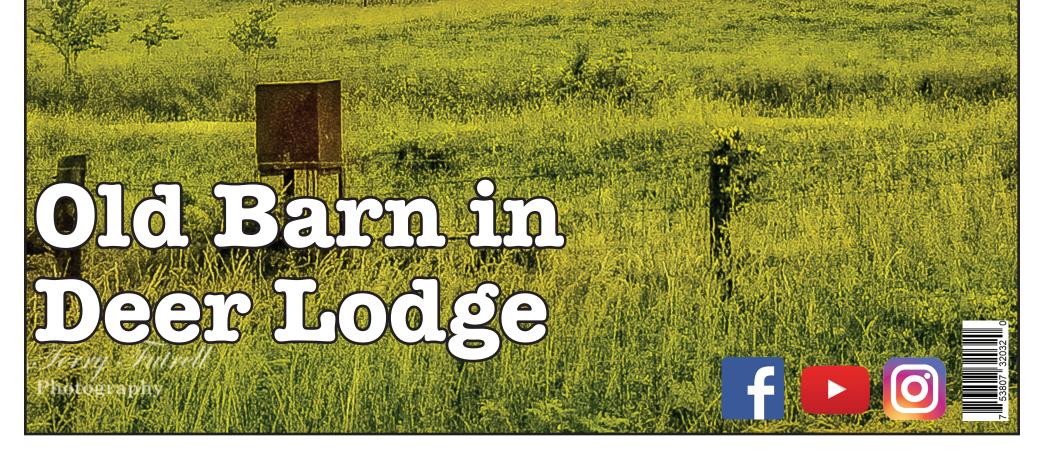
# Morgan County Today 75¢

**Psalm 100:3** Volume 07 Number 34 Tuesday, August 24, 2021

Your Community. Your News.





#### Page 2

#### Morgan County 📰 Today Your Community. Your News.

**PUBLISHER:** TOMMY LEE FRANCIS PUBLISHER@MOCOTODAY.COM

#### **EDITOR:** HEATHER FRANCIS EDITOR@MOCOTODAY.COM

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### I'D RATHER BE **READING.**

#mocotoday

#### **MORGAN COUNTY** WEATHER THIS WEEK

91º/68° Tue 24



Michael Nance *Columnist* I have heard myths

Travis

**McCroskey** 

Columnist

and rumors and decided to make the subject a research project. Before I began my research, I must admit, I was really concerned about the Electoral College System, but now that I have a better under-

For many

years I have won-

dered just what

was the electoral

college and how

does that institu-

function in a pres-

idential election?

tion practically

standing, my fears have subsided, for now.

The Electoral College was estab-

lished in Article II, Section 1 of the U.S. Constitution. How did this system make it into the Constitution? The answer to that question is rooted in true democracy and the imperative of compromise. During the 1787 Constitutional Convention one of the difficulties that the delegates sought to resolve was how to elect the president. Our Founding Fathers argued on the subject for months, part of the delegation thought that Congress should pick the president and others demanded that a popular vote settle the issue. The Electoral College system was simply a compromise to end the debate. It must be remembered that at the time of the Constitution's inception, only a few states formed the United States. As states were subsequently admitted to the union, the number of representatives was amended to guarantee equitable representation.

Another important point to remember is that the Constitution is silent

concerning how the states should designate their electoral votes. The assumption was that each elector's vote would be counted and left up to those delegates individual discretion. It could not have been the assumption that the delegates would be obligated to a political party as these political parties were nonexistent in 1787.

In the Electoral System the candidate that wins most votes within a Congressional District wins that district. Further, whoever wins the state's popular vote and carries most of the districts wins the whole states electoral college. This is true except for Maine and Nebraska who have passed laws allotting the electoral votes to the candidate who wins the popular vote.

The debate over the Electoral College system continues today. In January of this year, Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, Steve Cohen D-Tennessee announced that he plans to introduce a resolution abolishing the Electoral College System. Although his efforts seem to be more political pandering that reality, considering that the measure currently has little hope of gaining traction.

The electoral college system demands that every four years a temporary group of electors equal to the total number of representatives in Congress be enacted and sworn in. In the strictest sense, it is the delegates of the electoral college who elect the President and Vice President of the United States. Currently the Electoral College consists of 538 electors. One elector per Federal Representative and Senator. Tennessee authorizes 11 electors to the winning political party during an election.

The Electoral College system has witnessed many controversies over the years. In 1800, Thomas Jefferson and Aaron Burr each received 73 electoral votes sending the United States system of voting a President into office to near crisis. It took the house 36 voting



sessions before the tie was broken and Thomas Jefferson was voted into the White House.

After the crisis legislative actions to prevent this issue from reoccurrence quickly surfaced. In 1804, the 12th Amendment to the Constitution made ensured that the electors designate their votes for the president and vice president. The 12th Amendment also left in place a tie breaking procedure established by the Constitution, whereby the House of Representatives votes and breaks a tie on presidential electoral votes and the Senate votes and breaks a tie concerning vice presidential electoral votes.

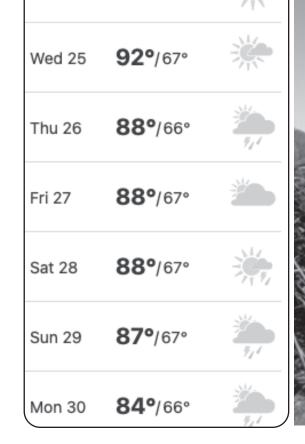
A colleague of mine, who is also a lawyer described the system in this way: "In the Electoral College system, nearly all states allot the electoral votes to the candidate who wins the popular vote (in that state). Exceptions are Nebraska and Maine. These states allocate electoral votes by congressional district, with whoever wins the popular vote in each district earning that district's electoral vote."

In 1929, Congress permanently capped the number of representatives at 435 via the Permanent Apportion Act. Before 1929, Congress had adjusted the number of representatives based on the U. S. Census after 1929, the adjustment ended. Additionally, electors in the past have broken ranks, in one case an elector was pledged for Michael Dukakis, but instead cast his vote for vice-presidential candidate Lloyd Bentsen.

Another present-day effort to alter the method in which electors cast their ballots is the National Popular Vote Interstate Compact ("NPVIC"). The NPVIC is an agreement among states to award all of their electors to the candidate who wins the national popular vote. As of the writing of this article, fifteen states have signed on to this effort, but a number of legal and constitutional questions remain before this agreement could be implemented. Tennessee is not a signatory to the NPVIC.

So, shouldn't this worry all of us that the electors may go rogue and cast their vote different then the votes of their party's candidate? Well although it isn't unconstitutional for the electors to vote for someone else, many states legally bind their electors to the party's candidate using oaths and hefty fines.

Once the political parties (republicans-democrats, etc.) choose their candidates, through caucus or primary,



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the general election is held in November. The close outcomes of many modern-day presidential elections have left many Americans' wanting an election based on popular vote, this would require a constitutional amendment in an environment of political polarization. Hence, this doesn't appear to have any real chance of occurring anytime soon.

Although even the author will admit our Electoral College system has flaws, like most American political innovations, it is still the best overall system the world has to offer. This is because it prioritizes the primacy of democracy, while giving attention to the importance of our federalist system.

Travis McCroskey is a lifelong East Tennessean with an interest in history, politics, and philosophy. He graduated from the University of Tennessee College of Law in 2011 and works for the Tennessee Valley Authority.

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#### **In Loving Memory**

#### Randy Patton, 53

Mr. Randy Patton, age 53 of Lancing, passed away Sunday August 15, 2021, at his home with his family by his side.

He was preceded in death by his father: Billy Gene Patton.

One grandson: Corbin. And his grandparents:

Ernie and Christine Patton, and er family, friends and loved ones. Morton and Anna Carroll.

He is survived by his wife: Diane Freels Patton.

His mother: Carol Ann Patton. Four children: Dusty and Hannah Patton, Kristy Patton and Dustin Braden, Craig Patton and Kasey Boyd, and Kayla Patton and Brandon Bowlin.

His sister: Amanda Dalton and

her fiancé Lance Hickman.

One stepdaughter: Samantha Shannon. Seven grandchildren: Stetson, Braylee, Dakota, Ryder, and Jackline Patton, Teegan Seaton, and Addie Jo Bowlin. Two nieces: Megan and Bethany Dalton.

nounced at a later date.

Davis Funeral Home, Wartburg is honored to serve the family of Mr. Randy Patton.

homes.com.

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

# Send Letters to the Editor Editor@mocotoday.com

The motto for the

United States Army

Infantry is "Follow

words demonstrate

courage in the face of

fear, and they exempli-

Me." Those two simple

words speak volumes to

all soldiers of the United States Army. Those



**MSG Fred Mize** 

fy bravery through example.

Jesus Christ also spoke those two simple yet powerful words when he called upon his disciples. We learn this in:

#### Matthew 4:16-22

16 The people which sat in darkness saw great light; and to them which sat in the region and shadow of death light is sprung up. 17 From that time Jesus began to preach, and to say, Repent: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.

in Knoxville. Helen was a wonderful caregiver to all. She was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother. She was

Along with a host of oth-

A Celebration of Life will be an-

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

art, age 81, born July 31, 1940, passed away August 15, 2021.

> She is preceded in death by her husband, N. Clayton Stewart; parents, Fred & Flarce Northrup; and 5 brothers; 1 sister.

Helen Wiggins, age 68, of Wart-

burg, TN passed away August

18, 2021, at U.T. Medical Center

also a member of the Big Moun-

She is preceded in death by her

parents, Henry & Bertie Padgett;

sister, Shirley McDougle; grand-

children, Joshua Wiggins, Angela

Phillips, and Jacqueline Forman.

She is survived by her husband of

51 years, Cleve Wiggins; daugh-

ters, Janet (Tony) Bradshaw,

Becky (Gary) Phillips and Jennifer

(Billy) Collins; 6 grandchildren, 8

Robbie Gayle Northrup Stew-

tain Baptist Church.

Robbie leaves behind her sons, Danny (Anita) Stewart of Chatsworth, GA., Rick Stewart of Sunbright; grandson, Matthew Hunt-

2 Timo-

thy 2:3-4

3 Thou there-

fore endure

hardness, as

a good sol-

Christ.

4 No man

dier of Jesus

that warreth

himself with

the affairs of

this life; that

him who hath

chosen him to

be a soldier.

entangleth

er of Sunbright; sisters, Judy F. Shannon of Sunbright, Doris Hughes of Cincinnati, OH., and Altheiah (Dennis Ray) Jones of Deer Lodge and a host of nieces, nephews, and extended family.

great grandchildren; sister, Clara

(Eddie) Shope; brothers, Ken-

neth (Nancy) Padgett and Gene

(Thelma) Padgett and a host of

nieces, nephews, and extended

Helen's wishes were to be cre-

mated; no memorial services are

In lieu of flowers contributions

can be made to Schubert Funeral

Home, P.O. Box 326, Wartburg,

Schubert Funeral Home is hon-

ored to serve the family of Helen

scheduled at this time.

Helen Wiggins, 68

family.

TN 37887.

Wiggins.

Robbie Gayle Northrup Stewart, 81

Services are pending at this time.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Robbie Gayle Northrup Stewart.

# **Follow Me**

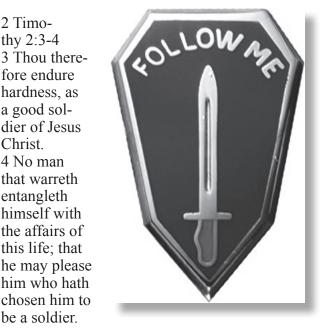
him and our lives will remain the same or just like for the lives of Peter, Andrew, James, and John were changed forever when they answered Jesus's call to follow him, so will our lives be forever changed.

Jesus may only call us once to follow him. There may never be a second time, for that choice depends on Jesus. When you hear Jesus call upon vou to follow him, I pray that you leave your old life behind, follow him, walk with him and become fellow fishers of men.

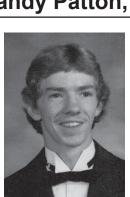
You may be asking; how does someone answer Jesus's call to follow him? To do so you simply acknowledge that he is the LORD of lords and the King of kings. Admit that you have sinned and are in need of Jesus Christ as your Savior. Acknowledge that he bore the burden of our sins, died on the cross for our salvation, and rose again from the grave.

#### Romans 10:9-10

9 That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.



Once you follow Jesus, you also become a soldier within his Army, and like all soldiers, you'll see things differently, you'll live different. ly, and you'll be willing to lay down your life if needed for others to live and to know the LORD as vou do. A soldier's life is all about sacrifice, but a soldier's life is also a life well-lived. As you walk with the LORD and serve as a soldier for Jesus, I encourage you my brethren, to be courageous and take the fight to the enemy. We are taught how to do this in Revelation 12:11, And they overcame him (Satan) by the blood of the Lamb, and by the word of their testimony, and they loved not their lives unto death. Be courageous fishers of men and share your testimony with others. Tell them what the LORD has done in your life. Keep in mind that Jesus may call them to follow him through you. As you serve in the Army of the LORD, you can always know that you'll never fight alone, for Jesus will always remain on point. He will always remain on the front line of battle, for He will always be crying out, "Follow Me!"



