

# Morgan County Today

Psalm 100:3

Volume 07 Number 49

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

Your Community. Your News.

75¢

**Inside:  
Basketball Action  
American Legion  
Weather  
History**



**Tip Off at  
Wartburg**





# Morgan County Today

Your Community. Your News.

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USPS PUBLICATION NUMBER (15400)

# I'D RATHER BE READING.

#mocotoday

To the Editor:

Together Morgan County would like to thank each individual and group who had a part in the Christmas Drive Thru at Frozen Head State Park on Saturday, December 4. It is wonderful to see groups work together to offer events for our county. First and foremost, we would like to thank Frozen Head State Park for partnering with us and allowing the event to take place in the park. Frozen Head is a beautiful area and provided the perfect backdrop for the drive thru. Thank you to Rangers Jacob Ingram and Kayley Kempton for their support and guidance.

Thank you to each group who participated by creating a Christmas scene. It is a very hectic time of year and the willingness of these groups to donate their time to this event is appreciated. Thank you to St. Paul's Lutheran Church Youth Group, Morgan County Litter Group, Morgan County Communities in Schools, Ridgeview, the Avalon Center, CASA, Morgan Scott Project, Oakdale Save the Children, Homegrown Pediatric Therapy, Morgan County Libraries and Central Elementary School Save the Children for the fantastic scenes. Thanks to the family members, co-workers and students who helped prepare the scenes but were unable to be at the drive thru.

Thank you to Morgan County Food and Nutrition Director Peggy Hamby for bringing Gus the Bus to the park and serving hot chocolate and snacks to guests as they arrived. Thank you to Mark and Vicki Simpson who volunteered and helped with traffic control and on Gus the Bus. Thank you to Kinley Hamby and Jamie Gilreath who also helped with traffic control. Thank you to Central High School students Daniel Garrett, Sophia Hamby, Kendra Knox and Samuel Watson for greeting guests with a program and bag for collecting goodies as they entered the drive thru. Thank you to Kitty McDowell who created fliers for promoting the event and also the programs for the day of the event.

Thank you to Together Morgan County Collaborative members Crystal Cromwell, Sydney Elrod, Shari Jones, Diana Smith and Tiffeney Yeary for volunteering and distributing goodies. Also a big thank you to Randy Raccoon, Frosty the Snowman, the Grinch and Rudolph for being on hand to greet guests.

Thank you to our local media for helping promote the drive thru. The support of WECO, Morgan County Today and Morgan County News is appreciated. Thank you to the Morgan County Tourism Alliance and Morgan County Chamber of Commerce for promoting the event.

Thank you to the many donors who generously contributed to the event. Donors include Cash Express - Wartburg, TN, the City of Sunbright, Flowers Bakery - Crossville, TN, Friends of Frozen Head State Park, Morgan County Medical Center, Morgan County Senior Citizen Groups, Rhonda Laughter, Oakdale School PTO, Save the Children and Vicki Simpson.

Together Morgan County wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We hope you will join us in 2022 by taking part in collaborative activities. To learn more about Together Morgan County, check out their Facebook page or contact Community Engagement Coordinator Sandra Helton for information.

Sincerely,  
Sandra Helton  
Morgan County Community Engagement Coordinator  
heltons@mcsed.net

Cover Photo  
By Terry Futrell

Chancery Court Morgan County Wartburg, Tennessee	<b>NOTICE TO CREDITORS</b>	Case Number <u>P-59-21</u>
In the matter of the Estate of <u>RANDEL COLIN LAYMANCE</u> Deceased		
<p>Notice is hereby given that on the 1<sup>st</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER 2021, Letters of ADMINISTRATION in respect to the Estate of RANDEL COLIN LAYMANCE who died on the 28<sup>th</sup> DAY OF AUGUST 2021 were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court Clerk of Morgan County, Tennessee. All persons, residents and non-residents, having claims, matured or unmatured against her Estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claim will be forever barred.</p> <p>(1)</p> <p>(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting, as the case may be) of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting); or</p> <p>(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication (or posting) as described in (1)(A); or</p> <p>(2)</p> <p>Twelve (12) months from the decedent's date of death.</p> <p>This the 1<sup>st</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER 2021.</p> <p><u>MELISSA LEANNE LAYMANCE</u> ADMINISTRATOR</p> <p><u>ANGELA R. ANDERSON</u> Clerk and Master</p> <p><u>TALLESSE ALLEY</u> Deputy Clerk</p>		

## MORGAN COUNTY WEATHER THIS WEEK

Tue 07	46°/34°	
Wed 08	49°/30°	
Thu 09	55°/48°	
Fri 10	61°/60°	
Sat 11	64°/34°	
Sun 12	47°/31°	
Mon 13	54°/33°	

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## In Loving Memory

### Bobby Lee Spurling, 82

Bobby Lee Spurling, age 82 years, 3 months and 12 days, of the Glades community, passed away on November, 26, 2021.

He served in the US Army for a short time in 1963.

Bobby is preceded in death by his son, Bobby Lee Spurling, Jr.; his mother, Mabel Spurling; his father, Shirley Spurling; brother, James Spurling and a twin sister, Betty Spurling.

He is survived by two daughters, Denita (Errol) Atkinson of Texarkana, TX and Deborah (Steve) Wilson of The Rock, GA.; one brother, J.D. (Sandra) Spurling; grandchildren, Joshua (Brittany)

Mashburn of Blue Ridge, GA; Amanda (Kevin) Lively of Co-hutta, GA; Deana (Larry) Cox of Barnsville, GA; Billy Coffey of Indianapolis, IN; J.D. Moore of Barnsville, GA; Andrew (Brooke) Coffey of Dalton, GA; and Joey Spurling of Griffin, GA. Also surviving are 13 great grandchildren, the mother of his two daughters and a host of nieces, nephews and friends, all of whom will mourn his passing.

The family will receive friends Thursday, December 2, 2021 at Schubert Funeral Home in Sunbright from 10:00-11:00 a.m. with a memorial service to follow at 11:00 a.m. with Rev. Perry Spurling officiating.

### Addie Jones (nee Branstetter), 98

Addie Jones (nee Branstetter)

Preceded in death by her husband Melvin Jones, parents John and Meadi Branstetter. Sons Ronnie (Linda) Jones and Roger Jones. Sisters Myrtle Howard, Gracie Smith, Nellie Hickman, Edith Hammock. Brother Charlie Branstetter. Grandson Kelly Jones.

Loving mother of Fred (Karen) Jones, and Peggy (Rick) Hanson. Dear grandmother of Lisa (Anthoy) Nicholas, Michelle (Dave) Redmond, Jessie (Johnny) Dinh, Angie (Jay) Mounce, Pam Jones, Cheyenne Henson, Charlotte (Justin) McFarland, Mike Jones, Ron (Jenny) Jones, Jake (Steph Cao) Jones, Ricky Henson, Cejay (Jessie) Henson. Great and great – great grandmother of Desiree (Josh), Colton, Cainen, Laney, Joshia, Crystal (Jason), Candence, Easton, Jason, Ashlynn, Zach, Paisley, Blake, Zaden, Melody (Dave), Kohen, Cecelia, Gianna, Calvin, Alex, Anthony and Anthony III, Tiffany, Haley, AJ, Alyssa,

Noah, William, Dave Jr., Emily, Ethan, Jordon, Jon, Ava, Jon Jr., Salina, CJ, Justin, Eric, Brittney (CJ), Mila, Milo, Avery, Brendon, Cooper, Reagon, Isabella, Dylan, Hunter, Audrey, Harvey, Daphney, Phoebe, Peyton and Devon.

Passed away December 1st. Age 98.

Family and friends are invited to a visitation 3:00 – 5:00pm on Sunday, December 5th at Dalbert, Woodruff & Isenogle Funeral Home. Funeral Service at 5:00pm.

Visitation 12:00 – 1:00pm on Tuesday, December 7th at Schubert Funeral Home (1318 Knoxville Hwy Wartburg, TN 37887). Funeral Service at 1:00pm. Interment will follow at Highpoint – Brandstetter Cemetery.

If desired, memorial can be made to Liberty Missionary Baptist Church 1009 Overlook Ave. Cincinnati, Ohio 45238.

vis; niece, Jordan Long; nephew Dillon Jarnigan; special aunts, Angela Morrow and Mary Jane Campbell; loyal friend & caregiver, Vera Presley; sisters-in-law, Tami Layne and Tara Bacon; brother-in-law, Scotty Roberts; 2 beloved puppies, Snow and Snoop.

The family will receive friends Monday, December 6, 2021, at Schubert Funeral Home in Sunbright from 2:00-4:00 p.m. with funeral services to follow at 4:00 p.m. with Dr. Ronnie Pierce officiating. Interment will follow in the Sunbright Cemetery.

### Elizabeth Ann Davis Roberts, 51

Elizabeth Ann Davis Roberts was born November 9, 1970, in Lafayette, TN. She passed from this earth December 3, 2021, at her home in Sunbright. She was a graduate of Scott Hight School, a member of the Night Light House of Prayer in Monterey and she loved the Lord.

She is preceded in death by her mother, Faye Jeffers; grandparents, JL & Wiladean Davis.

She is survived by her husband, Michael Roberts; father, James Allen Davis; sister, Carolyn Jarnigan; brother, Matthew Da-

### Bert Hooper, Sr., 94

Our dad and granddad, Bert Hooper, Sr. went to meet his loved ones in Heaven on November 29, 2021. He walked this earth for 94 years and saw many earthly changed during his lifetime. His greatest comfort was knowing his children were safe and well. He worked many years with cable TV where he took so much pride in his work. He was a hard worker and always willing to help anyone in need. Our dad was the glue to our family, and he will be painfully missed for days to come.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Eleanor Hooper; father & mother, Henry and Eliza Hooper; 3 sisters, Mildred Height, Beulah Derrington, and Mary Powell.

He is survived by his children, Eddie and Mandi Hooper, Rebecca Hooper, and Beth Hooper and fi-

ancé, Gary Durham; 1 sister, Gail Hooper of Brownsville, TN.; 5 grandchildren, Brandon & Derek Hooper, Miranda (Brian) Conlon, Meghan (Jonathan) Dagley and Hannah (Matt) Himes; 8 great grandchildren, Mason Grace, Derek, Tinslee, Hooper, Preslyn, Jonalyn, and Creed; 1 great great grandson, Mavrick and a host of nieces, nephews and extended family.

The family will receive friends Saturday, December 4, 2021, at Schubert Funeral Home in Sunbright from 12:00-2:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 2:00 p.m. with Rev. Buddy Tharp officiating. Interment will follow in the Sunbright Cemetery.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Bert Edward Hooper, Sr.

### Patricia (Patti) A. Gibson, 78

Mrs. Patricia (Patti) A. Gibson passed away peacefully into her Lord's arms on Thursday, December 2, 2021, at her home in Deer Lodge, TN at the age of 78.

Patti was preceded in death by her husband of 53 years, Henry (H.C.) Gibson; parents, Arthur and Beulah Robinson; brother, Jerry Robinson; brother-in-law, Ross Branstetter.

Patti is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Debbie Vertner and Jay Brown of Knoxville, TN.; son and daughter-in-law, Randy and Sherry Gibson of Deer Lodge, TN.; grandchildren, Derrick and Carmen Vertner of Knoxville, TN., Cameron and Beth Vertner of Deer Lodge, TN., Andrew Gibson and Bonnie Chaboudy of Grandview, Tn.; great grandchildren, Kaiden Vertner, Xander Vertner, Kwintyn Vertner, and Adalyn Vertner of Deer Lodge, TN.; special great grandchild, Noah Sharp of Knoxville, TN., and bonus great grandchild, Charity Kennedy of Deer Lodge, TN.; sister, Kathy Branstetter of Deer Lodge, TN.; and a host of nieces, nephews and extended family, dear friends and two fur babies Zoey and Cloe.

Patti worked for many years in the manufacturing industry and retired from Independent Opportunities, Inc. where she provided support for those with intellectual and developmental disabilities. After retirement, she spent her years enjoying time with her two dogs, traveling with family, and her lifelong love, shopping. She was a dedicated member of Sunbright First Baptist Church and loved her church family dearly. She was an individual who loved the Lord and enjoyed talking with people about Jesus Christ her Savior.

