

Morgan County Today

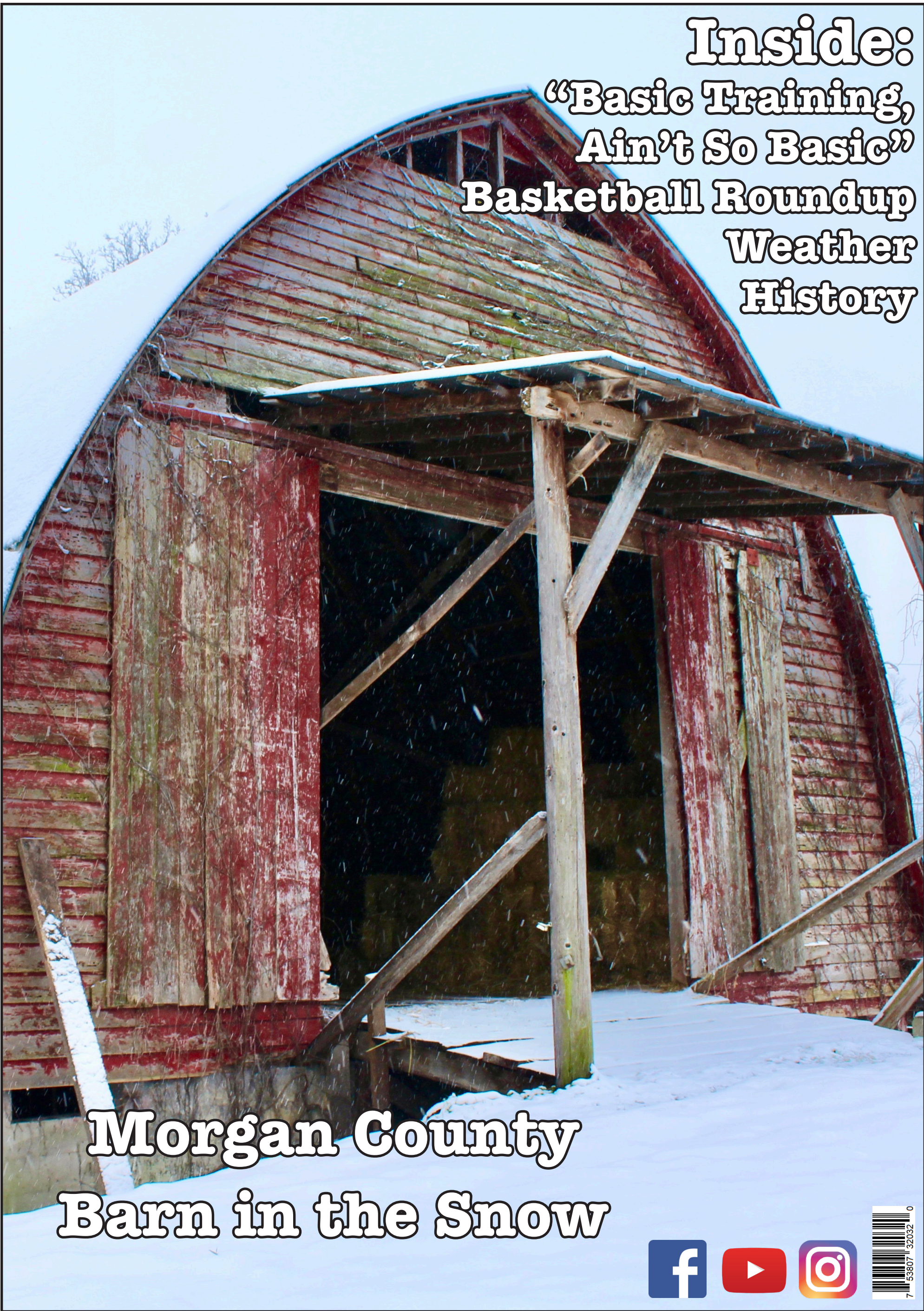
Psalm 100:3

Volume 08 Number 04

Tuesday, January 25, 2022

Your Community. Your News.

75¢



Inside:

**“Basic Training,
Ain’t So Basic”**

Basketball Roundup

Weather

History

**Morgan County
Barn in the Snow**



Morgan County Today
Your Community. Your News.

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**I'D
RATHER
BE
READING.**

#mocotoday

**MORGAN COUNTY
WEATHER THIS WEEK**

Tue 25	40°/18°	
Wed 26	36°/17°	
Thu 27	45°/31°	
Fri 28	35°/18°	
Sat 29	30°/16°	
Sun 30	41°/27°	
Mon 31	47°/26°	



Michael Nance,
Columnist

As the mid-term elections approach, the Biden Administration is attempting a series of bold changes concerning the election process. The latest partisan battle is ongoing on Capitol Hill concerning the legislative Bill, H.R.1 – “For the People Act of 2021”. The Bill is sponsored by Representative John P. Sarbanes, a democrat representing Maryland’s third district. This Bill appears to be intended to undo a series of voting law modifications that have been adopted by 19 different state governments in 2021.

The changes adopted by the many state governments is in response to alleged voting irregularities during the Presidential Election of 2020. A recent mainstream media poll yielded results that indicate a significant number of republican voters are convinced there was widespread voter fraud in the 2020 election.

The federalizing of election laws is a serious step by the Biden Administration. This move will certainly polarize the relationship between the political parties and is not a step towards reconciliation. No one disputes that there are opportunities to improve our elections, but to challenge the individual states and their elected leadership is not an approach that yields collaboration

Biden Administration Attempts to Federalize Elections

between the federal and state governments. Instead, these actions potentially further strain the governmental unity of the nation.

Many critics of the recent Bill have emerged, Republican Senator Mitch McConnell of Kentucky was quoted as saying: “This is an attempt by one party to write the rules of our political system.”

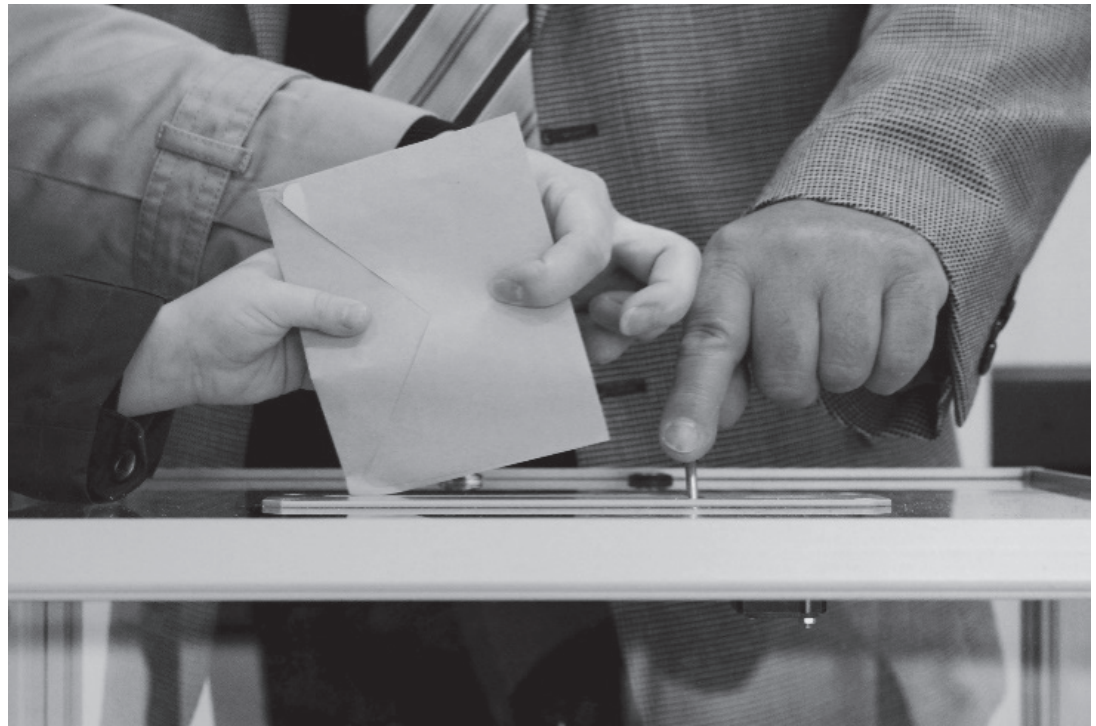
Democratic Senator Joe Manchin of West Virginia was quoted as responding to HR 1 in a statement: “I believe that partisan voting legislation will destroy the already weaken-

legitimate interest in knowing who is providing substantial support for candidates’ elections.

The Heritage Foundation also deeply criticizes the Bill. They warn that the Bill Seizes the authority of voting and voting registration from state governments. They also claim the Bill forces many measures that would actually increase potential voter fraud.

I reviewed the HR-1 Bill and, in my opinion, the Bill is difficult to understand and appears to be written in a way that almost prevents even

a rudimentary understanding of what it accomplishes. I was not alone in that opinion, as according to the Institute for Free Speech



ing binds of our democracy, and for that reason, I will vote against the For The People Act.”

The criticism of the Bill continues, with even the ACLU opposing the Bill. That organization was quoted as stating:

However, there are a number of areas in need of improvement. While some of our concerns have been addressed or mitigated since introduction, the bill, in its current form, would still unconstitutionally burden the speech and associational rights of many public interest organizations and American citizens. These provisions will chill speech essential to our public discourse and would do little to serve the public’s

Senior Fellow Eric Wang, shared my opinion by stating: “the bill’s sponsors threw together previously separate bills in a way that severely frustrates public understanding of legislative language that was already exceedingly vague and complex.”

In summary, regardless of political leanings, it is clear that many organizations are opposed to this Bill. I encourage all of the readers of this article to review this Bill and to read its contents. I have read many Bills proposed by Congress and HR-1 appears to be written to confuse the public. The following is the URL to the Bill: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1>

Cover Photo by Sumer Newport Evans

In Loving Memory

Jo Ann Solomon, 89

Jo Ann Solomon, age 89, of Wartburg passed away Wednesday, January 19, 2022, at NHC of Oak Ridge. She was a member of the Church of Christ in Wartburg. Jo Ann loved knitting throws for people to enjoy. Jo Ann retired with over 30 years in the Nursing field and she also loved her many loved pets.



Carolyn Dodge and family; also surviving are several cousins. Special thanks to Caris Hospice for their care.

Graveside services will be Sunday, January 23, 2022, at 2:00 p.m. at Wartburg City Cemetery with Bro. Don Long officiating.

In lieu of flowers donations may be made to the charity of your choice.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Jo Ann Solomon.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Bill and Grady Lee Solomon; brother & sister-in-law, Wayne and Margaret Solomon. Surviving is her sister at heart,

Jack E. Adkins, 76

Mr. Jack E. Adkins, age 76 of Wartburg, passed away Tuesday January 18, 2022. He was a veteran of the United States Air Force and a retired over-the-road trucker. He loved his westerns, his family, and telling lots of life stories,

He was preceded in death his parents: G.G. "Duck" and Macel Adkins.

One sister: Pauline.
Two brothers: Billy and JB.
And one grandson: Caine Taylor.

He is survived by his best friend and wife of 47 years: Devona.

His daughter: Michelle.
His son and favorite daughter-in-law: Michael and Jessica all of Wartburg.

One granddaughter: Ashleigh Waller and her fiancé Jerry Miller.
And his great granddaughter: Leilani Joyce Waller all of Bristol.

His sister-in-law: Judy Jacks of Coalfield.

And his brother-in-law and sister-in-law: Steve and Amber Jacks of Kingston.

The family will receive friends Saturday January 22, 2022 from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at Davis Funeral Home, Wartburg. Funeral services will be at 1:00 PM with Star of Hope Pastor Darrel Daugherty officiating. Interment will follow in Nelson Cemetery with military honors provided by the American Legion Post 149 Honor Guard.

Davis Funeral Home in Wartburg is honored to serve the family of Mr. Jack E. Adkins.

Condolences may be sent to the family at www.davisfuneralhomes.com.

Carl Franklin Craddock, 78

Carl Franklin Craddock born March 27, 1943 in Leeds, Jefferson Co, AL. passed away January 17, 2022 in Knoxville, TN.

Proceeded by parents T. M. & Ida (Bedford) Craddock, brothers: Arlis, Bo & Joe Craddock and sister Betty (Craddock) Vickers.

Survived by wife of 56 yrs., Geraldine (Northrup) Craddock - Wartburg. Children: Rodney Craddock - Wartburg, Wayne Barnes (Kim) - Sunbright, Peggy Keeler (Joey) - Warner Robins, GA & Barbara Rich (Jeff) - Kingston.

