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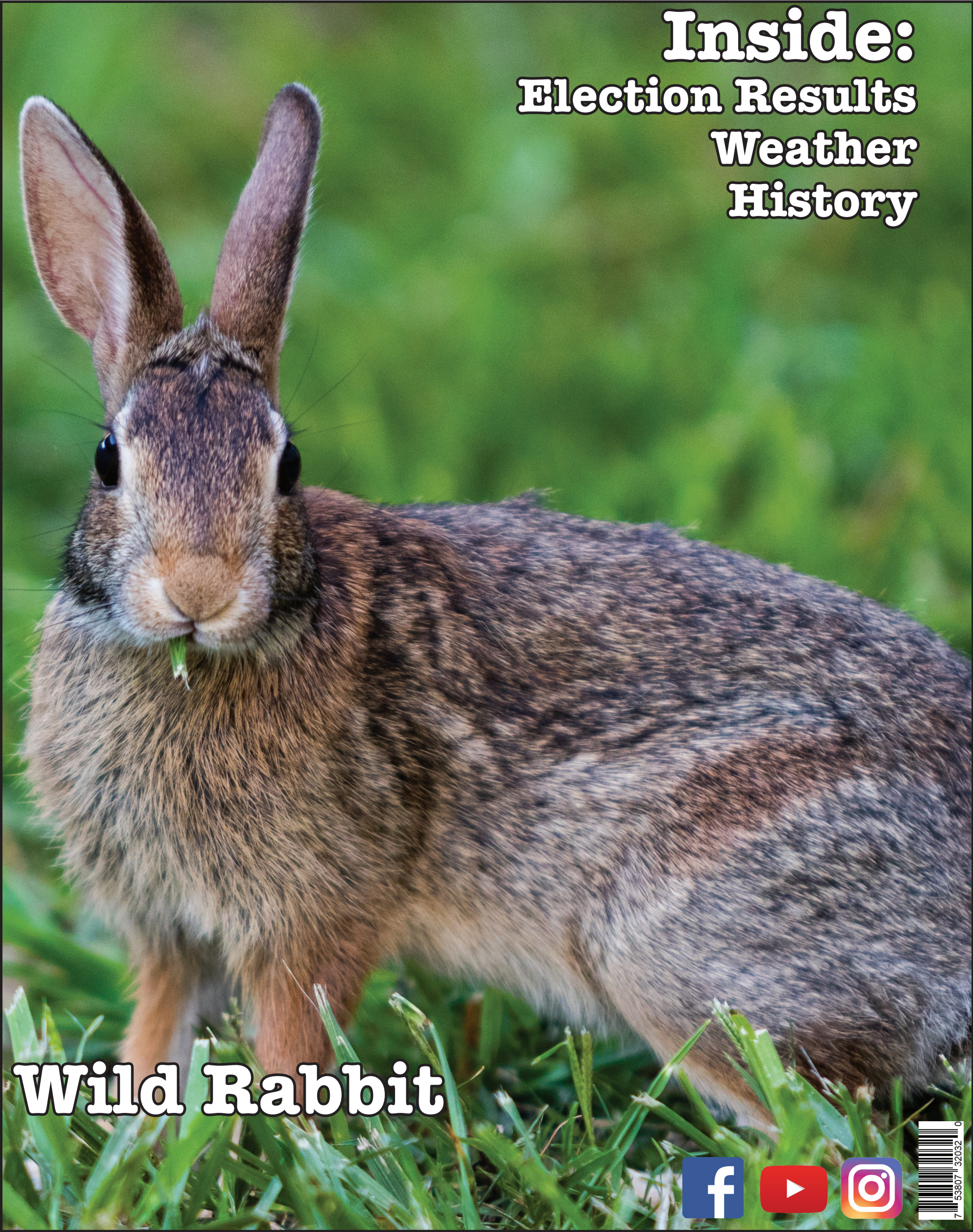
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Morgan County Today

Psalm 100:3
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 Volume 08 Number 32
 Tuesday, August 9, 2022

Your Community. Your News.

75¢



Inside:
Election Results
Weather
History

Wild Rabbit



Morgan County Today

Your Community. Your News.

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Ms. Avery Pearl Pet Columnist

Pet Perspective with Ms. Avery Pearl

We had a Shepherd family reunion last weekend at my house. There were a lot of people here.

Aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, sisters all on my Mimi's side of the family. Mimi says we are blessed.

There was some that couldn't make it and we missed them. The boy, Jonas didn't get to come. So, no one put me in the washer or dryer this time. I still missed that little stinker though.

Rob, Jessica, and Noah didn't get to come either. Since, Rob had Covid the week before. What ever that is.

We had so much fun. I never realized that my family was so big. A few things have me puzzled about my family.

We have people with blonde hair, black

hair, brown hair, even red hair. But, no one is covered in their fur like me. Some do have it on their faces and all the men have it on their legs. Another thing that I wonder about is: Where are all their tails? How do they hide them? I couldn't hide mine if I tried.

The other thing is: Why do all of them walk on their hind legs? The little ones sometimes walk on all four but, mostly just their back ones.

I thought for sure someone in my family would look more like me. There was a few of them that did have long fur on their heads and some of that fur was even blonde.

Does this all mean that I am adopted? Could it be that Mimi and Pap

found me and took me home with them? Well if they did, they sure do wuff me an awful lot to give me such a good home. So, I guess Mimi is right. We really are blessed.



WEEKLY WEATHER



Table with 4 columns: Day, Temperature (High/Low), and Weather icon. Rows for Tue 09, Wed 10, Thu 11, Fri 12, Sat 13, Sun 14, Mon 15.

Tennessee 811 logo with text: Know what's below. Call before you dig.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

DLARMC CHANGE IN MEETING The Deer Lodge Abner Ross Center has changed its meeting date. We will now meet on the 3rd TUESDAY of the month at 6 PM. All are invited to attend.

Undated Events Coalfield Genealogical and Historical Society Meets the second Tuesday of every month Senior Citizens Building at 6:00pm

Morgan County Republican Party meets the last Thursday of every month at 7pm at the American Legion in Wartburg

Morgan County Chamber of Commerce will host a Community Luncheon with Congressman Chuck Fleishmann on Friday, August 19, 2022. Watch and listen for details to come!

Friday, August 12 Together Morgan County will meet Friday, August 12 at 9:00 a.m. est at Morgan County Schools Central Office. All community members, organizations and business leaders are encouraged to attend as plans are made for future events. Our motto: We are one county partnering together to increase literacy and learning from generation to generation to achieve success for all.

The Freels Family Reunion Saturday Aug 20th 1030 am Frozen Head shelter C Make plans to attend This is the 57th year Please bring covered dish and old pictures Doug Freels will be grilling hamburgers Linda Hallman will give history on Freels family Whitewater and outstanding bluegrass group will be singing There were some Freels in

the Knoxville area in the mid 1700's Lunch at approx Noon for more info call Roy Freels 8652530017 4236282625 or Audrey Shannon 4233463893 or 8653603612

The 6th Annual Dylan Kennedy Memorial Race at Wartburg Speedway has been rescheduled for Saturday August 27th.

Check Out the New EV6 at Rusty Wallace Kia of Knoxville Today!



In Loving Memory

Roger Lee "Roddy" Scott, 65

Mr. Roger Lee "Roddy" Scott, age 65 of Deer Lodge passed away Friday, August 5, 2022, at his home. He enjoyed deer hunting and fishing, watching his son dirt track racing.



He was preceded in death by his parents Johnnie & Pearl Scott, brothers Terry Scott and Mark Scott, son Jonathan Scott.

He is survived by his loving wife of 46 years Loretta Scott
 Son: Justin Scott and fiancée Kathy Beasley
 Grandson Jayden Scott

Sisters: Melissa Jones (Sam Jones) and Kathy Carroll (Don Carroll)

The family is honoring his wishes for cremation. A graveside service will be Saturday August 13, 2022, 11am Mt. Hope Cemetery, Deer Lodge with Bro. Herb Judkins officiating.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Roger Lee "Roddy" Scott.

David Brandenburg, 56

Mr. David Brandenburg, age 56 of Petros passed away Saturday, July 30, 2022 at his home. He enjoyed his bluegrass music and enjoyed fishing and camping.



He was preceded in death by his parents Dave & Ruth Bradenburg; brother Arvil Bradenburg; sister Mary McCann.

He is survived by his daughter Haley Bradenburg; sister Anita Phillips and Frances Pridmore;

nephew Boo Brandenburg; friends Scott, Jessie, and Carolyn; sister-in-law Glenna Brandenburg; little dog Rufus.

The family are honoring his wishes for cremation. A graveside service will be held at a later date.

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

Roger Lee "Roddy" Scott, 65

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Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Roger Lee "Roddy" Scott.

James Eugene Christofalos, 57

James Eugene Christofalos age 57 of Coalfield, Tennessee formerly of Westchester, Illinois went to be with his Lord and Savior on August 3, 2022.



He was welcomed to his Heavenly home by his parents Eugene and Cora "Sandy" Christofalos; father and mother in law Curtis and Jean Hood; sister in law Cynthia Bingamon.

He lives on through his wife of 32 years Michelle Hood Christofalos; daughter Cora "Nicole"; sons Andrew James and Jacob Eugene; sisters Andrianna (Gus) Emmanouilidis of Frankfort, Illinois and Patricia Christofalos of Kenosha Wisconsin; brother in laws Randy (Mary Ann) Hood of Lansing, Richard (Felicia) Hood of Coalfield and sister in law Pamela Harmon of East Pointe, Michigan and a host of uncle and aunt's.

Some of his happiest times were playing board games with his children, nieces and nephews. Jimmy was well known for his love for tinkering with and collecting classic cars. Many have known him for his caring heart and giving nature. He always had a joke or story to tell to anyone who would listen. His knowledge for

useless information was second to none.

As a teenager, Jimmy worked at McDonald's, where he made friends with many of his coworkers. Those friendships have lasted his lifetime. Jimmy was a truck driver for 32 years, having won many safety awards for being accident free. Many of those miles were cross country. He was lucky enough to have driven through 46 of our 50 states. His most recent employment was at Petroleum Transport Company, where he hauled fuel to many of our surrounding gas stations. While working at PTC, James met many friends whom he considered family.

The family will receive friends Saturday, August 6, 2022 at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg from 12:00-2:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 2:00 p.m. with Bro. Tony Cathey and Bro. David Phillips officiating. Interment will follow in the Ritter Cemetery in Coalfield.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of James Christofalos.

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



TENNESSEE COLLEGE OF APPLIED TECHNOLOGY
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POSITION AVAILABLE
 Pre-Nursing Clinical Instructor, Adjunct, Part-time

The Tennessee College of Applied Technology Oneida/Huntsville is accepting applications for the position of part-time Pre-Nursing Clinical Instructor, Adjunct. Instructor will work under the direction of the Coordinator of Practical Nursing and Allied Health along with PN faculty. A high standard of personal and professional ethics with a sincere interest in teaching and nursing is desired.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Graduate of an accredited nursing school with active license in Tennessee as a Registered Nurse (RN); minimum of an Associate degree in Nursing required; Bachelor's degree preferred
- Must have a minimum of three (3) years' clinical nursing experience in a hospital and/or long-term nursing facility
- Teaching and/or supervisory experience is preferred
- Demonstrated proficiency in oral and written communication, as well as computer skills
- Evidence of ability to plan, organize, and manage multiple tasks with attention to detail and accuracy
- Ability to evaluate and monitor student progress
- Must be physically able to lift up to 50 pounds, stoop, stand and walk, with or without accommodation, to demonstrate and perform all work-based projects.

General Duties:

- Supervise students' clinical experiences as scheduled
- Provide individual evaluation of each student's progress with counseling and appropriate recommendations when required
- Maintain confidential, accurate, and complete student records
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Application Deadline: Open Until Filled

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Applications and Resumes should be submitted online at:
<https://tbr.csod.com/ux/ats/careersite/36/home/requisition/8110?c=tbr>

The Tennessee College of Applied Technology-Oneida/Huntsville does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Amy West, Assistant Director, 355 Scott High Drive, Huntsville, TN 37756, (423) 663-4900, awest@tcatonelida.edu .