The family will receive friends Friday, December 10, 2021 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg with the funeral to follow at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to attend and celebrate Patti's life. Graveside services will be Saturday, December 11, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. at Mt. Hope Cemetery in Deer Lodge, TN.

The family would like to thank Quality Hospice for their special care during this difficult time.

### Lola Mae Jordan, 87

Lola Mae Jordan, age 87, of Oliver Springs, passed away Friday, December 3, 2021. She was born May 17, 1934, in Bates County, Butler, Missouri, the daughter of Robert and Amy Evans. Mrs. Jordan was an avid Ladies Vols fan and also enjoyed WNBA and UT Sports. Her greatest passion was the joy of her family.

She was predeceased by her husband of 45 years, Frederick Leroy Jordan.

She is survived by son Jeff Jordan of Niota, Tennessee; son Kevin Jordan and his wife, Michelle of Oliver Springs, Tennes-

see; daughter, Amy Andrews and her husband Lee of Frankfort, Kentucky; grandchildren Jennifer Jordan, Dianna Shashina, Amanda McKenzie, Bethany Jordan, Henry Andrews and Isaac Andrews; great grandchildren Ariana, Amelia, and Arilyn McKenzie, Lainey Hooper and Vladimir Shashin; and sister Eva Lena Keebler of Missouri.

Per her wishes, in lieu of a funeral, the family will gather for a private memorial.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Lola Mae Jordan.



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



"Christmas time's a comin'." Just thought I would share that line from one of my favorite songs. FYI.....Christmas will be here before you know it.

Congratulations to Riley Tilson and Marley Smith Tilson who were married Saturday, December 4 at Piney Baptist Church.

Congratulations to Michael Lindsay and Madeline Moore Lindsay who were also married on Saturday, December 4. Wishing both couples many blessed and happy years of marriage.

Happy Birthday today, December 7, to Ava Rose Smith who turns 14.

Happy Birthday to Bryson Headrick who celebrates his special day tomorrow, December 8.

Belated Birthday Greetings to Candy Headrick and Darren Norris who celebrated their birthdays yesterday, December 6.

Congratulations to Clara Ruppe, Willow Langley and Tabitha Hamby who were the winners of the contest sponsored by Morgan County Today and Together Morgan County at the November Story Walk in Solomon Park in Wartburg. The story was a Thanksgiving story and the contest was to see how many words could be made out of THANKSGIVING. The contest was not announced publicly. Only those who visited the story walk would know

about it. Thank you to Tommy Francis and Morgan County Today for sponsoring the prizes.

This month, the featured story in the story walk is The Littlest Christmas Tree. It is sponsored by Morgan County Early Steps to School Success. Families can enjoy the nice walk on the walking trail and read the story. There is also a Little Free Library located underneath one of the picnic shelters.

The first annual Christmas Tree Lighting was held Saturday night at Pine Orchard Community Center. The evening began with a craft show and chili supper. Before the lighting of the tree, there was a special reading done by Susan Summers. The tree is displayed on the stage in front of the Community Center. It is beautiful. A wonderful tradition has begun. Thanks to the Community Center Committee for offering this special event for the community.

The 2nd annual Christmas Drive Thru, sponsored by Together Morgan County in partnership with Frozen Head State Park, took place last Saturday. The weather was nice and there was a large turnout. Guests were treated to many different Christmas scenes and characters and lots of goodies.

The annual Christ-

mas Program at Camp Austin Lutheran Church will be Wednesday, December 8 at 7:00. This is always such a special service. Everyone is welcome.

The Oakdale School Craft Fair will be December 10th from 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Call the school office to reserve a table. \$10 per table.

The Pine Orchard Clothes Closet will be open Saturday, December 11 from 10:00 – 12:00. Everything is free.

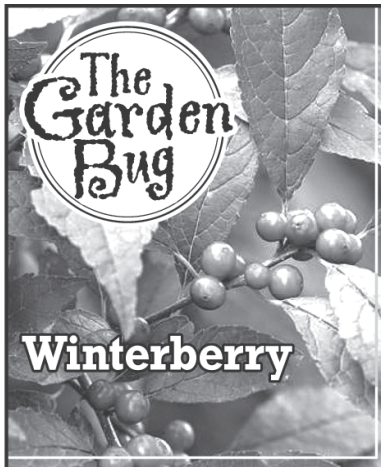
Girl Scout Troop 20742 will hold a holiday event at Pine Orchard Community Center Saturday, December 11 from 2:00 – 8:00. There will be a chili supper including chili, hot dog, dessert and drink for \$5. There will be a silent auction with gift cards, attraction tickets and much more. Mr. and Mrs. Santa will arrive around 3:00 for pictures.

First Baptist Oakdale will have Christmas music Sunday, December 19 at 11:00 a.m. followed by a message brought by Pastor Mike Winters. Everyone is welcome to join them as they sing about that Beautiful

Star of Bethlehem.

White Oak Baptist Church will have their Christmas Program Sunday, December 19 at 6:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

**"Knowing we will be with Christ forever far outweighs our burdens today! Keep your eyes on eternity!" Billy Graham**



Winterberry

Winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*) is a shrub native to eastern North America. It produces bright red berries that persist through winter and into spring. It thrives best in wetland areas with acidic soil, but will tolerate some other environments as long as its moisture needs are met and the soil is not too alkaline. With the winterberry there are separate male and female plants. Because only fertilized

female plants will produce a wonderful display of berries, there must be at least one male winterberry plant for every 6-10 female shrubs in the area to allow for cross-pollination. - Brenda Weaver

Source: www.thespruce.com

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# Around The World and Back Again

with Zack Ballinger



**Zack Ballinger**

## DECA

I found out some student's from Central High School were taking a school trip to



found out from friends all the fundraisers the students were doing each week. I remember living in Morgan County and I thought to myself, what if a student does all that hard work and still comes up a little short for the trip? Do they get to go? I thought if a student is short, what if their family didn't have the means to supplement the difference? I decided to call Mrs. Patty myself and take action.

I called Mrs. Patti Justice and asked these questions. Students that come up short don't always get to go on the trip. I had the perfect idea. I wanted Mrs. Patty to pick a student who's worked every fundraiser, but still has come up short. I wanted to surprise that student in person, live at the school, letting them know their portion was paid.

I showed up at Central High School to award the check to, Lily Patterson. She worked very hard throughout the year, but came up a little short. I met her in the Central High School office with a check to cover the balance along with some spending money for her

blessing Zack. God has been showing up and showing out for our family. You are such a blessing, and your generosity is greatly appreciated so much!"

I love to give back. The joy from a kind act of generosity makes it all worth it. I wanted to share this story to shed some light on DECA and inspire the community to give towards this wonderful learning initiative.

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



Boston, MA. I have been to Boston several times and I was intrigued that my small high school sent students to this neat location (especially in high school). I wanted to learn, why? Through some investigating, I learned about an organization called DECA. I wasn't familiar with it at all.

trip. I was immediately embraced by a hug and Lily was absolutely relieved, but thrilled with excitement!

Lily's mom reached out to me. Her family has had some challenges in 2021. I'll never forget her message to me. This is why giving is so much fun! "What a

"DECA prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in marketing, finance, hospitality, and management in high schools and colleges around the globe. With a 75-year history DECA has impacted the lives of more than ten million students, educators, school administrators, and business professionals since 1946."

Mrs. Patti Justice leads the local DECA chapter at Central High School. DECA has a yearly conference for students in a different location every year. Students who are apart of DECA need to fundraise in order to finance their trip. As you can guess, a trip to Boston isn't that cheap. Mrs. Patti Justice organized several fundraisers outside of school hours to help students raise money for the trip. She's really connected to her students and community. You can see the passion in her work.

I learned about the Coffee shop that the students ran at Central High School. I

*Happy Holidays*  
*from Our Family to Yours!*

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# Davis Funeral Home's Veteran of the Week

Michael Edwin Thornton was born on March 23, 1949 in Greenville, South Carolina and raised on the family farm near Spartanburg. Thornton joined the Navy upon graduating from high school in 1967 and completed the rigorous training to join the SEALs, the Navy's elite sea-air-land special operations force. As overall American conventional forces were gradually withdrawn from Vietnam in the early 1970s, the "unconventional warfare" role of Navy SEALs grew. In the spring of 1972, Petty Officer Thornton was assigned to a mission under the command of Lt. Thomas Norris.

Thornton and Norris accompanied a three-man South Vietnamese Navy team

on an intelligence gathering mission in enemy-held territory. Launched from a Vietnamese Navy junk in a rubber boat, the patrol reached land and found themselves farther behind enemy lines than they had planned. Continuing on foot toward their objective, they came under heavy fire from a far larger force and were in danger of being surrounded. While inflicting heavy casualties on the enemy, they headed for the shore, in hopes of escaping by sea.

On learning that Lieutenant Norris had been hit by enemy fire and was believed to be dead, Thornton returned through a hail of fire to the lieutenant's last position and found him severely



wounded and unconscious but alive. Quickly disposing of two enemy soldiers who approached at that moment, Thornton slung Norris over his shoulder and dashed for life over 400 yards of open beach, returning enemy fire as he ran. He carried Norris and another wounded comrade out to sea, beyond the range of enemy fire. The company floated for approximately two hours before being retrieved by the South Vietnamese Navy.

Close to a year after his heroics in Vietnam, on October 15, 1973, Michael Thornton received the Medal of Honor at the White House from President Richard Nixon. Lieutenant Norris, still a patient at nearby Bethesda Naval Hospital, had been forbidden by his doctors to go to the ceremony, but Thornton spirited him out the back door of the facility and took him along. Almost three years later, Norris himself, received the Medal of Honor with Thornton looking on. Thornton is the first person in more than a century to receive that honor for saving the life of another Medal of Honor recipient. Now retired after a distinguished Navy career that continued through Operation Desert Storm, he resides near Houston, Texas.

## Law Enforcement Officer of the Week

Presented by Jerry Duncan Ford

The Mesquite Police Department announced on December 4, 2021 that Police Officer Richard Lee Houston II was fatally wounded in the line of duty on December 3, 2021 while responding to a disturbance in the 1500 block of S. Belt Line Rd. in the City of Mesquite. During the course of the investigation, Officer Houston was shot multiple times. He was transported to Baylor Hospital and was pronounced deceased at 2:11 p.m. Officer Houston was a 21-year veteran of the Mesquite Police Department and was married with three children. Mesquite Police Chief David Gill said, "This was a senseless act of violence. Richard was a great officer, friend, father, and husband. Please keep his family and our family in your prayers."

Richard Lee Houston II was hired as a Mesquite Police Officer on January 8, 2001. He graduated from Session 153 of the Basic Course in Applied Police Science and was named Valedictorian of his class. His assignments included serving in the Operations Bureau as a Patrol Officer, on the SWAT Team for more than 10 years, and in Criminal Investigations handling Burglary and Theft, Homeland Security, and Juvenile/Gang cases. Officer Hous-



ton earned a Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Master Peace Officer License and Instructor Proficiency Certificate.

In April 2021 a Certificate of Merit was presented to Officer Houston for his heroic actions assisting

the Garland Police Department and the Texas Department of Public Safety with the arrest of three suspects of a stolen car used in various crimes and he prevented a suicide attempt by one of the suspects during the apprehen-

sion efforts.

His recognitions during his Mesquite Police Department career include; 48 Letters of Commendation, 2 Life Saving Awards, 1 Police Commendation Bar, and Citizens Police Academy Officer of the Month Award in August 2018.

Please pray in Jesus Christ's name for Richard's wife and children.

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Tom Redmon  
Columnist

Kelly Redmon loved airplanes from the time he was old enough to walk and until now at eighty-eight years of age. When school got boring, he would pull out a new sheet of paper and start drawing an airplane. World War II was on and Kelly studied the United States planes like the P-51 and the P-38. One day he was drawing in Louis Petit's class and she picked up a book and sent it Kelly's way. It missed Kelly and hit the boy back of him. Kelly said, "I ducked just in time."

When it came time for Kelly to go into service there was no doubt which branch, he would choose – it was the newly formed Air Force. He did his basic training in Texas. Like all branches of service, they give you a battery of tests to find out what your skills are. They test you on math, communication skills, electronics, typing and clerical skills along with other skills I can't think of. Like me Kelly scored high on clerical skills and when he got to his first base, they put him in an office typing. He didn't like it at all.