18 And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers.

19 And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

20 And they straightway left their nets, and followed him.

21 And going on from thence, he saw other two brethren, James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, in a ship with Zebedee their father, mending their nets; and he called them. 22 And they immediately left the ship and their father, and followed him.

Just like the United States Army Infantry cries out "Follow Me" to inspire others to follow them in the face of danger, in the face of battle, in times of direct man to man combat with the enemy. Jesus Christ cries out to us "Follow Me." He doesn't force us to follow. He doesn't demand us to follow. He simply says, "Follow Me." We have the choice to follow or not.

We can choose to deny his call to follow

10 For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.

If you answer his call, your life will never be the same again. As you walk with the LORD, you'll no longer have a desire to live for yourself but you'll desire to live for him. You'll be able to love people who you've never known. You'll love them because Jesus loves them. You'll be able to do things you never dreamed you'd do because Jesus will open doors and move mountains in your life. You'll experience not only happiness but absolute joy because the Holy Spirit will forever live within you, it will guide you, teach you, protect you, and lead you.

This isn't to say that your life will be easy as you follow the LORD. For just like the United States Army Infantry experiences direct combat with the enemy so do Christians who follow Jesus Christ.

www.mocotoday.com

#### August 24, 2021

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

I would like to begin by thanking my friends and family for the kindness shown me on my birthday. I pretty much had a "Birthweek" instead of a birthday. Going to the mailbox was fun and I appreciate each card I received. Reading several hundred birthday wishes on Facebook was fun. I enjoyed several delicious goodies and birthday suppers on 2 days. I received some thoughtful gifts, texts, emails and telephone calls. Thank you friends and family. I love you!

Audrey Rogers, who lives in Murfreesboro, celebrated her 26th birthday on August 20. She made a weekend trip to Oakdale to visit and enjoy cake and ice cream with her family.

Beginning August 23, Camp Austin Road will be closed just past Johnson Road for a bridge replacement. The project will take several weeks.

A huge shout out to Harriman Utility Board for their assis-



tance in changing the flags on Oakdale Bridge. The flags look nice and the community appreciates the help from HUB. Last Friday, there was a major water leak at the intersection of Camp Austin road and East Main Street. HUB communicated well with the community and offered regular updates. The leak was fixed and water service was restored in a timely manner. Thank you HUB. You are appreciated.

Meaghan Wade, daughter of Mike and Sonya Powers Wade, visited with her Aunt Jennifer Ruppe and other family members last Friday. The visit was short but everyone was happy to see her.

Oakdale School Students will have pictures made Wednesday, August 25. These are the pictures that will be in the yearbook.

Morgan County Students will have their first long weekend in a couple of weeks. There will

Morgan County Highway Department is accepting bids on Fold and Form PVC culvert linings for three locations as well as Concrete Spray lining for one location. Full bid package and specifications may be picked up at the Highway Department. Exact locations are listed in bid packet. All bids must be delivered to Morgan County Highway Department, PO Box 250, Wartburg, Tn. 37887 of hand delivered to 3519 Morgan Co. Hwy. Culvert Liner Bid must be clearly and boldly marked on outside on envelope when delivered. Bid opening will be September 8th. 2021 at 10 a.m. at the Highway Department. Morgan County is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate.



be no school on Friday, September 3 or Monday, September 6. Progress reports will be sent home Thursday, September 9. Parent/Teacher conferences will be Tuesday, September 24 from 3:30 – 6:30.

First Baptist Oakdale will have their 5th Sunday night singing Sunday, August 29 at 6:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

Beginning September 5, First Baptist Oakdale will have Children's Church during the 11:00 a.m. service. For anyone without a church home, the First Baptist family would love for you to join them.

Josh Holt and Jaimee Headden met in college. They are both undergraduates from TTU. Josh graduated in Mechanical Engineering and Jaimee graduated in Business Marketing. Josh proposed to Jaimee in Destin, Florida on August 18, 2020. They were married August 8, 2021 in the Prayer Garden at Hidden Mountain Resort in Sevierville. Congratulations Josh and Jaimee.

There is a revival this week at Mt. Teman Baptist Church. Evangelist Gary Lutrick will be

preaching. Services are 7:00 p.m. nightly through August 27. Transportation is available if needed. You can contact Pastor Keith Woodby at (423) 519-5688.

There will be a tent revival at Mt. Vernal Baptist Church September 23-26. There will be different preachers each service. Transportation is available if need by calling (865) 354-9161.

Sadly, there is more sickness all around us. Please remember to pray for all of the ill, their caregivers and families. Pray for our country and leaders. Pray that they seek God's will when making decisions that affect all of us. Pray for our schools and teachers as they try to teach in these uncertain times. Pray for our churches, pastors and missionaries.

"Be dissatisfied enough to improve, but satisfied enough to be happy." — J. Harold Smith

## Journeyman Linemen / **Lineman Apprentices**

Plateau Electric Cooperative is accepting applications through Friday, September 3, 2021 from qualified candidates for the position of journeyman lineman or lineman apprentices. Position performs all types of skilled work relative to the construction and maintenance of Plateau Electric Cooperative's overhead and underground electric system. Climbs poles or steel structures and works from aerial lift devices to install conductor, transformers, crossarms, insulators and other related equipment. Must be willing to work in adverse weather conditions. Position requires a high-school diploma or GED. The successful candidate(s) must have a valid driver's license, and be able to obtain a Class "B" Commercial Driver's License (CDL). Journeyman linemen and/or Apprentices in advanced stages of their apprenticeship are preferred. Those interested may pick up an application at either of the Cooperative's offices in **Oneida or Wartburg.** 

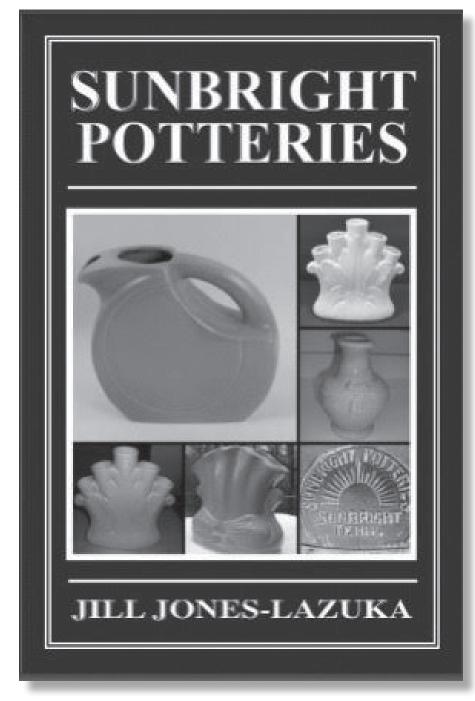


"The hardest work in the world is being out of work." — Whitney M. Young

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**Plateau Electric Cooperative is an Equal Op**portunity and **Drug Free Workplace Employer** 

# Book Signing to Benefit Sunbright Beautification Committee



A newly released book on Sunbright Pottery written by a Morgan County Genealogical & Historical Society volunteer will be available for purchase on Saturday, August 28 from 11am - 1pm at the location of the new Sunbright Library on Melton Drive.

The book is a culmination of a year's worth of research. A photo event was held last December to collect photos of pottery pieces, along with interviews. This information will also be used to create an exhibit on Sunbright Potteries this Fall for the new Heritage Museum that the Genealogical & Historical Society is developing.

# America Is A Country In Crisis



U.S. Senator Marsha Blackburn America

is a country in crisis. Democrats have yet again forced their unwilling cash cow — the American people — to foot the bill for their radical taxand-spend agenda. But hidden behind a facade of "green" energy and "free" benefits lie more dangerous intentions. Democrats are using these massive spending programs to build the gateway to socialism. If they succeed, they will transform America from a nation with a spending problem into a country whose people have lost control of their own government.

Senate Budget Committee Chairman Bernie Sanders' 4.2 trillion dollar budget framework, passed last Wednesday on a party line vote, is the latest salvo in the left's assault on the American taxpayer. If enacted, this budget will send our national debt soaring to over \$40 trillion in the next ten years. Democrats plan on paying their tab with tax hikes and deficit financing, which will in turn lead to lost jobs and ballooning inflation. Altogether, the bloated package is a glorified bucket list of radical priorities: free pre-K! Free community college! Free public housing! Amnesty for illegal aliens!

numb to limitless spending and government takeovers. Earlier this year, they pushed a partisan "covid relief" package; next came "infrastructure," and the promise of an expanded and even more intrusive welfare state. Nancy Pelosi and Chuck Schumer moved heaven and earth to write these down payments on a socialist future into law because they wanted their unprecedented spending spree to seem like the status quo.

Fortunately, this scam has failed. Tennesseans know that more government spending means more government control. If big brother pays the bills, big brother calls the shots. Democrats will try to explain away individual proposals, but the legislative text leaves little ambiguity about where their priorities lie.

Tennesseans aren't just worried about what the government is spending their money on; they're also worried about the sheer size and scope of the slush fund. Most Americans would be happy to invest in roads, bridges, and broadband, for example, but we know that the price of the left's wish list is far too high.

Republican warnings of an impending socialist takeover aren't exaggerated — they are an urgent call for help. Bernie's budget will permanently tip the scales in favor of big government. It's what the Democrats have been preparing for since Biden took office. I will continue to fight the implementation of this dangerous, socialist agenda, but we cannot win this battle alone. Democrat lawmakers must also listen to the American people and put an end to this reckless tax and spending spree.

Cost of the book is \$30 and proceeds from the day will go to the Sunbright Beautification Committee. Following the event, the book will also be available to order online at MCGHSOnline.com. Proceeds from those sales will benefit MCGHS. Books will also be available in the MCGHS office at the County Archives building in Wartburg beginning the week of August 30 during the regular hours: T - F, 11am - 2pm.

This massive budget isn't a one-off spending proposal. It's part of the left's effort to render the American people

# Subscribe to the Morgan County Today by calling 423.346.2329 or emailing publisher@mocotoday.com

#### August 24, 2021

# Dream No More: MoCo Mutts Makes Animal Shelter a Reality

August is the six-month anniversary of the opening of MoCo Mutts Rescue Center at their new Sunbright facility and also marks a milestone. In 2020, MoCo Mutts (the Rescue) received 760 dogs and cats. That number was surpassed at the beginning of August this year when the 2021 intake number reached 787.

When founder and MoCo Mutts president, Lisa Hill, and

her husband Jeff moved to Sunbright from Washington State in 2018, they intended to continue their Senior Dog Lodge and Animal Rescue. However, as Morgan County did not have an animal control or rescue facility and because the need was so great, Hill and co-founder and Vice-President, Tracy Wyant (from Maryland), expanded their mission and began accepting stray and unwanted dogs and cats of all ages. In 2019, the Rescue realized they needed a more permanent and accessible facility. They purchased the former Habitat for Humanity building in Sunbright and began moving in February 2021. At that point, Senior Dog Lodge and Animal Rescue was rebranded MoCo Mutts to better reflect their expanded scope, although



on management and other tasks. Hill is frequently on the road responding to stray animal calls, sheriff assists, taking animals to the vet, or shuttling animals to other no-kill rescues with spay and neuter capabilities that adopt out the animals to forever homes. While some animals are adopted locally, the limited availability of spay and neuter services in Morgan County make it difficult to prepare the animals for adoption in a timely manner. So far this year, MoCo Mutts has adopted out 16 animals to county residents and has transported 468 animals to out-of-area shelters for subsequent adoption.

Since they must rely primarily on volunteers to operate, MoCo Mutts is always looking for dependable adults who can dedicate a few hours a week on a consistent basis to take the dogs outside, clean the kennels, and prepare and fill their food and water bowls. For insurance liability reasons, the Rescue cannot

> utilize children under the age of 18. There are other ways to volunteer for people who aren't physically able to handle the animals, such as laundry, dish washing, maintenance, deep-cleaning, answering the phone, fundraising, or donation collection. Anyone wishing to volunteer should contact the Rescue for a volunteer application. This enables the Rescue to match center tasks with a volunteer's desires and capabilities.

Community support is another important part of running the rescue, and tax-deductible donations are always needed and appreciated. Several area businesses are current-

the Senior Dog Lodge is still used interchangeably for the time being.

Morgan County residents are beginning to understand that MoCo Mutts is a separate entity from the recently dissolved Morgan County Animal Shelter (MCAS) organization, which been raising money for a county animal shelter. Upon their disbandment, MCAS donated all the money they raised to MoCo Mutts and a few other non-profit organizations that benefit Morgan County animals.