Grandchildren: Tasha, DJ Langley & Dustin Barnes (Leanna),

Matthew Keeler (Lois), Michael Keeler (Amanda), Nathan, Natasha, Naleah & Nicholas Rich; great grandchildren: Tyler Scimia, Lilly Bowman, Kinley Barnes, Timothy, Jersey & Chloe Keeler, Emerson, Lexington & Daisy Keeler; sister: Wiladean (Craddock) McLaughlin - Leeds, AL..

The family will receive friends Thursday, January 20, 2022 at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg from 4:00-6:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 6:00 p.m. with Rev. Herb Judkins officiating. The family request a private graveside service.

Verldon "Bert" Bunch, 75

Verldon "Bert" Bunch, born February 26, 1946, went home to be with his Lord and Savior on January 18, 2022. He passed away peacefully at home surrounded by family. Verldon was a long-time member of Shiloh Baptist Church in Devonia. He was a retired coal miner. He enjoyed helping others, cutting wood, mowing, ginsenging, gardening, hunting, fishing, and spending time with family and friends. He also was a member of the Masons.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Shadric and Lillie Mae; brothers, Elmer and Randel Bunch; sisters, Geneva Seiber, Loreen Bunch, and Rachael Patrick; daughter-in-law, Surinda Bunch.

He is survived by his loving wife of 58 years, Glenna Fay; sons, Matthew and wife Debbie of Ol-

iver Springs, Jason and wife Joy of Devonia; grandchildren, Matthew "Lil Matt" and wife Kari, Cierra, Lilybell, Haley Baby, Ethan, Chelsey (Mule Kick) and husband Kyle and Tameka; great grandchildren Paisley, Paityn, Carter, Asher, and Berklee; brothers, Lowell and wife Gladys of Florida, Walter and wife Maxine of Georgia; special friends, Larry and Condy Daugherty. Also a host of nieces, nephews, extended family members and friends.

The family will receive friends Saturday, January 22, 2022, at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg from 12:00-2:00 p.m. Funeral services will be held at the Bunch Cemetery following with Bro. Gary Armes officiating.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Verldon "Bert" Bunch.

Laura Dawn Human Freytag, 51

Laura Dawn Human Freytag Hensley, 51, of Sunbright, TN passed away Sunday January 16, 2022 after a brave and long battle with kidney disease.

Dawn, as she was known to family and friends, is survived by her sons Jacob Thomas Freytag and wife Shalenia (Freels) of Sunbright. Aaron Noble Jack Freytag, wife Macayla Logan (Davidson), grandson Colton Thomas Logan (1yr), soon to arrive grandson Walker Lee Cash, Hannah Davidson and Riley Taylor of Deer Lodge, TN

She is also survived by her sisters Gayle Shoemaker and husband Dennis of Sunbright, Sheila Weston and husband David of Rockwood, TN, brother Ernest and wife Reba (Sexton) of Wartburg, TN. Beloved nephew Jonathan Human and wife Denise, children Elijah, Issac, Whitley, DaVinity and family friend Luis Hamby of Deer Lodge, TN, as well as her former husband and good friend Nick Hensley of Lancing, TN and a host of nieces and nephews.

Dawn was preceded in death by her husband Thomas Franklin Freytag and baby daughter Emily Gaylin, parents Onlee and Laurine Human, brothers Carl Wayne, James Lee, and Robert Earl and sister Linda Dale Human.

Dawn's message to family and friends "Please celebrate my life and my legacy. The quiet moments, the smiles, the laughter. It will be the memories of these little things that help to push away the pain, and bring the smiles once more. Mourn me briefly, but more importantly, I ask you to remember me, remember our time together and hold close those I leave behind."

The family will receive friends Tuesday, January 18, 2022 from 5-7 pm Schubert Funeral Home, Wartburg. Funeral Services will follow at 7pm with Pastor Terry Potter officiating. Graveside services will be Wednesday 11am Morgan Memorial Gardens, Wartburg, TN.

The family welcomes flowers for the memorial or a donation in Dawn's memory (Laura Dawn Hensley) may be made to the Tennessee Kidney Foundation via this link <https://tennesseekidneyfoundation.org/donate/> . or by searching Tennessee Kidney Foundation. Please have memorial acknowledgments sent to the family at Sheila Weston 224 West Shore Drive Rockwood TN 37854

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Laura Dawn Human Freytag Hensley.

Leon McPeters, Jr.

Leon McPeters, Jr. passed away on January 16, 2022, at home with his family by his side. Leon was the son of Leon and Faye McPeters.

He is survived by his wife, Peggy McPeters; brother, Wendell McPeters; sister, Alice Wilson and son, Michael McPeters and daughter, Michelle and a host of grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Leon loved motorcycles, race cars and above all else his family and grandbabies. Leon will be loved and missed but is at home with his heavenly father.

The family is honoring Leon's wishes to be cremated. No services scheduled at this time.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Leon McPeters, Jr.

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.

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



Langley and his sister and brother in law Judy and James Melhorn and many other family members and friends.

Hello Everyone! Thanks to all who messaged me about the absence of this column in last week's paper. The paper went to print early due to a holiday and no one had shared news with me so I had to skip a week.

We had a pretty snow. Oakdale didn't receive as much accumulation as areas around us but it was very pretty. Morgan County Schools were out all week due to the weather.

The Oakdale Alumni Association will have a registration table at the Oakdale/Anderson County Basketball Game at Oakdale High School on Monday, January 31. All alumni are encouraged to support Oakdale School by attending. Alumni attending can sign in so it can be determined which class has the most present. This will also be a good time to update contact information. Former basketball players and cheerleaders will be recognized. During half time of the boy's game, there will be a drawing from those who registered and the winner will receive a \$25 dining gift certificate. You must be present to win. The drawing is for ALL Alumni, not just athletes.

Speaking of Alumni, I am extremely proud to share that OHS Alumnus Justin Nelson will be a guest conductor at Carnegie Hall April 22, 2023. Justin is currently Director of Choral Activities at Southern Arkansas University. Congratulations Justin!

Gus the Bus is in the parking lot of the Morgan County Visitor's Center each Tuesday from 10:00 - 11:00 with free meals, produce and milk for all children under 18. Families can just drive up and have their car loaded without having to get out.

First Baptist Church Oakdale will have their 5th Sunday night singing January 30 at 6:00 p.m. If you don't already go to church somewhere, the First Baptist Family would love to have you.

Congratulations to Warden Mike Parris of the Morgan County Correctional Complex who has been named Warden of the Year by the National Association of Wardens and Superintendents.

Congratulations to the Morgan County School District 2022-2023 Educators of the year. Principal of the Year is Wayne Frasier from Central Middle School. Supervisor of the Year is Sabra Coker with Health Services. Teacher of the Year for Grades 9-12 is Duane Yeary from Central High School. A special shout out to Oakdale Educators Michele Bingham, Teacher of the Year for grades Pre K - 4 and Erin Miller, Teacher of the Year for grades 5-8.

WECO recently hosted a tribute for long time DJ Carl Stump who passed away in December. The tribute was a wonderful

hour filled with admiration and respect for a very deserving man. I was fortunate enough to be around Carl a few times when I was young. He was a very kind, personable and talented man. Thank you WECO for the memories.

Justin, Valerie, Cartie and Clay Disney recently went to Disney. They enjoyed Magic Kingdom, Hollywood Studios and Animal Kingdom. Cartie and Clay had a blast! This was the family's first trip to Disney and they hope it is the first of many. They saw lots of characters. They stayed in Coronado Springs Resort which was beautiful. They booked their trip through Meredith Smith Laymance and they highly recommend her for planning vacations. Due to snow in Tennessee, the Disney's flight was cancelled so they spent a couple of days at Daytona Beach before returning home.

So many families have lost loved ones recently. Please keep these families in your prayers. Some of the ones I have listed may not have lived in Oakdale at the time of their passing but all have friends and family in Oakdale.

Richard Grace passed away Sunday, January 9. He is survived by his wife Misti and their daughters, Sarah and Elizabeth. He is also survived by his parents Ronnie and Betty Grace and Barbara and Bennie Buchanan as well as many other friends and family.

Tonya Johnson passed away January 9. She is survived by her mother, Francis Johnson and many other family and friends. A graveside service was held Wednesday, January 12 at Piney Church Cemetery.

Melinda Smith Hendrickson passed away January 9. She was the daughter of the late Robert and Frances Smith. She is survived by her son Brandon Hendrickson and her daughters, Miranda and Kala Hendrickson. She is also survived by her brother Bobby Smith and her sisters, Robin Walls and Melissa Tate as well as many nieces, nephews, friends and loved ones. Services were held Friday, January 14.

Eva June Weatherford passed away January 13. She is survived by her husband Robert Weatherford, brothers Wayne and James Garrett and her sister Patricia Lyons as well as a host of extended family and friends. Services were held Saturday, January 15 and interment was in Pine Orchard Church Cemetery.

Joe Langley passed away Saturday, January 15. He is survived by three sons and daughters in law, Joe and Jennifer, Jeff and Tonya and Shaun and Katherine. He is also survived by eight grandchildren and two great granddaughters, his brother and sister in law Johnny and Debbie

Services were held Thursday, January 20 with interment in Crab Orchard Cemetery.

James "Bo" Luffman passed away January 15, 2022. He is survived by his children Jamie and Douglas Pore and James Luffman Jr. He is also survived by his mother and stepfather Charlene and George Davis, siblings, grandchildren and a host of extended family and friends. Services were held Thursday, January 20 with interment in Childs Memorial Cemetery.

Iva Olmstead Mayton passed away January 18. She was preceded in death by her husband of over 50 years, Reverend Perry Mayton. She is survived by her daughter and son in law Sharon and Mark Booth and her son and daughter in law John and Karen Mayton, five grandchildren and six grandchildren and her sister Edith Olmstead. Services were held Wednesday, January 19 and interment was Thursday in Roane Memorial Gardens.

David Hammons passed away Wednesday, January 19. He is survived by his wife Fay Hall Hammons, his daughter Kristy (Lee) Solomon and his son Brandon Hammons. He is also survived by his brothers Larry and Nathan and many other family and friends. Services were held Sunday, January 23.

Bunt and I traveled to Berea, KY on January 14 to attend services for Jr. Lake. He was our son in law Joe's grandfather and Maura's great grandfather. Until November, Joe still had all of his grandparents. He lost his maternal grandfather in November and his Pa Lake in January. Although it was a sad occasion, we were happy to see Joe, Valerie and Maura and are thankful for safe travels for everyone who traveled to Kentucky.

There are so many sick folks right now. Many are dealing with Covid. Please pray for the sick, their caregivers and the medical teams. Pray for our country and our leaders, our schools, our churches, our homes, our military and most of all, pray for the lost.

"If you see somebody without a smile, give them one of yours."
Dolly Parton

Edna D. Justice, 88

Edna D. Justice, 88, of Coalfield, TN. went to be with her Lord and Savior on January 18, 2022. She was a member of the Mossy Grove Baptist Church in Harriman, TN. She will be forever remembered as a loving and devoted wife, mother, granny, sister, and friend to many. There is a special place in Heaven for her and a giant hole in our hearts here on Earth.

She is preceded in death by her husband, John Justice; father, John Nichols; mother, Lydia Nichols; sons, Herbert Justice and Gary Justice; daughters, Regena Smith, Dora Sue Armes, Janice E. Justice; brothers, Jim Nichols and Tom Nichols.

She is survived by her daughters, Irene (James) Coffey, Brenda Ward, Lesa (Tim) Melhorn, Lora (Isaac) Jones;

sisters, Sue Camp, Martha Thompson, and Patty (Gary) Pegg; brothers, Joe Nichols, Bob Nichols and Ron (Patty) Nichols; a host of grandchildren, great grandchildren, great great grandchildren, friends, family and caretaker, Dova Fletcher.

The family will receive friends Thursday, January 20, 2022 at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg from 4:00-6:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 6:00 p.m. with Bro. Jim Disney officiating. Graveside services will be Friday at 1:00 p.m. at Union Cemetery in the Joyner Community.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Edna D. Justice.

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Around The World and Back Again

with Zack Ballinger

Why An Entry Level Job Is Important

Matthew worked at a Jimmy's John restaurant during high school. In fact, while finishing his Bachelor's degree in General Business, he worked part-time at Jimmy John's. Matthew found his passion during college; he loved business concepts and functions. He finished his degree in four years and still didn't really know what he wanted to do with his life. The majority of students I talk to are in the same situation.

They are college seniors, finishing up their majors, and not sure what direction they want to take with their career. They may have a sense of what they want to do, but don't know how to get there.