He asked the officer in charge if he would put him where he could work on airplanes. One day he got his wish. He loved to be around the Air Force planes.

After being discharged from the Air Force Kelly went to Joliet, Illinois to work at Caterpillar. His dream was to own an airplane that he could fly anytime he wanted. He had taken a little training at his last Air Force base; Sewart AF Base in Nashville, Tennessee. He felt he was about prepared to pilot his own plane.

Some where around the early 1960's Kelly purchased a plane. It was a PA-16 Piper Cub that would seat four. It had an engine that could generate 115 horse power. After the guy who sold him the plane, he took him it for a test flight. Kelly was ready to go on his own. He took a lot of people for rides and I think his sister Carolyn was the first member of his family to go up. His big adventure was to fly his plane down to Crossville which was the closest field to Wartburg where his family still lived. He really wanted his dad to get into his plane, but he had to wait until his dad came to Joliet.

Kelly and his dad, when growing up didn't have the best father and son

## Father and Son's Special Flight

relationship. Jim, his dad told Kelly many times he couldn't do anything right and he wouldn't amount to a heap of beans. Kelly really got the feeling that his dad didn't love him and at the age of six or seven he had a fear that his dad was going to get rid of him.

Let me tell you about Jim's family. He was my dad's brother and my dad was a little like Jim. They were raised in a family that never heard the words, "I love you." Grandpa was no doubt a big influence on his three boys. Grandpa told all of the boys growing up on his farm that we were not worth our salt, and we wouldn't amount to anything. Jim told me several times when we were making hay that I wasn't

go through his pre-flight checklist and Jim asked him what he was doing. He said something like I'll show you that I can do right. They started down the runway and Kelly looked over at his dad who was as stiff as a board and probably white too.

Soon the plane was airborne and Jim was hanging on for dear life. He said to his son, you do have enough gas, don't you?

Kelly laughed and said dad, "yes we have thirty gallons of fuel so enjoy the flight."

They flew north over Chicago and Lake Michigan. Jim looked out the window and said, "boy isn't this something."

So, a country boy from Tennessee who had been told all his life by his dad that he couldn't do anything right had showed his dad I can do a lot of things right.

Kelly took the plane in for a perfect landing and father and son got out of the plane with a different feeling that they had before the flight. Jim didn't say much but Kelly could tell that he loved just what he had been through. We have to read a person's body language when we don't hear the words we want to



worth anything and I'd never amount to anything. Kelly said he never heard his mom and dad say I love you. They never hugged. My mom and dad were about the same way.

Back then a lot of parents felt like if they provided a roof over their kid's head and food on the table that should prove that they loved them. Pity the child that had problems growing up because they felt like they had no one to come to, and all children need to feel loved.

Kelly wanted to prove to his dad that he could do something right. He got the opportunity when his parents came to Joliet for his sister's wedding. He took his dad out to the Joliet Airport to show him his plane.

As they were standing there looking at the plane Kelly noticed that his dad only had a light jacket on and it was getting cool. Kelly said let's get in the plane and I'll start it up and turn the heater on.

When they got in Kelly told Jim it was a standard procedure for everyone to fasten their seat belts even if they were sitting still. Kelly began to

hear.

I am glad that my generation of Redmons do say, "I love you. I'm proud of you son for what you have done in your life." I hug my kids every time I go to Florida and when we end our phone conversations it's always "I love you Robin, Scott and Jason." I'm sure Kelly and all his siblings do about the same. Well grandpa Jim and Perry we haven't done too bad in life and although you are gone, we want to tell you "We love you."



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# Disappeared: Chapter 14: Part 2

## Maggie & Evie-Day 4



**Carol Hall**  
Author

wouldn't let go of Brutus's arm. She reminded Maggie of a small child clinging desperately to her daddy.

Maggie and Rose played in the water together. They splashed each other, spit water at each other and wrestled around together. Maggie was actually having a lot of fun. She forgot how sore she was for the first time all day. The cool water was actually soothing to her battered body.

Evie watched them from the safety of Brutus's lap. She was frustrated with how Maggie was interacting with Rose. It almost seemed as if Maggie was happy. How could she be acting like it was all fun and games? She needed to be concentrating on how to escape. The longer Evie watched, the angrier she got.

When they all climbed out of the river and laid down on the bank, Evie's anger boiled over. Maggie was laying on her back next to Rose talking to her. She acted like Rose could understand her. Really? Why wasn't she talking to her, Evie, about how to escape? "What are you doing?" she asked Maggie with a sharp edge to her voice. "She doesn't understand you, you know."

Maggie caught the tone of Evie's voice and looked over at her. "How do you know? She seems to understand quite a lot of what I say to her."

"We should be discussing how to get away from them. Not making friends with them!" Maggie realized that Evie was jealous. She was jealous of her friendship with Rose. Did she think she was being replaced as her best friend?

"I am trying to think of an escape plan, Evie, all the time. But while we're with these guys, it's easier on us if we try to get along with them. They are actually very intelligent animals."

"Well, it seems like you are perfectly happy to just fritter away the time with her." "Evie, what we are experiencing is actually quite amazing, don't you think? How many people can say they got to know Bigfoot? They are actually really sweet! Well...Rose is. Brutus can be a bit rough, but I think he has a good heart too. He just doesn't show it like Rose does. He has to be a disciplinarian to her, and therefore to us too."

"You're crazy, Maggie. Just plum crazy. I do not want to befriend them. I do not want to get to know them. I just want to go home. I want to see Chris again. Did you forget about Nick?"

At the mention of Nick, Maggie's heart took a tumble. Tears began to sting her eyes. "Of course not! I'm just trying to get by and make this easier on myself. I want to go home too, Evie! I miss Nick more than you could imagine."

"Then why are you acting like this is some kind of a game or something?"

"I'm not. But I would be lying if I said this wasn't fascinating. I mean, think about it. Bigfoot is real! Real, Evie! We are actually sitting here with Bigfoot! Tell me that isn't a little bit exciting!"

"It'll be more exciting when we escape and can tell someone."

Maggie just shook her head. "I promise you, I'm always keeping my eye out for an escape. But we have to be very careful. If we try to escape and fail, we'll lose their trust and things could get very bad for us. Do you want that?"

"No, but, Maggie," Evie whined. "I want to go home." Tears started running down her cheeks in earnest. She swatted at them with the back of her hand, but they just kept coming.

Maggie pulled her into a tight hug. "It's going to be ok. We will get out of this, I promise!"

Brutus was laying on his back on the other side of Evie when he suddenly sat up and stiffened. He appeared to be listening to something. Rose quickly got to her feet and looked off into the woods on the other side of the river. She stiffened and immediately dropped down to a crouched position. She reached out and grabbed Maggie's arm.

"What is it, Rose?" Maggie asked, quickly sitting up. She scanned the trees, but didn't see anything.

Evie grabbed Maggie's other arm. "What's going on?" she asked, sounding nervous.

"I don't know," Maggie whispered back. "Shh, don't talk. Listen."

Somewhere close by, they heard something moving among the trees. It was a rustling noise like something crunching through dead leaves.

Brutus growled low in his throat. It wasn't loud, but it carried across the forest. The rumble vibrated the ground.

He grabbed Evie and pulled her up against his body, his arm wrapping around her protectively. Rose did the same thing with Maggie.

They were exposed in their position on the river bank. The trees that lined the river were set back just enough that they were visible to anyone or anything that came along.

Movement in the trees caught Maggie's eye. Just up the river a few hundred feet, on the opposite bank, someone emerged from the trees. In a split second, recognition washed over her. Nick. Nick had just walked out of the trees and into full view.

Before she even realized what she had done, she screamed. "NICK!" She saw him jerk his head in her direction just as Rose stood up and grabbed her up under her arm and dashed off into the cover of the trees.

Maggie was fighting with everything she had, but Rose was too strong and moved

too quickly.

Maggie's last sight of Nick was of his running along the bank yelling her name. Maggie heard Brutus let out a roar unlike anything she had ever heard before. The deep sound resonated through the forest and rocked the ground beneath their feet.

Maggie knew he was angry. Angrier than she had ever seen him. She caught a glimpse of Evie dangling under Brutus's arm as they made a mad dash through the trees. They were moving at such a high rate of speed that Maggie became disoriented. Tree limbs were slapping against her head and legs and scraggly brush was ripping at her exposed skin. She didn't feel any of it. All she could think of was Nick. Nick was out there looking for her. Chris was there too. Who were the other three men? Did they see the Bigfoot? They had to have. What would they do now that they knew who took her and Evie? Would they hunt down the Bigfoot? Would they kill them? What would she do if they did? Would she try to stop them?

Before long they were back at the cliff. They ascended so quickly, Maggie didn't have time to be afraid. She just dangled from under Rose's arm as they scaled upward with unbelievable speed. At the top, they rushed down the tunnel and emerged into the cave. Rose flew over to her bed and dropped Maggie onto the floor next to it. She landed hard on her side. She just lay there unable to move due to the shattering pain in her hip and shoulder.

She saw Rose fall onto the bed. She was huffing and puffing so hard Maggie thought she was having a heart attack. She drew in great gulps of air. Maggie sat there and watched her for several moments until Rose's breathing began to slow down. When she realized that Rose was ok, Maggie looked around for Evie and Brutus. They had not made it back into the cave yet.

She got up and ran over to the entrance. Just as she was about to run down the tunnel to the outside, Brutus came bursting through the opening carrying Evie over his shoulder.

He went straight to his bed and dropped Evie onto it. She landed on her rear end and let out a squeal of pain.

Brutus then turned toward Maggie and with a movement so swift it seemed impossible, he was in front of her. He raised his hand and struck her so hard, she fell backwards onto the floor, hitting her head with such force she saw stars.

She laid on the ground totally stunned. Her head exploded with pain and tears stung her eyes. She couldn't seem to move for the pain. He let out a roar that shook Maggie to her core. He was so angry, she could see him quivering.

He raised his hand to hit her again, but Rose stepped in front of her. She raised her hands up toward him and grunted in an urgent, almost crying sort of noise.

Brutus looked at her, then at Maggie. He let out another roar and stormed off down the tunnel. Maggie had no idea where he was going, but she prayed that Nick wasn't out there somewhere where Brutus would find him. She knew if he found Nick, he would kill him.

The left side of Maggie's face had begun to swell. She could no longer open her eye and her ear was still ringing. She knew her cheekbone was probably fractured. The pain radiated across her face and down her neck into her shoulder.

Evie tentatively made her way over to Maggie. Rose didn't prevent her from joining them on her bed, so Evie crawled onto it and sat down next to Maggie.

"You really took a hit from him," she spoke very softly. She was almost afraid to make any noise at all. When she spoke, she kept casting glances at Rose, but she didn't seem to be paying any attention.

"I wasn't thinking when I yelled," Maggie said. "I saw Nick and all I could think was to let him know we were there."

"Was Chris with him?"

"Yeah. There were three other men as well. I don't know who they were though." Maggie gently rubbed her face. Her head throbbed and her cheek was on fire. She hadn't noticed yet all the other cuts and scratches that covered her body.

"Nick and Chris know we are with each other though. And they know we are being held captive by Bigfoot," Evie said.

"Yes."

"What do you think they will do? Do you think they will find us?"

"I hope not," Maggie said. "For their sake, I hope not. We must find a way to escape and get to them."

Brutus's last attack on her made Maggie realize that escaping was their only option. If the men found them, the Bigfoot would kill them for sure. No, it was up to her and Evie to get away from the Bigfoot and find their men.

If Maggie had any notions of befriending the Bigfoot, it ended with this latest hit from Brutus. Her body couldn't take any more. One more hit like that and it could kill her. Maybe he really was just a monster. Maybe her trying to be friends with him was nothing more than a pipe dream. She didn't feel any love or kindness toward him now. She just wanted to get away from him and never set eyes on him again.

Rose. She did care for Rose though. Rose had defended her. Rose had stood up to Brutus on her behalf. Rose was kind to her. Rose was special. She loved Rose. But she couldn't stay with Rose. Nick was her home. Nick is where she belonged. And if it killed her, she would get away from the Bigfoot.

