

# Morgan County Today

Psalm 100:3

Volume 07 Number 37

Tuesday, September 14, 2021

Your Community. Your News.



75¢

## Inside:

Friday Night Spotlight

History

Weather



## Black Eyed Susans



Morgan County  Today  
Your Community. Your News.

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READING.**

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**Michael Nance**  
*Columnist*

# The Politics of Gun Control and The Second Amendment

The ongoing attempts by gun control groups to curb American access to guns just suffered a huge defeat. President Biden has retracted David Chipman as his nominee to head up the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). If the former ATF turned gun control activist had been confirmed as head of the ATF, shock waves would have rippled throughout the U.S. community of gun enthusiasts.

The ATF is a despised Federal Agency, maybe the most despised of the entire lot. The ATF has been involved in a host of scandals such as the Siege at Ruby Ridge, the Siege of Waco and the "Fast and Furious" debacle. They are also accused of acting outside of the framework of the Constitution by monitoring the gun ownership of law-abiding citizens. Considering the history of the ATF, nominating a director is a task that the current administration should approach with a healthy dose of caution. It appears by the nomination of Chipman, they were seeking to adopt an extremist position.

David Chipman's nomination left me with doubts when I reviewed his outlook and activities on gun control. Chipman served for 25 years at the ATF and received a host of

awards and commendations. He currently serves at Giffords as a senior policy advisor. Giffords according to their website they are self-describe as follows: "Giffords seeks to arm activists, legislators, and the general public with the facts about our country's gun violence epidemic and the most effective ways to address it." Gabby Giffords is the co-founder of the organization and a former Democratic member of the U.S. House of Representatives. She and 18 others were shot at a constituent meeting in Tucson in 2011. She survived the attack, but eventually left office to recover. It is obvious this senseless act of gun violence engaged her in gun control, and she is a well-educated and tenacious opponent of the NRA. Chipman being a senior policy advisor at Gifford's indicates that his views on gun control are potentially extreme.

According to Dana Loesch a former NRA spokesperson, Chipman wanted to "keep gun stores closed as "non-essential businesses" as part of the coronavirus lockdowns and wanted to ban all semi-automatic weapons."

Chipman also has several critics on Capitol Hill. Florida Senator Marco Rubio was quoted as saying: "David Chipman is a former anti-gun lobbyist who is unfit to lead the ATF. Violent crime is soaring in cities across








the country. Rather than confront the real cause of the problem, Chipman seems more interested in punishing law-abiding gun owners and sharing crackpot internet conspiracies." Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky. After hearing that Chipman had been pulled from the nomination was quoted as saying: "Glad to hear reports the White House is taking my advice and pulling the terrible nomination of David Chipman."

But it isn't just republicans who are suspect of Chipman. His confirmation had been in trouble for weeks. According to major news outlets even moderate Democrats including reliable allies of President Biden, failed to support Mr. Chipman.

If there is one group that safeguards the Second Amendment, it is the National Rifle Association (NRA). Chipman's defeat was in no small part a result of a massive grassroots campaign where The NRA lobbied its members and key lawmakers to prevent what they called: "Chipman's extremism."

In conclusion, it appears that law-abiding citizens access to firearms, guaranteed under the second amendment are safe for now. If the ATF wants to seize some firearms, by last count the Taliban have an arsenal of United States assault rifles that should be recovered.

**MORGAN COUNTY  
WEATHER THIS WEEK**

|        |         |   |
|--------|---------|---|
| Tue 14 | 85°/64° |  |
| Wed 15 | 81°/63° |  |
| Thu 16 | 82°/64° |  |
| Fri 17 | 83°/65° |  |
| Sat 18 | 83°/65° |  |
| Sun 19 | 84°/66° |  |
| Mon 20 | 82°/64° |  |



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## In Loving Memory

### Sara Rosalyn Lavender, 31

Sara Rosalyn Lavender, age 31, of Lancing was suddenly taken from this life on September 2, 2021. Sara lived life fully, and never met a stranger. She always had a smile for everyone and saw good in all those she met. Sara had a kind and generous heart and shared all she had with others. Sara could often be found trekking in the woods and stomping through the creeks of Morgan County. She loved reptiles and bugs and was fearless. It was in the beauty of nature that Sara found strength and peace.



Over the past year Sara overcame some very difficult challenges and became a source of strength and inspiration for others. She would want them to remain steadfast and strong, and not lose heart. 'There are moments on mountaintops and moments in deep valleys', but life is a beautiful and worthwhile journey.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents Lucien and Flore Beaubien of Wartburg, and Dale Lavender of Deer Lodge, and cousins Matthew Lester and Dustin Lavender.

She is survived by parents Denise and Lonnie Howard of Lancing, and Dallas Lavender and Stephanie Williams of Deer

Lodge, Grandmother Rosalyn Lavender of Deer Lodge, Brother Steven Hensley of Deer Lodge, sister Amanda Lavender of Alabama Aunts and Uncles: Marc (Peggy) Beaubien of Oneida, Michael (Connie) Beaubien of Lancing, Daniel (Yvonne) Beaubien of Wartburg, David Beaubien of Wartburg, Dale Lavender of Deer Lodge, Doug (Tina) Lavender of Deer Lodge, Debbie (Walt) Pittman of Georgia, and Dana (Athena) Lavender of South Carolina Also surviving are many nieces, nephews, and cousins.

Sara loved working at the Beer Barn with special, long-time friends Brian and Brandon Lester. She counted many as friends among the patrons at the Beer Barn and at her second job at Q-Dogs. Other special friends include Waylon Niner, Scotty Kennedy, and Brandon (Jamie) Hembree, and her cats Hocus Pocus and Sammie.

The family will receive friends on Monday, September 6, 2021, from 10am-12pm Schubert Funeral Home, Wartburg. Graveside services will be 12pm at Morgan Memorial Gardens with Father Mike Swinney officiating.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Sara Lavender.

### Carol Rose Mason Sexton, 75

Ms. Carol Rose Mason Sexton, age 75 of Lancing went to be with Jesus Friday, September 3, 2021, peacefully at her daughter's home surrounded by family. Carol was born November 13, 1945, in Gobey, Tennessee to her late father Vinus Mason and mother Eva Mae Chaney. She graduated from Sunbright Highschool in 1963. She was a born again Christian and attended church until she was physically unable to. She was an animal lover, a wonderful mother, and an amazing grandmother. She will be missed tremendously.

She is survived by her children. Daughters - Cheri (Roy) Bible, Karen (Joel) Seaton, Regina Webb (Ronnie Phillips); all of Wartburg, TN. Sons- Garold (Kim) Sexton and Derrick (Tina) Sexton; both of Georgia. Grandchildren- Megan Bible, Shasta (Wayne) Bedford, Ethan (Brandi) Bible, Sarah Seaton, Harley Seaton, Garret (Allison) Sexton, Andira Sexton, Amber (Kyle) Heath, Brittany Rose Sexton, Jerrica (Eric) Jones, Jeremy Scott, Joi-na Webb, Jacob (Megan) Sex-

ton, Lucas Sexton, and Tisha (Diego) Munguia. Along with 12 great-grandchildren, a host of nieces, nephews, and friends. Special friend Phillip Hamby.

She is survived by her siblings: Lon Chaney, Billy Mason, Sheila Norris, Louella Goodman, and Cathy Mason.

Along with her parents, she is preceded in death by her sisters: Patsy Kirby & Janet Mason, brothers: Robert "Bob" Mason, Wayne Mason, & little brother Sam Mason, and the father of her 5 children William "Bill" Sexton.

The family will receive friends on Sunday, September 5, 2021, from 1-3 pm Schubert Funeral Home, Wartburg. Funeral services will follow at 3 pm, with Bro. Buster Armes officiating. Interment will follow at the Lane Cemetery, Lancing, TN.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Carol Rose Mason Sexton.

### Erik Lorenz Miller, 31

Erik Lorenz Miller was born at Northside Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia to Kent and Cynthia Miller on December 27, 1989. He grew up in Marietta, attended Cherokee High School and graduated from Pope High School. He proudly served in the U.S. Marines.



Erik was a loving son, brother, grandson and friend. He was thrilled to have met the love of his life, Loyda Simpson.

The tragic loss of Erik has created a void in the lives of all who knew and loved him. We will always keep his beautiful warm smile, big strong hugs and laughter in our hearts.

Erik was a student at Southern Adventist University in Collegedale, TN and worked as an IT intern at McKee Foods Corporation in Collegedale. He loved this school, city, job and declared it his forever home.

Erik's love of the Word and truth of salvation through Jesus Christ became an integral part of his life and it's direction. He insisted on sharing his faith with his loved ones, spending much time praying and in fellowship with them.

He held his friends and family in the highest regard and loved heated debates and discussion and never turned down the opportunity for a new rowdy adventure. Erik loved to cook, create and eat!, inventing and preparing healthy meals and sharing them.

As early as four, Erik acquired a love of entertaining. He would sneak to watch Jay Leno's late night show to incorporate into his comedic routine. People at local restaurants and stores in Smyrna, Georgia knew him well and would announce his entrance before being entertained by his latest routine of the Erik Miller Show.

Erik is survived by his mother Cynthia & Ed Johnson and father Kent Miller and wife Selma, his grandparents L.G Headden and Mildred Headden (deceased), Hugh and Sarah Miller, his sister Shannon Miller and Troy Marrs, sister Hana Miller and Zhaylen Alavi, sister Ines Owens and husband Frank, brother Ethan Miller, brother Haris Kovacevic, nieces and nephews - Kirby, Rowan, Trystin, Kallen, Hagen, Ayra, Lochlan, Mina, Uncle Randall Headden and wife Melanie, Uncle Curt Miller and wife Elizabeth, Uncle Stan Miller and wife Patti, Aunt Zana Ireland and husband A.J., multiple cousins with their families, families Miller, Headden, Johnson, Cooper, Ireland, Simpson, Bavic, Sabanovic.

The family will receive friends Saturday, September 4, 2021, at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg from 3:00-5:00 p.m. with funeral services to follow at 5:00 p.m. with Bro. Mike Winters officiating. Erik's final wishes were to be cremated.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Erik Miller.

### Geneva Depew Conatser, 86

Geneva Depew Conatser, age 86, passed peacefully from this life on September 3, 2021. She was surrounded by her husband, Ronnie of 41 years, fur baby squirt and special caregiver Heather Armes.

Geneva is survived by her husband, Ronnie Conatser of 41 years; special mother-in-law, Kathleen Latham Conatser of Lancing, TN.; brother-in-law, Dale (Karen) Conatser of Kingston, James (Marcia) Conatser of Lenoir City and Ted Conatser of Lancing, TN.; sister-in-law, Shirley Jackson of Coalfield; 3 sisters, Edna Smith of Franklin, NC., Shirlene Frady of Morristown, TN., and Ola Dills of Lincolnton, NC. And a host of nieces, nephews, great nieces and nephews and extended family.

Ms. Geneva was a Christian woman who went above and beyond to take care of every-

one she came in contact with. She was an angel God put here on earth to bless everyone she met. I could stand here for hours talking about all the ways she blessed me. Ronnie and Geneva spent 41 years of wedded bliss. Ms. Geneva cared for her caregivers probably more than most cared for her. Ms. Geneva was loved by so many and will be missed. We ask that you always stay close to us to Ms. Geneva.

The family will receive friends Thursday, September 9, 2021 at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg from 5:00-7:00 p.m. with the funeral at 7:00 p.m. with Bro. David Armes and Bro. John Bonham officiating. Graveside services will be Friday at 11:00 a.m. at Lane Cemetery.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Geneva Depew Conaster.

**Mark F. Workman, 60**

Mr. Mark F. Workman, age 60 of Wartburg, passed away Friday September 3, 2021, at his home. He was a veteran of the United States Army. Mark retired from the Tennessee Department of Corrections after 30 years of faithful service having worked at both Brushy Mountain State Penitentiary and the Morgan County Regional Correctional Facility.



He was preceded in death by his mother: Joan Drake Workman. And one grandson: Quentin Etter.

He is survived by his wife of 24 years: Wilma Morgan Workman. His father: Lou Workman of Sweetwater. Four brothers: Jim Workman of Florida, Randy and David Work-

man of Cleveland, Ohio, and Don Workman of Vonore.

His children: Nick and Jenny Miller of Oliver Springs, and Vallie Miller of Harriman.

Three grandchildren: Emma Etter, Levi and Mason Miller.

Along with a host of other friends and loved ones.

Family and friends will gather at Davis Funeral Home, Wartburg Friday September 10, 2021 for a Celebration of Life at 6:00 PM with Rev. Herb Judkins officiating

Davis Funeral Home, Wartburg, is honored to serve the family of Mr. Mark F. Workman.

Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.davisfuneralhomes.com](http://www.davisfuneralhomes.com).

**Wilber "Gene" Eugene Lawson, 96**

Wilber "Gene" Eugene Lawson, age 96, of the Pine Orchard Community passed away September 10, 2021. He was a born again, Bible believing child of God. A member and deacon of Clymersville Baptist Church in Rockwood. He quietly helped anyone who was in need. He loved God, Country, and his family with his whole heart. He was a proud World War II Veteran who served as a 127 Airborne Engineer. He was also a member of the Rockwood Masonic Lodge 403.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Walter C. Lawson & Lola Hamby Lawson; wife, Betty Grant Lawson; brothers, Jack & Raymond Lawson; sisters, Lula Grant and Bobbie McDaniel.

He is survived by sons, Buster (Shirley), Benny (Phyllis) and daughter, Patti Lawson; 5 grandchildren, Lora (Todd) Bagwell, Grant (Jacque) Lawson, Joy (Boogie) Stewart, Craig (Lean-

na) Lawson and Gina (Matt) Sirmans; 2 step grandchildren, Emily Smith and James Ladd; 11 great grandchildren, Jacob Lawson, Steven Bagwell, Madison Lawson, Luke Bagwell, Mary Stewart, Lawson Stewart, Cheyenne Sirmans, Blaine Lawson, Caroline Sirmans, Teyla Lawson and Dallas Lawson; sisters, Nellie Beach, Zelma Bingham, and Bula Gann; brother, Robert Lawson; and a host of nieces, nephews and extended family and also best friend, Carl Skidmore.

The family will receive friends Sunday, September 12, 2021, at Pine Orchard Baptist Church from 2:00-3:00 p.m. with the funeral at 3:00 p.m. with Bro. Jim Disney and Bro. Ronnie Nickell officiating. Interment will follow in the Pine Orchard Cemetery.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Wilber Eugene Lawson.

**David Norvis Brown (Maggie David), 57**

David Norvis Brown (Maggie David) age 57, of Harriman, passed away on September 10, 2021, David was born November 10, 1963, in El Campo, TX. He was preceded in death by his father Beecher Brown, brother Raymond E. Brown and his grandparents.

He was a beloved father, son, and brother. He worked as a machinist in Athens, TN. He loved to ride his motorcycle, Maggie. His favorite place to ride was the Dragon.