Matthew had no idea what he wanted to do career-wise. At his part-time entry-level job at Jimmy John's, Matthew was responsible for managing the entire store, knew how to work in every position, and even trained new employees who joined the company. Matthew always showed up on time, cared about his other employees, and cared about his work. He maintained an impeccable work ethic that very few people possess. His bosses trusted him at a very young age with an enormous amount of responsibility of managing the operations of the entire store. He had keys to the entire building, knew all the security codes, and made the nightly money drop. When Matthew showed up to work, he did exactly that: he worked his tail off. He would greet each customer with a smile, developed strong relationships with his regular customers, and networked with everyone who visited. Between his high school and college years, he worked there for a total of about four years. Matthew's life was about to change dramatically.

A CEO of a medical device company just so happened to be a big fan and loy-

al customer of Jimmy John's. He knew Matthew since he started working there, witnessing first-hand his work ethic and communication abilities. The CEO offered Matthew a full-time job at his company as a medical device sales representative upon completing his degree from the University of Kentucky. There was a learning curve to the new job, but soon Matthew did what he did at Jimmy John's: He worked his tail

ty. Entry-level jobs also can help you develop good long-term work habits that are desirable traits to any company.

If you have an entry-level job, show up to work, network, smile, communicate, dedicate yourself to being the best, and good things will happen. They are what you make of them. When you show up to work, make the most of it, show up on time, work your tail off, communicate, do your job, and you would be surprised at how far this takes you in life.



Zack Ballinger



Zack graduated from Wartburg Central High School in 2001 and from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville in 2004. Since graduation he has become a TedX Motivational Speaker, Author, and Career Consultant. He

off and it paid off. Five years later, Matthew is making a six-figure salary, selling medical devices. If Matthew hadn't taken his job seriously at Jimmy John's and instead showed up at the restaurant doing a "half-butt job", the medical device sales representative job wouldn't have been presented to him—a life-changing opportuni-

travels the world giving back and hosting seminars teaching people on various topics. Zack has established an ongoing annual scholarship at his Alma Mater, Wartburg, which has inspired others to give back as well.

Visit www.zackballinger.com for more of Zack's travels and events.

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“You Have Cancer!”



Terry Futrell
Author

Perhaps no words are more terrifying to hear than “you have cancer.” For me, those words were totally unexpected when the doctor met with me after my first colonoscopy in October 2004. My family doctor had taken a smear during my annual checkup and detected the presence of blood. He recommended a colonoscopy, which I obligingly scheduled, never imagining that something was seriously wrong. After all, I was only 58 years old and apparently in very good health.

I was even less prepared to hear the next words out of the doctor’s mouth, “do you have a surgeon, or do I need to find one?” As it turned out, a surgeon whose office was across the hall had an opening the next day, which meant I would not have to go through the prep procedure again. This sounded great because I hate the colonoscopy prep. Scheduled for surgery the next day, I returned home.

I recall that evening as my family was gathered around along with my pastor. Rather than a time of worry, we enjoyed our time together and I really did not experience worry or anxiety. I suspect a hangover from the anesthesia was partly responsible for my calmness. Having gone through several experiences in recent years that brought me closer to God than I had ever been, I knew that He was in control. I could only think of the Apostle Paul’s words in Philippians 1:21, “For me to live is Christ, to die is gain.” In my heart, I knew that my future depended only on whether God had additional things that He wanted to accomplish through me.

In the recovery room after surgery the next day, the surgeon told me that it “really looked bad,” but he had removed the troublesome mass and saw no signs of it spreading. He had removed about twelve inches of my large intestine. Both the surgeon and gastroenterologist were shocked when the pathology report came back a few days later. The mass was only precancerous – a polyp gone wild – and there was no evidence of cancer cells. However, it was a type of polyp that always becomes cancer if not removed in time.

Most of us have had a close friend or family member who

was stricken by cancer. Some survived, while others experienced months or years of agonizing suffering before death. I will never forget the last horrible night of my brother’s life when he died after battling cancer for several months. I also vividly recall spending hours sitting with my pastor as he suffered extreme pain before his death from cancer.

I must admit that while I do not fear death, the potential agonizing process of dying is not something that I look forward to. But for many people who are stricken with cancer, there is no way of avoiding suffering – it all too often accompanies this dreadful disease. Furthermore, cancer not only affects the life of the one suffering the disease, but it also has a tremendous effect on their family and friends.

Fortunately, cancer survival rates have seen a steady increase through the years, even though survival rates vary widely by type of cancer. Diagnosis at an earlier stage of a cancer’s development has a significant impact on survival. In my case, it was detection in the precancerous stage that minimized its impact on my life.

Perhaps some of you reading this have already experienced cancer. If so, then you already know the importance of a healthy lifestyle, a healthy diet, and regular checkups. For those who have not experienced cancer, what about you? Do you have regular medical checkups? For women, do you have regular mammograms, and do you regularly perform breast self-checks? Do you continue to smoke or use other forms of tobacco that significantly increase the risk of certain cancers, including lung cancer? Do you realize that lung cancer has one of the lowest survival rates of all cancers?

In closing, did I find that purpose for which God saved me from cancer? I like to think so. Then, what great things have I accomplished since that time? From a public perspective, probably none. You see, I came to realize that one of the most valuable things that I can do with my life is to allow others to see Christ living within and through me. By doing so, I may positively impact other lives in ways that I will never realize while here on earth. I will be happy with that result.

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Chancery Court Morgan County Wartburg, Tennessee	NOTICE TO CREDITORS	Case Number <u>P-5-22</u>
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In the matter of the Estate of WILLIE TEO ELIZABETH BALES
Deceased

Notice is hereby given that on the 21ST day of JANUARY 2022, Letters of Testamentary in respect to the Estate of WILLIE TEO ELIZABETH BALES who died on the 6th day of JANUARY 2022, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court Clerk of Morgan County, Tennessee. All persons, residents and non-residents, having claims, matured or unmatured against her Estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above-named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2) otherwise their claim will be forever barred.

(1)

(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting, as the case may be) of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication (or posting); or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication (or posting) as described in (1)(A); or

(2)

Twelve (12) months from the decedent’s date of death.

This 21ST day of JANUARY 2022.

JAMES WILLIAM BALES
Executor

ANGELA R. ANDERSON
Clerk and Master

TALLESSE ALLEY
Deputy Clerk



Davis Funeral Home's Veteran of the Week

Corporal Dakota Louis Meyer (born June 26, 1988) is a retired United States Marine. A veteran of the War in Afghanistan, he was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions during the Battle of Ganjgal on September 8, 2009, in Kunar Province, Afghanistan. Meyer is the second-youngest living Medal of Honor recipient, the third living recipient for either the Iraq War or the War in Afghanistan, and the first living United States Marine in 38 years to be so honored.

Meyer was born and raised in Columbia, Kentucky, the son of Felicia Carole Ferree "Killy" Gilliam and Michael Allen Meyer. In 2006, after graduation from Green County High School, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps at a recruiting station in Louisville, Kentucky and completed basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island.

Meyer deployed to Fallujah, Iraq in 2007 as a scout sniper with 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marines. He gained national attention for his actions in Afghanistan during his second deployment in Kunar Province with Embedded Training Team 2-8.

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving with Marine Embedded Training Team 2-8, Regional Corps Advisory Command 3-7, in Kunar Province, Afghanistan, on 8 September 2009. Corporal Meyer maintained security at a patrol rally point while other members of his team moved on foot with two platoons of Afghan National Army and Border Police into the village of Ganjgal for a pre-dawn meeting with village elders. Moving into the village, the patrol was ambushed by more than 50 enemy fighters firing rocket propelled grenades, mortars, and machine guns from houses and fortified positions on the slopes above. Hearing over the radio that four U.S. team members were cut off, Corporal Meyer seized the initiative. With a fellow Marine driving, Corporal Meyer took the exposed gunner's position in a gun-truck as they drove down the steeply terraced ter-



rain in a daring attempt to disrupt the enemy attack and locate the trapped U.S. team. Disregarding intense enemy fire now concentrated on their lone vehicle, Corporal Meyer killed a number of enemy fighters with the mounted machine guns and his rifle, some at near point-blank range, as he and his driver made three solo trips into the ambush area. During the first two trips, he and his driver evacuated two dozen Afghan soldiers, many of whom were wounded. When one machine gun became inoperable, he directed a return to the rally point to switch to another gun-truck for a third trip into the ambush area where his accurate fire directly supported the remaining U.S. personnel and Afghan soldiers fighting their way out of the ambush.

Despite a shrapnel wound to his arm, Corporal Meyer made two more trips into the ambush area in a third gun-truck accompanied by four other Afghan vehicles to recover more wounded Afghan soldiers and search for the missing U.S. team members. Still under heavy enemy fire, he dismounted the vehicle on the fifth trip and moved on foot to locate and recover the bodies of his team members. Meyer's daring initiative and bold fighting spirit throughout the 6-hour battle significantly disrupted the enemy's attack and inspired the members of the combined force to fight on. His unwavering courage and steadfast devotion to his U.S. and

Afghan comrades in the face of almost certain death reflected great credit upon himself and upheld the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service.

Four U.S. servicemen died in the ambush; 1st Lt. Michael Johnson, 25, of Virginia Beach, Virginia, Gunnery Sgt., Aaron Kenefick, 30, of Roswell, Georgia, Gunnery Sgt. Edwin Wayne Johnson Jr., 31, of Columbus, Georgia, and Hospital Corpsman Third Class James R. Layton, 22, of Riverbank, California. A fifth man, Army SFC Kenneth W. Westbrook, 41, of Shiprock, New Mexico, later died from his wounds.

Law Enforcement Officer of the Week

Presented by Jerry Duncan Ford

Corporal Charles Galloway was assigned to the Harris County (Texas) toll road division. He was working nights so that he could train deputies and was shot and killed on Sunday, January 23, 2022 while conducting a traffic stop.

The driver of the vehicle he stopped exited the car and opened fire with a rifle, killing Corporal Galloway. The man then fled the scene in his car and remains at large.

Corporal Galloway had served with the Harris County Constable's Office Precinct 5 for twelve years.

According to Constable Ted Heap, Galloway was a mentor to young law enforcement officers, teaching them how to be safe and efficient on the job.

"Corporal Galloway was very much loved by the men and women he served with,"



said Constable Heap. "There's a lot of broken up officers who he meant a lot to in their lives."

Corporal Galloway decided to go on a night shift so that he could be a field training officer, according to Constable Heap.

"He meant a lot in their lives," said Constable Heap. "He was the one who was sitting in the front seat with them. He was the one who was teaching them what

to do and how to get safely to their families."

Corporal Galloway is survived by his daughter, sister and all of the law enforcement officers who were trained and mentored by him.

Please keep Corporal Galloway's family, friends, and loved with in your prayers in the name of Jesus Christ.

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Coming Soon: A King's Ransom



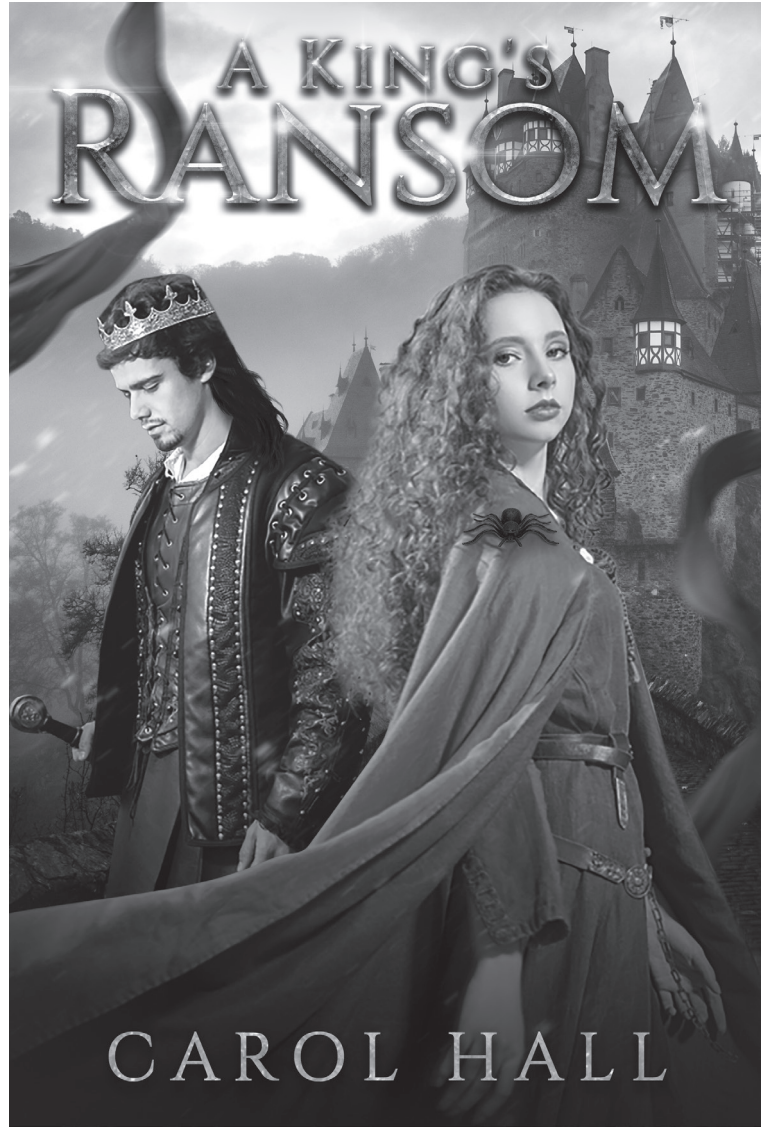
Carol Hall
Author

With the story of Disappeared wrapping up in the next few weeks, I would like to share with you the next book I will be posting in my column. It is my latest book called A King's Ransom. I hope you enjoy the story as much as you've enjoyed Disappeared. This new book is available through me on FB at Carol Hall/Author, through my email at khiris@att.net, or you can find it on Amazon. Thank you so much for reading my stories. I hope you enjoy reading them as much as I enjoy writing them.

