardwalks and one through a jungle. They went to an alligator farm where they held 4 different sizes of alligators and held up the head of an 8 foot alligator. They visited Key Largo. Tropical Storm Elsa didn't cause much interference and they had a great time.

Bunt and I vacationed in Redington Shores with our children and grandchildren a couple of weeks ago. Gail Ruppe spent the week with us. There was swimming, dolphin watching, playing in the sand, fishing, crabbing after dark, putt putt, jigsaw puzzle working, beautiful sunsets, lots of good food and plenty of laughter. Elijah caught a shark and a sting ray. Hattie loved chasing the crabs at night. Clara began learning to swim in the ocean. Maura enjoyed swimming, sunning and catching crabs at night. We saw rainbows over the ocean. We visited Sarasota Jungle Gardens where the highlight was feeding flamingos from our hands. It was a wonderful week full of blessings and lots of memories were made.

Kyle and Kayla Ruppe hosted friends and family at their home Sunday evening, July 4 for a delicious meal followed by fireworks.

Sympathy is extended to Kathy and Daniel Coffey due to the passing of Kathy's dad, Delbert Crabtree. He is also survived by his daughter April Conlin, his sons Matthew Crabtree, Frankie Crabtree, Johnny Ooten, his mother, Grace Crabtree, several siblings and grandchildren. Services were held Sunday, July 11 with burial following in Midway Cemetery.

Condolences to Kim Everett, her husband Brad and her children, Ben, Ellen and Naomi due to the passing of her daddy, Don Long. Mr. Long is also survived by his wife Naomi Joyce Long, children Vernon, Donna and Lori and a host of grandchildren and other family members. Services were held Friday, July 2 and the graveside service and interment were Saturday, July 3 at Anderson Memorial Gardens.

Sympathy is extended to Amy Smith Gibbs due to the passing of her husband, Marty Gibbs, on July 1. He is also survived by his children Joshua (Marli) Smith, Jared Smith and Bridget Morris and many other friends and family. Services were held Monday, July 5 and burial was at Pine Orchard Church Cemetery.

"Consider how precious a soul must be when both God and the devil are after it. " Charles Spurgeon



Carol Hall
Author

Disappeared: Chapter 4: Part 1

Maggie-Day 2, cont.

Maggie was slowly coming to. The fog in her brain was starting to lift and she slowly opened her eyes. She found herself lying on the ground on a makeshift bed of beaten down weeds and grass. The area was surrounded by deep woods on all sides. She had no idea where she was or what time it was, but it looked to be around mid-afternoon judging

by where the sun sat in the sky.

She turned her head from side to side surveying her surroundings. She became vaguely aware that she was not alone. She started to sit up, when a low, deep growl sounded from somewhere just out of sight. She stiffened. What was making the noise? A bear? A man? She sat there stiffly for several minutes, afraid to move. Suddenly a movement to her right caught her eye. She turned her head in that direction. What she saw made her blood run cold. Sheer terror welled up inside her as she looked up at a creature almost twice the size of a normal man. It was over 9 feet tall, covered in a reddish brown fur with huge feet and hands. Its face was almost completely obscured by fur, but she could make out a high brow line, flat nose and small black eyes. It reeked of wet animal, urine and rotten food. She recoiled from it and let out a scream so loud it deafened her.

The monster knelt down beside her on one knee, pressing its face close to hers. It looked at her over, tilting its head to one side as if trying to figure her out. She screamed again.

It lifted up its enormous hand and struck her hard across the face. It hit her with such force that it knocked her backward and onto her side. Pain explored in her head. She tasted blood in her mouth and knew her lip was split open.

She lay there stunned for a moment, then slowly sat up and turned back to the creature. She reached up and ran her finger across her busted lip, wiping the blood from it.

The monster continued to watch her as if waiting for her to do something. She scooted a few inches away from it. It continued to watch her.

She scooted a few more inches away.

If she could just get far enough away to be able to stand up and run, she might stand a chance of escape.

She maintained eye contact with it as she slowly continued to inch away a little at a time. When she was about 6-7 feet from it, she stood up and bolted for the trees. She had barely made it to the tree line when the monster's huge arm snagged her around the waist, hauling her back against its body. She started to let out a scream, but the huge hand covered her face preventing any noise coming from her. It swung back around and threw her onto the makeshift bed. She hit the ground with a thud.

Stunned, she lay there for a moment to see if any pain came. When nothing too serious seemed to be hurting, she rolled back over and sat up.

The creature was standing in front of her. From her viewpoint, she saw that it was a male. Great! What was this thing's intentions toward her? Was it going to kill her? Eat her? Rape her? Fear unlike anything she had ever felt in her life washed over her. She scooted back away from it, pulling her knees up under her chin and wrapping her arms around her legs. She started to tremble as tears began streaming down her face.

The creature sat down in front of her and just stared quizzically at her for a long time.

Through her tears, she saw it reach out for her. She jerked away from its touch. "NO!" she yelled. The beast crunched up its face and let out a roar. The sound was so loud and deep, she felt it in her bones. She started crying even harder. "What do you want?" she screamed.

It reached out a hand and grabbed one of her legs. She tried to pull it back, but the monster was too strong. He pulled her foot toward him until it rested on his knee. She didn't dare move a muscle. What was it doing? Was it going to break her leg for trying to escape?

He grabbed her boot and started yanking on it, trying to remove it.

He yanked several times, but the laces were tied too tight and she had double knotted the bow. His yanking had caused her to be jerked closer to him. Frantic to get away, she reached down and quickly undid the knot and untied the laces. She jerked her foot free from the boot and scooted back away from him again.

He looked at the boot in his hands, then tossed it to the side. He reached out for her other leg, but realizing what he wanted, she untied the strings and pulled the boot off herself. She threw the boot at him, hitting him in the chest with it. He caught the boot and tossed it off to the side with the other one.

Maggie watched as her boots were tossed just out of reach. Why did he want her boots off? Was it to keep her from running away?

She didn't take her eyes off him as he adjusted his position and sat down just a few feet from her.

Maggie lay curled up on her side on the makeshift bed. She was hungry and tired. She hadn't eaten anything since the breakfast bar and bottle of water she had at the camp that morning. The monster never moved more than a few feet from her. She knew she couldn't make a run for it now without her boots. Any time she tried to reach for them, he would growl and move toward them. Finally, after a couple of tries to retrieve them, he picked them up and threw them out of reach. Whenever she tried to move at all, he would push her back down onto the bed with his massive hands.

Finally, she just gave up and lay there quietly. She thought about Nick. What would he do when he realized she was missing? He would never give up looking for her, that's for sure, but would he be able to find her? She felt hopeless and scared. Would she ever see Nick again? What would happen if he did find her with this monster? A shudder ran through her.

She looked over at the enormous animal sitting so close to her. For some dumb reason she felt the need to name him. She figured she had to call him something. Big Brut came to mind. He was a big bully and Brutus seemed to fit. She laughed

at herself. Ok fine, she thought, Brutus it is!

After a short time, she heard a loud wood knock somewhere off in the distance. Brutus quickly stood up and grabbed a fallen tree limb the size of his arm. He walked over to the nearest tree and lifting the tree limb up high, he swung it around slamming it into the tree. The reverberating sound filled the forest.

Maggie sat straight up at this point and watched him hit the tree a couple more times. She now knew what the knocking sound Evie had heard last night was. It was Brutus.

Just as this thought occurred to her, another loud knock sounded off in the distance. Brutus turned toward the noise and let out a long "Whoooooop". Maggie froze, fear gripping her anew. Was he calling to another one of his kind?

Just then, another Bigfoot walked out of the forest and into the clearing. This one was obviously a female. It had large breasts and was dark brown in color. She wasn't as tall as Brutus. Maggie guessed she was maybe around 8 feet tall.

The female made some kind of sound in her throat and Brutus looked down at Maggie, then back to her. He responded by making the same kind of sound, only longer and deeper.

The female huffed and threw out her chest, then lunged toward Maggie. Maggie jumped back and let out a scream just as she was about to swoop down on her.

Brutus stepped in front of Maggie and bellowed out a warning at the female Bigfoot. She stopped dead in her tracks and looked at Brutus. She sniffed the air and huffed again. Brutus snorted a couple of times. The female put her head down, backed away a few feet and sat down on the ground.

Brutus sat back down next to Maggie.

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Carol Hall was born and raised in Chester, West Virginia, but she currently lives in Lancing, TN with her husband and three cats. Her writing career began with her first book, Disappeared in November 2019. Since then she has written several more books including The Journey North, The Inheritance, Full Moon Rising, The Witch of Broenwyck and Saving Grace. Her love of writing began at an early age when her father would tell her and her sisters fun, adventurous stories he created out of his own imagination. These stories sparked an interest in Carol to tell her own stories.

Carol's love of writing has spread across several different genres including, action/adventure, mysteries, horror, and drama.



Cas Walker Brings a Future Star to Wartburg



**Tom Redmon
Columnist**

It was some-time in the 50's when Cas Walker brought his musicians to the courthouse square in Wartburg. Cas, as you know, was a million-

aire who owned a string of super markets across East Tennessee. He

was also a politician who supported certain conservative candidates. This was the reason he was in Morgan County on a beautiful September day.

Before the band started playing and Cas Walker was yet to arrive, two teenage girls were playing Jacks on the courthouse steps. One was Kay Jones and the other one was Mary Ellen Redmon. While they were playing, a blonde girl, around eleven-years-old came by and asked the girls what they were playing. One of the girls said "we are playing Jacks, haven't you ever played Jacks?" She said, "no would you care to show me how to play?"

In the next ten or fifteen minutes the two girls taught Dolly Parton how to play Jacks. Dolly had started working for Cas Walker in 1956 at the age of ten. She had come to Wartburg to sing with the band that Cas Walker had hired to play on WROL radio and later on T.V.