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

18th Annual Scott Boys & Girls Club Hall Of Fame Huge Success

Rusty Wallace Auto Group and Glenn Jacobs Help In a Big Way

Rusty Wallace Kia General Manager Jake Bull and Rusty Wallace Honda GM Chad Campbell love the Scott County Boys and Girls Club. So much, that in addition to hosting the event for the past three years, this year they went down a slip and slide with street clothes on in exchange for a large donation to the Club from a Knoxville business owner. In addition to their water slide adventure, Jake and Chad provided Glenn Jacobs as the speaker for the 2022 Boys and Girls Club of Scott County Hall of Fame event, as well as auction items and hosted a fund raising game before the event's dinner which by itself raised over \$1000 for the Club. In all, the 2022 Hall of Fame Event on Tuesday, July 26 raised \$28,000, making it a most successful four hours' night.

Boys and Girls Club of the Cumberland Plateau CEO Justin Sharpe told the Morgan County Today, "We are more than happy with the results of our 18th Scott County Hall of Fame. We had over 300 members of our community come together to celebrate the achievement of exceptional individuals that have done great things in and for Scott County. The event raised almost \$28,000 to support Boys and Girls Clubs' life changing programs and the thousands of kids we serve annually." Sharpe added that the support of the Rusty Wallace Auto group was instrumental in fueling the success of the Club's largest fund raising event of the year, as the auto group has also

done for the previous two Hall of Fame events. Sharpe said, "We are very grateful for their help in securing auction items, sponsorship and guest speakers. I would also like to thank Knox County Mayor Glenn Jacobs for taking the time to travel to Scott County, spend some time at our event and with our kids, and share his incredible story."

Glenn Jacobs, also known as WWE wrestler Kane, told the Hall of Fame audience about his time as a collegiate athlete, during which he sustained injuries that prevented him from continuing an athletic career as a football player. Jacobs earned a degree in English, and spoke about how he created a future for himself in the pro wrestling world, working his way up from being a wrestling dentist named Isaac Yankum, to his progress and hugely successful role as the WWE wrestler Kane. Jacobs said, "I had several key people who invested in my life and encouraged me. Without them I wouldn't be here. For all you older people, invest in kids' lives. You're helping build great futures, and you never know where these kids will end up."

Jacobs had some strong words of encouragement for the Boys and Girls Club, which were also podcast by Morgan County Today. He said, "Please support this Boys and Girls Club. They make a difference in kids' lives."

Inducted into this year's Hall of Fame were: Doug Mooney (posthumously) for Lifetime Achievement; Tim Smith, Outstanding Mentor; Dr. Gary Phillips, M.D. (posthumously), Local Hero; Kellie Walker, Citizen of the Year; and, Trey Morrow, Outstanding Student Athlete.

Jacobs added these comments: "Don't ever quit. Don't ever give up, no matter what happens in life."



L to R: Jake Bull - Rusty Wallace Kia, Glenn Jacobs - Knox County Mayor, Chad Campbell - Rusty Wallace Honda

"I never considered a difference of opinion in politics, in religion, in philosophy, as cause for withdrawing from a friend."
~Thomas Jefferson~

The only people with whom you should try to get even are those who have helped you."
~John E. Southard~

I wish to thank everyone who supported me in running for office and too everyone who had enough faith in me to cast your vote in my favor. Thank You!

I am also reminded of a quote by that famous Tennessee politician "I would rather be politically buried than to be hypocritically immortalized."~Davie Crockett~

Davie also had another quote when he lost his bid for reelection to congress in 1835. But I'm sure you all are already familiar with that one.

Again, thank you to everyone who supported and voted for me.

Jerry Zorsch

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THE RICH LOWRY COLUMN

By Rich Lowry

Joe Manchin's Travesty

Congress has never cared much about truth-in-labeling, but even by its standards, "The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022" is laughably absurd.

The deal reached by West Virginia Sen. Joe Manchin and Majority Leader Chuck Schumer is getting puffed up by the media as a presidency-revitalizing achievement for President Joe Biden, when in reality it is the detritus of his stymied legislative agenda hastily thrown together in an incoherent muddle, under a deceptive name.

A signature of Biden's legislative strategy has been pursuing sweeping legislation that has nothing to do with the actual concerns of voters. Worried about inflation? Don't worry, we have a partisan, enormously ambitious voting rights bill, police reform bill, or new multi-trillion-dollar spending bill just for you.

Thankfully, Manchin significantly bid down what Biden and the rest of the party initially wanted to spend on so-called "Build Back Better." Otherwise, the new deal is as much of a non sequitur as ever. At a time of inflation, it offers hundreds of billions of new spending. As the economy dips into a recession or close to one, it offers hundreds of billions in new taxes. And its main element is more green energy spending, when the climate is far down the priority list for voters.

TITLE: None of this makes much sense. According to the estimate of the Penn Wharton Budget Model, the act would very slightly increase inflation in the near-term, when inflation is a problem, and very slightly decrease it after 2024, when -- one hopes -- it will already have fallen.

That's just some random model, you say? Well, Manchin used to rely on it.

Manchin brags about the \$300 billion in deficit reduction over 10 years, which is supposed to be one of the bill's counter-inflationary bragging points. Just a week or so ago, though, the senator voted for the Senate's \$280 billion "Chips and Science" bill. What the West Virginia solon giveth with one hand, he taketh away with another.

Surely, Democrats will keep the new spending coming to the extent they can.

Manchin deserves credit for sounding the alarm about inflation when Democrats were still in denial. TITLE: Nonetheless, his own record isn't exactly sterling. Last year, he voted for the \$1.9 billion "rescue plan" that had some role in worsening inflation. Now, he claims to be tackling this inflation via fiscal rectitude while he freely spends more money.

In short, Manchin is an arsonist who shows up to put out the fire with a leaky hose.

The tax piece isn't any better. The 15% corporate income tax will hit manufacturers particularly hard, including the semiconductor manufacturers that Manchin and the Senate just went out of their way to subsidize. Again, which is it -- do those companies deserve to be subsidized more, or taxed more?

Manchin implausibly denies the tax increase is a tax increase. He calls it closing a loophole, a classic Beltway euphemism for a tax hike.

Also, he further denies that the bill increases taxes on those making less than \$200,000 a year, despite the Joint Committee on Taxation finding exactly that. The committee estimates that people making between \$50,000 and \$75,000 would see a .8% increase next year.

Then there's the issue that the additional corporate tax is a disincentive to business investment when more of it is desperately needed. Inflation results from demand outstripping supply, so it is imperative that government get out of the way of business creating more supply.

Finally, Manchin said in 2010, "I don't think, during the time of recession, you mess with any of the taxes or increase any taxes." He has apparently suspended that rule until further notice.

At the end of the day, all of this is a counterproductive waste, but it could have been much worse. The bill isn't going to remake Biden's foundering presidency, but it will make Democratic activists feel a little better -- Joe Manchin's contribution to the republic.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

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Donna's Day

Creative family fun

by Donna Erickson

Watermelon, Family-Style

It has been a watermelon summer! The luscious, juicy treat has made a regular appearance in our soups, salads, grilled sides, as well as sliced up on large platters for the perfect al fresco big-crowd dessert.

Summer days are going by too quickly, so grab a fresh melon today and let it quench your thirst, satisfy your sweet tooth and provide lots of "good-for-you" vitamins, like A, B-6 and C.

Here are some creative ideas for serving local watermelon during this peak season:

WATERMELON CHECKERBOARD SALAD

(For 2 servings)

- 10 chunks of ripe watermelon and 8 chunks of ripe honeydew melon cut into 3/4-inch cubes
- 1/4 cup feta cheese
- 2 fresh mint leaves chopped
- 2 basil leaves chopped (optional)
- Olive oil and white balsamic vinegar, or your favorite vinaigrette dressing

Let kids arrange the cubes in a checkerboard pattern on salad plates. Sprinkle feta, mint and basil on top. Dress with a drizzle of olive oil and white balsamic or a vinaigrette dressing. A pinch of sea salt tastes good, too.

VETERANS POST

by Freddy Groves

Could it be PTSD?

Do you ever wonder if you possibly have PTSD? The Department of Veterans Affairs has created a very short PTSD screening webpage designed to see whether any symptoms you have could be related to post-traumatic stress disorder.

The screening test consists of five short questions. At the end you'll click to submit and get your score.

It's worth doing the screening if you have any doubts or concerns after going through a traumatic or life-threatening event. PTSD can arrive either immediately after an event or later, or even come and go. It can affect anyone of any age. There's no set pattern, but there are certain symptoms, and that's where this short screening comes into play.

Go online to www.ptsd.va.gov/screen and click to "Start Screen." No, you don't need to give any personal information or even sign in.

When you get to the end of the questions, click on "Next Steps" and see the information that's offered, includ-

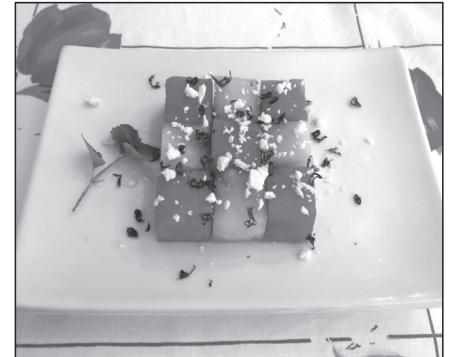
Alternate idea: Replace two honeydew cubes with cube-shaped avocado.

WATERMELON ICE CUBES

Cut three cups of watermelon flesh into chunks. Remove seeds and liquefy in a blender. Pour into ice-cube trays and freeze. For a satisfying cool-down beverage on a hot afternoon, fill a tall glass with the watermelon ice cubes and orange or grapefruit juice. Garnish with a whole strawberry or a thick triangular slice of watermelon with the pointed end slid onto the rim of the glass.

WATERMELON FRUIT KEBABS

When serving grilled chicken or beef kebabs, keep the food-on-a-stick theme and let one of your school-age



A delicious watermelon checkerboard salad on a summer day.

kids skewer chunks of watermelon, cantaloupe, pineapple and kiwi on short wooden skewers. Strawberries look especially appealing on either end of the stick. Enjoy the fruit dipped in small dishes of fruit-flavored yogurt.

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

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ing the phone number for immediate help: 800-273-8255. Press 1 if you're a veteran. Or you can text 838255.

The instructions suggest you take a screenshot or print the score page to take with you to a health-care provider. Probably not a bad idea, because it gives your provider a place to begin.

For more information about PTSD, go to www.ptsd.va.gov/understand/what/ptsd_basics.asp. Scroll down to the three information blocks and explore what they offer. "Understanding PTSD and PTSD Treatment" (PDF) is a 16-page guide to PTSD basics and is a good place to get a handle on it.

Remember that this screening isn't a true diagnosis. Only a real provider can diagnose PTSD, but this can give you a start in the right direction if you have concerns. Remember, too, that there are quite a few different treatments for PTSD, and the sooner you begin, the sooner you'll feel better.

You're not alone.

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A King's Ransom: Chapter 12



Carol Hall
Author

The tree trunk was just deep enough for Bronwyn to fit in if she pulled her knees up to her chest. The earthy smell of the rotting wood permeated the space. Without the benefit of the moonlight, the interior of the tree was dark and gloomy.

Bronwyn's ears pounded to the rhythm of her own heartbeat. The whooshing sound seemed overly loud, blocking out any other noise she might have heard. "Are they gone?" she asked Nicodemus.

"I think they've ridden off," he whispered. "I don't hear them anymore."

Bronwyn strained to listen, but couldn't hear anything. "Should we poke our heads out and see?"

"You first," Nicodemus said, moving back a little further on her shoulder.

Bronwyn leaned forward and stuck her head out of the hole. Swiftly glancing around, she pulled it back in and let out the breath she'd been holding. "I didn't see anyone," she said, breathing a sigh of relief.

"I don't hear the horses clomping through the woods anymore," Nicodemus said. "I think they're gone."