Public awareness of MoCo Mutts has been a big influence on the numbers of animals at the shelter, as surrendered animals are on the rise and now account for over 55% of all intakes (up from just 30% last year). Many owners state they cannot take care of their animals anymore due to job loss, family issues, or other hardships. Covid restrictions made it difficult for some owners to spay or neuter their pets due to no low-cost spay and ly collecting donations for MoCo Mutts (i.e. Lilly Pad Hopyard Brewery and Brushy Mountain State Penitentiary), and more collection boxes are being prepared for other locations throughout the county. Frozen Head State Park scheduled two events where shelter supplies, like pet food and cat litter, for the Rescue were requested in lieu of an event fee. Lilly Pad Hopyard Brewery is hosting a MoCo Mutts Day at the Brewery on September 18. They are brewing a special beer for the event which will also include an art show, food and music. They will be selling a commemorative glass and sticker with the beer with proceeds going to MoCo Mutts.

Other needs of the shelter are a steady supply of kitten. cat, puppy, and dog food (canned and dry), cat litter, paper towels, bleach, and laundry detergent. The Rescue is currently improving the kennels with easier to clean, healthier, and safer kennels for the dogs and cats. The Rescue has a wish list on Amazon (under the old name, Senior Dog Lodge) and is listed with www.AmazonSmile.com, so that a small portion of the money you spend is returned to the community as a donation to MoCo Mutts. The Rescue is currently looking for a reliable large van or shuttle bus for transporting animals to partner rescues enabling faster adoptions for the animals. There is always a need for cash donations to help pay for all the supplies that are not donated, veterinarian and medical services, as well as mortgage and utility payments. The County Commissioners have allocated \$5000 in the current budget to help MoCo Mutts operate and, as any amount is appreciated and needed, that amount is a fraction of the actual annual operating costs. Brian Langley and several of the commissioners have stated they will continue to support the shelter and will try to allocate additional resources as they become available.

#### Page 6

neuter services in the county, reduced availability of vet services, reduced income, being forced to work from home, or other issues.

The shelter has been caring for an average of over 80 dogs and over 40 cats on a daily basis, with a waiting list for certain animal sizes as kennel space is limited. Unfortunately, in some cases, when some owners are told there is a wait list, they release their animal nearby and it is then picked up as a stray, or injured animal if it gets struck by a vehicle while roaming loose. These overcrowded conditions have forced the facility to offer only curb service for donation drop-offs and animal intakes. Additionally, open walkthroughs of potential adopters has ceased for the time being, as it creates a stressful and disruptive environment for the animals (and workers) when 80 dogs are barking dogs. Anyone interested in adopting an animal should reach out to the Rescue for an adoption application, and then an appointment can be made to view the animals.

MoCo Mutts is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization staffed with all volunteers, including the two co-founders. The Rescue recently hired a part-time employee to handle some of the kennel chores to ensure all daily tasks are completed whenever adequate volunteers are unavailable, and to allow Hill and Wyant to focus For more information, or to volunteer, contact Lisa Hill or Tracy Wyant at (423) 628-5060.



# Davis Funeral Home's Veteran of the Week

Due to the turmoil currently taking place in Afghanistan we decided to honor USMC Lance Corporal William Kyle Carpenter as the veteran of the week. Lance Corporal Carpenter was awarded the Medal of Honor for his heroic actions in combat while serving in Afghanistan during the War on Terrorism on November 21, 2010.

His Medal of Honor citation reads: For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as an Automatic Rifleman with Company F, 2d Battalion, 9th Marines, Regimental Combat Team 1, 1st Marine Division (Forward), 1 Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward), in Helmand Province, Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom on 21 November 2010. Lance Corporal Carpenter was a member of a platoon-sized coalition force, comprised of two reinforced Marine squads partnered with an Afghan



National Army squad. The platoon had established Patrol Base Dakota two days earlier in a small village in the Marjah District in order to disrupt enemy activity and provide security for the local Afghan population. Lance Corporal Carpenter and a fellow Marine were manning a rooftop security position on the perimeter of Patrol Base Dakota when the enemy initiated a daylight attack with hand grenades, one of which landed inside their sandbagged position. Without hesitation, and with complete disregard for his own safety, Lance Corporal Carpenter moved toward the grenade in an attempt to shield his fellow Marine from the deadly blast. When the grenade detonated, his body absorbed the brunt of the blast, severely wounding him, but saving the life of his fellow Marine. By his undaunted courage, bold fighting spirit, and unwavering devotion to duty in the face of almost certain death, Lance Corporal Carpenter reflected great credit upon himself and upheld the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service.

Lance Corporal Carpenter and seventeen other U.S. military servicemen were awarded the Medal of Honor while serving in Afghanistan throughout the War

on Terrorism. We as a Nation should always honor the service and sacrifices made by our country's service men and women and especially those who go beyond the call of duty. We at the Morgan County Today humbly thank them all for all they've done and continue to do for our blessed country.

# Law Enforcement Officer of the Week

#### Presented by Marla Hines, Circuit Court Clerk

To honor all who serve in blue we share with you today a beautiful poem written by Retired Investigator David L. Bell. As you read this poem keep in mind that law enforcement officer's badges may be different but their commitment, dedication, and sacrifices are very much the same.

The one whose blood runs blue. He seldom ever gets a thanks, To some he's just a



And each day when he leaves for work, He prays to God above. Please

#### license,

When a shot rang through the night.

Yes, the bullet hit its mark, Striking the officer in the chest. But the Department's budget didn't buy Each officer a bullet-proof vest.

"The Badge"

He starts his shift each day To respond to calls unknown. He drives a marked patrol car. A police officer he is known.

He's paid by the citizens' taxes To make it safe on the streets. But he usually has a second job 'Cause a waitress has his salary beat.

Now he doesn't know a holiday 'Cause he works all year round. And when Thanksgiving and Christmas finally arrive At his home he cannot be found.

He's cursed and assaulted often,

fool.

His friends are always other cops 'Cause people just don't understand That un-

derneath his badge and gun, He's just another man.

He knows there might not be a tomorrow

In this world of drugs and crime. And he gets so mad at the court system

'Cause the crooks don't get any time.

bring me home

after my

So I can

see the

ones I

But to-

night he

love.

shift

So he lay on the ground bleeding.
His blood wasn't blue - His blood was red.
And briefly he thought of his loved ones
'Cause in a moment the officer was dead.

In the news they told the story Of how this officer had died. And some who listened cared less,

But those who loved him cried.

Well, they buried him in uniform With his badge pinned on his chest.

He even had his revolver, He died doing his best.

stops a speeding car, He's alone down this ole' highway.

It's just a little traffic infraction. He does it every day.

Well, he walks up to the driver's window,

And his badge is shining bright. He asked the guy for a driver's A Letter from Mom to Tommy

#### Forward

In the early 1970's my mother wrote me a letter that I wanted to appear in the paper

**Tom Redmon** Columnist

just the way she wrote it. You can see where I got my love for reading and writing.

Mom worked hard to raise nine children, and like she said in her letter they loved all of us even though some didn't do what they would have liked.

Mom shows the hard times our family went through. It also shows how hard they worked to provide for us. If only the children living today could go back and live a week the way we had to endure, I think they would be shocked and would appreciate the things they have today.

#### Mom's Letter

#### Dear Tommy,

Thank you for the albums of beautiful pictures they are so clear the colors so breath-taking, we will always keep and enjoy them.

Also, we won't to thank you for the letter not many children gave their parents thanks for what they have done for them as Dad said it brings tears to your eyes to read it but its not an unhappy feeling it's an uplift feeling.

I remember the winter you were born it was a snowy icy winter. We were expecting you at Christmas time. I went into labor the 23rd of Dec. We sent for the familv Dr. J.L. Love. He came and checked me. Said well I don't think he will get here tonight but I'm going to stay anyway. My mom was there she fixed bed in cold unheat ed bedroom for him and your dad they went to bed with so many covers they could hardly turn over. Doctor pulled covers over his head said now let that telephone ring I won't hear it. Sure, enough you waited until New Years to arrive. We already had two boys and two girls but we were so proud of you. You were such a big pretty baby with bright blue eyes and black hair. Do you remember the old wooden bench back the long eating table when you were two or three you would

#### eat supper and fall asleep on the bench Dad or I one would carry you to bed?

Yes, I too feel sorry for the kids today. They don't have anything to keep them busy so they become bored and some of them get into trouble. It's a fact that a lot of parents don't see that they need to have jobs for their children.

I'm glad we had the farm. It was hard on me with all the duties of the home and children to go into the fields but I did just as soon as you all were big enough you had your chores to do, like feeding the chickens, gathering the eggs. We had cows to milk, pigs to feed, helping in the garden and in the fields of corn and cane we used to make the molasses. Dad remembers the time I sent you to do something you said, "a fellow never gets time to play around here."

There was lots of work we didn't have any washing machine nor dryer in fact we didn't have any electricity until you were almost through high school. With washing on an old wash board and wooden or zink tubs. Hanging the wash on the lines to dry. Then the ironing we didn't have permanent press clothes. We all had to carry water from a waterhole for washing, mopping and watering flowers. I also made most of your clothes. It was hard work but we all worked together and Love Mom and Dad. when we got time, we would pack a picnic lunch and walk down to Potters Falls carrying the baby ones

and helping the others. We would go through the woods, it was rough but we enjoyed it, just to be together was so much.

I remember when you started to college you had to work so hard to pay your way. We wanted so bad to help you more but we had so many and back then there wasn't much money. Dad worked hard but didn't make much money. Later he got on at Oakridge we had a better living then.

I remember many times looking at you children and wishing I had time to hold you and play a game with you we did find time to play. We would get out after supper play ball, pitch horse shoes. If it was cold or raining, we would play cards sometimes checkers or read. I loved to read seems like I read more then and I got more out of it than I do now.

Dad and I have been together almost fifty years. We have had some bad times but we have lots of good times too. As Dad put it just the other day. I don't think anything could have kept us apart.

We love each other, our kids, our grandkids and all our large family with a deep under standing love. They don't always do what we would have them do. We love them anyway.



### Disappeared: Chapter 6: Part II

# Chort Sm

Carol Hall Author

#### Maggie-Day 2, cont.

Rose made her way over to them and grabbed Maggie up in a bear hug. She squeezed Maggie so hard she could hardly breathe. She started humming and slowly rocked back and forth cradling Maggie close to her.

Maggie clung to Rose for dear life. She didn't care about the smell and she wasn't about to complain about being smothered

either. She was just so thankful to be alive. She snuggled down deeper into Rose's arms and began to cry.

They continued their journey up the cliff face.

Maggie clutched the front of Rose so tightly her knuckles were white. She didn't dare breathe for fear it would knock Rose off balance, but Rose easily scaled the mountain with little effort.

Maggie watched as Brutus disappear into a jagged crevice in the rock wall just a short ways up from where she and Rose were. It appeared to be just a very narrow sliver sliced out of the rock. Maggie wasn't sure how he fit through it. It didn't look big enough for a normal size man to fit through, let alone a Bigfoot.

As she and Rose reached the crevice, Maggie was sure there was no way they would fit through it, but Rose slid through the tiny opening sideways with ease.

The crevice opened up into a long narrow tunnel that went

deep back into the rock. They followed it back several yards until it opened up into a huge cavernous room.

In the middle of the ceiling was a large hole that would allow light to come in. Rain poured down through the hole and into a pool that was directly under it. A huge rock overhang sheltered the rest of the cave, keeping it dry.

Maggie couldn't believe her eyes. So this is where the Bigfoot lived? No wonder no one ever found them. They lived deep inside the rock walls of the cliffs. Ingenious, she thought. No one would be able to ascend the side of the cliff the way these guys did. And even if they could, no one would even consider sliding back through the tight little crevice to find this place.

She looked around the cave in total awe.

The huge room was kept clean and oddly enough, it didn't have a bad smell. It boasted two beds made out of twigs and leaves. They were situated several feet apart under the sheltered part of the cave, tucked back into little niches in the rock wall.

There was a fire pit in the room, close to the pool, with primitive looking cooking utensils scattered around it.

Maggie stood there with her mouth open just gazing around the room. Brutus was rummaging around for something in what Maggie assumed was his bed.

Rose began shuffling the twigs and leaves of her bed around until she had stretched them out enough to allow for two to sleep in it. Maggie understood clearly where she was expected to sleep. the shirt came off.

Maggie stood there in her bra glaring at Rose. "Give it back!" she demanded.

Rose threw the shirt to the side and came at Maggie again. "NO!" Maggie shouted at her, throwing her hands up in front of herself.

She instantly knew she had made a mistake.

Brutus stopped rummaging around in his bed and looked up to see what was going on.

Rose grunted and made weird noises in her throat to Brutus as he made his way to them.

Brutus, with superhuman speed, grabbed Maggie around the middle with her arms pinned down to her sides.