Little did these two girls know or realized who they were playing Jacks with. At the time Dolly was just as poor as they were. She was born on January 19, 1946 and was the fourth child in a family of twelve children. She grew up in a place called Locust Ridge in Sevier County. Cas Walker was also born in Sevier County.

Some people say that Cas Walker discovered Dolly Parton. It is true that he gave her the opportunity to showcase her talent in 1956 on his Farm and Home Show on WROL and WIVK. But many give her Uncle Bill Owens the credit because he took her under his wing and didn't give up on her becoming a star in country music. After graduating from high school in 1964 Owens took her to Nashville and at first the road to stardom was pretty rocky. She got pretty hungry and, in her autobiography, she talked about shoplifting food. Of course, when Dolly started making money she went to the store and paid them – probably double. You know the rest of the story. Dolly went on to become a multi-millionaire. Only in America can this happen.

Dolly not only had talent in singing and acting but she knew how to manage money and make investments. She also knew when it was time to move on and try new adventures. Porter Waggoner felt she should have stayed with him.

The Cas Walker band didn't go any further than Knoxville. They continued to

play for Cas and several times we saw them on the court house lawn and they continued to perform on WROL and WIVK. They all had other jobs because Cas didn't pay them enough to live on. Cas Walker was another good manager of money. At fourteen he went over the mountain to North Carolina; got a job with a lumber company then at the age of twenty worked in the coal mines, saved his money and went to Knoxville and bought a grocery store. He ended up having twenty-nine super markets in Tennessee, Kentucky, and Virginia. He became a multi-millionaire.

Cas not only helped Dolly Parton get started but also helped Tennessee Ernest Ford and several bluegrass pickers get started.

When I lived in Cookeville I got con-

ected with a little country/gospel band and we got to be a warm up band at two or three political rallies. One was for Tex Ritter who was running for the Senate in the late 60's. Tex made a speech after we played and his hired union musicians didn't show up on time. I thought we were going to be asked to play for Tex and there was no way we could do High Noon or Rye Whiskey or any Tex Ritter numbers. Finally, they did show up and boy did Tex give them a chewing out over the sound system.

mayor of Nashville as well as the governor of Tennessee didn't want this bunch of hillbillies giving their city a hayseed reputation. But the Grand Ole Opry was already there and music producers like Fred Rose were fighting and Nashville would one day become Music City USA. Knoxville didn't fight enough.

Orton Caswell "Cas" Walker died September 28, 1998 at the age of ninety-six. He will always be remembered in Knoxville as a grocery store owner, a newspaper publisher, a city councilman, mayor and coon hunter. In 1967 Dolly returned to Knoxville to perform once more for Mr. Walker.

This little blonde headed girl from the foothills of the Smokies who once played

Jacks on the courthouse steps with my sister

and Kay Jones is now popular worldwide,

and is worth millions of

dollars. In 1986

she wanted to do some-

thing for the people around

Sevierville so Dollywood

was started. Every year

new things are added to

Dollywood and new jobs are

also added. When Dolly

wore her coat of many colors to school the

other children laughed at

her, but now no one is laughing. Just think,

at one time Dolly Parton was just a poor

little girl from the mountains, who had some

big dreams, and she didn't stop until those

dreams came true.



her, but now no one is laughing. Just think, at one time Dolly Parton was just a poor little girl from the mountains, who had some big dreams, and she didn't stop until those dreams came true.

We also got to play before Faron Young and Carl Smith. Faron had recently got into a fight with someone in a pool hall. He had a big knot on his head where someone had hit him with a pool ball, but it didn't affect his singing.

Knoxville almost became Music City and not Nashville. Many musicians came through Knoxville and played on the Midday Merry-go-round. Don Gibson, Roy Price, Carl Smith, Chet Adkins, the Carter Family and Carl Butler were some of them. The



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Ramblings From My Front Porch



Terry Futrell
Author

There was a time when almost every house had a large front porch where the family, and perhaps neighbors, would gather in the evening to unwind in the cool breeze after a hard day of work. Houses were not air conditioned and the front porch offered the only relief from the sweltering heat.

When we built our house 20 years ago, my wife's one requirement was that it have a large front porch not facing the evening sun. Being addicted to homecooked meals, I made sure that she got her wish and our house has a large front porch – 10 feet by 44 feet. This provides lots of room for gathering and passing the time in Amish-built rockers. Lately, I have been sitting on the front porch in the shade quite a bit.

Now, some folks might think that the world's most significant problems are solved in the halls of Washington, or perhaps at the United Nations in New York. Not so! I can tell you with absolute confidence that the greatest solutions for what ails this planet are developed right there on my front porch as I ponder practically everything under the sun. Here are just a few examples of my front porch ramblings.

Goodness, I have to swat a lot of mosquitos while sitting on my front porch. They are really pesky little critters. I wonder if mosquitos existed in the Garden of Eden when Adam and Eve were running around naked as jaybirds. Surely not, because that definitely would not have been a garden paradise. If mosquitos did exist before Eve plucked the apple, God must have changed their nature after the fall as part of man's punishment for sin.

Looks like the folks who bought the lot next to us are waiting on lumber prices to come down before building their new house. I never dreamed that I would see the day when an eight-foot 2x4 stud would sell for almost nine dollars. Who in their right mind would pay such a price? Not this old country boy! I saw a headline today that said lumber prices are beginning to tumble. It is going to take a huge amount of tumbling before the price reaches a level that I am willing to pay. They say prices have risen because of high demand, but the skeptic in me smells something rotten in Denmark.

I have never seen such demand in the housing market, with many

existing homes selling for more than their listing price, and certainly more than their appraised value. It really is a seller's market. But a lot of folks who are rushing out to buy homes are in for a very rude awakening. When the housing market crashes, many will find that they still owe more on their mortgage than their house is worth. The number of foreclosures will skyrocket. I heard on Saturday that one small area mortgage lender is ready to foreclose on 400 houses as soon as the no-eviction order is lifted by the government. This could make the housing market collapse of 2008 seem like a picnic, and its impact on the economy will be overwhelming. There appears to be very little that either political party can do to stop it. For that reason, don't be surprised if the government keeps extending its no-eviction order.

I heard my first cicada Saturday and they are out in full force tonight. The only thing louder is the 4th of July fireworks going off all around us. We used to call cicadas "jar flies" when I was a kid – we would catch them in mason jars. A lot of folks used to call them "locusts" but I

think locusts are really grasshoppers. Nonetheless, they seem to be here for a while and will probably disturb my quiet time on the front porch.

It seems that a lot of people are confused about their gender these days, which is something that I really don't understand. Why, ever since I was a toddler many decades ago, I have known with absolute certainty what my gender is. And if I ever get confused about the matter, I am reminded of my true gender every time that I go to the bathroom. Seeing is believing! Maybe we could solve this problem by offering free eye exams to those who are confused!

Can't believe it is only a few weeks until football season kicks off.

Things are going to be so different this year with many key players having graduated and with Coalfield and Greenback having coaching changes. I sure am going to miss my buddies Jared and Keith Henry. Guess I will have to just sit here quietly on the porch for a few minutes and relive some great memories of them, especially their kindness to me. Do I even want to photograph football games this year? After all, this old body doesn't have the reflexes that it once did, and it can be dangerous on the sidelines. Guess this one will require more thinking.

Whew! All this pondering has worn out my brain. I reckon it's time to go inside and take a nap.



The shady view from Terry's front porch where he ponders solutions to the world's difficult problems. [Photo by Terry Futrell]

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Around The World and Back Again

with Zack Ballinger



Don't Be a Zombie: Discover your Passion and Purpose Part 1

"I have looked in the mirror every morning and asked myself: 'If today were the last day of my life, would I want to do what I am about to do today?' And whenever the answer has been 'No' for too many days in a row, I know I need to change something."

—Steve Jobs

my life, career-wise. I wanted a career doing something I loved, while providing a reasonable financial wellbeing for myself. I always thought the overall goal in life was to make as much money as possible, even if you didn't like your profession. My plan was to make a six-figure annual salary and retire at the age of 60. I only had to work approximately 38 years before I could be happy and retire rich. Who wouldn't be happy making a six-figure income? I graduated from the University of Tennessee with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration. I thought working in the business world would bring me

He explained that he woke up an hour early every morning just to prepare for his day. He absolutely loved what he was doing. He found his calling in life by leading and mentoring children and teachers. Even though his job was very stressful, every morning he woke up excited about going to work. I never told David, but I always had a deep down jealousy of him after that night. David wasn't a millionaire, but was financially very comfortable. "How could this be?" I always thought to myself. How could David really like what he was doing and still make a decent living? I mean, can anybody really be happy going to work? I desperately wanted that happiness for my life.

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.



happiness, since that was my area of study. My concentration was marketing, but I ended up taking a sales job right out of college. I was miserable from

For many years, I struggled with the question most people are asked at the age of 5, "What do you want to be when you grow up?" After I graduated college, I still had no clue what I really wanted to do with

day one. I loved sales, but disliked what I was selling.

After three years of working in sales, I met one of my friends from college for dinner. We had lost touch after graduation

and wanted to catch up on old times. David majored in Elementary Education. He was an elementary school teacher who advanced at a rapid pace and was recently promoted to Assistant Principal. Over our dinner conversation, his eyes lit up when he spoke about his new job and how much he loved what he did. I could hear the passion and excitement in his voice. It seemed like the whole dinner conversation was centered on David's career joy. I let him share all the details because I could tell it made him happy to talk about it.

NOW HERE'S A TIP

By JoAnn Derson

- * Dill planted near tomatoes will draw caterpillars away from the fruits. And it's delicious.
- * Potato salad will have more flavor if you whisk together all the dressing ingredients and add it to the potatoes when they are warm. The potatoes will absorb the ingredients better, and the flavor will develop even more during refrigeration.
- * "I love to grill, and when it's nice out, we grill every weekend. I always put on extra and use the leftovers through the week. Chicken in salad, a nice flank steak for fajitas, etc. And it means less cooking for me!" -- Y.L. in Maryland
- * Here's a great recipe for an icy treat: Freeze orange juice or apple juice in ice trays. Throw a hand-

ful in the blender for a fruit slush that can't be beat on a hot day.