"What do we do now?" Bronwyn asked. "If we leave the safety of this tree, we could get caught. But we can't stay in here forever either."

"I don't know," Nicodemus said. "I've never been outside of the castle. You have. If you don't know what to do, we're in trouble."

"We need to make a run for it," Bronwyn said. "Deeper into the woods. As far away from the castle as we can get."

"I'm scared, Bronwyn," Nicodemus said, his voice shaky. "What if we run right into them?"

"You're right. Maybe we should wait awhile longer before we leave," Bronwyn said, changing her mind about running. "Give them time to get far away from here."

"Agreed," Nicodemus said.

Bronwyn heaved a deep sigh and leaned back against the wall of the tree. Closing her eyes, she realized how tired she was getting. "I think I'll take a little nap," she told Nicodemus.

"Ok," he said, seeming a little distracted.

"What are you going to do?" she asked him.

"Ohhh, I don't know," he said, hedging her question.

Paying him no mind, she wriggled around until she got somewhat comfortable and nodded off.

Having no idea how long she had been dozing, she woke to Nicodemus speaking under his breath. She turned her head to see who he was talking to.

"Dear God," she heard him say. "Thank you for this scrumptious meal you have provided."

"Nicodemus?" she asked, interrupting him. "What are you doing?"

"Uh...nothing," he said.

"I heard you praying," Bronwyn said.

"Well, it's rude not to give thanks for your food," he said.

"What food?" Bronwyn asked, suspiciously.

"I don't want to say," Nicodemus said. "You'll just freak out if I tell you."

Bronwyn hauled herself up to a full seated position and looked over at him sitting on her shoulder. He had his back to her and was rapidly moving his front legs up and down, his butt tucked tightly under his body.

"Nicodemus...", she said, a warning tone in her voice. "What have you got there? What are you playing with?"

"Don't be mad," he said.

Her stomach knotted up. She had a very sneaking suspicion of what he was doing and the thought revolted her. "I'll try," she choked out.

"A moth," he said. "It was on the wall when we came in. I spun a small web and caught it."

"Are you eating it?" she asked, disgusted.

"Yes," he said, defensively. "Do you know how long it's been since I've had fresh meat?"

"You're eating it on my shoulder?" she asked, angrily. "Ewww, get it off me!"

She raised her hand to wipe him off her shoulder, but he grabbed his cocooned meal and jumped onto the wall behind her.

"It's wrapped up," he explained. "It won't hurt you. It's dead."

"I don't want you eating bugs on me!" she nearly shouted at him.

"Ok, I'm sorry," he grumbled. "There isn't much room in here. I didn't have anywhere else to eat."

"Do I look like a dinner plate to you?" she asked, still disgusted with him.

A crunching, slurping sound came from where he was perched on the wall. "Oh no," she said, feeling the urge to retch. "I can't sit here and listen to you eating that."

"I'm almost done," Nicodemus said, his words a little slurred due to his mouth being full.

"I'm going outside," Bronwyn said, her stomach tightening.

Nicodemus mumbled something, but Bronwyn couldn't understand him. She

made a hasty retreat from the tree, stepping out into the gray light of an early dawn.

She cautiously scanned the surrounding area to make sure no soldiers were around.

Feeling assured that they were alone, she ducked her head back into the tree. "Are you done yet?" she asked, impatiently.

"Just finishing up," Nicodemus said. "I didn't want to waste any of it."

"Ugh," Bronwyn said. "I don't know how you eat that."

"I'm a spider," he said. "We love bugs."

"Hurry up," she said. "No one's around. We need to get moving before they come back."

Nicodemus came pitter-pattering out of the tree trunk looking very pleased with himself. "I feel much better now," he said, doing a jiggy dance where he stood. "I was soooo hungry."

"I'm so happy for you," Bronwyn said in a flat voice.

"Oh, I'm sorry Bronwyn," he said. "I'm over here all full and happy, but you haven't eaten a single thing since yesterday morning."

"Night before last actually," she said. "I didn't get to eat the oatmeal yesterday morning, remember?"

"We need to find you some food today," he said, with determination.

Bronwyn started to say something when she noticed Nicodemus become very still.

"Nicodemus?" she asked, concerned. "What's wrong?"

"So this is what the outside world looks like," he said in awe. "It's...it's so beautiful."

"You're just now noticing?" she asked. "You've been out of the castle for several hours now."

"It was dark," he said. "I couldn't see much. But now..."

"Come here," she said. "Get on my shoulder. You'll be able to see so much more from up here."

Bending down, she stretched out her arm for him to climb.

He scampered up her arm. Upon reaching her shoulder, he wriggled himself around in a complete circle, taking in the surrounding sights.

"God be praised!" he said in amazement. "It's the most beautiful thing I've ever seen."

"It is pretty awesome, isn't it?" Bronwyn said, smiling at him.

"I want to touch everything," he said. "I want to know what everything feels like. What it all smells like. How it all tastes."

"You will," Bronwyn said, running a finger down his back affectionately. "But right now, we have to get moving. We don't want to get caught."

"Where are we going to go?" Nicodemus asked, still spinning slowly on her shoulder, looking around.

"We'll just start walking," Bronwyn said. "Sooner or later, we have to come to a village, or something."

"Why go to a village?" Nicodemus asked, stopping his perusal of the area and hunkering down on her shoulder.

"I need food," she said. "Maybe someone at the village could help us out, too."

"Let's go!" he said, pointing ahead with one of his front legs.

Bronwyn looked around them. The castle was off to the left of where she stood. She definitely didn't want to go that way.

Straight ahead was the direction the soldiers had taken off in. No way was she going that way either. They would eventually run into the king's men returning to the castle if they did.

Off to the right, the forest grew deeper and denser. No horse would be able to traverse through the thick foliage. It would be the safest way to go.

With her mind made up, she turned to the right and headed off into the gnarled undergrowth of the forest.

Thorns and stickers pulled at her skirt as she struggled to move forward. The twisted vines and branches of the low growing bushes hindered any real progress.

"We're going to get caught for sure at this pace," Nicodemus complained. "We need to go faster."

"I'm trying," Bronwyn said. "But these bushes and thorns are hard to move through. They keep snagging my clothes."

"Well, do something," Nicodemus said.

"What would you suggest I do?" Bronwyn asked, agitated. "Remove my clothing to keep it from getting snagged?"

"If that helps," Nicodemus said.

"I'm not taking off my clothes," she said, between clenched teeth. "Then my skin would be pricked and scratched. That wouldn't help at all."



Davis Funeral Home's Veteran of the Week

United States Army veteran Sergeant First Class (Highest rank held: Master Sergeant) Jose Rodela fought and served in the Vietnam War while assigned to Detachment B-36, Company A, 5TH Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1ST Special Forces.

On September 1, 1969 his courage under fire was put to the test and SFC Rodela rose above beyond the call of duty. On March 18, 2014 he was presented with the Medal of Honor at the White House by President Barack Obama for his heroic actions in combat.

His Medal of Honor citation reads: Sergeant First Class Jose Rodela distinguished himself by acts of gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty while serving as the company commander, Detachment B-36, Company A, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces during combat operations against an armed enemy in Phuoc Long Province, Republic of Vietnam on September 1, 1969. That afternoon, Sergeant First Class Rodela's battalion came under an intense barrage of mortar,



rocket, and machine gun fire. Ignoring the withering enemy fire, Sergeant First Class Rodela immediately began placing his men into defensive positions to prevent the enemy from overrunning the entire battalion. Repeatedly exposing himself to enemy fire, Sergeant First Class Rodela moved from position to position, providing suppressing fire and assisting wounded, and was himself wounded in the back and head by a B-40 rocket while recovering a wounded comrade. Alone, Sergeant First Class Rodela assaulted and knocked out the B-40 rocket position before successfully returning to the battalion's perimeter. Sergeant First Class Rodela's extraordinary heroism and selflessness above and beyond the call of duty are in keeping with the highest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself,

his unit and the United States Army.

Law Enforcement Officer of the Week



Retired K-9 Boris of the Sevierville Police Department died on Friday, August 5, 2022 from an unexpected medical problem, according to Sevierville Police Department officials.

K-9 Boris started with the department in July of 2015 and retired in December of 2020. He was a tracker, helping find people and fugitives for the SPD.

"In his time with SPD, K-9 Boris was assigned to Sgt. Justin Armstrong," officials said. "K-9 Boris was a key member of our Canine Unit and known for his excellent tracking skills and his ability to always put a smile on the faces of members of the department as well as the community."



On Monday, August 1, 2022, Sergeant Matthew Fishman and two other deputies of the Wayne County Sheriff's Office, North Carolina were shot while serving involuntary compliance papers to a subject that fired shots at the three deputies as they arrived at his home about 10:30 am. The man barricaded himself inside the house until a SWAT team entered at 8:00 pm and found him dead from a self-inflicted gunshot wound.

Sergeant Fishman was transported to ECU Medical Center where he succumbed to his wounds the next day. The two other deputies were transported to ECU Medical Center and Wayne UNC Hospital in stable condition.

Sergeant Fishman had served with the Wayne County Sheriff's Office for twelve years and had previously served with the Mount Olive Police Department. He is survived by his wife, two children, and father.

NOW HERE'S A TIP

By JoAnn Derson

-
- * You can whiten chopping boards with lemon juice. Just use the cut side of a lemon to scrub the board, let it sit for up to 10 minutes, and rinse clean.
- * If you are stuffing pillows or a child's toy with foam rubber chips, rub a bit of fabric softener over your hands first. The tiny pieces won't get stuck to your hands with static, and it will smell nice to boot!
- * Here's a fun activity for the kids: Let them "paint" cookies. Using clean craft brushes or watercolor brushes, the kids can use food coloring to paint designs on cookies. They can even paint the dough before it's been cooked and see how the design spreads and settles.
- * "We made our own umbrella stand by taking the bottoms off of two large coffee cans, and then stacking

STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- * In 2008, Nestle played an April Fool's joke on Butterfinger fans by announcing that the candy bar's name had been changed to "The Finger." The company even distributed 200,000 bars with "The Finger" wrapper to 7-Eleven stores.
- * Modern body armor was created by pizza delivery man and former Marine Richard Davis, who was wounded after a delivery turned into a shootout.
- * Japanese honeybees destroy hornets by enclosing them in a ball of bees then vibrating their flight muscles so fast that carbon dioxide levels increase and the ball's temperature rises enough to kill the hornet.
- * Mastercard's global headquarters is located on Purchase Street in Purchase, New York.
- * Talk about a novel way to make a statement! Teenage art student Demi Barnes created a wedding dress made of 1,500 divorce papers to heighten awareness of rushing into matrimony only to end up in divorce court.
- * The "Emergency Bra" can be unhooked and split into two face masks that filter out harmful chemicals.
- * Nail polish remover will outlive us all! It has no expiration.
- * Recycling one ton of paper will save 3.3 cubic yards of landfill space, 17 mature trees, 682.5 gallons of oil and 7,000

gallons of water. them on top of a third can with only the top removed. We taped the cans together and covered the whole thing with leftover wallpaper, which we sealed where it overlapped." -- I.D. in Ohio

* If you have stubborn shellac on your paintbrush, try dissolving it by soaking in alcohol. Make sure you do this in a ventilated area.

* Need a funnel quickly? Double a sheet of aluminum foil and roll into a funnel shape. It works!