While Brutus held her, Rose proceeded to strip her of her remaining clothes.

Left standing there completely naked, Maggie tried covering herself with her arms. How humiliating! Here she was buck naked in front of two Bigfoot. What now? She tried reaching for her clothes, but Rose picked them up and tossed them away.

Rose then stepped down into the pool of water. She beckoned with her hand for Maggie to join her.

"You've got to be kidding me!" she said. "You want to go swimming? Seriously? I bet that water is ice cold!" Brutus was still standing there watching what was happening. He gave her a firm shove from behind.

> "Oh great! Well maybe I don't want to swim, did you ever think of that?"

> > All she got was another forceful shove from behind.

"Fine, you want me in the water, then I'll get in the water!"

She backed up a couple of feet and when she felt Brutus's hand on her back, she ran forward, jumped into the air and cannon balled into the middle of the pool.

Water splashed up all over Rose as Maggie went under the water. When she surfaced, Brutus and Rose were both staring at her with a look of shock on their faces.

Maggie couldn't help it. She let out with a gut splitting laugh. She laughed so hard she couldn't catch her breath. Rose drew her hand back and slapped the water so hard that a wall

of water engulfed Maggie.

Maggie spluttered and spit water out of her mouth. She stopped laughing and looked at Rose. Rose's mouth was open and she was making this quick repetitive grunting noise that almost sounded like a laugh. Maggie just stared at her for a moment. Was she laughing? Could Bigfoot laugh?

Rose slapped the water again, covering Maggie with a tidal wave of water. Again, she made the repetitive grunting noises. This time Maggie knew.....Rose was laughing! Maggie couldn't help herself. She joined in and laughed till her stomach hurt.

Brutus watched all this with a confused look on his face. He



She continued to just stand there watching the two Bigfoot unsure of what she was supposed to do. Running was not an option. She would never make it down the cliff face on her own.

As she stood there, Rose came over to her and pulled her over to the pool of water. The rain cascading down over the rock shelf overhead was filling the pool.

Rose began tugging on Maggie's clothes. She grabbed a hold of her shirt and proceeded to pull it up over her head. Maggie frantically started slapping at Rose's hands and yanking her shirt back down.

"I am not taking my clothes off," she said. "For Heaven's sake, why would I?"

Rose became very insistent and swatted at Maggie's hands to make she stop slapping at her. When Maggie continued to fight, she grabbed her shirt around the bottom and jerked it up over her head with such force it caught Maggie's head in it. With one final yank, shook his head and grunted. After a moment, he stepped back a few feet and cannon balled into the water next to Rose and Maggie. The three of them frolicked in the water for a few more minutes, then it was down to business.

#### Copyright @ 2019 by Carol Hall

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.

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### NOW HERE'S A TIP

By JoAnn Derson

\* If you keep a couple of crackers in your sugar jar, they'll keep the sugar from caking.

\* Cucumber is a speedy diuretic. Try snacking on slices for a cool treat. Or deseed slices and slip a few in your glass of cold water.

\* "When we go to the doctor with our youngest, we bring a few crayons. She'll lie down on the exam table paper, and we draw her outline. Then she can fill in her face and other details. This usually calms her while she is waiting. The doctor even has used the outline to talk about her body to her." -- E.S. in Georgia

\* "In older houses, you might have a problem with cracking drywall when trying to hang pictures. You

#### **STRANGE BUT TRUE** By Lucie Winborne

\* Autism is more common than childhood cancer, diabetes and AIDS combined.

\* A bizarre dream in which cannibals surrounded him and prepared to cook him as they waved spears helped inspire Elias Howe's invention of the sewing machine. When he awoke, he remembered that the spears had holes in their shafts and moved up and down.

\* "Bhang lassi" is an Indian milkshake whose main ingredient is marijuana.

\* According to British law, any unclaimed swan swimming in the open waters of England and Wales belongs to the queen. The law originated in medieval times when swans were a delicacy for the wealthy.

- \* "Gingerphobia" is a fear of redheads.
- \* The Russians arrived 12 days late to the 1908 Olympics because they were using the wrong (i.e., Julian) calendar.

\* In 1995 a woman in Sweden lost her wedding ring while cooking for Christmas. Understandably distraught, she looked everywhere for it and even pulled up her kitchen floor, but didn't see it again until 16 years later, when, while gardening, she discovered it encircling a carrot that had sprouted in the middle of it.

\* The amount of copper on the

can solve this by placing a bit of clear tape over the spot where you're going to drive a nail. It goes right in. If you're nailing into wood, drag your nail through some soap (bar soap is fine) before striking. It does the same thing, keeping the wood from splitting." -- P.K. in New Jersey

\* To prevent garbage cans from filling with water during rainstorms, drill several holes in the bottom, near the sides. This also will help bags to come out of the can easier.

\* Boost your metabolism by drinking green tea ... hot or cold. Try it over ice with honey and a sprig of mint.

Send your tips to Now Here's a Tip, 628 Virginia Drive, Orlando, FL 32803. (c) 2021 King Features Synd., Inc.

Arizona capitol building roof is equivalent to nearly 5 million pennies.

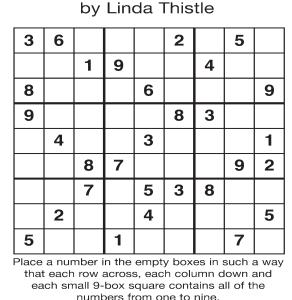
\* Bumblebees can fly higher than Mt. Everest.

\* Because he got a 25% profit share of merchandise, Elvis Presley manager Colonel Tom Parker was always in search of new ways to get fans to lay down some cash. One of the most notable was marketing to Presley's haters with badges that read "I Hate Elvis" and "Elvis is a Jerk."

Thought for the Day: "The mark of the immature man is that he wants to die nobly for a cause, while the mark of the mature man is that he wants to live humbly for one." -- J.D. Salinger

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### Weekly SUDOKU



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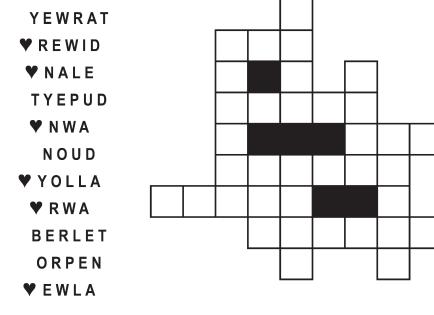
#### DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆



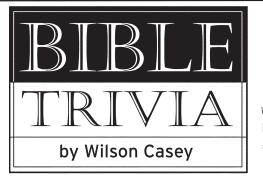


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Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. **HAGNEC** becomes **CHANGE**). Prepare to use only ONE word from any marked ( **Y** ) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. **VRATHE** becomes **HATER** or **EARTH** or **HEART** ). Fit each string's word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.



1. Is the book of 1 Corinthians in the Old Testament, New Testament or neither?

2. Whose last words were, "God will surely visit you, and ye shall carry up my bones from hence"? Moses, Noah, Joseph, Adam

3. From 1 Chronicles 29, who said, "All things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee"? Jacob, David, Paul, Job

4. Where were many men slain for looking into the Ark of the Covenant? Succoth, Troas, Sychar, Beth-shemesh

5. What sorcerer in Samaria became a believer? Hiel, Simon, Rehoboam, Omri

6. Which is the last word of the New Testament? Amen, Holy, Life, Throne

ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) Joseph; 3) David; 4) Beth-shemesh; 5) Simon; 6) Amen (Revelation 22:21)

Sharpen your understanding of scripture with Wilson's Casey's latest book, "Test Your Bible Knowledge," available in bookstores and online.



by Healthy Exchanges

#### Grilled Southwestern Chicken Bundles

You don't have to sleep in a tent in the woods to enjoy a campfire cookout. Just gather everyone in the backyard with plenty of blankets to sit on, a telescope to watch the falling stars and a table filled with tasty "outdoor" foods. This main dish just might be the "star" of the menu!

- ounces skinned and boned 16 chicken breast, cut into 4 pieces
- cup chopped green bell pepper
- cup chopped red bell pepper
- cup chopped onion 2 cups frozen whole-kernel
- corn, thawed cup fat-free Catalina dressing tablespoon chopped fresh 1 parsley or 1 teaspoon dried parsley flakes



#### Just Like Cats & Dogs by Dave T. Phipps

GROLT & BIKAR TTO

Wagner

teaspoons chili seasoning  $1\frac{1}{2}$ 

1. Cut 4 (24-inch) pieces of heavy-duty aluminum foil. Lightly spray each piece with butter-flavored cooking spray. Arrange 1 chicken piece in center of each. In a medium bowl, combine green pepper, red pepper and onion. Spoon 3/4 cup vegetable mixture over each chicken piece. Sprinkle 1/2 cup corn over top of each.

2. In small bowl, combine dressing, parsley and chili seasoning. Drizzle about 2 tablespoons dressing mixture over top of each bundle. Wrap and double seal each. Place packets over grill at medium heat. Grill for 18 to 20 minutes, turning occasionally. Makes 4 servings.

• Each serving equals: 270 calories, 3g fat, 26g protein, 35g carb., 431mg sodium, 5g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 3 Meat, 1 1/2 Starch, 1 1/2 Vegetable.

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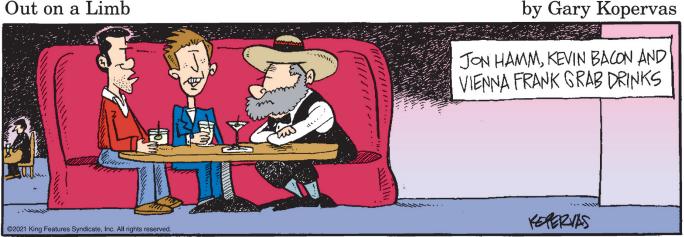
### Amber Waves







#### Out on a Limb



#### R.F.D.



#### The Spats



### **MOMENTS IN TIME**

The History Channel

\* On Sept. 9, 1776, the Continental Congress formally declares the name of the new nation to be the "United States" of America. This replaced the term "United Colonies," which had been in general use.

\* On Sept. 6, 1915, a prototype tank nicknamed Little Willie rolls off the assembly line in England. Far from an overnight success, it weighed 14 tons, got stuck in trenches, overheated and crawled over rough terrain at only 2 mph. With improvements, tanks would eventually transform military battlefields.

\* On Sept. 11, 1930, Katherine Anne Porter's first collection of short stories, "Flowering Judas," is published. Porter went on to publish 25 stories and one novel, "Ship of Fools," which took her more than two decades to complete.

\* On Sept. 10, 1940, in light of the destruction and terror inflicted on Londoners by German bombing raids, called "the Blitz," the British War Cabinet instructs British bombers over Germany to drop their bombs "anywhere" if unable to reach their targets. One even landed in the garden of Joseph Goebbels, the Nazi Party's minister of propaganda.

\* On Sept. 7, 1950, Julie Kavner, perhaps best known as the voice of Marge Simpson on "The Simpsons," the longest-running animated show in TV history, is born in Los Angeles.

\* On Sept. 8, 1974, in a controversial executive action, President Gerald Ford pardons his disgraced predecessor Richard Nixon for any crimes he may have committed or participated in while in office. Ford later explained that he wanted to end the national divisions created by the Watergate scandal.



\* On Sept. 12, 1993, the rebuilt Lacey V. Murrow Bridge over Lake Washington opens in Seattle. The old bridge was almost 2 miles long, contained 100,000 tons of steel and floated on more than 20 hollow concrete pontoons. During repairs in 1990, the bridge broke apart and sank in a flood.

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# Page 14 www.r THE RICH LOWRY COLUMN By Rich Lowry

#### President Biden's Man-Made Disasters

President Biden arrived in office with the southern U.S. border secure and Afghanistan in a state of fragile equilibrium. Eight months later, the border continues to be deluged with migrants overwhelming our capacity to properly house and process them, and we are evacuating our personnel from Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul overrun by desperate Afghans fleeing the Taliban.

The crisis at the border and the stunningly swift defeat in Afghanistan are entirely on Biden. He took sustainable situations and overturned them out of ideological fixity and fantastical wishful thinking.

The outcomes were utterly predictable. Indeed, anyone who knew anything about the border or Afghanistan warned what would happen.

The debacles haven't been the product of forces beyond Biden's control; events didn't take a hand, he did. These are manmade disasters.

Throw on top the crime wave in U.S. cities that is a product of the left's enthusiasm for fashionable anti-cop sentiments, and the picture is of a party that is unable to maintain order or rationally calculate the downside consequences of its rhetoric and policies.

One hallmark of the Biden approach has been laughably false assurances. He maintained at a press conference in March that there was nothing unusual going on at the border, when the historic surge had already begun. Only last month, he confidently predicted that there'd be no dramatic rooftop evacuations from Kabul, when a rapid collapse of the government was always a distinct possibility.

