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Luke 24:6



# Morgan County Today

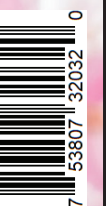
Psalm 100:3  
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Your Community. Your News.

**75¢**

**Inside:**  
**ScoCo Soccer**  
**Bulldog Banner**  
**Weather**  
**History**

**Mountain**  
**Laurel**



### Morgan County Today

Your Community. Your News.

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**Ms. Avery Pearl**  
Pet Columnist

# Pet Perspective with Ms. Avery Pearl

Hi Dr Bristol!  
Hope you enjoyed our very short

spring because it seemed like winter had returned! BRRR! Now, spring seems to be

coming back, again. I wonder for how long, this time? I think the weather is confused and bi-polar.

If spring does decide to come back, what are some things that you suggest Pet Parents can do to minimize all the shedding of our winter coats? Mimi says that it is making me get some knots in my fur. I don't like it, when she has to brush them out. She says it makes a big mess and hair flies through the air and sticks to everything. It's kinda embarrassing. She says that I am worth it though. I can't wait till all this shedding is over, I hate having bad fur days.

Love,  
Ms Avery Pearl

Happy spring, Ms. Avery Pearl! I hope that you remembered to wear green for St. Patty's Day! I'm sure that you're as ready for spring and warm weather as everyone else. The daffodils, dogwoods, and redbud trees are so beautiful! I know it was cold again this weekend, but we'll be complaining about the heat of summer before too long.

You know, Ms. Avery, I sure love the spring, but the warm weather has some downsides, too. We see numerous pets with allergies, skin disease, and hair/coat issues. Dogs and cats can be allergic to any-

thing in their environment, and spring pollen is often a big factor. We have numerous treatment options including antihistamines and prescription medications, so we recommend a vet visit for any pets that become itchy and/or develop red, scabbed skin, etc. Additionally, pet owners often struggle to address excessive

shedding and unkempt coats this time of year. Unfortunately, there are no easy cures for these issues, but there are some maintenance therapies that can be helpful. We recommend frequent (daily) brushing. Omega3 fatty acids (fish oils) can also be helpful in maintaining a healthy coat and minimizing shedding. This takes time to become effective, though, so don't expect immediate improvement. Some of these products can be added to the dog/cat food, and we recommend a vet consult for specific dosing options.

Your coat is always beautiful, Ms. Avery, so I imagine that your Mimi brushes you daily. If she's having difficulty with any stubborn, matted areas, though, we recommend a canine leave-in conditioner. This will help "detangle" those stubborn mats and make you smell so nice!

I hope that you have a nice Easter, Ms. Avery. Remember, the Easter bunny is leaving fun treats for you and your friends, so please don't chase him out of your yard! I have to convince my pets of this every year!

Your friend,  
Dr. Bristol



**WEEKLY WEATHER**

Tue 04	76°/65°	
Wed 05	81°/59°	
Thu 06	63°/46°	
Fri 07	58°/46°	
Sat 08	65°/46°	
Sun 09	66°/49°	
Mon 10	70°/47°	

## 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.

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

BINGO for adults is held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 10:30 – 11:30.  
Our current hours are Monday 10:30-3:00, Tuesday 3:00-7:30, and Wednesday 9:00-12:00.

Oakdale Public Library Hours are Mondays 1:00 – 3:00, Tuesdays 4:30 – 7:00, Wednesdays 9:00 – 12:30 and Thursdays 9:00 – 1:00.

On the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month, there is Preschool Story Time from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. and on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays there is Family Story Time from 10:00 – 11:00. BINGO for adults is on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 10:30 – 11:30. For more information, follow Oakdale Public Library on Facebook or call 423-369-3051.

The Town of Oakdale will have their Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Oakdale Park Saturday, April 8 at 12:00 p.m. All ages are welcome.

Together Morgan County will hold their monthly collaborative meeting Friday, April 14 at 9:00 a.m. est at Morgan County Schools Central Office located at 136 Flat Fork Road. Everyone is welcome to attend.

**'EASTER HAM DINNER'**  
Deer Lodge Abner Ross Community Center  
SATURDAY, April 8, NOON-Sold Out  
HAM DINNER

With Sweet Potato Casserole, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Hawaiian Roll, Dessert, Drinks - Sweet Tea or Unsweet Tea, & Coffee (dine in only)

\$9.00 adult - Children under age 10 - \$7.00  
Dine-in, Carryout, or Delivery call 423-965-5000 before 10:30am for delivery within a 5 mile radius of Deer Lodge

COME - enjoy a good meal with friends  
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Proceeds go for upkeep and maintenance of the Abner Ross Center, playground, and walking track.

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## In Loving Memory

### William (Bill) L. VanNorstran, 67

William (Bill) L. VanNorstran, age 67, of Wartburg passed away Sunday, March 26, 2023 at Methodist Medical Center in Oak Ridge.



