

# Morgan County Today

Psalm 100:3

Volume 08 Number 02

Tuesday, January 11, 2022

Your Community. Your News.

75¢

**Inside:  
Coal Dust:  
A Promise Broken  
Basketball Roundup  
Weather  
History**



**A Winter Coat with  
a Side of Snow**



Morgan County  Today  
Your Community. Your News.

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**MORGAN COUNTY  
WEATHER THIS WEEK**

Tue 11	40°/25°	
Wed 12	47°/31°	
Thu 13	49°/30°	
Fri 14	49°/37°	
Sat 15	46°/26°	
Sun 16	37°/22°	
Mon 17	44°/30°	



**Michael Nance**  
*Columnist*

There is much folklore concerning the Ku-Klux Klan and crimes reportedly committed by the organization in the Deer Lodge community. I stumbled across this information at the Morgan County Archives while reviewing a historical building survey that was conducted about four decades ago.

Reviewing the information listed on the building survey of Saint Ann's Catholic Church. The building examined at the time of the survey was built circa 1930 and reportedly the KKK burned the previous structures that were built in 1905 and 1912. The informant providing the information to the survey team was Gula Barnett.

What is unusual is the time periods that the crimes occurred, 1905, and 1912. According to the available information the KKK was not nationally significant during the time period of 1870 until the 1920s and the prohibition movement. This would indicate that the Catholic Church caught the attention of the KKK. It also appears by reviewing old newspapers that the organization could be responsible for burning a school in Deer Lodge.

In the Morgan County Press in 1923 the following story appeared:

The school building at Deer Lodge was destroyed by fire, Friday night about 9 o'clock, The origin of the fire is unknown, the fire was burning in the east end

# The Ku Klux Klan Burns Deer Lodge Church

of the building when discovered. If the was the work of incendiarism the guilty party should be run down and punished to the full extent of the law. Nothing of the contents was saved. The school is going right along in the two churches of the town, a new building will be erected in the place of the old one.

If it was the KKK that committed this crime, it did not have the intended results. This event did nothing but strengthen community ties and sent a message that all the communities in Morgan County would help in keeping the Deer Lodge viable. By the first of June 1923 the local leadership of Deer Lodge was well underway planning and funding a new schoolhouse. T. Weideman chaired the schoolhouse committee, and he was assisted by the Woman's League who purchased the reference books for the students. The other local communities also pitched in to assist the Deer Lodge Community during her time of need. The ladies of Sunbright and Burrville also sponsored dinners and events in Deer Lodge to raise money for the new School. Mrs. S.H. Jones even performed a solo of a patriotic song. There can be no-doubt that the harassment of Deer Lodge only strengthened their cause and enhanced the unity of the community.

The brick for the new schoolhouse began being laid in July of 1924. By the end of August the school was ready to open. The teachers were, W.O. Peters, Miss Rebecca Gallo-

way and Miss Buna Howard. The same schoolhouse also served as a movie theater during the annual fair.

The school went back into operation in 1924, but fires and arson seemed to plague the community in Deer Lodge. In 1960, the Summit Park Hotel burned and on April 30, 1961, the elementary school exploded from gasoline fumes and burned. According to the Morgan County Sheriff, Cecil Burge the facts in the case were not in question. He stated: "but that the Deer Lodge School building was set on fire after being saturated in gasoline." The event was investigated by the local Sheriff's Office, State Fire Marshal, TBI and FBI.

I have not determined through research who was responsible for the fires in 1960 and 1961. If anyone in the community has any information, please give me a call at 423-215-1004. I will continue this story as I finish my research.

*1 Morgan County Press, Wartburg, Tennessee, Friday, February 16, 1923, School House Burned,*

*2 Morgan County Press, Wartburg, Tennessee, Friday, June 1, 1923, Deer Lodge,*

*3 Ibid*

*4 Morgan County Press, Wartburg, Tennessee, Friday, July 13, 1924, Deer Lodge,*

*5 Morgan County Press, Wartburg, Tennessee, Friday, August 22, 1924, Deer Lodge,*

*6 Morgan County Press, Wartburg, Tennessee, Friday, September 19, 1924, Deer Lodge,*

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## In Loving Memory

### William Cordell Armes "Bill", 84

William Cordell Armes "Bill" born on the 5th day of June 1937, in Memphis Tennessee, Shelby County passed away January 5th, 2022 at his home.

He was the son of English T. Armes and Rosa Mae Armes.

He was a longtime member of First Baptist Church in Titusville Florida. He served 6 years in the United States Navy and was a Korean War Veteran. He worked at several different Trucking jobs with over 2 million safe driving miles. He was a bus driver in Florida for Space Coast Transit. However, the one job he enjoyed the most and was so proud of was the job he retired from, Business Agent at Teamsters Local Union number 992 Hagerstown, Maryland. He always enjoyed helping others!

He is survived by his loving wife Bonnie B. Armes, four children,

Paula Kay Myre, Marsha Lynn Quinn ( Danny), Kenneth Eugene Armes ( Belinda) , Michael Allen Armes ( Christina) and three step children Jeremy Burkholder ( Heather), Jennifer Schoppert ( Matt), Jeffery Burkholder (Aarica). He had 17 Grandchildren and 15 Great Grandchildren . He is also survived by his sister Anna Florence Boatwright.

The family will receive friends Monday, January 10, 2022 at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg from 12:00-2:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 2:00 p.m. with Bro. Buster Armes officiating. Interment will follow in the Lane Cemetery in Lancing.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of William Cordell Armes.

### Ashley Carl Stewart, 41

Ashley Carl Stewart age 41, of Gobey, passed away December 31, 2021. He is with his heavenly Father now. He was a member of Elizabeth Baptist Church. Ashley was a loving and kind man with a wonderful sense of humor. He could always bring a smile and laugh to others. He will be missed by many.

He was preceded in death by his paternal grandparents, Garlin and Ellia Stewart, and maternal grandparents, Leonard and Inez Coffey. Also several aunts and uncles.

He is survived by his parents, Carlos and Melissa Stewart, sister and brother-in-law, Dr. Natalie Frasier and Dr. Wayne Frasier, beloved nieces Lila and Ellie Frasier, uncle Sidney and Joann

Clark, Aunt Carolyn and George Gallaher, Aunt Darlene Welch, great aunt Linda Kilby and many other loved cousins and relatives. Also a very special friend, Austin Duncan.

It was Ashley's wishes to be cremated and his ashes to be scattered at his favorite campsite at his home.

The family will honor his wishes. Services and visitation will be held Tuesday January 4th, from 5-7pm with Brother Tim Hamby , Ashley's life-long friend and Brother Buster Armes officiating.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Ashley Carl Stewart.

### Willie Eugene (Gene) Heidle, 95

Willie Eugene (Gene) Heidle, age 95 of Wartburg, passed away on December 30, 2021. Gene was a WWII Navy Vet and loved to hunt and fish.

He is preceded in death by his son, Michael Eugene Heidle; mother and father, Amanda and Ernest Heidle; brothers: Bobby Ray and Herbert Love; and sisters: Vanda, Anne, Geneva, and Arty May.

He is survived by his daughter, Arty Heidle; grandchildren: Amanda (Mario) and children, Jose, Autumn and Alex of Joliet, IL; Dustin

(Terra) and children, Syllas, Memphis, and Alivia of Boiling Springs, SC; Revecca Heidle and children; and Regina Heidle and children; sister, Wanda Davis; along with a host of nieces, nephews, and a most special niece, Dawn Davis.

The family would like to send a special thank you and love to their two very special friends, Mike and Peggy Cleere for all of their help and support through these difficult times.

No services have been scheduled at this time.

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

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

### Invitation to Bid

The Morgan County Highway Department is taking bids on an interior sewer project for our building. Project consist of replacing old cast iron plumbing in the floor with new PVC. Lines do not have to follow the existing lines but there will be a great deal of concrete floor sawing and concrete block partition removal to complete the job. Project must be done in phases to maintain operational rest rooms and tied in to existing PVC sewer lines on the exterior of the building. Send bids to Morgan County Highway Dept. P.O.Box 250 Wartburg, Tn. 37887. SEWER BID must be marked on exterior of envelope if mailed or hand deliver to 3519 Morgan County Hwy. Wartburg, Tn. 37887 8am to 4pm Monday thru Thursday. We are an equal opportunity employer and do not discriminate. A complete set of bid specifications is available at the Highway Dept. Bids will be opened at 3519 Morgan County Hwy. on January 25th.at10:00 am.

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

email: kvhelton@highland.net



IT SNOWED! TWICE! The snow on Thursday was beautiful as it fell. I am sure students and teachers alike enjoyed the extra days off.

There will be no school in Morgan County on Monday, January 17 in observance of Martin Luther King Day. This is a federal holiday meaning federal and many state and county agencies will be closed.

Gus the Bus will be at the Morgan County Visitor's Center each Tuesday morning from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. with free meals, produce and milk for children 18 and under.

Together Morgan County will hold their January Meeting Friday, January 14 at 9:00 a.m. at Morgan County Schools Central Office on Flat Fork Road in Wartburg. Everyone is welcome to attend and learn more about the work of Morgan County Community Collaborative.

Be sure to check out the new story in the Story Walk at Solomon Park. This book is sponsored by the First Grade Team at Central Elementary School. The park is looking good with

several upgrades including a new playground.

Happy Birthday to my buddy, Aiden Lloyd, who turned 5 years old yesterday, January 10.

Congratulations to Marcus Nelson and Laken Robertson who were united in marriage Saturday afternoon, January 8. The ceremony was at Emory Heights Baptist Church and was performed by the groom's grandfather, Brother Wayne Nelson. We wish you many wonderful years of marriage.

Mickey and Jeanie Bingham celebrated Christmas with their sons, Michael and Jay and their families on New Year's Eve. On New Year's Day, they had a nice breakfast with Jay's family before they returned to their home in Ohio.

Many families have recently experienced the passing of a loved one. Young or old, expected or unexpected, the loss hurts. Let's keep these families in our daily prayers.