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

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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 Mimics
- 5 Satchel
- 8 Blue hue
- 12 Tibetan monk
- 13 Crew tool
- 14 Galoots
- 15 Spring flower
- 17 Marathon fraction
- 18 Vagrant
- 19 Nearsighted
- 21 Pie-in-the-face sound
- 24 Blueprint
- 25 San — Obispo, CA
- 26 Lose weight
- 30 Web address
- 31 April forecasts
- 32 Pi follower
- 33 Pained expressions
- 35 Egyptian deity
- 36 911 responders
- 37 Garden statuette
- 38 Shrimp recipe
- 41 Gloomy guy
- 42 Horseback game
- 43 Record holder?
- 48 Sharif of "Funny Girl"
- 49 Melody
- 50 Long tale
- 51 Theater award

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

DOWN

- 1 Jungfrau, for one
- 2 Standard
- 3 Brit. record label
- 4 Brazilian dances
- 5 Prosperous period
- 6 Small batteries
- 7 Glitch makers
- 8 Candy bar nut
- 9 Witticism
- 10 Wrinkled fruit
- 11 In — (shortly)
- 16 Trench
- 20 Orange veggies
- 21 Punch
- 22 Kitten's sound
- 23 Leslie Caron film
- 24 Snoops
- 26 Strategic
- 27 Guesser's words
- 28 Caprice
- 29 Proboscis
- 31 Wheelchair access
- 34 "Cats" show-stopper
- 35 Demand
- 37 Wrigley product
- 38 Espy
- 39 Lake of Lombardy
- 40 Arkin or Alda
- 41 Lass
- 44 2016 Olympics city
- 45 "Unh-unh"
- 46 Census stat
- 47 Non-clerical

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gallons of water.

* In a now-banned practice called "boosting," wheelchair athletes with spinal injuries would intentionally harm the lower parts of their bodies to increase their blood pressure, thereby enhancing their performance.

* A study conducted at the University of Pavia in Italy showed that music promotes a healthy cardiovascular system by triggering physiological changes that modulate blood pressure, heart rate and respiratory functions.

Thought for the Day: "I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be true. I am not bound to succeed, but I am bound to live up to what light I have." -- Abraham Lincoln

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By: rj johnson

DOUBT? ...OR DARE!

- ASY
- HARIOM
- ♥ LEBAM
- ♥ EYDN
- SOAZYI
- EBE
- ♥ LOSI
- TYZSE
- MAH
- ♥ DRUSEN
- DYONS
- ZUZB

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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.

BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Barnabas in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. Psalms 2:4, 37:13 and 59:8 are the only verses that mention God doing what? *Mourning, Dancing, Laughing, Fishing*
3. Shechem, Hananeel, Babel and Siloam are perhaps best described as? *Temples, Towers, Wells, Harlots*
4. From 2 Corinthians 7:10, what does the sorrow of the world produce? *Salvation, Truth, Anger, Death*
5. Which prophet had a son named Shearjashub? *Isaiah, Elijah, Nathan, Ahijah*
6. What moved Noah to prepare the ark? *Repentance, Godly fear, Stubbornness, An Angel*

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Laughing, 3) Towers, 4) Death, 5) Isaiah, 6) Godly fear

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

Peach-Strawberry Pudding

I don't know which is best: strawberries or peaches — so I used them both in this ultra-easy (and delightful) dessert.

- 1 (4-serving) package sugar-free strawberry gelatin
- 1½ cups boiling water
- ¾ cup plain fat-free yogurt
- 1 cup peeled and chopped fresh peaches
- 1 cup chopped fresh strawberries

In a medium bowl, combine dry gelatin and boiling water. Add yogurt. Mix well using a wire whisk. Fold in peaches and strawberries. Evenly pour mixture into 4 dessert dishes. Refrigerate until set, about 2 hours. Makes 4 servings.

• Each serving equals: 56 calories, 0g fat, 3g protein, 11g carb., 40mg sodium, 2g fiber; Diabetic Exchanges: 1 Fruit.

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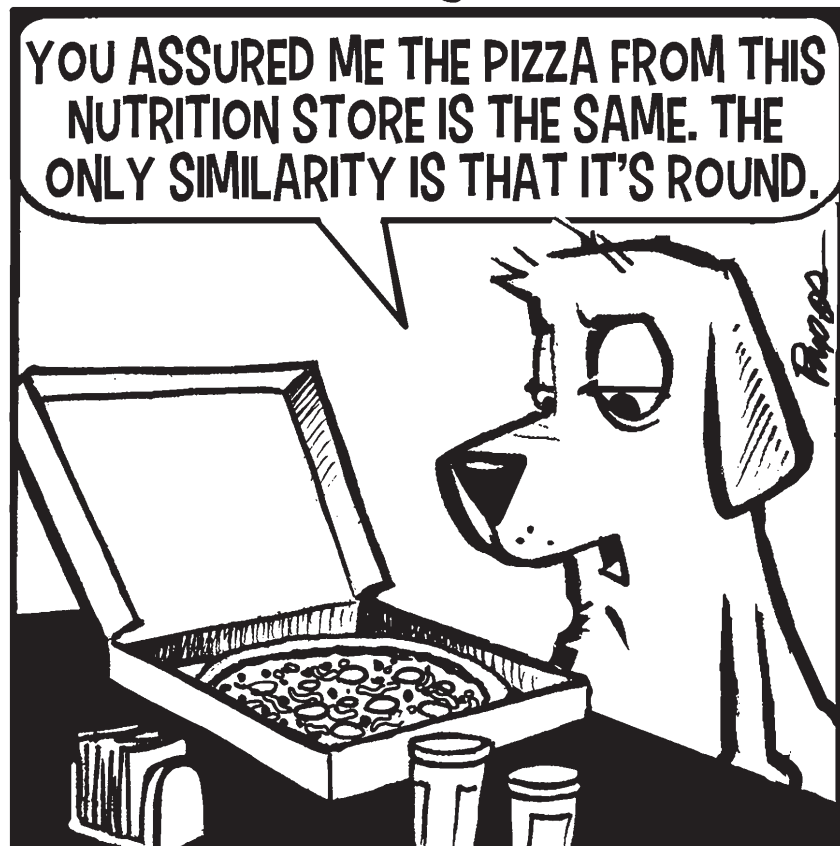
AN ALUMNUS OF THE JOE KUBERT SCHOOL OF CARTOON AND GRAPHIC ART, BRIAN BILTER'S HAND CAN BE SEEN IN A NUMBER OF FLASH GORDON STRIPS OVER THE YEARS.

RECOGNIZED FOR HIS OUTSTANDING WORK IN THE GRAPHIC ART FIELD, HIS INFLUENCES INCLUDE HAL FOSTER, ALEX RAYMOND AND BRIAN BOLLAND.



Just Like Cats & Dogs

by Dave T. Phipps



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2022-2023 SEASON OF LEADERSHIP MORGAN WILL BE OPEN FOR APPLICANTS BEGINNING ON THIS FRIDAY, JULY 29, 2022

Morgan County, TN, July 22, 2022 - The Morgan County Chamber of Commerce is very pleased to announce that we are open for 2022-2023 Leadership Morgan Applicants. Our goal is to raise up the visionaries, community minded leaders, potential leaders, and business minded individuals in Morgan County.

Leadership Morgan is a program that seeks to develop leaders who will have a positive impact on the growth and development of Morgan County. This program will provide networking opportunities for community leaders, facilitate the interchange of ideas and familiarity with various local issues of the county and how they relate to economic and community development, and will encourage positive steps toward resolving county issues.

We invite and encourage all businesses in Morgan County to consider who this is within your workplace, encourage their application, and consider sponsoring their attendance for a once a month class session beginning in mid-October 2022 and graduating in May 2023. Class will be held from 8am to 4pm on the second Wednesday of each month. Tuition for the season is \$250 per participant. This fee will help our sponsors pay for all classes, meals, class supplies, necessary transportation between business presentations, certificates, and a class overnight trip for a day in session at the TN State Capital. Scholarships may be available through our area sponsors.

Morgan County resident, are you a candidate? Is someone you know a candidate? Application deadline is Friday, Sept. 30th. Space may be limited, so let us know just as soon as you decide!

CONTACT FOR APPLICATIONS:

Bridget DeFee

423.346.5740

chamber@morgancountytn.org

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- **Vomiting & diarrhea**
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- **Sprains & Strains**
- **Broke Bone (minor)**
- **Cuts needing stitches**
- **Burns/Animal bites**
- **DOT Physicals**

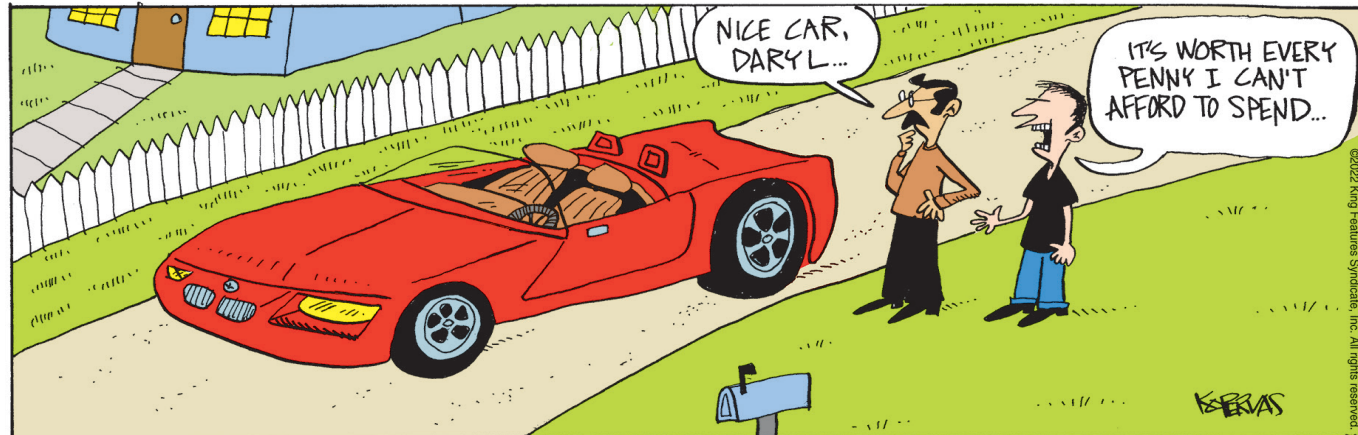
Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



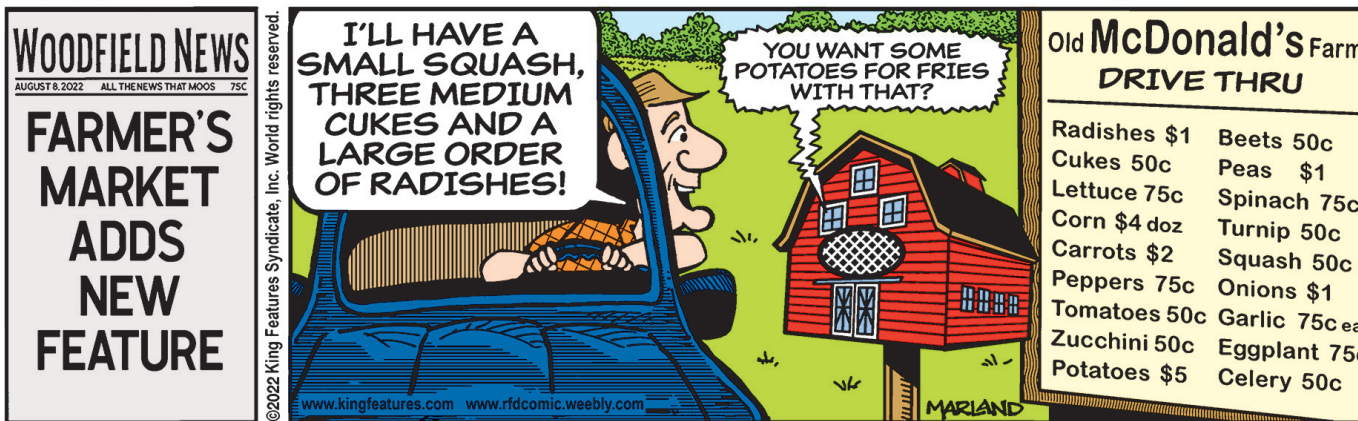
Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