Bill had a passion for racing. He enjoyed watching and working on the race cars. He loved to hear about his grandkids racing. He loved to go to Food City and drink coffee with his buddies. He was a loving husband, father, grandfather, and great grandfather.

He is preceded in death by his wife of almost 40 years, Brenda VanNorstran; his parents Eugene VanNorstran and Fannie VanNorstran; brothers Frank VanNorstran and Michael VanNorstran; sisters Veronica VanNorstran, Elizabeth (Libby) Hamby and Carolyn Jones and his dog Jasper.

He is survived by 2 daughters, Laura (Sam) Butler of Oliver Springs and Nicki (Travis) Loy of Harriman; fur babies Socks and Squeaky; sis-

ter Mary Goode; brother Fred (Debbie) VanNorstran and David (Carol) Staten; grandchildren Hannah (Derrik) Tinker, Michael Butler, Kansas Butler, Aubrey Loy and Jace Loy, great-grandchildren Hayland Tinker and Kalani Tinker and a host of nieces, nephews and extended family and friends.

The family will receive friends Tuesday, March 28, 2023 at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg from 5:00-7:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 7:00 p.m. with Rev. Garvin Walls and Rev. Robert Langford officiating. Graveside services will be Wednesday at 11:00 a.m. in the Nelson Cemetery in Wartburg.

In lieu of flowers the family request that donations be made to offset the funeral cost.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of William (Bill) VanNorstran.

### Portia "Toni" Cook, 81

Ms. Portia "Toni" Cook, age 81, of Harriman, passed away Wednesday March 29, 2023, at West Hills Health and Rehab in Knoxville. Toni loved spending time with her family and sitting outside enjoying all of Gods creations.

She is preceded in death by her parents: Barton & Margaret Bennecker. Grandson: Jordan Hall. Brother-in-law: Lester Easter.

She is survived by her daughter & son-in-law: Amy & Eric Hall. Two sisters & brother-in-law: Lynnette Easter and Phyllis & Larry Vice. Two granddaughters: Chelsea & Jon Mathis and Kaylee Burton. Five great grandchildren: Elijah,

Jace, Paisley, Roman, and Alivia. Along with a many nieces, nephews, friends and loved ones.

The family will receive friends Monday April 3, 2023, at Big Emory Baptist Church in Harriman from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Funeral services will follow at 1:00 PM with Bro. Neil Crass officiating. Graveside services will follow in Roane Memorial Gardens in Rockwood.

Davis Funeral Home in Harriman is honored to serve the family of Ms. Portia "Toni" Cook.

Condolences may be sent to the family online at [www.davisfuneral-homes.com](http://www.davisfuneral-homes.com).

### John Daniel Rouse, 54

John Daniel Rouse was born in Oak Ridge, Tn October 31, 1968, and passed away after a short battle with cancer in Nashville on March 28, 2023.



He is preceded in death by his grandparents Bonnie & Jr. Bates and Norris Kent Rouse; stepfather Terry Holmes; uncle Johnny L. (Marie) Bates; great uncle Milford Bates; aunt Louise Brock; previous wife Ladena Faye Cochran Rouse.

Left to cherish his memory, mother Cathy Bates Holmes; fiancé Sandria Howell; sister Nicole Rouse Davis; daughters Calie Rouse of Lancing, Abigail Eubanks of Jackson, Tn.; sons John Ross Westley (Chelsea) Rouse, Daniel Wade (Madison) Rouse; grandchildren Carter Lee Rouse, Ava Saige Rouse, Aydan Gauge Rouse, Alyie Shyann Rouse, John Weston Rouse, Aleshia (Dave) Hawley, Anthony (Linda) Bates; special friend Austin Jarnagin and Pete Bonfiglio and a host of cousins, nieces, nephews and friends.

If Danny were here, he would say

"don't cry for me, Im not hurting and Im happy and I wish you could see". He loved to make people laugh and was very good at it. He was gifted with writing poems of humor and singing and playing his harmonica. His smile could light up any room

and he could dress up quite nicely but preferred to wear his overalls and the vols. He would always say "Well aren't I going to be me"?! And that's just who he was and that's all he expected from others is to be themselves. He would help a stranger in a heartbeat and latterly has taken his shirt off in freezing weather to provide a stranger with warmth.

The family will receive friends Saturday, April 1, 2023, at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg from 5:00-7:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 7:00 p.m. with Rev. Ricky Taylor officiating. Graveside services will be Sunday at 2:00 p.m. at Bates Family Cemetery in Lancing.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of John Daniel Rouse.

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

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# What Can We Learn from France?



**Michael Nance**  
*Columnist*

Admittedly, France isn't a country that I hold their

government policies in high regard, but in the United States we can learn a lot about "not what to do," based on their current situation. So, what is currently happening in France? Well, a lot and not much of it is favorable.

