

Morgan County Today

Psalm 100:3
Volume 07 Number 42
Tuesday, October 19, 2021

Your Community. Your News.



75¢

Inside:

Fall Festival

History

Weather

Lilly Bluff In the Fall

Terry Tutrell
Photography



Morgan County  Today
Your Community. Your News.

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USPS PUBLICATION NUMBER
(15400)**

**I'D
RATHER
BE
READING.**

#mocotoday



Michael Nance
Columnist

If you have been noticing, gas prices are climbing and the shelves at the local grocery store display a few empty shelves. It is all part of this new pandemic world we are living in. The United States is entrenched in the "global economy" and over the last two decades our reliance on foreign products has skyrocketed. Many common products that we routinely purchase is either produced or packaged overseas. These problems present a test for the Biden Administration, while his popularity plummets and the mid-term elections are right around the corner. It will be interesting to see in the coming months what actions are taken on Capitol Hill.

What are some of the products that appear to be constrained? Sugar was one of the many items that was not abundantly available in recent months. The culprit for the diminished inventory is supply chain issues generated from the many Covid shutdowns across the globe. The good news on sugar is that India is the world's second largest producer and enjoys a preferential arrangement from the United States. This agreement allows India to export a large amount with minimal tariffs. Recently India indicated that it plans to send 8,424 tons of sugar to the US under the agreement from October 1 to September 30, 2022.

Online news outlets list several other typical staple items that are under availability pressure, one of these many items is toilet paper. The toilet paper industry is under serious pressure to keep up with demand. According to one source the current inventory is only meeting 60% of demand. Diminished availability has many stores reinstating purchase limits on the product.

Many factors are affecting a complicated global sup-

Global Supply Chain Problems, A Test for the Biden Administration

ply chain, but some of these issues reside within the borders of the United States. One of the more noticeable factors is the lack of warehouse workers and truck drivers. Reviewing both industries reveals that the workers in both industries are underpaid, and the data supports that assertion. In August, 4.3 million Americans quit their jobs, which is a record since the Department of Labor began tracking this data. Many labor experts assert the American workforce is abandoning the lower paying jobs and seeking employment in industries with higher rates of pay. To solve this issue will require these companies to pay more to workers, and eventually this causes inflation concerns in many common products. The transportation sector is critical to the U.S. economy and is a problem that must be addressed.








President Biden has acknowledged the many supply chain issues. He recently unveiled plans to tackle supply chain woes which include plans to engage 24/7 operations in many ports. Reading President Biden's remarks immediately begs the question; why in the middle of a global supply chain crisis are U.S. ports not already working 24/7? It appears the Port of Los Angeles is one of the many underperforming ports in the United States. A problem in California, who would have dreamed that? As an example of the California ports problems, it requires twice as long to move a container from a ship than it does at the top ports in China. In Asia, ports are operating 24 hours a day matching the output of factories. It is not only the working hours creating a disparity in performance, but automated infrastructure is another factor. Some sources cast blame on

the warehouse union which has negotiated an average pay for dockworkers of \$171,000 per year and foremen pay of near \$300,000 per year. These high rates of pay for workers infer that the unions discourage automation.

No matter what your opinion on the matter is, The United States should have the most modern and effective Ports on the planet. It is clear that we fall significantly short of that goal and current the President should quickly address this issue if our nation is to recover economically.

One of the many available solutions for the current administration is tax breaks. Creating tax breaks to bring back jobs and industries to the U.S. Tax breaks would allow employers to pay better wages and allow the U.S. to compete with the cheap labor markets of Central America and South America. Along with tax breaks many experts agree that modernization of our ports is an economic imperative. To remain economically viable in the years to come, the United States must invest in true economic infrastructure.

MORGAN COUNTY WEATHER THIS WEEK

Tue 19	70°/46°	
Wed 20	71°/54°	
Thu 21	67°/50°	
Fri 22	62°/43°	
Sat 23	63°/42°	
Sun 24	66°/49°	
Mon 25	68°/52°	



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In Loving Memory

Mike Harris, 65

Mike Harris, age 65 of Wartburg, TN passed away suddenly at his home in Wartburg early Friday morning October 15, 2021.

Mike was a member of Mossy Grove Baptist Church. Those who knew him knew he loved the beach, traveling, fishing, and spending time with his grandchildren. Mike retired as a Detective from the Anderson County Sheriff's Department. He also worked for the Morgan County Drug Court, Morgan County Sheriff's Department, Morgan County EMS, Morgan County Correctional Complex and Tennessee Valley Authority.

He is preceded in death by his stepson, Timmy Lecomte.

Mike is survived by his loving wife of 16 years, Judy (Laymance) Harris; son Stephen and wife Lorra Harris, David and wife Heather Harris, stepson Tom and his wife Sarah Lecomte, grandchildren Carson, Cheyenne, Cruze, Maleah, Tinley, Tyson, Owen, and Zoey, brother Barry Harris, parents Willard and Geraldine Harris.

The family will receive friends Monday, October 18, 2021 at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. with Bro. Jim Disney officiating.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Mike Harris.

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

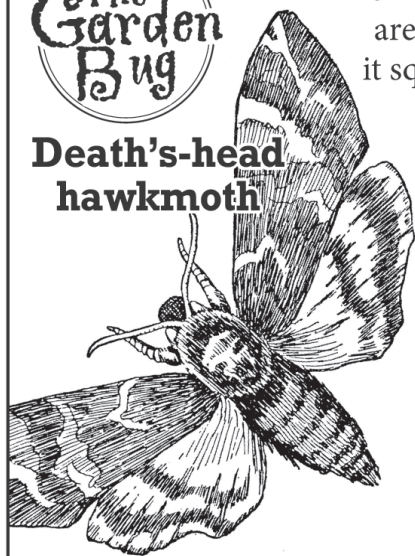
Community Calendar

Trunk or Treat at the City of Sunbright again this year on October 30, 2021 from 5pm to 8pm. Churches and citizens are welcome to participate.

Need part time workers for garbage pickup services for the City of Sunbright. Apply at 120 Melton Drive , Sunbright TN



Death's-head hawkmoth



This insect's skull-like markings on its back are unsettling, and when it is disturbed, it squeaks loudly, hops about and shrugs its wings up and down. It has long been superstitiously regarded as a harbinger of war, pestilence, hunger and death. Entomologists drew from mythology to name it: *acherontia*, from the river of pain in the underworld, and *atropos*, the Fate who cuts the thread of life.

- Brenda Weaver
Source: www.nhm.ac.uk

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THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment.

But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.

1 JOHN 4:18

Detail from "The Scream" by Edvard Munch (1895)



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For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

2 Timothy 1:7



#mocotoday

Election Commission Meeting Notice

The Morgan County Election Commission will meet on Monday October 25, 2021 and if required again on Tuesday October 26, 2021 at 6 pm in the Election Office, room 105 of the Morgan County Courthouse, 415 N Kingston St, Wartburg, TN 37887, for the purpose of establishing precinct lines within the approved 6 Districts by County Legislation. All concerned citizens are encouraged to attend. If you have any questions please contact Tim Sweat- Administrator of Elections at (423) 346-3190.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Yadira Reyes d/b/a Los Toritos Mexican Restaurant
Has applied for a beer permit to sell beer ON AND OFF premises permit at the location known as:
Los Toritos Mexican Restaurant
721 Main St.
Wartburg, TN 37887
Anyone having reason to believe that this permit should not be issued, must appear before the City of Wartburg Beer Board on the 18th day of October, 2021 at 6:00 pm in the Conference Room at City Hall

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



It is really feeling like fall now! Maybe the colors will begin appearing soon. No matter the weather, we live in a wonderful place.

Sadly, the Oakdale Eagles lost to the Oliver Springs Bobcats Friday night. The score was 30-7. The Eagles will play at Harriman this Friday, October 22 at 7:30 p.m.

BLAST will resume at Pine Orchard Baptist Church Wednesday, October 20. Everyone ages 3 through High School are welcome. It will begin at 5:45 and end at 8:30.

Boswell Chapel Baptist Church will have Trunk or Treat Saturday, October 30 from 5:00 – 7:00.

First Baptist Oakdale will have Trunk or Treat Saturday, October 30 from 5:00 – 7:00. They will have their 5th Sunday night singing on Sunday evening, October 31 at 6 p.m. Everyone is welcome to join them as they worship in song.

The 4th Annual Trunk or Treat in Harriman will be Thursday, October 28th from 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Community Day at Oakdale Park on Saturday, October 9 was a huge success. Mayor Buddy Miller and his wife Jeannie would like to thank everyone who worked so hard to make sure things went well. Everything was greatly appreciated. A special thank you to everyone who attended. It was truly a "Community" Day.

Jennifer and Rachel Ruppe, Crusade and Jayla and Valerie, Cartie and Clay Disney took a quick two day trip to Ohio to see their Aunt Dot

Kaufman. She grew up in Oakdale. Her parents were Luther and Elsie Powers. Jennifer stayed with Aunt Dot in Lebanon while Valerie, Rachel and the children stayed at the Drury in Middletown, which was very nice. The hotel had a continental breakfast with anything and everything. The kids enjoyed the indoor pool that also had an outdoor pool connected that they could swim into. While there, the children enjoyed putt putt and batting cages. They had a family dinner at Aunt Dot's house and her sons joined them. They are thankful for a safe trip and time with family.

Four year old Aiden Lloyd had a fun Fall Break. He and his mom, Heather, his grandmother Brenda Reed and his Great Papaw James Miller went to Myrtle Beach. They enjoyed a day at Huntington Beach State Park where they saw several different birds and a few alligators. On Saturday, he and his parents, Josh and Heather, attended Boo at the Zoo for the first time. They had a great time. Lots of fun for a little boy.

Clara and Hattie Ruppe and I attended Wartburg Public Library last week for pumpkin painting. We had a great time with new friends and enjoyed seeing Pauline Johnson Layman.

Clara and Hattie Ruppe, Jennifer Ruppe and I went to Dollywood last week as did most of East TN. Despite the crowds and long lines, it was a beautiful day and we had a good time. The girls didn't have to wait in line long at all for the rides they chose. We had taken plenty of

snacks so we didn't have to stand in the long food lines. We all really enjoyed a musical show with Hillary Klug, the dancing fiddler. Hillary graciously talked with the girls and posed for a picture with them.

Oakdale School PTO will hold an online auction November 5th – 7th. This is PTO's only fundraiser. All money raised goes directly back into the school for much needed supplies and various projects. Each class will choose a theme and create a basket for the auction. Parents, please watch for information from your child's teacher asking for theme related items. Thank you to everyone that continues to support PTO.

Oakdale Junior Beta is having a first ever Halloween Carnival Saturday, October 30 from 10:00-2:00 at Oakdale School. There will be plenty of fun, food and prizes!

Together Morgan County will hold a "Find Randy" event October 25 – 29. Randy Raccoon is the mascot for Together Morgan County. This is a fun activity for all ages. A poster of Randy will be hidden in a different location in Coalfield, Oakdale, Petros, Sunbright and Wartburg for 5 days. Clues for where he can be found will be posted daily on the Together Morgan County Facebook page. Participants will "Find Randy" and post a picture on the Facebook page. There will be a daily drawing from submitted entries in each of the five communities. The prizes will be buckets of Halloween candy.

Clara Ruppe turned 7 years old in September but she requested an October birthday party. She was hoping for pretty fall colors but the leaves haven't turned much yet. She

wanted a Cinderella/pumpkin party along with a hay ride. Clara dressed as Cinderella. Family and friends gathered at the Ruppe home Saturday, October 16. Everyone enjoyed pizza, caramel dipped apples, pumpkin spice cupcakes and a delicious cake made by Kim Erickson decorated with Cinderella standing in a pumpkin patch surrounded by sunflowers. There was a hayride to PaPa and Weezer's house where the young folks could pick out a pumpkin for painting. The hayride returned everyone to the Ruppe home and pumpkin painting began. Clara would like to thank everyone for coming and for all the nice gifts she received. She was especially happy to have her Aunt Valerie and Maura Lake from Fayetteville at her party.

Together Morgan County is planning to have their 2nd annual Christmas Drive Thru at Frozen Head State Park. More details will be coming soon. Please make plans to join us for this safe family event on Saturday, December 4. Anyone wishing to participate in the Drive Thru, make a donation or volunteer, can contact Sandra Helton at heltons@mcsed.net.

Please continue to pray for the many sick in our communities. Pray for the families that have lost loved ones and are experiencing grief. Pray for our homes and families, our schools, students and staff, our churches, pastors and missionaries, our country and our leaders and most of all, pray for the lost. Don't forget to thank God for answered prayers and our many blessings.

"Getting knocked down in life is a given. Getting up and moving forward is a choice."
Zig Ziglar

Americanisms



"Ethics is knowing the difference between what you have a right to do and what is right to do."
 — Potter Stewart

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Around The World and Back Again

with Zack Ballinger



Zack Ballinger

Is Passion a Cliché?