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

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



# NOW HERE'S A TIP

By JoAnn Derson

- 
- \* Candles will burn more evenly if you refrigerate them for a few hours before lighting.
- \* "My great-nephew and his family came to visit, and his toddler son is quite into opening doors. I had baby-proofed my home, but I did not think about his being able to turn a doorknob. His very smart mother pulled out a sock and slipped it over the doorknob, then secured it with a wide rubber band. Even I was unable to get a good grip on the doorknob after that!" -- V.R. in North Carolina
- \* Surprise guests? Here's how to quickly clean your living areas: First, clean the toilet, mirror and vanity in the guest bathroom and leave a fresh towel; grab a laundry basket and remove any clutter from the living room and kitchen; put away or clean dirty dishes and wipe down counters in the kitchen; finally, give carpets a quick vacuum. Then maybe light a

## STRANGE BUT TRUE

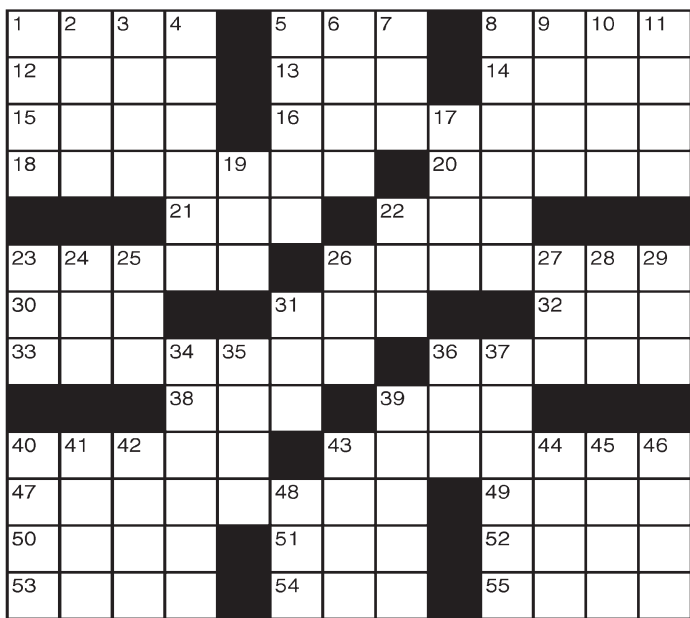
By Lucie Winborne

- \* In 2008, PETA requested Ben & Jerry's use breastmilk instead of cow's milk to make ice cream. This was unanimously rejected by Ben & Jerry's and La Leche League International.
- \* Sixty-five percent of test subjects had the urge to yawn after reading about yawning.
- \* From 1746 until 1996, English law considered bagpipes not as a musical instrument, but a weapon of war, used to "instill courage in soldiers and put the fear of God into the enemy."
- \* The kitchen dishwasher was invented by a politician's socialite wife who was fed up with servants breaking her

- expensive dishes.
- \* Author Roger Highfield's 1999 book "The Physics of Christmas: From the Aerodynamics of Reindeer to the Thermodynamics of Turkey" detailed a darker side to Rudolph's famously red nose -- not alcoholism, but some kind of parasitic infection.
- \* A tornado in Oklahoma once ripped a full motel off the ground. Its sign was later found in Arkansas.
- \* Born in 1924, a horse called Lady Wonder was considered by many to be psychic. Not only did she make predictions and answer questions for over 30 years and more than 150,000 people, she was credited with helping to solve several crimes.
- \* Chilean poet Pablo Neruda

## King Crossword

- ACROSS**
- 1 Alum
  - 5 Spell-off
  - 8 Pit
  - 12 Taylor of "Mystic Pizza"
  - 13 Approves
  - 14 Satan's forte
  - 15 Leading man?
  - 16 Landlocked Mideast territory
  - 18 Disney's Ariel, for one
  - 20 Van Gogh venue
  - 21 CBS logo
  - 22 Mimic
  - 23 Wedding VIP
  - 26 "I'm No Angel" actress
  - 30 '60s chic
  - 31 Green shade
  - 32 Cattle call
  - 33 "The Great Gatsby" setting
  - 36 Self-reproach
  - 38 Stop — dime
  - 39 "— voyage!"
  - 40 Skater Ohno
  - 43 Within earshot
  - 47 Oater setting
  - 49 Author Bellow
  - 50 Within (Pref.)
  - 51 "Shoo!"
  - 52 Exile isle
  - 53 Beheld
  - 54 Sugary suffix



- 55 Marvel superheroes
- DOWN**
- 1 Glitz partner
- 2 Carousel, for one
- 3 Winged
- 4 Darkened
- 5 "Let's Dance" singer
- 6 Scratched (out)
- 7 Curved letter
- 8 Semitic language
- 9 Cameo shape
- 10 Queue
- 11 BPOE members
- 17 Carton sealer
- 19 Nay undoer
- 22 Motorist's org.
- 23 Upscale auto
- 24 Shad product
- 25 Egos' counterparts
- 26 Jo's sister
- 27 Brit. record label
- 28 Fa follower
- 29 Youngster
- 31 Links org.
- 34 Ratted out
- 35 Sufficient, old-style
- 36 Deity
- 37 Gender-neutral
- 39 Montana city
- 40 Dazzles
- 41 Freshener scent
- 42 Shoppe description
- 43 Unrepaired
- 44 Lip soother
- 45 Garage job
- 46 Panache
- 48 Conceit

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great-smelling candle and greet your guests!

- \* "Fireplaces are wonderful for heat and ambience, but the ashes! When cleaning up, I spritz the ashes with a rosemary water solution. This keeps them from dusting up and flying all over, and it smells great. My neighbor puts her damp loose-leaf tea in the fireplace for scent." -- C.W. in Iowa
- \* "In cold winter months, keep your robe (and slippers or whatever else) under the covers with you when you sleep. Pull it next to or over you a few minutes before you get up. It'll be toasty and will help make the transition into the cold a little less harsh." -- Giselle in New York
- \* Empty spice containers can be used to hold different hardware in the shop or in your toolbox.

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

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always wrote in green ink, which for him was a color of hope and abundance.

\* LeBron James's decision to leave Cleveland to join the Miami Heat was such a shocker that even Osama Bin Laden's translator, who was being held at Guantanamo Bay prison in Cuba, wrote about it to his lawyers, declaring that "LeBron James is a very bad man. He should apologize to the city of Cleveland." \*\*\*

Thought for the Day: "Beauty is the moment when time vanishes and eternity arises." -- Amit Ray

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### Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

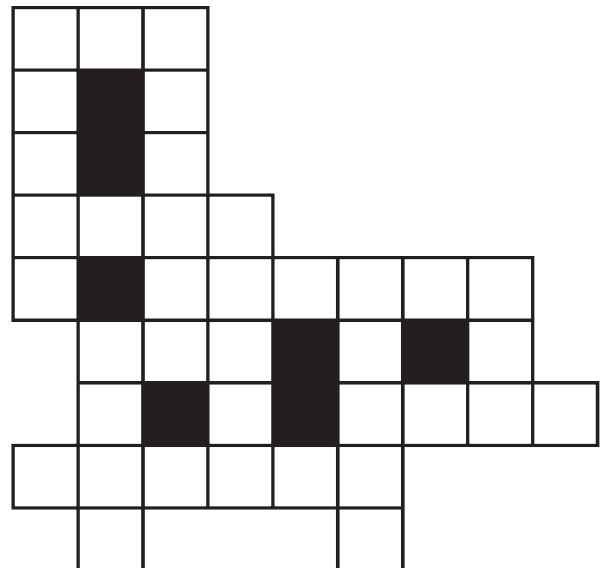
Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦**

♦ Moderate    ♦♦ Challenging  
 ♦♦♦ HOO BOY!  
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- ODU
- OWNPEA
- TEKDI
- KAMO
- ONECUP
- OWP
- ♥ WOST
- SPYEK
- ♥ NTA
- DOKEIN
- ♥ ATTIN
- PKTE



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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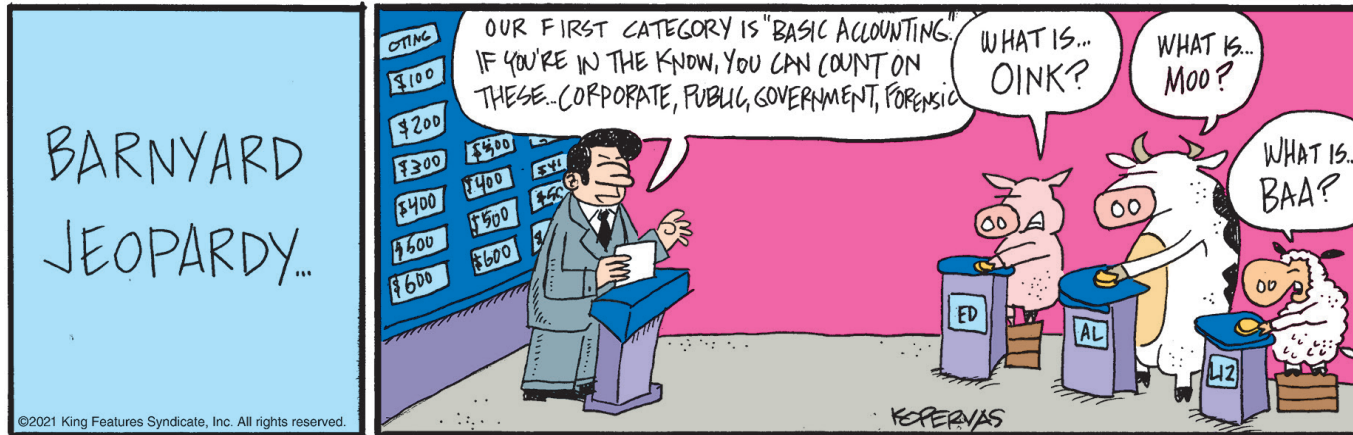
# Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



# Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



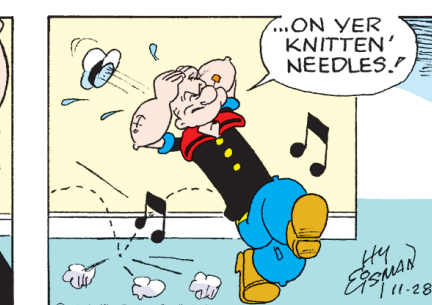
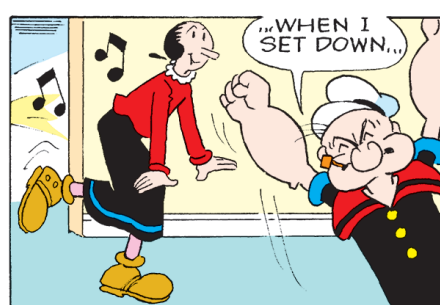
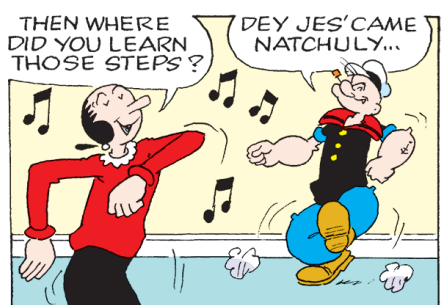
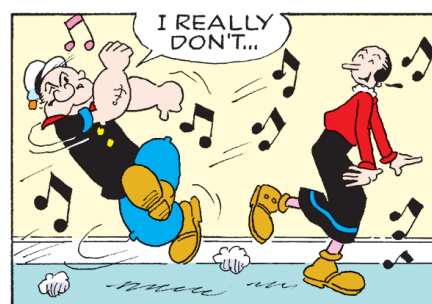
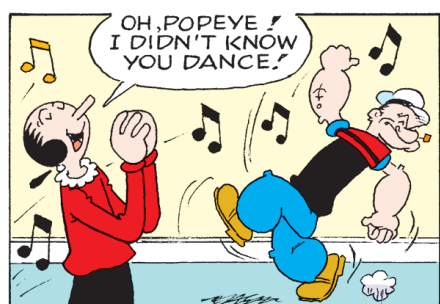
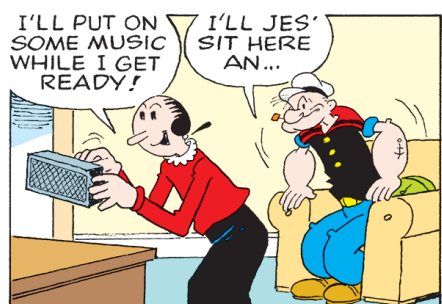
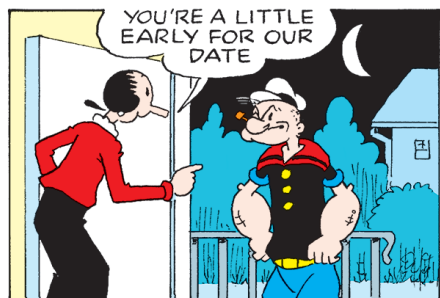
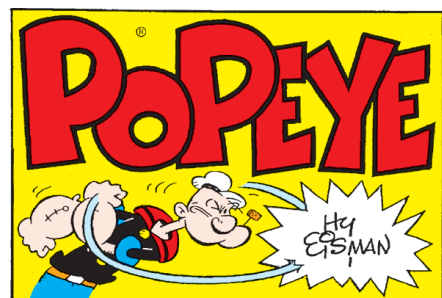
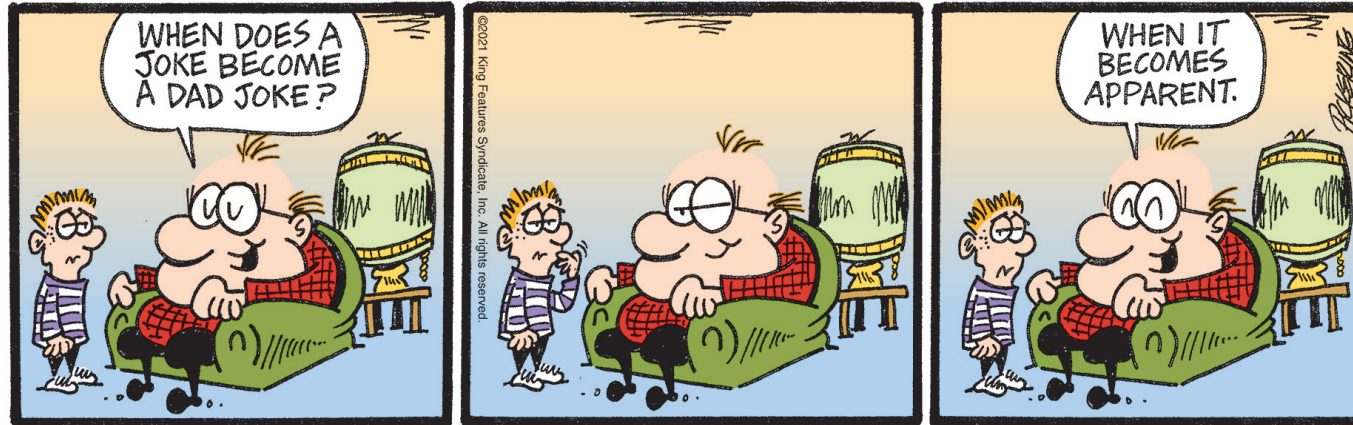
# R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