A KING'S RANSOM-Bronwyn Dumont lives a simple, quiet life in the small village of Dowgarth. But she dreams of life outside the confines of her tiny town. She fantasizes about grand feasts, jolly festivals and dashing knights. But her dreams of adventure seem likely to remain that of fairy tales until the day the king's men come to collect taxes. Being unable to pay the hefty fees, Bronwyn is dragged off to the castle to become a ward of the king until the fees can be paid in full. She escapes the gloomy underbelly of the castle with the most unlikely of companions, and adventures beyond her wildest dreams unfold. Along the way she meets Elric, who is more than willing to help her on her journey. But is he all he seems to be? Or does he have a dark secret of his own?

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.



Keep Morgan County Beautiful

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kristiseay21@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/keepmorgancountytbeautiful

The Oakdale Alumni Association will have a registration table at the Oakdale/Anderson County Basketball Game at Oakdale High School on Monday, January 31. All alumni are encouraged to support Oakdale School by attending. Alumni attending can sign in so it can be determined which class has the most present. Former basketball players and cheerleaders will be recognized. During half time of the boy's game, there will be a drawing from those who registered and the winner will receive a \$25 dining gift certificate. You must be present to win. The drawing is for ALL Alumni, not just athletes.

Marvel not that I
said unto thee,
Ye must be born again.

John 3:7

- Jesus

Our 1st Morgan County Chamber of Commerce meeting for 2021 will be a luncheon meeting on Thursday, January 27th from 11:30 to 1pm Sponsored by WECO. Watch your email and monitor local radio for updated location details!



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Bids are invited for General Contract for the work of the following project.
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Bona-fide 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.

Prime Bidders may obtain Electronic Bid Documents from the Designer.

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2240 Sutherland Ave, Suite 105
Knoxville, TN 37919
865-671-9060

Bidders bidding \$25,000.00 or more must be licensed per state law. Five percent (5%) Bid Security is required. Non-Discrimination policy applies.

Include with each bid, Bid Security in the amount equal to five percent of the total of the Bid, plus all Alternates, payable to the Morgan County Schools in the form of (1) a certified check or cashiers check or (2) a satisfactory Bid Bond executed by a corporate surety licensed under the laws of the State of Tennessee to execute such Bonds.

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.

**LAST CALL TO 2020
DELINQUENT PROPERTY TAX PAYERS
MORGAN COUNTY AND SUNBRIGHT CITY**

You are advised that after **March 1, 2022**, under State Law, tax suits must be filed in **Chancery Court** for enforcement of the lien of the unpaid **2020** taxes against the property. Until the filing of such suits, taxes may be paid at the **TRUSTEE'S OFFICE**. Beginning **March 1, 2022**, penalty will be added to unpaid **2021** taxes at the rate of **(1 1/2%)** percent each month these taxes remain unpaid.

(Unpaid **2020** taxes turned over to Chancery Court for collection, have an additional charge of **\$144.00** plus other penalties and interest added.)

CINDI JONES
Morgan County Trustee
(423) 346-3430

NOW HERE'S A TIP

By JoAnn Derson

* File this one under safety AND energy smarts: Clean the dryer vent after every load. Clean the dryer vent screen monthly with a gentle soap and water bath. Rinse well and dry thoroughly before inserting back into your dryer.

* I used to struggle with plastic wrap every time I tried to use it. But now, it's a breeze since I learned to do these two things: One, keep plastic wrap in the freezer. It unrolls evenly, not one side or the other. Two, use a serrated knife to cut it instead of relying on the metal strip down the side of the box. You lay it out on the counter, and just run the knife down the edge you want to cut. Works like magic, and it's no longer frustrating. - G.S. in Georgia

* Store an apple or two with your potatoes to keep them from sprouting. Be sure to check them often.

STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

* In mid-18th century France, eating potatoes was considered cruel and unusual punishment since they were not only thought of as feed for livestock, but believed to cause leprosy in humans. The fear was so widespread that the French passed a law banning them in 1748.

* Every year, Americans alone create around one-fifth of the world's trash.

* Some of the boulevard medians in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, have 8- to 10-foot deep bunkers with toilets in them, originally installed in the 1930s as a convenience for city workers who were out and about all day without access to a bathroom.

* According to the head of MI6, if Ian Fleming's iconic hero James Bond were real, he wouldn't be allowed to work for British intelligence due to lack of the required emotional intelligence, respect for the law and teamwork abilities.

* Colombian pop singer Shakira was rejected for the choir in her Catholic school because her music teacher thought that her vibrato was too strong and that she sounded "like a goat."

* In 1907, Parisian waiters went on strike for the right to grow a moustache.

* Cruise control in cars was invented in 1948 by the blind inventor and mechanical engineer Ralph Teetor. The idea was inspired by his frustration with his driver's habit of speeding up and slowing

down as he talked.

* There is a material called FOGBANK, used by the U.S. Department of Energy, the precise nature of which is classified and so top secret and compartmentalized that the government once actually "forgot" how to make it due to a lack of actual records and dwindling institutional knowledge.

* A sloth takes two weeks to digest the food it's eaten.

Thought for the Day: "Great thoughts speak only to the thoughtful mind, but great actions speak to all mankind." - Theodore Roosevelt

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* Cut cotton pads in half to double your supply. They are typically big enough for two uses, and you can always use two halves if you need a whole.

* "Make a cream lipstick last longer and stay cleaner by using a makeup brush to apply. Your skin picks up more of the lipstick than necessary, one reason why we blot our lips afterward. But the brush uses only what you need. And there's less bacteria transfer." - Y.R. in Massachusetts

* Studies have shown that you spend more and make worse decisions when grocery shopping at peak hours. To be a saver on the family food bill, pick a time to shop when you're not rushed; have a list; know the sales ahead of time; and eat before you go.

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

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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King Crossword

ACROSS

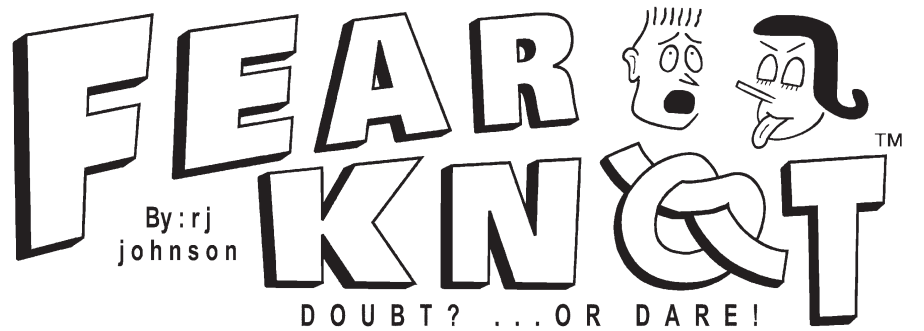
- 1 Shade
- 4 Frontiersman
- 8 Pocket bread
- 12 100 percent
- 13 Dutch cheese
- 14 Pedestal occupant
- 15 Cowboy's sweetie
- 16 Do math
- 18 Slowpoke
- 20 Hydrocarbon suffix
- 21 Cushions
- 24 Persian Gulf emirate
- 28 Nutritional label info
- 32 Flamingo's color

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15				16					17			
18			19				20					
			21		22	23		24		25	26	27
28	29	30					31		32			
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			44		45			46		47	48	49
50	51	52				53	54			55		
56					57					58		
59					60					61		

- 33 Copper head?
- 34 Lauder of cosmetics
- 36 Summer on the Seine
- 37 Guns the engine
- 39 Toe of Italy's boot
- 41 Fashion
- 43 Hit with a stun gun
- 44 Ms. Thurman
- 46 Gossip
- 50 Baseball's "Iron Man"
- 55 Deluge refuge
- 56 Now, in a meme
- 57 Cowboy's neckwear
- 58 Luau bowlful
- 59 Quick swims
- 60 Winter blanket
- 61 Novelist Rand
- 8 Accumulate
- 9 Hollywood's Lupino
- 10 Nanny's charge
- 11 Hearty quaff
- 17 German conjunction
- 19 Wall St. debut
- 22 Platter
- 23 Attack
- 25 Coffin stand
- 26 Con
- 27 Furniture brand
- 28 2006 Pixar film
- 29 Help a hood
- 30 Toy
- 31 Actress Ward
- 35 "Calm down!"
- 38 Drinks noisily
- 40 Spell-off
- 42 Brit. record label
- 45 LAPD alerts
- 47 Wine valley
- 48 Helen's home
- 49 Related
- 50 Scoundrel
- 51 "— was saying ..."
- 52 Napkin's place
- 53 "— -Tiki"
- 54 "Evil Woman" band

DOWN

- 1 Crones
- 2 — Bator
- 3 First lady of scat
- 4 Proclaim
- 5 Nabokov novel
- 6 Batman portrayer Kilmer
- 7 Village People hit



- EPP
- ♥ HARBET
- ♥ NAWSI
- ♥ ALEN
- PICEST
- ♥ BNE
- LEBA
- ♥ PERTI
- EWS
- HEACAP
- TEPNA
- ♥ APEN

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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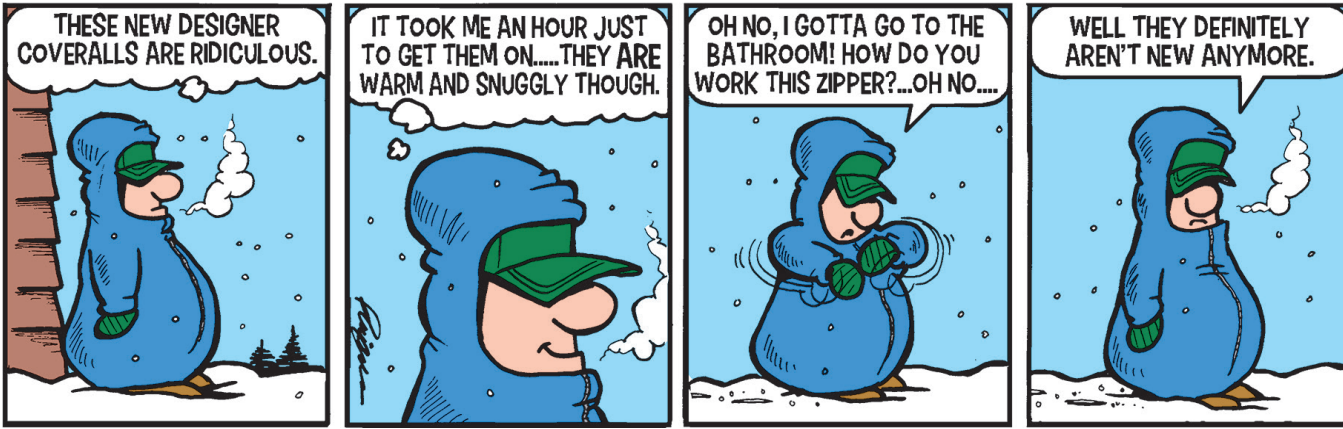
MOCO MOCY MORNING SHOW