I have had pretty intense debates and dialogues around the whole idea of finding your purpose and passion. I think these conversations are healthy for discussion. You know my feelings on the subject, so what does the other side argue? Many people contend that “discover your passion” is a cliché’ statement. They go on to say that work is not designed for you to enjoy. They are of the opinion that no one really enjoys their job.

Critics state that everyone looks forward to the weekends, dreads Monday, and the weekends are the only time to enjoy our life for leisure purposes. People enjoy work based on how many weeks vacations they get during a work year and of course paid holidays. They argue happiness doesn’t come from a career; it comes from how you enjoy yourself outside of your job.

Many believe that achieving work-life balance is when you will be the happiest in your life, that our career is not a part of our purpose. These naysayers will tell you that finding your passion is a fictional phrase that only students dream about at a young age. It’s not realistic in today’s working environment. Of course, I vehemently disagree with these arguments and will explain my rationale in this chapter. Many different people have weighed in on the topic of, “Finding Your Passion”. Some prominent figures disagree with my advice, and I welcome thoughtful debate and challenge. There are researchers out there who suggest developing your passion is much more realistic than finding your passion. I think that’s why it’s important to examine the arguments and understand that I am not really advising anything that differs much from their own perspectives.

Passion and purpose connote different ideas to different people. Mark Cuban’s famous quote is, “One of the greatest lies of our lifetime is follow your passion.” I have a lot of respect for his highly successful entrepreneur. I think he offers valuable advice. Cuban is worth about three billion dollars, is the owner of the Dallas Mavericks NBA basketball team and one of the stars of ABC’s hit show,

“Shark Tank”. The advice Cuban gives for finding a career you love isn’t much different than mine.

Here is what Mark Cuban says about purpose and passion: “The things I ended up being really good at were the things I found myself putting effort into. A lot of people talk about passion, but that’s really not what you need to focus on. You really need to evaluate and say, ‘Okay, where am I putting in my time?’”

Wouldn’t it make sense to spend more time working on a particular task that you’re good at doing? If you’re good at that task, ask yourself, “Why am I good at this?” The answer could be a particular strength or innate ability you possess, pos-

sibly one you overlooked or underestimated its value.

I agree with Cuban that activity is key. The more you are involved, the more you learn about yourself and your strengths. As you invest more time into something, you should evaluate the task and ask yourself, “Is this something I really enjoy doing? What are my particular strengths that make me like this activity?” That strength, along with your enjoyment, leads you to purpose and passion over your career.

I believe every person is born with certain God-given abilities and talents. People may have those skills but never discover them during their life. Some may choose to ignore their unique skills and continue in a line of work because of complacency or a fear of change.

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

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Davis Funeral Home's Veteran of the Week

United State Army Sergeant First Class Paul Ray Smith received the Medal of Honor for his heroic actions while serving in the War on Terrorism in Iraq on April 4, 2003. Below is SFC Smith's Medal of Honor citation.

Sergeant First Class Paul R. Smith distinguished himself by acts of gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty in action with an armed enemy near Baghdad International Airport, Baghdad, Iraq on 4 April 2003. On that day, Sergeant First Class Smith was engaged in the construction of a prisoner of war holding area when his Task Force was violently attacked by a company-sized enemy force. Realizing the vulnerability of over 100 fellow soldiers, Sergeant First Class Smith quickly organized a hasty defense consisting of two platoons of soldiers, one Bradley Fighting Vehicle and three armored personnel carriers. As the fight developed, Sergeant First Class Smith braved hostile enemy fire to personally engage the enemy with hand grenades and anti-tank weapons, and organized the evacuation of three wounded soldiers from an armored personnel carrier struck by a rocket propelled grenade



and a 60mm mortar round. Fearing the enemy would overrun their defenses, Sergeant First Class Smith moved under withering enemy fire to man a .50 caliber machine gun mounted on a damaged armored personnel carrier.

In total disregard for his own life, he maintained his exposed position in order to engage the attacking enemy force. During this action, he was mortally wounded. His courageous actions helped defeat the enemy attack, and resulted in as many as 50 enemy soldiers killed, while allowing the safe withdrawal of numerous wounded soldiers. Sergeant First Class Smith's extraordinary heroism and uncommon valor are in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the Third Infantry Division "Rock of the Marne," and

the United States Army.

Law Enforcement Officer of the Week

Presented by Marla Hines, Circuit Court Clerk

We humbly honor and pay tribute to Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency Officer Gene Parker Jr. as the law enforcement officer of the week.

Officer Gene Parker Jr. passed away early Monday morning, October 11, 2021. Officer Parker was off duty at the time of his death.

Donnie Gene Parker Jr., age 46 of Strawberry Plains, TN, was a graduate of Carter High School and the University of Tennessee. He was also a member of the United States Marine Corps Reserves.

He worked for TWRA as a wildlife officer for fifteen years and would often say that he actually got paid to do what he loved.

Officer Parker was also a proud member of the TWRA



Club of Knoxville TWRA Wildlife Officer of the Year

Honor Guard. was a member of the Disabled American Veterans Smoky Mountain Chapter. His service awards during his career include; Wildlife Officer of the Year-District 32 in 2011, Outstanding Service in the TWRA Hunter Education Program in 2011, Wildlife Officer of the Year Award Region IV in 2018, Optimist

in 2018, TWRA Honor Guard Member and was privileged to represent the TWRA in Washington, DC during National Police Week in 2018.

Gene was a loving father and son, and he will be greatly missed by all his family.

Pray for his family to receive comfort, strength, and understanding by Jesus Christ during this extremely difficult time.

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Tom Redmon
Columnist

In 1967 the mighty Green Bay Packers, coached by Vince Lombardi would challenge the upstart Kansas City Chiefs coached by Hank Stram. Kansas City had only been playing for seven years but their fans thought they were good enough to play any team in the NFL. On January 15, 1967 they would meet in the L.A. Memorial Coliseum for a battle that would become known as the first Super Bowl but first it was called the games between the NFL champs and the AFL champs.

Green Bay had forty players from big and small colleges. Bart Starr from Alabama would be their quarterback, although he didn't do much at Alabama his senior year. Elijah Pitts, a halfback, was from Philander Smith, a little college most of us had never heard about, located in Little Rock, Arkansas and it only had 600 students. He played well enough to be noticed by the Green Bay Packers and he was drafted in the 13th round of the 1961 draft. The odds of him playing were slim. The team already had three great running backs in Jimmy Taylor, Paul Hornung and Tom Moore who had been chosen first in the 1960 draft. But Elijah not only made the team but when Paul Hornung was suspended Elijah got to play and he did okay. The players asked Elijah if he was scared the first time Lombardi talked to him, he said you bet I was and I was scared the last time too.

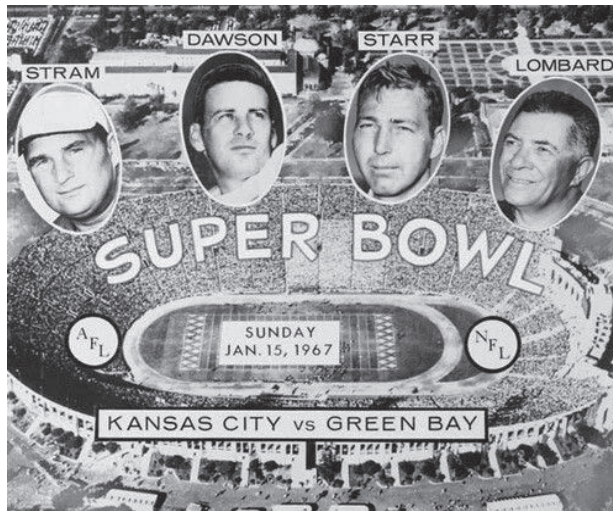
Lombardi was tough on all his players. One player said, yeah Vince treated us all alike, "like dogs." Max McGee, a wide receiver liked to skip out after bed check and he liked to stay out as late as he could. One time Max was successful in slipping out but he got a speeding ticket and it was on the news. At a team meeting Lombardi called Max up, in a very loud tone. He said, Max, I'm fining you \$500.00 and if it happens again, it will be \$1,000.00. He smiled his perfect Lombardi smile and continued, if you can find anything out there worth that call me and I'll join you. Remember players didn't make millions like they do now so a thousand dollars really hurt. But that didn't keep Max from slipping out after curfew the night before the Super Bowl. He had met a cute blonde from Chicago and he had told her earlier that he would meet her at the bar across the street if he could get out. The blonde said "you're not suppose to go out." He told her not to worry about it. I'm not playing tomorrow.

He did get out and stayed out relatively late. He got cleaned up and went down to have the pregame meal and pregame meeting. Max felt like he could relax on the bench and collect his check.

The Chiefs kicked off to the Packers and on the 3rd play of the game Boyd Dowler got hit by the Hammer (Fred Williamson). Max was sitting on the bench with Paul Hornung when

he heard Lombardi let out a scream "Max!" Max thought for sure that he was going to fine him a thousand dollars in front of 15 million people for sneaking out the night before the game. No, he wanted Max to go in for Boyd Dowler.

Max caught the first touchdown pass in the first Super Bowl. He ended up catching 6 more passes and gained a total of 138 yards and another touchdown. Not bad for a man who laid out all night before the Super Bowl and one who felt he wouldn't get to play. Maybe most of you have heard about



the Hammer (Fred Williamson). He was a good-looking football player and movie star from Hammond, Indiana who played his college football at Northwestern University. He played most of his pro-ball at Kansas City and Oakland and received his nickname, "the Hammer" from the way he hit wide receivers with his forearm. He liked to brag about how many wide receivers he made retire early. The Super Bowl in 1967 would be his last game and then he would head to Hollywood. He made several successful films and played in "MASH." Instead of putting any of the Green Bay players out the Hammer was knocked out by Donny Anderson, a rookie running back. They liked to kid Donny about his big bonus. Fuzzy Thurston said that Donny must have knocked him out with his power. Really, what happened was Donny's knee hit him and knocked him out cold. Coach had already told the players if Williamson played dirty and knocked one of his players out that he wanted Bart Starr to run out of bounds as the Hammer came after him; all of the team would go for Williamson and make sure he didn't get up. They didn't have to carry through because Williamson was the one laying on the sideline unconscious.

The Packers had several players who were Christians, in which the

other players called "Saints" the top three were Bill Curry, who was scared to death of Lombardi, Carroll Dale, and Bart Starr. This team also had a lot of boys who grew up without a father at home. Red Mack grew up in an orphanage because his parents split and neither parent wanted him. Marv Fleming grew up without a father. Bill Anderson's parents were divorced and his father died before he was ten. I got to meet Bill's high school football coach in Florida. Bill played wide receiver at Manatee High and was recruited by Tennessee after football Bill settled in Knoxville and had his car insurance agency and did the commentary of the UT football broadcasts with John Ward.

The Packers also had a player who had mental problems. It was Lionel Aldridge. He was another player who grew up without a father. An uncle and aunt who lived in California took him in and raised him. He played college football at Utah State. While playing for the Packers he started working part time at WTMJ radio and television in Milwaukee. He had a great voice, a pleasant manner and everyone thought of a bright future.

Lionel was good at analysis, and NBC sports hired him to work on NFL Telecasts, but the producer could tell he had a problem. Ten years after the first Super Bowl Lionel was taken to the psychiatric emergency ward and treated for severe depression. Lionel ended up on the streets, had his Super Bowl ring stolen and his bright future disappeared. He tried to get back up and for a time he did okay.

The Green Bay Packers would end up beating Kansas City 35-10 and in 1968 they would beat Oakland to make them winners in the first two Super Bowls.

I kinda regret not being a Green Bay fan back then, but the Dallas Cowboys were my favorite. This is when professional football players were also patriots for most parts. They loved their country and their flag. They stood for the National Anthem and knelt to thank God for their victory. They played for little money; some players got less than \$10,000 at the beginning of their career. The stars might work their way up to \$100,000.

The professional football players today sign contracts for millions and many will not stand for our National Anthem. They even say they hate America, the country that gave them an opportunity to make the big money. I find it hard to even watch a game on T.V. They are not my heroes. The real heroes are the ones who put their military uniforms on and risk their lives when they go into battle. They are the men in blue who risk their lives everyday for us even if many do not support them. I know how we got to this point and it's going to be hard to return to the days of the first Super Bowl in 1967. We only have our memories.

Disappeared: Chapter 11



Carol Hall
Author

Nick-Day 3, cont.

The trail up to the old service road was washed out and muddy due to last night's storm. There were deep ruts along the path and the trees overhead were covered with droplets of water. The air was thick and heavy with a dense fog covering the ground.

The dogs seemed oblivious to the poor conditions as they lunged and pulled on their leashes. Mud flew out from under their paws as they bolted ahead of the group. They were eager to go and wasted no time searching the ground for Maggie's scent, which they had picked up at the campground. They headed directly up the path the four hikers had taken the previous day.