# The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



# MOMENTS IN TIME

The History Channel

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\* On Dec. 25, 1776, Gen. George Washington crosses the Delaware River with 5,400 Patriot troops, hoping to surprise a Hessian force celebrating Christmas at their winter quarters in Trenton, New Jersey. Washington's men quickly overwhelmed the German defenders, who were groggy from the previous evening's festivities, and by morning the town was surrounded.

\* On Dec. 21, 1891, James Naismith introduces the game of basketball as an activity for bored and unruly students during difficult New England winters. Based on rules he created, the game was tested by 18 students at the International Young Men's Christian Association Training School in Massachusetts.

\* On Dec. 22, 1956, a baby gorilla enters the world at the Columbus Zoo in Ohio, becoming the first gorilla born in captivity. Colo went on to become a mother, grandmother and a great-grandmother to Timu, the first surviving infant gorilla conceived by artificial insemination. Colo died in 2017 at the age of 60.

\* On Dec. 26, 1966, Jimi Hendrix writes the lyrics to "Purple Haze," the song that would give him his breakthrough hit. Rolling Stone magazine would later name "Purple Haze" one of the 100 Greatest Guitar Songs of All Time.

\* On Dec. 23, 1982, the Missouri Department of Health informs residents of Times Beach that their town was contaminated when the chemical dioxin was sprayed on its unpaved roads. The entire town was evacuated and demolished.

\* On Dec. 20, 1995, the United Nations peacekeeping force formally transfers military authority in Bosnia to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, clearing the way for deployment of some 60,000 NATO troops.

\* On Dec. 24, 1979, the Soviet Union invades Afghanistan under the pretext of upholding the Soviet-Afghan Friendship Treaty of 1978. Despite fierce resistance from the Afghan army, it took the Soviets only a few days to secure the capital of Kabul.



# THE RICH LOWRY COLUMN

By Rich Lowry

## The King of Hypocrisy

Nike's latest TV ad is another slick paean to individual empowerment and prevailing despite the naysayers.

Centered around Memphis Grizzlies star Ja Morant, the commercial features various people doubting that Morant can keep up his stellar play, to which someone always cheekily replies, "Says who?" Yes, Nike believes anything is possible -- so long as it doesn't involve doing anything to cross one of the world's most hideously repressive regimes.

The grotesque hypocrisy of the Nike-NBA industrial complex and its biggest star, LeBron James, has been underlined in recent weeks by Boston Celtics player Enes Kanter, who has been on a one-man crusade against the Chinese Communist Party and those too cowardly or greedy to call it out.

James -- the owner of four NBA championship rings who has appeared in a jaw-dropping 10 NBA finals -- has views on all sorts of public controversies and doesn't hesitate to air them so long as they are comfortably within the fashionable woke consensus.

On China, though, he's mute. So are his employers. They all portray themselves as champions of social justice and of courage and striving, but their commitment to these causes and values stops at the water's edge -- and at their bottom line.

When a couple of years ago, the Houston Rockets general manager got thrown under the bus by the NBA for tweeting in support of pro-democracy protestors in Hong Kong, King James pronounced him "not educated on the situation."

The Lakers forward affirmed a right to free speech -- thanks, GOAT! -- but said we have to be careful what we say. "So many people," he warned, "could have been harmed, not only financially but physically, emotionally, spiritually."

Never has so much harm been attributed to a small message of public support for plucky idealists about to be steamrolled by a totalitarian government.

During the Kyle Rittenhouse trial, by the way, James mocked Rittenhouse's tears on the stand, doubting they were real -- apparently because he's an expert on what constitutes genuine signs of post-traumatic stress.

If Rittenhouse had control over whether a vast market would be open to James and the corporations he's affiliated with, the Lakers star surely would have stayed silent.

When Kanter tweeted, "Money over Morals for the 'King,'" and wore sneakers portraying James bowing down to get crowned by Chinese dictator Xi Jinping for a Celtics-Lakers game, James brushed it off. He accused Kanter of "trying to use my name to create an opportunity for himself."

Actually, Kanter's activism, calling out his league and a massively influential corporation, is what everyone says they value -- a lonely, unwelcome campaign against well-heeled interests too compromised to defy a powerful entity perpetrating rank injustices.

After Nike got blowback in China for a relatively anodyne statement expressing concern about forced labor in Xinjiang -- the epicenter of the regime's repression of the Uyghurs -- the company's CEO said Nike is "a brand of China and for China."

Nike lobbied Congress to weaken an anti-forced-labor bill, lest a measure aimed at crimping a vast human-rights abuse discomfit the corporate giant too greatly.

"Says who?" the new Nike ad asks. Clearly, the Chinese regime. "You can't stop us," intoned a viral ad last year. Well, actually you can, provided you are an authoritarian bully with an enormous consumer base.

"Just do it" went the most iconic Nike ad. No, second thought, better to "Just don't" if it might anger a government that disappeared a star athlete for the offense of accusing an official of sexual assault and is preparing to invade a neighboring country. If China were to take Taiwan, would the NBA, Nike or LeBron James do anything more than offer vague expressions of concern and piffle about how the situation is complicated?

We certainly know what Enes Kanter would say. Which is why he rightly deserves a Nike ad celebrating his go-it-alone truth-telling, and why, of course, he'll never get one.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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## Donna's Day Creative family fun

by Donna Erickson

### Rosemary Cashews for Holiday Snacking

I'm nuts about nuts. All year-round. I try to keep a bowl of fresh, shelled California almonds replenished and within easy reach on the kitchen counter for a grab and go snack. And thanks to my Georgia-raised friend, I have a stash of tasty pecans for tossing on salads and desserts.



Rosemary cashews set the scene for holiday gift-giving.

For the holidays, our tastes shift to cashews, and this easy recipe that makes them, well, more festive. The addition of fresh rosemary and cayenne pepper is unexpected and always gets raves.

Here's our family version, which calls for your kids' assistance. Let them take charge of pulling the fresh rosemary leaves off the stems before you mince the fragrant herb with a

sharp knife. Heat up the nuts in the oven and the remaining steps come together in minutes.

Double the recipe for holiday gift-giving. Instead of filling cellophane food bags, use recycled clear-glass jars. Your kids might want to make it whimsical and reminiscent of a snow globe scene by layering the seasoned cashews in the bottom third and adding a cute foil-covered chocolate snowman or ornament on top of the cashews. Anchor sprigs of rosemary upright to mimic pine trees, screw on the lid and add a tag. For an extra gift, tie a spoon to the jar for scooping up the flavorful treat.

Let's get cooking ...

#### ROSEMARY CASHEWS

- 3 cups roasted, unsalted cashews
- 1 heaping tablespoon minced fresh rosemary leaves
- 1 tablespoon brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon salt
- 1½ tablespoons unsalted butter, melted
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper (optional)

1. Heat oven to 350 F.
2. Spread the cashews in one layer on a cookie sheet and bake for about 6 minutes, or until warm and lightly toasted.

3. Combine the rosemary, brown sugar, salt, melted butter and cayenne pepper (if you wish an extra kick) in a large bowl. When the cashews are heated, immediately pour them into the bowl with the spice butter mixture. Toss thoroughly.

4. Cool and serve, or store in an airtight container up to two weeks.

NOTE: If you prefer, substitute 1 tablespoon pure maple syrup for 1 tablespoon brown sugar.

\*\*\*

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

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## VETERANS POST

by Freddy Groves

### Veterans Service Groups Are Up and Running Again

Is your local Disabled American Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars or American Legion up and running again? Many shut down over the past year due to COVID-19. Now, slowly, they're coming back. If you're eligible, this would be a good time to explore what they have to offer.

The DAV ([www.dav.org](http://www.dav.org)) started back in 1920 and now has 1,300 chapters and over 1 million members. Its objective is to help disabled veterans and their families at no cost. In one year alone, the DAV provided nearly a quarter of a million rides to veterans going to doctor appointments. Last year, it helped veterans get over \$24 billion in benefits through assistance with Department of Veterans Affairs claims.

The VFW ([www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org)), with some 1.5 million members, was started back in 1899 to ensure that veterans got their rights and benefits. Eligibility in-

cludes either active duty or prior service with Honorable or General (Under Honorable Conditions) discharge with service on foreign soil or in a hostile area. Like the DAV, the VFW can help with filing a VA claim. If you've gone back to school, the VFW might be able to help with scholarships. If you're in a jam (food, rent, electric bill, for example), small cash grants (not loans) are available for members.

The American Legion ([www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org)) has well over a dozen veterans programs including family and youth, community and national affairs. It was incorporated by Congress in 1919 as an organization devoted to mutual helpfulness with a focus on communities, patriotism and national security. Check the website for specific eligibility periods and posts near you. (There might be more than you think, with 15,000 scattered around the country.) One of the unsung benefits is the alliance between the Legion and USAA. Car insurance, bank account, credit card ... it's worth checking out.

Take a look at what these groups offer -- better yet, what you can offer them.

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# BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Luke in the Old Testament or New Testament or neither?
2. From Matthew 1:18, when Mary became pregnant, she and Joseph were ...? *Married, Engaged, Just friends, Strangers*
3. How many times is "nativity" mentioned in the Bible (KJV)? *Zero, 1, 2, 7*
4. At the birth of Jesus, who was king of Judaea? *Solomon, Herod, Balak, Belshazzar*
5. What was the home city of Mary and Joseph? *Capernaum, Nazareth, Aphek, Shechem*
6. Which of these wasn't a gift from the wise men (Magi)? *Silver, Myrrh, Gold, Frankincense*

ANSWERS: 1) New; 2) Engaged; 3) 7 (4 times in Ezekiel); 4) Herod; 5) Nazareth; 6) Silver

Looking for a great holiday gift? Wilson Casey's Golf Trivia 2022 daily calendar will challenge and entertain golfers of all skill levels. Available in stores and online.