Then, there are the ineffectual warnings. Biden officials have repeatedly told migrants to stop coming to the U.S. border, when they have every incentive to continue to do so, and his representatives tsk-tsked the Taliban about sweeping to power by force -- something that they have fought to do for 20 years -- because it would supposedly harm the group's international image. And, finally, the rank blame-shifting. Biden's team has outlandishly tried to argue that President Donald Trump somehow created the conditions for the border spinning out of control, when the truth is that Trump, after false starts, figured out how to get a handle on it. Biden points the finger at Trump, too, on Afghanistan.

Here, he has more of a case -- the so-called peace deal that Trump cut with the Taliban was a travesty that undercut the Afghan government. But nothing forced Biden, who has happily reversed field on most Trump policies, to abide by an agreement that the Taliban violated from the outset or to execute a withdrawal that kneecapped the Afghan army in the midst of fighting season and a gathering Taliban offensive.

He was the one whose exit denied the Afghan army the U.S. air support and logistics it had always depended on, who left without securing a nearby base in the region, who didn't care enough about Afghan allies who had risked their lives for us to ensure that they could get out of the country, who sent a message of abandonment that was a blow to Afghan morale from the top all the way down. It's a particularly galling Biden rhetorical move to use the catastrophic failure of the Afghan forces that he helped bring about to insist that his decision to leave was the only responsible one. He's gone from claiming we could safely leave because the Afghan security forces would do just fine on their own, to arguing we had no choice but to get out because they couldn't manage without us. Both at the U.S. border and in Afghanistan, Biden merely had to keep in place what he inherited to sustain success or at least avoid disaster. On the border, Trump's pandemic-era controls and his agreements with Mexico and Central American countries were sensible and tested. Afghanistan was more difficult, but with some determination and finesse, Biden could have maintained the minimal U.S. commitment that had forestalled a Taliban takeover for years. Instead, in both cases, he quite literally chose chaos. Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.



#### Blow a Bubble Card

If your young kids and grandkids like blowing bubbles, they'll love this activity. When the colored bubbles dry on construction paper, they will become the eye-catching background for one-of-a-kind artwork.

#### Here's the stuff you'll need:

- Pie pan or wide-mouth cup
- Liquid poster paint
- Liquid dishwashing detergent and water, or commercial bubble blow-ing solution
- Markers or crayons
- White or light-colored construction paper or cardstock
- Drinking straws
- Paper to cover worktable

#### Here's the fun:

1. Cover your work surface with newspaper or butcher paper. In the pie pan or cup, stir together 1 cup water, two to three tablespoons paint and one tablespoon detergent. Or, add paint to the bubble-blowing solution.

2. Place a straw in the mixture and blow into the straw to create colored bubbles billowing over the edge of the container. Remove the straw.

3. Fold a piece of construction paper in half to form a card, or use the front

#### VETERANS POST by Freddy Groves VA Tells Health Staff They Must Get Vaccine

The Department of Veterans Affairs recently announced that they will require their frontline medical staff to get the COVID vaccine. Specifically, they listed "physicians, dentists, podiatrists, optometrists, registered nurses, physician assistants, expanded-function dental auxiliaries and chiropractors of the card on top of the bubbles and hold it in place until several colored bubbles have popped and transferred their shapes onto the paper. Continue the process with different colors, if you wish. Set aside to dry. (If the bubble prints are not as dark as you'd like, add more paint to the mixture and blow again.)

4. Use markers to add drawings to the dried bubble prints, such as a jet flying through the bubble "clouds" for a "Bon Voyage" card. Write a message inside the card and sign it. Tuck into an envelope for a unique greeting or summer thank-you note to a friend or relative.



Joshua Adam's blows a mixture of bubble solution and poster paint to create a bubble-art greeting card.

NOTE: Remind children to be careful not to suck on the straw when blowing the bubble solution. If you clip two holes about halfway down the straw, children will be less able to suck in the bubbles.

\*\*\*

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

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cine was difficult. When my age group finally came along, I ended up at a civilian pharmacy because it was faster. Nobody there had gotten the vaccine either.

And now, unfortunately, we discover that the vaccines don't work as we thought they would. There are breakthrough cases where fully vaccinated people are still getting the virus, the variants have gained strength, and we're likely going back to Step One, complete with masks.

If you need to go to a VA facility for health care, call ahead or use the VA health appointment app. You'll no doubt be met at the door, asked COVID screening questions and have your temperature taken. Have your vaccination card with you and wear a mask. You also might be able to get a telehealth appointment. Meanwhile, if you've gotten lax about safety, get smart again. Do one full minute scrubbing your hands under warm water with an antibacterial soap, including your nails. Hang a mask on the front doorknob so you'll see it each time you go out.

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who work in Veterans Health Administration facilities, visit VHA facilities or provide direct care to those the VA serves."

In other words, anyone who touches you in a VA medical setting, breathes on you or handles something they're about to put in your mouth has to get the vaccine.

Thank you, VA.

It was unnerving going to the VA and asking whatever medical person was about to touch me or breathe on me, "So, which vaccine did you get?" only to be told they hadn't had the vaccine and didn't intend to get it.

Even waiting for the vac-

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#### August 24, 2021 Historically Speaking The Oak Ridge Pioneers Part 1

By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

We have examined the first Oak Ridge professional baseball team, the Oak Ridge Bombers of 1948. More about the Oak Ridge Bombers in the later years in coming articles of this series on the history of professional baseball in Oak Ridge.

Now, again compliments of Jack Bailey, Jr., we can look at the second attempt by Oak Ridge to field a professional baseball team, The Oak Ridge Pioneers of 1954. They were formed as a part of the newly reclassified Mountain States League that had been upgraded from a class "D" league to a class "C."

The Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce had a large role to play in bringing this second attempt at professional baseball to Oak Ridge. A corporation of Oak Ridge citizens known as Oak Ridge Baseball Inc. was formed after an initial push by the chamber to again bring professional baseball to the city.

But first, let me thank those readers who have helped with questions I asked in previous columns. "Mac" McCurdy wrote to inform me he had found a reference for USED. He said the City Behind the Fence, by Johnson and Jackson, 1981, pp72-73, spelled out USED as standing for United States Engineer Department.

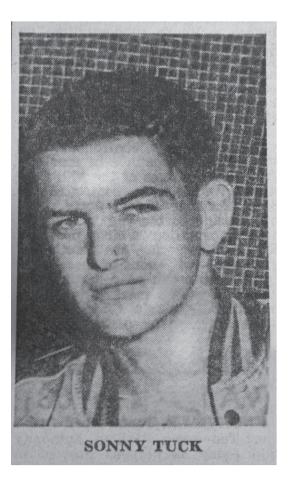
Again, I am aware of the Special Engineer Detachment, but not the USED. So, I searched the term and found a report on the siege and reduction of Fort Pulaski, GA. in 1862, during the Civil War, addressed to the United States Engineer Department of the Army Corps of Engineers. Just may be the same.

I also received a very informative call from Bill Tewes who pointed me to a reference in the Special Engineer Detachment's 1945 Yearbook that included in the "Sports Category" a reference to a football team named the "Atomic bombers" and to a basketball team named the "Cardinals." The yearbook also listed baseball, touch football, softball and soccer as sports played by the SED. I find it interesting to note that soccer was listed in 1945.

Bill also gave some insight into the idea as to why the notion that "Oak Ridgers expected everything for free." You will recall this was a comment made by the sportswriter, Ted Yakimchick, when the Oak Ridge Bombers were unable to attract adequate crowds to turn a profit. ered, he had to pay \$100! That was a significant increase in cost.

The last comment Bill made to me was to explain why he thought Oak Ridgers' support for the Oak Ridge Bombers might have been less than enthusiastic. He said, most of the Oak Ridgers were a younger group who took advantage of the many Oak Ridge activities and tended to entertain themselves by engaging in sports personally.

So, Oak Ridgers were active in many sports, not



Frank J. "Sonny" Tuck, first player to sign a contract with The Oak Ridge Pioneers and older brother to Tom Tuck (Photo Submitted)

spectators. He also noted that many of them had their own favorite professional baseball teams such as the New York Yankees and their farm club the Newark Bears that they followed, and that Class "D" baseball was just not very attractive. I think Bill's insight may be on target.

As early as 1948, a fine new baseball park was being planned to be built in Gamble Valley. The Oak Ridge Bombers did not want to play there, they preferred Oakwood Park's more central location. This new park was the first opportunity Oak Ridgers were given to name a public facility, according to Ted Yakimchick's column on May 20, 1948. This Park was not used for professional baseball in 1948 as the Bombers left Oak Ridge because of a lack of adequate fan support.

Seating capacity at this new park would be about the same as Oakwood's 1,200. However, it is interesting to note that when the Oak Ridge Pioneers were formed in 1954 that construction and renovation was going on at the Ridgeview Park in Gamble Valley. This would prove to be a factor in their eventual failure as a professional team in Oak Ridge. The first player signed by the Oak Ridge Pioneers was Frank J. "Sonny" Tuck, older brother to our own Tom Tuck. He was called a "mainstay of Oak Ridge High School Wildcat baseball pitchers." At six foot two inches tall, Sonny was said to have a "fastball with a mean hop on it."

The Oak Ridge Pioneers' manager, Bert Niehoff was said to have had high hopes for this young nineteen-year-old former high school star pitcher. But those hopes were not to be fulfilled. The league failed soon after being formed. It lasted from April to July 1954.

Sonny signed early in April 1954. The upgraded Mountain States League had its first game on April 24, 1954. Prior to that game, the Oak Ridge Pioneers played an intra-squad practice game on April 13, 1954. This was the first opportunity the team had to see how they played. The sportswriter noted the pitching looked good, but the batting was said to need some additional practice. Several other exhibition or preseason games were played as well.

Manager Niehoff was hospitalized with a fractured vertebrae as a result of tripping when he was moving the batting cage. Ed Gibson and Charley Bradford were acting managers in his absence. Ross Charles was the club president, and the board of directors were, Herb Adcox, Roscoe Stephens, Gene Bruner, Van Hicks, Don J. McKay, Bill Simpson, al Snasdall, harry weaver and Al Thornall.

Another injury that hurt the team was when Sonny injured his ankle. As a result of this injury, he never appeared in a Mountain States League game. He pitched in some pre-season games and recalls one where the opposing pitcher was Philbuerto Qui, who beat him 5 runs to none for the Pioneers. Sonny laughed when he told the story, and he still clearly remembered the name of the winning pitcher.

Sonny also told me about some of the details included in his contract with the Pioneers. It stipulated that Sonny could not bowl for fear of hurting his arm. There were other such stipulations.

Next, we will continue to learn more about Sonny's experience with the Oak Ridge Pioneers and will also see how B. B. Hopkins was almost a member of the Mountain Cities League.

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.

Bill says this idea about Oak Ridgers expecting things to be provided free came about because of prices being raised for Oak Ridgers by Knoxville businesses. He also pointed out that the "free items" were perceived by the government as a cost of doing business in Oak Ridge.

He also noted that the Gate Opening parade on March 19, 1949, included at least one float that was built and manned by dormitory residents who were about to see their rent increase. He mentioned the initial lack of support for opening of the city and the first vote against it. However, Bill supported it.

He gave one last personal experience as proof of the change being brought about in Oak Ridge during 1949. It seems Bill's wife gave birth to twins on the exact date of the gate opening ceremony. The cost of delivering "one or more babies" had been \$60, but when Bill's wife delivThis renovation was being completed by Al Cappiello's construction crew. They were placing a roof on the grandstand. They had also installed box seats, a press box, and a radio booth. The overall seating capacity was expanded to 2,300. They were planning for large crowds that never materialized. However, 24 of the 30 box seats were sold before the season opener.

An interesting note is that by 1954, the Oakwood Baseball Park where the Oak Ridge Bombers played in 1948, was no longer being used. This Park is now known as the Carl Yearwood Park. 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.

#### Page 16

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#### August 24, 2021

### **Around The World and Back Again** with Zack Ballinger

# **Free Career** Coaching

sions can be life changing for anyone. I am requesting the contestants to write me a short (no more than 250 words) about,



why you need career coaching or career advice. Tell me a little bit about your situation and your desired career goals. It's that simple. I will be picking 2 of the best written requests and bringing the winners forward. You will also get 2 free books, The Hot

trick.



Zack Ballinger

Zack graduated from Wartburg Central High School in 2001 and from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville in 2004. Since graduation he has become a TedX Motivational Speaker, Author, and Career Consultant. He travels the world giving back and hosting seminars teaching people on various topics. Zack has established an ongoing annual scholarship at his Alma Mater, Wartburg, which has inspired others to give back as well. Visit www.zackballinger.com for more of Zack's travels and events.

The Zack Ballinger Show will be giving away FREE initial career coaching sessions. The 2 lucky winners will receive 3 free career coaching sessions with an expert career coach and myself. The sessions will be conducted on a virtual platform with myself and another licensed career coach. The sessions will eventually be posted on my social media platform to shine a light on the importance career coaching is in North America.