Excitement shot through Nick at the knowledge that the dogs had picked up her scent so easily. The dogs were hot on her trail and he knew they would find her soon.

He wasn't tired even though he hadn't slept at all last night. His vigor was renewed at the thought of finding her. Hope was a powerful thing. He sent up a prayer of thanksgiving for the dogs.

As they came upon the old service road a short way up the trail, the dogs immediately turned onto it and raced up the path.

Les was having a hard time keeping up with them. He pulled back on their leashes, but it was no use. They were on Maggie's track and they were not going to be slowed down.

Nick remembered what Mr. Peterson had told him. If the dogs picked up her scent, they wouldn't stop until they found her.

"Nick," Chris called from just behind him. "They're going to find her. Look at them go!"

Nick could hear the excitement in Chris's voice. It raised his own spirits that his friend was so confident too.

"Absolutely, Buddy!" he called back. "She'll be safe in her own bed tonight for sure."

Ted caught up to Nick and Chris. He was huffing a little and seemed almost out of breath.

"How much farther up the road were you when you noticed Maggie was gone?" he asked, taking a deep breath and exhaling it quickly.

"We had walked about a mile or so, I think," Nick said. He turned to Chris for affirmation.

"Yeah, it really wasn't too far," Chris agreed. "Maybe a mile or so, like Nick said."

"I'm sure the dogs will let us know when we get there," Nick told him. "When they turn off into the woods, we'll know we're in the right spot."

"I'm not so much worried about the dogs finding it. I'm sure they will. It's me I'm worried about," Ted said. "Those dogs are moving really quickly and I'm having a hard time keeping up. I'm not a young man anymore."

Nick chuckled at him, but kept up his pace. "You'll do fine. Once we head into the woods, the dogs will slow down a bit I'm sure. They won't be able to fight their way through all the brush and undergrowth as fast."

Nick was not going to let anything or anyone slow him down. Maggie was everything to him and the thought of finding her had fueled him on. He couldn't believe she had been missing a full day already. On one hand it seemed like moments ago that she went missing, but on the other hand it felt like years. He would just be glad when she was safe and sound back home with him again.

They trudged up the old road following the beaten down path the four of them had made the day before. The rain had flattened it down even more, making their path easier to see, thus follow.

The dogs were still charging up the path as quick as Les would allow them. The deeper they climbed up the mountain, the denser the fog got. Before long, they could barely see a few feet in front of them.

Les called out a command to the dogs and they halted immediately and sat down at his feet. They began to whine and squirm, eager to get back to the search. He patted each dog on the head and praised them for the good work they were doing.

Nick and Chris were already there, so they waited for Ted and Walter to catch up. Since they were older and Walter was slightly overweight, the hurried pace was taking a toll on them.

"We're going to take a five minute break and let everyone catch their breath," Les said. "The dogs need a break too. And some water."

He pulled out two water bowls and a bottle of water from his backpack. Setting them on the ground, he filled them with water and let the dogs drink their fill.

Everyone was grateful for the break except Nick. He didn't need a break and was anxious to keep going. He knew everyone else was tired, so he didn't say anything. He pulled a bottle of water from his pack and drank from it. I guess it's okay to take a quick break, he thought as he downed his water.

"This fog is getting thick," Walter said. "We can't see five feet in front of us."

"I know, but the dogs will lead us. The fog doesn't stop them," Les said, patting the dogs on the head again and rubbing his hand down their backs. His affection for the animals showed in his attention to them.

"But how are we going to see to find her. She could be right in front of us and we wouldn't see her."

"Walter, the dogs will lead us right to her. They're not going to pass her by and not know she's there. They have sniffers that far out sniff our own."

"I'm just worried that it could be dangerous with the fog being this bad. We literally can't see anything," Walter continued to complain.

"It'll be alright, Walter," Ted said. "We've searched in conditions far worse than this before."

Walter gave up and drank his water. This was the first search he had ever been on and so far, it was no walk in the park for him. He doubted he would ever volunteer for another one. The sheriff, his boss, thought it would be good for him to get out of the office and do this search, but he wasn't so sure. He had been a deputy for four years and he definitely preferred the desk job. With everyone rested, they returned to the search. As soon as Les gave the order, the dogs were off again.

When they had reached the approximate area that Maggie disappeared, Nick felt his adrenaline rise. Any moment now, the dogs would set off into the woods. He kept waiting, expecting it to be any minute.

The fog was beginning to lift a little as the morning wore on, but visibility was still hampered.

Suddenly the dogs stopped. They refused to go any further.

It was in the exact spot that Nick, Chris and Evie realized that Maggie had disappeared.

The path was beaten down for just a few more yards beyond where they stood, but the dogs wouldn't go any farther.

Les coaxed them to continue, but they just sat down and wouldn't budge. "Nick, I think they lost the scent," Les said. "Let me have Maggie's shirt again, please."

Nick dug the plastic bag containing the shirt out of his backpack and handed it to Les.

"What happened?" he asked. "How could they lose the scent so fast?" He looked at the dogs who were just sitting at Les's feet. They didn't seem tired, so what was the problem?

"I don't know. I've never seen them do this before," Les shrugged as he pulled the shirt out of the bag and pushed it under the dog's noses.

They sniffed the shirt, but did not get up. Les commanded them to search, but they just looked up at him, whined and remained seated. When he commanded them more firmly, they laid down and put their heads on their paws, refusing to budge.

"What's going on Les," Nick demanded. "Make them get up and continue searching."

"It doesn't work that way, Nick," Les said. "They've lost the scent. It simply vanished right here." He looked apologetically at Nick and shrugged.

"How could they lose her scent. It has to go off into the woods. It can't just have disappeared!" Nick said.

"Unfortunately, it happens," Ted said. "I've seen search dogs do this before and we have no explanation as to why. They simply lose the scent and are unable to find it again."

How is that possible," Nick said, his voice rising. "She didn't just disappear into thin air... poof, she's gone... She had to have wandered off the trail. Can't the dogs track through the woods? Is that the problem? They lost her scent once it went into the woods?"

"Nick, calm down," Chris said, trying to keep the situation under control. "The dogs did the best they could. Maybe the rain washed the scent away. We will keep searching though, right guys?" He turned to look at the other men.

"Of course we will," said Ted. "The dogs may pick up her scent again somewhere along the way. We will head off into the woods and keep searching."

Nick looked helplessly at Les. Surely he knew what had just happened. He worked with dogs like this all the time. Did this happen often? Would they find her scent again. What if they didn't, then what?

"Fine. Let's just keep searching," Nick said. He looked at Chris and Chris saw the fear and hopelessness in his eyes.

"It's going to be fine. They'll pick her scent back up. We know where she left the trail, so that's good. We'll just head into the woods right here and keep going."

Les got the dogs up and they all headed off the trail and into the woods where the dogs had indicated the scent ended.

Nick did not want to lose hope, but the dogs losing the scent worried him. They were so hot on the track and then suddenly...nothing. It didn't make any sense. If the rain had washed away the scent from the woods, wouldn't it have washed it away off the open trail too?

The ground under the canopy of trees was sopping wet, but the leaves and pine needles offered a little relief from the thick, caking mud of the trail. Nick watched the dogs to see if they would pick up anything, but so far, they just acted like they were on a leisurely stroll through a park. His frustration level was rising.

"Everyone, make sure you're looking at the ground, the sides of trees, around rocks and anywhere there could be a clue as to which way she went. It's very important to keep your eyes peeled for anything that could be significant," Ted said.

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

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

NOW HERE'S A TIP

By JoAnn Derson

* "If you heat a pita in the microwave first, it will be easier to open and will rip less. About 10 seconds should do it." -- M.E. in Georgia

* Baby have diaper rash? One of the best remedies is "air time" -- that is, letting baby go without a diaper for a bit. Another simple soother is a baking soda bath. Try adding 2-4 tablespoons of baking soda to Junior's bathwater.

* Use this tip to vacuum seal your meat for the freezer without any special equipment! Add meat pieces to a plastic, zipper-top bag. Fill a large pot several inches deep with water. Seal all but an inch or so of the bag. As you lower the bag into the water (zipper top up) the air will escape through the unsealed portion. When no air remains, seal the bag and then remove from the water.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

* Those having received at least one shot of the COVID-19 vaccine were eligible for a free marijuana joint in New York City and Washington, D.C., thanks to "Joints for Jabs." The organization behind the 4/20 event hoped to help counter vaccine hesitancy.

* The first lawnmower was an adapted carpet-cutting machine.

* Theodore Seuss Geisel dropped out of Oxford before getting his Ph.D. and called himself Dr. Seuss as a nod to his father.

* The four-penny coffin was one of the first homeless shelters created for the people of

central London by the Salvation Army during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. For that amount, they received food and shelter, and could sleep in a coffin-shaped wooden box with a tarp.

* When you snap a whip, that sound you hear is the whip breaking the sound barrier.

* In 2015, a fan of the Australian band Peking Duk got backstage at their concert by adding himself as a family member on their Wiki page and showing it to security. The duo wasn't upset, however, noting that they "ended up having a bunch of beers with him and he was an absolute legend."

* Swedish wasn't the official language of Sweden until 2009.

* The phrase "take something with a grain of salt" refers to an ancient Roman recipe for an antidote that protects against poisons.

* Phobophobia is the fear of phobias, or the fear of fear.

* Lee Hadwin "sleepdraws" gorgeous works of art, of which he has no recollection afterward. He has been drawing in his sleep since he was 4 years old.

* The ancient Aztecs believed that Techichis, forerunners of today's Chihuahua, would absorb their owners' sins while escorting them to the afterlife. ***

Thought for the Day: "Quality is not an act. It is a habit." -- Aristotle

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* "Have you tried this single-serving blender hack using a mason jar? Many standard-size blender blades can be screwed on to a pint Mason jar. If you're one of the lucky ones, you can make single servings of smoothies to blend and go." -- T.U. in South Carolina

* "Apply petroleum jelly to the panes of your windows before painting the trim. This works better than masking tape in many ways. It is easily removed, and even large paint flecks come right off." -- P.S. in Illinois

* After you've cooked your chicken whole, remove the meat and throw the bones and remaining carcass in the slow cooker with 3-4 cups of water. Let it cook on low for several hours for a spectacularly flavorful broth.

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

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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: ◆◆◆

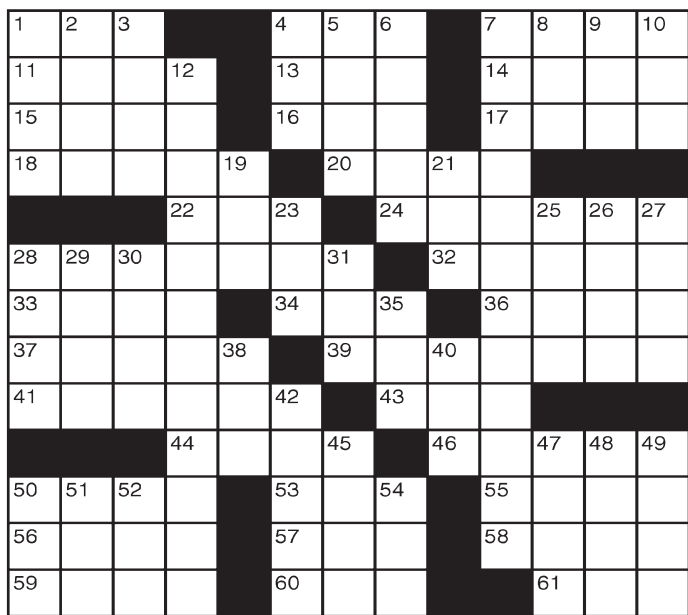
◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Request
- 4 Lawyers' org.
- 7 Jab
- 11 Grub
- 13 Sinbad's bird
- 14 Way out
- 15 Spanish greeting
- 16 Somewhat (Suff.)
- 17 Memorandum
- 18 You'll get a rise out of it
- 20 Iowa crop
- 22 Owned
- 24 Beginnings
- 28 Pudding variety
- 32 Lebanon's neighbor
- 33 Press
- 34 Rage
- 36 Joyful tune
- 37 Plaintive poem
- 39 Sees the world
- 41 Country singer West
- 43 "Caught ya!"
- 44 Frank
- 46 Gold mold
- 50 Writer Didion
- 53 Flushed
- 55 Fascinated by
- 56 Byron or Tennyson
- 57 Nest-egg acronym