Donna Ledford Carey passed away Sunday, December 19. She was the daughter of the

late Buddy and Judy Ledford. She is survived by her son Zackery Carey, her daughter Ashley (Mark) Wilson and her grandson Wade Wilson. A graveside service was held Wednesday, December 22 at Rankins Chapel Church Cemetery.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Charles Henderson who passed away Wednesday, December 22. He is survived by his wife, Willa Dean Tilson Henderson, his five sons, Greg Tilson, Otis Hill, Jr., Charles Henderson, Bobby Henderson and Matthew Henderson and his daughters, Danna Fosdick, Edwinna Funderburg, Pam Easley and Emma Hill and several grandchildren and other family members. A graveside service was held at the Henderson Family Cemetery in Oakdale on Sunday, December 26.

Condolences to Carlos and Melissa Coffey Stewart on the passing of their son, Ashley. Ashley passed away Friday, December 31. He is also survived by his sister and her family, Natalie and Wayne Frasier and daughters Lila and Ellie as well as a host of other family and friends. Services were held Tuesday, January 4.

Sympathy to the family and friends of Karen Beach Thornton who passed away Friday,

December 31. She is survived by her husband Johnny Thornton, son John Wayne Thornton and grandchildren Aaron, Amber and Ashley Thornton. She is also survived by her mother, Nellie Beach, sister Ruby Hickman and brothers, Thomas, Tracey, Roger, Lynn and Brian Beach along with many other family and friends. Services were held Monday, January 3 with interment on Tuesday, January 4 in Pine Orchard Cemetery.

*Don't mix bad words with your bad mood. You'll have many opportunities to change a mood, but you'll never get the opportunity to replace the words you spoke. Taken from Inspirational Quotes Journal*

Together Morgan County will have their January meeting Friday, January 14 at Morgan County Schools Central Office at 9:00 a.m. This will be an in person meeting with a virtual option. In the case of school closures due to inclement weather, the meeting will be held virtually only. If interested in joining via Zoom, contact Sandra Helton at heltons@mcscd.net for a link. Everyone is welcome to attend.



**Pepper** plants are perennials, propagated by seeding directly in the soil or by transplanting seedlings started in greenhouses. Pepper fruits come in many shapes and sizes. Traces of them have been found in prehistoric ruins in Peru and Mexico, and the plants were widely grown in Central and South America by pre-Columbian civilizations. Its seeds were carried to Spain in 1493, and spread rapidly throughout Europe.

- Brenda Weaver

www.britannica.com

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# Around The World and Back Again

with Zack Ballinger



## UT Football 2021

“Give Him 6... TOUCHDOWN TENNESSEE”. My Uncle Otho would silence the TV and turn on the radio channel to listen to the late, great UT sports commentator, John Ward. I moved to Tennessee from Michigan at the age of 10. I thought, “Wow my uncle is absolutely insane: He’s watching a TV, listening to the radio, screaming mad, and cheering loudly all at the same time. My uncle taught me ev-



everything there is to know about football at the age of 10 and now I’m a completely insane University of Tennessee football fan. I have been on vacations around the world and remember stopping everything in places such as Switzerland, Germany, Australia, and New Zealand to listen to UT football games. Keep in mind these countries are on different time zones. I remember waking up at 3:00 am for one game in Munich, Germany. I have been a dedicated fan for nearly 30 years.

It’s been a tough 15 years for diehard Tennessee football fans. We had some up and downs, but mainly down moments. After the Jeremy Pruitt debacle, I thought it would take years to rebuild our football program. Tennessee lost over 30 scholarship players to the transfer portable last year and the roster seemed depleted of talent. Tennessee hired a new athletic director and a new head football coach, Josh Heupel. Heupel has brought a new culture, a fast-paced, high scoring up



tempo offense, and a renewed hope for many Tennessee football fans. You can see on the side line Heupel is one of the nation’s top offensive player callers. With everything that happened, I thought there was no way Tennessee would win 7 football games in 2021 or have a chance of winning 8.

I am not a sports writer; I am a passionate fan that realizes I need to give praise to the coaching staff and the players for the 2021 season. Many times we were undermanned, but we never seem to stop fighting. To think we were on the cusp of potentially winning 9 or 10 games was a shocking accomplishment in and of its self. I know we lost to Purdue in the Mu-

sic City Bowl, but it was a tight-

**Zack Ballinger**

ly fought football game that could have went either way. The positive is we can build off our mistakes, gain more players through the transfer portal, and improve our team heading into 2022. Coach Josh Heupel is definitely in rebuilding mode, but brought a lot of fun to a 2021 season that was supposed to be disastrous.

I am not saying Josh Heupel is or isn’t the answer, but we took a positive step in the right direction after what could have been a disastrous year for UT Football. We now have hope, encouragement, and only time will tell whether we will start

competing for SEC championships.. I want to congratulate the University of Tennessee football team for not giving up, overcoming adversity, and continuing to work hard when things didn’t always go their way.

*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.*

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## Coal Dust: A Promise Broken



**Terry Futrell**  
Author

*Broken vows are like broken mirrors. They leave those who held to them bleeding and staring at fractured images of themselves.*  
**Richard Paul Evans**

During the formative years of our childhood, we tend to believe what we are told by others, especially by our parents and close relatives. These beliefs play a significant role in molding and shaping us into the person we become in adulthood. To be shattered by a broken promise shakes the very foundation of one's belief system. Such was my experience with Aunt Mattie.

When my older sister Margaret graduated from Coalfield High School in 1961, she was ranked second and named salutatorian of her graduating class. I had just completed my freshman year in high school. After my sister's graduation ceremony, my Aunt Mattie laid a challenge before me – she would buy me a new suit if I became valedictorian of my graduating class. For someone like me who had never had a new suit since I was four years old, that was quite a promise! There is perhaps no more competitive person on this earth than me, and that was just the challenge that I needed.

Over the next three years I pursued the goal of being ranked first in my class with a passion. I must admit, though, that the choice of some smart kids in the class to goof off rather than study made my pathway somewhat easier. Finally, near the end of my senior year, the announcement was made – I was indeed the class valedictorian. I could hardly wait to call up Aunt Mattie and collect on her promise made three years earlier. Little did I know that I was in for one of the greatest disappointments of my life.

To fulfill her promise of a new suit, Aunt Mattie chose not to purchase a new suit but instead to tailor an outgrown suit that had belonged to her husband's nephew. Now, Aunt Mattie was an excellent seamstress, but the nephew was a stocky young man, and I was a skinny 135 pounds. He probably outweighed me by at least one hundred pounds! I don't think any seamstress on the planet was up to that challenge.

When Aunt Mattie finished tailoring the hand-me-down suit for me, the waist did in fact fit. But, my entire torso would have fit into one of the pant legs! There was no way that I could wear that extra-large suit to my graduation ceremony. To say that I was heartbroken would be a gross understatement. Just days before

graduation, I had no idea what I was going to do. My parents certainly couldn't buy me a new suit because my dad worked as a low-paid prison guard at the time. Fortunately, as he had done so many times before and probably at great sacrifice, my oldest brother Tommy came to the rescue and bought me a new suit for graduation.

I have often remembered my disappointment over Aunt Mattie's broken promise. Each time, I realize that I don't know what was going on in Aunt Mattie's life at the time. She and her husband were perhaps the most prosperous of all family members - they had a nice home, he had an excellent job, and they owned

land in several locations. Were they financially strained at the time of my graduation? Had they overextended themselves?

At these times of hurtful remembrance, I find that I must back off and view my relationship with my Aunt Mattie from a broader perspective, looking at our relationship over several years of my life.

I think of the times when I was much younger and they regularly delivered goat milk to our house for me to drink.

I think of the times that they paid me to mow their lawn, most likely not out of need but just to allow me to make a few dollars.

I think of the time when my wife and I built our first house and needed to furnish it. It was Aunt Mattie and her husband who drove us 300 miles to get a good deal on new furniture at a wholesaler in North Carolina, refusing to accept any money even for gasoline. Later, they repeated the trip with a truck to pick up our furniture when it was ready, again refusing any compensation.

As hurtful as the broken promise was at the time, I quickly realize that it is my choice as to how I let that broken promise affect me. As for Aunt Mattie, her generosity to me through the years was so overwhelming that the broken promise pales in comparison.



*A broken graduation promise taught Terry a valuable lesson in life.*



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# Davis Funeral Home's Veteran of the Week

United States Army, Staff Sergeant (SSG) Travis W. Atkins served in the War on Terrorism in Iraq in 2007. He was a member of 2nd Platoon, Delta Company, 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division.

SSG Atkins was born on December 9, 1975 in Great Falls, MI and died on June 1, 2007 in Abu Samak, Iraq. SSG Atkins gave his life for our great country and for his love and commitment to his fellow brothers-in-arms.

For his heroic actions SSG Atkins was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor. President Donald J. Trump presented SSG Atkins' son Trevor Oliver Atkins with his Medal of Honor on March 27, 2019.

Below is his Medal of Honor citation.

While manning a static observation post in the town of Abu Samak, Iraq, Staff Sergeant Atkins, was notified that four suspicious individuals, walking in two pairs, were crossing an intersection not far from his position. Staff Sergeant Atkins immediately moved his squad to interdict the individuals. One of the individuals began behaving erratically, prompting Staff



Sergeant Atkins to disembark from his patrol vehicle and approach to conduct a search. Both individuals responded belligerently toward Staff Sergeant Atkins, who then engaged the individual he had intended to search in hand-to-hand combat. Staff Sergeant Atkins tried to wrestle the insurgent's arms behind his back. When he noticed the insurgent was reaching for something under his clothes, Staff Sergeant Atkins immediately wrapped him in a bear hug and threw him to the ground, away from his fellow soldiers. Staff Sergeant Atkins

maintained his hold on the insurgent, placing his body on top of him, further sheltering his patrol. With Staff Sergeant Atkins on top of him, the insurgent detonated a bomb strapped to his body, killing Staff Sergeant Atkins. Staff Sergeant Atkins acted with complete disregard for his own safety. In this critical and selfless act of valor, Staff Sergeant Atkins saved the lives of the three other soldiers who were with him and gallantly gave his life for his country. Staff Sergeant Atkins' undaunted courage, warrior spirit, and steadfast devotion to duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, and the United States Army.

## Law Enforcement Officer of the Week

Presented by Jerry Duncan Ford

North Carolina Highway Patrol Trooper John Horton was struck and killed by a patrol car while conducting a traffic stop on January 3, 2022.

Trooper Horton had detained the driver of the vehicle and was standing on the shoulder of the roadway with the subject. Another trooper arriving on the scene to back him up lost control of his patrol car and collided with Trooper Horton's patrol car, which was then pushed into Trooper Horton and the detained subject.