To understand the current situation in France we must look back about three years to see the genesis of today's political environment.

France has a large population of Muslims, many of which are French citizens. Assimilating the various segments of Muslims into French society has been a problematic political issue for many years. France has Europe's largest Muslim minority approximately five million. This influx of Muslims changed many facets of French society and in many towns in France, African and Muslim influences began to make many patriotic French citizens nervous.

In response to the situation, French President Macron pushed the country's Muslim Imams to sign a "charter" professing French republican values. This caused a significant controversy as this move was interpreted as targeting one religious faith. This action was a departure from typical French policies, as most French policies guard against diminishing state secularism.

President Macron's main goal was attempting to stop the expansion of political Islam, but his "charter" accomplished little except inflaming the Muslim religious establishment.

The bottom line is that France was experiencing an event that is not new from a historical perspective, a massive migration of a different culture into its borders. This has happened throughout history and always causes assimilation issues. The difference in this case, is that the Muslim faith is burdened by a segment of radicals that has perpetrated many acts of terrorism around the world. The real solution to this issue is in the hands of the Muslim faith. Until they address the radicals in their own society they will encounter skepticism and resistance in most countries. It is sad that a few radicals can affect a whole culture, but that is the reality.

These moves by Maron and the French government had another side-effect on the French public at



*Photo courtesy of Damien Checoury*

large. It appeared that the government was intruding on religion and gave many citizens the feeling of elected officials that were becoming arrogant. These events polarized two main segments of French society against each other. In one camp you have the liberal thought of let society change into what it may. On the other side you had the right wing of the French society that wanted to protect French culture, values and patriotism. Does any of this sound familiar? Then we get to today and a France that is going through a very tumultuous and chaotic period.

So, what is happening today in France? Well, it isn't flattering and has caused some to predict a conflict that could emerge in an all-out Civil War.

Recently on Saturday March 25th French Police clashed with environmental protesters over the construction of a large reservoir being built in western France. The reservoir is being built for the purposes of agricultural irrigation. This was not a small protest, literally thousands of protesters gathered at the site in the French district of Sainte-So-

line, and the protest soon turned violent. Tear gas was used, police vehicles were burned, and dozens were injured. All over the construction of an agriculture reservoir that will be used to assist farmers! But this is the least of the protests in France, real issues emerged on another policy enacted by President Macron.

President Macron is advocating a new legislative Bill that raises the retirement age in France from 62 to 64 years of age. Many labor Unions fiercely opposed the Bill.

This effort to raise the retirement age was unprecedented and was met with general public outrage.

Demonstrators quickly blocked airports and train stations and set fire to France's iconic Bordeaux City Hall. Garbage workers have went on strike and even the Eiffel Tower has been closed to protect it from damage. On Thurs-

day March 23rd it was reported that over one million people have taken part in a strike to protest the raising of the retirement age. Videos of hundreds of arrests, looting, with police and demonstrators being injured and hurried away in ambulances. The protests were so significant that Great Britain's King Charles III was forced to cancel a visit to Paris planned the last weekend in

March, God save the King! Although they are many lessons that U.S. elected leaders and policymakers can learn from the events in France, a few are obvious. Take care of the people's money. Raising the retirement age is in no small part the result of overspending tax dollars on political issues. Sooner or later, everyone has to balance your checkbook. Ultra-right- and left-wing policies competing against each other will only polarize the public and lead to more discontent. Policies are meant for society as a whole; everyone must meet in the middle if we are going to be successful as a society. Let's all hope the folks in Washington are taking notes on France, so we don't have to endure the same fate in the not to distant future.

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# Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