* "A lot of smoke was coming off our grill, and our patio doors were wide open. Long story short: It swamped the living room with smoke. The smell was a little overwhelming. After we closed the door, my neighbor doused a kitchen towel with white vinegar, wrung it out and waved it around the room. It cleared out the smoke smell right away, and the vinegar smell went away just as quickly. What a miracle!" -- F.F. in South Carolina

* Got poison ivy? The maddening itch might find relief from coffee grounds or a cooled cuppa. It contains anti-inflammatories.

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803.

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STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- * The fuller your refrigerator, the more energy-efficient it is.
- * In 2005, a Powerball drawing had a stunning 110 second-place winners, all of whom attributed their luck to ... a fortune cookie. No foul play was involved, just a Chinese fortune cookie distribution factory named Wonton Food, which happened to correctly foretell five of the six winning numbers. Each grateful recipient took home between \$100,000 and \$500,000.
- * Master of suspense Alfred Hitchcock was an ovophobe, or someone who is frightened of eggs.
- * Children of identical twins are

genetically siblings, not cousins.

* Notwithstanding the fact it has no feathers, beak or talons, the Goodyear Blimp is the official bird of Redondo Beach, California.

* James Cameron sold the film rights to "The Terminator" for \$1. It went on to earn a worldwide total of \$78.3 million at the box office in 1984.

* The comb jelly, aka the warty comb jelly, sea walnut or "Mnemiopsis leidyi," is the only known animal to have a transient anus -- or, in more common parlance, a disappearing butt.

* The green code in "The Matrix" was actually created from symbols in the code designer's wife's sushi cookbook.

* Comic Sans, designed by Vincent Connare in 1995, has been labeled the world's most hated font. Even its creator isn't much of a fan, admitting that he has only used it once, to write a complaint letter to his internet provider. At least he received a refund.

* Australia's Lake Hillier and Hutt Lagoon are known for their vibrant pink and lilac hues, due to the presence of the algae "Dunaliella salina."

Thought for the Day: "There is something beautiful about all scars of whatever nature. A scar means the hurt is over, the wound is closed and healed, done with." -- Harry Crews

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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King Crossword

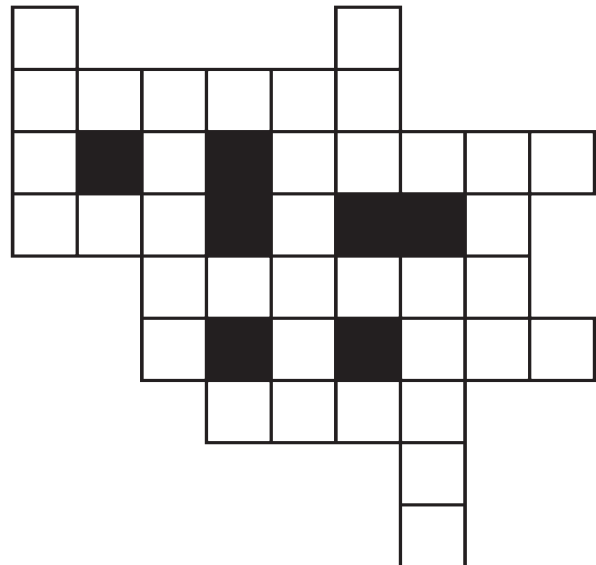
ACROSS

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- | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 30 Church key-board | 10 Hobbling | 30 Unique |
| 49 Initial chip | 11 Broadway failure | 33 "Amen to that!" |
| 31 Big D.C. lobby | 16 "— Rock" | 34 Actor Rickman |
| 32 Realm | 19 Epidermis | 36 "Adam Bede" author |
| 34 Hertz rival | 20 Rosebud, to Kane | 37 Poet Teasdale |
| 35 Swiss peaks | 21 Pisa farewell | 38 Roasting spot |
| 36 Justice Kagan | 22 Trademark symbols | 39 Bloke |
| 37 Waterlogged | 23 One-named supermodel | 40 911 responders |
| 40 Mideast airline | 25 Faucet problem | 42 Wee dollop |
| 41 Say it's so | 26 Letter holder | 43 Sugary suffix |
| 42 Rectangular game pieces | 27 Ms. | 44 Moray, for one |
| 46 Painter Magritte | 28 Tabula — | 45 America's uncle |
| 47 Regarding | | |
| 48 Shell-game | | |
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- YHE
- RUMSIP
- PHYMN
- LEHO
- MERBOY
- ♥ AET
- LYPA
- ♥ TESLM
- ♥ MYA
- ♥ NELCAT
- HENSE
- ♥ EMTA



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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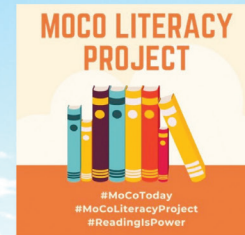


WILD HOG FESTIVAL

Morgan County Today



mocotoday.com

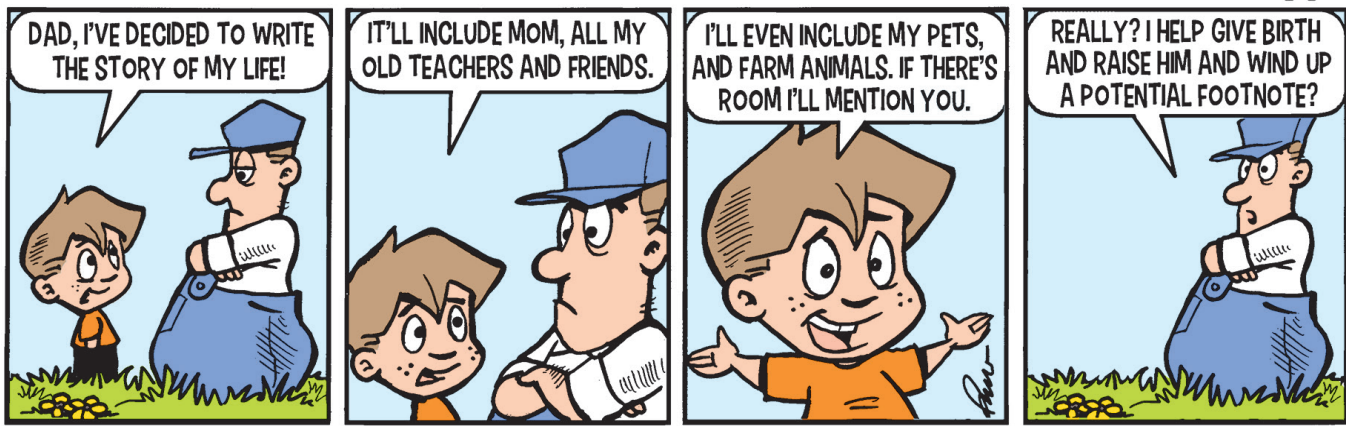


MORE THAN A NEWSPAPER



Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



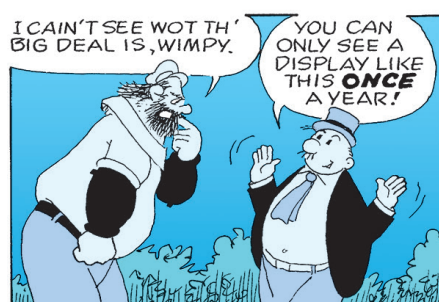
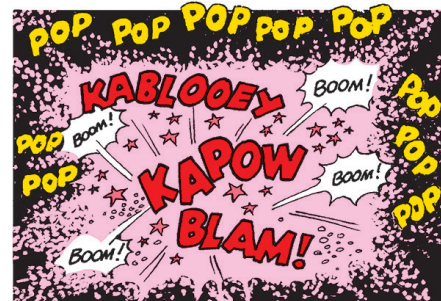
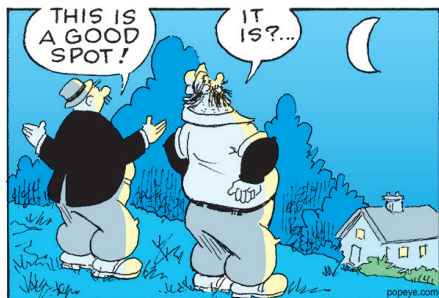
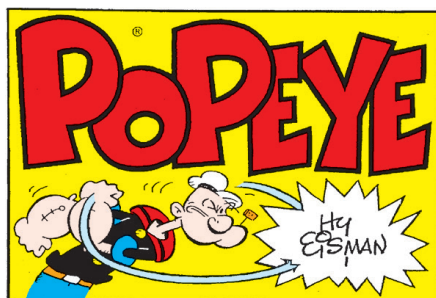
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



MOMENTS IN TIME

The History Channel

 * On July 30, 1619, in Jamestown, Virginia, the first elected legislative assembly in the New World -- the House of Burgesses -- convenes in the choir of the town's church. Its first laws included prohibitions against gambling, drunkenness and idleness. Sabbath observance was made mandatory.

* On July 31, 1937, Charles Martine, an Apache scout who played an important role in the surrender of Geronimo, dies on the Mescalero Reservation in New Mexico.

* On July 26, 1948, President Harry Truman signs Executive Order 9981, banning discrimination in the military. It ended a long-standing practice of segregating Black soldiers and relegating them to more menial jobs. African Americans had been serving in the U.S. military since the Revolutionary War.

* On July 29, 1967, a fire on the USS Forrestal stationed off the coast of Vietnam kills 134 service members. The deadly fire on the Navy carrier began with the accidental launch of an F-4 Phantom-jet rocket, which hit a parked A-4 Skyhawk jet.