David is survived by his Children: Homer Brown and Chevy Brown. Mother: Evelyn Brown Siblings: Grover & Joyce Brown, Sue Givens, Teresa Ferguson.

The family will receive friends Tuesday, September 14, 2021, from 1-2 pm Schubert Funeral Home Wartburg. Graveside services will follow at the Brown Family Cemetery, Oakdale, TN.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of David Brown.

## Send Letters to the Editor

[Editor@mocotoday.com](mailto:Editor@mocotoday.com)

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 8<sup>th</sup>, 2021 at 10 a.m. at the Highway Department. Morgan County is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate.

**Sandra Helton's weekly column****Oakdale Area News**

email: [kvhelton@highland.net](mailto:kvhelton@highland.net)



Congratulations to the Oakdale Eagles on their win over Midway on Friday, September 3. It was a very long game with lots of flags and penalties. The Eagles hung in there and came home with a 20-19 win over the Greenwaves.

The winning continued Friday, September 10 when the Wartburg Bulldogs came to Hollis Eble Field. The Eagles won 25-0. This Friday night, September 17, the Eagles will take on the Coalfield Yellow Jackets. The game will be at Oakdale at 7:30.

Parent/Teacher Conferences are today, September 14, at Morgan County Schools from 3:30 – 6:30.

Morgan County Schools will have Fall Break October 11 -15.

Saturday, September 11 was a beautiful day for the 83rd Annual Pine Orchard Fair. The day started with the 4-H Chick Chain Show. There were several craft vendors, horse rides, music and good food. Blair Summers was crowned queen by the reigning queen, and her cousin, Anna Summers. The beautiful quilt made by ladies in the community was won by Phyllis Langley.

Emory River Diner will soon open in the deli side of TJ's Fuel in Oakdale. Owner Amy Smith Gibbs is excited to announce this new venture. Although an opening date has not be set, it should be in

just a few weeks.

Congratulations to Ralph and Lois Nance who celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary Sunday, September 5.

Congratulations to Rondel and Becky Wright who celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary Saturday, September 4.

Congratulations to Josh and Heather Tilson on the birth of their son, Abel Robert Tilson. Abel was born August 28th, weighing 10 lbs 15 oz! He was welcomed home by his big sister, Mia.

There will be 2 elections in Morgan County next year. If you are not registered to vote, now would be a good time to register. If you have a name or address change, now would be a good time to update your registration.

Justin, Valerie, Cartie and Clay Disney took a long weekend getaway trip to Myrtle Beach. They had beautiful weather. Cartie brought home 30-40 seashells. She also lost a tooth at the beach and thankfully, the tooth fairy knew she was there.

Tri-City NAPA Auto Parts in Harriman will no longer be open on Saturdays. They appreciate their customers and look forward to serving them Monday – Friday.

Oakdale First Baptist Church is having revival meetings Sunday through Wednesday, September 26-29. Sunday services will be at 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. Monday – Wednesday services will begin at 7 p.m.

Brother Jim Disney will be preaching and there will be special singers nightly. Pastor Mike Winters and the rest of the church family welcomes you.

The City of Oakdale is planning a Community Day to be held Saturday, October 9 at Oakdale Park from 1:00 – 4:00. There will be games, food and a bounce house for the kids. Area churches will be involved. Some activities being planned are face painting, pumpkin painting and corn hole. EVERYTHING IS FREE! Make plans to enjoy some family fun. Anyone or any groups interested in taking part can contact Jeannie Miller for more information.

Gus the Bus will be distributing a week's worth of free meals for kids 18 and under every Tuesday from 10:00-11:00 a.m. at Save a Lot parking lot in Wartburg. These meals are particularly for kids not in school. Gus the Bus will deliver both breakfast and lunch entrees, Mayfield milk, and of course fresh fruit and vegetables.

Oakdale School Alumni Association hopes to see all alumni at the Football Homecoming Game on Friday, October 1. There will be a tent set up where ALL alumni can register. They want to see which class has the most people in attendance. The Alumni Association will be recognizing former high school football players, cheerleaders and homecoming queens before the game. Registration for former players, cheerleaders and queens will begin at 6:15 pm near the front gate. Pregame recognition will begin at 7:00 pm. Please spread the word with your family and former classmates.

Spirit Week is a long time tradi-

tion at Oakdale School. One of the most popular activities is Dress Up Days. Spirit Week will be September 27 – October 1. Dress up days are: Monday/Yee Haw Day, Tuesday/Class Color Day (Each class will a specific color), Wednesday/Way Back Day, Thursday/Character Day and Friday will be Red and White Day. Start planning those outfits!

It was very sad to hear of the passing of Mr. Gene Lawson of Pine Orchard. He passed away September 10 at the age of 96. He is survived by his sons Buster and wife Shirley and Benny and wife Phyllis and his daughter Patti. He is also survived by his grandchildren Lora Bagwell, Grant Lawson, Joy Stewart, Craig Lawson and Gina Sirmans and 2 step grandchildren, Emily Smith and James Ladd and 11 great grandchildren. He is survived by his sisters Nellie Beach, Zelma Bingham and Bula Gann and his brother, Robert Lawson along with a host of other family and friends. Services were held Sunday, September 12 at Pine Orchard Baptist Church. Interment was in the Pine Orchard Cemetery.

Sympathy is extended to the family of David Brown who passed away September 10. He is survived by his children Homer Brown and Chevy Brown, his mother, Evelyn Brown, his brother Grover Brown and his sisters Sue Givens and Teresa Ferguson. The family will receive friends Tuesday, September 14 from 1:00 – 2:00 at Schubert Funeral Home. A graveside service will follow at the Brown Family Cemetery in Oakdale.

*"The only place success comes before work is in the dictionary."*  
–Vince Lombardi



# Temporal Versus Eternal

As my military career nears its end, I spent some time today in my home office placing my medals in shadow boxes. As I held each of my nine

this may be upsetting but to me, it brings a strange peace.

The odd peace it brings me isn't because of anything to do with the medals

of generations after we go to our eternal homes.

This understanding does not trouble my heart or my mind but it motivates me thus more to focus less on the temporal things of this life and more on the eternal things to come.

You see my brethren we can focus on the temporal achievements of this life. We may receive medals, diplomas, certificates, trophies, and praise for our achievements here on earth but they will fade, tear, tarnish, lose their brilliance, and eventually their meaning altogether. Or my brethren we can live our lives in the most fulfilling manner by serving our LORD and Savior Jesus Christ with temporal things, not at the forefront of our minds but Him, His glory, mercy, grace, power, might, and love.

God is so amazing that He not only is preparing a place for His adopted children who believe in His name but He will even award us with crowns and treasures that will never fade or tarnish and will never lose their meaning. He loves us and appreciates us although we deserve neither His love, gifts, or appreciation. What a mighty and awesome God we have!

**MSG Fred Mize** each of my nine medals, I reminisced on the reasons why I received them over my twenty-two years of military service. One was for heroism, some for valor, some for service in combat operations, others for different achievements and good conduct.

Although these nine medals are meaningful to me, to most everyone else they're meaning is unknown. To them, they are nothing more than colorful strands of thread woven together to hold uniquely engraved medals.

When my time on earth is over, I'll pass my medals down to my son Isaiah because he above anyone else in my family understands their meaning for, he's also a soldier, and he will appreciate them more for it.

For a time after my medals leave Isaiah's care and are passed down to someone else, they may never again be appreciated but simply placed in storage or even thrown away. To some soldiers,



themselves but because I fully understand that everything in this life is temporal. Nothing in this world is meant to last forever. Everything we see will someday be no more. The same for the lives we live will be forgotten within just a couple

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.

## September Events for American Legion Post 149

September 16, 2021, we will conduct our monthly Legion members meeting. We will start the meeting promptly at 7:00 p.m. We will also be celebrating the Air Force's 74th birthday with a cake and refreshments.

## Americanisms



“In the first place God made idiots. This was for practice. Then he made School Boards.”  
— Mark Twain

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# Itchy Feet: Hampton Court

By Janice Wilson



Hampton Court is one of those sites that need more than one visit to see all it has to offer. It's sprawling buildings and gardens have something to pique everyone's interests. It was originally built in 1300's for the Knights Hospitallers of St. John, in the centre of a large farm. The remains of the original building are buried beneath the magnificent structure we know today.

By 1514 Thomas Wolsey, a churchman and politician, had acquired the modest manor house and immediately set about turning it into a palace as befitting his station in life, taking eleven years to complete. Wolsey fell from grace in 1529 and Henry VIII took the palace for his own use.

While wondering through the great halls and up grand stone staircases, worn from much use over the centuries, you can find yourself travelling back in time to the formal reception rooms Wolsey used to conduct state business. Look up and you will see gilded ceilings, and then look out the windows, of the long gallery, to view the gardens.

Another impressive room is the Great Hall, the largest in the palace, with its hammer-beam gold gilded roof and tapestries from Arabia, and six hundred sat down to eat, in two sittings, three times a day. What a jovial time, eating with your fingers and laughing out loud, with little thought for those who had to clean up the mess.

Strolling through galleries with their huge paintings, of royal ancestors, peaking into bedrooms, where the beds were short and adorned with elaborate canopies and drapes, you do get a sense of how life was lived back in those days. In one room there was a display of the elaborate dresses worn by the courtiers, all made from white paper. The detail and patience that went into making these is amazing.

Throughout the palace and gardens the staff were dressed



in period costume and would gladly stop and pose for a picture. We visited the chocolate room, where one could buy Hampton Court chocolate. Sitting at trestle tables with stone floors beneath our feet, enjoying some of the food fare from long ago, kept one in the mood, though they had the modern-day obligatory food of cakes, sandwiches and drinks, if that is what you would prefer.

The gardens were all formal, with the rose garden to one side next to the river. The courtyards took you from one part of the palace to another, though they housed different apartments



and state rooms they all had one thing in common, where the floors were unadorned stone and the walls covered in paintings and tapestries, while the ceilings were the most elaborate parts of the rooms. Every room we entered had the same sense of how life was really like back then.

Lay down on the grass, in the formal garden, on a warm sunny day, and let the palace transport you back to another era. See the Kings procession to the Chapple, through halls lined with courtiers, hoping to be recognized by the king. Or maybe you can spot the ghost of Catherine Howard, running down the gallery towards the chapel, wanting to plead her case of adultery to the monarch.

Henry VIII wasn't the only monarch to reside at Hampton Court, but without doubt he was the most flamboyant of them all.

At the end of the day, I couldn't leave without a visit to the souvenir shop where, I picked up some Christmas tree ornaments, that would remind me of this very special day out.





# Davis Funeral Home's Veteran of the Week

This week we honor United States Army Medal of Honor recipient Staff Sergeant Robert J. Miller.

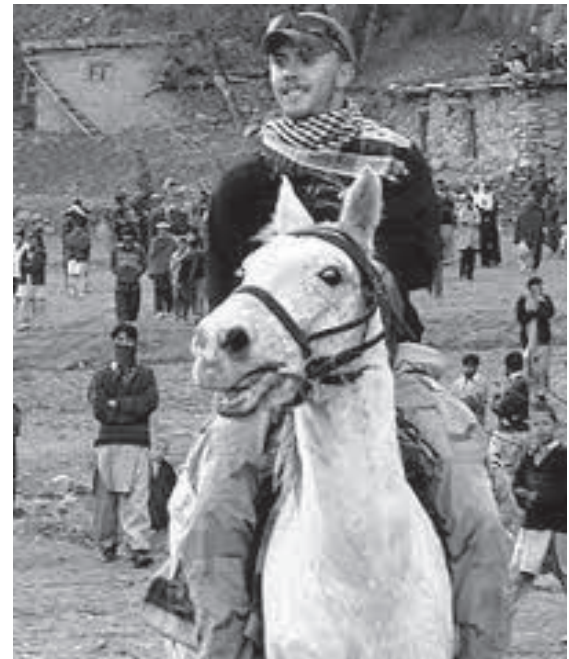
SSG Miller's Medal of Honor citation reads:

Staff Sergeant Robert J. Miller distinguished himself by extraordinary acts of heroism while serving as the Weapons Sergeant in Special Forces Operational Detachment Alpha 3312, Special Operations Task Force-33, Combined Joint Special Operations Task Force-Afghanistan during combat operations against an armed enemy in Konar Province, Afghanistan on January 25, 2008. While conducting a combat reconnaissance patrol through the Gowardesh Valley, Staff Sergeant Miller and his small element of U.S. and Afghan National Army soldiers engaged a force of 15 to 20 insurgents occupying prepared fighting positions. Staff Sergeant Miller initiated the assault by engaging the enemy positions with his vehicle's turret-mounted Mark-19 40 millimeter automatic grenade launcher while simultaneously providing detailed descriptions of the enemy positions to his command, enabling effective, accurate close air support. Following the engagement, Staff Sergeant Miller led a small squad forward to conduct a battle damage assessment. As the group neared the small, steep, narrow valley that the enemy had inhabited, a large, well-coordinated insurgent force initiated a near ambush, assaulting from elevated positions with ample cover. Exposed and with little available cover, the patrol was totally vulnerable to enemy rocket propelled grenades and automatic weapon fire. As point man, Staff Sergeant Miller was at the front of the patrol, cut off from supporting elements, and less than 20 meters from enemy forces. Nonetheless, with total disregard for his own safety, he called for his men to quickly move back to covered positions as he charged the enemy over exposed ground and under overwhelming enemy fire in order to provide protective fire for his team. While maneu-



vering to engage the enemy, Staff Sergeant Miller was shot in his upper torso. Ignoring the wound, he continued to push the fight, moving to draw fire from over one hundred enemy fighters upon himself. He then again charged forward through an open area in order to allow his teammates to safely reach cover. After killing at least 10 insurgents, wounding dozens more, and repeatedly exposing himself to withering enemy fire while moving from position to position, Staff Sergeant Miller was mortally wounded by enemy fire. His extraordinary valor ultimately saved the lives of seven members of his own team and 15 Afghanistan National Army soldiers. Staff Sergeant Miller's heroism and selflessness above and beyond the

call of duty, and at the cost of his own life, are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself and the United States Army.



## Law Enforcement Officer of the Week

Presented by Marla Hines, Circuit Court Clerk

This week we honor fallen Connecticut State Trooper Sergeant Brian Mohl.

Sergeant Brian Mohl died of blunt force trauma after his patrol car was swept off Jacks Bridge Road into the Weekeepemee River, in Woodbury, Connecticut at 3:30 a.m. on September 2, 2021.

He was checking water levels in the area during a period of severe rain in the aftermath of Hurricane Ida when his patrol



car was carried off the roadway. He was able to radio a

distress call to dispatchers and a massive search was immedi-

ately undertaken.

Sergeant Mohl was recovered from the river several hours later and was pronounced dead at Yale New Haven Hospital. Sergeant Mohl was fifty-years-old and had served with the Connecticut State Police for twenty-six-years. He is survived by his wife, three children, parents, and five siblings.