The detained subject died at the scene, and Trooper Horton died after being transported to a hospital in Spartanburg, South Carolina.

The area the crash occurred in had experienced snow and sleet throughout the day.

Trooper Horton had served with the North Carolina Highway Patrol for fifteen years. He was forty-two-years-old and is survived by his wife, six children, parents, sisters, and two brothers.

Already within the first week of



2022, two other law enforcement officers have died; Police Officer Christopher Gibson, Sunday, January 2, 2022 (COVID-19), Deputy Sheriff Bryan Vannatta, Monday, January 3, 2022, (COVID-19).

Two K9 police dogs have also died

in the line of duty; K9 Beni, Wednesday, January 5, 2022 (struck by vehicle) and K9 Jedi, Wednesday, January 5, 2022 (stabbed).

Pray in the name of Jesus Christ for these officer's families and for the safety and protection of all the men and women who will continue to serve and protect the citizens of their communities and jurisdictions throughout 2022.

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# Disappeared: Chapter 16

## Maggie & Evie- Day 5



**Carol Hall**  
Author

Maggie dropped back off to sleep, as Evie continued to rub her arm and head. She knew it was best for Maggie to rest as much as possible. If they were going to get out of there, Maggie would need all the rest she could get.

How are we going to get out of here, Evie thought to herself. Maggie is the strong one, not me. But I have to do something. I have to find a way out of here for Maggie's sake. I have to save Maggie.

Evie sat quietly scanning the large cave. There must be another way out somewhere. She knew they could never scale down the cliff face. They had no rope and the descent was too sharp. They would never make it down without help. Even if they did make it to the cliff ledge outside the tunnel, the Bigfoot would be on top of them in a heartbeat. No, there had to be another way. Maggie couldn't take another trip down the side of the cliff with Rose carrying her. She didn't think Maggie would survive another jostling like that right now. Even if she survived the trip down, how would they get away from the Bigfoot? Maggie certainly couldn't run in the shape she was in.

Her eyes scanned the wall on the opposite side of the pool. She needed to find out what was over there. She had never paid much attention to that area of the cave before because it was dark and she had not noticed the Bigfoots ever go over there except when Rose went to get the plant. If there was an alcove that they kept plants and such in, what else was over there? She would have to wait till everyone was asleep and sneak over and check it out. With any luck, there would be another opening to the outside world. One they could scale down.

Rose cooked up the deer over the open fire in the middle of the cave. Evie kept glancing over to the far side of the cave hoping that the fire would illuminate that corner enough for her to see what was over there, but no such luck. The fire wasn't big enough and as the day wore on, the lighting in the cave became dimmer, making that corner even darker and more mysterious.

When the deer was cooked and the berries picked off the bush and washed in the pool, Rose grunted and motioned for everyone to come eat.

Brutus was the first one over. Reaching his massive arm over Rose's shoulder, he grabbed a hold of the deer's hind quarter and with one good yank, ripped it off the carcass, then squatted down next to her to devour it.

Evie carefully made her way to the fire and sat down on Rose's other side. Maggie didn't move from her spot on Rose's bed.

Rose ripped off a hunk of meat and handed it to Evie, who took it gratefully and began tearing into it immediately. She was starved and threw etiquette to the wind. She felt no shame in wolfing down the meat as quick as she could.

Rose then ripped off another hunk, and took it, along with a handful of berries, over to Maggie and laid it down next to her. When Maggie didn't react, Rose gently nudged her and grunted.

Reluctantly, Maggie sat up and accepted the meat and berries. It was painful to open her mouth wide enough to put a piece of meat in, but she was hungry enough to ignore the discomfort and eat the food anyway.

When everyone was done eating, Rose disposed of the deer carcass. Presumably by throwing it over the cliff. Then everyone found a spot to relax.

Maggie curled up on the bed again, while Evie dozed off and on next to her. Brutus shuffled his way to his bed and laid down, while Rose busied herself cleaning up around the cave. She scrubbed the dishes in the pool and set everything back in its place around the fire pit.

Maggie didn't have the energy or will power to do much more than lay around. All she wanted to do was rest her weary body. She knew she was going to be ok, but she sure needed a good rest. The swelling would heal and the aches and pains would subside with a good rest. She hoped by morning that she would feel much better. Getting something substantial in her belly helped. The food bars only went so far.

Long shadows were being cast around the room as the sun seemed to be blotted out. Looking up through the hole in the ceiling, Evie could see storm clouds gathering. It must have started raining already too, because water began pouring through the hole down into the pool.

She knew it was going to be dark soon. The only light that would illuminate the cave as the night wore on would be from the fire. It was kept burning all through the night.

She kept an eye on Brutus. He seemed to be ignoring her and not paying much attention to what the others were doing either. Ever since they were caught by the men at the river, he seemed distant and aloof. She hoped that didn't mean trouble for her and Maggie. He was clearly upset about being seen. She just hoped he didn't take it out on them.

She glanced around the room several times. She tried not to keep looking over at the corner in case the Bigfoot realized what she was doing and got suspicious. She was growing more and more anxious as the evening wore on. She knew as soon as she got the opportunity, she would be creeping her way over to that corner to see what she could find. With no idea how she would see, she figured she would grope her way along the wall if she had to, but one way or the other, she would discover what was over there. She hoped and prayed that she would find something that would help her and Maggie escape.

Darkness engulfed the cave at last.

Evie lay on the twigs and leaf bed next to Brutus. He was restless and kept tossing and turning. He bumped into her several times and growled like it was her fault. He was grumpy tonight. Evie just wished he would fall asleep so she could begin her search.

Finally, with a mighty grunt, he got up out of the bed and stormed off across the room and disappeared down the tunnel.

Evie lay there holding her breath, not moving a muscle, listening for him to return.

After several long moments, when he did not reappear, she stealthily crept from the bed and began making her way toward the dark corner that had plagued her thoughts all day.

With only the light from the fire to guide her, she slowly made her way across the room.

Once past the fire pit, she tiptoed quietly toward the darkness beyond. She bumped into the wall, stubbing her toe and made a small gasp. She quickly jerked her head toward Rose's bed, but no one stirred. She stood there silently for a few seconds making sure she hadn't woken Rose, then began feeling her way down the wall with her hands outstretched in front of her.

She groped along the wall for a short distance when she came across the indentation of the alcove Rose had gotten the plant from earlier that day. She could feel plants sitting on a ledge, but couldn't make out what kind they were. She moved past it, gingerly feeling her way, and continued her search of the wall.

She had only gone a few feet when her hands fell into nothingness. A dank, sweet smell drifted out of the hole. She pulled her hands back and felt the air around in front of her until she felt solid rock again. Then she moved back to the nothingness. She found the edges of the rock and felt her way along it, moving her hands up and down around it. In her mind's eye, she could make out the shape. The hole seemed to be about four feet tall and just wide enough for a small person to slide through.

After feeling her way around the hole several more times to make sure the vision in her mind of it's perimeter was correct, she ducked down and slipped through the opening.

The passageway was narrow and tight, but big enough for her to slip through easily enough. She followed it back into the rock. In the pitch dark, she made her way slowly so she could feel the rock enclosure in all directions. She tested the width and height to be sure it was passable.

She followed the tunnel for some ways. She stubbed her toe on a few rocks and had to step over them. Waving her hands out in front of her, she also found some jutting rocks overhead. This was going to be a difficult trip without any light, but she was desperate, so she squashed down any fear she felt and pressed on.

Eventually, the walls opened up and she had the sense of being in a larger space. She was unable to tell how big the area was or where it went. The air smelled stale and damp. Total silence greeted her. It was an eerie quiet. Only the sound of her breathing could be heard. The complete, total darkness seemed to envelope her and she suppressed a shiver. She would not allow herself to get scared. She couldn't, or she wouldn't be able to do this, and she knew she had to do this for Maggie's sake. She squelched her rising panic and took a deep breath to steady herself. For Maggie, she told herself.

Though she had gotten her fear under control, she decided not to go any farther. She didn't want to risk getting lost or dropping off a cave cliff into nothingness since she couldn't see anything, not even the hand in front of her face. So she turned around and made her way back the way she had come.

She quietly slipped back into the cave. She leaned back against the wall for a few moments trying to gather her wits. The journey into the tunnel had unnerved her a bit, but she was elated that she may have found a way out. She would have to wait till morning to tell Maggie. That is, if she could get her alone for a few minutes. Rose hovered over her like an old mother hen.

As she stood there, no noise came from either Brutus's or Rose's direction, so she very carefully made her way back over to Brutus's bed.

He still was not back from wherever he had taken off to, so she hunkered down into the leaves and twigs and made herself comfortable. It was going to be a long night. Sleep would elude her for sure. She was too wound up with the possibility of escape.

As she lay there in the dark, she heard Brutus return. She didn't move a muscle as he lumbered over her to his side of the bed and crashed down beside her. Within minutes he was snoring.

She had gotten back just in the nick of time.

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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

- - \* Freshen stuffed animals by securing a few in a pillowcase and adding a fabric softener sheet. Put in the dryer on low heat for 20 minutes, then remove and brush out the fur, if necessary, while still warm.
  - \* "Keep a quart container in the freezer and whenever you have a small amount of leftovers, chop them up and add it to your container. When it's full, thaw it. Add some of your favorite soup beans, pizza sauce, milk and cheese, and you have a unique and delicious soup." -- M. from Pennsylvania
  - \* If you've been decluttering as a part of your New Year's resolutions, and you came across old pairs of eyeglasses, know that you can donate them to any Lion's Club in your area. They redistribute the glasses to those who cannot afford them. You don't have to know the prescription, and they take reading glasses, too!

## STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- \* Pinball was banned in most major cities from the early 1940s to the mid-1970s because it was considered a game of chance and, therefore, gambling.
- \* Oysters can change genders back and forth.
- \* The Zildjian Company was founded in 1623 by Avedis Zildjian, an Armenian alchemist who ended up making a cymbal instead.
- \* Tobacco companies spend the most money on advertising in January, when many people make a New Year's resolution to quit smoking, but the largest increase in new smokers actually occurs in the summer.
- \* There's a national pillow-fighting tournament in Japan.
- \* A 43,000-square-foot room beneath the Lincoln Memorial that was forgotten about until 1974 is filled with concrete columns and has its own plant life and ecosystem, as well as graffiti from the original workers.
- \* Humans are comprised of about 30 of the 118 elements on the periodic table. Their iPhones, however, are made up of about 75 elements.
- \* Intelligent people have more traces of copper and zinc in their hair.
- \* The manchineel tree is one of the most toxic trees in the world. Its sap causes blisters, eating its apples can be potentially fatal, and the smoke from a burning manchineel can cause blindness.
- \* Pythagoras, of Pythagorean

- \* How can you keep snow and ice off your windshield? Some say a solution of three parts vinegar to one-part water sprayed on the windshield each night can cut your ice-scraping time in half or better. (Use caution to avoid your paint job.) Also, try covering your wipers with an old pair of long socks so they don't freeze to the glass!
- \* "For pastry cooking, try grating frozen butter into the flour. It cuts in better and will stay cool longer. This helps when I'm making shortbread, as the flour and butter need to be combined. I don't end up having to put it in the fridge to cool it back down." -- C.S. in South Carolina

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

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Theorem fame, ran a commune that was forbidden to wear wool, forced to put their right sandal on before their left, and believed that beans could contain the souls of the dead, so even crushing a bean was considered murder.

\* Every day, around 18 acres of pizza are eaten in America.

\* At the U.S. Open and other U.S.-based tennis tournaments, the men play with the slower, heavy-duty felt balls while the women play with the faster, regular-duty felt version.

\*\*\*

Thought for the Day: "Everyone knows something I do not; therefore, everyone is my teacher." -- Unknown

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### Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ♦♦♦♦

♦ Moderate   ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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## King Crossword

**ACROSS**

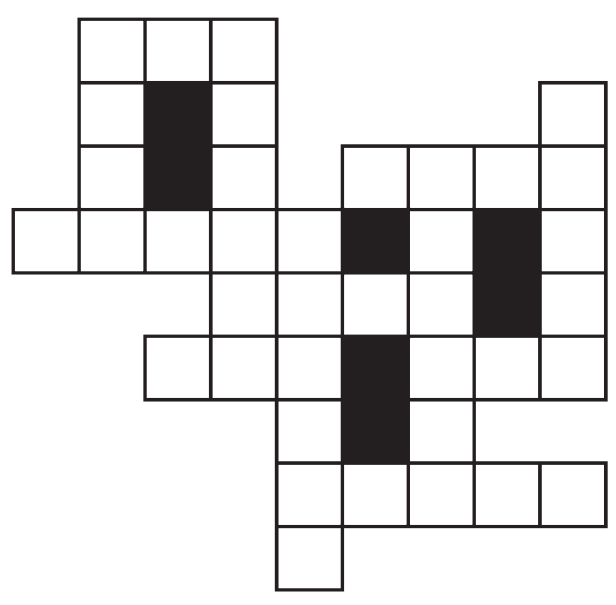
1 Even  
5 Apply cream  
8 "The Good Earth" heroine  
12 "Please go ahead"  
14 Fork prong  
15 The National Pastime  
16 Circus structure  
17 Cacophony  
18 Scalawags  
20 Basilica areas  
23 Diving duck  
24 Soccer leg-end  
25 Brewing gizmo  
28 Greek letter  
29 Not — out of place  
30 Scull need  
32 Kook  
34 Ordered  
35 Skin breakout  
36 Notorious  
37 Port city of Poland  
40 Former Mideast org.  
41 Pealed  
42 Pitcher's tactic  
47 "American —"  
48 Consume too little  
49 Lion's pride?  
50 Meadow  
51 Sciences'

**DOWN**

1 Bar bill  
2 "— tree falls ..."  
3 UFO crew  
4 One of the Ramones  
5 Cannon of film  
6 MSN rival  
7 Reduced-rate postal delivery  
8 Canada's capital  
9 Actor Schreiber  
10 Green Gables girl  
11 Tennis barriers  
13 Baseball stats  
19 Cornhusker's st.  
20 iPhone download  
21 Mexican money  
22 Lost traction  
23 Black Panthers leader Bobby  
25 Appreciative  
26 Rich soil  
27 Stow cargo  
29 Grade-school basics  
31 Flushed  
33 Hang loose?  
34 Diva  
36 Streisand  
37 Kismet  
38 Bleak  
38 Baby's father  
39 Unsigned (Abbr.)  
40 Fed. food inspector  
43 Chemical suffix  
44 — Lingus  
45 Back muscle, briefly  
46 USN officers



- ISC
- METPEX
- PETIS
- ♥ ATSR
- ♥ TENSEA
- EAX
- TEIX
- CAPIN
- ♥ TAE
- ROXECT
- NEARA
- ♥ UPSO



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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## Morgan County Today

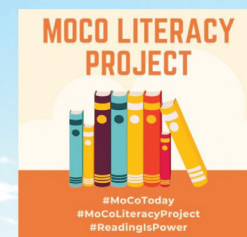
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**WILD HOG FESTIVAL**  
Morgan County Today



mocotoday.com



# MORE THAN A NEWSPAPER



# Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



# Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



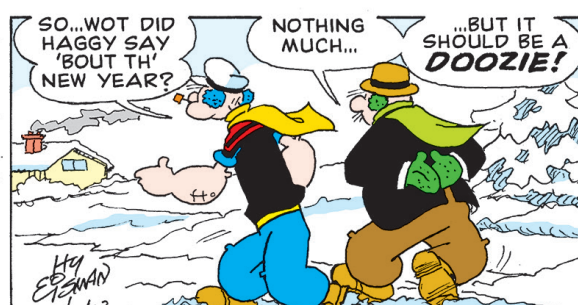
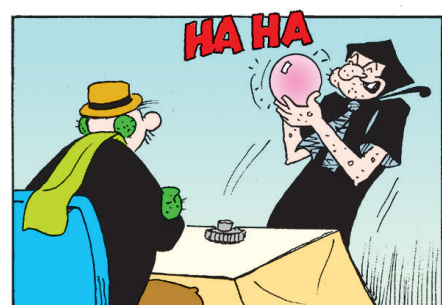
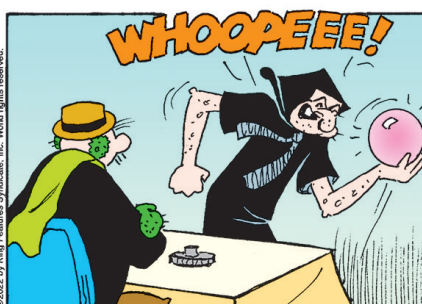
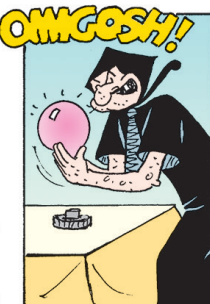
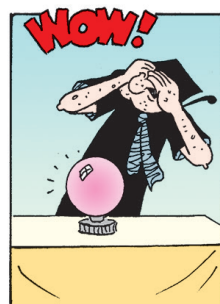
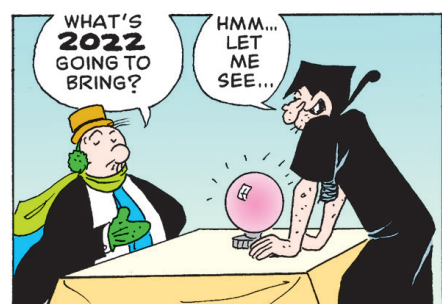
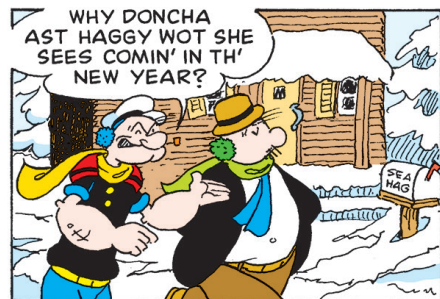
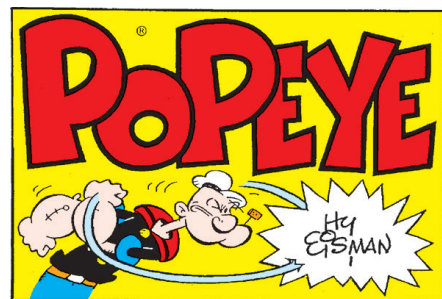
# R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



# The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



# MOMENTS IN TIME

The History Channel

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\* On Jan. 26, 1788, Capt. Arthur Phillip guides a fleet of 11 British ships carrying convicts to the colony of New South Wales, effectively founding Australia. The date eventually became commemorated as Australia Day.

\* On Jan. 25, 1905, at the Premier Mine in Pretoria, South Africa, a 3,106-carat diamond is discovered. Weighing 1.33 pounds and christened the "Cullinan," it was the largest diamond ever found.

\* On Jan. 24, 1935, canned beer makes its debut. In partnership with the American Can Company, the Gottfried Krueger Brewing Company delivered 2,000 cans of beer to faithful Krueger drinkers in Richmond, Virginia. Some 91% of the drinkers approved of the canned beer.

\* On Jan. 30, 1943, the British Royal Air Force begins a bombing campaign in Berlin that coincides with the 10th anniversary of Hitler's accession to power. Two days later, a massive surrender of German troops occurred at Stalingrad.

\* On Jan. 27, 1967, a fire on the launch pad during Apollo 1 program tests at Cape Canaveral, Florida, kills astronauts Virgil "Gus" Grissom, Edward H. White II and Roger B. Chaffee. An investigation implicated a faulty electrical wire inside the command module as the probable cause.

\* On Jan. 29, 1979, Brenda Spencer, 16, kills two men and wounds nine children as they enter an elementary school in San Diego, blasting away with a rifle from her home across the street. Despite drug abuse and anger issues, her father had given her a .22 rifle and 500 rounds of ammunition as a Christmas gift.

\* On Jan. 28, 1985, dozens of pop stars gather to lay down tracks for "We Are the World," under the direction of Quincy Jones. The song would go on to sell more than 7 million copies and raise more than \$60 million for African famine relief. Participants were told: "Check your egos at the door."

# THE RICH LOWRY COLUMN

By Rich Lowry

## Chuck Schumer's Jan. 6 Cynicism

On Jan. 6, 2021, rioters seeking to disrupt the counting of electoral votes breached the U.S. Capitol and rampaged for hours before order was restored.

This was a disgraceful spectacle that shouldn't be repeated, and Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer knows just what is needed to respond to the moment -- passing every progressive voting-related priority that can possibly be jammed through the Senate on an extremely narrow, partisan vote.