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# Out on a Limb

by Gary Kopervas



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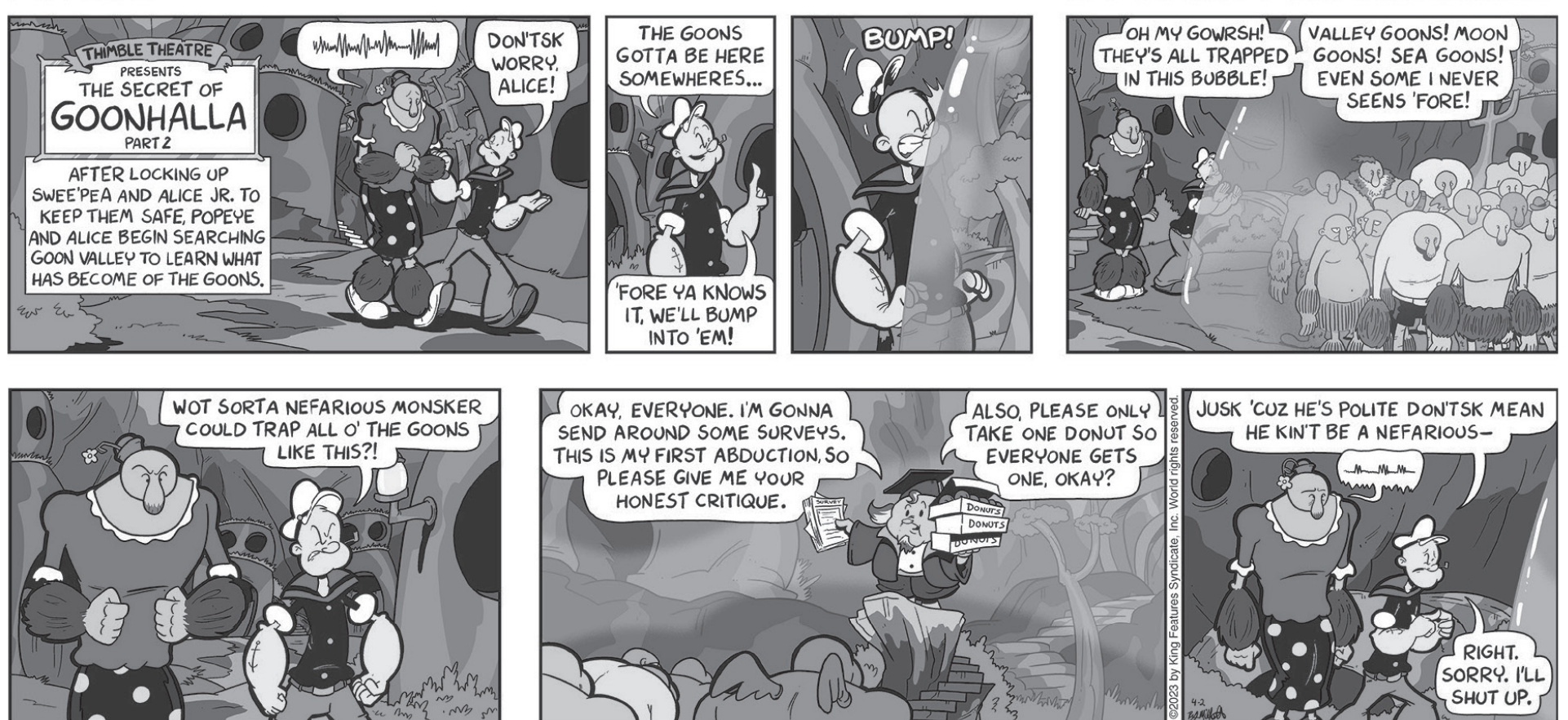
# The Spats

by Jeff Pickering



# POPEYE

BY RANDY MILHOLLAND



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# BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey

1. Is the book of Gethsemane (KJV) in the Old or New Testament or neither?
2. What's the only book of the Bible that mentions Christ's tomb being sealed? *Matthew, Mark, Luke, John*
3. From Matthew 28:2, who rolled back the stone from the door of Jesus' tomb and sat upon it? *Simon, An angel, Villagers, Disciples*
4. When Mary Magdalene and "the other Mary" came upon the risen Jesus, who did He ask them to inform? *Priests, Disciples, No one, Villagers*
5. From John 20, which disciple doubted that Jesus had risen unless he could see the wounds? *Peter, Andrew, Thomas, Thaddeus*
6. How long did Jesus remain after His resurrection before He ascended into heaven? *Instantaneously, 1 hour, 7 days, 40 days*

ANSWERS: 1) Neither, 2) Matthew (27:65-66), 3) An angel, 4) Disciples, 5) Thomas (called Didymus), 6) 40 days (Acts 1:3)

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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## Finding the Right Food Bowl for an Older Cat Takes Trial and Error

**DEAR PAW'S CORNER:** I hope this advice helps other cat owners. My cat, Ferris, is 13 years old, and while he's generally healthy, he does have arthritis and is not as energetic as he once was. I noticed a few months ago that he was not finishing his dry food in the evenings, so I took him to the vet to get him checked out. Everything was fine, but the vet said that he might have some discomfort crouching down to reach his food and water.