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## The Day Jesus Came to Our School



**Tom Redmon**  
Columnist

From the largest elementary school in Manatee County, Florida I went to one of the smallest as an administrator. The children who attended this school were from

dairy or horse farms and citrus groves. When I went there, I had grades K-8, or about 325 students. We were around 25-30 miles from the County office so we didn't have many visitors from there – which suited me just fine.

One day I got a call from a lady in Sarasota, a city right across the County line and only about eight miles from my school. As a way of introduction she said, Mr. Redmon my name is Carolyn Swanson and we have in our church, a Navy Seal who has fought in Vietnam and Iraq. He is available to talk in schools to boys from 6th grade through 12th grade.

Since you have middle school students at your school I wonder if we could talk to you about coming to Myakka City School. She went on to say that Vincent is 42 years of age but you would guess he was no more than 29. He is a body builder and I can say with certainty that your boys would be impressed. His talk is about his experiences in the Navy and since he is a Christian, he will mention his faith. Since we didn't have a lot of speakers come by our school, I told Mrs. Swanson I would welcome him to Myakka City School. We set up a time and little did I know what Vincent would bring to my school.

I told my teachers and staff about the man coming from Sarasota to speak to the older boys. We had around 100 6th-8th grade boys.

The day came and since this was a new program for my school, I decided I had better sit through the entire program. I am sure glad I did. Discipline problems could wait.

Vincent came on the small stage and I don't think Charles Atlas could have compared to this man's body. He had on a short sleeve shirt and his arms were like stove pipes. The sleeves fit snug around his arms and you could tell the rest of his body matched his arms and shoulders. He was so impressive that the boys couldn't take their eyes off of him.

Mrs. Swanson came on stage and introduced him. He said, "Young men, I want to tell you first of all I love Ameri-

ca." I am a Navy Seal and I want to tell you about what we did in Vietnam and Iraq.

I will always use the phrase, "our job instead of my job" because we worked as a team. If one of us got into a tight spot we had some assigned Seals who would come to our aid. We never left one of our squad members behind. Unlike the infantry we had special assignments to take care of. If an officer and his men were in trouble, we went in to aid them. Nothing was too hard for us. All Seals were in excellent physical shape, our training was something else. We started with maybe 80 men and at the end of training we might have 30.

Young men I want to tell you I am proud of every medal I have won.



He showed a board that must have had thirty or more medals on it. Vincent said the Iraq War was much different than Vietnam but in both you had to be alert and on your toes. The

Iraqis used their women and children in fighting. This is what gave a lot of men PTSD because seeing little children in war wasn't pretty.

After talking about 30 minutes Vincent said now men, I want to tell you something that I'm really proud of. The boys had listened to Vincent so intently that they hung on every word. They followed him with their eyes as he moved across the stage. I didn't see or hear two of them talking. Vincent had their undivided attention. You see men there are more important things than being heroic in war. Yes, I love my country and I would die fighting for my brothers-in-arms but I love Jesus Christ even more.

You see Jesus came to earth to die and pay for our sins. Because of him I will be in heaven one day with Him. Jesus said in John 15:13 "Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." For God is love. 1 John 4:8.

Vincent gave them a better sermon than I had heard in some churches. I think if he had given an invitation most of them would have come forward. He did tell them how to be saved.

Now I had to be concerned about what the County office would say. We had, had scripture reading and prayer at our PTA meeting but this was in front of student during school hours.

If I had one atheist or one Jew who heard about this, I would get a call from the County office, but I would take a chance in having Vincent in my school any day. I think Jesus came to our school that day.

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



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RV/Motorhome

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**Carol Hall**  
Author

## Disappeared: Chapter 8: Part II

### Nick & Chris-Day 3

“It just makes me wonder. Evie thought she saw someone, then Maggie disappears. It just doesn’t make any sense. I wonder if the rangers know something they aren’t telling us.”

“According to Ranger Williams they don’t, but why would he tell me something like that if they didn’t have an

idea of what happened. It all seems suspicious to me. He said they have had strange disappearances before. What exactly does that mean?”

Chris just shook his head and slung his backpack over his shoulder. He followed Nick out of the tent and they made their way over to where Ranger Williams was assisting Ranger Gorly in setting up a table with a canopy tent over it.

“What’s this?” Nick asked as he approached them. “I thought we were heading out?”

“This is base camp, Nick,” Ranger Williams said as if addressing a child. “Two of the searchers will stay behind and monitor the groups. They will have radio access to each group. Anyone who finds Maggie or anything that the rest of the teams need to know about, they will radio base camp and then base camp will notify the rest of the teams. We will be using walkie talkies that only have a short range, but the radios at base camp will be able to reach any of the walkie talkies.”

“Well, are we about ready to head out?” Nick asked testily. He was still angry with the ranger and didn’t appreciate the tone the ranger had used on him. “Seems we’ve wasted enough time already.”

Ranger Williams turned over the base camp setup to Ranger Gorly. He called out loudly for all the groups to get with their assigned leaders and be prepared to head out in five minutes.

He turned to Nick and pointed toward the entrance to the camp.

“Get yourself over there with Sheriff Morgan and Les. We’re leaving just as soon as I give final instructions to the groups.”

He walked over to stand in the middle of the camp and called out for everyone to listen up.

“Ok folks, we have a long day ahead of us. I want to make sure everyone has plenty of water and snacks with you. Each group will have two leaders. Listen to them and follow their instructions. We don’t want to end up hunting for you too. If you find anything that could be significant, tell your leaders. They will radio back to base camp and appropriate measures will be taken. Are there any questions?”

A middle aged lady from the back of the camp called out. “Do we have any pictures of the woman?”

“Good question, Cassie. Yes, we do. Your leaders will pass out a flyer to each of you with the missing woman’s name and picture on it,” Ranger Williams answered her. “If there are no further questions, let’s get going.”

Les Wilkes loved being a dog handler. He had been on so many searches with them he couldn’t keep track. He liked using the dogs because they almost always found something which led them to the person they were searching for. Only once in all his years of searching with dogs did he come back empty handed. That man was never found.

Nick liked Les from their first meeting at the visitor’s center, where he was introduced to him by Mr. Peterson. Probably somewhere in his late 40s, he was a down to earth, friendly guy. He seemed very fond of the dogs and seemed very comfortable around them. Nick supposed this was a good thing since, he himself, had never owned a dog. He liked dogs well enough, but living in the city, with a job that kept him busy, he had just never had the desire to own one. He was glad Les was on their team.

With their group all rounded up, Nick, Chris, Les, Sheriff Morgan and Ranger Williams all began introducing themselves to each other. It was agreed upon that while searching together formal name calling would be put aside and first names would be used instead. So Sheriff Morgan became Walter and Ranger Williams became Ted.

Nick suddenly took noticed of which dogs Les was leashing up. His apprehension grew as he realized the pup was one of them.

“Les, why is the pup with us?” he asked. “Isn’t he still in training? Since we are heading to where Maggie was last seen, shouldn’t we have two well trained dogs?”

“Calliope is actually Orion’s mother. Who better to train the pup than her? Don’t worry, he has watched his mom long enough to know what he’s supposed to do. You just watch and wait, my friend.”

Nick wasn’t as convinced as Les was, but at least they had Calliope. Mr. Peterson had told him that she was the best dog he had. Nick sure hoped that was true.

“Nick,” Les began as he finished getting the leashes on the dogs. “Do you have an article of Maggie’s clothing for Calliope and Orion to get her scent from?”

“Yeah, it’s in my backpack. Hold on.”

Nick dug around in his backpack until he found the plastic bag containing Maggie’s shirt. It was the one she had worn the first

day of their hike. Mr. Peterson had explained to him that if he had just thrown it in his backpack, the dogs would have picked up on his scent as well and they would become confused about who they were hunting. So he had placed it in a bag to keep her scent protected from his.

He handed the bag over to Les.

The shirt was presented to the dogs to sniff. One at a time, they buried their noses in the cloth and rooted around until they had the scent memorized. Once both dogs had the scent, they began yipping and pulling Les toward the trail that led out of the campsite.

“Yeehaw!” Les exclaimed excitedly as he was drug down the trail by the two enthusiastic dogs. “Here we go!”

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*Carol Hall was born and raised in Chester, West Virginia, but she currently lives in Lansing, 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.*



# NOW HERE'S A TIP

By JoAnn Derson

\* If you need to pick up small shards of glass, use a cotton ball that's been moistened, or a slice of white bread (insides only) wadded up.

\* Glass and chrome will shine if you clean them with newspaper. You can mist the paper with water first, but not too much. Rub ... and the shine comes right out, plus no streaks or lint!

\* "Use purified water in your coffeemaker to lengthen its life. Water deposits build up and affect both the flavor and function of your machine. They can be cleaned, but it's much better if you use purified drinking water from a jug. It makes it very easy to fill the machine, too." -- M.E. in Wyoming

\* "Purchase colorful laundry baskets for each child in

your home. In the evening, you can have the child find all his or her stray items, put them in the basket and then put them away. In our house, the kids also use their basket to hold anything they need for school the next day -- backpack, coats and outerwear, even boots. We stack the baskets by the door, and nothing gets left behind." -- P.W. in Missouri

\* When you are frying up ground beef, add a table-spoon or two of water. It will help the excess grease to pull away from the meat, making it easier to drain off.

\* "To speed the healing of bruises, try eating pineapple. Drink lots of water, too. I play contact sports, and this has always helped me." -- R.E. in Missouri

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

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## STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

\* Baritone Leonard Warren died on stage at The Met in 1960 just as he finished singing Verdi's "Morir, Tremenda Cosi" ("To Die, a Momentous Thing").

\* While shedding, geckos will eat their skin in order to prevent predators from finding and eating them more easily.

\* A man named Ronald MacDonald robbed a Wendy's in 2005.

\* In the early 2000s, when hackers were not that rampant, a survey showed that 70% of London commuters would reveal their computer password in exchange for a chocolate bar, while 30% of the respondents admitted they

would give their password even without said candy.

\* The sequel to the 1953 film titled "Gentlemen Prefer Blondes" was called "Gentlemen Marry Brunettes."

\* Per capita, the happiest countries in the world also rank highest in terms of consumers of antidepressants.

\* The term "plastic surgery" was coined in 1839, 70 years before plastic was even invented. It comes from the Greek word "plastike," which means "the art of modeling" of malleable flesh.

\* Journalist John Richards founded The Apostrophe Protection Society in 2001 to enforce the proper use of the apostrophe in written English. He closed the society in 2019, however, at the age of 96,

with the announcement that "the ignorance and laziness present in modern times have won!"

\* The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends avoiding drinking camel urine to prevent contracting Middle East respiratory syndrome. Thanks, guys, but we'll wait for the shot.

\* Abibliophobia is the fear of running out of material to read. \*\*\*

Thought for the Day: "When the path ignites a soul, there's no remaining in place. The foot touches the ground, but not for long." -- Hakim Sanai

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆**

◆ Moderate    ◆◆ Challenging  
 ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!  
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## King Crossword

**ACROSS**

1 Havana's land

5 For each

8 — Valley, Calif.

12 Miles away

13 Parisian pal

14 Former Yankee slugger, to fans

15 Abe Lincoln's first home

17 Cello's ancestor

18 In the style of

19 Shiny, as a photo

21 Trombone part

24 Swizzle

25 Ireland

26 Backyard structure

30 Old shop

31 Move to one side

32 — roll (winning)

33 Theme park attraction

35 Landed

36 Mater lead-in

37 Test score

38 Spider's creation

41 Spill catcher

42 Location

43 Cozy spot on the slopes

48 Sandwich

|    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 |
| 12 |    |    |    | 13 |    |    |    | 14 |    |    |
| 15 |    |    |    | 16 |    |    |    | 17 |    |    |
|    |    |    | 18 |    |    | 19 | 20 |    |    |    |
| 21 | 22 | 23 |    |    | 24 |    |    |    |    |    |
| 25 |    |    |    | 26 |    |    |    | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 |    |    |    | 31 |    |    |    | 32 |    |    |
| 33 |    |    | 34 |    |    |    |    | 35 |    |    |
|    |    |    | 36 |    |    |    | 37 |    |    |    |
| 38 | 39 | 40 |    |    |    | 41 |    |    |    |    |
| 42 |    |    |    | 43 | 44 |    |    | 45 | 46 | 47 |
| 48 |    |    |    | 49 |    |    |    | 50 |    |    |
| 51 |    |    |    | 52 |    |    |    | 53 |    |    |

**DOWN**

1 Nev. neighbor

2 Flying saucer

3 Satchel

4 Video-game hub

5 Sunscreen additive

6 Brit. record label

7 Cellphone

8 Relishes

9 Eye part

10 Cattle calls?

11 In a lazy way

16 Hearty quaff

20 Joyful tune

21 Lowly worker

22 Stead

23 Press agent?

24 "The March King"

26 "OK" gesture

27 Spanish greeting

28 Oklahoma city

29 See socially

31 Only

34 Aloha State

35 Garden shelters

37 Baseball's Hodges

38 Scoundrels

39 Sandwich treat

40 Phone inventor

41 Morsels

44 Carrier to Amsterdam

45 Cacophony

46 Fed. property manager

47 Heart chart (Abbr.)

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# FEAR KNOT

By: rj johnson

DOUBT? ... OR DARE!