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## Comfort foods

Made fast and healthy

by Healthy Exchanges

### Golden California Vegetables

Whether you're serving ham or roast beef or turkey — this is the perfect veggie dish. It goes with just about anything! Anything that versatile has to be golden, doesn't it?

- 3 cups frozen broccoli, cauliflower and carrot blend
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 1 cup water
- 1 (12 fluid ounce) can evaporated fat-free milk
- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 3/4 cup shredded reduced-fat Cheddar cheese
- 1/8 teaspoon black pepper
- 1 teaspoon dried parsley flakes

1. In a medium saucepan, combine vegetable blend, onion and water. Cook over medium heat until vegetables are just tender. Drain well and return to saucepan.

2. In a covered jar, combine evaporated milk and flour. Shake well to combine. Pour mixture into saucepan and return to heat. Add Cheddar cheese, black pepper and parsley flakes. Mix well to combine. Continue cooking over medium heat until mixture thickens, stirring often.

3. Stir in vegetables. Continue cooking until mixture is heated through, stirring often. Makes 4 (3/4 cup) servings.

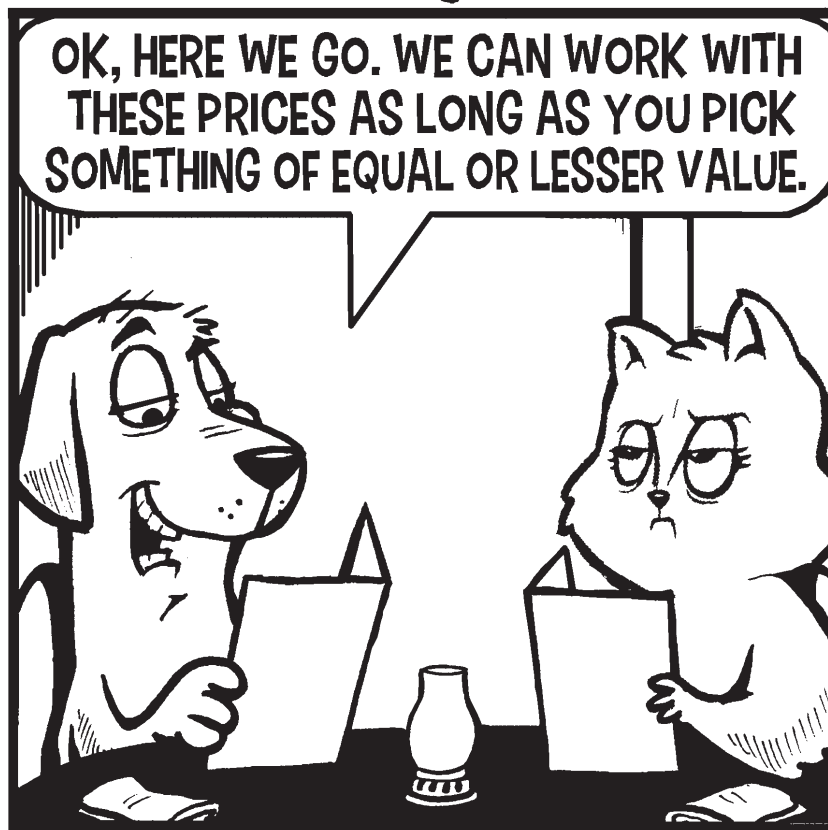
• Each serving equals: 196 calories, 4g fat, 15g protein, 25g carb., 352mg sodium, 3g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 1 1/2 Vegetable, 1 Meat, 1/2 Fat-Free Milk, 1/2 Starch.

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## Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



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“When we formed this carpool, I think we all



## Historically Speaking Oak Ridge history documentary films and videos

By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

Mike Stallo, Reference Librarian at the Oak Ridge Public Library brings us insight into the Heritage Tourism destinations in Oak Ridge. I wonder if we do well when it comes to promoting Oak Ridge as a Heritage Tourism destination.  
\*\*\*

Occasionally I see comments on social media stating that Oak Ridge is not focusing enough on the city's history, or not trying to preserve its legacy. While I acknowledge some historical preservation decisions have been made with which I have disagreed, including the loss of some World War II era buildings, I strongly disagree with the idea that little effort is being made, however, I do wonder how effective our efforts are at drawing actual Heritage Tourism visitors. Do we target the right audiences? What mediums work best for which age groups?

Undoubtedly, the methods of historical preservation should evolve to reflect both the needs of the community as well as to reflect ways in which the community itself has changed. While historic preservation and economic progress might sometimes seem at odds with each other, I don't think this has to be the case. History can be preserved along with economic development, and both can be done in a manner that will complement their needs. Heritage Tourism is one example.

From my perspective, there has never been a time when so many people have been involved in telling our history. We have come a long way over the past 20 years or so regarding the importance of historic preservation and telling our story. This is most evident by the many resources that now exist to tell Oak Ridge's story.

In 2015, The National Park Service and the Department of Energy joined together to create the Manhattan Project National Historical Park, which included historically significant sections of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, Los Alamos, New Mexico, and Hanford, Washington. Although these things take time to have an impact, I feel National Park status will be a boost to Oak Ridge's economy. (I agree, but we must admit that significant economic impact has been slow in coming. This November is six years later... However, I still have high hopes. If we could capture even one or two percent of the traffic to the Smokies... - Ray)

The headquarters for the Oak Ridge portion of the Manhattan Project National Historical Park is located inside the Children's Museum of Oak Ridge which is in an original World War II era building, the former Highland View Elementary School. The museum offers classes for children kindergarten through fifth grade, with hands-on learning about plants and animals as well as arts and crafts. They also have colorful, fun rooms to celebrate birthday parties, which include a Sea Life room and a Discovery Lab room. Other features include a solar house, rainforest, and model railroad exhibits, as well as a gift shop.

The Children's Museum of Oak Ridge also has a unique collection of historical artifacts with over 20,000 total items of various types. An Ed Westcott collection is housed there, along

with one of Ed's original cameras he used to take many of his iconic World War II photos. Pairing well with the Westcott collection is the original 1940s flat top house located on the grounds of the museum. The Flat top is furnished with original furnishings of the era. (A hutment is being planned now by the Oak Ridge Breakfast Rotary Club and will be located near the Flat Top house - Ray)

The museum's recently digitized Alvin Weinberg Collection is a treasure of both Manhattan Project history as well as of Weinberg's correspondence during his tenure as laboratory director for Oak Ridge National Laboratory. This collection can be viewed on the museum's website:

<https://childrensmuseumofokridge.org/weinberg/>

A visit to the Children's Museum will also give you the opportunity to speak with the park rangers about history as well as current happenings around



Manhattan Project National Historical Park tour of Building 9731 at the Y-12 National Security Complex (Photo Submitted)



Teachers from across Tennessee led by Bill Carey visit the K-25 History Center (Photo Submitted)



Manhattan Project National Historical Park Ranger giving a talk at the Oak Ridge Turnpike Checking Station (Photo Submitted)

town. It's not just for kids and has a lot to offer people of all ages. The Children's Museum is a must see for anyone interested in exploring Oak Ridge history.

<https://childrensmuseumofokridge.org/>

The particular areas in Oak Ridge which make up the national park are the X-10 Graphite Reactor, buildings 9731, and 9204-3 (Beta 3), located at The Y-12 National Security Complex, and the footprint of the K-25 building Located at East Tennessee Technology Park, as well as The Alexander Guest House main lobby which has a large historical exhibit along with the famous Ed Westcott photograph of Robert Oppenheimer sitting near the mantle over the fireplace in the main lobby. A small, framed copy of the Ed Westcott image of Oppenheimer sits atop the mantle.

A National Historic Landmark, the X-10 Graphite Reactor, located at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, is the second man-made nuclear reactor in the world, and the first designed for continuous operation. The reactor served as the pilot project that led to the first production of plutonium and is world's oldest nuclear reactor. It also served to produce the first radionuclides for medical purposes and operated 20 years producing many such isotopes.

The Y-12 buildings included in the park

are buildings 9731, the first building completed on the Y-12 site in 1943 and building 9204-3 (Beta 3). Both buildings still house Calutrons used for enriching uranium during World War II and maybe more importantly used to produce stable isotopes from all elements in the periodic table until 1998. The buildings are being submitted for National Historic Landmark status.

Visitors can check out the Y-12 History Center located in the Y-12 National Security Complex's New Hope Center. The Y-12 History Center is not available to the public because of COVID-19 restrictions for access to the Y-12 Visitor Center. However, it was recently upgraded in preparation for and anticipation that it will soon again be available for public access. The History Center has a nice collection of artifacts to help tell the story of Y-12's history and mission. It also has brochures and other learning materials available.

The footprint of the former K-25 Gaseous Diffusion Building is at the East Tennessee Technology Park's Heritage Center. The former K-25 Building site is where the gaseous diffusion process was used to enrich large quantities of uranium. The K-25 building was the largest building in the world under one roof at the time it was built in 1944-45.

The new K-25 History Center is located on the grounds near the historic footprint of the K-25 building. The museum was fortunate to have some of the original K-25 workers like John Shoemaker and historian Ray Smith as well as Steve Goodpasture and others working to help the museum become a reality. The K-25 History Center opened the last week in February 2020 but was only open a short time before Covid 19 required it to be closed in mid-March 2020. It has since re-opened and is popular with tourist as a Heritage Tourism destination.

Another resource to get a quick overview of the history of Oak Ridge is to visit Explore Oak Ridge's website. <https://exploreoakridge.com/oak-ridge-history/> Explore Oak Ridge is in the Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce building and operates the Oak Ridge Visitor Center in the main lobby. It has a very attractive website, with beautiful photos, and concise, informative descriptions of attractions here in town. The website covers the details of historical sites, outdoor activities, places to eat, lodging, and more. This is a real asset to travelers or people new to town.

The Oak Ridge Heritage and Preservation Association has created one of our newest museums: The Oak Ridge History Museum. It is housed inside an original Manhattan Project building called "The Midtown Community Center." ORHPA has done a remarkable job improving the building and creating new displays to tell the story of the city. They are well equipped with a network of knowledgeable volunteers, many of whom are lifelong citizens of Oak Ridge. The museum includes many original artifacts, and a wide variety of displays highlighting what life was like in early Oak Ridge.



The American Museum of Science and Energy has a long history in Oak Ridge, having origins with the original American Museum of Atomic Energy. The current location of the AMSE opened October 18, 2018 in Main Street Oak Ridge. The museum has fresh new displays: Manhattan Project history, National Security, Big Science and Nuclear Power, and Environmental Management. There are also temporary exhibits and interactive exhibits that attract children and adults alike.

Also at AMSE, the Ed Westcott exhibit features photos taken by our own Manhattan Project photographer, Ed Westcott. These photos offer a fascinating glimpse into daily life in the 1940s in the gated town of Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

The Art of Science exhibit is a striking collection of science themed images, and includes photos taken of microscopic images and more traditional photos. The "Moon Box" that brought back 840 pounds of lunar material for the NASA Apollo space program is located along with other more recent examples of Oak Ridge support of our nation's space initiatives.

For more hands-on activities the Exploration Zone is a fun feature of AMSE. You can challenge yourself with brain buster activities, or learn about robots or how batteries work, and more. These activities can be enjoyed by individuals or can be a fun family activity. AMSE also has an excellent gift shop with unique science themed items for visitors of all ages. AMSE has an informative website to help give you a more detailed idea of what they have to offer. The staff at AMSE is friendly, and knowledgeable. It is an ideal experience for someone interested in science and technology. <https://amse.org/> The most up to date information, hours, programming etc., can be found on AMES's Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/35829893689/photo/p.10160010736593690/10160010736593690/>

And finally, The Oak Ridge Public Library has always been one of the best places to find out more about the history of the city. The Oak Ridge Room was created in September 1986 as part of the library's celebration of Tennessee's Homecoming '86. This unique collection was established

to gather, catalog, and preserve the records and history of the "Secret City," and to aid the public in researching Oak Ridge history. Special collections, documents, reports, and artifacts reveal what life was like in the 1940's when Oak Ridge was a brand-new city built to government war-time specifications.

In addition to historic photograph collections, the Oak Ridge Room also contains a

city government and issues important to citizens today are also included.