The defense of our democracy, Schumer maintains, demands nothing less.

The latest pitch for the Democratic voting agenda is more cynical and detached from reality than ever. We are to believe that the only way to counteract the furies unleashed on Jan. 6 is by imposing same-day voter registration and no-excuse mail voting on the states, ending partisan gerrymandering, and requiring the counting of ballots that arrive up to seven days after Election Day, among other provisions completely irrelevant to events that day or afterward.

If you're thinking that Democrats supported all of this on Jan. 5 of last year and still supported it on Jan. 7, you're correct.

Their agenda has as much to do with Jan. 6 as an annual appropriations bill or the naming of a post office.

The Democratic drive to nationalize our elections has always been a sweepingly radical step in search of an alleged crisis to address. When a version was first introduced a few years ago, it was sold as addressing "the vile voter suppression practices" of the GOP, in the words of The New York Times. The big lie of the time was that the Georgia gubernatorial campaign of Stacey Abrams in 2018 was undone by such practices. Now, the justification is the Capitol riot and subsequent GOP state-level voting changes that have been portrayed, falsely, as the return of Jim Crow.

In reality, voting has never been easier and voters have never had so many options for how to participate in elections, whether early in-person voting, traditional same-day voting, or mail-in voting. There are partisan disputes about how to strike a balance between convenience and security, but there is no reason that these differences can't be debated at the state level, with the balance struck differently depending on the policy preferences of elected officials in each state.

Limits on drop boxes or measures to tighten up the identification requirements around mail-in ballots aren't suppressing the vote.

The true weakness of the system that was highlighted last year on Jan. 6 is the poorly drafted Electoral Count Act. It should be revised to make it explicit that the vice president can't decide which electoral votes to count and that states can't discard the popular vote if the outcome isn't to their liking. Even though changes along these lines might get bi-partisan support, Schumer is pushing to eliminate the filibuster to pass the progressive wish list of electoral non-sequiturs (although a few provisions, like prohibiting the intimidation of election officials, have been added to the Democratic package to address the 2020 post-election fight).

To wrap this push in the bloody shirt of Jan. 6 is opportunistic and irresponsible and can only serve to convince even more Republicans that the outrage over that day is in the service of a nakedly partisan agenda.

Schumer has an uphill climb to convince relatively moderate Democrats Joe Manchin and Kyrsten Sinema to go along with kneecapping the filibuster. If the New York senator were to succeed, he would have blown a hole in the traditional practices of the Senate and set the precedent for Republicans -- should they achieve unified control of Washington in 2024 -- to impose all their own favored electoral policies on the states.

This yin and yang wouldn't do anything to restore faith in democracy, rather the opposite. But Chuck Schumer is on a mission to achieve, and to use, the power to rewrite the country's electoral rules -- justifications and consequences be damned.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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## Donna's Day Creative family fun

by Donna Erickson

### Easy Grilled Cheese Sandwiches for a Crowd

Is there such a thing as easy entertaining? When reviewing our busy December days, I admit that in spite of my intentions, parties became a bit of a production with my long to-do lists and shoutouts to kids to run last-minute trips to the store to pick up mushrooms for the gravy or to our Scandinavian market for lingonberries and herring. By the time I lit ice candles on our porch to welcome guests, I had to ask myself, "Could I have simplified this?"

In this new year, I want to keep our welcome candles burning for all, but skip a bit of the fancy and go for the easy-prep practical. After all, it's the get-together that matters, right? Spending time around the table eating, laughing and connecting with family and friends matters most.

That's where making and serving oven-baked grilled cheese sandwiches for a crowd, the easy way saves the day. Bake them in the oven all at once instead of the traditional way of grilling in batches on your stovetop in a frying pan. They'll be evenly browned and done at the same time, ready to be paired with a bowl of piping hot soup, such as fragrant basil tomato.

Slice the sandwiches in half diagonally and watch your guests enjoy dipping the pointed ends into the soup. Crispy, gooey and tasty, you'll be creating fond food memories in 2022.

Here is my basic oven-baked grilled cheese sandwich recipe. Feel free to embellish with spicy mustard or mayo

sauce spread inside, and add additional varieties of cheese. Sometimes I include a pinch of kale or other fresh greens I have on hand.

#### OVEN-BAKED GRILLED CHEESE SANDWICHES

- 12 slices white bread a half-inch thick, such as pre-sliced Texas toast  
Butter, softened for spreading  
6 thick slices cheddar cheese



Oven-baked grilled cheese sandwiches make entertaining easy.

1. Preheat oven to 450 F. Set parchment paper on a large baking sheet.
2. Ask your child to count and place six slices of bread on the parchment lined sheet. Butter each piece and flip over.
3. Lay a slice of cheese on the unbuttered side. Top with another slice of bread. Butter top side.
4. Bake in the oven for 5-6 minutes until bread is toasted on exposed side.
5. Flip with a spatula and bake an additional 5 minutes until golden brown and cheese is just melted.
6. Cool for two minutes. Slice in half diagonally and arrange on a platter. Serve with hot bowls of your favorite tomato soup. Makes 6 sandwiches.

\*\*\*

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

### Mail Delays Prompt VA to Extend Deadlines

The Department of Veterans Affairs ran into a big snag with a printing vendor and a lot of notification letters to veterans were delayed. But fear not -- the VA is extending your response time.

The Government Printing Office, which provides printing services via contracted vendors, couldn't get out the notification letters dated from July 13, 2021 and Dec. 31, 2021. Some of those letters, which required a response from veterans, could have dealt with required exams for compensation and pension, or for making an election about services or benefits, or more.

Typically, there are problems if you don't respond in time. However, at this point, because of the delayed mailings, the VA isn't going to terminate, reduce or deny services and benefits unless you've been contacted and there's documentation about your right to respond; or the information

it asked you for has been received; or the response period has ended.

If you haven't received an expected communication from the VA, call 800-827-1000 to ask about the status of any letters you should have received. Be certain they have current cell-phone, home phone, email and address info for you.

If you've filed an appeal, the Board of Veterans' Appeals also is experiencing significant delays in getting information to you about hearings and decisions. As of last month, the board is figuring up a work-around to get information to you and your representatives. If you're waiting on a notice about a hearing, they'll try any number of methods to reach you. If you have to postpone, call them ASAP. If you're waiting on a decision, ask your rep to access Caseflow to see if your decision information has been included yet.

For more information, including ways to get additional assistance, check [www.bva.va.gov/docs/Delayed\\_notifications\\_fact\\_sheet.pdf](http://www.bva.va.gov/docs/Delayed_notifications_fact_sheet.pdf)

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# BIBLE TRIVIA

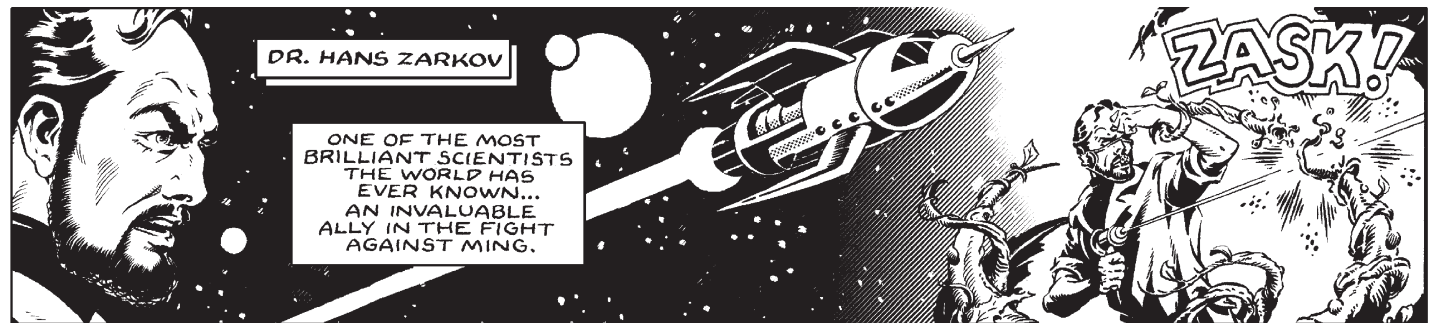
by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Capernaum in the Old Testament or New Testament or neither?
2. From 1 Corinthians 14, who advised young Christians to stop thinking like children? *Luke, Paul, David, John*
3. For how many days did Goliath take his stand for a man to fight him? *2, 6, 10, 40*
4. In Genesis 18, whom did God ask, "Is anything too hard for the Lord"? *Moses, Adam, Noah, Abraham*
5. How many loaves of bread were used to feed the 5,000? *2, 3, 4, 5*
6. In Mark 12, whom did Jesus accuse of devouring widows' houses? *Sadducees, Midianites, Israelites, Pharisees*

ANSWERS: 1) Neither; 2) Paul; 3) 40; 4) Abraham; 5) 5; 6) Pharisees

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

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# Comfort foods

Made fast and healthy

by Healthy Exchanges

## Creamed Celery and Cheese

If your family usually gives vegetable dishes no respect, give this ultra-easy side dish a try.

- 1 1/2 cups finely chopped celery
- 1 (2-ounce) jar chopped pimiento, undrained
- 2 cups frozen peas, thawed
- 1/3 cup fat-free sour cream
- 1 teaspoon dried parsley flakes
- 1/8 teaspoon black pepper

1. In a large skillet sprayed with butter-flavored cooking spray, saute celery for 6 to 8 minutes or just until tender. Stir in undrained pimiento and peas. Continue cooking for 3 to 4 minutes, stirring often. Add sour cream and parsley flakes. Mix well to combine.