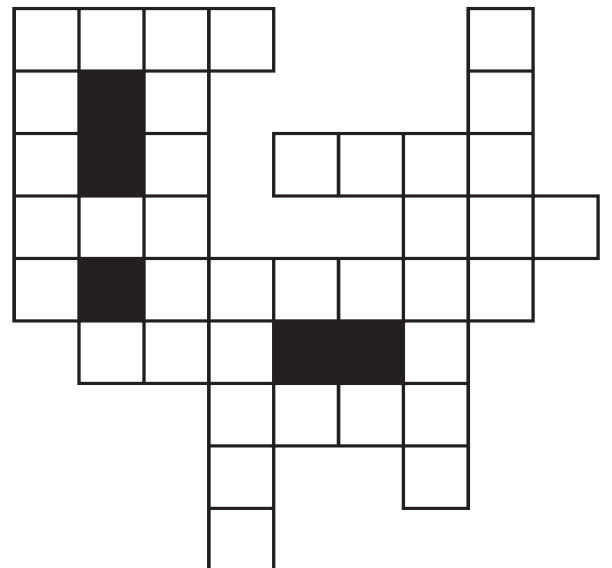
DOWN

- 1 Needing liniment
- 2 Oxford, for one
- 3 Caffeine source
- 4 "Entourage" character
- 5 Pear type
- 6 Sneeze sound
- 7 The White
- 8 Kitchen gadget brand
- 9 Tool set
- 10 Tours season
- 12 U.S. capital on the Potomac
- 19 Eastern "way"
- 21 ER workers
- 23 601, to Nero
- 25 Canal of song
- 26 Cash drawer
- 27 Pre-college exams
- 28 Even
- 29 Woody's son
- 30 Bard
- 31 Illustrations
- 35 Historic time
- 38 Shriek bark
- 40 Sushi fish
- 42 Haunting
- 45 Sleuth Wolfe
- 47 Wildebeests
- 48 "Beetle Bailey" dog
- 49 Horn sound
- 50 "The Wedding Planner" actress, to fans
- 51 "Alley —"
- 52 Exist
- 54 Dapper fellow

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- RHE
- CUTNLE
- ♥LEBSA
- SIBA
- ♥OBDEAL
- ♥SHA
- ♥ELBO
- NARBU
- OSB
- HIBSNA
- ETHCS
- ♥DEBA



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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Child Find

Friday, November 5, 2021
9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Morgan County Head Start

A FREE Developmental Screening for ALL children 3 and 4 years old in Morgan County

Hearing & Vision Screenings
Speech, Gross/Fine Motor, and Cognitive screenings

Provided by Morgan County Head Start and Morgan County Schools

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL:

Suzanne Poole Renee Davis 423-346-6214	Angela Morgan 423-346-6633
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The City of Wartburg Presents
The Annual Wartburg FALL FESTIVAL

Trunk-or-Treating will be from 5:00 p.m. till 8:00p.m. on October 30,2021

#TealPumpkinProject

www.foodallergy.org

Remember to display your teal pumpkins if you have non-candy treats!!

All Vendors Welcome!!! Please Call Courtney Griffin at City Hall for more info! 423-346-2323

Spirit of the Mountain Pow Wow

Native American & Taino Story Tellers
Intertribal Dancing
Native American and Indigenous inspired Handmade Arts & Crafts
Fry Bread
Fun for the whole family. All Dancers are Welcome. Aho and Taino ti

Friday (School Day)
Oct. 29th, 10am to 3pm
Saturday, 10am to 9:30pm
Sunday, 9:30am to 4:30pm

SOLOMON PARK WARTBURG, TN 37887 **OCTOBER 29-31, 2021**

Head Man: Thomas Zermeno
Head Lady: Juanita Zermeno
AD: TBA
MC: Richard Gallant

 Host Native American Drums: North Drum - Medicine Horse South Drum - Kiowa Style	 Story Teller: Wayne White, Winding Eagle	 AZTEC Dancer Ollin Quetzalli	 Story Teller: Joey Karel, Kumaha'manigua	 Resident Flutist: Crazy Flute Music
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Native American Festival
Request Vendor Contracts

Host Taino Drum:
Akitchitay Carilno

Event Coordinators:
Wayne Winding Eagle (407) 600- 9276, Luz Soaring Condor (407)913-1740
email: spiritofthemountainpowwow@gmail.com

Event Sponsor:
MCCOC, Bridget DeFee, (423) 346-5740 Email: chamber@morgancountytn.org

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MORGAN COUNTY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Eagle Sponsors

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Wolf Sponsors

Eagle \$1,000	Wolf \$500	Bear \$250
Hawk \$100	Bob Cat \$50	Coyote \$25

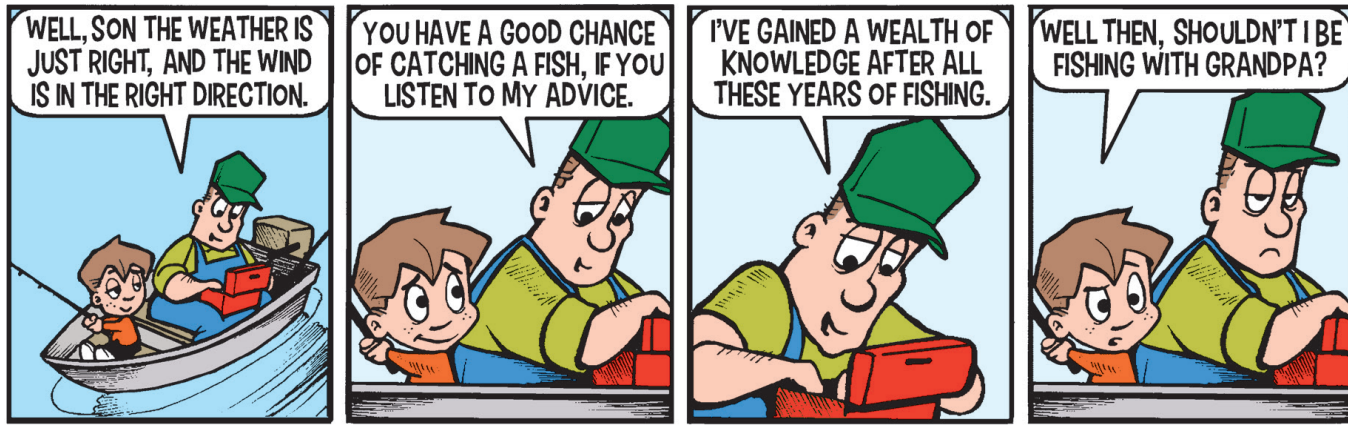
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Native American Vendor Space Available
Ask us about Sponsorship details!

Host Hotel Hampton Inn Oak Ridge, TN (865) 482-7889

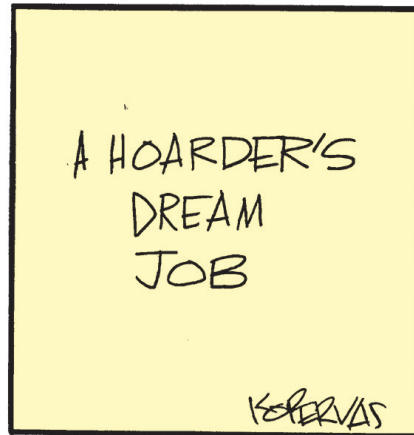
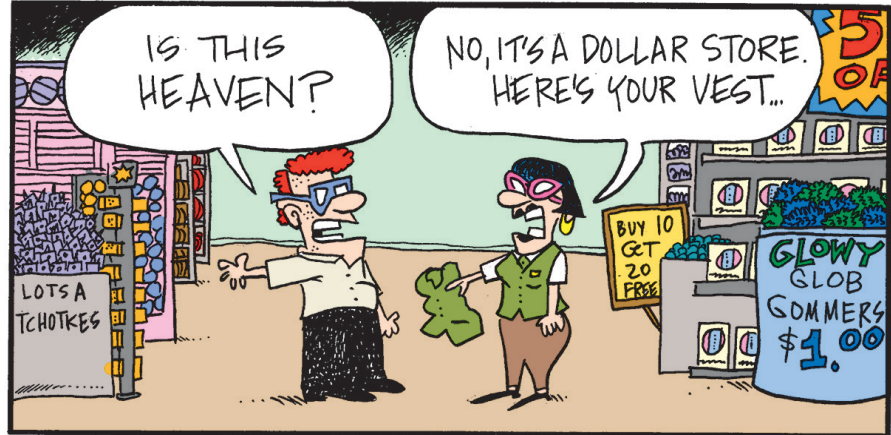
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



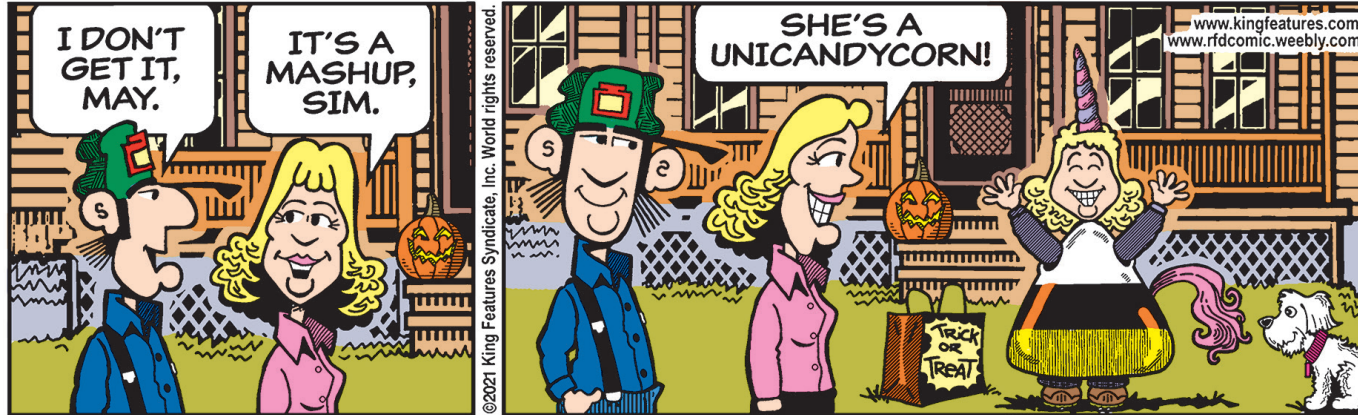
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



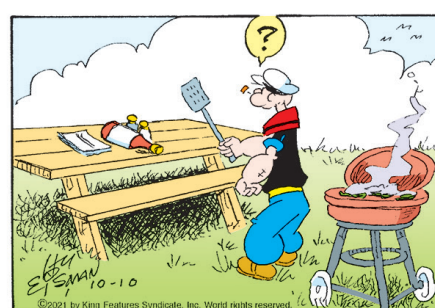
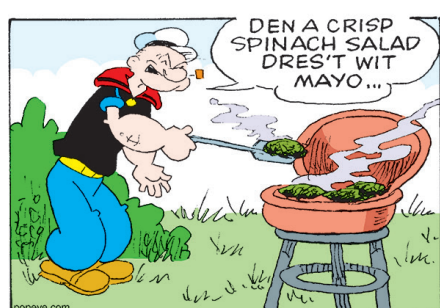
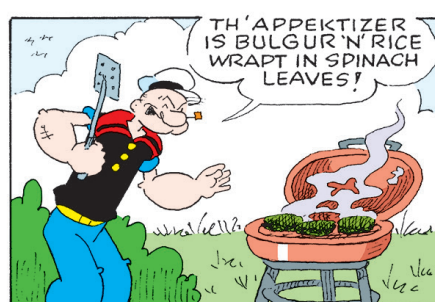
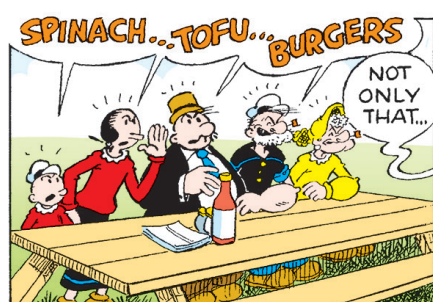
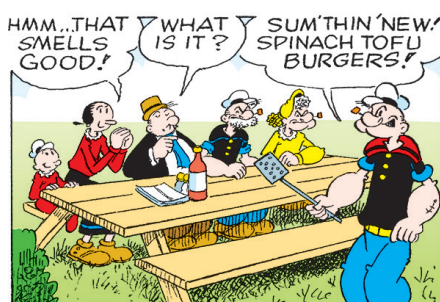
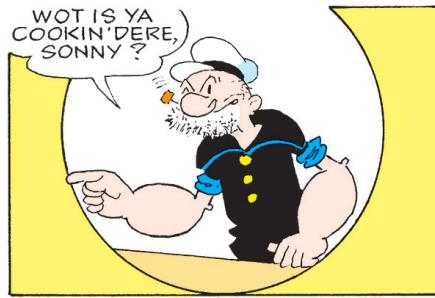
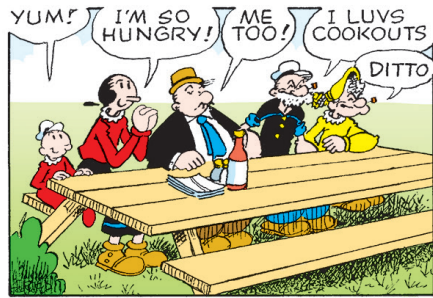
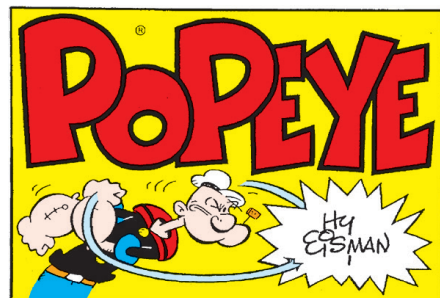
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



MOMENTS IN TIME

The History Channel

 * On Nov. 5, 1605, King James I of England learns of a plot to blow up the Parliament building. Guy Fawkes had been found lurking in a cellar with 20 barrels of gunpowder. Fawkes revealed that he was part of a conspiracy to annihilate England's Protestant government and replace it with Catholic leadership.