Stop in and explore the newly expanded Oak Ridge Room. This extension area adds additional storage for archival documents and historical items, areas to display historic documents, and will soon have a computer containing databases of historical information and photos for research purposes. The library has created a new position dedicated solely to Oak Ridge history and has expanded the hours of availability and access to archival materials. <http://www.oakridgetn.gov/department/Library/Home> Whether you want to dig deep and spend months researching the history of Oak Ridge, or just need some general information, there are many rich resources available to help you achieve your goals. So go out there and show your support. \*\*\*

Thanks Mike, you point out many of our Heritage Tourism destinations. I would add the Secret City Commemorative Walk, the Oak Ridge International Friendship Bell, the Emery Road Rock Pillar Bridge, the Birth of the City monuments, the Chapel on the Hill, the Alexander Guest House, the K-25 Overlook and Visitor Center, the many park ranger led hikes, bike rides, kayak explorations, and talks at the Turnpike Checking Station.

I would also point out our Greenways which are also locations of pre-Oak Ridge history of foundations for homes and a silo from the Manhattan Project, to name only a couple of the highlights the Secret City Hikes group explore and provide patches for people who hike portions of the well over 100 miles of trails in Oak Ridge. These trails range from easy short walks on paved greenways to moderate hikes in the forested areas of Oak Ridge. To return to my premise that we should do more to promote Heritage Tourism in Oak Ridge, I must compliment AMSE on recent online outreach activities such as AMSECast, Riley the intern videos, the AM-

SEQuiz, debut at Crafter's Brew in September, short educational programs online and in person, even the appearance on WBIR TV 10 at Jackson Square showing off the Super Cool liquid nitrogen experiment.



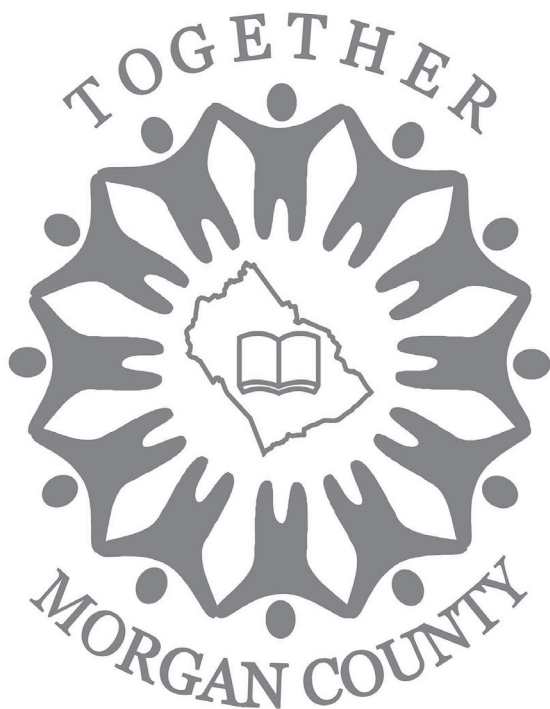
Children's Museum of Oak Ridge and Manhattan Project National Historical Park Visitor Center (Photo Submitted)



The K-25 Overlook and Visitor Center (Photo Submitted)

large collection of books on the development and history of the Manhattan Project, including many biographies of some of the key scientists and military personnel. The collection also includes telephone directories from the 1940's-2000's, maps, floor plans, and blueprints. This digital collection highlights many of the popular, informative, and unique items at the library.

Current information about our



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# 1 Corinthians: Chapter 13

(1 Cor. 13:1-3) Special gifts must be exercised in love: The Greeks had several words to express different aspects of love. There was a form of love that especially applied to family relationships. It is rendered “tenderly affectioned” in Romans 12:10. Another variety of love related to dear friends, such as Jesus had for Lazarus (Jn. 11:3, 36). The grandest love of all was agape love. It was not the love of shallow emotion, but that of dedicated commitment. This was the love manifested by the Father in sending his Son (Jn. 3:16). For Christians, it was a deliberate resolution to always act in the highest interest of God’s cause and on behalf of other people. Agape is the love of this chapter, which virtually becomes a “dictionary” on the term.

Continuing with the larger context of miraculous gifts, Paul argues hypothetically; “If I could speak supernaturally in the various languages of man, or even that of angels (since angels are higher than men (Heb. 2:6-7), yet did not use my gift within the framework of advancing the cause of Christ, I would be nothing more than an irritating sound.” He is rebuking those who insist on exercising their gift for their own selfish interests rather than for the good of the whole church. (There is absolutely no evidence that the tongues “of angels” refers to the incomprehensible babbling common in Pentecostal assemblies.)

If one had the gifts of prophecy, knowledge, or faith (12:8-9), and yet did not use his gifts as God intended, in the highest interest of the gospel, he would be “nothing,” valueless in the Lord’s work. It is worthy of notation that the use of one’s gift was under his control (14:32). Even if one surrendered all his possessions to feed the poor, or manifested a faith strong enough to be courageously burned to death (12:9), yet was void of sacrificial love in the use of his gift, the profit would be nil. The misguided motive in the use of a gift might produce a positive result, but the offender would not receive divine approval (Phil. 1:15-18).

1 Cor. 13:4-7) The qualities of agape love: In this portion of Paul’s discussion of the necessity of love in the exercise of spiritual gifts, fifteen identifying descriptives are listed---seven are positive qualities, eight are character traits to be avoided. For the purpose of this discussion, I will arrange them into these two categories.

Positive qualities: (a) Love is patient with other people; it gives them time to develop. (b) Love is kind. Love reflects a sweet disposition. (c) Love rejoices with truth. The Christian loves truth supremely---the whole truth and nothing but the truth. (d) Love bears all things. The original term can mean either to bear up or to cover up. (e) Love believes all things. This does not mean that love is gullible. (f) Love hopes, is optimistic, and looks for the best result whenever possible. (g) Love endures. The original word does not imply mere passive tolerance.

Negative traits: (a) Love does not envy. (b) Love vaunts not itself. (c) Love is not puffed up. (d) Love does not behave unseemly. (e) Love is not self seeking. (f) Love is not provoked. (g) Love takes no account of evil. (h) Love rejoices not in sin.

Is it any wonder that when we study these noble qualities we would like to melt into a puddle of shame?

(1 Cor. 13:8-13) Gifts will cease; Love abides: It must be remembered that the theme of love and spiritual gifts are woven together in this context. Some of the Corinthian saints were gloating in their gifts, exploiting them without the needs of oth-

ers being paramount. One final argument, therefore, is this: The gifts are but temporary in the divine order of things. Love must abide. It is the all-encompassing regulator of moral conduct.

Paul selects three gifts---prophecy, tongues, and knowledge---to be illustrative of the nine mentioned earlier (12:8-10). These supernatural bestowments will be “done away” or “cease.” Love will go on and on. It will be needed to regulate human conduct indefinitely. The gifts of knowledge and prophecy, for example, came incrementally through the different ones possessing these gifts, but when the “perfect” (literally, “the complete”) has been accomplished, “the partial” will be needed no longer. The partial was the piece-by-piece revelation; the “complete” was the revelatory process brought to its goal. That happened when the canon of Scripture was completed with the death of John the apostle and the culmination of the New Testament record. The common though careless theory that “the perfect” refers to the return of Christ fits neither grammar nor the context. It is woefully unfortunate that this segment of Scripture is so seriously misunderstood, and many continue to labor under the illusion that miracles are operative yet today.

Paul employs two illustrations to conclude his argument. (a) Certain things are necessary for the child-stage of one’s existence. When that phase is outgrown, the youngster’s “toys” are laid aside. The church needed miraculous gifts during its infancy period; when the revelation factor was completed, it was time for more mature development. (b) The era of partial, bit-by-bit revelation, was similar to seeing one’s image in an imperfect brass mirror. When the full revelation of Scripture was completed, the sharp, face-to-face view would be so much richer. While the supernatural gifts are temporary, faith, hope, and love will be operative even after the completion of the canon of Scripture. The former two will find their goals achieved in time; but love will flourish eternally!

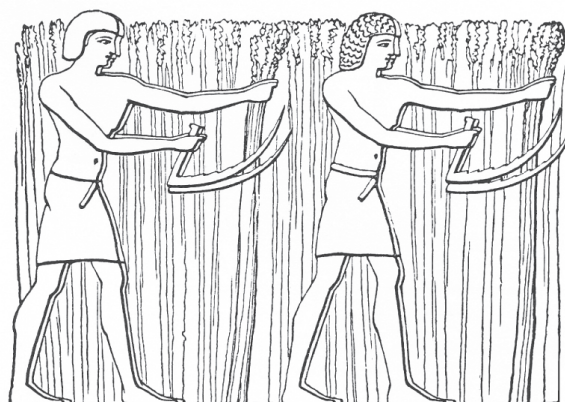
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MELVIN HOWARD



## THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE



*Sow for yourselves  
righteousness;  
reap in mercy;  
break up your fallow  
ground, for it is time  
to seek the Lord, till  
He comes and rains  
righteousness on you.*

HOSEA 10:12

Melvin Howard’s Weekly column is sponsored by

# The Lord’s Church

102 Paxton Road, Lancing



# The Synagogue of Satan



**John Burns**  
*Opinion Columnist*

Who is Jesus Christ referring to as people who are Jews in name only? The misunderstood question on church history and all because Satan got into church way back in Ephesus. They lost their first love as Jews who believed in Messiah. Was John the Revelator Jewish? Was Messiah a Jewish rabbi? Then who are the Jews in name only? Western pastors have gone to Greek seminaries and practiced Greek interpretation techniques with a Jewish book called our Bible. The term coined is eugenics. It permeates every aspect of our lives to include how we perceive God's Word.

Eugenics is born when a preacher believes he is better than anyone in his flock when it comes to interpreting the Bible. It is his way, or, the highway model being taught, not Jesus Christ's way, for he is Jewish, and practices Hebrew interpretation techniques based upon him being the subject of every word of the Bible. He knows better than me or your Bible teacher.

These charlatan preachers separate Jesus Christ from his Jewish future. They tell you western Christianity replaced Jews, yet they practice Jewish religious traditions Messiah fulfilled as a Jewish high priest and Jewish king awaiting his coming kingdom on earth. They require you to be placed under the Hebrew Mikveh ceremonial cleansing through immersion in water to prove you are as saved as them. Even though Jesus Christ changed water to wine at his first miracle, the wedding supper at Cana.

Wine is indicative of the blood of the Lamb cleansing us from all unrighteousness. Water baptism prepares you as a gentile for deodorant and nothing more. Jesus Christ fulfilled the need for the High priest to be immersed in water and he reminded John the Baptist he was replacing the need for water with the requirement to be covered in the blood of the Lamb.

Water does not save you from one sin. And you become a Jew in name only when you require people to get under the water and not the blood. You are serving at the synagogue of Satan.

It pains me to have to teach this to people that are comfortable doing what their ancestors did. Continuing in church tradition rather than finding out if what I am saying is true according to the entire Bible.

These men are leading many astray by clinging to tradition more than accepting the entire testimony of the Bible. Antisemitism is at the heart of what I am saying. Racism, classism, sexism, socialism all point to the Greek model of interpretation practiced by modern American eugenicists found on every corner of our America.

1 John 2:27 states that we have an anointing from God, we do not need any of these men to include me to teach you. Acts 17:11 says the Bereans searched the scripture daily to find out if what Paul were saying is true?

Do you rely on pastors, preachers and teachers for your spiritual growth? They will not be there with you when you stand before the Lord and receive your just recompense for those things having done in the flesh.

Jesus Christ desires a personal relationship to him as Messiah. We must all fast and pray to find out if what the entire Bible says is true. You cannot separate one word from the message or it becomes a cult!

Jesus Christ said no scripture is available for individual inter-

pretation. Isaiah 28 teaches us God spread his true message across the breadth of the entire Bible. Here a little, there a little. He is keeping Satan off guard not believers, this is why we need Holy Spirit anointing in each of our lives. I love to debate the entire Word of God. It is my story of saving faith in Messiah and he is a coming Jewish king! Christ's humility had to replace my ability in all things scriptural. I had a lot of baggage when God rescued me from myself and began to save me. It began with the space between my own ears and has continued for 43 years and counting since I first pondered the question: Did God say?