IN Y

FRIOPT

♥ ARNLE

ATIX

HEYROT

TLE

♥ ERRA

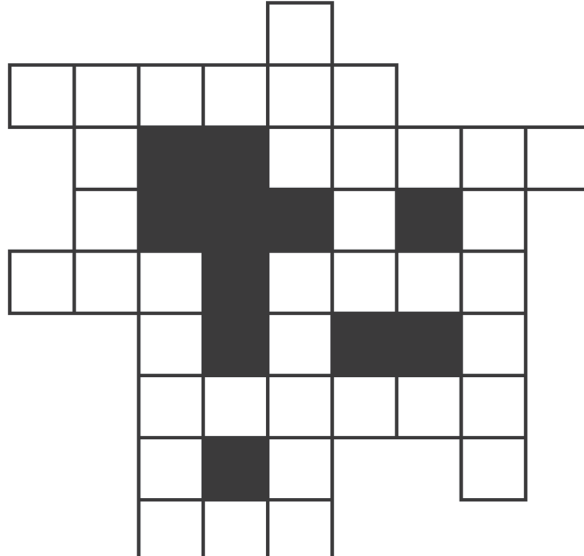
♥ SYANT

♥ PNA

♥ ROFEAL

LUTPI

♥ EVLI



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

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# BIBLE TRIVIA

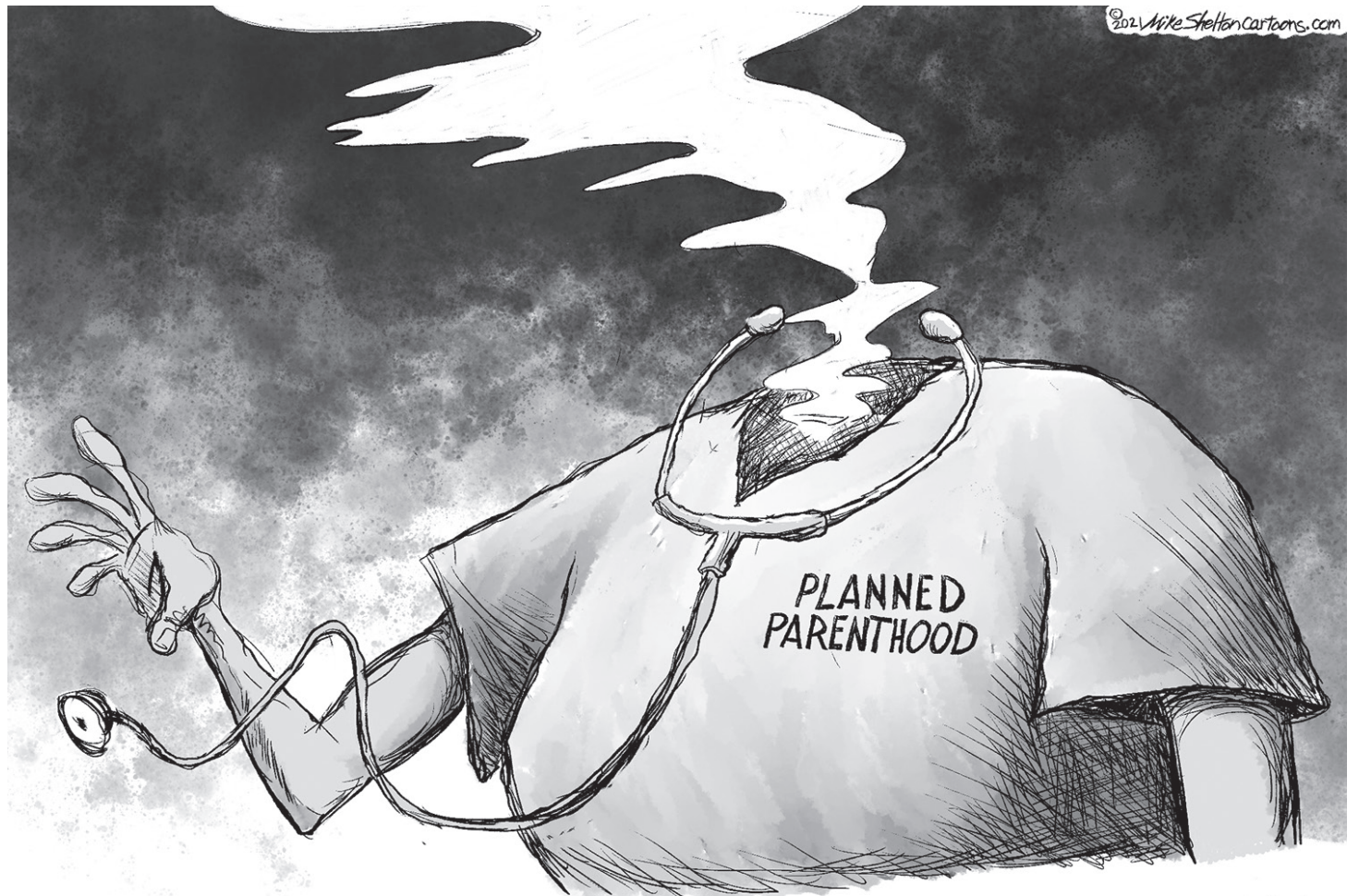
by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Corinth in the Old Testament, New Testament or neither?
2. In Matthew 5, how many Beatitudes did Jesus mention in His Sermon on the Mount? 4, 6, 8, 10
3. From Luke 2, what village was known as the "City of David"? *Damascus, Jerusalem, Jericho, Bethlehem*
4. In 1 Kings 17, who ate a poor widow's last meal? *Amos, Elijah, Matthew, Daniel*
5. To what tribe of Israel did Paul belong? *Asher, Benjamin, Issachar, Reuben*
6. From Genesis 4, who built a city called Enoch? *Adam, Moses, Noah, Cain*

ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) 8; 3) Bethlehem; 4) Elijah; 5) Benjamin; 6) Cain

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

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SUPREME COURT WON'T BLOCK TEXAS' FETAL-HEARTBEAT ABORTION LAW.



## Comfort foods

Made fast and healthy

by Healthy Exchanges

### Ultra-Easy Italian Vegetable Relish

Zucchini is one of those vegetables that gets far too little respect. I think it might be because its vines are so prolific. No matter how good something is, when it's overabundant, it somehow is taken for granted. Try this ultra-easy relish, and others just might ask you, "Where in the world did you come up with this great recipe?"

- 1/2 cups finely chopped unpeeled zucchini
- 1 cup shredded carrots
- 1/4 cup finely chopped green and/or red bell pepper
- 1/4 cup finely chopped onion
- 1/2 cup fat-free Italian dressing

In a medium bowl, combine zucchini, carrots, pepper and onion. Add Italian dressing. Mix gently to combine. Cover and refrigerate for at least 1 hour. Gently stir again just before serving. Makes 6 (1/2 cup) servings.

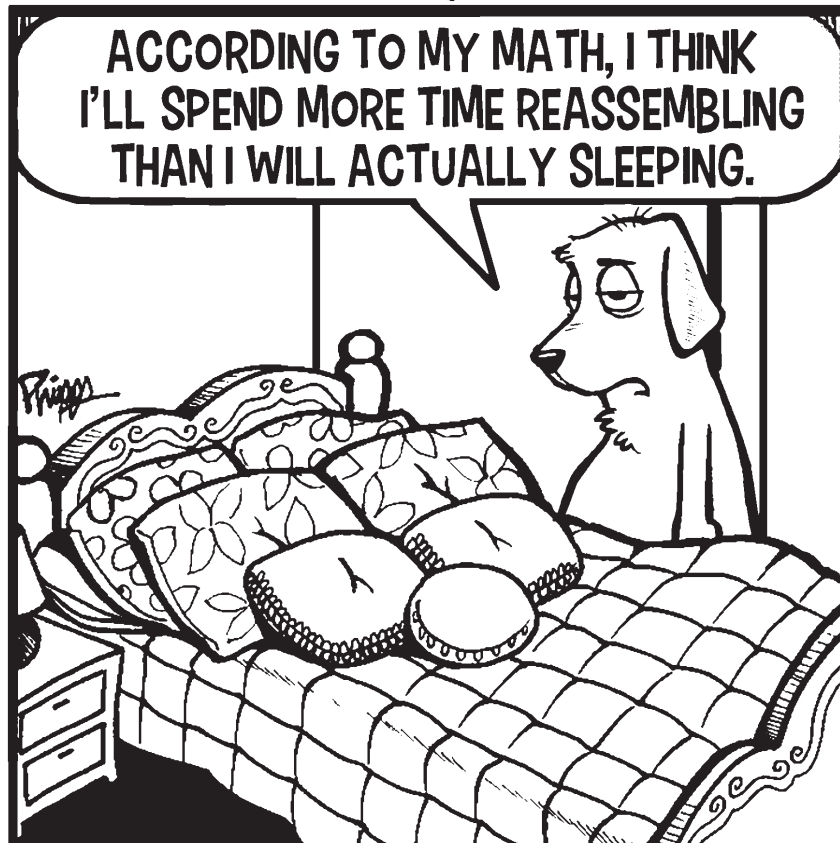
• Each serving equals: About 28 calories, 0g fat, 1g protein, 6g carb., 231mg sodium, 2g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 1 Vegetable.

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### Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



"I feel better about myself, and it scares me!"

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## Welcome: Parker Mae Griffith



Parker Mae Griffith was born August 13, 2021 weighing 5lbs 10oz and 18.5 inches at Cookeville Regional Medical Center. She is the daughter of The Edward Leland Griffith Jr and Jessica Griffith. Grand daughter of Ed and Judy Griffith and Wanda Griffith of Wartburg and Renee Flatt and George Dolin on Sparta.

# Morgan County Today

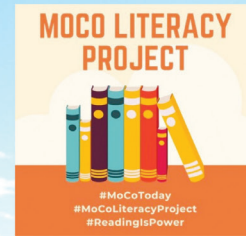
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Morgan County  Today



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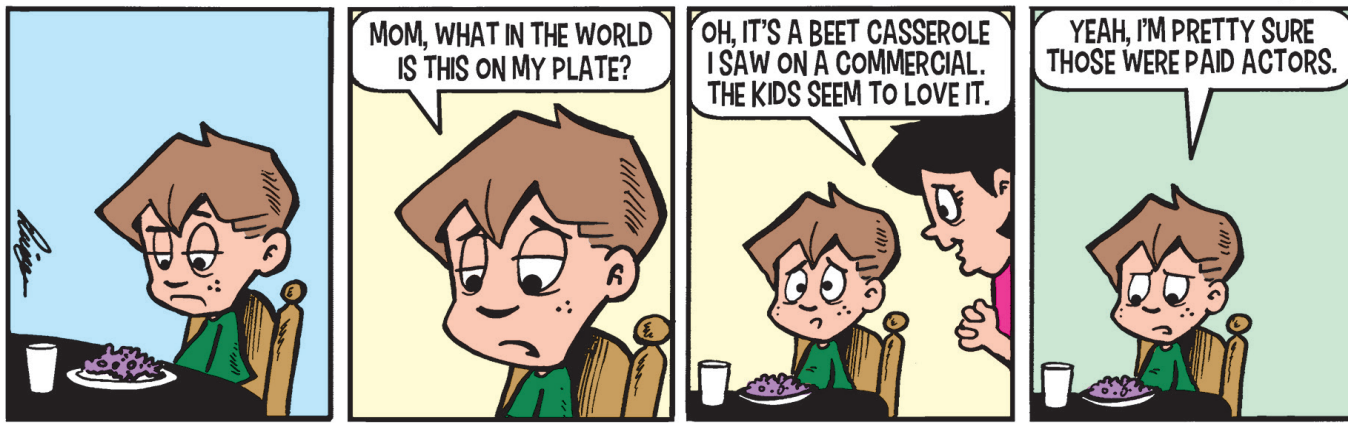


# MORE THAN A NEWSPAPER



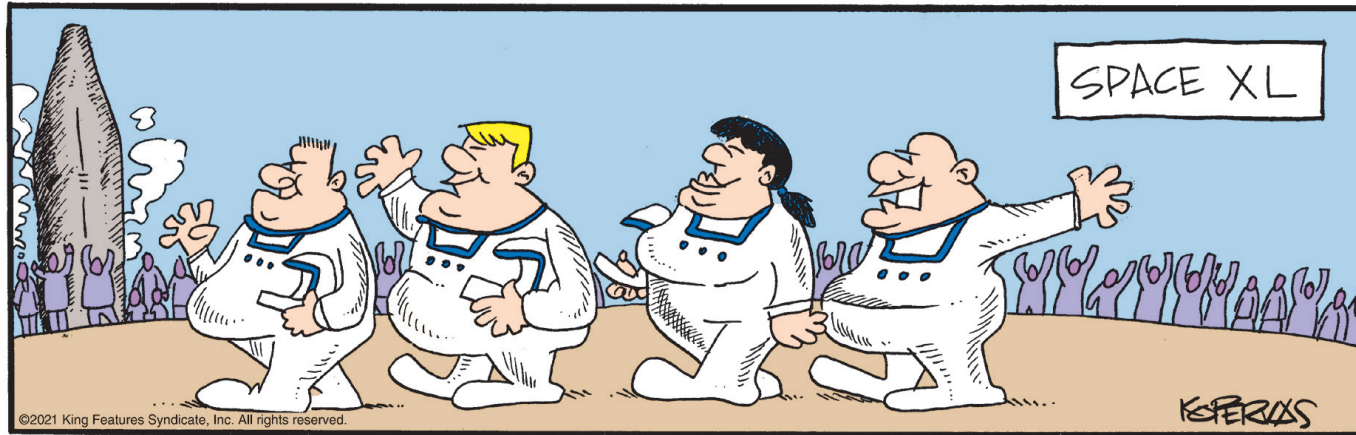
# Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



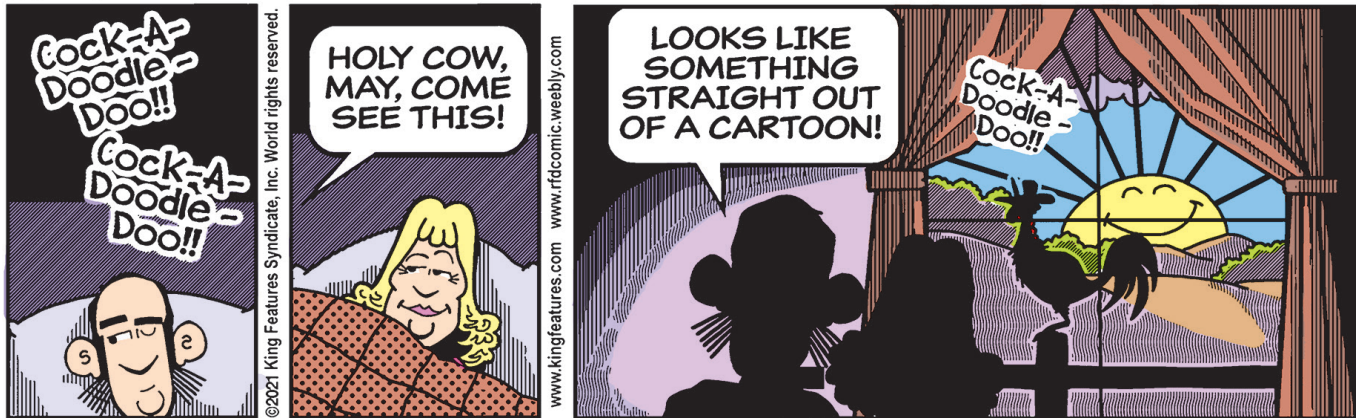
# Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