* On July 28, 1978, "National Lampoon's Animal House," a movie spoof about 1960s college fraternities, starring John Belushi, opens in U.S. theaters. "Animal House" became a huge box-office hit, spawned a slew of cinematic imitations and became part of pop-culture history.

* On Aug. 1, 1981, "MTV: Music Television" goes on the air for the first time, with the words "Ladies and gentlemen, rock and roll." The Buggles' "Video Killed the Radio Star" was the first music video on the new cable TV channel.

* On July 27, 1996, in Atlanta, the XXVI Summer Olympiad is disrupted by the explosion of a nail-laden pipe bomb in Centennial Olympic Park. Police were warned of the bombing in advance, it exploded before the anonymous caller said it would. Attention eventually turned to Eric Robert Rudolph, who was captured in 2003 after hiding in the mountains for five years.

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Haman in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. From Genesis 21, who did Abraham banish to the desert in addition to Hagar? *Laish, Haman, Ishmael, Laban*
3. Which two disciples asked Jesus if they could sit on his right and his left? *Philip, James, Thomas, John*
4. Samson was put into prison as a political enemy of whom? *Romans, Israelites, Philistines, Assyrians*
5. From Matthew 17, who did Jesus send fishing to find tax money? *Andrew, Peter, Paul, Judas*
6. After her first husband died, who did Ruth marry? *Isaiah, Ahab, Boaz, Jehu*

ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) Ishmael; 3) James/John; 4) Philistines; 5) Peter; Boaz

"Test Your Bible Knowledge," a book with 1,206 multiple-choice questions by columnist Wilson Casey, is available in stores and online.

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Comfort foods

Made fast and healthy



by Healthy Exchanges

Heavenly Hash Cream Pie

If you're like most folks, dessert is the exclamation point to the meal! Well, this delicious pie is quite a way to punctuate any menu.

- 2 (4-serving) packages sugar-free instant white chocolate pudding mix
- 1 1/2 cups nonfat dry milk powder
- 2 cups water
- 3/4 cup reduced-calorie whipped topping
- 1 1/2 teaspoons coconut extract
- 6 (2 1/2-inch) chocolate graham crackers
- 1 (6-ounce) purchased chocolate piecrust
- 2 tablespoons flaked coconut

1. In a large bowl, combine dry pudding mixes, dry milk powder and water. Mix well using a wire whisk. Blend in whipped topping and coconut extract. Coarsely crush 5 graham crackers. Fold in cracker crumbs.

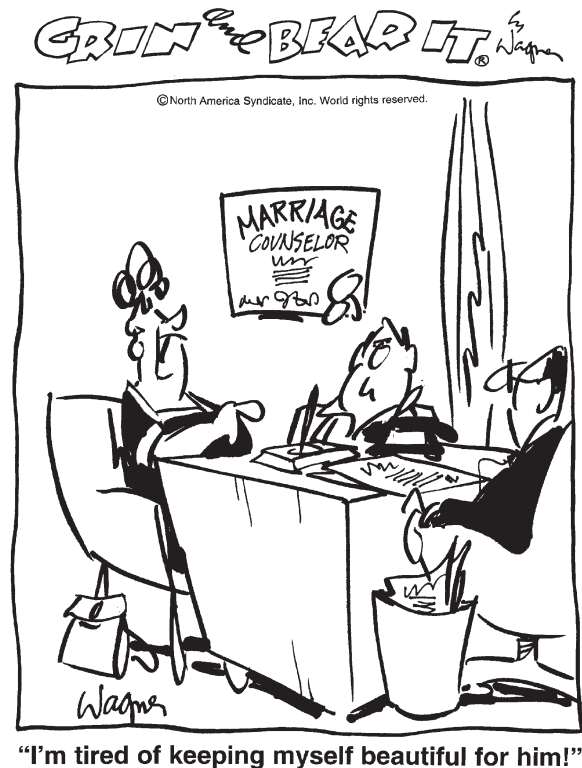
2. Spread mixture evenly into piecrust. Crush remaining 2 graham crackers into fine crumbs. Evenly sprinkle coconut and fine cracker crumbs over top. Refrigerate for at least 2 hours. Serves 8.

• Each serving equals: 206 calories, 6g fat, 6g protein, 32g carb., 516mg sodium, 1g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 1 1/2 Starch, 1/2 Fat-Free Milk.

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Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps



THE KITCHEN DIVA

By Angela Shelf Medearis

SALSA SNAPPER

As snappy as the pop of your fingers, this fish and fresh salsa is an easy skillet meal that's ready in just 22 minutes.



Salsa Snapper (Photo courtesy of Betty Crocker)

- 2 pounds red snapper, cod or other lean fish fillets
- 2 large tomatoes, chopped (2 cups)
- 1 medium green bell pepper, chopped (1 cup)
- 1 medium onion, chopped (1/2 cup)
- 1/4 cup finely chopped fresh cilantro or parsley
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup dry white wine or Progresso chicken broth (from 32-ounce carton)

1. Cut fish fillets into 8 serving pieces. Spray large nonstick skillet with cooking spray; heat skillet over medium heat.
2. Arrange fish in single layer in skillet. Cook uncovered 4 to 6 minutes, turning once, until fish flakes easily with fork. Remove fish to warm platter; keep warm.
3. Cook remaining ingredients except wine or broth in skillet over medium heat 3 to 5 minutes, stirring frequently, until bell pepper and onion are crisp-tender. Stir in wine or broth; heat through. Spoon tomato mixture over fish. Serves 8.

TIP: This recipe was a winning entry in a Betty Crocker contest celebrating African American cooking. Like it hot? Grab that bottle of hot sauce and add your soulful touch!

Recipe courtesy Betty Crocker, Inc. (www.bettycrocker.com/recipes).

Angela Shelf Medearis is an award-winning children's author, culinary historian and the author of seven cookbooks. Her new cookbook is "The Kitchen Diva's Diabetic Cookbook." Her website is www.divapro.com. To see how-to videos, recipes and much, much more, Like Angela Shelf Medearis, The Kitchen Diva! on Facebook. Recipes may not be reprinted without permission from Angela Shelf Medearis.

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Join us on August 7th, 2021

Grand Re-Opening and Benefit Concert

Our event will have:

Food Truck: Nacho Bisnez

Vendors

Raffle

Games

Concert: Pale Root

I am looking for local businesses that could set up a table or donate items for the raffle. I will promote all vendors that participate!

All proceeds from the concert and raffle will go to The Kennedy Ladd Foundation!

Ticket prices and participating vendor info coming soon. Activities will begin at 4 p.m. and the concert at 6 p.m.




3549 Airport Road Rockwood TN 37854
 Contact Kim Cox 865.363.7699
kdb0423@yahoo.com

Salsa Adds Spice to Red Snapper

If you're looking for a way to change your favorite fish recipe, try adding salsa. The word "salsa" really just means "sauce" in Spanish.

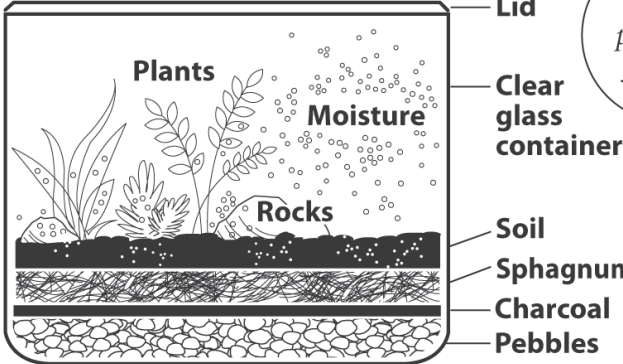
There are many different kinds of salsa. Salsa roja is a red sauce meant to be eaten warm, usually over enchiladas. Salsa verde is a green sauce made with tomatillos. Salsa ranchera means "ranch style" and is typically made of tomatoes and chilies cooked together. There's also salsa cruda or salsa fresca. "Cruda" means "raw," and "fresca" means "fresh." You also can find commercially packaged salsas in a variety of flavors, including mango, peach and pineapple. The levels of heat of the salsas range from mild to fiery-hot.

This simple recipe uses tomatoes, bell peppers and onions to create a salsa fresca topping for snapper. You also can use this delicious sauce on other types of firm-fleshed fish. Serve this spicy Salsa Snapper over angel-haired pasta, rice or cous cous. It's also delicious served on thick slices of toast that have been rubbed with a clove of garlic and brushed with olive oil.



Terrarium

A terrarium is a group of plants growing inside an enclosed, clear container. Once watered, these plants create a mini-environment, transpiring moisture through their leaves that condenses on the inside of the container and flows back to the soil. Some plants to consider using are arrow-head vines, begonias, ferns, swedish ivy and pothos. - Brenda Weaver
 Source: www.thegardenhelper.com



Lid

Clear glass container

Soil

Sphagnum moss

Charcoal

Pebbles

Do not place it in full sun!

THE RICH LOWRY COLUMN

By Rich Lowry

Republicans Should Bail on Infrastructure Deal

So far, the bipartisan infrastructure deal is going through the normal life cycle of such proposals -- alive, dead, revived, uncertain.

For Republicans, the best answer should be dead.

They have nothing to gain by blessing a portion of President Joe Biden's spending plans, when an ungodly amount of money is going to go out the door regardless of whether they vote for a chunk of it or not.

The conventional wisdom is that the Senate has to prove that it can work, and the test of its functioning is how much of Biden's spending Republicans endorse.

This is a distorted view of the Senate's role, which shouldn't be to get on board a historic spending spree for which Biden won no mandate and which isn't justified by conditions in the country (it's not true, for instance, that the nation's infrastructure is crumbling).

Besides, if bipartisan spending is the test, the Senate just a few weeks ago passed a \$200 billion China competition bill by a 68-32 vote. It used to be that \$200 billion constituted a lot of money, but now it doesn't rate, not when there's \$6 trillion on the table.

The infrastructure deal lurched from gloriously alive to dead when Biden explicitly linked its passage to the simultaneous passage of a reconciliation bill with the rest of the Democratic Party's spending priorities in it.