I have experienced a lot of death in my life. I have buried 40 friends in military cemeteries all across America. I have lost an infant brother, but none hurt more than when I buried my granddaughter after she died in my arms while doing CPR. Religion became my refuge. I stuck to what my grandparents did and attended every denomination of church in America. None could assuage the hurt I felt over losing my baby girl.

I asked God "If you are who the Bible says you are, then show me?" I began to study the Bible first by losing all of my pre-suppositions I had learned while attending every church. The journey has been long and God has been faithful to me the greatest of sinners. I had to leave eugenics I learned in western denominational churches and take every word of the Bible literally. I was tired of being a Jew in name only. God instructed me to believe I was a new creation and old things had to pass away. None more than religious conviction!

Did God write the Bible to every person born of a woman or just to certain men who then tell us what it says? I am sticking with the Trinity to achieve the goals he has for my life. Doctrines of men hold no sway over my life. God provides me with mercy and grace and that is what I offer every person I come in contact with. I shame no one into belief in Messiah by charging them as sinners, that is God's job to convict a person and I can save no one.

Philadelphia is the place God intended to establish missionary outreach in America in the homes of Messiah's friends. Those homes are where people are once again being saved with no need for churches who practice Jewish doctrines. God is in control and Messiah is calling his bride home!

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

Even so come Lord Jesus Christ. John Burns 11-22-2021 RLTW

*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

P	O	W							
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## Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

## King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 23 mins.

G	R	A	D		B	E	E		H	O	L	E	
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M	E	R	M	A	I	D			A	R	L	E	S
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B	R	I	D	E			M	A	E	W	E	S	T
M	O	D			P	E	A				M	O	O
W	E	S	T	E	G	G			G	U	I	L	T
				O	N	A			B	O	N		
A	P	O	L	O			A	U	D	I	B	L	E
W	I	L	D	W	E	S	T			S	A	U	L
E	N	D	O			G	I	T		E	L	B	A
S	E	E	N			O	S	E		X	M	E	N





## Sweeten the Season With DIY Chocolate Truffles

'Tis the season of gift-giving, and if you're looking for maximum decadence with minimum cost and effort, you can't beat chocolate truffles.

This top-secret recipe yields the perfect two-bite indulgence with scrumptiously sophisticated flavor. Everyone will think you secretly went to France to become a chocolatier.

Now, don't tell anyone, but chocolate truffles are ridiculously easy to prepare! That part can be our little secret. These little beauties are made simply by melting chocolate with heavy cream, a technique that results in chocolate ganache. Then you chill the mixture, roll it into balls and coat with your choice of toppings. The variations are limited only by your creativity.

You can choose any kind of chocolate you desire (dark, milk or white) and add additional flavors and goodies as you wish. However, in a recipe with so few ingredients it's important to purchase the best quality you can comfortably afford. The better the chocolate — the better the truffle. But it's still luxurious when made with mainstream brand chocolate chips you get in any grocery stores. As for the cream, go full fat. The recipe doesn't turn out as well if you don't use heavy whipping cream.

Can we talk about ganache for a moment? This is a weapon everyone should have in their culinary arsenal. Ganache is so versatile, by varying

the amount of cream to chocolate, it can be a filling for cakes or cookies, whipped into a fluffy frosting, a dip, sauce, glaze, or rolled into truffles. And when you eat it, in any of those forms, it literally melts in your mouth!

### TOP-SECRET CHOCOLATE TRUFFLES

**Yield:** about 40 pieces **Time:** 15 minutes, plus 1 hour cooling

- 1 (10 to 12 ounce) bag of dark, semi-sweet, white or milk chocolate chips
- 1/2 cup heavy whipping cream
- 1/8 teaspoon salt
- Cocoa powder for rolling



www.JasonCoblentz.com

#### Chocolate truffles ready for gifting

1. Place the chocolate chips in a heat-proof bowl. In a microwave-safe measuring cup, heat the cream in the microwave until just simmering but not boiling. You'll want to see little bubbles just forming around the edges of your cup.

2. Pour the hot cream over the chocolate chips, and let it sit untouched and uncovered for 5 minutes. This will melt the chips.

3. Now, add the salt and stir by hand until smooth and glossy. If the chips aren't softened enough, put the mixture in the microwave for 20 seconds and stir again.

4. Refrigerate the mixture for about

1 hour or until firm.

5. Line a baking sheet with waxed or parchment paper. Place your cocoa powder (or whatever you're using to cover the truffles) in a small shallow bowl. Shape the chocolate into 1-inch balls and roll in the cocoa powder. Truffles can be refrigerated for up to 2 months, if they last that long!

#### Variations:

- Substitute finely chopped nuts, decorating sugar, coconut or peppermint for the cocoa powder. For a real blast, use Pop Rocks.

- Add 1/4 teaspoon almond or vanilla extract, or add 1 teaspoon instant coffee to make mocha.

- Substitute 1 to 2 ounces of the cream with a flavored liqueur such as Irish cream, raspberry, orange, hazelnut or coffee liqueur to the warm ganache.

*Candy Cane* — Use white chocolate and add 1/4 cup crushed peppermint to the mixture and roll in crushed peppermint candies.

*Chocolate Hazelnut* — Use semi-sweet chocolate and add 3 tablespoons hazelnut spread (like Nutella), and roll in chopped hazelnuts.

Pack your truffles in sweet little boxes with tissue paper and tie with ribbons, or in little cellophane bags with a tag saying, "Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good bite".

\*\*\*

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

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## Americanisms



"You can learn many things from children. How much patience you have, for instance."

— Franklin P. Jones

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## Earn easy tax-free income to pay for your vacation



David Zubler  
Columnist

This strategy enables you to earn passive income to pay for a vacation while on vacation. The IRS has two for tax-free rental income. It's required to be your residence and rented for less than 15 days in the year.

As long as you meet these 2 requirements, you don't include the income on your return. Any expenses associated with the rental are not deductible.

If you have more than one residence, each one may qualify for tax-free rental income. Your dwelling is a residence for the year if you use it for personal purposes more than 14 days or 10% of the days you rent the dwelling.

A dwelling unit includes a house, apartment, condominium, cabin, boat, or similar property. However, a dwelling is required to have a sleeping space, toilet, and cooking facilities. Consequently, this can limit boat rentals from qualifying as a residence.

Any days that you rented for less than fair market value count as personal days.

It is easy to get started renting on Airbnb, and the fees are very reasonable. Most property owners pay a flat service fee of 3% of the booking subtotal. Your subtotal is the nightly rate plus your cleaning and additional guest fees and doesn't include Airbnb fees and taxes. Guests typically pay a service fee of around 14% of the booking subtotal.

If you are concerned about damage by renters, Airbnb provides free Aircover, which provides \$1,000,000 liability insurance, damage protection, and pet damage protection.

You may want to check your local regulations before renting your dwelling. In some areas, you are required to register, get a per-

mit, or obtain a license before you list your property or accept guests. Certain types of short-term rentals may be prohibited entirely. Local governments vary greatly in how they enforce laws.

If you use a third party to rent your residence, the third party is required to give a 1099-MISC for rents paid if the amount is over \$600 for the year. You could also receive a Form-1099K from an online service such as Airbnb. Form-1099K is used to report credit card transactions.

If you receive a Form 1099 or Form-1099K for rental income, you will need to report the income to prevent the IRS from correcting your return and including the income. Report the income on Schedule E, which is the form used to report rental income and expenses. Use the "Other Expenses" section of the Schedule E to zero out the income. Enter Sections 280A(g) Exclusion and the amount of the income.

Renting a residence for less than 15 days does not affect landlords or real estate professionals, including real estate professional status, the passive loss rules, or the \$25,000 allowed deductions for active real estate rentals.

Renting a dwelling can be a great way to make tax-free money to help pay for your vacation while you are on vacation.

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

## SENIOR NEWS LINE

By Matilda Charles

### Pricy New Drug Means Higher Part B Premiums

The Medicare Part B monthly premium is going up in 2022 by \$21.60, one of the biggest increases ever. The reason for it, they say, is the massive cost of a new Alzheimer's drug, Aduhelm. Our new premium will be \$170 per month. That's going to be a big bite out of our new Social Security increase, \$92 for the average recipient with a benefit of \$1,657 per month.

Aduhelm will cost \$56,000 per year per patient. And that's only the beginning of the questions and concerns.

Whether Medicare is going to pay for the drug is still up in the air because it originally thought the price would be much less, closer to \$3,000. Certain other insurers have already stated they won't cover it unless the cost comes down.

As recently as a year ago, U.S. Food and Drug Administration advisers voted against approving the drug as they wondered whether it really works. Clinical trials were inconclusive. Initially the FDA said it was for people with Alzheimer's, but they've already changed their prescribing information and narrowed the criteria for receiving it. Now Aduhelm is for people with very early Alzheimer's, mild cognitive impairment and mild dementia. It's no cure, they say, but it slows progression of the disease.

Part of its cost is that it has to be given in an IV in a doctor's office or hospital. Many hospitals, not knowing if they'll be paid for administering it (that \$56,000 is for the drug only) and who should have it, are holding back. Some are even insisting on doing their own in-house research to see if it works.

Doctors, not knowing if their patients can get the drug, are often hesitant to prescribe it and raise hopes in patients. Still, we'll be paying that increased Part B premium in 2022 while they work things out and determine whether Medicare will pay for Aduhelm.

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## FLASHBACK

By Mick Harper

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1. Which artist's debut album was titled "The Kick Inside"?
2. Name the duo who released "Summer Nights." What soundtrack was it used in?
3. What do "One Fine Day," "Sh-Boom," "Stagger Lee" and "Da Doo Ron Ron" have in common?
4. Who had a debut hit with "I Only Want to Be with You"?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "Goodbye, Papa, please pray for me, I was the black sheep of the family."

### Answers

1. Kate Bush, in 1978. She insisted that her self-penned "Wuthering Heights" be included instead of "James and the Cold Gun," which was being pushed on her by the record company.
2. John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John, in the 1978 musical film "Grease." They sang seven of the 24 tracks on the double album.
3. They were dropped (!!) from the 2010 update of Rolling Stone magazine's 500 Greatest Songs list.
4. Dusty Springfield, in 1963.
5. "Seasons in the Sun," by Terry Jacks, in 1974. It's based on the 1961 song "Le Moribond" by Belgian singer-songwriter Jacques Brel, with lyrics rewritten in English by American poet Rod McKuen. It was offered to the Beach Boys, who declined it, and Jacks' version went on to top the charts worldwide.

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# High School Basketball Roundup

### Coalfield Girls (4-2)

Nov 29 – Defeated Rockwood 76-24  
Nov 30 – Defeated Greenback 63-37  
Dec 3 – Defeated Sale Creek 58-54

### Coalfield Boys (1-3)

Nov 29 – Defeated Rockwood 68-39  
Nov 30 – Lost to Greenback 52-58  
Dec 3 – Lost to Sale Creek 35-51

### Oakdale Girls (0-3)

Dec 3 – Lost to Wartburg 33-42

### Oakdale Boys (1-2)

Dec 3 – Lost to Wartburg 44-64

### Sunbright Girls (6-1)

Nov 30 – Defeated Jellico 76-34  
Dec 3 – Defeated Midway 51-27

### Sunbright Boys (3-3)

Nov 30 – Lost to Jellico 50-71  
Dec 3 – Defeated Midway 60-41

### Wartburg Girls (2-4)

Nov 29 – Lost to Clarkrange 27-48  
Nov 30 – Lost to Harriman 49-56  
Dec 3 – Defeated Oakdale 42-33

### Wartburg Boys (2-4)

Nov 29 – Lost to Clarkrange 49-63  
Nov 30 – Lost to Harriman 65-68  
Dec 3 – Defeated Oakdale 64-44



Wartburg's Olivia Davis drives the lane for a shot over two Harriman defenders. Davis scored 20 points, including four 3-point shots, in the Lady Bulldog's 56-49 loss to Harriman. (Photo By Terry Futrell)



Oakdale's Jacob Nance fights through Bulldogs Taner Branstetter and Elijah Heinze for two Eagle points. (Photo By Terry Futrell)



S: Oakdale's Chloe Hamby attempts to drive past Wartburg's McKenna Williams and Elizabeth Keathley. Above: Wartburg's Landon Quinney shoots over two Oakdale defenders for two of his seven points in the game. (Photo By Terry Futrell)