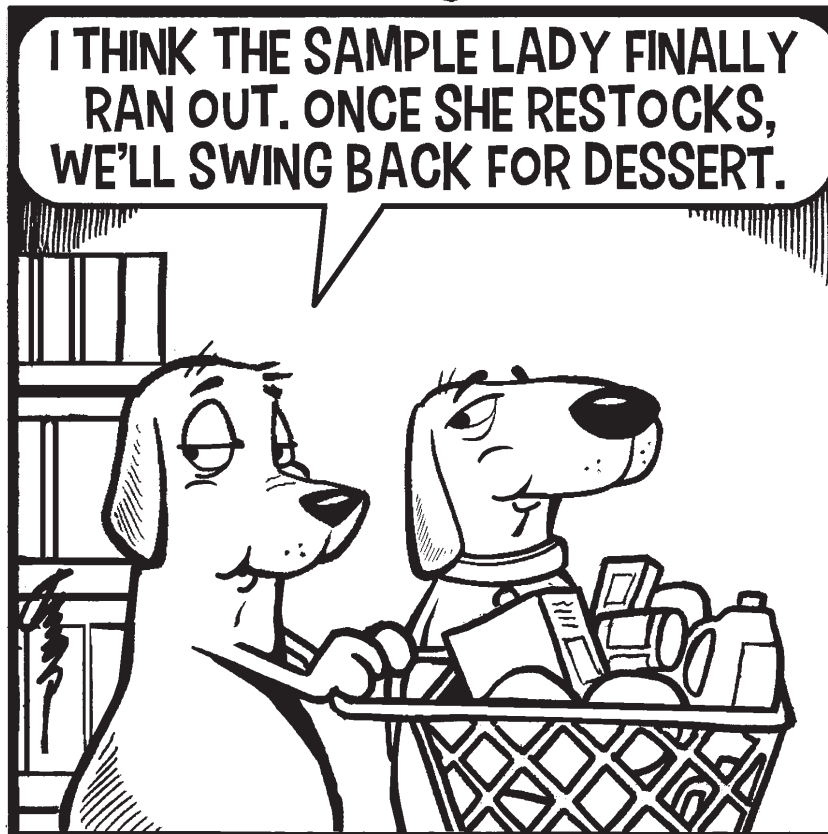
2. Lower heat and simmer for 3 to 4 minutes or until mixture is heated through, stirring often. Makes 4 (3/4 cup each) servings.

• Each serving equals: 80 calories, 0 g fat, 5 g protein, 15 g carb., 148 mg sodium, 4 g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 1 Starch, 1/2 Vegetable.

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



## Historically Speaking

### A brief history of the UT-AEC Agricultural Research Laboratory - Part 4

By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

As we return to the history of the UT-AEC Agricultural Research Laboratory that came to be known the Comparative Animal Research Laboratory, let's look closely at the transitions that took place during the last few years of its existence. This unique laboratory went from a full-blown agricultural research facility to one that was deliberately limited in scope and eventually reduced out of existence.

Joe Lenhard arranged a most interesting conversation for me with Pete Walburg. Pete was the director of the laboratory during the transitions we will explore in this installment of the history of this Oak Ridge experiment. He recalls vividly the struggle to survive when the Atomic Energy Commission's successor agencies decided they no longer wanted to support agricultural research.

What had begun as an experiment to learn as much as possible from the unfortunate - or fortunate, depending on your perspective - exposure of a herd of cattle to a nuclear explosion (Trinity test of first atomic explosion) eventually became perceived as a burden on the taxpayers that the Atomic Energy Commission's successor agency, the Energy Research and Development Administration, formed in 1975, was unwilling to continue and became even more of a problem under the Department of Energy formed in 1977.

Pete Walburg was the manager who had to wrestle with the diminishing funds and the loss of desire from Washington to support these experiments. Pete came to the UT-AEC Agricultural Research Laboratory from the Oak Ridge National Laboratory's Biology Division located at the Y-12 site in 1973. He had been at the Biology Division since 1961. He stayed with the effort through its ultimate transition until 1982.

Pete came to manage the agricultural research operations just as the support for what had been done there was beginning to wane. Unfortunately, Pete was blamed for much of what was well beyond his control. The experiments in agricultural research such as irradiation of seeds and large animal experiments had provided a tremendous amount of new information about radiation exposure from the late 1940's for 30 years until the 1970's.

However, this information was no longer as appreciated as when it was producing new and very helpful information about exposure to radiation in the late 1940's and early 1950's. It continued to do cutting edge research well into the 1960's but the 1970's and early 1980's saw a decreased level of support for what the local folks felt was still valuable research.

However, the funding problem drove Pete to seek funding from the Environmental Protection Agency and the United States Department of Agriculture. This met with limited success and only extended the work for a short time.

An example of the frustrating experiences Pete had to endure is typified by the following actual series of events as described to me by Pete personally. He was told by a member of the headquarters staff in Washington that he should develop a proposal to study coal as an energy source. He enlisted the help of many of his staff to do the necessary research and to write a full-blown proposal to do energy research on coal.

Pete proudly took the final proposal to Washington and personally presented it to the individual who had asked for it. Pete said that the headquarters staff individual proceeded to push the proposal off his desk and into the trash can and looking



Bob Reynolds explains the operation of the Variable Dose Rate Irradiation Facility where the radiation accident occurred on February 4, 1971 (Photo Submitted)

directly at Pete said, "That is not something we want to pursue."

Well, you can imagine the let down on Pete's part. How could he tell his staff that it really did not matter what they came up with, it would not receive support in headquarters and no funds would be forthcoming. The idea was to kill the Comparative Animal Research Laboratory, period.

Joe Lenhard was the government's agent who had to convey the decisions being made at headquarters to the local workforce at the laboratory. He vividly recalls the instructions he was given to stop supporting those "farmers" and their agricultural experiments.

The headquarters instructions were to refocus the laboratory strictly on scientific research, not radiating seeds and other agriculturally focused activities. Joe said the instruction was explicit and left no room for misunderstanding what he was to do.

An added concern to the headquarters folks had to be the radiation accident that occurred on February 4, 1971. A University of Tennessee technician was exposed to a radioactive source that was being used to irradiate seeds in the Variable Dose Rate Irradiation Facility when he entered the room while the source was exposed.

An investigation revealed that the door interlocks had been intentionally defeated by taping them in a position whereby the doors could operate without alerting the operator that the source was still in an exposed position. Evidently this employee just forgot that the interlocks were effectively bypassed and entered the room without first

shielding the source.

The employee demonstrated symptoms of radiation exposure shortly after being exposed near noon on Thursday. He was hospitalized in the Medical Division Hospital of the Oak Ridge Associated Universities. By Friday, he was described by physicians as being in "good" condition, having already recovered from the first wave of radiation sickness.

The exact amount of exposure to the University of Tennessee employee was not known until the thermal luminescence dosimeter he was wearing was sent to Eberline Instrument Company in Santa Fe, New Mexico, a commercial firm contracted

by the UT-AEC Agricultural Research Laboratory to provide and process detection badges. It was soon determined that he had been exposed to a Cobalt 60 source and had received 260 rem of radiation. An exposure of 100 - 200 rem will rarely be fatal but 200 - 1,000 rem will cause severe radiation sickness and toward the upper end of that range will likely prove fatal.

This 260 rem exposure was significant enough to cause substantial radiation sickness and to cause four distinct stages of illness. First was the nausea and vomiting during the first 48 hours. Next, the latent period in which there were no symptoms and the injured individual felt normal. After about three to five weeks the injured individual went into a stage in which hemorrhaging, and infection may occur. Finally, there is the recovery period.

In this case the individual exposed to the radiation recovered completely. Dr. Gould A. Andrews, who was the head of the Oak Ridge Associated University's Medical Division said, "We have a better understanding of radiation injury than we do of almost any other kind of environmental injury..."

It is significant to note that a contributor to this increased knowledge of the effects of radiation exposure came directly from the experiments on animals, including those cattle from Trinity as well as many more head that were brought to the UT-AEC Agricultural Research Laboratory and used for radiation related experiments.

Joe Lenhard, Bob Reynolds, and I sought out the actual facilities where the large animals were exposed to radiation as well as the exact location of the Variable Dose Rate Irradiation Facility where the radiation accident occurred. These facilities remain intact to a large degree but are not readily accessible and are not being maintained. Like many other outlying facilities, they will likely be demolished. Some of the barns and silos have already been demolished.

Next, we will complete this series on this most unusual experimental facility that forms a part of the wide-ranging history of Oak Ridge. Much of what is known about radiation exposure came to be understood by research facilities in Oak Ridge over the years. This was but one of many such experimental facilities. However, it truly was one of the most unusual.

SECTION 001115  
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Bonafide Prime Bidders obtaining Bidding Documents become Bidders of Record and automatically receive subsequent addenda. Prime Bidders will also receive Bid Packs including the Bid Envelope and other forms required for bidding.

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Bids will be received  
Until: 4:00pm, local time  
On: Thursday, January 20, 2022  
At: Morgan County Schools, 136 Flat Fork Road, Wartburg, TN 37887

Each Bidder must be appropriately licensed as a Contractor in the State of Tennessee as provided in T.C.A. 62-6-101. Complete all blanks on the bid envelope, otherwise, the Bid will not be opened.

The Owner reserves the right to reject any or all Bid proposals and to waive all informalities. A conditional or qualified BID will not be accepted.

## Diversification Leads to Unification

By Paula Armes Perry

Tornadoes ravaged Campbellsville, KY. Johnboy's BBQ and many others from different walks of life, joined together on December 19th, 2021 and went and served the community of Campbellsville with not only BBQ; but with hope, comfort, love, donations from our communities, and supplies.

There were people that showed up and gave of their time, money, and of themselves in order to help those in need. There were volunteers from Morgan, Roane, Anderson and some Kentucky counties.

John Caddell, BBQ owner and Pit Master of JohnBoy's BBQ in Morgan County got things rolling. He asked for help and donations to assist those that were in the tornado's path.

Caddell gathered a band of volunteers, some which were Ginger King from Ginger's Deli, Ashley Davis, David Harvey, Demented Motorcycle Club members, moonshiners Joe Green and Royal Brannon, and Paula Perry Advertising Specialist for the Morgan County Today.

The volunteers gathered donations from UGO of Harriman, Calvary Baptist Church of Wartburg, other area churches, private citizens, a man from Bavaria, and people from all over the south.

With everything gathered, they made the trip to Campbellsville and met in the parking lot of Pleasant Hill Baptist Church.

With the diverse crew of people ready to help, the stricken residents of Campbellsville received aid.

Whether that aid came in the form of monetary donations, items needed, pet food, and nourishment from Caddell's food truck or just a friendly word or ear, it helped go a long way in lifting spirits.

Joining the East Tennessee volunteers were bikers from the Demented MC. Often due to popular culture, bikers are seen in a bad light, but not these bikers.

The Demented are based out of Campbellsville and surrounding area. They were more than willing to help out in any way possible. They wanted to help their neighbors in need out of community pride and responsibility. They brought heaters to keep volunteers warm, drinks, food, and gave of themselves unselfishly.