What do 3 career coaching sessions consist of? We will help you identify some of your key strengths and talents. Career coaching is for anyone in or out of the marketplace. In other words, this isn't just for high school and college students. It can be anyone struggling to find purposeful work, gain a company promotion, change industries, feeling stuck in their career, or secure employment. The career coaching sessions will help with career development topics such as resume writing, networking, job interview skills, and the fundamentals to achieving career goals. The certified career coach will give you a game plan to follow in order to achieve your desired career goals.

Seat: How to Meet the Challenge of a New Era in Job Interviewing and Don't be a Zombie: How to Find a Career you Love." Email me at zack@zackballinger. com

How will I know if I won or when does the contest end? I will write everyone back and let them know I have received their essay. I will make the announcement on my social media platforms. The 2 winners will be selected on September 20th, 2021. Good luck to everyone!

#### FAQ:

Question: Is there any purchase necessary?



Why will it be online? I believe career coaching is important but isn't be utilized enough. Many people do not know what a career coach does, what a session looks like, or how it could help them along their career journey. I want to show my audience how a few career coaching sessions could change someone's life forever. I want your story to be told and shared across my social media platforms.

How do I enter to win? It's a very simple contest. Whether you're a college student, a millennial in the work force, or a senior professional, these career coaching sesAnswer: No, anyone can apply.

Question: I am not good at writing essays. Is it worth it for me to try? Answer: Yes, I am not judging the English or grammar; I am making a fair assessment on the needs of the individual.

Question: What do I need to have technology wise?

Answer: A computer is recommended, but a smart phone will do the



#### <u>August 24, 2021</u> Homegrown Tomatoes – A Little Heaven on Earth



Many years ago, songwriter Guy Clark wrote a song that included this chorus:

Homegrown tomatoes, homegrown tomatoes What'd life be without homegrown tomatoes? Only two things that money can't buy And that's true love and homegrown toma-

Terry Futrell *toes*. Author Truer words

were never spoken - Clark was truly a man after my own heart. As this summer draws to a close and the last homegrown tomatoes are plucked from the vine, I am preparing to sink into deep, dark depression until next year's crop ripens. I have eaten more homegrown tomatoes this summer than any of my other 75 summers. It has truly been a little bit of heaven on earth. Now, harsh reality is beginning to set in. What will I do without homegrown tomatoes for the next nine months?

I suppose there are some who wonder "what's the big deal with homegrown tomatoes?" Obviously, as the old folks would say, "they ain't frum hyar!" Anyone who cannot taste the difference between "hot house" tomatoes and



A giant, flavorful tomato grown in real Morgan County dirt. (Photo Submitted)

bread or large hamburger bun. My wife loves tomato sandwiches, and she typically cuts one slice out of a tomato for her sandwich. Not being one who likes to see things go to waste, I feel compelled to eat the rest of the tomato – it is my civic duty as a

Ever since tomatoes ripened this summer, I have usually eat-

en at least half of a homegrown tomato per day. These were not the size you find in the grocery store, but were humongous

tomatoes grown by my brother-in-law in real Morgan County

dirt. One center slice of a tomato would cover an entire slice of

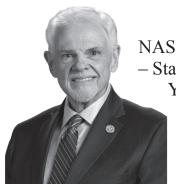
conservationist. Some days, we repeat this ritual twice!

Page 17

Grainger County tomatoes get a lot of publicity. I'm not sure that I have ever eaten one, but I am confident that they could not taste better than this year's crop of Morgan County tomatoes. There is one thing that concerns me about the Grainger County label on tomatoes. This year, they started showing up in supermarkets before we had even seen our last frost. It doesn't take a rocket scientist's brain to realize that those early Grainger County tomatoes have to be HOT HOUSE TOMATOES, to which I say "I would just as soon have cardboard on my burger."

the real homegrown variety must have somehow destroyed their God-given taste buds at some time in the past. Hot house tomatoes that we find in the grocery store appear to my taste buds to be some mysterious concoction fabricated from cardboard. Even when homegrown tomatoes are available, most restaurants still serve the tasteless hot house kind. One might as well walk into a burger joint and say "don't forget to add a slice of cardboard to my hamburger." As one of my former pastors used to say about falsehoods, I am certain that hot house tomatoes "smell like smoke and are straight from the pits of hell."

I am confident that I am not alone in facing depression until next year's crop of homegrown tomatoes is table-ready. They say misery loves company, so perhaps we can get together and share our remembrances of homegrown tomatoes of the past. We could even start a support group, maybe even have weekly meetings at which we sample hot house tomatoes to remind us that our little bit of heaven has gone and that we are now experiencing that other place. I guess we would find an answer to Guy Clark's question "What'd life be without homegrown tomatoes?"



# Sen. Yager announces Grants Conference

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – State Senator Ken

tunity pass by without local governments, community groups and nonprofits knowing how to tap into it," said Yager. "The right federal, state or local grant can make the difference in going forward on a needed project. I want to maximize our opportunities to seize every possible grant dollar available for our communities and this conference will greatly help in that effort."

dees must register for the event. Please go to RSCC portal to register at roanestate. edu/YGC. Online registration opens on August 23 and closes on September 24.

#### Senator Ken Yager

Yager (R-Kingston) today announced he will host a Grants Conference on Wednesday, September 29th at Roane

State Community College in Harriman in coordination with the college's Office of Workforce and Community Development. The conference will provide local governments, community groups and nonprofits important information regarding available grants and the best practices for preparing a successful application.

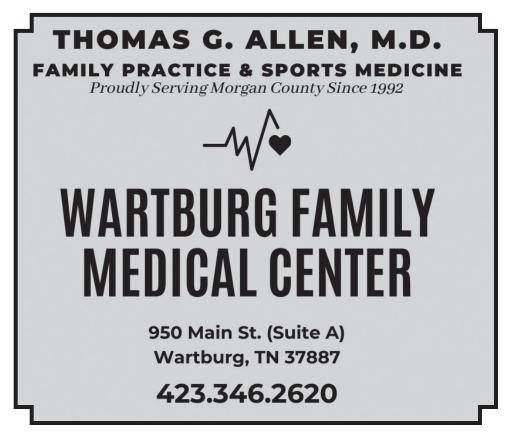
"The goal is to never let a grant oppor-

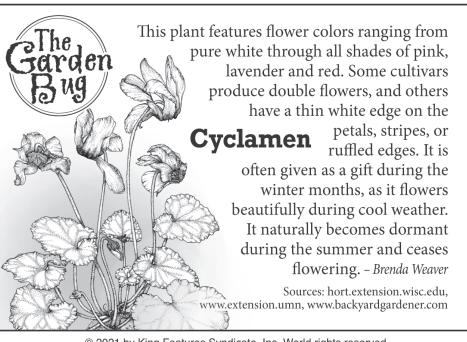
Yager has sponsored the Grant Conference since 2013 to improve the opportunities for citizens, organizations and government agencies to tap into a wide variety of grant funds available to them.

The conference will be held in the O'Brien Theatre from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. EST. Admission is free but atten-

"There is an art to applying for grants and I want as many local citizens, organizations, and government agencies as possible to be apprised of the best practices," added Yager. "The experts presenting at this conference will help us maximize our potential to help our communities tap into these funds."

Senator Yager represents Campbell, Fentress, Morgan, Rhea, Roane, Pickett and Scott Counties in Senate District 12 in the Tennessee General Assembly.





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#### Serve the Easiest-Ever Labor Day Feast

I don't know who needs to hear this, but Labor Day is supposed to be a

day off for those who labor. Traditionally, we'd plan a big barbeque feast with all the trimmings. Now, I'm certainly not opposed to such things, but in the spirit of Labor Day, I'm proposing we go against tradition and prepare a meal that practically makes itself.

It's time to pull out the easiest pulled pork recipe known to mankind. Requiring only four ingredients, all you need is a big ol' pork roast, a bottle of root beer (stick with me here, your pork won't taste like root beer, I promise), salt and your favorite barbeque sauce. See? Four ingredients. Easy. What cut of pork? For tender, juicy pulled pork, buy the cheap stuff. Choose cuts labeled "shoulder," "butt" or "Boston butt." Notwithstanding the name, the butt portion comes from the animal's shoulder. The name is from Colonial New England and the way the shoulder cuts were shipped back then. The barrels used for shipping were called "butts," hence the name "pork butts." Why root beer? Science! Root beer with salt added acts like a brine and marinade combined. The salt and sugar are absorbed deep into the meat, seasoning it, like a brine. The flavors in root beer — sassafras, nutmeg, anise, molasses, cinnamon, licorice and honey — complement the pork beautifully, acting like a marinade. Root beer adds a subtle sweetness and complexity that partners with BBQ sauce to make this pork melt-in-yourmouth scrumptious.

When buying root beer, it must contain sugar, not artificial sweeteners. This is the time to buy a high-end root beer, but if that stretches your budget, purchase one you can comfortably afford.



www.JasonCoblentz.com

Root beer is the secret to this melt-in-vour-

to combine.

2. Place the pork into the crock (if necessary, cut into chunks to fit in your slow cooker), tossing to coat with sauce; cover and cook on LOW for 8 to 10 hours. While it's safe to eat at a temperature of 165 F, you want the pork to reach 205 F degrees to be falling-apart tender.

3. Remove pork to a cutting board. Reserve 2 cups juices from the crock and discard the rest. Shred the pork with two forks, removing any unwanted fatty bits, and return it to the crock pot. Add 1/2 cup BBQ sauce and 1 cup juices, tossing to coat. Add more juice if needed. Keep warm in the crockpot until ready to serve.

(Oven Directions — Preheat oven to 325 F and follow directions above, placing pork in a Dutch oven. Bake with the lid on for 3 hours, then remove lid for 1 to 2 more hours or until the pork reaches 205 F.)

Serve a generous portion of pulled pork on a toasted bun with additional BBQ sauce on the side. Hawaiian style rolls are ridiculously good with this. Accompany with coleslaw, corn on the cob and pickles for a perfect

#### mouth pulled pork.

#### ROOT BEER PULLED PORK

Yield: 8-12 servings Prep Time: 10 minutes Cook Time: 8-10 hours

#### What You'll Need:

- 1 (6–8 pound) pork shoulder roast
- *1* (*12 ounce*) bottle of root beer
- *1 teaspoon kosher salt*
- 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cups BBQ sauce (bottled or homemade), divided, plus more for serving

#### Here's How:

1. In the crock of your slow cooker, mix the root beer with the salt (but grab the kiddies first to watch it fizz up). Add 1 cup BBQ sauce, and stir salute to end-of-summer cuisine.

As the lazy days wind down, I hope the holiday weekend finds your backside firmly planted in the shade and your hardest decision being should the coleslaw be on the bun or on the side. Happy Labor Day, my friends.

\*\*\*

Lifestyle expert Patti Diamond is the penny-pinching, party-planning, recipe developer and content creator of the website "Divas On A Dime — Where Frugal, Meets Fabulous!" Visit Patti at www.divasonadime.com and join the conversation on Facebook at DivasOnADimeDotCom. Email Patti at askdivapatti@divasonadime.com

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Church



This is the fourth church of seven that Jesus Christ dictates a letter to John, and has an angel render into signs. This is the longest of the seven letters, and quite possibly the letter true Christians must understand to be an effective witness in the times we are living in. Thyatira is the picture of the middle age Catholic Church.

ne

Thyatira is the feminine pronoun daughter. It has John Burns an ancient history that must be understood to rightly **Opinion Columnist** divide the word of truth. To understand Thyatira, one must understand its name in Chaldean, Semiramis.

As the ancient Babylonian history reveals, Semiramis is the consort to Nimrod, the world's first dictator.

He is the descendant of Ham, from Noah. Ham has a name that transliterates as ruddy red and hairy. That was the way Nimrod appeared, and it is the way his descendants look. Nimrod became a warrior and hunter. It is probable his kingdom was under the influence of the fallen angels who had male offspring with the daughters of Adam.

The legend has it that Semiramis was married to one of Nimrod's generals. As king of the entire world, he wanted Semiramis, and apparently, he got her. She became Nimrod's consort. She eventually had Nimrod killed after she became pregnant probably by a fallen angel. Her sun was called the son of God. His name was Tammuz 1

The Babylonians began to worship Tammuz and he was venerated as the sun god. This legend became the model by which all pagan religions developed their religion's venerating the sun, the moon, and the twelve-star constellations, identified in the book of Job, as the mazzaroth. Astrology has its roots in Babylon with Nimrod and Semiramis.

Nimrod made himself the high priest of the Babylonian religion and assumed the name Pontifex Maximus. He was both the king of Babylon and the high priest of the religion birthed in Babylon where syncretism was first practiced by pagan Nimrod and Semiramis. They mixed worship of the creation, with the worship of all kinds of fertility rights in men and women. It was the Babylonians who introduce the world to Baal and Ashtoreth.