**MORE THAN
 A NEWSPAPER**



Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



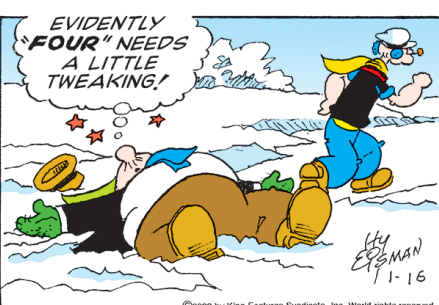
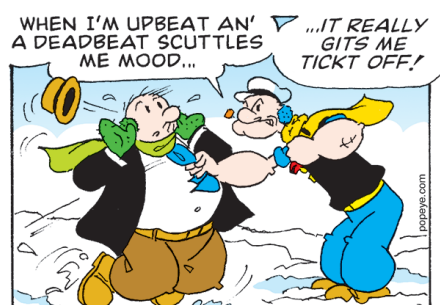
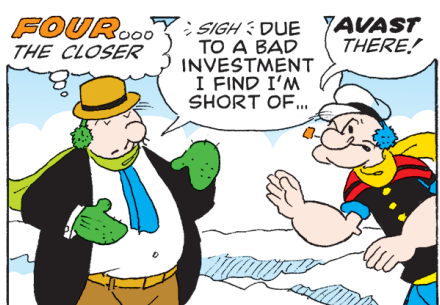
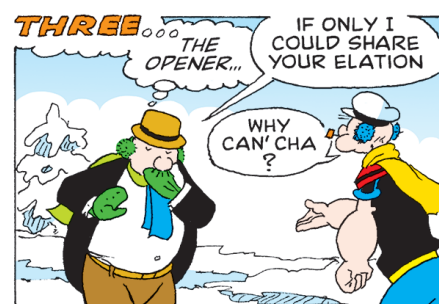
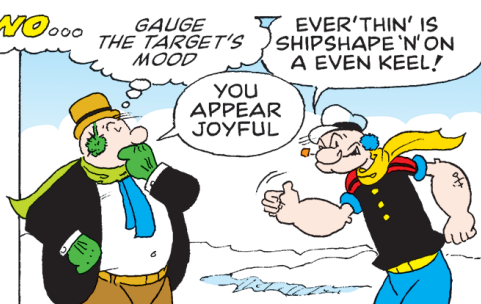
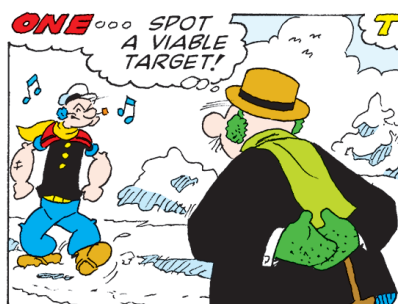
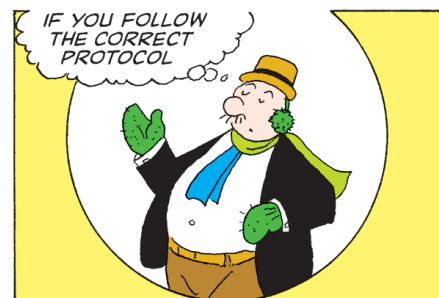
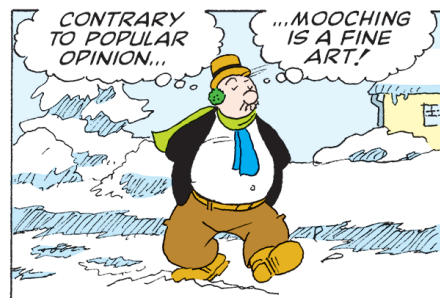
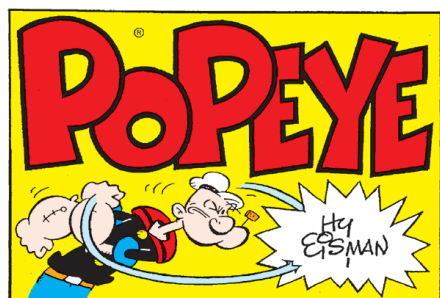
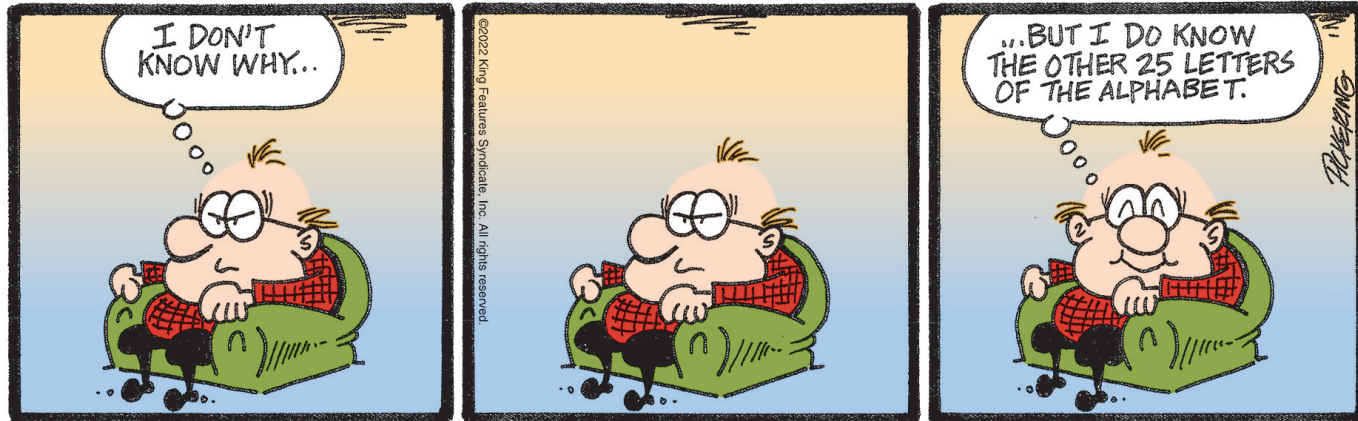
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



MOMENTS IN TIME

The History Channel

On Feb. 13, 1633, Italian philosopher, astronomer and mathematician Galileo Galilei arrives in Rome to face charges of heresy for advocating Copernican theory, which holds that the Earth revolves around the Sun. The Copernican theory conflicted with the teachings of the powerful Roman Catholic Church.

On Feb. 8, 1936, University of Chicago halfback Jay Berwanger, the first Heisman Trophy winner, is picked No. 1 overall in the NFL draft. However, Berwanger never played for any NFL team because he had too many demands, which teams refused to meet. Instead the college star became a foam rubber salesman.

On Feb. 9, 1942, the largest and most luxurious ocean liner on the seas at that time, France's Normandie, catches fire while in the process of being converted for military use by the United States. It was to become a troop transport but ended up at the bottom of New York Harbor.

On Feb. 7, 1962, President John F. Kennedy issues an executive order broadening the United States' restrictions on trade with Cuba. The embargo, which effectively restricts all trade between Cuba and the United States, has lapsed several times, notably under Presidents Jimmy Carter and Barack Obama.

On Feb. 11, 1970, at the Kagoshima Space Center in Japan, the Ohsumi, Japan's first satellite, is successfully launched into an orbit around Earth. The achievement made Japan the world's fourth space power, after the Soviet Union in 1957, the United States in 1958, and France in 1965.

On Feb. 10, 1996, after three hours, world chess champion Garry Kasparov loses the first game of a six-game match against Deep Blue, an IBM computer. Kasparov was ultimately victorious when he bested Deep Blue with three wins and two ties and took home the \$400,000 prize.

On Feb. 12, 2002, former Yugoslav president Slobodan Milosevic goes on trial at The Hague, Netherlands, on charges of genocide and war crimes in Bosnia, Croatia and Kosovo. The trial ended without a verdict when Milosevic was found dead from an apparent heart attack in his prison cell.

THE RICH LOWRY COLUMN

By Rich Lowry

Youngkin Is Right on Masks

Glenn Youngkin promised to be on the side of parents as Virginia governor, and on his first day in office, he delivered.

The Republican issued an executive order allowing parents to decide whether their kids will wear masks in school, and met an instant wall of resistance from Democratic-controlled counties and criticism from the White House press secretary Jen Psaki. A Washington Post headline said that Youngkin is “terrifying” people.

The flak notwithstanding, his order is a sign of a growing backlash against COVID-19 restrictions that will likely only gain force as the pandemic drags on and former articles of faith, including on masking, get called into increasing doubt.

Youngkin has ventured into a legally murky area. Critics believe he doesn't have the authority to issue his order because Virginia passed a statute in early 2021 that says schools should “to the maximum extent practicable” adhere to CDC-blessed strategies for controlling spread. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is still recommending masks. The statute is vague, though, and doesn't mention masks. Youngkin's predecessor, Democrat Ralph Northam, felt compelled to issue an executive order specifically mandating them in K-12 schools.

There's also the question of whether decisions on masking and other mitigation measures are best left to school districts. Here, it is worth noting that Youngkin's order is different from that of his fellow Republican governors in Texas and Florida, who prohibited school districts from adopting mask mandates. Instead, Youngkin is establishing a carveout for parents from mandates, should they choose to take advantage of it.

All that said, it is clearly time for mask mandates to end. The conventional wisdom on masks has gone from “don't wear them they are useless” at the beginning of the pandemic, to “you are a terrible person if you don't wear them” for about a year and a half, to now, “cloth masks don't really protect anyone.”

Despite Jen Psaki saying that Arlington County, which is vowing to defy Youngkin, is standing up for kids and their safety, the case for masking kids in schools is weak or nonexistent.

We are an outlier on this question. The CDC recommends masking all kids age 2 and older, whereas other health authorities are considerably more nuanced.

The European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control doesn't recommend masking for schoolchildren younger than age 12, noting -- correctly -- that they “may have a lower tolerance to wearing masks for extended periods of time, and may fail to wear them properly.” In areas with community spread, it recommends masks for students in secondary schools, although it stipulates that they should “be seen as a complimentary measure, rather than a standalone measure to prevent transmission within schools.”

The World Health Organization makes distinctions based on age. It says that kids age 5 and younger shouldn't be required to wear masks based on the “overall interest of the child and the capacity to appropriately use a mask with minimal assistance.” It is open to the masking of 6- to 11-year-olds, so long as a wide variety of conditions are met. And it says that kids age 12 and over should mask like adults.

Many European countries have avoided sweeping American-style mask mandates on school kids, and for good reason. A large-scale CDC study found no benefits from the masking of kids. Many students wear cloth masks that don't provide much protection (even if worn and maintained properly) and no sane person should want to subject a child to an N95 all day long.

Parents in Virginia who believe that masking is important can still act accordingly, and vaccines and boosters are available to provide another layer of protection. But masks remain something more than a public-health measure for many proponents -- they are a signal of virtue and a pillar of pandemic orthodoxy.

Youngkin's offense, at bottom, is dissenting from this worldview, and providing options for parents who don't share it, either.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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Donna's Day Creative family fun

by Donna Erickson

Keep Out Mud With a Cha-Cha-Cha Doormat

Dance away mud, grit and grime from your shoes and boots with a whimsical doormat. Your family can paint it together and then use it every time you walk through the door during this wet and muddy season.

Why is it so much fun? The design is actually a set of four painted footprints arranged in such a way that your kids can follow them to do basic “cha-cha-cha” dance steps. Once they get the hang of the moves, you won't have to nag them the next time they walk through the door. Instead of asking “Did you wipe your feet?” for the umpteenth time, simply ask, “Did you do the cha-cha-cha?”

Here's the stuff you'll need to make your own cha-cha-cha doormat in 3 easy steps:

- 1 sturdy plain colored fiber doormat or large carpet sample
- A sheet of newspaper
- Marker
- Scissor
- Acrylic paint in two colors
- Sponge brush

Here's the fun:

1. Draw a pattern of the sole of a large boot or shoe on a sheet of newspaper.

Cut out the paper shape. Make four.

2. Tape the patterns onto the doormat in a “cha-cha-cha” step pattern. Two patterns should be next to each other at the top half of the doormat and the other two directly underneath.

3. Outline each shape with a marker, remove the patterns and fill in the outline with paint. Let dry. Set it at your front or back door.

Teach your kids the basic “cha-cha-cha” steps, and practice using the “footprints” as a guide. This might be a good time to ask a grandparent, aunt or uncle to step in and share their dancing skills with the kids. Who knows? Your child may be just baby steps away from “Dancing with the Stars” — and your floors will stay relatively clean to boot!



Dance cares (and muddy shoes) away with a cha-cha-cha doormat.