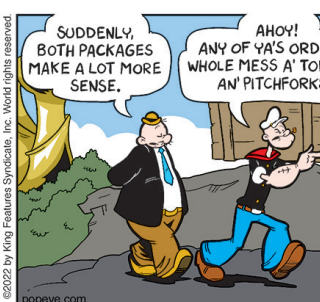
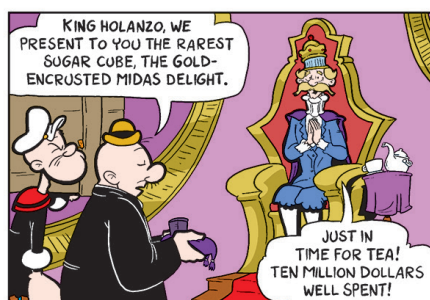
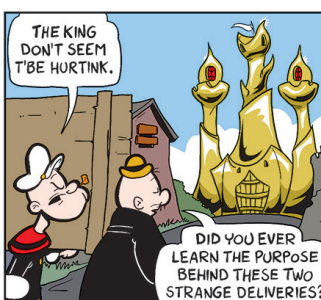
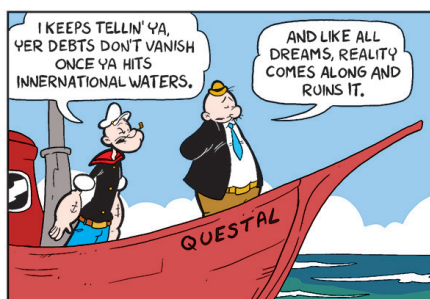
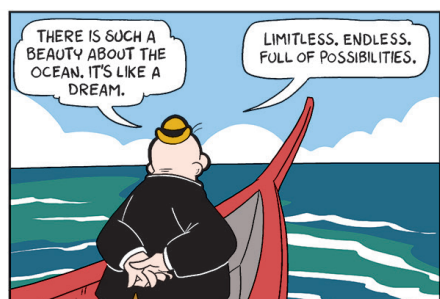
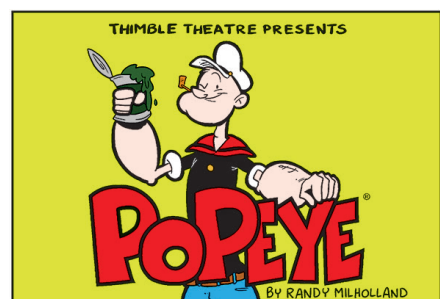
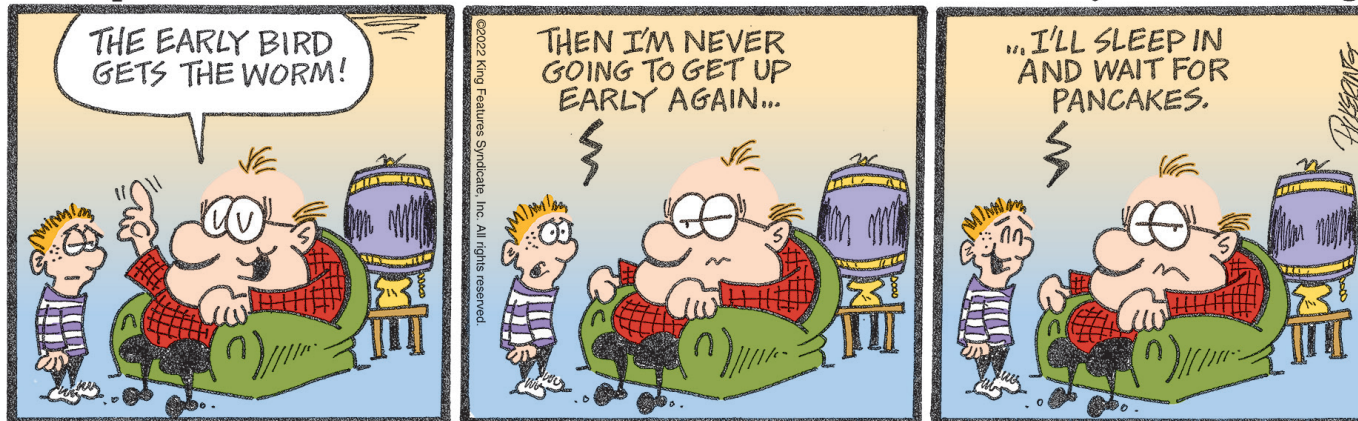
R.F.D.

by Mike Marland



The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



MOMENTS IN TIME

The History Channel

* On Aug. 24, 1814, during the War of 1812 between the United States and England, British troops enter Washington, D.C., and burn the White House in retaliation for the American attack on the city of York in Ontario, Canada, in June 1813. When the British arrived at the White House, they found that President James Madison and his first lady Dolley had already fled to safety in Maryland.

* On Aug. 22, 1851, the U.S.-built schooner America bests a fleet of Britain's finest ships in a race around England's Isle of Wight. In the 53-mile race, the America trounced the competition, beating the cutter Aurora by 22 minutes.

* On Aug. 27, 1908, future President Lyndon B. Johnson is born on a farm near Stonewall, Texas. As president, Johnson pushed through the creation of Medicare/Medicaid, Head Start, the Voting Rights Act, the Civil Rights Act and the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

* On Aug. 25, 1939, "The Wizard of Oz," which will become one of the best-loved movies in history, opens in theaters. Though the scenes in Kansas were shot in traditional black and white, Oz appears in vivid Technicolor, a relatively new film process at the time.

* On Aug. 23, 1947, the first Little League World Series championship game -- the culmination of a three-day tournament in Williamsport, Pennsylvania -- features teams from Pennsylvania. Maynard, a team from Williamsport, defeated Lock Haven, 16-7, to win the title at Original Field. Although it was called the World Series, 11 of the 12 teams in the tournament were from Pennsylvania.

* On Aug. 26, 1959, the British Motor Corporation (BMC) launches its newest car, the small and affordable -- at a price tag of less than \$800 -- Mark I Mini. At only 10 feet long, the Mini could sit four adults and had a trunk big enough for luggage.

* On Aug. 28, 1972, the U.S. Air Force gets its first ace designation since the Korean War when Capt. Richard S. Ritchie and his "backseater" (radar intercept officer), Captain Charles B. DeBellevue, shoot down his fifth MiG near Hanoi.

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Historically Speaking

General Groves: A “Bully” with Considerable Influence

By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

Thanks to Carolyn Krause for yet another excellent article drawing on Oak Ridge Oral Histories. This time she brings us insights into General Leslie R. Groves, the person placed in charge of the Manhattan Project, using quotes from pioneering scientist Chris Keim’s oral history, comments made by Oak Ridge City Historian, Bill Wilcox and refers to Alvin Weinberg’s book, *The First Nuclear Era*, to bring us a variety of impressions of General Groves.

Enjoy a fresh look at the leader of the nation’s efforts that ended World War II by reading what follows written by Carolyn Krause.

Seventy years ago in the Oak Ridge area, some 3,000 people, including 1,000 families, were forced to abandon their homes and farms. On Sept. 19, 1942, during his first visit to Black Oak Ridge, Brigadier General Leslie R. Groves approved the purchase by the federal government of a 59,000-acre tract. He ordered U.S. Army engineers to condemn every farm on the land, displacing all the residents. It was a land grab, a government takeover.

According to the “Expedient Evictions” section of Dick Smyser’s book *Oak Ridge 1942-1992: A Commemorative Portrait*, the residents were told that they “must pack up their families’ belongings, livestock, and farm equipment and leave quickly, given no hint of the reason for their ousting. Many of these families were bitter. Their bitterness was intensified by the difficulty they encountered finding new homes and the paltry sums [\$50 an acre] they were paid by the government for their property.”

From 1942 through 1945, some 100,000 people led by General Groves transformed the nation’s defense capabilities, as well as three landscapes in Tennessee, New Mexico, and Washington.

As officer in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Groves oversaw the construction of the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., and directed the Manhattan Project, which developed the atomic bomb during World War II. The nuclear fuel for the war-ending uranium and plutonium bombs came from the two newly built “secret cities” of Oak Ridge and Hanford, WA. The scientists and engineers in the third secret city—Los Alamos, N.M.—were responsible for the design and construction of the atomic bombs that were later exploded over Japan.

The son of a Presbyterian chaplain in the U.S. Army, Groves graduated fourth in his class at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. He gained a reputation “as a doer, a driver, and stickler for duty.”

In his 2010 book “The Last Reunion” Oak Ridge High School graduate and noted sportswriter Jay Searcy called General Groves a bully. “Although he was never an Oak Ridger, General Leslie Groves, director of the Manhattan Project, spent

much of his time in the city, commuting from Washington on the train with his secretary and a briefcase stuffed with paperwork.”

Searcy goes on to say, “He slept at the Guest House [later called the Alexander Inn], the Elza House and, on occasion, some said, in the maternity ward of the Oak Ridge Hospital with a guard posted at the door. He made it a point to hide from the public and dash from place to place in an unmarked staff car driven by Elmer Brummitt, whose family had 40 acres of farmland in Lupton



General Leslie R. Groves shown at Y-12 with Alpha 1 and Alpha 2 buildings in the background - does anyone know the men with Groves? Ed Westcott reports that Robert P. Patterson, Secretary of War is standing to Groves’ right and Tennessee Governor Jim Nance McCord is on his left. This photograph was made in after September 21, 1945, as that is when Secretary of War Henry Stimson resigned and Patterson was appointed as his successor. (Photo Submitted)



General Groves plans his next action on a map - Ed Westcott tells that when taking this photo General Groves decided to look at a spot on the map other than what Ed suggested... where do you think he is looking? (Photo Submitted)

[Emory] Valley before the government took it over.”

Searcy quoted one critic of Groves, who called him “a conceited, impatient, rude, ruthless, impetuous, intimidating, know-it-all egomaniac.” According to Searcy, Lieutenant Colonel Kenneth Nichols, in charge of the Oak Ridge operation under Groves, said after the war that “Groves was the biggest son of a bitch I ever met in my life but also one of the most capable individuals. He had an ego second to none. He had tireless energy and absolute confidence in his decisions.

“I hated his guts and so did everybody else but he had a form of understanding. President Franklin D. Roosevelt thought his credentials were just right. He promised him a promotion to Brigadier General, appointed him director of the Manhattan Project, and made it the top priority of the war. Groves would have to handle scores of brilliant scientists, many of whom were equally egotistical and arrogant. Roosevelt needed a bully.”

In an Oak Ridge National Laboratory oral history

interview, the late Chris Keim was asked about his encounters with Groves. Keim replied, “When we were operating the pilot plant during the uranium days, General Groves would sometimes ask us what we were doing. We’d show him our logbook.”

“And, he would say, ‘I have to make a decision by 8:00 tomorrow morning whether to use the new equipment that you are working on or use the equipment that is established in the calutron buildings—the isotope production buildings.’

And, he would ask for our opinion. ‘If we were making a decision, we would stay with the old equipment,’ we said. He made that decision the next morning. And he gave us credit for helping him make the decision.”

City Historian Bill Wilcox said that Groves introduced the concept of “compartmentalization” to ensure secrecy in the Manhattan Project. The U.S. government did not want the Germans and Japanese to know about the American atomic bomb work. Compartmentalization, said Wilcox, “was a new idea that’s been used ever since by different kinds of intelligence services.”

When residents drove out of Oak Ridge during the 1940s, they would read billboard messages such as “What you have seen here, what you did here, when you leave here, let it stay here.” “People were told only what they needed to know to do the job,” Wilcox said. “And the hundreds of young people that came were told just the least amount.”

As director of the Manhattan Project, Groves’ accomplishments were considerable. According to Wikipedia, “He directed the enormous construction effort, made critical decisions on the various methods of isotope separation, acquired raw materials, directed the collection of military intelligence on the German nuclear energy project, and helped select the cities in Japan that were chosen as targets.”

In fact, according to the 1994 book “The First Nuclear Era” by the late Alvin Weinberg, director of Oak Ridge National Laboratory from 1955 to 1973, Groves himself picked Aug. 9, 1945, as the date for the detonation of the second, war-ending atomic bomb over Nagasaki, Japan.

On that day 74,000 lives were lost and 74,000 people were injured in Nagasaki. Many more Japanese were displaced from their homes, just like the residents of Black Oak Ridge almost three years earlier. But World War II ended soon thereafter, avoiding a land invasion of Japan, and saving the lives of millions of Americans and Japanese.