Baal is the god of war and he was venerated as the planet Mars. The reason for this is at the time of Nimrod, earth and mars were on resonant orbits. They would have passed by each other very closely.

Mars would have appeared 70 times bigger than the moon and the planet was visible with the naked eye. Gravity was affected, and tidal waves and other physical phenomenon the Babylonians experienced because of Mars flying so close to earth, caused them to begin worshipping the planets, the stars that surrounded them, and the sun and the moon. The first astronomical structures for viewing the planets were constructed by the pagan Babylonians.

Their entire culture revolved around combining worship of their King and Queen with worshipping the entire created universe. Semiramis constructed groves complete with phallic symbols for the deification of the woman. The entire Babylonian religion venerated reproduction and the worship of the woman. Semiramis is the catalyst by which men and women began to believe in fertility based upon celestial alignment. The first calendars were established in Babylon. 12 months with a constellation venerated for each month of the year based upon the days it took for the sun to be reborn at the winter solstice.

This holiday was celebrated with the worship of the rebirth of the Sun on the shortest solar day of the year. It fell in the 12th month of the Babylonian calendar. It celebrated the birth of Tammuz as the sun God on the winter solstice between the 21st and 25th days of the 12th month of the Babylonian calendar. When Persia under Cyrus the great conquered Babylon, the high priest and the temple priests and priestesses escaped to western Turkey to the Lydian town of Euhippia. The King of Euhippia took the name Pontifex Maximus and welcomed the escaping priests from Babylon to the now renamed town Semiramis.

The Babylonian religion had now migrated to the center of the Greek world and the Lydians combined it with the worship of Zeus at Pergamos, the temple town of Thyatira was renamed again with a Greek rendering of the Persian name of Semiramis. Thyatira is the town where John started the 1st century Church 13 kilometers from Pergamos.

of Thyatira Babylonian title pontifex maximus. The winter solstice was renamed sol Invictus under the Romans, and the Roman priesthood was fully adopted from Babylon at Thyatira. Complete with the 12th month the Romans would adopt as the day the sun was reborn during the celebration of Saturnalia during the winter solstice. The worship of Caesar as pontifex maximus was begun in Thyatira.

Christmas was born and brought into Christian houses for men had not yet begun to build temples for the veneration of pagan fertility holidays named churches. Thyatira is where men claiming to be priests of God began to seek earthly power and titles. The Catholic church of the middle age, can be traced to Thyatira, through Semiramis all the way back to Babylon.

Thyatira is where Romanized Christianity was forced upon the world and the worship of the female deity produced temple priestesses. They served the temple priests in the capacity of temple prostitutes and they set up the groves of Asherah.

Astrology and the worship of angels was begun in Babylon and adopted by the priests and priestesses of Thyatira. Their vestures wore black robes with white collars.

In Thyatira the system of organized religion with a hierarchy of priests based upon faithful service to the queen of heaven was begun at Babylon and migrated to western Turkey, and on into the Roman Catholic church. Deacons, priests, bishops, Cardinals all the way through to the Pope who takes the ancient Babylonian title Pontifex Maximus.

The Roman solar calendar was adopted in Thyatira to deal with the Jewish problem. God's calendar found in the Old Testament was replaced with the 12-month Julian calendar in Thyatira. It is the same calendar every western nation adopted and still uses today. God is not on this calendar. It is antisemitic and against the calendar Jesus Christ actually worshipped on during his ministry to the lost sheep of Israel.

Thyatira is the church Jesus Christ reveals himself to as The Son of God. They had begun the queen of heaven paradigm from Babylon, and continued it with the worship and veneration of Mary as bigger than the worship of Jesus Christ. They had begun to worship men in the flesh and the Pope would actually claim infallibility as only the perfect Christ possesses. All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. The Church of Thyatira is explicitly warned that if they do not become overcomers as outlined by John in the letter of 1 John 5 Vs. 4. Who is he that is an overcomer but he that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

Our next edition will identify that woman Jezebel from the Old Testament beginning in 1 Kings 18. She alone has been responsible for more death, hell and the grave than any woman in history. She is the first woman in history to order an inquisition upon the Jewish people in Judea. Her pattern was continued by the Roman Catholic queen Isabella of Spain. The Nazi's became the means by which the Catholic Pope would authorize the murder of Jewish children in Europe to separate them from their earthly rewards and their future heavenly inheritance. He was crucified upon a cross of wood yet he created the hill upon which it stood. Even so come Lord Jesus Christ.

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.

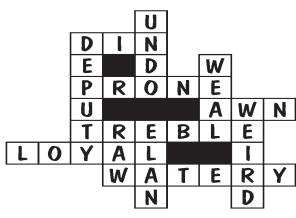
Christianity had married the Greek world at Pergamos and now it would consolidate temporal power in the town of Thyatira. The high priest adopted the

**Opinions expressed by readers and columnists do not necessarily reflect those of Morgan County Today** Weekly SUDOKU **King** Crossword



#### Answer

#### answer



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

Answers

Solution time: 26 mins.

Κ	Ι	D		S	κ	Α		R	Е	Α	Μ	S
L	G	Α		Η	Α	Т		Е	L	L	Е	Ν
U	L	Μ		0	Ζ	Е	Α	Ν	D	Α	Г	L
Т	0	Ο		0	S	Α	G	Е				
Ζ	Ο	Ν	Е		Α	Μ	0		Α	Ρ	Ε	D
			Α	D	S		G	0	Ρ	Н	Е	R
В	Ι	Ν	G	0				Α	R	Ι	Е	S
Α	D	U	L	Т	S		Т	κ	0			
G	0	Ν	Е		Η	Ε	Α		Ζ	Е	S	Т
				0	U	Т	Ι	Е		D		E
U	Ρ	A	Ν	D	D	0	W	Ν		G	Е	Ν
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# Romans 16

(Romans 16:1-2) Phoebe: Phoebe was a Christian woman from the city of Cenchrea (the eastern port of Corinth). She was probably a Gentile convert since her name appears to have been borrowed from a pagan goddess. She was known as a "sister" (in Christ) and a "servant" in that congregation, the term being generic for service of and character. Some have suggested she had a formal appointment as a "deaconess," but there is no hard evidence for that conclusion. However, there would be nothing intrinsically wrong with elders appointing women to carry out certain tasks consistent with their gender roles (1 Tim. 2:12).

This note of commendation appears to suggest that Phoebe is about to embark on a trip to Rome, and Paul will solicit her help in conveying this letter to those saints. They are to "receive her in the Lord." She is a worthy woman and Paul asks the Christians in Rome to assist her (perhaps with lodging---a lone woman in a crowded pagan city could be exposed to danger). In helping her they would be repaying a debt owed by others whom she had helped, including Paul (who had been in Cenchrea (Acts 18:18). The term "helper" does not suggest she was a church ruler, as some feminists argue; in that case, she would have ruled over Paul as well ("and me" v. 2).

(Romans 16:3-16) greetings to friends in Rome: in this section Paul sends greetings to a number of people in Rome. There are twenty-four specifically named individuals, two other unnamed (v.13, 15), and several groups. Prisca (Priscilla) and Aquila were fellow workers with the apostle in Corinth (Acts 18:1), and at some point had risked their lives for the apostle. A congregation met in their home (v.3-5). Mary was a diligent church worker. Andronicus and Junias were Paul's "kinsmen"--either relatives (Mk. 6:4) or fellow Jews (Rom. 9:3). They were converted before Paul, had been fellow prisoners with him, and were well known by the apostles. Others are greeted generically, with qualifiers such as, "in the Lord," "fellow workers," "beloved," "chosen," "brothers," "saints," etc. Rufus (v. 13) was possible one of the sons of Simon of Cyrene (Mk. 15:21). The expression, "my mother," is likely a reference to some godly matron who assisted him when needed.

Kissing was a common mode of greeting in the Middle East, and men greeted men while women greeted women. Perhaps this was a subtle caution against crossing the line and letting greetings degenerate into something more personal. The emphasis appears to be on the quality of the act, not the commanding of it per se. "Churches of Christ" were a collection of local congregations in the vicinity of Corinth, each of which <u>constituted a "church of Christ," a scriptural designation for the</u>

Melvin Howard's Weekly column is sponsored by **The Lord's Church** 102 Paxton Road, Lancing Lord's people, though not designed to be exclusive (1 Cor. 1:2). There are other Biblical names for the church.

(Romans 16:17-20) warning to Roman Christians: some charge that Paul throws a literary tantrum in this section, out of character with the flow of his usual tone. The accusation is baseless and is reflective of those who minimize false teaching. The term "mark" means to "watch out for" those who "cause division." Such divisiveness may be generated by the introduction of false teachings or the pressing of opinions regarding nonessentials within the realm of gospel truth. "Occasions of stumbling" are scandalous actions which precipitate apostasy from the truth resulting in eternal condemnation. These attitudes and actions are contrary to Christians principles and are worthy of discipline.

The advocates of such dogma were not serving Christ, no matter what their claims. Rather, they are self-serving egotists who satisfied only their gluttonous carnal appetites. Care should be exercised, however, for they are "smooth talkers." Have you not heard the oft-spoken rationalization: "But he's such a good speaker"? The silver-tongued orator deceives the hearts of the simple-minded (those who cannot discern the truth from error). After a call for caution, there is a note of commendation. "Your obedience is widely known." Obedience is a persistent theme in this document. It cheers the apostle's heart to think about these people. He wants them to continue being wise concerning matters that are "good" and remain "innocent" in things pertaining to evil.

There is now a promise of victory over man's archenemy. "And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly" (v. 20). The passage clearly takes its rise from Genesis 3:15 where the Lord God Promises Satan that the woman's "seed" (Christ) ultimately will "bruise" his (the devil's) head. The term "shortly" is better rendered "swiftly, quickly" (Lk. 18:8), suggesting manner, not time. While some interpret this as an imminent victory of the Roman saints over satanic opponents, it probably is best to view it as the ultimate conquest of Christ and his people over the devil on the final day of earth's history (Mt. 25:41; Rev. 20:10). Peace is a general characteristic of God; this expression has no reference to a supposed millennial reign. Nor does the "peace" phrase conflict with God's crushing of Satan. Being the "God of peace" does not include a friendship with the

prince of this world (the Devil)! Paul hopes that the grace of Jesus will abide with these beloved saints.

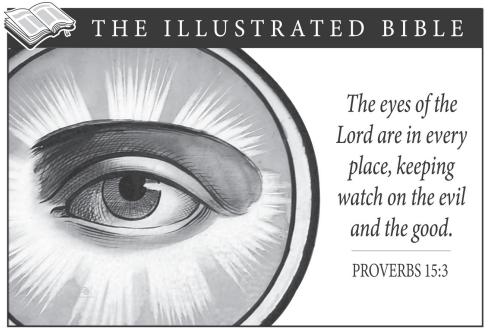
Answering the error@GBNTV.ORG BIBLETALK.TV Mike Mazzalongo video.wvbs.org FortifyYourFaith.org



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

The Morgan County Highway Department will have a portion of Camp Austin Rd. in Oakdale closed for a small bridge replacement approximately 1 mile North to North West from the intersection of Johnson Rd. (also known as Imogene Johnson Rd.) and Camp Austin Rd. Construction on this bridge replacement project will begin on August 23, 2021. A completion date hasn't been determined yet. For any questions please give our office a call at (423) 346-6661.

Notice of Change in Citizens Gas Board Meeting Notice is hereby made to the Public that the Board of Commissioners' Meeting of Citizens Gas Utility District, regularly scheduled for Monday, August 16, 2021 at 8:00 a.m. is changed to Monday, August 30, 2021 at 8:00 a.m. at the Helenwood Office in Scott County, TN.



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**Deduct Your Timeshare for Business** 



David Zubler Columnist

percent of the cost as a business expense.

Don't rent the timeshare if you want to receive the maximum tax benefits from your timeshare. If you rent your timeshare, it complicates your tax-deduction. Although you can still receive some benefits.

If you use your timeshare for personal

If you use the timeshare for business and

and business lodging, you may be able to de-

duct some of the cost as a business expense.

personal purposes during the year, you sim-

ply allocate the costs between personal, and

business use. As an example, if you used the

for personal use you would be able to deduct 50

timeshare one week for business and one week

By not renting it you can avoid the vacation-home rules that limit deductions. However, there is an exception if you rent to relatives.

Fortunately, the tax laws allow you to rent the timeshare at fair market rent to a relative. Your relative's rental of the timeshare counts as personal use by you. Your relative could even write you a check and you could deposit it in the bank without creating any additional tax issues. For this purpose, relatives include your immediate family which would be your parents, brothers and sisters, children and grandparents.

A business that is a sole proprietorship or a single-member LLC can claim the deduction by deducting the cost on the Schedule C.