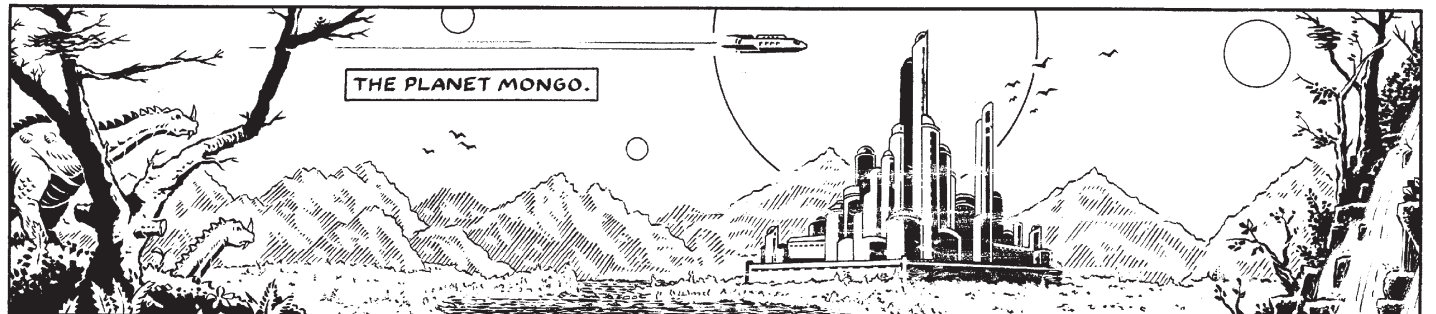
I went online to find a raised platform that would hold food and water dishes. The trouble was that many of the platforms were too high for Ferris to reach comfortably, and he didn't seem very happy with the platform design. Instead, I found a dish that he loves. It sits about three inches above the floor and is angled higher in the back so that he doesn't push the food out of the bowl while eating. It's weighted so that it doesn't shift while he eats. This is a lot more comfortable for Ferris, and he's eating all of his food again. — Terry L., Bloomington, Indiana

**DEAR TERRY:** Thank you for sharing your story! I'm glad that Ferris found the perfect food dish.

Sometimes we have to try a few different items before discovering the perfect one for our pets. Whether it's a food dish, a toy or a bed, we have to be prepared to spend a little more money than expected to get just the right item. Trial and error is part of the process, and part of the joy of owning a pet.

Send your tips, comments or questions to ask@pawscorner.com.

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



## GRIN like BEAR IT by Wagner



"Hmmm ... Miss Figby, bring me the industrial-strength tongue depressors."

# NOW HERE'S A TIP

By JoAnn Derson

---  
 \* I purchase rotisserie chickens and use the meat for different things -- soup, casseroles, etc. I have a trick to getting the skin off. My hand strength isn't what it used to be, and those birds are slippery. I use a paper towel to grip the skin, and pull the meat and bone right out. It works well on a raw bird too. -- L.A. in Florida

\* To re-whiten socks or washcloths, try boiling a pot of water and adding a sliced, juiced lemon. Soak the items for at least an hour, and then pick out the lemon and add the pot -- water and all -- to a load of wash.

\* If there are crushed cookies in a pack I purchase, I set them aside in a plastic baggie in the freezer to use on ice cream. Yummy! -- R.L. in Alberta, Canada

\* If you have been cooking in the oven and have a pan that's

got cooked-on food, you can get it clean without all the scrubbing. Immediately after cooking, while the oven is still hot, add enough water to cover the bottom of the pan and a little dishsoap. Put it in the oven until the oven is cool. The residual heat will work on the stuck-on food while you are dining, and it'll wipe right out. -- W.O. in Minnesota

\* When washing out stockings, add a tablespoon of vinegar to the rinse water, and they will retain their elasticity better.

\* Wintergreen oil makes a lovely room freshener. Put two drops on a cotton ball and tuck it into the cushions of your couch, or hide it under a lamp pedestal ... anywhere out of the way. The scent drifts over a week or so. -- G.T. in Delaware

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

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## STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

\* In 2009, six geologists were convicted of manslaughter for failing to predict a deadly earthquake in Italy. Though exonerated, they faced high levels of shame from the general public afterward.

\* Compared to average shoppers, chefs are more likely to buy generic store brands for sugar, baking soda and other common kitchen staples.

\* Lacrosse descends from a version played by Native Americans in the 17th century. Matches could last several days with as many as 1,000 players per team, on a field with goals up to six miles apart. Game sticks were so treasured that they were often buried with the athletes after death.

\* Thomas Edison attempted to create ghost-hunting equipment, and an assistant died while testing it.

\* Measles can deplete previously acquired immune memory for up to two years in adults.

\* The state of Texas keeps a database of more than 500 executed inmates' last words, going back to the 1980s.

\* Ever been annoyed by the decibel level of a rooster's morning wake-up call? You're not the only one who finds it loud: When the birds crow, they lean their heads back, covering their ear canal, which acts as an earplug to protect themselves from being deafened by their own vocalizations.

\* After plagiarizing work for his directorial debut, actor Shia LaBeouf

plagiarized a public apology from a Yahoo! answers question about ... plagiarism.

\* You can buy a room on a cruise ship and live on board for an annual fee.

\* In the 1800's, bananas were seen by some as an "immoral fruit," due to their shape. Fruit companies combatted this perception by issuing postcards of women eating bananas to advertise that they weren't taboo.