There you have Carolyn’s perspective of General Groves using comments by people who knew him or knew of his Manhattan Project. I am convinced that without General Groves and his drive, intensity and dedication to success, the Manhattan Project as we know it might well have never existed. Like the ultimate praise for his leadership provided by Major General Kenneth D. Nichols (Colonel at the time of the Manhattan Project), I believe General Groves was an example of the right person for the job!



The War is Over and the Men are Home

It was the middle of October 1945 and a group of World War II veterans were gathered behind my

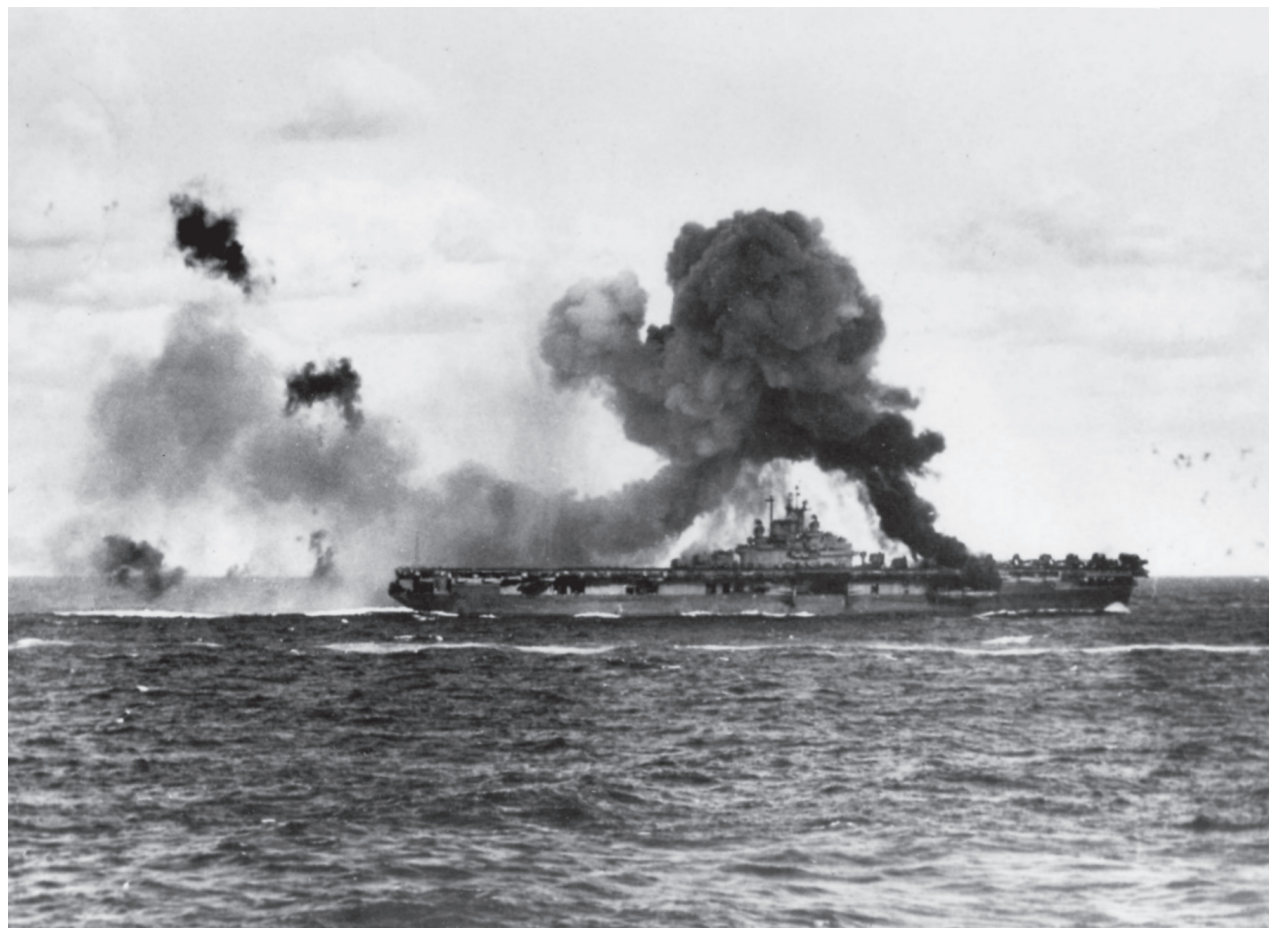
uncle's house telling stories about their part in the war. Some of them just got home a few days prior and a couple of young boys sat there in awe as they listened to their stories. They looked upon all these men as heroes, and they didn't question them about their stories. One of the men looked up toward Wiley Armes Mountain and smiled as he explained, "I thought at one or more times I'd never see those beautiful mountains again." The other veterans looked at the beautiful colored leaves and made different statements about being home.

Some of the men had been in the navy and had seen a lot of action in the South Pacific. Roy Redmon told his story about being assigned to the cruiser, the U.S.S. Houston, but because of the need for other ranks his billet was changed to another ship. It almost brought tears to his eyes when he told the rest of the story. He said, "that poor sailor who took my place went down with the ship. I'm alive today because of a lucky draw. I'll never be able to get this out of my mind." Then Roy pulled out a cruise book on the aircraft carrier that he was assigned to. A fighter plane had landed on the deck on fire and the firemen were fighting the flames as other sailors were getting the pilot out. Hoses were stretched everywhere on the deck of the carrier. It didn't look good at all. Roy said I wasn't safe but at least they didn't sink our ship.

Willie Redmon had seen a lot of action on the U.S.S. Intrepid, but he was reluctant to talk about the kamikaze attacks at first but later he did say a few things. He talked about the terrible typhoon they got into when they sailed back to Hawaii from the South Pacific. He said it was even worse than the kamikaze attacks. I saw small ships come up with the swells then go down and disappear. I was really proud to be on a large aircraft carrier. I think we lost over 700 men in that storm. He said we got hit by the kamikazes five times and I can't tell

you how many men we lost. Willie was my hero.

Ralph Redmon was in the army and most of the time he was stationed in India and Burma. Any part of World War II was rugged but I was always interested in the navy while in the South Pacific and the marines on the many islands of the Pacific. The army in Europe was always of interest to me because we had to defeat Hitler's Germany first. He was a greater threat than Japan was. If not for the allied soldiers, airmen, and sailors we could be



U.S.S. Intrepid (CV-11) burning April 1945(Photo Submitted)

speaking German today.

Russell Lamance served in the army in Europe and was injured pretty bad. After he came home from the war he always walked with a limp and had shrapnel coming out of his body for years. V-E Day was celebrated in August 1945 which meant WWII was over. The US had lost over 400,000 good men and many more suffered from wounds; some would never heal.

It took two atomic bombs to bring the Japanese to the table to surrender. Dropping those two bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki to some seemed unnecessary because Japan was defeated, but some warring factions in Tokyo wanted to fight to the last man. The United States estimated it would lose from 150,000 to 300,000 men if the mainland had to be invaded.

I personally believed we did the right thing. We had been in war on the fronts since December 7, 1941 and Europe was completely destroyed and so was most of Japan. War is hell and there had been too much killing.

The Marshall Plea would help the European countries build back some of their country and General Douglas MacArthur would be assigned to the occupation of Japan for five years and if you happened to be in Japan twenty years after the war was over (1965) you would have been surprised to see a country recovered from the war.

Wartburg veterans had a little celebration on the court house square in October 1945. I walked up there with a couple of my siblings and I was surprised

that there were not a lot of people there. The veterans had set up games to play and prizes to be won. I was only nine years old but I remember it like it happened yesterday. I talked to most of the veterans and thanked them for their service. As I look back on that day now, I wonder why everyone didn't feel the way I did about our service men. Like our police that we need for protection we need our army, navy, and air force along with the ma-

rines.

NOTICE: This story took place 77 years ago when I was a nine-year-old boy. My memory is good but I must tell you that this is the way I heard the stories, and all the facts might not be the total truth. I was in awe of these men I considered heroes. I realize that war is hell and even Morgan County lost sixty-four men, but WWII was a necessary war. Germany, Italy, and Japan could have taken over the world if it hadn't been for the United States.

We have very few WWII vets left now, and even the Korean War vets are going fast. Most of them are in their 90's. We still have many Vietnam War veterans left and we owe them a lot. Any man or woman who has served or will serve in the military deserves praise. Let them know how you appreciate their service to our country.

The Times of Jezebel



John Burns

Opinion Columnist

David was anointed by Samuel to be King of Israel at twelve years of age. He is the son of Jesse and his mother was the Queen of Ammon. Apparently, the Messianic bloodline has been attacked since Cain slew Abel.

David follows in Jessie's footsteps, and has an affair with Bathsheba. She is the wife of David's best general, Uriah the Hittite. Evidence supports that Uriah had converted from Hittite polytheism to Jewish monotheism and the worship of YHWH.

David successfully conspires to kill Uriah through the use of his soon to be rebel general, Joab. Joab has the army of Israel pull back as Uriah leads them at the toughest spot on the battlefield. That must have really hurt Uriah as he was deceived by his own leaders and then his men.

The adulterous love child of David and Bathsheba would die eight days after being born. Is that a coincidence or was God stopping the circumcision right to bring this innocent child home to glory?

David's monarchy would never see peace again. The sword will never depart from the house of David until Jesus Christ is recognized as their risen King. A time of great tribulation is on the near horizon for national Israel. The time of Jacob's trouble, follows the rapture of the bride of Christ. Meta-Tauta!

The offspring of Bathsheba is King Solomon. His mother came to Israel worshipping the gods of her ancestors. She was a moon worshipper from the house of Sheba: today we call it Arabia. The original capitol of the house of the moon god in Judea was Jericho.

Joshua had not finished what God started in Jericho. He allowed for the pagan altars in seven principal cities, to stand. These altars were ancient fertility altars dedicated to serving the fallen angels. Today, the Palestinians still control the seven principal cities, the Judges failed to subjugate, David kills the last giants in Goliaths bloodline under King Saul.

Solomon's sons are split on keeping David's united monarchy intact. Rehoboam is closer to the priest's and religion of his Mosaic ancestors, whilst Jeroboam goes North and allows for pagan occult practices to creep into the land God gave Abraham.

Solomon's kingdom is hopelessly divided between North and South until Messiah unites them under his Star of David and Menorah as his Bride, banner. The kingdom of our God will once again be amongst men! Judah has successive monarchs until taken to Babylon in 586 B.C. The Northern Kingdom will endure several dynastic families.

The bloodline of Messiah is kept intact during the Babylonian captivity. Daniel and his three friends are from the royal line of Judah. Esther saves her people from an inquisition by Israel's oldest enemy, the Amalekites.

Ezra and Nehemiah return to Jerusalem and begin to build the temple and the walls of the city as Greece and Egypt are being challenged by fledgling Rome. Soon after Rome asserts itself in Judea during the time of Messiah, Paganism from Babylon has united under one empire with incredible western expansion awaiting them.

The Religion of Jezebel was welcomed in Samaria and later Jerusalem, and it was welcomed in Rome until Constantine marries the religion of Babylon with the government in Rome. Mithras and Ishtar were united and given the Roman names Jupiter and Aphrodite.

Ahab has ascended to the throne in Israel by murder and paganism. His father reigned on the throne because his father had killed the King. Now Ahab is allowing for the practices of the original usurper to take hold in Israel.

Jeroboam allowed for sodomy amongst the pagans who were not conquered. Apparently, this perversion eventually made its way into Jewish homes also. Ahab has allowed his wife Jezebel to set up phallic symbols in Samaria and groves complete with temple prostitutes litter northern Israel. No wonder the Samaritan woman at the well had five husbands?

Ahab has allowed for the same perversions as Jeroboam when the Davidic monarchy was first divided. Israel had been dedicated to the God of creation, the religion he gave the Hebrews descended from Adam, had led to the construction of their temple in Israel.

Solomon built the temple that David had spent his life pondering over. He gathered the tradesman under Hiram of Tyre. He too worshipped the Pheonecian pantheon while building the Jewish temple to YHWH. Solomon gave us the practice of polygamy within circles of people who claim belief in the God of the Bible.