Then, it revived again when Biden walked this back, and promised a dual track for the two bills.

The fierce Republican insistence on these two tracks doesn't make much sense and amounts to asking Democrats to allow a decent interval before going ahead with the rest of their spending -- Democrats are going to try to pass a reconciliation whether the bipartisan deal passes or not.

In other words, at the end of the day, there's only one track.

The calculation of Republicans supporting the deal is that a significant bipartisan package can take some of the heat off of Sens. Joe Manchin and Kyrsten Sinema in their resistance to eliminating the filibuster.

A deal that passes and is signed into law will certainly be a feather in their caps, but it's hard to believe they'd change their minds on the filibuster if the deal fell apart.

They are both so extensively and adamantly on the record in favor of the filibuster that a climb-down would be politically embarrassing and perilous.

Republicans supporting the deal also think that it will make passing the subsequent reconciliation bill harder. First, the parts of infrastructure that have the widest support -- roads and bridges -- will be in the deal and not in the reconciliation bill. Second, the unwelcome tax increases excluded from the bipartisan deal will be in the reconciliation bill.

This isn't a crazy calculation, although it's not clearly correct either. The higher the top-line number is for the reconciliation bill, the harder it will be to pass. By allowing Democrats to cleave off some spending into a bipartisan deal, the overall number for the reconciliation bill gets smaller. In other words, the bipartisan deal could make the partisan reconciliation easier, rather than harder, to pass.

It's not as though Biden is fiscally prudent on all other fronts except in this one area, which he considers a particularly important national investment with unmistakable returns. No, he's universally profligate. His reckless spending on all fronts (except defense) makes it more imperative for Republicans to stake out a position in four-square opposition.

The bipartisan deal is hardly exemplary legislation, by the way. It resorts to all the usual Beltway gimmicks to create the pretense that it's paid for, when it's basically as irresponsible as the rest of the Biden spending.

Bipartisanship has its uses, but so does partisanship. Joe Biden wants to be known for his FDR- and LBJ-like government spending, believing that it's the key to political success and to an enduring legacy. Fine. Let him and his party own it.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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Donna's Day Creative family fun

by Donna Erickson

Water Play Offers Cool Summer Fun

Kids can splash it, squirt it, sprinkle it, stir it, pour it or spray it. In fact, practically the only thing kids can't do with water is break it! That's why playing with water is so much fun, especially when the temperatures soar and the whole family needs to cool down.

You don't have to live near a lake, community pool or ocean to let your kids explore the wonders of the wet. Here are some ideas for both entertaining and educational water fun at home using a wading pool or sprinkler.

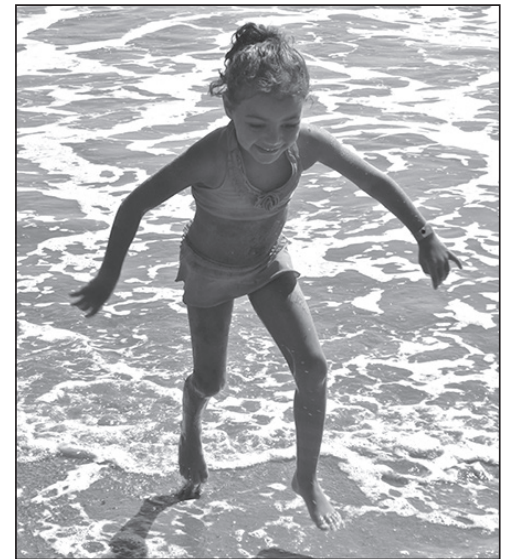
- Wading pools are like outdoor tubs, so it's fine for kids to bring favorite bath toys into the pool. Don't miss out on sharing some great water experiments with your kids and their friends by taking along items found in the kitchen, too. Bring a clean sponge for dipping, squeezing and sprinkling water on arms and legs.

- Plastic containers or measuring cups are perfect to show kids the concepts of volume, quantity and measurement. Let them explore how water "changes shape" by pouring from one container into another. They can use a plastic funnel for the filling and the spilling. Plastic squeegee or pump spray bottles from dish detergent or window cleaner — emptied and cleaned, of course — make great out-

door water squirters.

- For older kids, some landlubber games can become water games with the help of the sprinkler. Kids can play follow the leader by jumping through it. For extra fun, an adult can play music from a porch or deck for a variation on "musical chairs." When the music stops, whoever is under the sprinkler at the time is out.

It's a water world. Letting kids make friends with water indoors and out gives them a chance to explore, learn and play. It also helps them gain a sense of control and confidence around water that will later prepare them for dips in big pools, lakes, rivers and oceans.



Aubrie Odeyemi enjoys a day at the beach.

NOTE: For safety's sake, adult supervision is the rule when kids play in and with water.

Find more family fun at www.donnaerickson.com. Write to Donna at Info@donnaerickson.com

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VETERANS POST

by Freddy Groves

Don't Mess With the VA

This is a big no-no. An Ohio man threatened to kill a Department of Veterans Affairs social worker's daughters. You do not do that, no matter what your beef. You do not go after family. The Ohio idiot didn't even do it anonymously, sending a threatening text message, and it wasn't long before the VA Office of Inspector General was all over it. Turns out he was known to the social worker because he'd availed himself of homeless-veterans services and had been given permanent housing. Several years later, he was evicted due to multiple complaints of physical threats and public intoxication. Upset, he sent the threatening text message. At this point he's indicted. No established guilt. Court to be held later. At his arrest he was charged with disorderly conduct, resisting arrest and obstructing official

business. I hope the federal charges are stronger than that. You do not threaten family.

This next case I don't understand. Oh, I understand the theft and scamming part. What I don't understand is why it took so long. In 2017, a VA employee who worked in the IT department was nabbed and indicted for attempting to sell the personal info of veterans and employees he'd grabbed off the computers. He'd even narrowed down the victims to those making over \$50,000 per year, saying that would be valuable to identity thieves. He selected veterans who'd received compensation or a pension, those who went to a VA medical center and those who'd had a VA financial assessment. He even made fake credit cards and had the equipment to do that. He was picked up in a bathroom when he went to the VA to steal a server.

In 2019, he pleaded guilty to one charge in exchange for having the others dropped. Fast-forward to now: He's just been sentenced to 46 months, plus two years of supervised release.

What took so long?

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Historically Speaking

Two new Murals (and maybe more to come?)

By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

My good friend Jim Dodson is well known for his interest in art. He teaches it, does it himself, and promotes art in many ways in our city, Knoxville, and the state level as well. I was fortunate to work with him to engage Ed Westcott, famous Manhattan Project Photographer, when he used Ed's photographs to encourage his art class to draw images based on them. It was a delight to see Ed interact with those students. I miss Ed!

Jim has also arranged for several outdoor art exhibits in our city. I recently asked him to share his thoughts on the most recent examples, the mural at Melton Lake Park and the latest mural on Broadway Avenue. Here are his thoughts:

Oak Ridge, a city conceived in science and built to help win the war, is also a vibrant arts community. We have several performing arts organizations ranging from our Historic Playhouse to the Oak Ridge symphony, Community band, OR Civic Ballet, and others.

More recently, we have been placing more and more outdoor art around our community such as large sculptures and monumental murals in public places. Two of the newest murals were sponsored by Explore Oak Ridge and ORNLFCU respectively and created by local Oak Ridge resident Megan Lingerfelt. Many know Megan for the outdoor murals she has created in downtown Knoxville, most notably the restoration of the Dolly Parton mural in Strong Alley near Market Square in Knoxville.

The first mural that Megan was commissioned to create is in Melton Lake Park and painted on the side of the Oak Ridge Rowing Association boat house which faces Melton Lake Drive and greets residents and guest to our waterfront where we host rowers from around the country. The mural was made possible by a grant

to Explore Oak Ridge to help stimulate tourism.

Katy Watt, President of the organization wrote the grant and coordinated with me for help finding a talented artist and approving the most appropriate artwork that would represent our amazing parks and recreational offerings through iconic imagery. The mural at the waterfront is titled "Sunlight on Melton Lake" and depicts



Jim Dodson and Megan Lingerfelt pose in front of the most recent mural on the ORNL Federal Credit Union building on Broadway Avenue (Photo Submitted)



The mural on the ORNL Federal Credit Union building on Broadway Avenue (Photo Submitted)

the sunrise and sunset on either end of the words "OAK RIDGE".

The second mural created by the same artist is located on Broadway Avenue facing West Tennessee Avenue and is painted on the side of one of ORNLFCU properties. This mural commissioned by ORNLFCU and created by Megan Lingerfelt depicts the past, present, and future of our Oak Ridge Community through both iconic images taken by Ed Westcott and interpreted

in a compilation by Megan.

The official dedication of this beautiful mural took place at the mural's location on June 15 at 10am.

Both Explore Oak Ridge and ORNLFCU are to be commended for their vision to bring more art in public places to our town. We are so fortunate to have so many talented individuals who have contributed to the fabric of Oak Ridge that moving forward I would like to recognize these local leaders as other towns have to not only pay tribute to their work but to educate visitors to Oak Ridge as to the vibrant and dynamic history of the place, we all call home.

Thanks Jim, you are to be commended for your continuing efforts to bring art to our city.