Extra tip: If your kids have plain, solid color rubber rain boots, personalize and brighten them with a few dabs of paint. Apply acrylic paint in squeeze bottles directly on the outside of clean, dry boots to make designs and patterns.

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

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VETERANS POST

by Freddy Groves
The VA Versus Covid

The Department of Veteran's Affairs has been battling COVID-19 from the very beginning of the pandemic. The recently released Coronavirus Disease 2019 Response Report Annex B tells just how they've done. The facts are impressive.

So far they've vaccinated 4.3 million people.

The VA was the first federal agency to issue a mandate requiring all VA employees who work in health care to be vaccinated. They beefed up telehealth for veterans at home and those who live in rural areas. This resulted in 2,500% increase of telehealth care visits.

The VA carried out 43 Fourth Mission assignments, improving preparedness on the national, state and local levels. These assignments ranged from admitting 630 civilians to VA medical centers to providing 937,000 pieces of personal protective equipment such hand sanitizers, wipes, plexiglass isolation stations, webcams, air machines and so much more. Personnel were deployed to all 50 states to provide support at all levels and in all types of capacities,

from hands-on medical to logistics to grocery delivery to homebound veterans.

They have processed between 70,000 and 90,000 COVID tests per week.

The VA published over 300 COVID studies, including: a comparison between the Moderna and Pfizer vaccines (Moderna was better), vaccination rates between minorities and white patients (minorities received more vaccines in the VA system while white patients received more vaccines in the civilian population) and Baricitinib plus remdesivir was better than remdesivir by itself, among many other studies.

The VA pulled together pulmonary experts to study long COVID, the long-term symptoms after a COVID infection. It moved early to administer monoclonal antibody therapy and genome sequencing in labs.

If you want to look at the whole 199-page Annex B report, go to www.publichealth.va.gov/n-coronavirus/COVID_19_Response_Reports.asp. Annex B is the second addendum to the original Response Report.

What is clear is that VA left no stone unturned in its battle with COVID-19. States and local communities could learn a lot from what the VA has been doing.

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BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Job in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. The book of Hebrews tells us to entertain strangers as they may be ...? *Demons, Angels, Prophets, Reincarnated*
3. From Genesis 17:15, what was the name of Abraham's wife? *Ruth, Anna, Abigail, Sarah*
4. Which book of the New Testament is divided into three parts? *Corinthians, Timothy, Peter, John*
5. In Mark 5:30, who said, "Who touched my clothes"? *Jesus, John the Baptist, David, Solomon*
6. What was the name of Seth's son, thus Adam's grandson? *Eliam, Ead-bhard, Enosh, Eadmer*

ANSWERS: 1) Old; 2) Angels; 3) Sarah; 4) John; 5) Jesus; 6) Enosh

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

Mexican Chicken Bake

Sunny Mexico — where the warm blue sky is never ending and the "spiciness" of the food can be as "hot" or as "mild" as you want it to be. For us wimps who love the bold flavors but say "Hold the jalapenos," reach for the mild salsa.

- 1/2 cup salsa (mild, medium, hot or extra-hot)
- 1 (8-ounce) can tomato sauce
Sugar substitute to equal 1 tablespoon, suitable for baking
- 3/4 cup shredded reduced-fat Cheddar cheese
- 1 cup coarsely crushed baked nacho chips
- 1 1/2 cups diced cooked chicken breast
- 1 (15-ounce) can cut green beans, rinsed and drained

1. Preheat oven to 350 F. Spray an 8-by-8-inch baking dish with butter-flavored cooking spray.

2. In a medium saucepan, combine salsa, tomato sauce and sugar substitute. Stir in Cheddar cheese. Cook over medium heat for 5 minutes or until cheese melts, stirring often.

3. Evenly arrange half of chips in prepared baking dish. Layer chicken and green beans over chips. Pour hot salsa mixture evenly over beans. Evenly sprinkle remaining chips over top.

4. Bake for 25 minutes. Remove from oven and place baking dish on a wire rack and let set for 5 minutes. Makes 4 servings.

• Each serving equals: 262 calories, 6 g fat, 26 g protein, 26 g carb., 921 mg sodium, 3 g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 3 Meat, 2 Vegetable, 1 Starch/Carb.

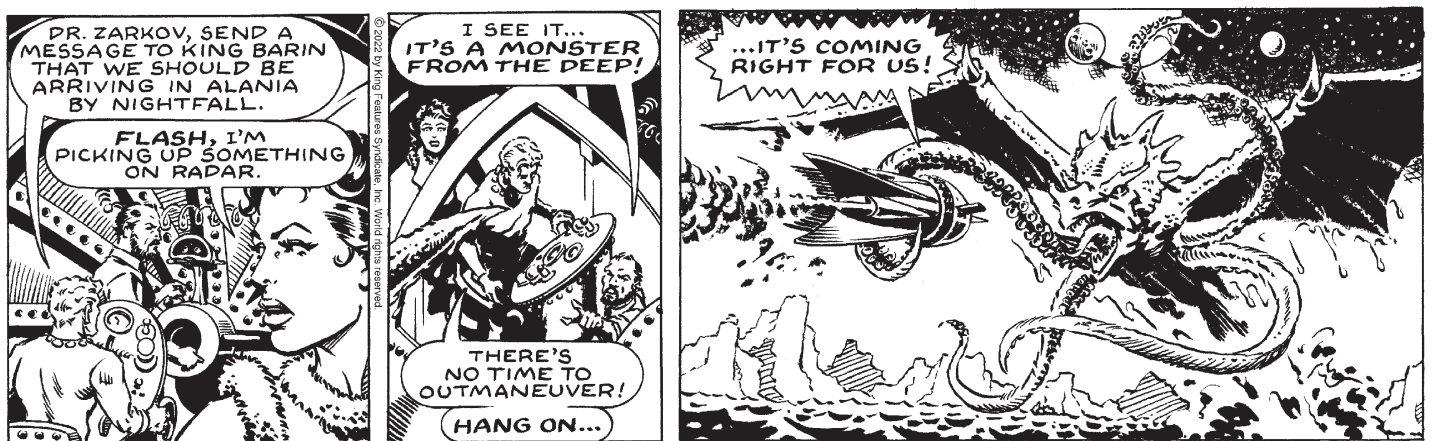
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FLASH GORDON By JIM KEEFE
 THE PLANET MONGO, A WORLD FRAUGHT WITH PRIMORDIAL TERRORS...
 OF WHICH THE THREE EARTHBOREN ADVENTURERS ARE ABOUT TO BE REMINDED.



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



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Historically Speaking

John Rice Irwin

By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

John Rice Irwin was born on December 11, 1930. He passed away January 16, 2022. He was the founder of the Museum of Appalachia and my good friend. He encouraged me to pursue the history of our area by suggesting things I should write in *Historically Speaking* and he was always willing to help me by introducing me to people he thought should be recognized.

His influence on the recognition of the rich cultural early history of East Tennessee is enormous.

Examples are the amazing Smithsonian affiliate Museum of Appalachia, the large number of books he wrote including his most popular - *Alex Stewart: Portrait of a Pioneer*, the 40-year run of the annual Tennessee Fall Homecoming - a music and heritage festival held in October, his relationship with Lamar Alexander and Alex Halley, and finally, his wonderful family who are carrying on his work - especially Elaine Irwin Meyer!

When I asked John Rice Irwin to help me introduce a documentary film, he told me the story of his family and Oak Ridge. While he was still a young child, his family was forced, in 1933, to move from their farm because of the construction of Norris Dam. They moved to a farm near Robertsville.

Then, in 1942, the Manhattan Project forced them to move yet again. He told me that his dad told him to get in the wagon with the first load of furnishings and to stay with them at the new location in the Bethel community. John Rice said he never got to go back again to the home place he knew for most of the first years of his life.

John Rice is the person who first caused me to have an interest in history. When I first met him, he was the Anderson County Superintendent of Schools (I just learned from his obituary that he was the youngest person to hold the position of school superintendent in Tennessee at age 31).

It was in the mid 1970's when he approached me about taking a photograph for him to replace what was in the Tennessee Blue Book that he felt was not as good as it should be. The photo was of a statue of Nancy Ward, Beloved Woman of the Cherokee, who lived from 1738 to 1822. The statue was standing on a white woman's grave in the Arnwine Cemetery in Grainger County.

I located the cemetery and took the photograph for him. He then asked me to write up the history of the statue so he could place the photograph on display at the Museum of Appalachia. That photograph is still on display in the Hall of Fame now. So, I had to learn about Nancy Ward. That was the first historical research effort for me, and the excitement of learning new facts hooked me hard. I have loved it ever since.

From this first exposure to our history, I next learned about the earliest road from east to west in what is now Tennessee, the Emery Road. My interest in history was growing and my job at the Y-12 National Security Complex began to tempt me toward learning about the history of the Manhattan Project and Oak Ridge history.

All along, I remained in touch with John Rice as he continued to encourage me in my pursuit of history. I often visited the Museum of Appalachia which he created in 1969 and enjoyed seeing his vision develop over the years, especially during the 1980's when the museum gained substantial national recognition.

In his later years after retirement (if you could call it that), his invitation to lunch at the museum was a signal that he had an assignment for me. I

grew to look forward to his call, knowing I was in for a treat of a good country meal but mostly that he had an idea for a story. He never failed to amaze me with a story angle that I would never have known but for his vast knowledge. It was always fun to hear him explain to me which county a person was from just from their last name! Such was his knowledge of our history.

Our relationship grew even more interactive when I became the Y-12 Historian and started



John Rice Irwin and his Jackson Magnolia tree, grown from a cutting from the magnolia tree President Andrew Jackson took from the Hermitage to the White House. The tree is now growing on the grounds of the Museum of Appalachia. (Photo Submitted)



Senator Howard Baker, Jr., Andrew York, and John Rice Irwin with Alvin C. York's captured Machine Gun (Photo Submitted)

writing *Historically Speaking* for The Oak Ridger and later became the Historian for the City of Oak Ridge. He often would call me to suggest topics he thought would be good for me to include and would give me just enough information to get me interested. He would give me contacts, but he refused to tell me the full story. He wanted me to learn that for myself. I am thankful to him for his insight into what I needed to do.

Remember he was a school superintendent and knew the value of teaching. I was an eager student and he sensed that, I am sure. Our interactions were always filled with humor, yet he was

most serious in his efforts to coach me about the importance of capturing our history.

He delighted in encouraging me to look for the little-known details of people who were often overlooked by standard media and methods. His care for the people of Appalachia was sincere and longstanding. John Rice Irwin was truly one-of-a-kind.

Here are some examples of stories about which John Rice gave me a lead:

Harrison Mayes, the coal miner who after a mine accident made a commitment to lift the name of God that he kept for the rest of his life. <https://smithdray.tripod.com/hmayes-index-7-1.html>
Several of those concrete crosses Mayes placed on roadsides are located at the Museum of Appalachia.

The Jackson Magnolias which he showed me on the grounds of the Museum of Appalachia which were grown from cuttings from the magnolia tree President Andrew Jackson took with him as a seedling and planted at the White House in Washington, DC.

<http://smithdray1.net/historicallyspeaking/2010/2-16-10%20The%20Andrew%20Jackson%20Magnolia%20tree%20story.pdf>

<http://smithdray1.net/historicallyspeaking/2010/3-2-10%20The%20Andrew%20Jackson%20Magnolia%20tree%20story%20part%202%20.pdf>

Alvin C. York's captured German machine gun

<http://smithdray1.net/historicallyspeaking/2010/2-2-10%20Alvin%20York%20and%20his%20captured%20German%20Machine%20Gun.pdf>

Dot Byrd and the "Littlest Library"

<http://smithdray1.net/historicallyspeaking/2020/1-6-20%20Dot%20Byrd.pdf>

<http://smithdray1.net/historicallyspeaking/2020/1-13-20%20Dot%20Byrd%202.pdf>

From the John Rice Irwin obituary: "Irwin dedicated his life to preserving the rich heritage of the people of Southern Appalachia, and nothing would please him more than for that preservation to continue for generations to come.

"Donations made in memory of John Rice Irwin may be made to the Museum of Appalachia, P.O. Box 1189, Norris, TN 37828.

"A graveside service will be held at Norris Memorial Gardens at 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 20. The procession will leave from Holley Gamble Funeral Home in Clinton at 3:00 p.m. A celebration of the life of John Rice Irwin will be held at the Museum of Appalachia on Sunday, April 24, 2022, at 2:00 p.m.

I am proud to have been a member of the Museum of Appalachia for a number of years and encourage you to do the same. <https://www.museumofappalachia.org/memberships/>

His handwritten letters sent to me are treasures I hold dear.