There is a different method for deducting the timeshare if your business is a corporation. If you own the timeshare personally, the corporation will need to reimburse you for your expenses and depreciation as employee business expenses. Your corporation reimburse-

# SENIOR **NEWS** By Matilda Charles

#### **Biggest Raise in De**cades for Social Security?

Don't count your money before it's in hand, of course. But word is that the Social Security increase we see in January could be as much as 6.1%, the largest since 1983. For the average benefit recipient, currently receiving \$1,543, that could amount to \$94 per month. It's a few years too late for a serious increase, but certainly better than the 1.3% bump we saw for 2021 and the 1.6% the year before. Social Security is calculated by the cost-of-living adjustment in the third quarter each year. For 2021, they calculated that a 1.3% increase should be plenty. We know that was wrong, as prices of everything had climbed. It's all in how and what they calculate.

They use the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W), which measures prices on certain goods and services.

But we're not wage earners, and we don't work in offices. We spend our money on different things. We wonder why they don't use the index for the elderly (CPI-E), which takes into consideration the things we do buy, such as medical care, medical services, housing and health insurance. (There's a bill in the House of Representatives -- H.R.4315 -- to do that very thing.) We spend less than Answers the CPI-W group on transportation, food, clothing, entertainment, education and communication. The Federal Reserve Bank did a midsummer survey on what consumers are expecting for the rest of 2021. The expectation of responders is that we'll see a 4.8% increase on top of what we've already seen this year. Keep an eye on the news in October, when the rate of next year's Social Security increase is finalized. Meanwhile start planning for next year as soon as you can. Look for savings everywhere you can find them.

ment should follow the rules of an accountable-plan in order to keep you from reporting the payment as income.

Timeshares can be purchased as either deeded or non-deeded. If you bought a deeded timeshare, you would have an ownership interest in the real estate. In this case you would allocate the purchase price to land, land improvements, building and personal property.

The building would be depreciated over 39 years since it is being rented as commercial use of business lodging property. You would write off the interest if it was being financed. Annual maintenance fees would be deducted as lodging expenses.

The other type of purchase is a non-deeded timeshare, where you buy a lease, license or club membership that lets you use the property for a set amount of time each year for an agreed upon number of years.

With the non-deeded property, you would allocate the cost over the number of years of the lease. You would also deduct the annual maintenance fee each year if there was one.

Bringing a business associate along with you to your timeshare is a great way for you to provide a free vacation location for them and a tax write off for you. And of course, it will provide an opportunity to discuss business and develop your relationship.

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.

# FLASHBACK

By Mick Harper

1. Who wrote and released "Suzanne"?

2. Which solo artist got a start with Humble Pie and the Herd?

- 3. Where did the Orlons get their name?
- 4. Who wrote and released "Swingtown"?

5. Name the song that contains these lyrics: "You think you're gonna take me and put me on the shelf, Girl, I'd rather die than see you with somebody else."

1. Leonard Cohen, in 1967. Cohen eventually lost the rights to the song because of signing a document he didn't read.

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2. Peter Frampton. His material and master tapes were lost in the Universal Studios fire in 2008, along with hundreds of other artists.

3. It was a nod to a competitor, the Cashmeres. 4. Steve Miller of the Steve Miller Band. The song is the basis for a particularly controversial chant at the University of Wisconsin-Madison between sections O and P in the stadium during football games. The college has been unable to curtail use of the song or the chant.

5. "Never Give You Up," by Jerry Butler in 1968. The song stayed on the Hot 20 for 14 weeks and was later covered by numerous artists, including Rod Stewart in 2009.

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# **Outpatient Monoclo**nal Antibody Treatment for COVID-19 **Available at Summit Medical in Wartburg**

By Jonathan B. Laymance, M.D.

I am excited to announce that Summit Medical Group has acquired Regen-Cov, an OUTPATIENT monoclonal antibody treatment for COVID-19.

As we are seeing a drastic rise in cases and hospitalizations in our area, we are grateful to be able to provide an outpatient treatment which can effectively prevent the progression to severe disease which would require hospitalization and continue to strain our hospital systems. Monoclonal antibodies have been used throughout the pandemic but have primarily been given via IV infusions at our hospital systems. We now have the ability to give Regen-Cov in our clinic. The injection consists of four subcutaneous injections in the abdomen.

Please review the requirements for receiving Regen-Cov on the following page. If you are a patient who meets the criteria and feel you would benefit from Regen-Cov monoclonal antibody treatment, please call our office at 423.346.3600 to schedule an appointment.

### Coalfield **Overwhelms** Wartburg 42-0By Terry Futrell

#### The Legacy Continues

In an emotionally charged game, the Coalfield Yellow Jackets proved that the strength of their football program transcends changes in coaches and players. The Jackets used a balanced offensive attack and a smothering defense to down the Wartburg Bulldogs 42-0 Friday eve-

The Bulldogs struggled to sustain an offensive attack. Losing 60 yards on 7 sacks, the Bulldogs netted only 30 yards total offense in 40 plays. To make matters worse, Bulldog quarterback Damon Duncan left the game with a broken collar bone in the second quarter.

The Coalfield defense turned in a stellar performance – the legacy of Jared Henry surely lives on. The Bulldog offensive line simply could not stop the pressure of the Jacket defense, failing to give good opportunities for plays to develop. Coalfield's defensive pressure essentially took long passes out of Wartburg's playbook.

RUSHES / YARDS (NET) 24/17630/-12PASSING YARDS (NET) 13442Passes Att/Comp/Int 16/11/011/6/0TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS/ YARDS 40/310 41/30Fumble Returns / Yards 0 / 00/0 Punt Returns / Yards 2/130/0 **Kickoff Returns / Yards** 2/53 2/56

Interception Returns /Yards

# Sunbright sent Cosby home with a 53-24 loss

By Travis Young

Sunbright was led on offense by Houston Bryant with 14 carries for 164 yds and 4 catches for 125 yds and tallied 6 TDs.

Sophomore Finn Rodegers went 7 of 13 for 219 yds passing and rushed 7 times for 56 yds racking up 4 TDs in the air. Tigers Josh Dagley and Dale Hudson also caught a touchdown pass each.

Requirements for receiving REGEN-COV:

INCLUSION CRITERIA: ALL must be met to qualify:

- 1. Diagnosis of COVID-19
- 2. Symptoms began 10 days ago or less
- 3. Age 12 years or older
- 4. Weight 88 pounds or more

5. Mild to moderate disease, not requiring oxygen (or in-

creased levels of oxygen for those on chronic oxygen therapy)

Plus ONE HIGH-RISK MEDICAL CONDITION listed 6.

below

HIGH RISK QUALIFYING MEDICAL CONDITIONS (Must have at least ONE):

- BMI >25
- Chronic Kidney disease
- Hypertension
- Diabetes
- Cardiovascular disease

Chronic lung disease (Asthma, COPD, interstitial lung disease, cystic fibrosis)

Pregnancy

Sickle Cell disease

Immunosuppressive disease or Immunosuppressive treatment

Neurodevelopmental disorders (e.g. cerebral palsy)

Medical-related technological dependence (trach, gastrostomy, positive pressure ventilation

If you have a patient who meets the criteria that you feel would benefit from Regen-Cov monoclonal antibody treatment, please have them call our office at 423.346.3600 to schedule an appointment.

ning on Rochelle Field.

New Coalfield head coach Benson Napier was visibly calm on the sideline as his players meticulously picked apart the Bulldogs in every aspect of the game. Jacket quarterback Cole Hines was a true field general as he led his team in 310 yards of total offense. Having a host of capable runners receivers gave Hines all the flexibility he needed to move the ball effectively on the Bulldogs.

The victory over the Bulldogs marked the 12th in a row for Coalfield, which last lost to Wartburg in 2009.

Game stats by Greg Adding- ton:
CHS WHS

FIRST DOWN

157

0/0 0/0 Punts (Number/Avg) 1/246/25 Fumbles / Lost 3/0 2/0Penalties / Yards 10/757/77 Possession Time 17:07 26:59Sacks By: Number/Yards 7/60 0/0

The Tigers were led defensively by Isaac Jones with 18 tackles with 1 for a 5 yd loss. Gavin Crady 11 tackles, Jessie Sexton 8 tackles, TJ Young 7 tackles, Gabe Williams 5 tackles, Brenton (Goose) Duncan 3 tackles while offensive star Bryant also recorded 6 tackles with 1 for loss. The Tigers have a bye next Friday and then Greenback comes to town in district play.

#### August 24, 2021

www.mocotoday.com

# Friday Night Spotlight



Coalfield's Canaan Bowling advances the ball around left end as he is chased by Wartburg's Nicholas Newport. Bowling racked up 99 yards on 10 carries for the Jackets. [Photo by Terry Futrell]



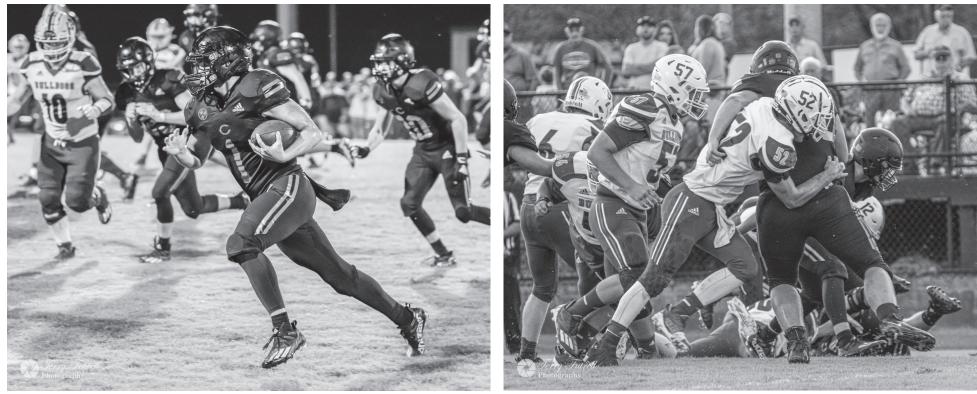
Coalfield quarterback Cole Hines rifles a pass over Wartburg's Nicholas Newport. Hines completed 9 of 13 passes with no interceptions for 89 yards and a touchdown. [Photo by Terry Futrell]

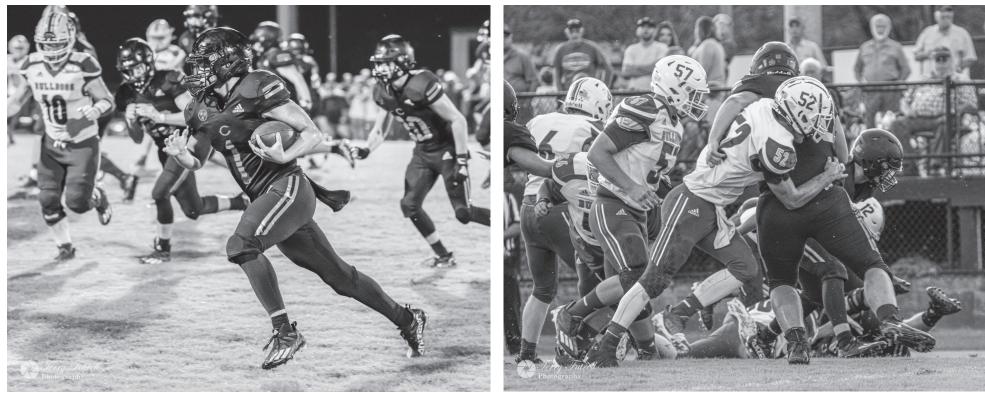


Wartburg's Ethan Stedam finds running room against the Jacket defense. Stedam gained 95 all-purpose yards for the Bulldogs. [Photo by Terry Futrell]



Wartburg quarterback Damon Duncan finds running difficult against Coalfield's pressure defense. Duncan suffered a potential season-ending injury in the game. [Photo by Terry Futrell]





Yellow Jacket Landon Lowe breaks away for yardage against the Bulldogs. Lowe tallied 76 all-purpose yards for Coalfield. [Photo by Terry Futrell]

Wartburg's Perrion Cruz and Coalfield's Bryson Ridge battle at the line. [Photo by Terry Futrell]

August 24, 2021





# August 28th, 2021

1119 Knoxville Hwy, Wartburg, TN 37887 wildhogfestival@gmail.com **10AM - 7PM** 

**Benefiting:** 



In collaboration with the creator of the Fried Pickle Festival

CONGRESSMAN

CHUCK FLEISCHMANN Proudly Representing the 3rd District of Tennessee

**FN-03 Military Academy D** 

Morgan County Today

University of Tennessee at Chattanooga University Center - Chattanooga Room Students, Parents, Teachers, and Principals are all welcome!

Saturday, August 28 10:00-11:30a.m.

#### **Meet Representatives From:**



Masks are required at indoor events on UTC campus