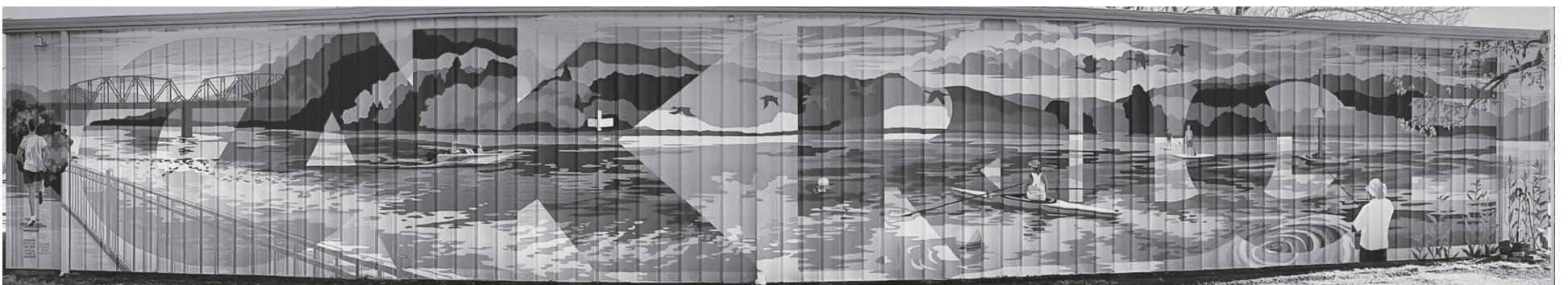
I wish other firms would pattern after ORNL Federal Credit Union and consider sponsoring other murals that featured our famous people. Really good portraits of Ed Westcott, Alvin Weinberg, General Groves, General Nichols, John Googin, Jack Case, Clark Center, Clifford Schull, Ernest Wollen, Eugene Wigner and others could be included in murals!

Other cities have done this with success. The murals are actual tourist attractions for them. We could do the same!

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.



The mural in Melton Lake Park (Photo Submitted)

Teshuva: Revival



John Burns
Opinion Columnist

When I pass a denominational church in America, and see the word revival, it causes me to pose the question? What does the word revival mean? Using proper Hebrew hermeneutics, the Biblical Hebrew word found in the Old Testament is the word "Chayah." The transliteration to English in our King James Bible is where we glean the word revival. The Hebrew definition by which we are to experience revival is rooted in bringing something back to life. To restore to consciousness or to restore to a previous condition.

Using only Jesus Christ's Biblical model, revival is grounded in a personal return to the word of God after asking God for mercy. Why does mercy precede revival? Mercy is the foundation upon which God is building the tabernacle of grace in the lives of individual believers. Your spiritual house of grace can only be built upon God's foundation of eternal mercy. Mercy is gleaned only when we study God's interaction with the stiff-necked people God is married to forever. They are our Jewish ancestors found in the pages of our Old Testament. When mercy had been exhausted in the lives of the nation God birthed in Egypt, Israel, grace appeared in Jerusalem. Grace has a name. It is Yeshua ha Messiaich or in English: Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ himself said he came unto the lost sheep of Israel, to save them from their sins. They were to become the first Christian witnesses to the world that had fallen so far away from worship of the world's creator. The first apostles were Jewish. The first Christian martyrs, were Jewish. The 120 disciples in the upper room on Pentecost were Jewish. The Jewish men Christ called to witness of his death, burial, and resurrection were all Jewish. Salvation has always been of the Jew first and then the Greek. I am the Lord and, I change not. Hallelujah!

Mercy is to not receive what we all deserve; for the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord. A Christian that is alive today, requires the same mercy they received at the point of accepting Jesus Christ's entire testimony of himself. This is called justification. Paul begins to illuminate who the just are in the book of Galatians. Justification is a legal term applied by Paul to describe what happens when a sinner accepts God's propitiation for sin Jesus Christ's death removed the penalty of sin over our lives. No double jeopardy in God's world. Forgiven and never to be tried again for our sins. Jesus Christ's death, for our eternal life. Our freedom for his imprisonment. Our Joy for his grief. And he did it all because he loves you, even if you were the only one. Hallelujah!

Mercy in the life of a Christian that produces God's justification, is the foundation for Christian revival. However, justification is only the first step in our Christian walk. There are two other steps taught by Paul to the Jewish and Gentile world that Christ entered. Justification should lead a believer to understand that we exist in the presence of sin. It is the power of sin that Christians will wrestle with, until Messiah returns. Until we are removed from the presence of sin, mercy should be our prayer so grace can appear in our lives. Grace is imputed to us sinners, only when we have the continuous humility to ask for God's eternal mercy. Hallelujah!

Sanctification is God's offer to Christians to overcome the power of sin in our lives. Sanctification is a continuous process that begins when we open the Bible and study to show ourselves approved, a workman rightly dividing the word of truth. It is an individual effort. Revival can only begin, when individual Christians pray to God. Open the Bible daily to see if what John Burns is saying is true. And a Christian testifies as to the overcoming nature of our most Holy Spirit in our own lives, with those we come into contact with daily. Who is an overcomer? 1 John 5:4. One who believes in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. A sanctified sinner is one who looks in the mirror, and judges only themselves by what the Bible says. Jesus Christ died to raise dead men to life. He did not die to make bad men good, for all the thoughts of man is only evil continually. To overcome evil in my own life, nothing but a return to thus says the Lord will suffice. To know evil from God's point of view takes the utmost humility. It is not the evil western educated seminary pastors' prostitute in their houses of worship every Sunday and Wednesday evening. God does not dwell in houses made with human hands. His desire has always been to inhabit the tabernacle of every person born of a woman. Corporate revival in church will only begin with individuals returning to the entire testimony of God found in both testaments of our most Holy Bible. Hallelujah!

Paul reminds us in Romans that the just shall live by faith. Romans 1:17 is the beginning of Paul teaching us what the product of justification in the lives of the sinner is. Faith is justification's only reward. Justification produced persecution in the lives of the people Christ convinced of his nature as God. Is it any different today? Should Christianity be comfortable? I think not. Teshuva. Repent and return

to the word of God in your individual life, persecution will follow, but take heart, for Christ has overcome the world once and for all. Revival will begin in America and in American denominational churches only when we return to God's entire testimony of his entire written word.

Sanctification is the second step for professing Christians that will one day lead to the promise of God of eternal life. Glorification is the third step in our Christian walk. It is our removal from the presence of sin. It occurs either at the point of physical death, or in my life, it will occur when God removes me from the wrath to come before the tribulation of the last seven years of Gentile government on earth. It is the period of time, revealed by Daniel as the 70th week of Israel's trials. It is referred to in the bible as the time of Jacob's troubles. The Holocaust will look like a picnic, when the Satanic trinity begins to persecute God's people in America. The Jewish remnant God removed from European persecution, has a short time to return to Israel as God commanded. Soon the man of lawlessness will be revealed, the bride will be removed, and Church goers will fall away completely from Jesus Christ's true doctrines found in the pages of the Old Testament. Our blessed hope as professing Christians should be the doctrine of the rapture taught by Enoch, Elijah, Rahab the harlot, Jesus Christ in John 14, and Paul the Apostle in the books referred to as his letter to the Thessalonians. Jesus Christ dictated 7 letters to seven churches in the book of Revelation. Of those seven churches only two are removed prior to the tribulation. Smyrna and Philadelphia. Smyrna is the persecuted Church. Those rare individuals willing to die for the testimony of Jesus Christ. Philadelphia being the missionary church who constantly witnesses to our fallen world while not be infected by church and men's traditions. The message of our gospel was intended for every person born of a woman and God needs individual Christian witness outside of the confines of church. Every person, every day, all the time. That is the church of Philadelphia. Sanctified by the entire word of God, and willing to die for their testimony! Hallelujah! Jesus Christ used a peculiar Greek word to describe the period of time between the church age and the tribulation of the last days. The word Meta-tauta is the final admonition to the church of Laodicea and it is the first word in Revelation 4. It means after these things. In Laodicea, the Churches are on Earth. In chapter 4 verse 1, the command to come up here and I will show which things shall be hereafter is a reference to the rapture. The true Church is in Heaven in chapter four of the book of Revelation. God always removes the righteous before he brings the vengeance of his wrath upon the earth. The bride of Christ is a subset of the body of Christ. Not all of the body of Christ will be raptured. Settle it in your heart this day whether Jesus Christ is indeed the Lord of your life? If you make Christ the Lord of your life, he must become your bridegroom and you must become his willing virgin bride. You must forgo church tradition in favor of thus says the Lord. When you do, your life will never be the same. Ask yourself a question? Would God spend 2,000 years and counting, finding his son a bride, only to beat her up for seven years? Not my God. Not my Jesus! He loves us and he is presently building my mansion in Heaven. He will very soon remove me from the wrath that is fast approaching the America that I love. Teshuva. Repent and return to the Bible today.

No privilege have I enjoyed more, than the privilege God gave me when he began to take me behind the veil of eternity 28 years ago. I have rebelled so many times, but God alone pre-destined me for salvation, marriage to his son, co-ruling on earth with Jesus Christ from Jerusalem, upon completion of the tribulation. 1,000 years, I will be by Jesus Christ as one of the 24 priest Kings worshipping at the altar of God in heaven. Ruling and reigning over all the kingdoms of this world with my risen Jewish Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ. Choose this day whom you will serve, as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord. He was crucified upon a cross of wood, yet he created the hill upon which it stood. John Burns 6-27-2021

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.

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



answer

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Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 26 mins.

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S	O	G	G	Y					E	L	A	L	
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Davis Funeral Home's Veteran of the Week

John Allan Chapman (July 14, 1965 – March 4, 2002) was a Combat Controller in the United States Air Force who was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor on August 22, 2018 for his actions in the Battle of Takur Ghar during the War in Afghanistan. He is the first airman to receive the Medal of Honor since the Vietnam War. Chapman was inducted into the Hall of Heroes on August 23, 2018, and posthumously promoted to Master Sergeant on the following day.

Chapman was also the first Air Force Combat Controller to be awarded the Air Force Cross before the award was subsequently upgraded to the Medal of Honor.