It is not often in life that one comes in personal contact with greatness in a person, and even rarer when that great person becomes one's friend. I will surely miss John Rice Irwin, one of the greats!



Tom Redmon
Columnist

In March 1958 I dropped out of college and joined the Navy. At first, I thought it was a mistake but by the time basic training was over I just knew that I had made the right choice. I had adjusted well.

I left Nashville with several other boys on March 18, 1958. By the time we got to San Diego on the train I wondered if any of us would make it. I just knew that Baine and Crowley (from Chattanooga) were crazy and would be thrown out of the Navy. A young eighteen-year-old by the name of Carr from Ripley, Tennessee was scared to death and he asked me if I would help him. He said, "my mother told me to team up with someone that wouldn't get me into trouble and I believe you are the one." Two boys from Knoxville (Sharp and Shackles) were okay but a little immature. Sims from Middle Tennessee didn't make it three weeks and on our first liberty in San Diego, Reynolds was crying. Our first three weeks were pretty rough. I had never marched in step all my twenty-two-years so I had a little problem with my two left feet. But when I learned it seemed that everything got better.

Chief Massa, a WWII veteran was our Company Commander and he was tough, but before basic training ended in June, I admired this man very much.

Our RCPO (Recruit Chief Petty Officer) was a bad choice. His name was Castillo. He was from San Antonio, Texas and he abused his power. I believe Chief Massa saw that he had made a mistake in choosing him but it was too late to change.

In the 7th week of training someone reported Castillo smoking in the barracks. I believe he thought it was me because he tried to get me into trouble, but it always made him look a little worse to the Company Commander and the men in Company 190. Some of the men actually hated

Basic Training Ain't So Basic March 17th – June 15, 1958

this man. I would say that things were back-firing on Castillo. The C.O. got us together after the 7th week of training and told us that ten men in the company would be getting a special liberty. He said I'm going to name nine of you and the company will name the tenth. Well,



I knew that I would not be one of the nine and the chances of me being

deserves the honor of a special liberty? In unison all the men said, "Redmon, Redmon, Redmon." I was so stunned I couldn't say anything. But our old RCPO Castillo had something to say. He said "I don't think Redmon deserves this." The Chief looked at Castillo and motioned for him to come over and follow him. He went about twenty-five yards from us and I don't know what he said to Castillo but I can about guess. With his back to us he probably said Castillo you had better watch it because these men overwhelmingly picked Redmon. If you want to make it to the end of this twelve weeks of training you had better be careful.

We will never know fully what the Chief said to our RCPO but I do know that he never bothered me again.

I learned a lot about the military that day in May 1958, and that lesson was renewed many times in my four years in the Navy. That lesson was if you do your best and you treat men like family and make an effort to be their friend, they will stand up for you when it matters. I not only found this out in basic training but also in Pensacola, Florida, Survival Training in San Diego, California, Guam, New Zealand and on the USS Midway and at Moffett Field, California.

On the next to last day of basic training Chief Massa came up to me, put his hand on my shoulder and said, "Redmon you have done a good job." Coming from a hard-nosed WWII vet and an Italian that was something, because he hardly ever gave compliments.



named by the company were even smaller.

Chief Massa named all the nine men whom he thought deserved a 3rd liberty. Like I expected I was not one of them. Then he said men of Company 190 who do you think

2 Corinthians: Chapter 2

(2 Cor. 2:1-4) Further explanation: The apostle repeats his rationale. Because he loved them so much, he had not wanted to come bringing “sorrow.” It implies that on a previous visit he had made them sorrowful, and he hesitated to repeat that experience. The exact time of that visit is a matter of speculation, but likely it was after the writing of 1 Corinthians. Apparently on that occasion a “bad scene” occurred, and Paul was not anxious to repeat it, with the potential of such harming their relationship. He had determined, therefore, that he would not return until the spiritual atmosphere regarding the sinful brother (1 Cor. 5) was more conducive to congeniality.

Paul mentions having written them previously (v.3). Some see this as a reference to a letter not preserved (like that referenced in 1 Cor. 5:9); others believe the allusion is to 1 Corinthians. The latter is the traditional view. He felt that his coming at the afore-promised time might be premature and create even more sorrow, which he did not want to happen. He wanted them to know, however, that his previous letter was not written with an inflamed disposition. He agonized deeply over the matter and shed many tears as he contemplated the issue and composed the epistle. It was not that he would avoid all sorrow; that could never be the case in dealing with a vilely sinful situation. “My aim was to move you to repentance; and that issued from a heart overflowing with love for you” (v. 4).

(2 Cor. 2:5-11) The penitent offender: The apostle speaks of the one who “has caused sorrow.” “If” is not tentative, but an expression of sensitivity. Many see this as a reference to the fornicating brother (1 Cor. 5); as noted earlier, this is the long-standing traditional view. More recent writers apply it to some unknown person. The identification of this person does not warrant intense dogmatism. “This brother has caused sorrow not to me alone, but to you all.” He had not wanted to intensify that by being too hard on them; yet, there could not be compromise.

There is general agreement on the meaning of verse six. The “punishment” (church discipline) that had been implemented had been sufficient to accomplish its divine design. The rogue had come to his senses. Some suggest that the expression, “the many,” hints of a rebellious minority that refused to back it. At times Paul identified church troublemakers by name (1 Tim. 1:20; 2 Tim. 2:17); at other times, as in this case, he did not. Not all people have this common sense. The Corinthian’s are encouraged to forgive the brother and comfort him so that he might be comforted and not overcome by his own grief. Discipline is to save the offender, not crush him into spiritual oblivion (v. 7). They thus were to reaffirm their love for the penitent soul (v. 8).

Three reasons had been given for Paul’s previous letter: to prepare for his coming (v. 3); to express his love for them (v. 4); and now, to test whether they would be obedient “in all things” (v. 9). Partial obedience is no obedience! The apostle endorsed their forgiveness of the wayward soul, acknowledging that the presence endorsed their forgiveness of the wayward soul, acknowledging that the presence of Christ himself would authenticate such (v. 10; Mt. 10:15, especially v. 20). The withholding of forgiveness from a penitent brother would surely give Satan an advantage (1 Cor. 5:5). Paul viewed Satan as a real adversary (so did Jesus), not a myth. Christians must be aware of the crooked ways of his operations (Eph. 6:11), otherwise, we become his victims (v. 11).

(2 Cor. 2:12-13) Anxiety at Troas: Troas was a seaport city in western Asia. Paul possibly ended up here after hastily leaving Ephesus following the riot there (Acts 19:23). This stop

is not mentioned in Acts 20:1. His travels were always in the interest of “gospel of Christ.” He was thrilled that in the providence of God a “door” of opportunity was opened to him “in the Lord,” to accommodate his Christian mission (v. 12). He would return later (Acts 20:6). But he was stressed; he had expected Titus to meet him there (according to a prearranged plan), but his co-worker had not appeared. What had happened? Was his brother dead or alive? Presumably Titus would have word about how things were going in Corinth. Accordingly, the apostle headed westward toward Macedonia, hoping to find him.

(2 Cor. 2:4-17) Triumph in Christ: There is a remarkable change of tone, from the no-relief dejection of verse thirteen, to the triumphal explosion of the following verse. Paul and Titus connected again in Macedonia (7:5-7); and there was good news about the state of affairs in Corinth. Paul therefore erupts with thanksgiving to God, who has a long and consistent record of leading his people to victory through Christ (Rom. 8:28, 37-39). Through the apostolic preaching, the fragrance of the knowledge of God was being made known in every place (v. 14).

By means of their teaching, the sweet smell of divine knowledge of Christ was proclaimed, both to those in the process of being saved and those perishing. Both regeneration and degeneration are ongoing processes. Some are hardened by the truth, and they decay---from a dying stench to the foulness of outright death. Others exude a sweet fragrance resulting in eternal life. Can any of us believe we are sufficient for such a reward (v. 15-16)? Not on our own, but through Christ we are! Or was Paul speaking of his sufficiency in proclaiming the gospel versus the teachers subsequently described?

The apostle places himself in vivid contrast to certain false teachers (11:4, 12-15). “We are not as the many” is a bold (not arrogant) yet true assessment. “The many” embraces the entire anti-Paul faction. They are “corrupters of the word of God” (v. 17). The verb hints of someone who is a cheap, cheating huckster. They do not teach pure truth; they combine it with death-dealing poison. Some today peddle a form of the “gospel” for gain, and there is no lack of them. Paul says: “We are not like that; we are sincere and operate under the oversight of God.”

Answering the error@GBNTV.ORG
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FortifyYourFaith.org



MELVIN HOWARD

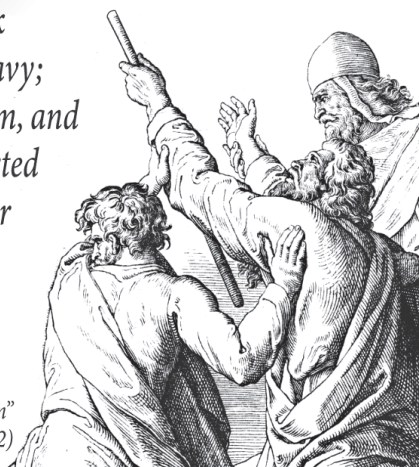


THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE

And so it was, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. But Moses' hands became heavy; so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it. And Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun.

EXODUS 17: 11,12

“Aaron Holding Moses’ Arm”
by Julius Schnorr von Carolsfeld (1794-1872)



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Melvin Howard’s Weekly column is sponsored by

The Lord’s Church

102 Paxton Road, Lancing

Hebrews 8:12



John Burns

Opinion Columnist

And I will be merciful to their unrighteousness, and their sins and their iniquities will I remember no more.

This is a profound statement from the high priest of our better covenant. It is the same covenant God promised Jeremiah in Chapter 31 verse 31 of his prophecy to the nation of Israel. Messiah offered salvation to the lost sheep of Israel and his words bear that out in the gospels. How many times I

desired to gather my children together like a hen gathers her chickens under her wings, and ye would not! Behold your house is left unto you desolate.

For I say unto you, ye shall not see me henceforth, until ye shall say, blessed is he which cometh in the name of the Lord. Jesus Christ transferred the office of High Priest back upon the shoulders of Melchisedec at his water baptism. He had fulfilled the requirement to be immersed in water before being inspected by the priests as the Lamb of God and worthy to be sacrificed. All the law and the prophets were until John.

John the Baptist closed the period known today as the Old Testament. His baptism of repentance offered Jewish believers in God's plan mercy. His baptism was unique to Judaism in that it was always an appeasement. Only Pagans required their priests to immerse themselves in water for ceremonially cleansing.

When the Jews left Egypt at the Exodus, God told them to remember Egypt no more. They made it to Sinai and revolted. They began to murmur and request God allow them to be like their Egyptian taskmasters. Nothing has changed in Christian worship. Compromise with the world they have been called out of to offer mercy, has morphed into abject paganism complete with Pagan rituals Jesus Christ ended.

When Moses was visited by God in a burning bush, YHWH required Moses remove his shoes for the place he was standing was holy ground. Moses was called by God to be the deliverer of Israel from their Egyptian captors. He was speaking with God the creator, who lit a fire in a highly flammable sage brush, yet the fire did not consume the bush? God was letting Moses know that as creator he alone would empower him to deliver Israel from bondage.

Moses reminds God of a stammer which causes him to stutter when he speaks. He begins to negotiate with God for a helper to speak on his behalf to Pharaoh. Fear gripped Moses for all the wrong reasons. God created Moses in his mother's womb with this stutter, God intended to heal Moses and Moses relented. Fear overcame Moses' faith in God!

God relented and began the Levitical priesthood through Moses' brother Aaron. God's first requirement was for Aaron to dip seven times in the river God alone created. This is the first water baptism authorized by God in history. Aaron was immersed in water and so was every high priest and lamb for 1,800 years after that. Until Messiah fulfilled this requirement as our Lamb and high priest of a more perfect covenant.

Two things occurred at Jesus' water baptism. First, the priesthood was transferred away from the house of Levi and onto the House of Judah. Until now, the priests and kings came from two bloodlines.

Messiah united the house of Judah with the House of Israel at his water Baptism. Levi was descended from Jacob through Leah. He was her third son and Judah was her fourth son. God reunited the house of Jacob at Messiah's baptism. He fulfilled all righteousness associated with the law!

Hebrews is the book penned by Paul describing proper actions

as a priest of the New Covenant. God reminds us in Hebrews that there is a future day when God will redeem Israel and write his laws upon their hearts. Antisemitism in Christian denominations has kept the modern denominational churches from realizing their error in denying Jesus Christ's Jewish roots.