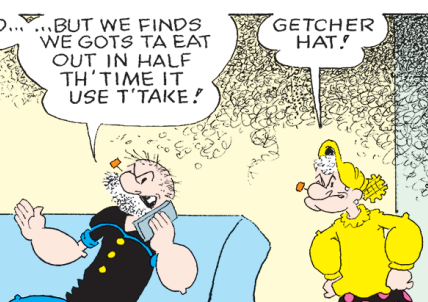
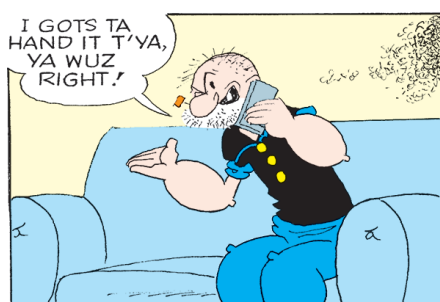
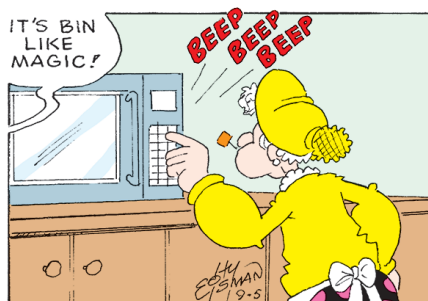
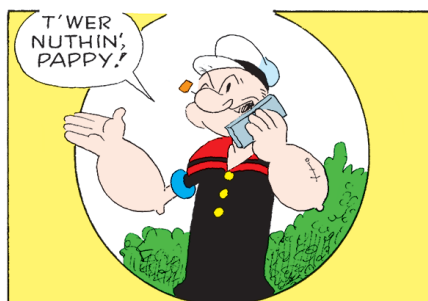
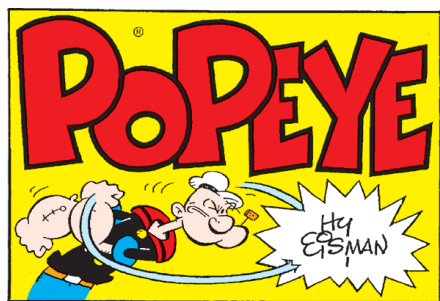
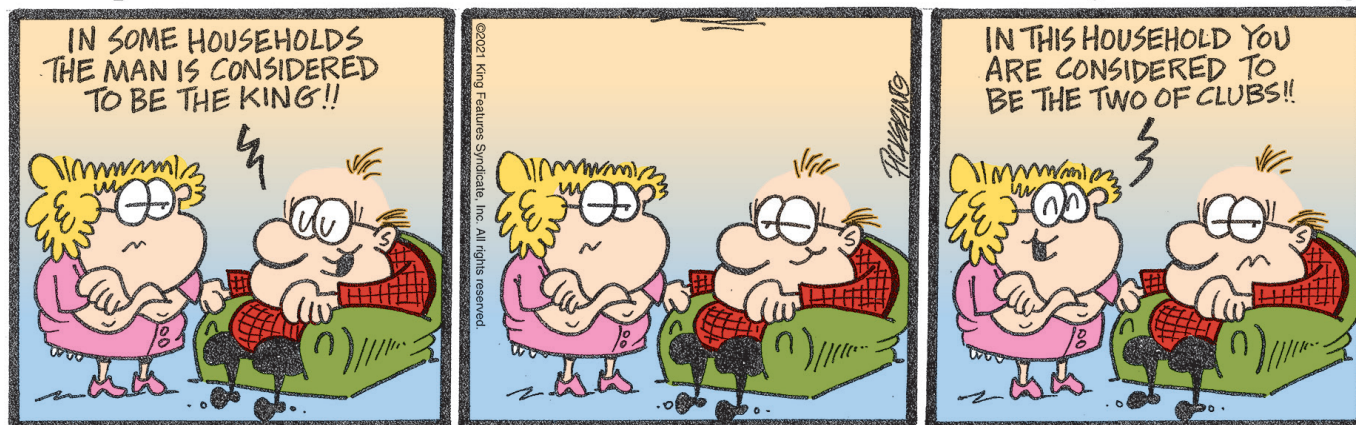
# R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



# The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



# MOMENTS IN TIME

The History Channel

---  
 \* On Sept. 27, 1854, two ships collide off the coast of Newfoundland, killing 322 people. The wooden-hull Arctic slammed into the iron-hull steamer Vesta and was severely damaged. In trying to beach the ship, the Arctic's captain ran over several lifeboats, causing more people to drown.

\* On Oct. 1, 1908, in Detroit, the first production Model T Ford is completed. Its 22 horsepower, four-cylinder engine could reach speeds up to 40 mph and run on gasoline or hemp-based fuel.

\* On Sept. 28, 1928, a lab accident led Sir Alexander Fleming, a young bacteriologist, to one of the great discoveries of modern medicine. Having left a plate of staphylococcus bacteria uncovered, Fleming noticed that a mold that had fallen on the culture had killed many of the bacteria. He identified the mold as penicillium notatum, similar to the kind found on bread.

\* On Oct. 2, 1948, the first American road race since World War II takes place in Watkins Glen in New York. The New York Central railroad agreed to suspend train service so the drivers could safely cross the tracks.

\* On Sept. 29, 1969, the U.S. Army drops murder charges against eight Green Berets accused of killing a Vietnamese national, citing reasons of national security after the CIA refused to release highly classified information.

\* On Oct. 3, 1981, a hunger strike by Irish nationalists at the Maze Prison in Belfast in Northern Ireland is called off after seven months and 10 deaths. Afterward, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher agreed to several of the protesters' demands, including the right to wear civilian clothing.

\* On Sept. 30, 1999, large doses of radiation are released at Japan's Tokaimura nuclear plant in an accident caused by a serious error made by workers at the plant. Instead of pouring 5 pounds of powdered uranium into nitric acid, workers poured 35 pounds.

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# THE RICH LOWRY COLUMN

By Rich Lowry

## No, Afghanistan Not the End of American Power

It's hard to imagine more humiliating images than what we've seen in Afghanistan in recent weeks, from the hasty evacuation of the U.S. Embassy in Kabul to the chaotic scenes outside the airport.

Our surrender to a band of AK-47-bearing guerrillas after 20 years has, understandably, occasioned autumnal thoughts about American power.

Even the Soviet Union, on the cusp of full collapse, managed to get out of Afghanistan in good order and leave behind a government that endured for several years.

What does it say that we couldn't match that?

Writing in *The New Yorker*, Robin Wright says the pullout may serve as "a bookend for the era of U.S. global power." Allister Heath, editor of *The Sunday Telegraph*, argues that "the botched exit is merely the latest sign that the American era is ending." Francis Fukuyama says the images in Kabul "have evoked a major juncture in world history," although he thinks "the end of the American era had come much earlier."

There is no sugar-coating our defeat in Afghanistan and the abject position we put ourselves in during the final days. The withdrawal is a blow to our counterterrorism capabilities, our prestige and our geopolitical position.

For all of that, though, no one in the world has the formidable advantages of the United States, which still outstrips everyone else, including China, on every material metric that matters.

Great powers don't go away easily. The British could be forgiven for thinking that it'd be all downhill after losing their American colonies in a long war joined by their traditional rivals France and Spain. Instead, British imperial power had not yet peaked.

Our exit from Saigon in 1975, to this point the touchstone for modern American defeats, was followed by Communist advances all over the map. Yet, within 20 years, we'd win the Cold War and ascend to unprecedented global power.

We are still blessed with an extraordinarily favorable geographical position, as a continental nation with friendly neighbors, access to two oceans, enormous reserves of oil and gas, and vast amounts of arable land.

We produce about a quarter of global GDP, a share that has held up over the years.

We are responsible for an astonishing 40% of all military spending in the world. It was ridiculous that Biden made a bragging point of the evacuation, but it's true that no one else would have been capable of such an operation.

We dominate the list of top universities in the world. There is no country people would rather come to. A Taliban spokesperson interviewed on Iranian TV, when challenged why so many people want to flee Afghanistan, rightly pointed out that if American planes were taking people out of Iran, there'd be a rush for the exits there, too.

In his book, "Unrivaled," Michael Beckley of Tufts University and the American Enterprise Institute rebuts the notion that China is overtaking us.

American workers are more productive than workers anywhere else. China's labor productivity has improved, Beckley writes, "but remains half that of Turkey, lower than Mexico's, and roughly on par with Brazil's."

We have demographic challenges, but other big powers, especially China, will be aging faster. Over the course of the century, Beckley notes, China will lose half of its workforce, or 470 million people.

Our alliance system is an enormous force-multiplier, a network that, according to Beckley, "encompasses 25% of the Earth's population and accounts for 75% of world GDP and defense spending." China's formal ally, in contrast, is North Korea.

None of this is to deny that the contemporary United States is racked by self-doubt, poisonous politics and institutional failure.

It is only to say that if we are determined to squander our global position, it will take much more time and folly to do it. A further downward slide, like the disastrous withdrawal from Kabul itself, will be a choice, not an inevitability.

Rich Lowry is editor of the *National Review*.

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## Donna's Day Creative family fun

by Donna Erickson



Chocolate Zucchini Cake

### Bake a Kid-Friendly Chocolate Zucchini Cake

"You can have your cake and eat zucchini, too," said 24-year-old Josh Plank when I wandered over to a landscaping project he was digging in in my neighbor's yard. I knew he had a garden of his own, so I eagerly asked what I should do with three humongous 18-inch-long zucchinis that dominated my veggie garden while I was on vacation. Without skipping a beat, he said, "Bake a chocolate zucchini cake."

What? "Yep, a cake," he said. "It's the ultimate dessert my mom made when I was a kid. An Austrian neighbor gave it to her and said to pass it on. And that's what she did. Now I make it and share it with friends."

He emailed me a simple list of ingredients. When asked for directions, he said stir the ingredients in order, one by one with a wooden spoon in a big bowl. No mixer, no fuss!

Stir together family fun with this kid-friendly recipe and serve with cold glasses of milk and colorful napkins and straws for a special after-school snack.

#### CHOCOLATE ZUCCHINI CAKE

- 1/2 cup soft butter
- 1/2 cup canola or vegetable oil
- 1 3/4 cups granulated sugar
- 2 eggs at room temperature
- 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract
- 1/2 cup sour milk (stir together 1/2 cup milk and 1/2 table spoon white vinegar. Let it sit 15 minutes.)

- 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
- 4 heaping tablespoons unsweetened cocoa powder
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups grated zucchini (if using an extra-large, firm zucchini, remove seeds)
- 1/2 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips

#### Topping:

- 1/2 cup chopped nuts
- 1/2 cup chocolate chips

1. Grease and flour a 9- by-13-inch pan. Preheat oven to 350 F after sour milk is prepared.

2. In a large bowl, stir together butter, oil and sugar for a few minutes, until light. Add the eggs one at a time until well-blended. Stir in vanilla and the sour milk.

3. Meanwhile, another child may measure and sift the flour, cocoa, baking soda, cloves, cinnamon and salt. Add to the large bowl and stir gently until mixed. Add zucchini and chocolate chips, and stir until just combined.

4. An adult should spoon the batter in the pan, sprinkle with the topping and bake for 40-50 minutes, until a cake tester comes out clean.

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Find more family fun at [www.donnaerickson.com](http://www.donnaerickson.com). Write to Donna at [Info@donnaerickson.com](mailto:Info@donnaerickson.com)

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## VETERANS POST

by Freddy Groves

### Are You Getting All Your VA Benefits?

Are you taking advantage of all your veterans' benefits? The Department of Veterans Affairs recently launched a program to bring awareness of the benefits that elderly veterans might be missing. Per the VA's notice, only 189,800 wartime veterans and 139,800 surviving spouses are using all the pension benefits they could receive.

Here are a few benefits, available through the Pension and Fiduciary Service:

\* The Survivors Pension is a monthly payment to qualified surviving spouses and unmarried dependent children of wartime veterans, but only those who meet certain income and net-worth limits. There's an additional benefit for surviving spouses who are housebound or need aid and attendance from someone else.

\* The VA Pension is for wartime veterans who are permanently and totally disabled because of non-service disability, or those who are over age 65 and meet income and net-worth limits.

\* The Special Monthly Pension is

an additional payment for qualified veterans who are housebound, need aid and attendance for daily activities, have limited sight or are in a nursing home.

\* Surviving Spouses of Blue Water Veterans (who served between Jan. 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975) might be eligible for Dependency and Indemnity Compensation, even if they were previously denied.

\* Funeral and Burial Benefits are available whether the death was service or nonservice related. Additionally, there are benefits such as the burial flag, a headstone or marker and Presidential Memorial Certificate. See the National Cemetery website for much more information [[www.cem.va.gov/burial\\_benefits](http://www.cem.va.gov/burial_benefits)] and to check eligibility in advance.

For details about benefits, go to [benefits.va.gov/benefits](http://benefits.va.gov/benefits). Click on Apply to find instructions and forms.

Those seeking help in filing claims need to beware. Be sure who you're trusting with your information. Look for a VA-accredited Veterans Service Organization (VSO) representative -- they are character-checked and have to pass an exam. Search for accredited representatives at [www.va.gov/ogc/apps/accreditation](http://www.va.gov/ogc/apps/accreditation) by filling in the information, or call 1-800-827-1000 to ask for someone in your area.

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# Historically Speaking

## A Brief History of Uranium Gaseous Diffusion - Part 2

By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

We continue the amazing broader history of gaseous diffusion as envisioned by Gordon Fee and prepared by Steve Polston, who was at one time the Manager of the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant and now retired. Steve agreed to help and took on the task of producing a draft document. We also included Jim Rushton, Ralph Donnelly, John Shoemaker and finally an exceptional writer who has expertise taking technical information and editing it into language the public can better understand, Alan Brown.

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### Gaseous Diffusion Helped End World War II

During World War II President Roosevelt assigned the atomic bomb project to the Army Corps of Engineers, which had a huge budget and could conceal the bomb's development costs and progress from U.S. enemies. It was named the Manhattan project because the Corps of Engineers' District in charge of the project was located in the Manhattan borough of New York City.

Without the gaseous diffusion process, the atomic bomb in needed quantities could not have been made. The consensus among historians is that America's use of the atomic bomb shortened the war in the Pacific and potentially saved millions of lives by making a ground invasion of Japan unnecessary.

### Why the "Cold War" Required Three U.S. Enriched Uranium Gaseous Diffusion Plants

Although the United States and the Soviet Union were allies during WW II, tensions between the two nations rose over the political future of Europe. Those tensions escalated in August 1949, when the U.S.S.R. exploded its first atomic bomb using a design stolen from the United States. This ushered in the Cold War, an open but restricted rivalry that threatened direct nuclear confrontation between the world's two superpowers. The nuclear threat continued until the early 1990s, when the U.S.S.R. finally collapsed.

In July 1950, the National Security Council (NSC) directed the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) to find a second site (beyond the Oak Ridge K-25 Plant) to produce enriched uranium used in nuclear weapons by "no later than October 1st, 1950." A primary reason for the expansion was the threat of military intervention by China into the Korean Conflict.

The NSC letter included a familiar plant site checklist, such as adequate labor supply, local air transportation, and river access. It also added unique criteria, calling for a site more than 500 miles from the reach of submarine-launched missiles and more than 100 miles from cities with known communist subversive activity.

The AEC was given only three months to find a site for the plant. To meet that deadline, the NSC recognized that it would have built on existing U.S. Government property. Paducah, Ky., was chosen as the site best to meet all these criteria.

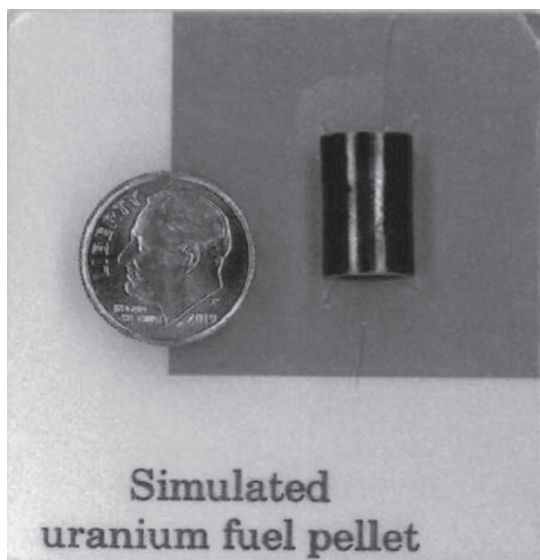
As the Cold War intensified, a third diffusion plant was opened in Portsmouth, Ohio, in 1955 to increase the nation's nuclear materials output. Located at least 150 miles from both Oak Ridge and Paducah, the plant increased the likelihood of diffusion capability surviving if nation was every attacked. Any two of the three existing plants were able to meet total U.S. production needs for the U.S. military.