* On Nov. 7, 1774, Richard Bache succeeds his father-in-law, Benjamin Franklin, as postmaster general. Benjamin Franklin was fired for opening and sending to a publisher Massachusetts Royal Governor Thomas Hutchinson's correspondence.

* On Nov. 6, 1854, John Philip Sousa, "The March King," is born in Washington, D.C. Sousa composed 136 marches, including "The Washington Post" (1889) and "Stars and Stripes Forever" (1896).

* On Nov. 4, 1922, British archaeologists discover the tomb of King Tutankhamen in the Valley of the Kings in Egypt. The tomb contained a stone sarcophagus with three nested coffins. Inside the final solid gold coffin was the mummy of the boy-king Tutankhamen, preserved for more than 3,000 years.

* On Nov. 2, 1947, the Hughes Flying Boat -- the largest aircraft ever built -- is piloted by designer Howard Hughes on its first and only flight. The massive wooden aircraft had a wingspan longer than a football field and was designed to carry more than 700 men to battle.

* On Nov. 1, 1959, Montreal Canadian Jacques Plante becomes the first NHL goaltender to wear a full facemask. Despite the coach's objection, Plante put his foot down as he'd "already had four broken noses, a broken jaw, two broken cheekbones and almost 200 stitches" in his head.

* On Nov. 3, 1976, "Carrie," a horror film starring Sissy Spacek and based on Stephen King's 1974 best-selling first novel, opens in theaters. It tells the story of a high-school outcast who uses her telekinetic powers to exact a violent revenge on prom night.

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Nehemiah in the Old Testament or New Testament or neither?
2. From 1 Kings 20, how many kings came with Ben-Hadad against King Ahab? 2, 4, 7, 32
3. Which has 1, 2 and 3 books, as in first, second and third? *Peter, Thessalonians, John, Corinthians*
4. From Judges 20, what tribe had 700 left-handed men? *Benjamites, Samaritans, Pharisees, Sadducees*
5. What part of David's mighty men could run like gazelles? *Revlons, Gadites, Madaites, Henochs*
6. Which priest took the first census of the Hebrews? *Eleazar, Melchizedek, Ehud, Jabin*

ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) 32; 3) John; 4) Benjamites; 5) Gadites; 6) Eleazer

Hardcore trivia fan? Visit Wilson Casey's subscriber site at www.patreon.com/triviaguy.

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Comfort foods

Made fast and healthy

by Healthy Exchanges

Cranberry Graham Squares

While cranberry sauce is always appropriate, why not share this cranberry-studded recipe this season? After all, it won't be long before these ruby delights won't be anywhere to be found.

- 12 (2½-inch) graham crackers
- 1 (4-serving) package sugar-free vanilla instant pudding mix
- 2/3 cup nonfat dry milk powder
- 1¾ cups water
- 1 (4-serving) package sugar-free vanilla cook-and-serve pudding mix
- 1 cup reduced-calorie cranberry juice cocktail
- 1 cup fresh or frozen cranberries
- 1 cup reduced-calorie whipped topping

1. Evenly arrange 9 graham crackers in a 9-by-9-inch cake pan. In a large bowl, combine dry instant pudding mix, dry milk powder and 1 1/4 cups water. Mix well using a wire whisk. Pour mixture evenly over graham crackers. Refrigerate while preparing cranberry sauce.

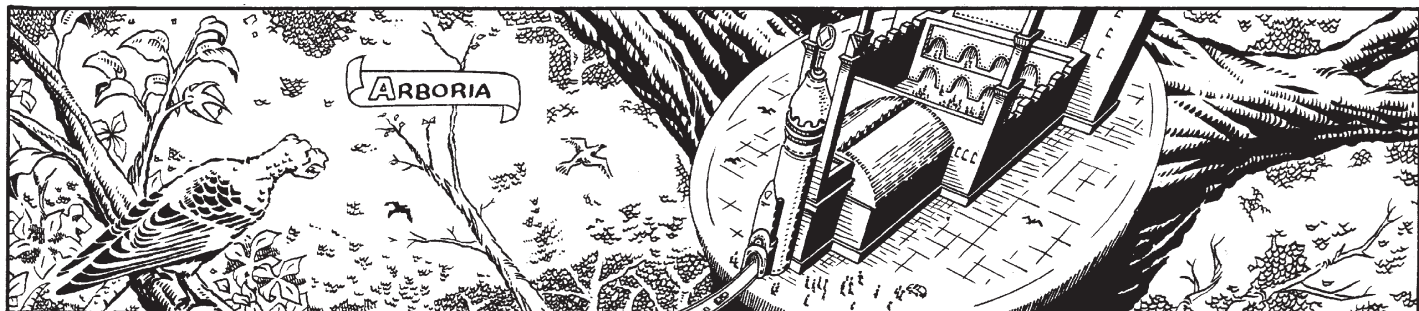
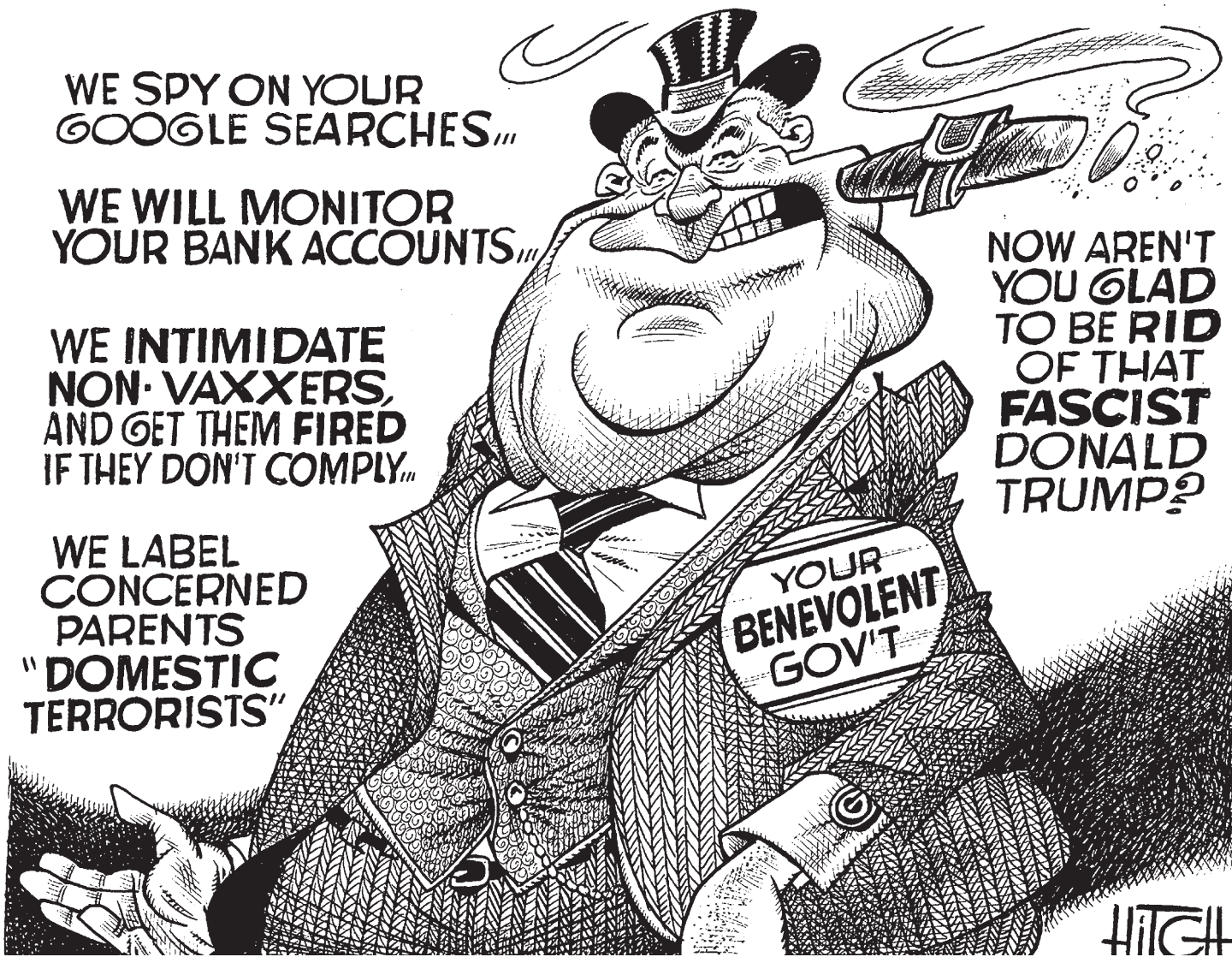
2. In a medium saucepan, combine dry cook-and-serve pudding mix, cranberry juice cocktail, remaining 1/2 cup water and cranberries. Cook over medium heat for about 5 minutes or until cranberries soften, stirring often.

3. Remove from heat, place saucepan on a wire rack and allow to cool for 30 minutes, stirring occasionally. Evenly spoon cooled mixture over set filling.

4. Spread whipped topping evenly over cranberry mixture. Crush remaining 3 graham crackers into fine crumbs. Evenly sprinkle crumbs over top. Refrigerate for at least 1 hour. Serves 8.

• Each serving equals: 93 calories, 1g fat, 2g protein, 19g carb., 297mg sodium, 1g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 1 Starch.

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Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



GRIN & BEAR IT

by Wagner



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THE RICH LOWRY COLUMN

By Rich Lowry

National Divorce Is a Poisonously Stupid Idea

Divorce usually isn't a good idea, and that's especially true of a nearly 250-year-old continental nation.

A cadre of apocalyptic writers on the right, who believe the country is too far gone to save, has become obsessed with a Secession 2.0 that would cleave red America from blue and allow the former to escape the ever-rising tide of woke insanity.

There is no doubt the country is deeply riven along political, cultural and religious lines. Yet, a national divorce has nothing to recommend it.

The practical obstacles are insuperable, and the likely effects would be very unwelcome to its proponents. If an insufficient patriotism is one of the ills of contemporary America, then a national divorce would prescribe arsenic as a cure. It would burn down America to save America, or at least those parts of it considered salvageable.

A disaggregated United States would be instantly less powerful. Indeed, Russia and China would be delighted and presumably believe that we'd deserve to experience the equivalent of the crackup of the Soviet Union or the Qing dynasty, respectively.

The economic consequences could be severe. The United States of America is a continentwide free trade zone, creating a vast domestic market that makes us all better off. Exchanging that for a market Balkanized by state or region would be a major loss.

Finally, the United States foundering on its domestic divisions would be a significant blow to the prestige of liberal democracy. Abraham Lincoln worried about this effect the first time around, and it might be even worse now, with a long stable republic unable to survive internal dissension.

Then, there's the question of how this is supposed to work. Lincoln warned of the physical impossibility of secession when the Mason-Dixon Line was a more-or-less ready line of demarcation. How would it play out now, with conservatives and progressives amply represented in every state in the Union?

If there were to be sovereign pure red and blue places, this wouldn't look like the relatively neat split of the United States into two in the 1860s, but more like post-Peace of Westphalia Europe, with hundreds of different entities.

Some proponents of national divorce say not to worry -- it can all be worked out amicably. But if we are going to split up because we can't even agree on bathroom policies or pronouns, how are we going to agree to divvy up our territory and resources?

It would matter, obviously, who gets control of the federal government, the most powerful organization on Earth. It has 1.3 million people under arms and a stockpile of 3,800 nuclear warheads. Whether it accrues to red or blue America would, to understate it, be a matter of considerable haggling.

On top of all this, red-state secession would be self-defeating. Let's say Texas left. That's 40 electoral votes off the national map for Republicans. In 2020, with no Texas, Trump could have won Pennsylvania, Michigan and Wisconsin, and still fallen short of an electoral majority.

On the other hand, Texas isn't quite as ruby red as it used to be. It could secede and still find itself governed by the very Democrats it hoped to leave behind.