The citation accompanying his upgrade to the Medal of Honor reads as follows:

Technical Sergeant John A. Chapman distinguished himself by extraordinary heroism as an Air Force Special Tactics Combat Controller, attached to a Navy Sea, Air, and Land (SEAL) Team conducting reconnaissance operations in Takur Ghar, Afghanistan, on March 4, 2002. During insertion, the team's helicopter was ambushed causing a teammate to fall into an entrenched group of enemy combatants below. Sergeant Chapman



and the team voluntarily reinserted onto the snow-capped mountain, into the heart of a known enemy stronghold to rescue one of their own. Without regard for his own safety, Sergeant Chapman immediately engaged, moving in the direction of the closest enemy position despite coming under heavy fire from multiple directions. He fearlessly charged an enemy bunker, up a steep incline in thigh-deep snow and into hostile fire, directly engaging the enemy. Upon reaching the bunker, Sergeant Chapman assaulted and cleared the position, killing all enemy occupants. With complete disregard for his own life, Sergeant Chapman deliberately moved from cover only 12 meters from the enemy, and exposed himself once again to attack a second bunker, from which an emplaced machine gun was firing on his team. During this assault from an exposed position directly in the line of intense fire, Sergeant Chapman was struck and injured by enemy fire. Despite severe, mortal wounds, he continued to fight relentlessly, sustaining a violent engagement with multiple enemy personnel before making the ultimate sacrifice. By his heroic actions and extraordinary valor, sacrificing his life for the lives of his teammates, Technical Sergeant Chapman upheld the highest traditions of military service and reflected great credit upon himself and the United States Air Force.

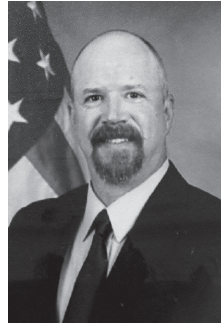
Law Enforcement Officer of the Week

Presented by Jerry Duncan Ford

This week we honor fallen Terre Haute Police Department detective and FBI Task Force Officer Greg Ferency as the law enforcement officer of the week. Officer Ferency was fatally shot Wednesday, July 7, 2021 in what officials are describing as an ambush.

The motive for the shooting remained unclear Thursday afternoon. On Thursday investigators said the suspect arrived at the building and waited for the opportunity to

shoot the detective. In a news release announcing the suspect's arrest, the Department of Justice said the man drove to the building, threw Molotov cocktails at it, which drew Ferency outside, then shot the detective. It remains unknown if Ferency was the intended target of it the shooter was attacking law



enforcement in general. Ferency was a detective and 30-year veteran of the police department. He served as an FBI Task Force officer since 2010. As a deputized FBI Task Force officer, Ferency was first assigned to the Safe Streets Task Force, which investigates gangs and violent crime, FBI Special Agent in Charge Paul Keenan said. Ferency later

worked on the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force. Chief (Ret) Steven Marshall stated, "A police officer should be remembered not by how he died but how he lived! A great man has gone to secure a safe path for the rest of us to follow. Thank you to you, your family and the Terre Haute Police Department. Our country is a little less safe without you. Rest in Peace Brother!"

Backlog increasing to 35 million tax returns



David Zubler
Columnist

Millions of people are still waiting for their much-needed refunds. The National Taxpayer Advocate reported that there is a growing backlog of 35 million unprocessed returns. In May the IRS was holding 31 million returns. The backlog at the IRS comes after a "perfect storm" that created "perhaps the most challenging filing season taxpayers, tax professionals and the IRS have ever experienced," wrote National Taxpayer Advocate Erin M. Collins. As a result of the pandemic the IRS had to shut down some of its operations, additionally it was also

given more responsibility from Congress from several new tax initiatives, such as the three rounds of stimulus checks that were distributed by the IRS. The stimulus required tens of millions of payments by the IRS. Much of the staff began teleworking due to the pandemic. Consequently, the IRS was required to spend time training employees to work remotely. Many of the tasks can't be done remotely. Workers must be on-site to receive, sort and distribute mail and to process paper returns.

Reconciliation of the stimulus payments caused a record number of returns to be manually processed this year. Processing centers are open; however, they were not able to operate at full capacity due to the social distancing requirements.

The Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) reported a complaint from IRS staff alleging that a lack of functioning printers and copiers has contributed to the backlog. The service contractors may not have been coming into the sites to replace the old printers due to Covid.

TIGTA reported that the lack of working copiers made it

difficult to prepare training packages for new hires. Many new hires are not provided a computer, and the hard copies of training material are the main training resource available. The IRS received more than 85.1 million calls to its critical 1040 customer support phone line for individual tax returns which is 978 percent from 2018. Consequently, only 3 percent of 85 million telephone calls reached a phone assister on the most frequently called toll-free number.

The ability of the IRS to answer phone calls is determined by the amount of staffing available. The National Taxpayer Advocate stated that the IRS is underfunded by Congress. Congress allocated enough funding for fiscal years 2020 and 2021 to reach a 60 percent level of service.

For fiscal 2022, the IRS is requesting a total program increase of \$915.5 million, including \$318 million to increase taxpayer assistance, IRS Commissioner Charles Rettig said in testimony for a Senate Finance Committee. The increase in funding was only projected to provide a phone service of 75 percent. However, if Congress approves the increase, it will provide a significant improvement from 2021.

Unless the IRS is requesting more information, there is nothing you can do but keep checking the "Where's My Refund" tool at irs.gov.

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.

Romans 11

(Romans 11:1-10) Israel's rejection and the remnant: at the end of the previous chapter, Paul described national Israel as a disobedient people. This section begins with the question: "Does this mean that God has cast off his people?" Absolutely not. At least not entirely. Surely not indiscriminately! The apostle himself is an example. He is of the seed of Abraham. So God did not cast off his people whom he foreknew. The apostle had already identified these people as Christians (8:29-30; 9:6-8). They subsequently are depicted as the "remnant according to the election of grace" (v.5).

As this discussion is begun, we must emphatically state that neither this chapter (which is commonly abused) nor any other in the Bible teaches a "national" conversion of the Jewish people. The reign of God was to be removed from physical Israel and replaced by a new nation, a spiritual Israel (Mt. 21:43; Gal. 6:16; 1 Peter 2:9). Paul's identity with Israel (v. 1) is a blend of his ethnic history and the new Israel---not the Israel that is castigated in this very segment of Scripture. I have discussed this matter in detail in my commentary, *Jeremiah & Lamentations*.

The prophet Elijah is mentioned. He lamented the fact that all faithful Hebrews seemingly had vanished---except him! He was wrong. God had thousands yet who had not capitulated to idolatry (v. 2-4). There was at this time (Acts 3:24; Rom. 8:18) a "remnant according to the election of grace." Note: (a) "Remnant" signifies a fragment, a minority of the whole. (b) These are they who have been "elected," an expression for the redeemed (1 Pet. 1:1; 2:4, 6, 9; 1:18; 22-23). It has nothing to do with the alleged unconditional election of Calvinism. First-century Jewish converts were the remnant. (c) The election process is the result of God's grace (Tit. 3:4-7). If salvation is of grace, it is not of works. Not by the works of the law of Moses, or any other legalistic system (2:20, 28), or by works of human merit (Eph. 2:8-9). A misunderstanding of this text has led many down the dead-end road of unconditional salvation---a terrible misguided conclusion. This context, however, does not nullify the necessity of obedience to divine commands in the Christian dispensation (Acts 2:38; 10:48; Rom. 6:17).

Physical Israel was obsessed with "seeking" a righteous standing before God (9:30-10:3), but they "obtained (it) not" because they imagined that such was to be found in legalism (Gal. 5:4). The elect did obtain it, because in yielding to Christ, they were credited with righteousness that resulted from his sacrificial death (3:21). Tragically, "the rest" (the non-elect)---those not of the remnant---were hardened (v. 7). In what sense were they hardened? (a) God may be said to have hardened them by making demands upon them they refused to obey; (b) they hardened themselves by the choices they made, and God merely permitted (not forced) them to exercise their free will to disobey him (Jer. 4:10; Ezek. 20:25). Several Old Testament texts are quoted to establish that the stubbornness of Hebrew rebellion was prophesied centuries earlier (v. 8-10; Dt. 29:4; Isa. 29:10; Psa. 69:22).

Romans 11:11-16) hope yet for Jewish conversions: Paul concedes that Israel "stumbled," but was their fall fatal? Certainly not. At least it did not have to be. There was still time and opportunity for salvation in Christ, if they could be con-

vinced of gospel truth (v. 11). Even their fall, however, was not totally void of benefit. As a result of their initial rejection, apostolic attention was turned toward the Gentiles, who more readily embraced the truth regarding Christ. This in turn provoked the Jews to jealousy, stimulation their interest in the gospel. How marvelous is God's plan. Jewish rejection worked toward Gentile acceptance, which in turn provoked Jewish interest! Paul speaks of Israel's "loss" and then also of their "fulness" (v. 12). The term "fulness" is employed by dispensationalists as a proof point for the idea that there will be a future national conversion of the Jews. The theory is bereft of biblical evidence. "Fulness" is the opposite of "loss." If the Jewish rejection of the gospel was indirectly a great blessing to the world of Gentiles, how much more would their conversion be valued, should such occur? The point appears to be logical and theoretical, not a prediction. There are too many other text that paint a dismal portrait of the Jewish nation's future (see "always" (v. 10) and "forever" (Matt 21:19)).

The apostle now speaks to the Gentile element of his audience. He is thankful that God has granted him opportunity to teach them, especially if his Gentile ministry provokes his fellow Jews to accept Christ. Note the phrase, "some of them" (v. 14). There is no hint of a massive conversion of Jews in that expression. In fact, just the opposite is implied. "Some" is more in tune with the word "remnant." Verse fifteen is complex. It may suggest God's rejection of the Jews would result in the reconciliation of vast numbers of Gentile converts. Also, as a result, "some" Hebrews likewise might be saved (v. 14). If so, he would be supremely happy. In either case, conversions are a "resurrection" of spiritually dead people. Borrowing from Old Testament imagery, Paul affirms that if the "firstfruits" (the original Hebrew converts) are holy, so would be the "lump"---the rest of the harvest (both Jew and Gentile). They would be united in one body. There is no allusion to a national conversion of Israel.