### Gaseous Diffusion Fueled the U.S. Nuclear Navy

Gaseous diffusion provided all the fuel for the nuclear reactors that propelled the U.S. nuclear navy. The fleet began in 1954, when the U.S. Navy launched the world's first nuclear submarine, the Nautilus. Nuclear reactors went on to power a fleet of submarines, cruisers, and, beginning in 1960 with the Enterprise, aircraft carriers. Today, the U.S. Navy's nuclear powered fleet includes 72 submarines and 11 aircraft carriers.

The ship-based nuclear reactors can run for 20 to 25 years without refueling. This gives the U.S. nuclear fleet a major tactical advantage, enabling to deter aggression while rapidly projecting military power all around the globe.

### Gaseous Diffusion Enabled Peacetime Electric Power



Small size of nuclear fuel pellets (Photo Submitted)

The first nuclear power plant, the Shippingport Atomic Power Station in western Pennsylvania, opened in 1958. Today, nuclear power plants generate 800 billion kilowatt-hours of electrical power, or 20 percent of all electricity produced in the United States.

Gaseous diffusion was an energy-intensive process. Yet for every 1 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electrical energy used to enrich uranium, the enriched fuel generates approximately 54 KWH of electricity in a nuclear power plant.

A single enriched uranium fuel pellet (0.5 inches diameter, 0.5 inches long) contains the energy equivalent of 2,000 pounds of coal. A typical nuclear power plant uses about 18 million of these small pellets at a time, equivalent in power to 170,000 railcars loaded with coal.

In 1964, the U.S. government ceased production of weapons-grade uranium after deciding that it had enough enriched uranium in inventory and could recycle fissile material found in older nuclear weapons. At that point, all gaseous diffusion production was diverted to the U.S. Navy and peacetime nuclear power plants.

### Gaseous Diffusion Became an International Business

In 1969, the United States began a toll enrichment program, using gaseous diffusion plants to enrich nuclear fuel for U.S. and foreign operators of nuclear power reactors. Under the program, customers would provide unenriched uranium hexafluoride containing 0.7115 percent U-235 to the Department of Energy. It then enriched the material in its gaseous diffusion plants to between 3 percent and 5 percent U-235 and returned the enriched fuel to its customers.

Toll enrichment was not a novel concept. It could be traced back to a centuries-old practice of the

millers' toll, where the owner of a mill would grind wheat or corn in exchange for a portion of the ground grain as payment. Similarly, in uranium toll enrichment, the customer pays a fee, or toll, depending on the degree of enrichment.

Within two years of the program's start, Union Carbide, which ran the DOE's gaseous diffusion plants, had signed global toll enrichment contracts worth \$218 billion in today's dollars.

Over time, the major nuclear powers and several other countries that operated nuclear power plants built their own enrichment facilities. By the mid-1990's, the two remaining DOE gaseous diffusion plants could no longer compete with these overseas facilities. In 1998, Congress passed a law to privatize the still-operating Paducah and Portsmouth facilities, believing that a privately held company would prove more competitive with foreign producers. The United States Enrichment Corporation (USEC) was formed to operate the two facilities.

While the transition to private ownership was under way, the newly formed USEC negotiated a deal with the Russian Federation to buy enriched uranium contained in approximately 10,000 Russian nuclear warheads. Weapons grade uranium is typically 90 percent U-235. USEC blended it with depleted (mostly U-238) uranium until it reached the 3 percent to 5 percent level needed for nuclear reactors.

While this was a great step for nuclear disarmament, it further drove down the demand for enriched uranium from the remaining U.S. gaseous diffusion plants. By 2013, all U.S. diffusion-based uranium enrichment production ceased. The United States is currently operating on its reserve enrichment inventory for military needs.

Demand remains high for enriched uranium for nuclear power plants. Today, this need is satisfied by centrifugal enrichment. This process that spins uranium hexafluoride gas in a cylindrical tube at speeds in excess of 1,000 revolutions per second, driving the heavier U-238 gas to the edge of the tube. The lighter U-235 gas remains closer to the center, where it is removed and purified again and again. The URENCO plant, owned by a European consortium and located in Eunice, New Mexico, is the only centrifugal enrichment plant operating in the United States.

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There you have the broader history of gaseous diffusion. Thanks to the team who created the document and our hope is that the K-25 History Center can make use of the information to develop a video or exhibit that tells this fuller story of gaseous diffusion.

***Oak Ridge was created as a part of the Manhattan Project in 1942 to help stop World War II. The atomic bomb, Little Boy, fueled by uranium 235 separated at Oak Ridge helped to do just that.***

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

***This "Secret City" nestled in Appalachia near Morgan County and where many from Morgan County go each day to work, continues today to produce scientific discoveries used worldwide and still routinely makes history. These Historically Speaking stories will provide insight into the people of Oak Ridge and the work they do to help humankind. Historically Speaking is written by D. Ray Smith, Oak Ridge City Historian, retired Y-12 National Security Complex Historian and Vietnam Veteran.***

# Around The World and Back Again

with Zack Ballinger

## Free Career Coaching Giveaway Announcement



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.

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 sessions 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 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](mailto:zack@zackballinger.com)

com

How will I know if I won or when does the contest end? **Zack Ballinger** 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?

Answer: 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 trick.

*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](http://www.zackballinger.com) for more of Zack's travels and events.*

## Community Calendar

The Reapportionment Committee will be meeting in a series of meetings. All citizens are welcome to attend any and all the meetings. The meetings will take place in third floor conference room of the Morgan County Courthouse. Reapportionment Committee Meeting Schedule is as follows:

Tuesday September 14, 2021 6 pm

Thursday September 16, 2021 6 pm

Monday September 20, 2021 6 pm

Thursday September 23, 2021 6 pm

If you have any questions, please contact the Morgan County Election Commissioner at 423-346-3190

Morgan County Chamber of Commerce is RESCHEDULED to meet on Thursday, September 30th. Please watch for details to come.

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# Coal Dust: Like a Chicken with its Head Cut Off



**Terry Futrell**  
Author

*"If we don't change direction soon, we'll end up where we're going."*  
Irwin Corey

I suspect that most kids today have no idea what "like a chicken with its head cut off" means nor where the old country "saying" came from. For those of us who grew up in rural communities in mid-twentieth century America, the knowledge and memories are all too real.

Any discussion of this expression must begin with a rural economics lesson that has its basis in a simple fact – we were meat-eaters, and store-bought meat was expensive, at least for poor people. Because of the prohibitive cost of meat for families with little or no money, almost every family raised their own animals for food. While a few families may have raised beef, chickens and pigs were really the only viable economic options for most. Whereas a cow typically had only one calf each time it was bred, chickens and hogs were prolific in producing offspring. That which wasn't eaten could be sold to provide a little extra cash for poor families.

Animals were strictly utilitarian. If an animal didn't serve to put food on the table, plow a field, or some other useful purpose around the house, it simply did not exist. Even dogs and cats were utilitarian. Cats were necessary to keep down the rat and mice population around homes that were typically permeated with openings to the outdoors.

Dogs stayed outdoors and served as our security perimeter. With no air conditioning, windows were kept open during warm nights. Even our door lock was a simple piece of wood fastened to the door facing with a single nail so that it could be rotated to keep the door from coming open at night. There were no fancy electronic security systems or alarm companies in rural America. Families depended on the loud barking of an outside dog to alert them that an intruder was on the property. A loaded shotgun provided the remainder of the security system. Dogs also played key roles in hunting the rabbits and squirrels that added some variety to the meat on our tables.

The concept of keeping an animal strictly as a pet was foreign to most people, and calling a dog or cat one's "child", as many people do today, would have been laughable. Dogs and cats ate table scraps. Who could afford to buy commercial dog or cat food when families sometimes struggled to feed themselves? Of course, the cats supplemented table scraps with their tasty morsels of rat and mice protein, and the dogs also sometimes caught and ate wild animals. While every family had its dogs and cats, it was the chickens and pigs that sustained our families.

I killed my first chicken when I was about ten years old. While it was not a pleasant task, it became my job and was a necessary part of country living. Some people could kill a chicken just by jerking its head off. But for a relatively small boy, use of the axe and chopping block was the only viable option. Holding the chicken by its legs, the head would be laid across the chopping block with the neck extended. One swift chop with the axe would decapitate the chicken, which then might flop around for several minutes as it bled to death. Hence, the origin of the term "like a chicken with its head cut off" that has been used to describe people whose behavior is somewhat erratic.

My mother would boil water in a large cast iron pot and quickly immerse the dead chicken for a minute or two, which made it much easier to pluck the feathers from the carcass.

It is interesting to note that today we think nothing of going into a barbecue restaurant and ordering half a chicken to feed one person. But in those days, one chicken fed our family of eight. The chicken was cut into two drumsticks, two thighs, two wings, two breast pieces, and the neck section. The liver was a delicacy that was usually plucked from the skillet before ever reaching the table.

Oh, but there was another piece of chicken that I discovered one Sunday – the wish bone, or "pulley bone" as we called it. It seems this piece never made it to the Sunday dinner table! I returned home from church one Sunday and my mom was frying chicken for dinner. I should point out that the midday meal was always called dinner, and the evening meal was supper. Also, because my invalid grandmother lived with us, my mother never had an opportunity to go to church in those days, so she cooked dinner while we were gone to church. Appar-

ently, mother didn't hear me come into the house, and just as I entered the kitchen, she extracted the wishbone from the skillet and began to eat it. What a small reward for a woman who worked her fingers to the bone for so many years to provide for her family!

Hog-killing time was the highlight of the fall and always came with the first cold spell. Because most of our neighbors were faced with the same task, many would help each other with hog-killing, rotating from one small farm to the next. Neighbors without hogs would sometimes volunteer to help, hoping to take home a small portion of the prized pork tenderloin as a reward.

Hogs were generally killed by a single .22-caliber shot to the head. Cleaning and butchering the carcass that typically weighed several hundred pounds was quite a task, generally requiring several men. A tripod was constructed of poles to hoist the carcass to a vertical position, from which the hog would be gutted and prepared for shaving the tough, bristly hairs from the skin. If the hog wasn't too large, it might be immersed in boiling water to soften the hair. Otherwise, it would be laid down and covered with burlap bags, then hot water would be poured over it. After a few minutes, the men would use sharp butcher knives to shave the hog's skin before cutting the carcass into pieces.

One of the highlights of hog-killing was removal of the brain, which would then be rushed to the house and scrambled with eggs and immediately eaten – but definitely not by me! Somehow, the thoughts of eating a pig brain just never appealed to me.

As the hog's innards were removed, we would sometimes take the bladder, inflate it, and use it as a football. None of us dared put the bladder to our lips to blow it up, so we would find a hollow weed and use it as a straw through which to inflate the pig bladder. This was primitive football at its best! Much of the real work associated with hog killing came during the days afterward. Major components of the carcass, such as hams and shoulders, were generally prepared for curing in the smokehouse. I suppose the term was a carryover from the past, because we never smoked any meat at our house. My dad would usually cure the meat by salting it or using sugar and molasses to coat it. The curing meat was stored in wire baskets in the smokehouse to keep it safe from rats and mice.

Much of the hog was ground into sausage. This was a laborious task that usually involved the entire family. First, the large pieces of meat had to be cut into small cubes to feed the sausage grinder. The grinder was clamped to the dining room table and cranked by hand, with the ground sausage exiting into a large dishpan. Cranking the sausage grinder was exhausting and we would generally take turns for only a few

minutes at a time. Before the days of electric freezers, the sausage would be fried and canned in jars, but a freezer allowed the sausage to be frozen while it was freshly ground and later thawed and fried as it was prepared for the table.

Lard-making was also a laborious task associated with hog-killing. Fat from the hog would be cut into small cubes, which would then be rendered in a large cast iron kettle over an open fire. The bits of chewy meat and skin that remained after rendering the lard were called "cracklins" – these were generally saved and baked into cornbread. To this day, cracklin cornbread is a delicacy and a rare treat for me.

I remember one occasion when my mother and a neighbor used a portion of the hog fat to make lye soap. The soap was also made outdoors in a large cast iron kettle over an open flame. Apparently, soap-making was an art that required experience. I can only remember the one time that my mom made soap.

Country folks tended not to be wasteful with food, and hogs were no exception. After every possible cut of meat was removed from the carcass and either frozen, canned, or cured, there remained some value in the parts that were left, particularly the head. My Aunt Francis would boil the hog's head and any other parts left over and prepare souse meat. Called by various terms, such as head cheese or scrapple, souse meat was basically a meat jelly that could be eaten either cold or fried. I like to think of souse meat as the original "Spam".

Things were so different in those days – the phrase "waste not, want not" experienced its true meaning. There was very little waste after hog-killing as folks sought to use every possible part of the hog. As kids in those days, we learned to conserve and maximize our use of what God had so graciously provided. Somewhere along the way, we seem to have lost that in our current wasteful society. We call it progress, but I often wonder if we haven't instead regressed.



*Hog-killing was a big cool-weather event on the farm. The hog carcass was first shaved before hanging up for butchering. [Photo: Library of Congress]*



## No-Bake Cheesecake Is Lemony Delight

Summer may be coming to an end, but in much of the country the weather is still warm enough to appreciate the refreshing zing of citrus and the ease of a no-bake dessert. So, before we move on to pumpkin spice everything, let's enjoy the sweet, tart flavor of lemon cheesecake once more.

This technique has been around forever so I can't take credit for creating this recipe. I first recall seeing it made by Martha Stewart, so I'll credit her for the inspiration, made more frugal by yours truly.

Lemon cheesecake is the perfect finale to so many meals. Even though it's assertively sweetened, it's not cloyingly sweet because of the tart lemon. But make no mistake, this cheesecake is sweet, rich and indulgent. I recommend small slices and letting people come back for more.

To make this economical, store-brand graham crackers, cream cheese and sweetened condensed milk are perfectly fine for this recipe.

### NO-BAKE FRESH LEMON CHEESECAKE

**Total:** 3 hours **Active:** 25 minutes

**Yield:** 8-12 servings

#### For crust:

2 packages (18 full sheets) gra-

ham crackers  
2 tablespoons sugar  
Big pinch kosher salt  
11 tablespoons (1 3/8 sticks) unsalted butter, melted

#### For filling:

2 (8 ounce) packages cream cheese, room temperature  
1 (14-ounce) can (1 1/4 cups) sweetened condensed milk  
Juice and zest of one large lemon (about 1/4 cup juice)  
1 teaspoon vanilla extract

1. Place graham crackers in a large zip-top plastic bag and crush them with a skillet or rolling pin until they're the texture of coarse sand.