How could God possibly bring an unblemished offspring of the line of Judah with so many Pagan brides? For all intents and purposes, on the surface, it seemed as though Lucifer was succeeding in getting Israel to worship the works of their hands and the strength of their military.

These same two golden calves set up in Samaria by Jeroboam, have followed the Jews of the diaspora to America. The times of Ahab and Jezebel, look a lot like the times we are living in. Ahab and Jezebel have set up shop, and the northern dominated democratic government in America, believes they can beat God!

The war against southern Christian heritage was begun in Babel, and migrated all over the globe, now has its home in modern Pergamos, New York City. Mithras is alive and well protecting wall street and our military might is proclaimed to be second to none. What does scripture say?

Our nation was divided hopelessly after the civil war. Northern Catholics and moon worshipping Muslims, have united with the cult of Mithras masquerading as the republican and democratic party in America. They are united in stopping the gospel from being preached in America and the seeds of paganism are being watered by Ahab and Jezebel.

Is there another inquisition happening in Planned Parenthood clinics all across America? According to our Bible, Ahab and Jezebel are a symptom of all that has gone wrong in America and our judgement is on our near horizon.

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

He is alive forevermore, and he is returning for his virgin bride very soon. John Burns 5-8-2022

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

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

King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 23 mins.

A	P	E	S		B	A	G		A	Q	U	A	
L	A	M	A		O	A	R		L	U	G	S	
P	R	I	M	R	O	S	E		M	I	L	E	
				B	U	M		M	Y	O	P	I	C
S	P	L	A	T		P	L	A	N				
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T	O	N	Y		L	O	L		T	H	E	Y	

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ONEIDA/HUNTSVILLE

POSITION AVAILABLE

Administrative Support Associate

The Tennessee College of Applied Technology Oneida/Huntsville is accepting applications for a full-time Administrative Support Associate to work at the main campus in Huntsville reporting directly to the President and Vice President of the College.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Minimum of high school diploma or equivalent
- Minimum of 6 months to 1 year of work experience in an office setting
- Familiarity with standard office, student information and accounting software applications such as Microsoft Office, Banner, and QuickBooks
- Experience with multi-line telephone systems, networks, email, and internet applications
- Familiarity with educational practices, policies, and federal and state reporting requirements is desired
- Must have evidence of strong organization skills and attention to detail
- Must have strong interpersonal skills, pleasant demeanor, and professionalism with coworkers, students, and the public
- Must be able to travel for overnight work-related meetings and/or attend after hours school events as needed

Specific Duties:

- Greet and provide information to potential students, general public, and Tennessee Board of Regents personnel in person, by telephone, and electronically
- Operate multi-line phone system
- Prepare written correspondence, both internal and external to the institution
- Type grant applications, oversee/reconcile grant budget revenue and expenditures, and submit grant reports to awarding agencies
- Maintain office filing systems
- Schedule meetings, prepare supporting materials, oversee location setup, and document minutes
- Maintain office supplies inventory, submit requisitions for purchase and receipt related purchase orders in the TBR eProcurement system.
- Maintain equipment inventory lists
- Receive payments, prepare sales receipts, and maintain records of program Work-Based Learning Activity projects.
- Assist with ensuring all accrediting agency requirements are met and documented
- Some after-hours work and travel may be required.

****A criminal background check will be required for the selected applicant.**

Applications and Resumes should be submitted online at:

<https://tbr.csod.com/ux/ats/careersite/36/home/requisition/8059?c=tbr>

The Tennessee College of Applied Technology-Oneida/Huntsville does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs and activities. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Amy West, Assistant Director, 355 Scott High Drive, Huntsville, TN 37756, (423) 663-4900, awest@tcatoeida.edu .

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Morgan County Election Results for August 4, 2022

Morgan County Executive: Brian Langley 2032 to Mark Keck's 1303

Susie Kries 312
Robert Gibson 296
Mike Raiford 218

County Commission Races: Top Three get elected

Morgan County District 1
Steve Walls: 307
Terry "Bear" Jackson 286
Randy Roberts 263
George Davis 136

Morgan County District 5
Gary Kennedy 445
Melissa Bryant 263
Rick Plank 262
Jerry Zorsch 244
Mike McGrath 116

Morgan County District 2
Fred Snow: 311
DJ Carrier: 303
Vera Scarbrough: 301
Earl Headrick: 247

Morgan County District 6
Debbie Woods Lively 411
Aaron Eli Anderson 317
Janet Adkisson 275
David H. Hamby 230
A J Jay Phillips 134

Morgan County District 3
Vernon Justes 531
David Hennessee 504
Kenneth Morgan 329
Bill Shannon 313

Wartburg School Board
Jonathan Dagley 443
Michael Ledbetter 222

Morgan County District 4
Doug Vespie 423

Wartburg Mayor: Phil Vespie 101 to Doug Garrett's 65

Unopposed Races

Trustee - Cindi Jones 2883
Session Judge - Mike Davis 2827
Sheriff - Wayne Potter 2850
Circuit Court Clerk - Marla Hines 2745
County Clerk - Cheryl Collins 3003
Register of Deeds - Sandy Dalton 2906
Road Superintendent - Joe Miller 2834

Coalfield School Board - Ben Jackson 354
Sunbright School Board - 439
Oakdale Mayor - Buddy Miller 25
Wartburg alderman - Wendell Laughter 141
Wartburg alderman - Bacel Gunter 140

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Ruth Ellen Pike has applied for a permit to sell beer ON-OFF premises at the location known as:

Ruth's Market & Deli
 5018 Nashville Hwy
 Deer Lodge, TN 37726

Anyone having reason to believe that this permit should not be issued, must appear before the Morgan County Beer Board on the 9th day of August 2022 at 5:30 pm in the Office of the County Clerk.

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

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Rent your home to your business for tax savings



David Zubler
Columnist

Renting your home to your S Corporation can create two valuable tax benefits. First, even though you are receiving rental income, the income received is not taxable on your personal income tax return. IRC Section 280A allows you to rent your entire home for 14 days or less without it being taxable income on your personal return.

Second, your business gets to deduct the rent as a business expense. If you are an S Corporation owner, you can also reduce your business's taxable income by the amount of the rent paid. Since an S Corporation is a pass-through entity, it pays no federal income tax. The profit or loss is passed through to its owners. If you are a 100% owner of the S Corporation, your taxable income would be reduced by 100% of the amount of the rent paid by the business.

For example, renting your home for \$1,500 a day for 14 days to the S Corporation would provide your business with a \$21,000 deduction. Additionally, you would be receiving \$21,000 of tax-free income.

The expense for renting the house should be shown as a meeting expense on the business return.

A business must be a partnership, S Corporation or C Corporation, to deduct renting your home to qualify for this strategy. A sole proprietor or LLC that is taxed as a sole proprietor does not benefit from renting their home to their business.

There must be an actual business purpose for the rental of your home. A business meeting, video work, mastermind, or other legitimate business purposes qualify as a deductible business expense.

You should keep documentation to prove that there was a valid business purpose. A rental contract or invoice can be used for documentation. Keep emails or pictures to verify that there was an actual meeting. Including the rental in the business's annual minutes is a good idea.

If you rent your home for 15 days or more, all the rent received for the year is taxable.

Charge a reasonable amount for what another company would have charged for a similar rental. The amount you can charge depends on your area and the size of your house.

The business should not rent your house for entertainment since it wouldn't be deductible. However, there is an exception for the annual employee holiday or summer picnic. The 50 percent expense deduction limit does not apply to an employee holiday party or summer picnic.

As long as you follow the rules and document everything correctly, you can avoid any IRS issues in the event of an audit.

Renting your home to your S Corporation can provide substantial tax benefits without incurring any additional costs.

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.

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SENIOR NEWS LINE

By Matilda Charles

Another Covid Winter

We're in our third summer of the Covid pandemic and another winter is coming.

Think about that statement for a minute. Did any of us imagine, back in the summer of 2020, that the problems would still be with us in 2022? I for one was betting that once the vaccines started coming out, Covid would surely be vanquished. Oh, how wrong I was.

Many of us settled in during that first year of Covid isolation, missing meetings, dinners out and friends. We just didn't dare go out, even if we had been the first to qualify for the vaccines. We didn't host family during the holidays, and some of us had ham sandwiches for Thanksgiving dinner.

But it hasn't been all bad. We learned how to attend meetings

and talk to family on Zoom, we checked in with friends by phone and we figured out how to place curbside grocery orders on the computer. During warm weather we took walks and saw outdoor concerts and sometimes even dared to visit certain businesses when they weren't busy.

Already, however, upon realizing that this is our third summer with Covid and with the vaccine boosters continuing to show iffy results for long-term efficacy, I'm no longer taking bets about when it will all go away. I'm thinking ahead to winter when everyone goes back inside and the risk of infection increases.

Some thoughts on getting through this coming winter: Increase the level of exercise you get. Hunt for interesting YouTube videos of exercise and yoga for seniors. Find ways to address anxiety. Double up on communication with others to avoid isolation. Find a new hobby. Buy a few new houseplants. Splurge on home delivery of groceries now and then, instead of curbside pickup.

What do you think? Can we do it again? Can we make it through another Covid winter?

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FLASHBACK

By Mick Harper

- 1. Why did Michael Jackson's "You Are Not Alone" end up in court?**
- 2. What was the first No. 1 hit by Christopher Cross?**
- 3. Name the artist who wrote and released "Katmandu."**
- 4. Which former Beatle released the "All Things Must Pass" album?**
- 5. Name the song that contains these lyrics: "While she lays sleeping, I stay out late at night and play my songs, And sometimes all the nights can be so long."**

Answers

- 1. It had been written by R. Kelly. But two brothers in Belgium sued for plagiarism, saying it was taken from their song "If We Can Start All Over." The first Belgian court rejected the claim in 2003, but a second court in 2007 agreed it was plagiarism because the two melodies were virtually the same.**
- 2. "Sailing," in 1980. He had another one the same year with "Never Be the Same."**
- 3. Bob Seger, in 1975. The song was used in the soundtrack for "Mask," the 1985 Cher film.**
- 4. George Harrison, in 1970.**
- 5. "She Believes in Me," by Kenny Rogers in 1979. The song appeared on his "The Gambler" album and topped both the country and adult contemporary charts, making it a big crossover song for Rogers.**

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Around The World and Back Again

with Zack Ballinger

Yellow Stone National Park

It's been over 2 years since I got to visit Yellowstone National Park. It's a huge national park that crosses through 3 states: Idaho, Montana, and Wyoming. The largest area of the park is located in Wyoming. If you love parks and nature, this is the trip for you. A great description of Yellowstone National Park according to Wikipedia:

"It is a nearly 3,500-sq mile wilderness recreation area atop a volcanic hot spot. Yellowstone features dramatic canyons, alpine rivers, lush forests, hot springs, and gushing geysers, including its most famous, Old Faithful. It's also home to hundreds of animal species, including bears, wolves, bison, elk, and antelope."

I didn't see any bears during my visit, but that doesn't mean you won't see any. It's really a hit or miss. I heard from park rangers it's quite common to see bears in their natural habitat. The park even sells bear spray in case you are confronted by one. The park also has warning signs posted everywhere.

It's a full chart on "what do if a bear approaches you".

If you are searching for a scenic vacation I

can't recommend enough a trip to Yellowstone National

Park. It's impossi-

ble to see the whole **Zack Ballinger** park, but you can map out must see areas. Take your time exploring the park and when you see something stop and enjoy the scenery. I recommend Old Faithful, Hot Springs, and Morning Glory.

I loved seeing the Elk and Bison in their natural habitat. Remember these are wild animals in nature. Leave plenty of distance between you and them. I witnessed so many people approaching Elk too close. If you research what animal kills the most tourist, you would be shocked to learn it's not wolves, bears, or snakes. It's actually bison. Visitors see cute animals and don't realize these animals are in their natural habitat. They can attack anytime especially if they feel your too close to their babies.

If you are planning a trip to Yellowstone National Park the best city to fly to is Bozeman, MT. If you drive to the park from Bozeman, it will take you to the north entrance of the park. Bozeman is a small college town that's home to Montana State University.