Besides, would the rest of the country really be willing to watch a state of 29 million people that represents the ninth-largest economy in the world go its own way?

Meanwhile, red-state secession might not actually stem the cultural tide. Would the college professors in these places be less woke? Would the newsrooms be more conservative? Would people in the state stop using social media?

The real impetus for the talk of a breakup is despair. It constitutes giving up on convincing our fellow Americans, giving up on our common national project, giving up on our birthright.

This is an impulse to be resisted. Breaking up is hard to do and quitting on America is -- or should be -- unforgivable.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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Donna's Day Creative family fun

by Donna Erickson

'World's Best Granola' Is Kid-Friendly Recipe

Homemade granola is tasty to eat any time of day, but in our family it's a staple for fall breakfasts with nonfat plain yogurt and fresh fruit. Not only is granola a nutritious start to the day, with its wholesome blend of heart-healthy oats and chopped nuts, but a handful makes a satisfying after-school treat with a glass of milk, and a few spoonfuls add crunch to a scoop of ice cream for an evening dessert.

Granola is so easy to prepare that you and your kids can make this recipe in a jiffy — just under an hour. While one child measures and stirs together the dry ingredients in a big bowl, another can measure, pour and stir the liquids in another. Combine all of the ingredients in the big bowl, and voila! The just-sweet-enough mixture is ready for you to spread on a baking sheet and place in the oven.

Give it a try and see why the fresh taste of this homemade granola rivals any packaged mixture.

World's Best Granola

- 3 cups old-fashioned rolled oats (not quick-cooking)
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 cup coarsely chopped almonds
- 1/2 cup coarsely chopped pecans

VETERANS POST

by Freddy Groves Annual Suicide Report

The 2021 National Veteran Suicide Prevention Annual Report shows a decrease in veteran suicides from 2018 and 2019 when compared with previous years.

For example, 2019 saw 399 fewer suicides than 2018. Rates for male veterans dropped by 3.8% in those two years. However, the suicide rate per 100,000 was 31.6 ... much higher than for non-veterans at 16.8 per 100,000.

While figures from 2018 and 2019 are helpful and it was a mere two and three years ago, it feels like a lifetime when you consider our new normal with the anxiety and stress of COVID, not to mention the required isolation. What do more-current numbers, say for 2020, show?

The Department of Veterans Affairs news release says specifically that they have "not observed increases in VHA documented suicide-related indicators during the COVID-19

- 1/4 cup canola oil
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 egg whites, slightly beaten
- 1/2 cup raisins

Here's the fun:

1. Preheat the oven to 350 F.
2. Line a rimmed baking sheet with parchment paper, or spray with non-stick spray.
3. Combine the oats, brown sugar, cinnamon, baking powder, salt and nuts in a large mixing bowl.
4. Stir together the oil, vanilla and egg whites in a small bowl. Add to dry ingredients and toss well.



Homemade granola is a fall staple.

5. Spread the mixture evenly on the baking sheet. Bake until golden brown, about 25-30 minutes. Cool completely; stir in raisins and store in an airtight container. Makes about 5 cups.

Note: If you wish, substitute 1/4 cup pure maple syrup and 1/4 cup honey for the brown sugar, and combine with liquid ingredients before tossing with dry ingredients.

Creative tip: Let kids draw a label to tape or glue to the outside of a plastic storage container or glass jar. It might say "The Johnsons' World's Best Granola."

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

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pandemic." Yet they don't provide any statistics. Instead, they say that they'll examine suicide mortality when national death certificate data becomes available.

I assume they mean the National Death Index. It says the file for 2019 is available for searching, and that the early release file for 2020 is available. From that, one can click on the whole list of states and the percentages of demographic data each has completed. Nationally, the page says, states have completed an average 96% of their data input. Some states have completed 100%.

But you can't just wander the stacks without an access application, as I found out when I tried. But surely the VA qualifies to access the National Death Index and could give initial 2020 figures.

Of note: Of the half-dozen 2019 state files I looked at, the veteran age group most in danger of suicide was 55-74 years.

The Veterans Crisis Line is open 24/7 and can be reached at 1-800-273-8255, then Press 1. Or text 838255, or chat online at VeteransCrisis-Line.net/Chat.

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Historically Speaking

An Oak Ridge Treasure – the UT Arboretum

By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

Located on 250 acres just south of our city and nestled on the wooded hillside of Chestnut Ridge is a fair and peaceful setting that beckons to the weary soul and relaxes the tired mind. It is within minutes of all Oak Ridgers and just a few miles for Morgan County residents. It is open to all from sunrise to sunset. Walking trails are plentiful, shade is abundant and quiet solitude is a mainstay. Once experienced, you WILL return often.

Such a beautiful, peaceful, and stately park-like setting is without equal. Sadly, too many of us take it for granted and often fail to even avail ourselves of the easy access and quick transition from our hurried pace to a more relaxed and sedate atmosphere. Sad indeed!

This small secluded yet open area contains wetlands, wooded trails, flowers galore, trees that are being researched for desired properties and shrubs that are being cultivated to demonstrate their inherent good points. It is uniquely an Oak Ridge phenomenon, even if it is officially the University of Tennessee's property and program of forestry research and protection.

In this Historically Speaking column, I hope to share with you readers a bit of the history of this icon of solitude and solace that is both a working forestry research area and a local community treasure.

First, let me acknowledge the work of Eunice Begun, who wrote the History of the University of Tennessee Arboretum Society published in the Journal of the Tennessee Academy of Science, Volume 56, Number 3, July 1981. It was this document provided by Richard Evans that provided the basis for the historical information prior to 1980 that I have included here.

Begun explains that the idea of an Arboretum in Oak Ridge had existed in the minds of several people long before such a beautiful setting as described above was an actuality. She cites such individuals as Alexander Hollaender of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory's Biology Division, located at Y-12, Charles Cogdon, Don Foard and others who routinely hiked in the Cumberland Mountains just north of Oak Ridge as examples of the people who harbored such an idea.

You will recall that Hollaender was the individual responsible for bringing our beloved Bill and Liane Russell, the husband-and-wife team of world-renowned biologists, to Oak Ridge in 1947. He was known to be a very smart and forward-thinking individual. His insight into the virtue of having an arboretum in Oak Ridge is but another example of his outstanding visionary thinking.

Hollaender hoped to interest the University of Tennessee in establishing an arboretum in Oak Ridge and was prepared to donate a sum of money from the Biology Foundation to support such a cause. Ultimately none of the Biology Foundation funds were used to purchase the land, but Hollaender's willingness to support the idea with funds had succeeded in bringing credibility to the idea of establishing an arboretum in Oak Ridge.

From this encouraging beginning, a group of University of Tennessee officials, in August 1961, acquired 2,260 acres of forested land in Oak Ridge from the United States Department of Health, Education and Welfare for use in teaching, research and demonstration. This site was described in an early brochure published by the University of Tennessee.

The brochure stated, "Prior to the 1940's...the area was heavily farmed. Virginia Pine and a Shortleaf Pine now cover most of the old fields, but Yellow Poplar and some Black Walnut are found on sites in these fields where the soil is better. The rest of the Arboretum is largely second-growth Oak and Hickory forest in what was originally an Oak and Chestnut forest."

Begun's history of the UT Arboretum cites April 1962 as the date when a committee from the University of Tennessee first met to establish an arboretum. A. J. Sharp recommended that the committee request a portion of the university's Oak Ridge property be designated for an arboretum. This proposal was passed unanimously by the committee.

In December, 1962, a proposal was presented to John Ewing, Dean of the UT Agricultural Experiment Station containing the following objectives: "To establish a collection of woody plants adapted to the climate of Tennessee...to utilize and expand existing plant groups and preserve such areas as have special values for ecolog-

ic study...to provide space for a collection of mutants of woody plants...development of the arboretum should be in the hand of one individual directly responsible to the Director of the Experiment Station. A satisfactory office, laboratory and assembly building with the necessary herbarium space and library should be erected..."

By April 1964, The Oak Ridger reported that "The UT Forestry Department has started work on an Arboretum, a place where trees and shrubs are grown for scientific and educational purposes." Robert MacDonald, assistant professor in Forestry, was the first Arboretum Director. His first office was an abandoned guard house near Solway Bridge, according to Begun.

While I don't know for sure if this was the original Solway gatehouse, one of seven such gates to the Secret City, it reminds me of the white checking station on Bethel Valley Road. That building and its companion on the south side of Bethel Valley Road remains empty today and has not been renovated. I did succeed in getting it painted five years ago and routinely go by and pull the vines from it. I wish we could find a good use for that building. Readers, do you have any ideas?

By February 1965, efforts were underway to form a non-profit organization to support and enhance the arboretum. At the first meeting, Alexander Nowicki, City Planner for Oak Ridge served as acting coordinator. Others in attendance were, Evan Means, Clinch-Powell Valley Association; F. R. Bruce and H. D. Smith, Boy Scouts; David Campbell, Anderson County Conservation Board; B. M. Robinson, AEC; Robert P. Ball, Oak Ridge Memorial Park; Eleanor DuBois, Helen K. Lewis, Julia Moore, members, and C. M. DuBois, President of the Smoky Mountain Hiking Club; Ruth Davis, Oak ridge Garden Clubs and Girl Scouts; L. R. Phillips, Kiwanis; Julia Hoppe, Campfire Girls; John Clark, Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce; A. A. Foster, Grace Foster, John Selfridge, and J. D. Amundson, interested citizen. UT personnel



An example of the beauty of wildflowers – Mayapple in full bloom (Photo Submitted)



A peaceful setting of beauty and quiet stillness – our Arboretum (Photo Submitted)

in attendance were: B. S. Pickett, Horticulture Department; E. E. C. Clebsch and H. R. DeSelm, Botany Department; Robert MacDonald, Forestry Department, A. R. Nowicki was appointed temporary chairman and Evan Means was appointed temporary secretary.

At subsequent meetings during the first formative years, the University of Tennessee Arboretum Society, as it was soon named, made good strides attracting such individuals as Eugene Joyce and other notable community leaders to the society. They also created scholarships, determined to publish a regular bulletin, established fundraising efforts and generally set about making the society functional.

Eighty people had joined the society by the end of 1965. The organization's purpose was defined as: "to promote interest and participation in the study and enjoyment of trees, shrubs, and other plants." This purpose has been fulfilled over the years and anyone who ventures to the Arboretum today can attest to the beauty of the park-like setting and the care given to the plants by the staff that leads to the continual fulfilling this purpose, even today.

By March 1966, the first of many Newsletters was sent to the membership. A general meeting was held that was open to the public and followed by guided tours of the Arboretum. Some 285 people attended! Interest was demonstrated by the community and the society was surely pleased to see it. The idea was taking hold and people were enjoying the serenity of the woods.

The first plant sale was held on June 18, 1966, as a fundraising project. These funds were intended to finance a summer student employment program. David Rugh, a Maryville College student, became the first such summer student to work at the Arboretum.

Another development brought about by the rapid growth of the society was the offering of better office space for the director when Robert Ball, a society trustee, agreed to provide space in the nearby cemetery building. A 1955 half-ton pickup truck was purchased as well. Plant materials were donated by the Tennessee Nurseryman's Association and a computerized list of plants in the Arboretum was created by Margaret Olson.

In June 1966, a request was made to the state legislature for funds to upgrade and improve roads, construct bridges and build a residence for the Arboretum Director.

Other construction of various greenhouses, arbors and potting sheds showed the nature of the efforts to promote healthy plant environments.

The focus of the Arboretum was narrowed to forestry alone by directive of the UT Agricultural Experiment Station officials. This was at first a bit troublesome to the staff and the society alike. But soon, the forestry theme became the new direction being pursued. The revised objectives of the Arboretum were: "to establish a collection of trees, including mutants and those plants having commercial value as forest species from which materials may be obtained for breeding and propagation; to provide a place open to the public where individuals or groups may study the forest associations which are adapted to the environment of Tennessee."

Added emphasis was placed on the public visitors with weekends being added to the schedule and guided tours being promoted. This was the beginning of open access and encouragement to visit the Arboretum. Many volunteers were used to keep the Arboretum open and tours provided.

By 1970, the Arboretum had grown to the point that more than 2,000 labeled plants of approximately 600 species were found on the grounds and the public access roads and walking trails were being well maintained. The director's office was moved from the cemetery to the Arboretum grounds.

UT announced, in 1972, plans for an office building at the Arboretum. In September 1972, Richard M. Evans became the Superintendent of the Oak Ridge Forestry Stations and Arboretum. Richard has seen many improvements over the 37 years he has served as staff leader of the Arboretum. We, Oak Ridgers, owe him a great deal because he has managed the maintenance and capital improvements to our Arboretum over the years.

By 1974, the new Forestry Stations and Arboretum Headquarters building had progressed until it was well on its way toward becoming a reality. The official dedication was held on November 19, 1975.