\*\*\*

Thought for the Day: "Extraordinary things are always hiding in places people never think to look."  
 -- Jodi Picoult

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### Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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:** ◆◆◆

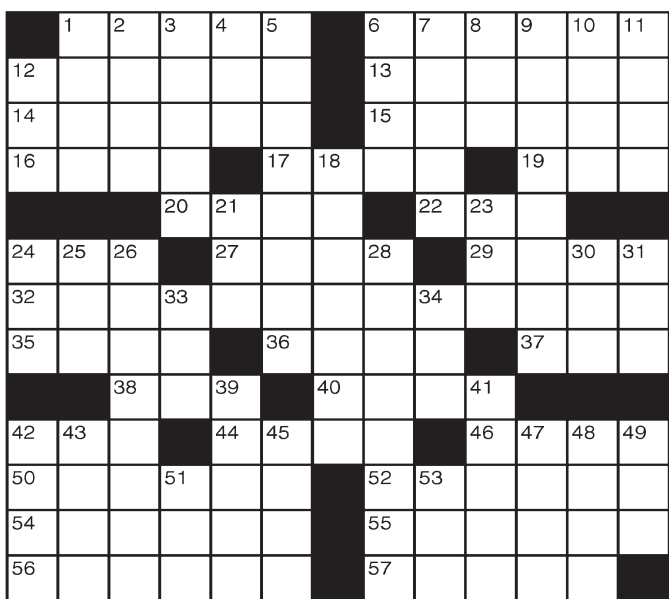
◆ Moderate    ◆◆ Challenging  
 ◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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## King Crossword

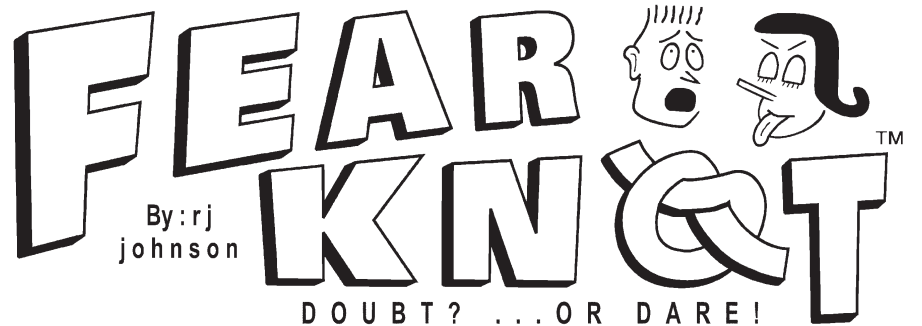
### ACROSS

- 1 Shred
- 6 Tyke
- 12 Alaskan capital
- 13 Actress Lansbury
- 14 Soak up
- 15 Packed in a box, as oranges
- 16 Boxer Spinks
- 17 Like dried mud
- 19 Mac alternatives
- 20 Round Table titles
- 22 First lady?
- 24 Expected
- 27 Facts and figures
- 29 Congers
- 32 Elvis Presley hit song
- 35 Spiked club
- 36 Mandolin's kin
- 37 UFO crew
- 38 Billboards
- 40 Minor quibbles
- 42 Nile biter
- 44 &&&&
- 46 Deal (with)
- 50 Weak
- 52 Missouri-born president
- 54 "— serious?"
- 55 Small song-birds

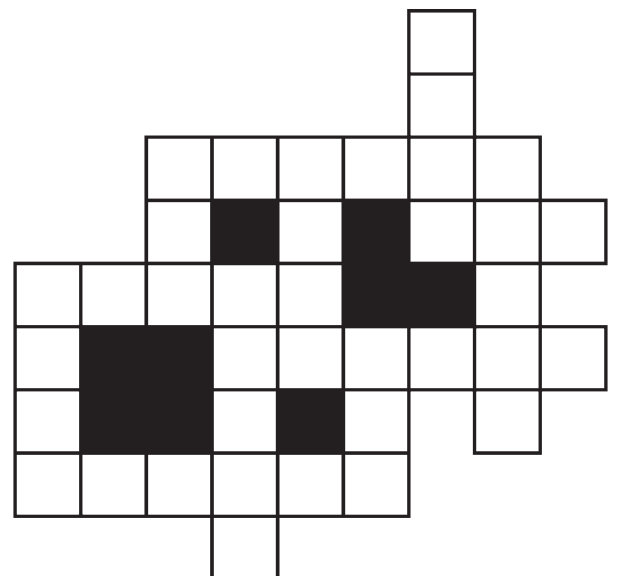


- 56 Take offense at
- 57 "Leda and the Swan" poet
- DOWN**
- 1 Hayseed
- 2 Not — many words
- 3 Drudges
- 4 Eg. and Syr., once
- 5 Barhopping tour
- 6 Big truck maker
- 7 Ham — (deli order)
- 8 Links org.
- 9 Personal bug-aboo
- 10 Power co. supply
- 11 Tiny amounts
- 12 Tokyo-based carrier
- 18 Amaze
- 21 Altar promise
- 23 Victory sign
- 24 Poorly lit
- 25 Actress Hagen
- 26 Fugitives
- 28 Creative flair
- 30 Allow
- 31 Soon-to-be grads
- 33 Homer's neighbor
- 34 Profit
- 39 Beauty parlor
- 41 Diving gear
- 42 Miles away
- 43 Withered
- 45 Neither fem. nor masc.
- 47 Skip
- 48 Frying needs
- 49 Em halves
- 51 "See ya!"
- 53 Caviar