Moonshiners are another that gets a bad rap, often seen as outside of the law, depending on who you ask.

In the last decade or more, this perspective is changing thanks to their actions and large parts of the popular television show Moonshiners on Discovery.

The volunteer moonshiners worked tirelessly to assist and aid their fellow man in need. Even more worth noting, Demented member Joe Green is also a recognized member of the moonshiner community. Working beside him was fellow moonshiner Royal Brannon.

Ginger King the owner and operator of Ginger's Deli from Briceville, TN was also among those that helped serve food and brought supplies for this community.

David Harvey, a long time friend of Caddell and member of the Morgan County community, also supplied wood for the food truck to help cook the food for the community.

Another friend of Caddell, Ashley Davis, joined the others and volunteered to help serve victims of the tragedy.

Joining this diverse cast were also the previously mentioned help and donations of area churches.

The diversity of the group was many, however, everyone joined efforts, became friends, and worked to help those in need. This diverse group unified in their desire to help the victims of the tornado.

The needs are great for this community and efforts are still needed. As of Saturday December 31st, Campbellsville was hit again with another tornado.



EXPERIENCE  
LIFE  
THROUGH  
READING.



# 1 Corinthians: Chapter 16

(1 Corinthians 16:1-4) Instructions about the collection: There was a segment of poor people among the saints in Jerusalem (Rom. 15:26; Acts 24:17; 2 Cor. 8:13-14; 9:12-13; Gal. 2:10), and churches throughout the Mediterranean world were encouraged to help with this relief fund. Paul refers to this matter in the concluding portion of this letter. He had instructed the churches of Galatia regarding this issue (Acts 16:6), and he now wants the Corinthians to be involved as well.

The following instructions illustrate a specialized situation that conforms to a general pattern for church finances. A contribution was to be made by each income-producing Christian "every" first day of the week (Greek text) when the church assembled for worship (Acts 20:7). The contribution was to be deposited in the "church treasury" (Macknight), not "at home", as some suggest--which would defeat the apostle's plan. The gift was to be proportional to one's prosperity (Acts 11:29). The gift for the Jerusalem Christians was to be ready when Paul arrived so that he would not be required to go from home to home. The church was to select messengers to accompany the gift to Jerusalem, whom Paul would authenticate with letters of endorsement. He hoped he might even be able to accompany them (which eventually he did).

(Cor. 16:5-9) Proposed travel plans: Since Paul had a trip planned that would take him through Macedonia (north of Corinth), he would plan on passing on through that region and come to Corinth in Achaia. He perceived it possible that he might remain with them for a while, perhaps even for the winter. Maybe they would help him go onward to other points worthy of mission work. He did not want to drop in for a mere quick visit. He would rather come when he could stay for a while. All of this, of course, would be subject to the Lord's will. Paul believed in providence. In the meantime, he would remain in Ephesus (a week's trip across the Aegean Sea) until Pentecost (late May to early June). He was having great success there; a great "door" of opportunity had been opened, and remained so (verbal tense) (Acts 19:20), even though there were many adversaries as well (Acts 19:23).

(1 Cor. 16:10-12) Concerning Timothy and Apollos: Timothy had been sent into Macedonia earlier (Acts 19:22), and Paul was not sure whether the young evangelist would make it to Corinth or not. If he arrived, however, they were to receive him graciously and not put him under undue critical pressure. If they were rude to Paul (2 Cor. 10:10), they certainly might be to Timothy as well. They were charged not to "despise" him, treat him in a harsh or crude fashion. Instead, they were to assist him on his journey to rejoin Paul, who was waiting for him.

Apollos had been instructed more accurately in the way of the Lord by Priscilla and Aquila in Ephesus, before Paul arrived there (Acts 18:24-26), and subsequently he had gone to Corinth. For some reason he left them, and now was back in Ephesus. Apparently the Corinthian brethren wanted him to return, and Paul shared that disposition. Apollos, however, did not wish to return at this time, the reason not being specified, but they were assured he would come when opportunity prevailed.

(1 Cor. 16:13-24) Admonitions and personal data: The Corinthian brethren were thus encouraged to: (a) be on the lookout, like a soldier on guard; (b) stand fast, not intimidated by adversaries; (c) act in the manner of brave men; (d) remain strong.

Each of the verbs implies constant vigilance. These actions, however, were to be implemented with loving concern for others (13:1). Mention is made of the household of Stephanas,

some of the earliest converts of Achaia (whom apparently Paul personally had immersed) (1:16). They had "set themselves" (apparently with personal initiative) to minister to their fellow Christians, and others were to yield to their leadership (v. 15). This strongly negates the common claim that the term "household" included infants and that the earlier reference (1:16) is a proof text for infant baptism. Infants are not believers, have no sins to repent of, and cannot confess Jesus to be the Son of God. When Christians vigorously give themselves to helping one another in the Lord's work, unity is bound to prevail (v. 16).

Paul had been encouraged by the arrival of three men from Corinth who helped to satisfy the longing he had for the whole church. They probably reported further on the problems there and perhaps conveyed the church's questions (1:11; 7:1). These brothers had refreshed Paul's spirit, just as they had those of their home church. They were to be recognized for their encouragement. Paul sends greetings from other congregations in Asia (Rev. 1:11). Aquila and Prisca (Priscilla), along with a group that assembled in their house, also conveyed salutations. The factious Corinthians were encouraged to "salute one another" with a "holy kiss" (Rom. 16:16), or a "kiss of love" (1 Pet. 5:14).

Paul sometimes dictated his letters to a secretary (as in this case (Rom. 16:22), but he would authenticate it at the end with his own signature (v.21). He concludes with a strong warning. If anyone does not love the Lord let him be "anathema," devoted to divine destruction; be rewarded consistent with sacred justice. He then uses an Aramaic expression, "Maranatha", which probably signifies, "Lord, come!" This may constitute a request for judgment upon Christ's adversaries at the appropriate time (v. 22; Lk. 18:7-8). He petitions that Christ's grace (favor) would abide with them, and he assures them of his love for them in Christ. So be it (v.23-24)!

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MELVIN HOWARD



## THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

*For God is not unjust to forget your work and labor of love which you have shown toward His name, in that you have ministered to the saints, and do minister. HEBREWS 6:10*



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102 Paxton Road, Lancing



# He That Hath An Ear



**John Burns**  
*Opinion Columnist*

Jesus Christ ended each letter with a call to homiletic integrity. Each letter he dictated to John he ended with the same quote: He that hath an ear let him hear what the spirit says to the churches.

These seven churches were chosen by Christ to warn every person who ever claimed faith in Messiah that this is the fate of human religion. Doctrines of men replaced sound Hebrew hermeneutics that Messiah actually used when he

taught the apostles and disciples.

These seven churches were started by John in western Turkey prior to him being imprisoned on the island of Patmos by Emperor Domitian. John could visibly see the cities where these churches were begun while incarcerated. Jesus Christ chose to address these churches as God incarnate. The Revelation is the unveiling of Messiah as God, and the unveiling of His bride from within the body of Christ.

These letters make up the most complete prophetic warning to those Messiah loves. Will you recognize all of our need to heed Jesus Christ's warning, and become the virgin bride awaiting the return of our risen bridegroom. Do you have an ear that can hear?

If you approach scripture as God dictates then no scripture is available for individual interpretation. Are their other witnesses to what Messiah was teaching about the body and the bride of Christ?

Ephesians enlightened all of us to the fact that the apostles had lost their first love. After being called by Messiah as humble fisherman, tax collectors, shepherds, and carpenters to take the Gospel to the world that then was, they became so busy with the business of church that they had neglected spending time alone with Messiah.

Paul penned the letter to the Ephesian Church explaining the weapons of the kingdom of our God. It outlined that God was the God of time and three-dimensional spaces were less important than spending time alone in prayer and meditation, focusing on what Messiah did and not what they were doing. Church became more important than relationship to Messiah as an individual.

Smyrna would see the beginning of joy through human suffering. This is Paul's message outlined in the book of Philippians. Persecution saw the Christian witness move into the fledgling Roman empire. People in Smyrna were willing to be persecuted for their testimony of saving faith in Messiah and Jesus Christ had nothing bad to say about them.

To avoid persecution at the hands of Rome, the Christian church married the world system at Pergamos. Roman calendars replaced the Genesis calendar Jesus Christ followed while on Earth. Pagan traditions emigrated into Christian liturgy schedules and they are still present today. Paul penned 1st and 2nd Corinthians warning of pagan traditions entering the Christian testimony.

At Thyatira we are warned about Ahab and Jezebel. The middle age Catholic Church that engaged in inquisitions to seize Christian and Jewish property in favor of temporal power. The holocaust was a result of silent pulpits compromising with Pagan human government in Germany. Another holocaust is on our American horizon according to Messiah in this warning to his churches. Persecution came from within church and it will continue in America and our world very soon.

Thyatira was where replacement theology became Christian doctrine. The Catholic Church advanced a narrative that God replaced Israel with pagan gentile believers in Roman traditions. The entire pantheon of pagan Roman Gods emigrated into Christian teachings. Antisemitism became the church moniker. It is present today in every denomination and it is unscriptural. Paul the Apostle penned Galatians as the companion witness to Christ's letter to Thyatira. It deals with the question of is God going to save a Jewish remnant of believers in Messiah?

Today, there are 68 messianic Jewish congregations in Israel and

thousands in America. This should put to bed this heretical doctrine advanced by Nicolaitans willing to destroy our Christian witness. These men kept the Bible out of the hands of believers in God for a long time in Roman Catholicism. The middle age church of Rome gave birth to the reformation church of Sardis.

In Sardis we are introduced to Martin Luther. A coal miners' son who went to Rome to seek a degree in law. A chance lightning storm scared him so bad, he decided to change his major to theology. The world was introduced to Habbakuk 2:4 and men began to demand access to the Bible in their homes.

We are saved by faith through grace, not by works less any man should boast. The Bible was available to everyone yet still men clung to religious traditions. Messiah warns Sardis that they are a dead church in need of resurrection. This is the denominational church in all of its present forms. Paul penned his letter to the Hebrews to deal with the antisemitism in Sardis and throughout the reformation churches.