Changes in 1975 and 1976 included the introduction of Trail Guides that made self-guided tours possible. On special requests, guides could still be made available, but the trend toward more open access was becoming a reality.

The News Bulletin was first published in March 1978. This publication combined the Newsletter and Bulletin and served to keep the society informed of activities, events, and society business. Public lectures

continued. The plant sale continued to be a huge success with an added feature of providing expert answers to the public's questions about the plants.

It was also in 1978 that the first Fall Walk to observe birds and other wildlife, trees and shrubs, landscape plants and wildflowers was initiated. Such walks continue to be a mainstay of the programs provided by the Arboretum staff over the years.

1978 was also the year of the infamous attempt to locate an airport on the Chestnut Ridge site of the UT Forestry Experiment station and Arboretum. Looking at that in hindsight is hard for me to comprehend. Why in the world would an airport even be considered for such a site? Reckon it made sense to someone then...I like the idea of locating an airport at the East Tennessee Technology Park site much better!

This misdirected airport proposal was no small thing for Oak Ridge and the Arboretum supporters. The controversy went on for months, even years...sad to say. Eventually, in 1980, with the future of the Arboretum much "unsettled" as Begun says in her history of the Arboretum, the airport issue had been put to rest and the society again focused on its goals for the Arboretum.

In the years since the Arboretum has become a mainstay element in Oak Ridge. It is now fully an integral part of our heritage. Who could think of Oak Ridge without an Arboretum? Maybe we even take it for granted like many other fine features of our city and local area such as Frozen Head State Park?

It is good to see recent continued improvements in added parking and landscaping. It is good to see the trees aging well, the forest sustaining its transition from a Chestnut and Oak forest to an Oak and Hickory forest even as evidence is being seen through research that the stately Chestnut just might return someday.

If you have not visited the Arboretum lately, please consider a return or if it is your first visit, get ready to be amazed by the tranquility and peaceful setting in which you cannot help but learn about our natural environment. It is a beauty of a spot to relax and enjoy a quieter existence for even a short time.



Spice Up Your Autumn With Easy Pumpkin Chili

Every year, the week before Halloween, we host a little pumpkin carving party. Since I'm an enthusiast of inexpensive, nearly effortless entertaining, I'll be making pumpkin chili for our pumpkin party. I just get it in the pot in the morning to have a super simple supper ready in the afternoon. This scrumptious recipe feeds a crowd, smells divine and always gets raves.

It's the perfect chili to serve on Halloween because it's family-friendly comfort food with lots of protein to counter all the trick-or-treat goodies. And just look at all these veggies! There are tomatoes, peppers, onion, beans, chilies and, of course, pumpkin. It's practically virtuous!

One thing you'll love about this pumpkin chili is that it's exceptionally thick, more like a stew really. If you want to serve the chili as soup rather than stew, just add a can of beef, chicken or vegetable broth.

Ordinarily you'd serve cornbread or corn muffins with chili, but to give this a little va-va-voom, let's serve it over cornbread waffles. Doesn't that sound ridiculously good? Yes, indeed!

EASY PUMPKIN CHILI

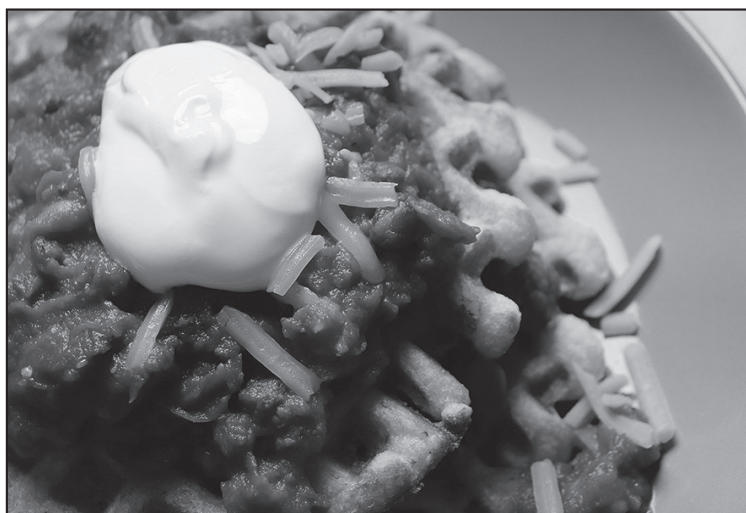
Yield: 8 servings **Prep:** 20 minutes

Cook: 4 to 8 hours

This chili can be made in a crock pot

or on the stovetop. It comes together really quickly; other than browning the sausage and onion, most of your time will be spent opening cans.

- 1 *tablespoon olive oil*
- 16 *ounces sweet Italian sausage*
- 1 *sweet onion, chopped*
- 1 *(6 ounce) can tomato paste*
- 2 *bell peppers, any color, chopped*
- 1 *(14.5 ounce) can tomato sauce*
- 1 *(14.5 ounce) can diced tomatoes*
- 1 *(28 ounce) can pure pumpkin puree*
- 2 *(14 ounce) cans beans of your choice, rinsed and drained*
- 1 *(4 ounce) can of green chilies*
- 2 *tablespoons chili powder*
- 1 *tablespoon cumin*
- 1 *teaspoon cinnamon*



www.JasonCoblentz.com

Pumpkin chili on cornbread waffles

1. In a stockpot, or a medium skillet if using slow cooker, heat the olive oil and brown the sausage with the chopped onions until sausage is nearly cooked through. Add the tomato paste, mix it all together and continue to cook until the tomato paste is lightly browned and caramelized in spots.

2. If you're using a slow cooker, place in the meat, onions and tomato. Add remaining ingredients to the slow cooker and give it a good stir. Set on HIGH

for 4-5 hours or LOW for 8 hours.

If you're cooking on the stovetop, add the rest of the ingredients and simmer on lowest heat, stirring often, for 4 hours.

3. Serve chili spooned over cornbread waffles garnished with sour cream and shredded cheese.

Substitutions: If you'd like, you can substitute turkey Italian sausage or make this vegetarian by using an Italian seasoned meat alternative. This recipe calls for fresh bell peppers, but feel free to substitute one (14 ounce) bag frozen bell peppers, or use frozen pepper and onion blend, and omit the sweet onion.

CORNBREAD WAFFLES

Yield: 6 waffles **Time:** 15 minutes

There is a time and place for baking from scratch. This isn't one of them.

- 1 *(8.5 ounce) package corn muffin mix*
- 1 *egg*
- 3/4 *cup milk*
- 2 *tablespoons butter, melted*

Preheat your waffle iron. Blend all ingredients together (batter might be lumpy, but that's OK). Proceed to make waffles according to your waffle iron's directions. It's incredibly easy, but take credit for being a culinary genius anyway.

Whether you're carving pumpkins, craving pumpkin or just watching leaves fall, there's nothing better to spice up your autumn than this pumpkin chili.

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

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Roy Freels Singers

will be at Angie's Restaurant

on Friday October 22 from 5:30 pm until 8:30 pm.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to come and enjoy the singing.

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



John Burns
Opinion Columnist

The Bride Veiled

The first covenant in the Bible established by God is the marriage covenant between one man and one woman. Why was establishing marriage as a biblical paradigm so important to God as creator? God exists in at least ten special dimensions. His home we call heaven. Who occupies heaven with God?

According to the Bible Elohim created four things. He created the heavens and the earth. He created angels. He created man in His image. Did God create women?

According to the Bible God created man and placed him in a garden. God gave Adam the command to name all of the animals. While naming all of the animals, procreation began in animal species first. Adam posed a question for God: where is my suitable helpmeet?

Adam recognized God had uniquely created the animals with the ability to procreate and only between male and female of the same species. Animals are never homosexual. Their purpose for existence is to provide sustenance for man. Procreation in animals was established as an entropy reduction in creation for man to have continual sustenance. Animals do not engage in sexual intercourse for pleasure alone, it is designed purposely for reproduction.

God's answer to Adam was to put him to sleep and remove a piece of his heart from which he formed the woman as Adam's suitable helpmeet in pro-creation. The man was created to be the Glory of God and woman was brought forth to be the glory of man.

God has two divine attributes. Mercy is an attribute men can learn only after believing in God's single plan of redemption. Mercy is to not receive what we deserve for the wages of sin is death. Sin was atoned for once and for all on the cross of calvary. To believe we need mercy from God is the foundation for Christian witness.

Mercy is the key that opens grace's door. Grace is to receive what we do not deserve and it is totally free. It cannot be earned by outward piety or acts of kindness. Grace is imputed to a sinner when they have the humility to ask for God's mercy. God's mercy is eternal for we exist in the presence of sin.

The need for mercy does not decrease over time. Mercy is needed every hour of every day in our Christian walk. Mercy is the divine attribute God desires Christians learn and apply to the life of every person they encounter. It is mercy alone that will lead a sinner to the cross of Christ, and the grace of Jesus Christ. Mercy is what Jesus Christ taught the Jews of Jerusalem they needed over their lives. Grace had appeared in Israel and he was telling the children of God they required mercy. Hallelujah. Mercy is what is most needed in the lives of church folk as I pen these words.

The Old Testament is the teaching tool employed by our creator to show us practical reasons why all humans require mercy over their lives. The Jewish people of the Old Testament had been awarded the responsibility of bringing the plan of redemption to a fallen world and they turned it into a religious experience. God does not enjoy religion.

The nation God birthed in Egypt wanted to return to worshipping like their neighbors. They requested God give them a temple. God gave them very specific instructions for worshipping Him in an earthly structure because He knew they would eventually get bored and exchange worship of the creator with worship of the temple God gave them as an appeasement. He had warned them that there was not a temple big enough to contain Him. He had told them He does not dwell in houses made with human hands. I am the Lord and I change not. Jesus Christ never preached in a Church. In fact, none of the writers of the New Testament taught anyone in a church.

The tabernacle Christ desires to inhabit is the three-part tabernacle known as the human condition. The spirit, the soul, and the body of every person born of a woman. The human condition as a pattern for worship was established in the garden when God made Eve from the heart of Adam for the purpose of raising Godly offspring.

There are no female angels. Women hold an exalted position in God's economy. Only Eve was brought forth for the purpose of giving God the seed he required. Jesus Christ would be born of a virgin woman. I can think of no greater reward women can seek than to know they were brought forth to make God's plan complete.

Marriage is the pattern God uses to establish the reward he intended to give Christ for going to the cross. A virgin bride is who God has been seeking through the Holy Spirit for 2,000 years now. Virginity in God's eyes has everything to do with the compromises made in worshipping the gods of this world.

Christmas venerates Saturn as the son of the morning. This is a title reserved for Lucifer who began the cult of worshipping fallen angels in Babylon. Worshippers were required to bring their infants to Babel and throw them on superheated bronze altars.

The word infant in Chaldean tongue is the English word infant. The mistletoe is a fertility drug used in Babylon to bring on a woman's reproductive cycle. Hebrews, to include Jesus Christ never worshipped their own birthdays. If Jesus Christ did, he would have celebrated his in the month of Nisan in spring.

Easter is the celebration venerating the bunny rabbit fertility deity Ashtarte. The golden egg of Ashtarte is an allusion to the seed of the woman. In biology women have no seed, it is provided by the man in reproduction.

In Babylon, the high priest under the influence of fallen angels, who knew the plans of God to redeem man through the womb of a woman, polluted the story of God's plan to redeem creation through a pure Jewish offspring. Nimrod and Semiramis gave us Tammuz the son born on the winter solstice through an adulterous affair with a fallen angel. All false religions began in Babylon.

The virgin bride of Christ is identified in Revelation as the Churches of Smyrna and Philadelphia alone. The body of Christ is identified as those who pollute themselves with the gods of this world. The other five churches in Revelation who do not repent and stop worshipping these false deities. They will go through the tribulation and have a final chance at eternal life by being martyred during the great tribulation.

The body of Christ will not rule and reign with Christ in his coming kingdom. The bride will receive her crowns in heaven, and return with Messiah to rule and reign with him for 1,000 years. The bride is eagerly awaiting the return of Messiah to receive his hand in marriage as I pen these words.

Many people who sit in church every Sunday singing Lord, Lord will not be raptured. Jesus Christ will reply depart from me worker of iniquity for I knew you not. Church attendance in God's economy is akin to covering your own nakedness with fig leaves and judging others for not doing the same. Blasphemy!

As a virgin bride, my dowry was paid on calvary. Jesus Christ's death paid for everything I need to faithfully await the return of my bridegroom.

He has returned to the house of his father to build me a mansion. Because he has gone, he promised to return and receive me unto himself in the clouds. The blessed hope of true Christians, the rapture of the bride before the last 7 years of gentile reign on earth. Hallelujah.

Are you the virgin bride of Christ as outlined in the two-edged sword of our Bible?

Is your blessed hope in his imminent return?

As a Christian, my rewards and inheritance were purchased by Christ on Calvary.