2. Into a medium bowl, stir together the crumbs, sugar and salt. Melt butter and add to the crumbs, stirring until well-combined.



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#### Fresh lemon cheesecake garnished with lemon slices, lemon thyme and edible flowers

3. Into a 9-inch springform pan, spread the crumb mixture. Press the crumb mixture 1 1/2 to 2 inches up the side. Use the bottom of a measuring cup (or something similar) to flatten the crust and really press it into the sides. Chill crust in freezer while you make the filling, or at least 10 minutes.

4. In a large bowl, using an electric hand mixer, beat the cream cheese until aerated and smooth. Continue beating the cream cheese as you gradually add

the sweetened condensed milk, scraping the sides of the bowl, as necessary. Add the lemon juice, lemon zest and vanilla, mixing until combined. Resist the urge to eat this right now.

5. Retrieve your semi-frozen crust and carefully add the filling, ensuring there are no air pockets. Smooth the top with the back of a spoon. Cover with plastic wrap, and refrigerate until firm, about 2 1/2 hours.

6. To serve, unclasp sides of pan and remove cheesecake. Slice into 8 to 12 slices. Serve while cold for best presentation.

Although already beautiful in its pale-yellow simplicity, for the photo I garnished the cheesecake with paper-thin lemon slices, lemon thyme leaves and edible viola flowers.

This recipe is divine exactly as written, using fresh lemon juice and zest and a homemade graham cracker crust. But when lemons are out of season, shriveled and two bucks apiece, here is a shortcut that reduces both cost and time:

Feel free to use 1/4 cup bottled reconstituted lemon juice and a purchased graham cracker crust. Depending on the size of your crust, you may have a little leftover filling. Should you be faced with such a terrible dilemma, you can use the filling as a dip for sliced fruit, to make layered parfaits with fruit or to fill croissants or other pastries. Or just eat it with a spoon.

Now, when life gives you lemons, you know what to do.

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*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](http://www.divasonadime.com) and join the conversation on Facebook at [DivasOnADimeDotCom](https://www.facebook.com/DivasOnADimeDotCom). Email Patti at [divapatti@divasonadime.com](mailto:divapatti@divasonadime.com)*

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## Roy Freels' Singers to Sing at Angie's Restaurant

Gospel Singing at Angie's Restaurant downtown Wartburg beginning Friday night September 24th from 6 to 8 p.m. "The Roy Freels' Singers" and "Friends" will be singing. There will be representatives from different churches. For more information call: Angie's Restaurant at 423-346-7000 or Roy Freels at 865-253-0017. Make plans to attend. Door prizes will be given.

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# Works Replaced God's Grace



**John Burns**  
Opinion Columnist

Thyatira is the longest letter Jesus Christ penned to his body and his bride. He reminds Thyatira he can see everything they do, and they are found wanting. Their works of charity had replaced the written revealed word of God. They had become completely antisemitic and they were comfortable in their traditions even though every Roman tradition is pagan and against

God's perfect will.

I was raised as a Roman Catholic. I served as an altar boy from the age of seven through the age of twelve. I began to read the Latin Vulgate when I was nine. I opened the book of Daniel to the 10th chapter verse 11. For the first time in my life, the God of creation spoke to me through the Bible, and it scared me tremendously. The Bible contradicted everything I experienced as a young boy and I began to question my ancestors, my teachers, my priests, my parents and everyone in a position of authority over my life. I was completely confused about all things God.

Joining the Army, I found a place where I could spread my wings and travel to the places I was reading about in the Bible. The last act of mercy from a loving God while in uniform was to allow me to visit Rome while stationed in Italy. I found exactly what Martin Luther found, paganism was alive and well and actually prospering in the world through the influence of the Roman Catholic Popes. The Popes have claimed infallibility claiming to be free from the influence of sin. For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Strike 1.

The leadership of the Popes have led to more deaths of Christians and Jews than any other religion in history. Strike 2. The hoarding of wealth and the hierarchy of priests, bishops, cardinals, and Popes are exactly what Jesus Christ said he hates, the deeds of the Nicolaitans. Jesus Christ is our one mediator between God and man. We do not need any man to teach us the things of God, that is what makes Christianity real and all other religions false. 1 John 2:27. For the anointing you have received from me is real not counterfeit, for you do not need that any man teach you. Jesus Christ established his church on the Hebrew celebration of Shavuot: we call it Pentecost.

The Holy Spirit was given to 120 Jewish believers in the upper room on the Hebrew feast of first-fruits. The world's first Christians were Jewish. The book of Revelation reveals the last Christians saved will also be the Jewish remnant who cry out hosanna, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, as they look upon him whom they have pierced. This will occur at the end of the tribulation of the last days which Jesus Christ warns Thyatira they will go through if they do not repent and return to the entire written word found in both Testaments of our most Holy Bible. Teshuva!

So, what did Jesus Christ teach us through the Church of Thyatira?

Pagan practices crept into the Roman Church very early on in the ministry of John the Apostle. The marriage of Church and state begun at Pergamos was finalized and continued now for 2000 years in Thyatira.

Roman holidays replaced the sabbaths Jesus Christ established in the Genesis calendar.

Birthdays, Christmas, Easter, Mother's Day, Father's Day,

Valentine's Day, funerals. These are all pagan practices. They have nothing to do with the death burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Thyatira is warned that it will go through the tribulation, and God will kill her children if they do not repent and return to the written word of God, and stop worshipping on Roman fertility holidays. God is not playing let's make a deal. He gave us his word and warned us not to add to or take away from it or we would suffer the plagues contained within. Covid 19 is God's final warning to those practicing any of these pagan holidays.

The word covid is the Latin word for crown. 19 is the exact number of years God warned Israel after he allowed the first attack on the nation in 605 BC by the Assyrian Nabopolassar. His son Nebuchadnezzar would finish the conquest when he sacked Jerusalem, tore down the walls, destroyed their three-dimensional temple, deported every person to Babylon for 70 years. I believe America's fate will be much worse.

We have allowed for the worship of every pagan deity venerated from Babylon, into western Turkey, into Rome and west to America. Our nation is under the abandonment wrath of God and soon, Jesus Christ will remove his bride as America falls and takes her place as the Iron fully hardened ready to persecute Jews here at home in America. Thyatira and her believers will have one chance during the tribulation to believe in Christ, and it will lead to their martyrdom.

Works replaced grace and also replaced Jesus Christ as messiah in Rome under the Roman Catholic hierarchy. I beg my Catholic friends and relatives to repent and return to God's word found in the Bible.

Thyatira is warned that it will go through the tribulation of the last seven years of gentile government on Earth if they do not repent. This Church is given the chance to repent for 2,000 plus years. Do you hear the still soft voice of God calling you home to salvation alone in Christ's death, burial, and resurrection?

Thyatira led to the reformation of Luther as identified by Christ as the Church of Sardis. I warn those who follow the denominational model the reformation birthed, that Jesus Christ tells Sardis they are dead. Their only hope is resurrection leading to a belief in the entire Bible and move away from antisemitism.

The rapture of the bride of Christ is on our near horizon. It is our blessed hope as true born-again believers in Christ. Thus says the Lord must replace Roman traditions and pagan holidays or all of your church attendance will have been in vain!

He was crucified upon a Cross of wood yet he created the hill upon which it stood.

Even so come Lord Jesus Christ. John Burns 9-5-2021

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

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

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

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



answer

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## Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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## King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 23 mins.

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# 1 Corinthians: Chapter 3

(1 Corinthians 3:1-9) The carnality of division: In 1:11-13 the apostle had rebuked the divisiveness that characterized the Corinthian church; he now resumes that theme, and goes to the heart of it. Where division reigns, the instruction of the Holy Spirit has been ignored (2:10). The Corinthians are rebuked for their “carnal” (fleshly) disposition, as opposed to that which is spiritual. The former is self-serving; the latter yields to the guidance of the Spirit via apostolic instruction. Though these folks had been Christians for several years, they were still “babes” spiritually. They still needed “milk” (elementary teaching), though they should have been well beyond that stage of immaturity (v. 2).

Their immaturity was reflected in their childlike fussing, fueled by jealousy and manifested in contentiousness. They were acting like non-converted people (v. 3). He again reminds them of the hero syndrome, using the illustrative, “I am of Paul... Apollos” symptom. “Aren’t you acting just like ordinary men of the world?” he asks. He chastises them for an unrealistic view of their “heroes.” Ministers, even the best of them, are mere vehicles through whom the gospel is conveyed, and different men have different abilities. One is not to be exalted above the other. One may plant, another may water---it is God who gives the increase. Honor him! Every Christian worker must strive for oneness. Even then will receive his own reward proportionate to his labor. We should focus on the fact that we are God’s! The attention is not to be focused on us.

(1 Corinthians 3:10-15) The work of the builder tested: Throughout the balance of this chapter Paul discusses both a builder and the edifice built. There is the responsibility of the former and the sanctity of the latter. The apostle speaks first of the “grace” (favor) that God bestowed upon him as one who would proclaim the gospel and thus “build” churches (congregations of Christians) wherever he went. He had a sacred obligation, however, to build wisely. This signified a responsibility to be careful in his teaching and wise in evaluating the quality of people with whom he dealt. First, he must build upon the solid foundation---Christ himself. Second, he must recognize that potential converts are qualitatively different (Mt. 7:6).

There are two broad categories under consideration, each of which is tested by “fire” (rigorous difficulties). The wood, hay, and stubble class cannot survive the test; the gold, silver, and precious stones can and will, being purified (not consumed) by the fire. The wise builder, therefore, will have to discriminate between the two classes and use his time wisely. If his converts remain faithful, he will be wonderfully rewarded with

godly satisfaction on the day of judgment. If not, he will be disappointed by the loss, even though he is saved personally by his own testing process. This context is frequently appealed to by Calvinists in the effort to argue the case for the impossibility of apostasy, a man’s evil works may be destroyed, but he will not be. The illustration teaches just the opposite. The “work” is a convert (9:1), not abstract actions.

(1 Corinthians 3:16-17) The temple of God: Paul figuratively describes the church as the “temple of God”. The Greek word refers to the temple sanctuary, not the outer courts. This places a great responsibility upon Christians to remain holy in the Lord’s service. The Spirit of God is said to “dwell in you” (plural), individually (Acts 2:38; Gal. 4:6; Eph. 2:22). The indwelling Spirit is proof of our “temple” relationship. A severe warning, therefore, is given. Any who would destroy (via a corrupting process) the Lord’s church---by means of false teaching, a factious spirit, etc.---will receive a just retribution from God himself.

(1 Corinthians 3:18-23) Right attitude toward ministers: this paragraph is aimed at generation humility among ministers of the gospel and warning those who would glorify them beyond propriety. Those who exalt themselves by imagining they are wise should divest themselves of such self-aggrandizement, enroll in “fool school,” and attempt to become genuinely wise. The worldly wisdom with which some ministers (and many others) are so enchanted is mere foolishness with God. Many modern ministers (and university professors) are heavy-headed with everything but Bible knowledge. Combining quotations from Job (5:13) and Psalms (94:11), the apostle rebukes those who are merely wise in their own assessment and who produce no genuinely good results.

The glorification of mere men, a flaw that characterized this church, must stop. Christians share in “all things” (God’s blessings); hence, the exaltation of some over others is entirely inappropriate. Our relationship to great men---Paul, Apollos, Peter, etc. --- is on the same basis. All of this world’s events, present or future, in life or death, are shared by each Christian because we belong to Christ, and Christ is God’s. This latter expression alludes to Jesus’ incarnate status, not to any inferiority in nature as compared to the Father (John 10:30).

To obey the doctrines of Charles Finney, Billy Graham, etc. is to call on the names of these men. When you obey the doctrines of Jesus the Christ, you are calling on the name of the Lord.



MELVIN HOWARD


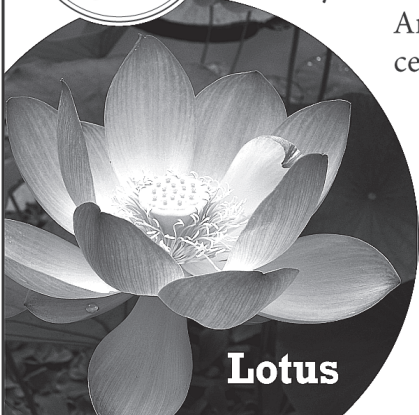
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One of the first flowers represented in the arts may be the lotus flower. It is sacred in many ancient cultures, including in ancient Egypt as a symbol of death and rebirth to the afterlife. Ancient Egyptians adorned amulets, ceramics, papyrus paintings, jewelry and household items with it. In King Tutankhamun’s tomb, collar necklaces made of cut blossoms that included blue lotuses were found among his many trinkets and treasures.


- Brenda Weaver

Source: www.segmaton.com

**Lotus**



### THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



Detail of "Jacob Weeping for Joseph" by Marc Chagall, 1956

*They took the ornate robe back to their father and said, "We found this. Examine it to see whether it is your son's robe." He recognized it and said, "It is my son's robe! Some ferocious animal has devoured him. Joseph has surely been torn to pieces." Then Jacob tore his clothes, put on sackcloth and mourned for his son many days.*

GENESIS 37: 32-34

## Taxpayer Advocate experiencing delays



David Zubler  
Columnist

The Taxpayer Advocate Service (TAS) is an independent organization within the IRS. They ensure that every taxpayer is treated fairly and that you know and understand your rights. They help you if you have tax problems that you can't resolve on your own.

TAS recently announced in its blog that it has been overwhelmed with assisting taxpayers who need their help.

"Our advocates have been handling unusually high levels of inventory for the last year," writes Erin Collins, the national taxpayer advocate, in a blog post. "The past two filing seasons have been particularly difficult. On top of dealing with personal, medical, and financial challenges brought on by COVID-19, taxpayers have struggled to get advice and answers from the IRS, and millions of refunds are still pending."

TAS can't actually fix problems itself. It can only work with the IRS to advocate for certain solutions. Consequently, the TAS can't do its job if the IRS doesn't do its job. Currently both entities are too understaffed to do their jobs efficiently. According to Collins, taxpayers wait an average of 80 minutes when they call the TAS for help, and many encounter what she described as "courtesy disconnects", in other words they get hung up on.

There are several main reasons for the problems. TAS is expecting 253,000 cases this year which is an increase of over 50% compared to 2017.

Adjusted for inflation, the budget to operate the TAS

has fallen by 10% since 2017. As a result, staff levels have decreased by the same amount, even though the workload has increased.

Due to IRS logjams, the IRS is taking longer to fix things. Consequently, TAS advocates are having to spend more time on each case. When you multiply that by 253,000, it's easy to see the problem.

TAS has the ability to prioritize taxpayers facing financial harm. However, it is now taking many months longer to provide the needed relief.

Collins requests that taxpayers and practitioners be courteous and understanding when speaking with the advocates. Employees are not responsible for the increased cases, the reduction in resources, or the pandemic which has slowed the IRS operations.