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- OPD
- GUMNIP
- GAROC
- GSOM
- CADOZI
- ♥AMD
- ADM R
- HITGM
- IGZ
- AHDSEG
- GAISM
- LDAC



Unscramble these twelve letter strings to form each into an ordinary word (ex. **HAGNEC** becomes **CHANGE**). Prepare to use only ONE word from any marked (♥) letter string as each unscrambles into more than one word (ex. ♥**RATHE** becomes **HATER** or **EARTH** or **HEART**). Fit each string's word either across or down to knot all twelve strings together.

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# The Bulldog Banner



## Healthy Days

By: CatFish Cole & Big Man Dan



**Cole Burchell**  
(CatFish Cole)

Most people can agree the key to a happier life is finding and developing healthy habits to apply in our lifestyle. Whether it is your mental or physical health there are constantly new ways to make the most of every moment. That's why here at WCMS we are honored to have welcomed several guest speakers to our school-wide Health Day this last Friday, March 31. Included were Matt Hudson (Rope Climbing), Markus Miller (Morning Stretching), Sabra Cope (The Dangers of Vaping), Ambulance Services (Basic First Aid), Amy Olson (Mental Health 101), CCAHT (Community Coalition Against Human Trafficking), Cece Blunt (Internet Safety), Ranger Blake (Local Wildlife Pelts and Bones), and LeAnna Lawson (Healthy Choices). We all thank and appreciate for taking their time to educate us on these various topics. So today Big Man Dan and I are gonna talk about some of our favorite parts of the experience.

(CatFish Cole)-

"A constant routine is great in many ways as it allows you to stay focused and on track, but can be incredibly boring after some time. That's why I was particularly excited to experience this year's Health Day at WCMS. This event is nothing new to the school as they have held it before, but it is our first experience with it while in middle school. You may be wondering what is "Health Day", well I'll tell you it was no normal school day indeed. The day was broken up into nine sessions for nine different speakers/groups to tell us about various different life skills. Though, we still had lunch and RTI like normal but there seemed to be a lot less kids present than on most days. This was likely due to it being the day before spring break and people heading for a nice vacation. This wasn't all bad though as it allowed us who attended to enjoy and experience the day without all the distractions.

Daniel and I began our day in Mrs. Carol Jones's classroom where we talked about the importance of mental health. This class was very educational plus we got free stress balls, but this might have not been the best of ideas as dozens could be seen flying through the air most of the day. Next, we moved outside to learn about the importance of CPR and how to stop a wound from bleeding with the help of our local first responders and bones (their dummy). You might think this was gruesome or morbid but this is right up my alley so I definitely enjoyed it. Next, we were hoisted to the ceiling by our local park ranger Mr. Hudson and then suddenly dropped just to be caught before we hit the ground. This was awesome as we all took turns touching the ceiling and watching in awe at the world below us. After all that climbing we attended a morning stretching class which was very refreshing. We talked about the danger of vapes and wildlife in our next two classes which I really enjoyed as we talked about the many different species located at Frozen Head. We ate lunch and did our RTI work which was probably the most boring part of the day. Finally, we wrapped up our day with a talk about internet safety and human trafficking, definitely more somber topics but just as important as the rest. You can see there was no wasted moment as we learned and listened to these amazing individuals talk to us. I know I've said it many times but, I and everyone

at WCMS are honored and delighted to have had the opportunity and appreciate the effort made to help us further our education and well being."



**Daniel Bunch**  
(Big Man Dan)

(BigManDan)-  
"Going into Friday I thought Health Day was gonna be boring and uneventful, but I was mistaken. Health Day was actually very delightful in a lot of ways. We learned a lot about wildlife, how to save a person's life in an emergency, how to stay safe on the internet, and how stretching in the morning can make you feel better and look better. Those topics I mentioned are a few things that we learned about, there were way more. Every speaker that talked at the event was very nice and spoke very well about their presentations. In one of the Presentations Matt Hudson was pulling kids who were connected to a rope up to the gym ceiling. This was safe and there was plenty of precautions taken, but still I'm way to big of a chicken when it comes to hights to do it. There were nine different presentations, and we were with the kids that'd usually be in our classes. It was a great way to transition into our Spring Break. Overall I believe it was a very good experience,

and anyone who didn't show up for it missed out big time."