My reward is eternal life in heaven.

My inheritance is to rule and reign with Christ over all of the nations of the earth from Jerusalem as the virgin bride of Christ.

My crowns are secure because I believe, and my belief causes me to never be afraid to share the reason for all the joy that is within me.

Joy has a name and a future with me. It is Yeshua ha Messiah or Jesus the Christ. For the Joy that was set before him he endured the cross.

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

Even so come lord Jesus Christ.

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

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

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

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



answer

B	A	D	E					C
L		O						H
A		A		L	O	B	E	
S	O	B						A
E		L	U	C	E	N	T	S
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Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 22 mins.

A	S	K		A	B	A		P	O	K	E	
C	H	O	W	R	O	C		E	X	I	T	
H	O	L	A	I	S	H		N	O	T	E	
Y	E	A	S	T		C	O	R	N			
			H	A	D		O	N	S	E	T	S
T	A	P	I	O	C	A		S	Y	R	I	A
I	R	O	N		I	R	E		L	I	L	T
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J	O	A	N		R	E	D		I	N	T	O
L	O	R	D		I	R	A		A	U	T	O
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1 Corinthians: Chapter 7: 25-40

1 Corinthians 7:25-40 “Now concerning virgins I have no commandment of the Lord: yet I give my judgment, as one that hath obtained mercy of the Lord to be faithful. 26 I suppose therefore that this is good for the present distress, I say, that it is good for a man so to be. 27 Art thou bound unto a wife? seek not to be loosed. Art thou loosed from a wife? seek not a wife. 28 But and if thou marry, thou hast not sinned; and if a virgin marry, she hath not sinned. Nevertheless such shall have trouble in the flesh: but I spare you. 29 But this I say, brethren, the time is short: it remaineth, that both they that have wives be as though they had none; 30 And they that weep, as though they wept not; and they that rejoice, as though they rejoiced not; and they that buy, as though they possessed not; 31 And they that use this world, as not abusing it: for the fashion of this world passeth away. 32 But I would have you without carefulness. He that is unmarried careth for the things that belong to the Lord, how he may please the Lord: 33 But he that is married careth for the things that are of the world, how he may please his wife. 34 There is difference also between a wife and a virgin. The unmarried woman careth for the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit: but she that is married careth for the things of the world, how she may please her husband. 35 And this I speak for your own profit; not that I may cast a snare upon you, but for that which is comely, and that ye may attend upon the Lord without distraction.

36 But if any man think that he behaveth himself uncomely toward his virgin, if she pass the flower of her age, and need so require, let him do what he will, he sinneth not: let them marry. 37 Nevertheless he that standeth stedfast in his heart, having no necessity, but hath power over his own will, and hath so decreed in his heart that he will keep his virgin, doeth well. 38 So then he that giveth her in marriage doeth well; but he that giveth her not in marriage doeth better.

39 The wife is bound by the law as long as her husband liveth; but if her husband be dead, she is at liberty to be married to whom she will; only in the Lord. 40 But she is happier if she so abide, after my judgment: and I think also that I have the Spirit of God.”

(1 Corinthians 7:25-40) Instruction to the unmarried: concerning virgins Paul had no concrete revelation from the Lord, but he would offer his apostolic judgment as one who had been saved by the Lord and was deemed trustworthy to make recommendations (v. 40). What he is about to write certainly will be incorporated into this inspired letter. In view of the “present distress” (opposition to the faith), legitimate marital union should, if possible, remain intact. It would be advisable, however, that new unions not be formed since such might expose new marriages to consid-

erable pressures. This recommendation was not a hard rule; marriage would not be a sin. It could bring “tribulation,” however, and the apostle would spare them that difficulty (v. 26-28).

In view of the present distress and its advancing tribulation, it would be best for Christians to maintain the status quo of their marital situations, for conditions were near that would drastically precipitate change. The current political condition (of relative peace) would quickly pass, giving way to violent disruptions. There were four emperors in A.D. 69, the year of Nero’s fall. A listing of difficulties illustrates the possibilities (v. 29-31). In times of great crisis, the Christians ideally should be as free from unnecessary distractions as possible. He needs to focus on the preservation of his faith (v. 32-35).

If it should be the case, however, that a mature virgin strongly wishes to marry, and father yields to her wishes, granting permission, she is at liberty to do so---without sin. The Christian lady and her intended are free to marry (v.36). On the other hand, if the father (who had the authority to make family decisions in those days) did not feel the marriage was expedient, he had the authority to refrain his daughter under such conditions (v. 37). It was a matter of the father’s judgment; neither decision was intrinsically wrong (v. 38).

In a marriage that has not been disrupted by fornication (Mt. 5:32; 19:9), a woman is bound to her husband for as long as he is living (the same would apply to the man). In the event of her husband’s death, she is free to marry whom she chooses, “only in the Lord”. This latter phrase is a matter of controversy among Bible students. Many of the most respected Greek authorities contend the phrase signifies to “marry a Christian.” The apostle believers, though, the widow would be happier if she remained single under such circumstances (v. 39-40). There scarcely can be any doubt that a Christian’s marriage to an unbeliever is not the ideal will of God---either for the first-marriage or the widowed. The apostle concludes with the confidence that his judgment has been consistent with the mind of the Holy Spirit.

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Should You Hire an Employee or Subcontractor



David Zubler
Columnist

It's important to know the advantages and disadvantages of hiring subcontractors and how it would affect your business. Different projects may require a different hire, so it's best to make the consideration on a case-by-case basis.

Hiring a contractor has many advantages.

Subcontractors require less commitment and responsibility. Hiring employees is an investment of time and money. You will assume the cost of mentoring, training, and managing the employee. If you make a poor choice, it takes time and effort to terminate them and hire a more qualified replacement.

Hiring a subcontractor provides flexibility. You can contract the services you need when you need them. If you don't need their service on a regular basis, it generally makes more sense to hire an independent contractor.

Subcontractors can offer specialized services. Educating an employee to complete a short project could be far more expensive.

Independent contractors can be more affordable. You may pay more per hour for an independent contractor, but your total cost can be less. The cost of payroll taxes, workers comp insurance, unemployment, and health care benefits can be a substantial expense. You don't need to provide office space or pay for computers and other equipment when hiring contractors.

There are several disadvantages of hiring independent contractors.

You have reduced control when hiring a contractor. You can't oversee day-to-day activity or determine how they get the work done. They can work for other clients, so you can't assume they will make your projects their top priority. If it's essential to have significant control over what your workers are doing and how they're doing it, hiring employees is the better option.

Employers often use contractors only for relatively short-term

projects. Consequently, workers are constantly coming and going, which can be inconvenient and disruptive. And the quality of work you get from various contractors may vary. Employers who want the same quality day after day are better off hiring employees. When using subcontractors, there isn't as much accountability after the project is complete. Employees will be held responsible long after the project is finished.

For each project, you should consider all of the benefits and drawbacks of hiring an employee or contractor.

Then decide on the most important requirements to determine the best option.

If you decide to hire subcontractors, there must be clear communication and cooperation between both parties. You've got to be on the same page about your goals as well as the terms and conditions of your contract.

Include a non-disclosure clause if you will be sharing confidential information.

General liability coverage can get messy in this type of relationship if a client sues and holds you responsible.

It's generally a good idea to have an attorney review any contract before signing it.

It's crucial to know the difference between a subcontractor and an employee for tax purposes. I will be covering this topic in a future column.

David Zubler is a tax accountant and Enrolled Agent in East Tennessee representing clients before the IRS and has over 25 years of tax experience. He is the author of four tax books and is the founder and president of Your Tax Care. The company provides business and tax education to the public at its website, YourTaxCare.com. David can be reached at (865) 363-3019 or contacted by email at zublerdavid@gmail.com.

SENIOR NEWS LINE

By Matilda Charles

Rec Center Almost Opened Again

My local recreation center almost opened again. A month ago, the center opened for indoor walking with strict rules. One week later, during a heated board meeting, mostly about masks versus no masks, the rec center supervisor said he was shutting it down for the foreseeable future.

Since then there's been a hue and cry, mostly between the mask police and the anti-mask folks.

The center supervisor, ever accommodating but safety minded, declared that there would be certain days for people who wanted masks and days for those who didn't want to wear masks. Walking on the track, he said, would be the only center activity.

"Not fair," cried those (mostly teen boys) who also wanted basketball, and no,

they didn't want to wear masks. Fine, he replied, there could be one-on-one basketball in three of the center's courts.

But, said others, if teen basketball was allowed, why couldn't there be adult classes as well? So, the supervisor adjusted the schedule, did measurements on the floor, and outlined space on a basketball court where a no-mask yoga class could be held in the mornings with participants 8 feet apart.

You know what happened next, right? The aerobics people wanted a class as well. The spin class wanted space and time (and the bikes). Then those from the still-closed senior center line-dance group wanted to use rec center space.

It was right about that time that the supervisor quietly quit. I wasn't there, but I have it on good authority that he handed the center's keys to the loudest anti-mask person, saying, "You're in charge. When the COVID rates go higher in this town, it's all on you."

The next day, the town changed the locks on the rec center doors. The supervisor, as I heard it, packed a bag and retreated to his cabin in the woods, where he plans to stay until everyone comes to their senses.

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FLASHBACK

By Mick Harper

1. Name the group who released a debut album titled "Children of the Future."
2. What was the real name of Iron Butterfly's song "In-A-Gadda-Da-Vida"?
3. What is Styx's "Renegade" about?
4. Dead or Alive had to fund recording of one of their songs because the record company hated it. What was it?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "See the way he walks down the street, Watch the way he shuffles his feet."

Answers

1. The Steve Miller band, in 1968. The album didn't do well, topping out at No. 134. The next one, "Sailor," did better, however, reaching No. 24.
2. "In the Garden of Eden." It was written wrong by someone who was taking down the lyrics. The 1968 song was over 17 minutes long.
3. "Renegade" is a message from an outlaw to his mother saying he'd been caught.
4. "You Spin Me Round (Like a Record)," in 1984. The song went to No. 1.
5. "He's A Rebel," allegedly by The Crystals in 1962, but actually recorded by The Blossoms because The Crystals weren't available. In his rush to get the song out, producer Phil Spector hired The Blossoms, but credited The Crystals (one of his own acts).

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Friday Night Spotlight

Rockwood Rolls Over Wartburg 56-6

By Terry Futrell

The Rockwood Tigers rolled over the Wartburg Bulldogs Friday evening 56-6 in a Region 2-2A matchup. The Tigers scored early and often as they took a 35-0 lead in the first quarter. The Bulldogs got on the board early in the second quarter to make the score 35-6. The Tigers expanded their lead to 49-6 at the half and added another score in the third quarter. With the mercy rule in effect and a running clock, the Bulldogs only had three possessions in the second half.

Rockwood's running attack was unstoppable by the Bulldogs, and as a result, the Tigers attempted only two passes in the game. The Tigers had five touchdown runs greater than 25 yards, with the longest being 63 yards. Rockwood ran the ball 27 times for 361 yards and 7 touchdowns, while completing 1 of 2 passes for 8 yards.

The Bulldogs ran the ball 32 times for 71 yards and completed 2 of 9 passes for 85 yards and one touchdown. Wartburg's highlight play came when quarterback Samuel McCarty connected with receiver Landon Quinney for a 51-yard touchdown early in the second quarter.

The Rockwood defense tackled Wartburg runners 12 times for loss in the game. The Tiger's second score came when the defense blocked a Wartburg punt and recovered the ball in the end zone for a touchdown.

Wartburg remains winless in Region 2-2A, and the loss locks the Bulldogs out of a berth in postseason play. Rockwood moves to 2-1 in region play and a victory over York Institute next Friday will assure the Tigers of playing at home in the first round of the playoffs.



(Photo by Terry Futrell)

PEC to Pass Through Over \$400,000 of Pandemic Recovery Credit

The Tennessee Valley Authority board has decided to extend the 2.5% Pandemic Relief Credit for another year and has rename it the Pandemic Recovery Credit. Plateau Electric Cooperative will, for the second year in a row, pass through 100% of the over \$400,000 credit to our members. Many other power distributors have decided to keep all or some of the credit for operational purposes, but PEC is passing 100% of the credit to our membership in the form of savings on kilowatt hour rates.

Beginning October 1, 2021 thru September 2022, all TVA wholesale customers will receive a 2.5% credit on non-fuel power cost. "TVA was created to benefit the public good and has continued to build on that clear mission," says Jeff Lyash, TVA president and CEO. "Our financial results remain strong and we are in a good position to do the right thing for our customers, providing people with the help they need when they need it most, while we continue to deliver on our mission of service."

"This is a savings that PEC will share with our members", said Dave Cross, PEC CEO. "With everything that has happened over the last year, we want to assist our members as much as possible and share this credit in the form of reduced rates. This will be a tremendous help to our membership and goes along with our cooperative principles of concern for the community."



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