Collins recommends that Congress provide better funding to the IRS. This would both improve the agency's efficiency and allow for adequate staffing levels at the TAS. The additional funding would also help taxpayers who "face immediate financial hardship or fall through the cracks of IRS bureaucracy."

*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](http://YourTaxCare.com). David can be reached at (865) 363-3019 or contacted by email at [zublerdavid@gmail.com](mailto:zublerdavid@gmail.com).*

## SENIOR NEWS LINE

By Matilda Charles

### Recreation Center Shuttered Again

---

Well, that certainly didn't last long. My town's recreation center opened last week for indoor walking only -- no classes, no basketball, no anything else -- then shut down again just as quickly.

It seemed like it would be safe: only a certain number allowed into the building at one time, no walking with a buddy, walking by yourself in one lane on the track, enter the building at your designated time and leave when your time is up. What could go wrong?

What went wrong was the Mask Police.

We're supposed to be able to exercise without a mask. Except, cried the Mask Police, we would be exercising indoors. Indoors equals need for masks.

meeting, with those on opposing sides quite vocal in presenting their cases. The anti-mask contingent was adamant that it was dangerous to ask us to mask up while exercising. The Mask Police insisted that COVID-positive people would be exhaling germs all over the rec center. They even brought charts and graphs. In the end, the rec center supervisor threw his hands in the air and declared the center closed for the foreseeable future.

Meanwhile, there's a bright spot on the horizon for this winter. The local senior center is once again hosting the Senior Health Fair. The purpose of the annual event is to link seniors with resources in the area. Companies and providers sign up to showcase their wares and offerings, including housing, products aimed at seniors, fitness, legal help, the fire department, senior-living retirement communities, the YMCA, medical services, at-home nurse visits and much more.

This year, however, like last year, it will all be online. Each exhibitor will have videos and "live" online events that seniors can "visit" via computer. There will be entertainment, but unfortunately, no snack tables.

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## FLASHBACK

By Mick Harper

---

1. Name the group that started out as Chocolate Hair.
2. Which Neil Diamond song is often heard at sporting events?
3. Who originally released "I'll Be There"?
4. Which duo had a hit with "I Can't Go for That"?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "Like a sweet magnolia tree, my love blossomed tenderly, my life grew sweeter through the years."

### Answers

1. Sugarloaf. They'd formed with members from The Moonrakers, which had originally been called The Classics. The switch to the name Sugarloaf came about after the record company legal department feared that the name Chocolate Hair could have racist overtones.
2. "Sweet Caroline." The U.S. (especially at Fenway Park), Canada (Ontario Hockey League), Australian football (Sydney Swans) and the Northern Ireland national football team have all used the song as their anthem or for singalongs.
3. The Jackson 5, in 1970. The song was their fourth No. 1 hit in a row.
4. Daryl Hall and John Oates, in 1981.
5. "I Was Made to Love Her," by Stevie Wonder, in 1967. The song, like several other Wonder hits (including "Signed, Sealed, Delivered I'm Yours"), was co-written by his mother, Lula Mae Hardaway.

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I hear it was a very heated board

# Friday Night Spotlight

## Eagles Roll Over Wartburg 25-0

By Terry Futrell

The undefeated Oakdale Eagles rolled over visiting Wartburg Friday evening 25-0 on Hollis Ebla Field. The Eagles, ranked 24th in the state in Class A by Max-Preps after the second week of play, are now 3-0 on the season, outscoring their three opponents 94-38.

The Eagles wasted no time in gaining an advantage after Wartburg received the opening kickoff. During Wartburg's first series of downs, Bulldog quarterback Samuel McCarty completed an outlet pass to Gabe Redmon. As Redmon turned up field, Oakdale's Aaron Dunlap planted his helmet against the ball, causing a fumble that Oakdale recovered on the Wartburg 28-yard line. The Eagles advanced to the 12-yardline, then Dunlap weaved his way through the Wartburg defensive line and ran to the end zone for Oakdale's first score with only three and one-half minutes elapsed. Oakdale's Gavin Menard kicked the extra point and the Eagles led 7-0.

Wartburg's second series was essentially a mirror of the first, with the Eagles taking possession on the Wartburg 23-yard line. The Bulldog defense held, forcing Oakdale to try a field goal, which failed. Then began a defensive battle that lasted for most of the first half with neither team able to score.

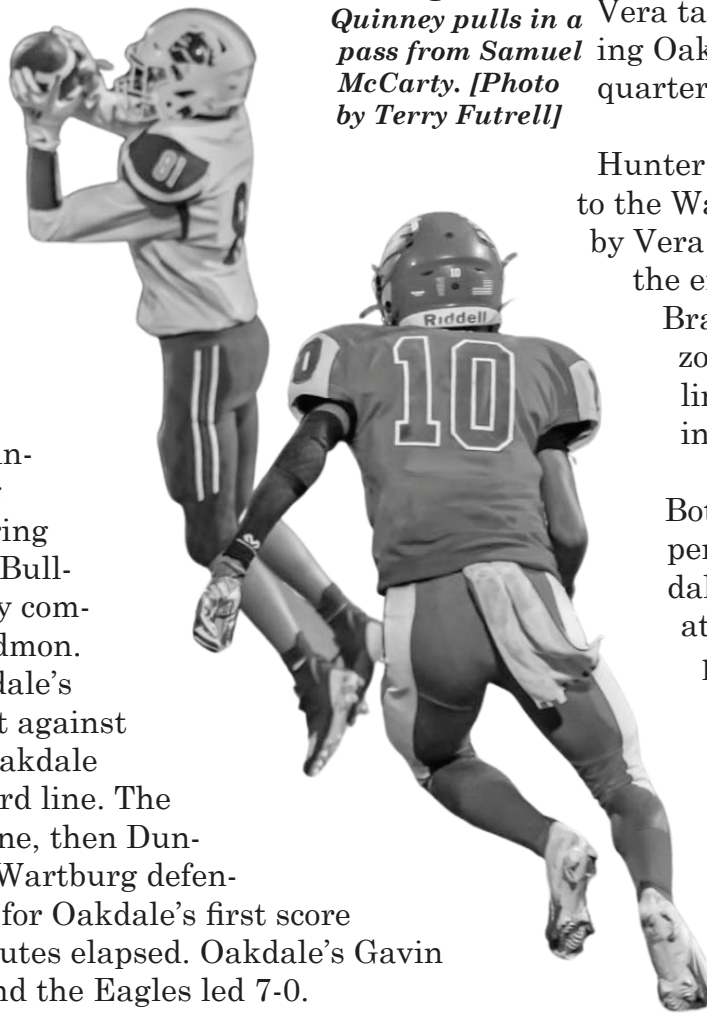
With less than one minute remaining in the half, Wartburg advanced the ball to the Oakdale 20-yard line. In what turned out to be one of the great defensive plays of the game by the Eagles, Joseph Summers and Jacob Hoskins leaped high in the corner of the end zone to deflect a pass from McCarty to Austin Beasley, depriving the Bulldogs of a touchdown that would have evened the score. The half ended with Oakdale leading 7-0.

After several failed attempts to sustain



*Eagles Joseph Summers and Jacob Hoskins deflect a pass to Wartburg's Austin Beasley. [Photo by Terry Futrell]*

*Wartburg's Landon Quinney pulls in a pass from Samuel McCarty. [Photo by Terry Futrell]*



drives by both teams, many hampered by multiple penalties, the Bulldog defense stopped an Oakdale scoring drive on the Wartburg 1-yard line. On the first play, Oakdale's Eloy Vera tackled Beasley in the end zone for a safety, increasing Oakdale's lead to 9-7 with 5:17 remaining in the third quarter.

Hunter Boyer returned the ensuing Wartburg free kick to the Wartburg 40-yard line. After several successful runs by Vera and Nehemiah Cooney, Vera fumbled the ball into the end zone as he was being tackled by Bulldog Taner Branstetter. The ball went out of bounds in the end zone, and Wartburg took possession at the 20-yard line. The third quarter ended with the score remaining 9-0.

Both Vera and Cooney had touchdowns nullified by penalties early in the fourth quarter. Finally, Oakdale punched the ball into the end zone for a score at 5:09 in the quarter. Menard kicked the extra point and the Eagles led 16-0. After a failed drive by Wartburg, Oakdale again took possession and Dunlap ran the ball in from 15 yards out for another Eagle touchdown. Menard kicked the extra point and the Eagles led 23-0 with 2:16 remaining.

Wartburg's last attempt to move the ball failed when Oakdale's Timmy Holder tackled Gabe Redmon for a significant loss at the 10-yard line. The Eagles then moved Wartburg wards into the end zone and scored another back-safety, increasing their lead to 25-0 with 1:32 remaining. After receiving the free kick, Oakdale was able to run out the clock and claim the victory over their in-county rival Wartburg.

Oakdale moves on to face visiting Coalfield next Friday in a battle of unbeaten top-25 teams. Coalfield crushed Sunbright Friday evening by a score of 68-8. After the game, Oakdale Coach J.R. Voyles pointed out that there were "way too many penalties," and assured his team that they would focus on "ball security and discipline" in preparation for the meeting with Coalfield.



*Bulldog Perrion Cruz catches Oakdale ball carrier Nehemiah Cooney from behind. [Photo by Terry Futrell]*

# Coalfield Steamrolls Sunbright 68-8

By Terry Futrell

The Coalfield Yellow Jackets celebrated Homecoming in a big way by steamrolling the Sunbright Tigers 68-8 on Rochelle field Friday evening. It was a game in which the only close statistic was the number of plays executed – Sunbright ran 43 plays to Coalfield's 41. This stat merely reflects the scoring efficiency of the Coalfield offense. Coalfield's first five scoring drives averaged 40 yards and averaged only 2.6 plays each.

Coalfield clearly dominated both offensively and defensively. The Jackets racked up 443 yards offense (10.8 yards per play) while the tough Jacket defense held Sunbright to only 62 yards (1.4 yards per play).

The one-sided game gave Coalfield Coach Benson Napier an opportunity to give his bench valuable game experience as he substituted freely almost from the start. Whereas Sunbright used five ball carriers in the game, Coalfield used 15 different ball carriers. Landon Lowe led the Jackets with four carries for 68 yards and one touchdown. Finn Rodgers led the Tigers with seven carries for 31 yards.

Coalfield quarterbacks Cole Hines and Luke Treece combined for 4 of 7 passing for 101 yards – it was clearly a running game for the Jackets. Sunbright's attack was more balanced with Finn Rodgers and Dale Hutson combining for 7 of 17 passing for 37 yards.

Defensively, 25 Jackets recorded tackles in the game led by Caleb Corbin with six tackles. For Sunbright, 12 players recorded tackles led by Isaac Jones with eight.

Coalfield took the opening kickoff on their own 28-yard line and scored four plays later. Sunbright took the ensuing kickoff on their own 3-yard line and could only advance the ball six yards. Coalfield's Rommel Conlon took Houston Bryant's punt at the Sunbright 42 and returned the ball to the Sunbright 7-yard line. On the Jackets first play, Canaan Bowling took the ball into the end zone for Coalfield's second score. With only 4:05 elapsed in the game, the Jackets led 14-0.

The Jackets scored four more times in the first quarter – three times from scrimmage and once on a 49-yard interception return by Canaan Bowling. Coalfield led 41-0 at the end of the first quarter. The Jackets scored three more times in the second quarter to take a 62-0 lead to the locker room.

Sunbright took the opening kickoff of the second half and ran a 9-play series, with Finn Rodgers carrying the ball in from the 11-yard line for the Tigers' only touchdown. Sunbright succeeded with a 2-point conversion with Rodgers passing to Justin Ballard in the end zone. With a non-stop clock in effect and leading 62-8, Coalfield ran only one series in the third quarter, with Levi Heidel carrying the ball into the end zone from 23 yards out on the first play from scrimmage.

There was no scoring in the abbreviated fourth quarter, and the Jackets closed out the game with a resounding 68-8 homecoming victory over Sunbright.

Coach Napier's Jackets stay undefeated at 4-0 on the season. Prior to the Sunbright game, Coalfield ranked #7 in the state in Class A by MaxPreps and is likely to move up in this week's rankings. The Jackets travel to Oakdale next Friday to face the also unbeaten Oakdale Eagles in a Region 2 matchup. Oakdale ranked in the top 25 prior to Friday night and may also move up in the rankings after their 25-0 victory over Class 2A Wartburg. Sunbright falls to 1-2 overall and 0-2 in Region 2 play.



Sunbright's Isaac Jones takes down a Coalfield ball carrier. [Photo by Cathy Bird]



Coalfield's Eli Justice knifes between two Sunbright defenders. Justice had two carries for 56 yards against the Tigers. [Photo by Cathy Bird]



Coalfield's Rommel Conlon finds room to run behind the block of Brock Jones. [Photo by Cathy Bird]

# Lady Jackets Knock Off Undefeated Harriman 3-0

By Terry Futrell

The Coalfield Lady Jacket volleyballers basked in sweet revenge Thursday evening as they knocked off the undefeated Harriman Lady Devils in three sets (25-16, 25-21, 25-22). The two teams faced each other in the opening match of the season on August 17 with the Lady Devils taking a 3-0 victory. Neither team has lost a match since and both teams were ranked in the top ten in Class A by Max-Preps – Harriman, #4 and Coalfield, #9. In what could be described as one of the most disciplined matches ever witnessed in the district, the teams fought fiercely, but this time the Lady Jackets proved that they are a force to be reckoned with as TSSAA volleyball enters the second half of the season.

Coalfield jumped out to a 10-2 lead in the first set before the Lady Devils mounted a comeback, pulling within two points at 13-11. With five service aces, including two by Chastin Henry, and three kills by Alexis Morrison, the Lady Jackets once again pulled away to win the set 25-16.

In the second set, the lead changed eight times before Coalfield took a four-point lead at 16-12. Once again, Harriman fought back to tie the score at 20-20. Not to be outdone, the Lady Jackets buckled down and pulled ahead to win the set 25-21. The level of defensive play by both teams was extraordinary as Coalfield scored only one kill and Harriman scored two. Coalfield's four service aces were offset



Coalfield's Alexis Morrison and Harriman's Addison Oliver battle for supremacy at the net. [Photo by Terry Futrell]

by six service errors in the set.

After falling behind 2-0 in the third set, the Lady Jackets took the lead at 3-2 and never trailed, winning the set 25-22 and the match 3-0. Alexis Morrison led the Lady Jackets with six kills in the set while her teammates added five additional kills. The Lady Devils had a total of five kills in the set.

With the victory, Coalfield equals Harriman's district record of 7-1 and shares first place with the Lady Devils. Coalfield faces Oliver Springs at home on September 14 and Harriman faces Clarkrange at home.



Lady Jacket Alexis Morrison and Harriman's Brittany Merrill battle at the net. [Photo by Terry Futrell]



Coalfield's Jayleigh Bunch fires a hard spike at Harriman defender Skyler Johnson. [Photo by Terry Futrell]



Lady Jacket Jayleigh Bunch drives a hard spike past two Harriman defenders. [Photo by Terry Futrell]



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