You can load up on plenty of supplies there to take with you to the park. It's about a 2 hour drive from Bozeman, but the drive is absolutely beautiful. Plan a trip to Yellowstone National Park! It's definitely worth it.

How can I find or listen to The Zack Ballinger Show? You can listen live via YouTube by searching for Zack Ballinger and subscribing. The show is also streamed live on Facebook on www.facebook.com/thezackballinger. What if you want to listen to a podcast? The show can be found on iTunes and Spotify: search for The Zack Ballinger Show and you can find all the episodes.

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



Raise a Glass to Celebrate National Sweet Tea Day

In the dog days of summer, few things are more refreshing than a glass of iced tea. Although National Iced Tea Day is June 10, Sunday Aug. 21 is National Sweet Tea Day. If you know anything about me, you know I'm never one to pass up a food holiday.

Popular lore traces iced tea's popularity to the 1904 St. Louis Louisiana Purchase Exhibition World Fair. There are lots of other treats attributed to that fair, including hamburgers, ice cream cones, cotton candy and peanut butter. But iced tea has been on the menu since the 1870s. What made iced tea novel wasn't the tea but the ice, which was quite the luxury back then.

Iced tea has the same health benefits as hot tea, mainly being incredibly rich in polyphenols, which are a type of antioxidant. These wonderful nutrients hunt for cell-damaging free radicals in the body and detoxify them. This reduces the risk of heart disease, and possibly helps prevent cancer and Alzheimer's disease.

Tomorrow's holiday celebrates sweet tea. Traditionally, sweet tea is tea that's brewed very strong with a large amount of sugar added. The mixture of sugar and tea is served over ice. The amount of sugar may

offset some of the health benefits of tea mentioned above, so please modify this recipe if that's a concern for you.

With all that said, it kills me to see people buying premade iced tea at premium prices. Made at home, even if you use high quality tea and purchase spring water, it's still very inexpensive at less than \$1 per gallon. Come on, people! It's just water and teabags. We can do this!

TRADITIONAL SWEET TEA

The measurements are flexible. Use this as a place to begin, adjusting the recipe until it speaks or sings to your taste buds.

Yield: 1 gallon
1 gallon water
6 to 8 individual black tea bags
1 cup granulated sugar
Pinch baking soda
Ice
Fresh mint leaves or lemon slices (optional)



www.JasonCoblentz.com

Aug. 21 is National Sweet Tea Day.

Fill a gallon-size pitcher with good water. If you don't have a gallon pitcher, you can repurpose a gallon-size plastic water jug. Pour about one-third of the water into a saucepan and heat to a rolling boil on the stove. Once it's boiling, remove from heat

and add the teabags. Let this steep for 5 to 10 minutes depending on how strong you like your tea. I leave mine for 7 minutes, and I think that's the Goldilocks spot — not too strong, not too weak, but juuust right. Remove teabags but don't squeeze them. Add the sugar while the water is very hot and stir until it's completely dissolved. Confession: I only add 1/2 cup of sugar and my family still loves me and my tea. Add a pinch of baking soda to offset any bitterness in the tea. Let this cool to room temperature and pour it back into the pitcher with the remaining water. Just be sure you don't pour hot water into a plastic jug. To serve, pour the sweet tea into ice-filled glasses. Add a sprig of mint or a lemon slice, if desired. The sweet tea will keep refrigerated for about a week.

A little tip: When your tea is finished brewing, don't squeeze the tea bags. Tea leaves contain tannins, naturally occurring compounds with a bitter, astringent taste. When you squeeze, you're releasing the water where the tannins are most concentrated and compromising the flavor of your tea. In traditional Southern iced tea, a pinch of baking soda is added to offset any bitterness.

So, let's raise a glass and celebrate the holiday because everything is made better with a little sweet tea and grace.

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. Email Patti at divapatti@divasonadime.com

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Colossians Chapter 2

(Colossians 2:1-5) Paul's love for his brothers: Even though the congregations at Colossae and Laodicea (some ten miles northwest) had never seen Paul personally, he wanted to assure them of his love for them. He strove (to the point of agony) on their behalf. Though imprisoned himself, not knowing his impending fate (Phil. 2:23), he had the interests of others in his heart. He longs for these saints to be comforted and knit together in love. He wants them to have a full assurance of understanding of gospel truth, formerly a secret, though now revealed in the mission of Christ (v2). This is a barb at the proto-Gnostic mystery philosophy. The revelation of Christ is indeed the receptacle that contains the "treasures of wisdom and knowledge", available only by gospel truth. He who is bereft of the divine message is a spiritual fool; wisdom is not resident in the philosophy of Athens, Corinth, or Colossae---claims to the contrary notwithstanding (v.3).

The Christians were to be on guard that they not be delude by pseudo-logic and eloquent, though empty, speech (v4). Such shoddy methods were not characteristic of God's apostle (1 Cor. 2:4). Though he was not in their presence personally, his heart and thoughts were with them (1 Cor. 5:3). He rejoiced in their general fidelity, taking note of their order. The word derives from a military expression that pictures an army faithfully marching in precision in response to their commander. The majority of them were standing faithful against the heretical enemy. Their faith in Christ was steadfast (v.5).

(Col. 2:6-7) Live faithfully in Christ: These saints had received Christ Jesus as Lord, which means they obeyed the gospel plan. This was a slap at the heretics who not only questioned the fleshly Jesus, but repudiated his position as "Lord". They thus were to "walk in him", continuously maintain a relationship consistent with their "in Christ" status. They were to sink their spiritual roots downward to secure stability, and be steadfastly "builded up in him". Note the double "in him" expressions. The only way up is down! But this stability is the result of being "taught", not some inexpressible, mystical influence. All the while they are to overflow with thanksgiving. Let modern visionaries take note.

(Col. 2:8-15) A solemn warning and remedy: "Take heed" is a warning concerning danger. Why is such offered if there is no peril of being lost---as Calvinism asserts (Heb. 3:12)? To make spoil is to capture, as one would an enemy. This is not a military conflict, but a spiritual one. The victim is a captive of ideology, a human philosophy that is both deceitful and empty (void of quality). Clearly it depicts the troublers in the Colossian church who are under cultic influences. The heretics teach the "tradition of men" and the "rudiments" of the world. One might describe it as "philosophical kindergarten," in striking contrast to the true wisdom and advanced knowledge found only in following Christ (v.8; v3-4).

In Christ dwells the fullness of the Godhead bodily (v.9). Several nuggets of truth are here chronicled; these are directly in opposition to the Colossian heresy. (a) Christ has a body (he did not merely "appear" to have one, as the proto-Gnostics taught). (b) The complete fullness of deity was resident in the body (Phil. 2:6). He was not "deity" merely in some symbolic way. (c) The full complement of divine qualities "dwell" (to settle down with a sense of permanency) in Christ's body. (d) Jesus, at the time of this writing, possessed a glorified "body" (Phil. 3:21), and always will. He has chosen to identify with us forever!

It is only "in him" that one can be "made full"; there is a "fullness of grace" (Jn. 1:16) and an influential participation in the "divine nature" (2 Pet. 1:4), though not in any sense does the Christian become deity. Jesus is supreme in authority, whether over earthly powers (Rev. 1:5) or that of heavenly creatures (Eph. 1:4, 6; Rev. 5:1-3).

Christians have not received a "circumcision made with hands," a surgical procedure in cutting off the flesh (as the Jewish heretics attempted to bind as a matter of salvation (Acts 15:1). Rather, our "circumcision" (a metaphor) involves putting away the life of fleshly indulgence. It is a "circumcision of the heart" (Rom. 2:29), commanded by Christ (v.11). The apostle now explains when this "circumcision" is formalized. It occurs when one is buried with Christ in baptism

(clearly indicating that baptism is immersion) and "raised with him," on the basis of the believer's trust in the Lord to validate the procedure. The entire process is "the working of God," not one of human merit (Eph. 2:8-9). Baptism is not excluded from the plan of salvation on the ground that it is a "human work." This action is a divine work, just as faith is (Jn. 6:29). The power of God operates in raising the sinner from baptism as a "new creature" (2 Cor. 5:17), just as it did in raising Jesus from the dead (v.12). The baptism here referenced is water baptism, into which and from which one is buried and raised---not Holy Spirit baptism (Acts 2:4).

Prior to conversion, one is spiritually "dead" as a result of his sins, the contamination of his "fleshly" life (v.13). The modern rendition, "sinful nature" (NIV), is misleading, reflecting the sectarian theory that all are born in sin, having inherited the guilt of Adam's transgression. Man only develops a "sinful nature," an ingrained practice, by long habit, not by inheritance (Eph. 2:1-3). In the process of conversion one is "made alive" (Rom. 6:4) to be "with him (Christ)" when raised from baptism, and "all our trespasses" are forgiven. It is a spiritual malignancy to deny the connection between baptism and forgiveness (Acts 2:38; 22:16).

Paul states that the "bond," consisting of "ordinances," that "was against us and contrary to us" has been "taken away", having been "nailed to the cross"---an obvious reference to Jesus' death. (This negates the modern Sabbatarian contention that the law of Moses is binding still. And it contradicts the dispensational theory that the Moses system will be reinstated in the so-called "millennial" reign of Christ.)

Some view this "bond" to be the "sin debt" that condemned the sinner before his conversion. The weight of the evidence, however, is that this refers to the Mosaic law (which the Judaizing element of the Colossian heretics exalted). The immediate context identifies this with the Hebrew code (Sabbath day," etc.). Also the parallelism with Eph. 2:14-16 is decisive in the application to the law of Moses. By his death on the cross the Lord "stripped" the hostile forces at enmity with God. And by his resurrection he openly triumphed, providing a preview of the ultimate and complete victory to come (v. 15; Cor. 15:24).

(Col. 2:16-19) Spiritual dangers: In view of the fact that the Mosaic law was abrogated at the cross, no one can legitimately "judge" another for not keeping those ordinances, the eating of certain meats, Hebrew holy days, and the Sabbath. The Old Testament ordinances served merely as a "shadow" of various elements of the new covenant. The ultimate reality was Christ. The heretics, exuding a false humility, attempted to impose upon their disciples a worship of angels---a clear violation of divine law (Mt. 4:10). They were practicing spiritual fraud, attempting to buttress their dogma with supposed vision. They were both arrogant and carnal (v.18). They repudiated Christ as their head---the very one who supplies the body with all necessary spiritual provisions (v.19).

(Col. 2:20-23) Exhortations: The apostle appeals to those who are being swindled by the heretical teachers. "If (or since) you died with Christ to the rudiments of this world (the fundamentals of worldliness), why are you now---so very inconsistently---subjecting yourselves to human ordinances, as though you have never left the world?" Incredible! "Don't handle, taste, or even touch these doctrines." The prohibitions are figurative, yet strong and progressive. These doctrines and commandments of men will perish, as will those who succumb to them (2 Thes. 2:11-12; 2 Pet. 2:1).

False doctrines have a phony aura of "wisdom," but not the wisdom that is from "above" (Jas. 3:15, 17). The result is a self-centered, devilish "wisdom" that is self-consumed with the practice of "will-worship." This brand of worship is common even today. It is that worship which "one devises and prescribes for himself, contrary to the contents and nature of the faith" (Thayer). It is any worship that is forbidden or unbidden (Vine), unauthorized. The rituals (abuse of the body) are of no value whatever in controlling the base lusts of the flesh (v. 23).

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It's easy to see why this Brazil native has become popular in nurseries, flower shops and garden centers around the world. Gloxinia has bell-shaped,

Gloxinia upright flowers that come in a range of striking, cheery colors. It likes bright, indirect light and should be planted in loose, well-draining, slightly-acidic soil. Feed your gloxinia once a month with houseplant fertilizer diluted to half strength, and keep its soil evenly moist, but not soggy.

- Brenda Weaver

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Then you will call,
and the Lord will answer;
you will cry for help,
and He will say:
Here am I.

ISAIAH 58:9

"Job Praying" by Marc Chagall (1960)

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