Sardis gave birth to the fledgling nation we all call home, America. Philadelphia is the place missionary outreach traveled all over the globe. As America prospered the church sent missionaries around the world and in turn America prospered. Thessalonians was written by Paul as the definitive guide to proper Christian reaction to salvation. The doctrine of the harpazo, referred to as the rapture of the bride of Christ in Thessalonians.

With the trappings of wealth in Philadelphia we enter the Laodicean church age. America is under the abandonment wrath of God and no one in church needs the blood of the Lamb cleansing them from all unrighteousness, I have money, a church, cars, homes and a Roman calendar to worship God on. That is why Laodicea is the church God intends to divorce. Do you have an ear to hear what the spirit says?

The Laodiceans were told by Paul to exchange letters with the Collossians. Paul penned his letter to Collosse almost 40 years before Messiah dictated the letter to Laodicea. Proving the entire Bible to be prophetic and filled with Biblical patterns no one cares to learn.

Twenty plus years I have studied the seven churches. Every time I reenter the teaching I learn anew. God has called me to warn the American church God loves, will you hear what the Holy Spirit is saying, and repent and return to the entire word of God?

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

He is returning for his bride very soon. In Christ's eternal service JB  
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

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## Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

## King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 22 mins.

T	I	E	D		D	A	B		O	L	A	N	
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## Healthy Soup Makes Eating Vegetables Easy

Like most folks, I've resolved to eat more vegetables in the new year. Here's an inexpensive and appetizing idea that's been making my goal much easier. Each weekend, make one big pot of Very Versatile Vegetable Soup to enjoy for lunch the entire week.



www.JasonCoblentz.com

### Use variations to change up basic vegetable soup

This soup is delicious, but to avoid the "soup again?" syndrome, simple additions to the basic vegetable soup totally change up the flavors so we don't get bored. Some variation ideas follow the recipe.

What makes this recipe unique is that the veggies are sauteed for a little caramelization, maximizing their natural sweetness. This adds tremendous depth of umami flavor you don't usually find in vegetable soup.

Of course, you can add any veggies you like to this soup, but I concentrated on lower-carb veggies. However, strong tasting vegetables like broccoli or asparagus tend to overpower the other flavors.

This delectable recipe can be made on the stovetop or a crock pot, makes about 10 servings, is easily doubled and freezes beautifully in single or family-size portions.

### VERY VERSATILE VEGETABLE SOUP

**Yield: 10 servings Time: 1 hour (stovetop)**

- 3 tablespoons olive oil, divided
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 4 large carrots, chopped
- 4 celery stalks, chopped
- 4-6 cloves garlic, minced (more if you love garlic!)
- 1 medium head green cabbage, chopped
- 1 (28 ounce) can Italian-style diced tomatoes, undrained
- 2 cups green beans, fresh or frozen, chopped
- 2 small russet potatoes (optional) peeled and chopped
- 8 cups (five 14.5 ounce cans) low-sodium chicken, beef or vegetable broth
- One big pinch red pepper flakes (optional)
- Salt and pepper to taste

1. The secret to this soup is the saute. Put 1 tablespoon oil in a large soup pot on medium-high heat. Add onion and cook until nearly translucent. Add carrot and saute for 3 minutes. Add celery and continue to cook for another 3 minutes, adding more oil as needed. (Remember that you're not cooking the veggies, just sauteing for the scrumptious flavor it imparts. If you get a little golden color, that's fantastic!)

2. Add the garlic and mix it together for 1 minute. Add cabbage and stir. I

add a little salt and pepper now. Cook until the cabbage begins to wilt. Add the tomatoes, green beans, potatoes, if using, broth and pepper flakes, and mix it all together.

3. If you're putting this in a crock pot to finish; dump it in now, set to LOW for 6 to 8 hours. To finish on the stovetop; let it come to a boil then turn heat to low. Let it gently simmer away until the veggies are tender, and the soup smells divine, roughly 30 minutes.

4. Add salt and pepper to taste at the end because as the soup reduces, it concentrates the flavors, including salt. You can replace half the broth with water to reduce the sodium.

### VARIATIONS

Change the flavor by adding these ingredients to the hot soup by the bowl.

*Mock Minestrone* — White beans, big handful of spinach, cooked ditalini or small shell pasta, and Parmesan cheese.

*Cabbage Roll* — Cooked hamburger, rice and a splash of Worcestershire. Finish with a dollop of sour cream.

*Southwest* — Add shredded cooked chicken, black beans, corn and a dash of cumin and chili powder. Top with shredded cheese.

*Greek Lemon Chicken* — Cooked shredded chicken, orzo or rice, dried or fresh oregano and a big squeeze of lemon.

I'm for anything that makes it easy and affordable to reach our nutritional goals. Here's to a healthy 2022!

\*\*\*

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



"Careers are a jungle gym, not a ladder."  
— Sheryl Sandberg

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David Zubler  
Columnist

## Earned Income Credit changes will benefit more people

Normally, the maximum amount of the Earned Income Credit (EIC) increases each year. However, there are significant changes that will provide EIC for more people. The new rules will help people with and without children.

The most significant changes to the EIC apply to people without qualifying children.

EIC changes for people without qualifying children will be explained in this article.

The tax changes expanded the eligible age range for EIC. Younger and older people can claim the credit in 2021 if they meet the earned income requirements.

In previous years, only people between the ages of 25 and 65 were eligible for EIC, but the minimum and maximum ages have changed for 2021.

Generally, the minimum age for EIC is 19 for tax year 2021. However, the age is 18 for qualified homeless or former foster youth. A different age limit applies to eligible students (enrolled in a degree program at least half-time for five calendar months during the tax year). The students must be over 23 to qualify for the credit.

The upper age limit, which was 65, was removed. Consequently, you now qualify for EIC if you are over 65 during the 2021 tax year.

The credit percentage at which the EIC phases in and out has increased to 15.3% in 2021. The previous increase was 7.65%.

The AGI earned income threshold where the EIC begins

to phase out was increased to \$11,610 (previously \$8,880) for single people and \$16,610 (previously \$14,820) for people filing married jointly. The maximum EIC that a person without a child can claim increased from \$543 to \$1,502.

Two more changes apply for people with and without qualifying children for the EIC.

One change was the investment income limit for EIC. In 2021, you can have up to \$10,000 of investment income and claim the EIC. The investment income limit will be indexed for inflation in future years. Previously people couldn't claim the EIC if their investment income was over \$3,650.

A second change for tax year 2021, is that you can elect to look back two years and use the amount of your earned income from 2019 instead of 2021 earned income for purposes of determining the credit. This is optional and can be used if the 2019 earnings will increase the amount of your credit. However, it's a good idea to mention this to your tax professional.

If your tax professional doesn't have a copy of your 2019 return, you should provide a copy when your return is prepared.

Earned Income Credit changes for people with children will be explained in a later column.

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## SENIOR NEWS LINE

By Matilda Charles

### Is Telehealth All It's Cracked Up to Be

Medicare started paying for telehealth medical visits last year and will continue through the end of 2023. With telehealth, we sit in our homes and talk to our doctor on a screen, and Medicare pays for it. In the beginning, the number of telehealth visits skyrocketed -- and then fell dramatically. Is that because we learned the hard way just what the limitations of telehealth really are?

There are people on both sides of the "should seniors use telehealth" debate. They both say they offer solid evidence for their opinion.

Those who claim it's a great thing for us to consult with our doctors via a little screen say it's helpful because it keeps us out of the doctor's office. We don't have to go in among all the germs, and we don't need

to worry about transportation.

On the other hand, those who are against telehealth appointments for seniors argue that many of us can't even afford the very devices we would need for telehealth. Even if we have a cellphone, the screen is so small as to be worthless, especially if we have a vision or hearing problem. Then there are the plan fees needed for that device. And what of privacy when we need someone at hand to help navigate the software for us? Do we really want our grandchildren sitting there when we discuss a personal issue with our doctor?

Even if we have a computer, one with a large monitor, how is that going to work when we need the doctor to look at a rash on our back? Or if we really ought to have a stethoscope pressed to our chest because of that ragged cough we've had for days?

Note: If you have original Medicare, you'll pay the same amount for the telehealth appointment as you would if you got the services in person.

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## FLASHBACK

By Mick Harper

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1. Who released "Daddy Don't You Walk So Fast"?
2. Where did the name of "disco" music and dance come from?
3. Who released "To Sir With Love"?
4. Which singer released "Private Dancer"?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "I run a comb through my hair and step out in the street."

### Answers

1. Wayne Newton, in 1972. The song climbed the charts around the world and was even translated into other languages.
2. France. During the 1940s when the Nazis were occupying Paris, "discotheque" was a type of nightclub where patrons danced to phonographic records. Disco became popular in the U.S. in early '70s, emerging out of an urban subculture.
3. Lulu, born Marie McDonald McLaughlin Lawrie, in the 1967 film of the same name, starring Sidney Poitier. It was the best-selling single of the year, after staying at No. 1 for five weeks.
4. Tina Turner, on her album of the same name, in 1984.
5. "Make Me Lose Control," by Eric Carmen, in 1988. The song was a single that was never on an album and stayed at the top of the adult contemporary chart for three weeks. It came out shortly after Carmen's "Hungry Eyes" in the film "Dirty Dancing."

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# High School Basketball Roundup

By Terry Futrell

## High School Basketball Roundup January 10

It wasn't a good week for Morgan County basketball. On Tuesday, county teams won only three of eight contests, with Coalfield girls and boys and Sunbright girls chalking up victories. Friday evening games were all postponed due to inclement weather. Most of the season to date has focused on non-district competition. From now until mid-February, team schedules are packed with district competition.

(Overall, District records in parentheses)

Coalfield Girls (10-4, 1-1)  
Jan 4 – Defeated Greenback 39-37

Oakdale Girls (1-10, 0-2)  
Dec 28 – Lost to Oneida 34-56

Sunbright Girls (14-3, 1-0)  
Dec 27 – Defeated Jellico 68-26

Wartburg Girls (5-6, 2-0)  
Lost to Harriman 41-46

Coalfield Boys (3-8, 1-1)  
Jan 4 – Defeated Greenback 57-38

Oakdale Boys (2-8, 1-1)  
Jan 4 – Lost to Oneida 59-79

Sunbright Boys (8-7, 1-0)  
Jan 4 – Lost to Jellico 68-76

Wartburg Boys (3-11, 1-1)  
Jan 4 – Lost to Harriman 52-72

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