The question every Christian must answer is "Are rituals more important than believing God died to pay your sin debt? Is religious tradition more important than personal relationship to Messiah? Have you left sound teachings of Jesus Christ to go back under the bondage of the entire law? Jesus Christ will adjudicate justice when he opens the entire Bible at the sheep and goats' judgement which takes place on earth during the millennial reign. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth from professing Christians as Messiah says depart from me worker of iniquity, for I knew you not!

The time for knowing about Jesus has come to an end. Time to testify with David's words; For I know him in whom I have believed! Repent and return to both edges of the two-edged sword. It is the Holy Bible. It was written by Jesus Christ in eternity past. Of the abundance of the letter, it is written of me.

The Bible rightly divided takes a knowledge of Old Testament mercy offered to our Jewish ancestors in the stories that permeate God's written history. Old Testament mercy alone leads to New Testament grace. Jesus Christ only quoted from the Old Testament and the salvation he offers is what he has always offered every person born of a woman.

The Holy Spirit from which we can first begin to discern God's plan for our life. The plan has never changed. God always intended to become the Lamb to be slain for the sins of humanity. Yesterday's sins, today's sins, and tomorrow's sins.

Today's churches are blinded to the riches of the entire Bible. They would rather pick and choose which scriptures matter to them, and then judge everyone else by their unscriptural beliefs. The time has come for judgement to begin, and to begin in the house of God!

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

He is returning to retrieve his virgin bride very soon, John Burns 1-18-2022.

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

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 24 mins.

H	U	E		D	A	V	Y		P	I	T	A	
A	L	L		E	D	A	M		I	D	O	L	
G	A	L		C	A	L	C	U	L	A	T	E	
S	N	A	I	L				A	N	E			
			P	A	D	S			D	U	B	A	I
C	A	L	O	R	I	E	S		P	I	N	K	
A	B	E		E	S	T	E	E		E	T	E	
R	E	V	S		C	A	L	A	B	R	I	A	
S	T	Y	L	E		T	A	S	E				
			U	M	A				Y	E	N	T	A
C	A	L	R	I	P	K	E	N			A	R	K
A	S	A	P		B	O	L	O		P	O	I	
D	I	P	S		S	N	O	W		A	Y	N	



Buffalo Chicken Meets Pizza in Tasty Tailgate-Inspired Mash-Up

NFL playoffs have got me in a tailgate kind of mood. This week, as I was making my menu, I was anticipating the scrumptious foods of Super Bowl Sunday, but I couldn't decide between buffalo chicken wings or pizza. They both sound delicious. I decided to mash them together and make a Buffalo Chicken Pizza.

It's got all the flavors and textures of buffalo chicken wings, but on a warm crusty pizza. What's not to love?

The base for this gridiron gem is a rich and creamy, ranch-infused white sauce. That's topped with buffalo chicken that's spicy and hot. And then the cheese — there has to be lots of gooey mozzarella and piquant blue cheeses. After the pizza bakes, we sprinkle it with green onion and diced celery for crunch. Then we finish with diced avocado that's creamy, refreshing and cool. This is ridiculously good!

I'm all about finding frugal substitutions for expensive ingredients, hence the cottage cheese in this recipe. Cottage cheese makes a great low-cost substitute for ricotta cheese. Once its pureed, it's creamy and fluffy with a texture very much like ricotta. I promise no one will suspect you're sneaking cottage cheese into the recipe. Side note: This cottage cheese and ranch mixture makes a wonderful dip for veggies and chips, so you might want to make extra.

BUFFALO CHICKEN PIZZA

Yield: 12 slices

Time: 1 hour

What You'll Need:

- 16 ounces pizza dough, purchased or homemade
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 3/4 cup buffalo hot sauce (like Frank's Red Hot)
- 2-3 cups diced, cooked chicken
- 1 1/2 cups cottage cheese
- 3/4 cup ranch dressing
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 2 cups shredded mozzarella cheese, divided
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/2 small purple onion, cut in rounds
- 1/3 cup blue cheese - crumbled
- 1/4 cup celery with leaves, chopped
- 1/4 cup green onion, sliced
- 1/4 cup avocado, diced



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Here's How:

Preheat oven to 425 F. Allow the pizza dough to come to room temperature. Melt butter and place in a medium bowl, add hot sauce and stir. Set about 2 tablespoons aside to drizzle over the pizza when it's cooked. Toss the chicken in the sauce, set aside. (You can sneak a bite, I won't tell.)

In a food processor or blender, puree

the cottage cheese with the ranch dressing, salt and 1/2 cup of the mozzarella until smooth. Get a spoon and taste this! It's so yummy.

Brush a 10-inch-by-15-inch sheet pan with olive oil to help brown the bottom crust. Stretch the pizza dough to fit the pan. It doesn't need to be perfect, but try to get it uniformly thin, so it'll bake evenly.

Spread the cottage cheese mixture evenly over the dough leaving a 1-inch border around the edges. Distribute the chicken, making sure each slice gets an equal amount. Add the onion rounds artistically, and sprinkle with the rest of the mozzarella. Finally, dot the whole thing with blue cheese crumbles.

Bake for 15 to 18 minutes, until the crust is golden brown. Let the pizza cool for a few minutes then sprinkle the top with the green onion, celery and avocado. Summon your inner Jackson Pollack and drizzle with reserved hot sauce. Slice, serve and take a bow!

This recipe can be adjusted to suit your taste. Don't like blue cheese? Skip it! Love hot sauce? Use more. Vegetarian? Swap cubed tofu for the chicken.

You can enjoy this recipe even if you're not watching the big game. Or only watching the commercials and half time between feeding the masses, like me. But if you're watching the game, I hope your team wins. See you next week!

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

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Americanisms



“Whoever came up with ice fishing must have had the worst marriage on the planet.”

— Jeff Cesario

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David Zubler
Columnist

IRS urged to provide relief for taxpayers

A report to Congress from National Taxpayer Advocate Erin Collins stated that the IRS is taking too long to process responses to its notices. This has delayed refunds and led to premature collection notices being sent to people who had in fact already responded.

The IRS issued tens of millions of notices to taxpayers in 2021. People were often required to respond timely to prevent the IRS from taking adverse action. However, the IRS had about 5 million pieces of unopened mail as of mid-December, so even

if you have responded on time, the IRS may have taken an adverse action. If this is the case, it may be best to contact a licensed tax professional. In response to this unprecedented backlog, the National Association of Taxpayers (NATP) has recommended that the IRS take reasonable action to reduce unnecessary burdens on taxpayers and tax professionals.

“The coronavirus pandemic has created enormous challenges for taxpayers, tax professionals, and the IRS. It is time to take steps to ameliorate the situation,” the NATP letter stated. “Implementing reasonable penalty relief measures, the IRS can offer immediately, are necessary to help not only taxpayers and tax professionals but also the IRS during these challenging times.”

NATP and four other tax advocacy groups have asked the IRS to halt automated compliance actions until the IRS has the resources for a proper and timely resolution of the matter. The groups suggested offering a “reasonable cause penalty waiver.” The waiver would be similar to the procedures for a first-time abatement (FTA) waiver of penalties.

The IRS does not typically abate penalties unless requested by the taxpayer or their representative. If you think you may be eligible for an FTA, a tax professional can retrieve your IRS transcripts to see if you qualify.

IRS employees use a Reasonable Cause Assistant (RCA) software

tool to help determine eligibility for an FTA. Historically, the RCA has had a high percentage of incorrect determinations; consequently, I recommend contacting a licensed tax professional rather than relying on the IRS.

The FTA may only be claimed for a single tax period. To qualify, you must not have been assessed any other penalties on the same type of tax return within the previous three years and must be compliant with all filing and payment requirements.

The IRS first-time penalty abatement waiver relieves taxpayers from failure-to-file, failure-to-pay, and failure-to-deposit penalties if the taxpayer meets the requirements.

“In many areas, we are unable to deliver the amount of service and enforcement that our taxpayers and tax system deserves and needs. This is frustrating for the IRS, employees, and me,” said IRS Commissioner Chuck Rettig.

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

SENIOR NEWS LINE

By Matilda Charles

The Rising Costs of Food

It's not over yet. Rising food prices, that is.

The best guess of experts is that food prices are likely to rise 5% in the first half of 2022. This is on top of the average 6.8% rise for all items, as reported by the Consumer Price Index in November for the previous 12 months. That report cited increases for foods such as eggs, meat, poultry and fish topping the list at 12.8%, the highest since 1982.

Which food items do experts point to as likely to see additional price increases? Nearly everything. And what are the reasons for all the increases? That depends on the item. Potatoes are heavy; it costs more to ship them. Mayonnaise comes in a jar; packaging costs have risen.

In other words, if there's a reason, there's an increase.

We're all scrambling to

find lower food prices. If you have one of the warehouse clubs near you, it might be worth joining. Costco and Sam's Club will charge you for an annual membership, but over the course of a year, it might be worth it. Your biggest hurdle, however, will be calculating whether you can actually use up the foods before they expire. Nearly everything comes in a mega bulk size.

One benefit is that you can buy more than food in those stores -- including tires, furniture, books, jewelry and much more -- which keeps you from needing to go into multiple stores to get the things you need. Some of the stores have been using curbside pickup, and some have a discount pharmacy and two-day delivery. All of them have online ordering.

As a test, I just checked the prices of my cereal. If I bought several large boxes, I would save over \$2 per box, compared with my local grocery store.

I'm tempted to sign up.

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FLASHBACK

By Mick Harper

1. Which group released an album titled “Agents of Fortune”?
2. Who wrote and released “Sundown”?
3. Name the '60s singer who was partially deaf as a result of having meningitis as a child.
4. What do The Chords, Bobby Hebb and Edison Lighthouse all have in common?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: “Jubilation, she loves me again, I fall on the floor and I'm laughing.”

Answers

1. Blue Oyster Cult, in 1976. The 2001 CD reissue had four additional songs, including the longer demo version of “(Don't Fear) The Reaper.”
2. Gordon Lightfoot, in 1974. It was his only chart topper in the U.S. (He's Canadian.)
3. Mary Wells, of “My Guy” fame. She was singing in clubs by the age of 10.
4. They all made it to the list of One-Hit Wonders for the decades when their songs hit the charts, the '50s, '60s and '70s.
5. “Cecilia,” by Simon & Garfunkel, in 1970. The song was partially created at a late-night party and recorded on a tape recorder. Simon later came back to it, deciding that it had the making of a song. The title likely refers to St. Cecilia, the patron saint of music.

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High School Basketball Roundup

By Terry Futrell

High School Basketball Roundup January 24

Despite several games being canceled or rescheduled due to weather, it was a big week for Morgan County basketball. Girls play was highlighted by a matchup between Sunbright and Wartburg, the top two teams in District 3A. The Sunbright Lady Tigers knocked off the Wartburg Lady Bulldogs 45-36 Friday night to remain the only undefeated team in District 3A and keep sole possession of first place in the district.

In boys play, the Sunbright Tigers defeated Wartburg 57-45 to further solidify their lock on second place in District 3A, trailing only Oneida in the rankings.

Most teams have now played every other team in their district, so the tournament picture is beginning to take shape. At this point, the Sunbright Lady Tigers and the Oneida Indians are the teams leading in the race for top-seed in the girls and boys District 3A tournaments, respectively. The Sunbright Tigers are close behind Oneida and ranked second, having lost only to Oneida in district play. Oakdale is in District 4, where both the Lady Eagles and Eagles are currently ranked in 4th place.

(Overall, District records in parentheses)

Coalfield Girls (14-5, 2-2)
Jan 21 – Defeated Oakdale 58-41

Jan 22 – Defeated Midway 55-45

Oakdale Girls (3-13, 1-2)
Jan 19 – Lost to Wartburg 37-54

Jan 21 – Lost to Coalfield 41-58

Sunbright Girls (18-4, 4-0)
Jan 21 – Defeated Wartburg 45-36

Wartburg Girls (7-8, 2-1)
Jan 19 – Defeated Oakdale 54-37
Jan 21 – Lost to Sunbright 36-45

Coalfield Boys (3-13, 1-3)
Jan 21 – Lost to Oakdale 50-79
Jan 22 – Lost to Midway 55-67

Oakdale Boys (3-13, 1-2)
Jan 19 – Lost to Wartburg 57-73
Jan 21 – Defeated Coalfield 79-50

Sunbright Boys (11-8, 3-1)
Jan 21 – Defeated Wartburg 57-45

Wartburg Boys (4-12, 1-2)
Jan 19 – Defeated Oakdale 73-57
Jan 21 – Lost to Sunbright 45-57

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