(Romans 11:17-24) warning to the Gentiles: the Jew-Gentile relationship is illustrated from nature. An olive tree had some branches broken off (the rejection of the Jews due to their unbelief), and wild branches were grafted in among them (the inclusion of the Gentile converts); nonetheless, both partake of gospel blessings (v.17). The Gentiles are warned not to boast as if they somehow are superior. They must recall that they owe much to the "root" (Jewish stock). The Gentiles must not mistakenly assume the Jews were "broken off" (rejected) so they might be accepted. No, they were broken off because of their personal "unbelief"; the Gentiles must stand firm if they are to maintain their faith. They should be most thankful. How can anyone possibly read these admonitions and not see that salvation is conditioned upon faithfulness to divine instruction and obligation---for both the non-Christian and the Christian?

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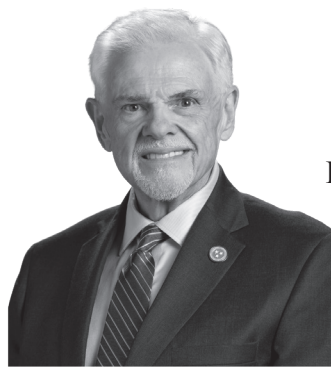
MELVIN HOWARD

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102 Paxton Road, Lancing

For 50 years, Roane State is a testament to how access, affordability and resources can change communities and lives over many generations



Senator Ken Yager
Editorial

For fifty years, Roane State Community College has been an economic, cultural and educational leader, partnering with communities, business and government to effect

positive changes throughout our region. In my opinion, the founding of Roane State ranks among the three most significant events in recent history, including the Tennessee Valley Authority and Manhattan Project.

During the 1960s, local and state leaders lobbied hard for a community college. After the Roane County Commission acquired property for a site, the legislature approved and classes opened in 1971. The dream of a college education for many local students became a reality. There were no buildings so local schools and churches opened their doors to provide classroom and activity space. Dr. Cuyler Dunbar was selected the first President and the college is now led by Dr. Chris Whaley.

Since its humble beginnings, Roane State Community College has conferred degrees on 23,000 students, helping them on their paths to Associate and Bachelor's degrees, meaningful careers, professional growth, personal enrich-

ment and workforce training. Roane State now averages 1,000 graduates per year! Half of those live in the college's service area and almost all - 90% - call Tennessee home. I applaud the work and effort of the RSCC students and faculty who continue to move our region forward with their commitment to education and success in the workplace.

During its first half century, Roane State has achieved one distinction after another, including becoming a leader in Allied Health Education. This achievement was recently recognized by Governor Bill Lee and the General Assembly with an appropriation of \$1 million to plan a new campus in Knox County to accommodate the growth of this successful program.

Roane State is also a statewide leader in its Middle College Program. This innovative program, which gives students the opportunity to earn a college degree while in high school, has graduated 300 and continues to garner high marks for its success.

Similarly, the dual enrollment program at Roane State has provided many high school students with a significant head start on their college education. Over 1,000 students have earned credits through this program, giving them the opportunity to complete their degree faster.

In addition, Roane State was first in the state to offer interactive audio-video classes. Distance learning is a very important tool to help

non-traditional students complete their degrees and Roane State has led Tennessee's community colleges in off-campus enrollment.

Helping students complete their degree has been at the forefront of Roane State's mission. The college offers a quicker road to employment through career and workforce education, both for those just entering the workforce and for individuals wanting or needing a new direction. Part of their success is that they are uniquely responsive to the educational needs of our communities, including skills needed to build a strong regional workforce. In fact, it is a key factor in attracting and expanding the region's economic development and upward mobility of area employees and their families.

The importance of Roane State cannot be overstated. It is one Tennessee's best investments. The success this college has brought to its students and our communities is remarkable, and I hold it as a top priority to support the continued success of this institution. Their achievements over the past five decades is a testament to how access, affordability and resources can change communities and lives over many generations. On this golden anniversary, I look forward to continuing to work with local and state leadership to encourage the growth of this institution and the future success it will bring to our communities.

SENIOR NEWS LINE

By Matilda Charles

Are You a Victim of Elder Abuse?

Do you suspect, or know, that somebody has been stealing from you? Maybe it's items from your home? Or maybe it's your money? Or perhaps you're being pressured by someone to keep giving them cash. If so, you are not alone. It's called elder abuse.

The biggest problem is that these thefts are often not reported, typically because the one doing the abusing is a family member. Or maybe it's after the fact, and we're not certain. Or maybe we don't know where we should report it.

Finances and theft aren't the only forms of elder abuse. Others include emotional, sexual and physical abuse, neglect and exploitation. Emotional abuse, for example, can include threats, belittling and

verbal attacks -- anything that causes mental distress and pain. Exploitation can be fraud, undue influence over your cash or property and being pressured to sign papers you don't understand. Do you see yourself in any of those categories?

The National Center on Elder Abuse website (ncea.acl.gov) is a good place to start. Notice the red banner at the bottom of the page with "Safe Exit" in white letters. If you're looking at the site and fear that someone will come up behind you and read what you're looking at, quickly click that red banner and it will take you to an innocent-looking webpage.

If you are being abused in some way, help is available. In all states, there are professionals who are required to report suspicions of maltreatment. It's called mandatory reporting, and in some states the list of professions is very long and varied: chiropractor, occupational therapist, member of the clergy, attorney, animal control officer, bank employee and many others.

To get a referral for help, call the Eldercare Locator at 1-800-677-1116. If you are in immediate danger, call 911.

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FLASHBACK

By Mick Harper

1. Dana won the Eurovision Song Contest 1970 with which song?
2. Name the band that released "Who'll Stop the Rain."
3. Which group had a hit with "Walk Away Renee"?
4. Who is the only musician who has been inducted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame three times?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "Way down South, in Birmingham, I mean South, in Alabam', There's a place where people go to dance the night away."

Answers

1. "All Kinds of Everything." Dana (born Rosemary Brown) had won the 1970 Irish National Song Contest with the same song. Her version climbed charts around the world.
2. Creedence Clearwater Revival, on their "Cosmo's Factory" album in 1970. The album spent nine straight weeks at No. 1 on the Billboard chart.
3. The Left Banke, in 1966. "Walk Away Renee" was ranked No. 222 in Rolling Stone magazine's 500 Greatest Songs of All Time in 2004.
4. Eric Clapton, for the Yardbirds (1992), Cream (1993) and solo artist (2000).
5. "Tuxedo Junction," by the Manhattan Transfer in 1976. The vocal jazz group has covered many styles since forming in 1969, including pop, R&B and old swing. They took their name from the 1925 novel by John Dos Passos.

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Solid Gospel - FM 95.5 - AM 940 - WECO

Outdoor Show 33

COURTHOUSE SQUARE - WARTBURG, TN

PRESENTING SPONSOR:



Schedule Of Events

SATURDAY, JULY 17th

- 9:00AM: OPENING CEREMONIES WITH MILITARY VETERAN RECOGNITION
- 9:30AM: OPEN CAR SHOW REGISTRATION (KINGSTON ST. NEXT TO COURTHOUSE ANNEX)
- 9:30AM: JEEP SHOW AND SHINE REGISTRATION (KINGSTON ST. NEXT TO COURTHOUSE ANNEX)
- 10:00AM: **THE BRIDGE WORSHIP TEAM IN CONCERT**
- 10:00AM: \$500 TO WIN "TOUCH THE BRONCO" PROMOTION BEGINS
- 10:15AM: KIDS GAMES PRESENTED BY BEST HOME CARE (ON EAST SIDE COURTHOUSE LAWN)
- 11:00AM: ESSENTIAL WORKER SALUTE PRESENTED BY PARTNER'S PIZZA (SOUND STAGE)
- 11:10AM: **BLUEGRASS PILGRIMS IN CONCERT**
- 11:15AM: HILLBILLY GAMES (ON EAST SIDE COURTHOUSE LAWN)
- 12:00PM: **HIGHWAY 96 IN CONCERT**
- 12:30PM: LIVE WRESTLING SPONSORED BY MoCo BREWING PROJECT (NEXT TO ANGIE'S)
- 1:15PM: **BILL SHANNON IN CONCERT**
- 1:30PM: \$100 TO WIN CORN HOLE TOURNAMENT (ON EAST SIDE COURTHOUSE LAWN)
- 2:30PM: **\$100 TO WIN KARAOKE CONTEST PRESENTED BY TCAT HARRIMAN**
- 4:00PM: \$500 CASH GIVEAWAY ANNOUNCEMENT (MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN)
- 4:15PM: SHOW CLOSES

LIVE BROADCAST
101.3 FM

LIVE BROADCAST
FM 95.5/AM 940

SATURDAY
JULY 17TH

Hillbilly
Games

LIVE MUSIC
&
FOOD
COURT

ARTS
&
CRAFTS

OPEN CAR
SHOW

FARM
EQUIPMENT
CARS
TRUCKS &
SUVs

KIDS GAMES
WITH
CASH PRIZES

Over 80
Vendors
Expected

- FOOD COURT SPONSOR:** COUNTY CLERK CHERYL COLLINS
- SOUND STAGE SPONSOR:** CIRCUIT COURT CLERK MARLA HINES
- SANITATION STATION SPONSOR:** MORGAN CO. MEDICAL CENTER
- GOSPEL MUSIC SPONSOR:** DAVIS FUNERAL HOME
- CAR SHOW SPONSOR:** JERRY DUNCAN FORD
- JEEP SHOW SPONSOR:** CUMBERLAND CUSTOMS
- COUNTRY MUSIC SPONSOR:** FARM BUREAU INSURANCE
- SANITATION SPONSOR:** DC TRASH
- FIRST AID SPONSOR:** SMART BANK

JEEP SHOW
AND SHINE

RAIN DATE
JULY 24TH