"My favorite sessions were Morning Stretching (Markus Miller), Rope Climbing (Matt Hudson), Basic First Aid, and How to Stay Safe on the Internet (Cece Blunt). The reasons I enjoyed these were because they were funny, entertaining, informal, and overall just enjoyable. (All of the other sessions were enjoyable and informal too but I picked these because they fit the things that I enjoy the most)"

Last Week's Student Poll Results  
4 TOTAL Submission

50% choose one's Past was more important than there Future

50% choose one's Future was more important than their Past



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**THE RICH LOWRY COLUMN**

By Rich Lowry

**Yes, we are making kids trans**

We are going to look back years from now and wonder how we failed young girls so badly.

Between social media and fashionable gender theories, we are making teenage girls depressed, anxious, and trans.

In a Substack essay the other day, a mother wrote of her daughter: "She was among the last of her small group of biologically female friends to socially transition. It was mid-pandemic, and she spent most of her time with her best friend, who had, unbeknownst to me, shown her hours upon end of transgender entertainment on YouTube and TikTok."

Of course, that is going to have an effect, although there is a massive effort to deny it among trans activists and in much of the media.

The Geico gecko can convince us to buy car insurance. Trump can post a meme on Truth Social, and it can convince someone to go take a baseball bat to Manhattan District Attorney Alvin Bragg. Someone can use the wrong pronoun and it can convince a trans person to harm himself or herself. But what can't possibly happen, we are supposed to believe, is that the constant discussion and celebration of transgenderism might convince confused young people to decide they are nonbinary or trans.

Even some trans advocates are willing to admit this makes no sense. Marci Bowers, president of the World Professional Association for Transgender Health, told the progressive New York Times columnist Michelle Goldberg: "There are people in my community who will deny that there's any sort of 'social contagion' -- I shouldn't say social contagion, but at least peer influence on some of these decisions. I think that's just not recognizing human behavior."

Bowers is an exception, though. It is taken as an article of faith among trans activists and much of the left that social contagion is a pernicious myth.

This denial is based on the idea that people, especially young people, aren't suggestible. As if what we are told, what our friends do and say, what signals we get from society aren't enormously important. And as if awareness and encouragement of transgenderism, nonbinary status, and heretofore unknown genders haven't increased dramatically.

Internet searches for anorexia in recent years have declined while searches for transgender have soared. There are transgender and nonbinary celebrities. Schools have started teaching kids gender ideology, and some will "transition" children without telling parents.

The trans advocates argue that a more permissive environment is simply allowing people to embrace their true identities, the same way more people admitted they were left-handed when the taboo against lefties gave way in the 20th century. That analogy falls down, though, since the spike in trans and other identification is particularly pronounced in areas that are particularly encouraging.

As Madeleine Kearns of National Review points out, young people in California identify as trans at roughly about a 40% higher rate than the national average. And in the Davis Joint Unified School District, in a heavily progressive city outside Sacramento, the rate is three times that of California as a whole.

Girls are particularly sensitive to peer pressure. This aligns with the trend. According to Kearns, there used to be more gender-dysphoric boys than girls by about a two-to-one margin. Now, there are more gender-dysphoric girls than boys by three to one.

Such suggestibility was evident in the TikTok-driven phenomenon during the pandemic of teenagers developing strange tics. According to a Canadian study, The New York Times reports, "The adolescents were overwhelmingly girls, or were transgender or nonbinary -- though no one knows why."

In light of all this, other countries have pressed the brakes on aggressive treatment for trans-identifying minors. In urging that so-called gender-affirming care be used only in "exceptional cases," Sweden's National Board of Health and Welfare cited "the uncertainty that follows from the yet unexplained increase in the number of care seekers, an increase particularly large among adolescents registered as females at birth."

If Sweden can acknowledge reality, so should we.

Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.  
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David Zubler  
Columnist

## Don't fall for social media myths

Social media like TikTok have had a massive influx of “finfluencers” (finance influencers) who are providing tax tips and hoping to get their next viral hit. Almost anyone can publish almost anything on any platform. The problem is that people often believe the advice they see on social media. Taking advantage of myths that you see on social media can cause you to have major problems with the IRS.

“Social media has created an ecosystem of misinformation and half-truths,” says Kenesha Coleman, CPA, and certified tax coach. “Influencers spew financial and tax advice without any practical experience, credentials, or formal training and the public is eating it up it gives them hope of getting rich quick.”

“The problem with the various tax tips, tricks and strategies you hear on social media is not that they are completely wrong, but rather they are built on a kernel of truth that is then extrapolated in ways that, if used, could cause a taxpayer to run afoul of the IRS,” says Jason Cherubini, CPA MBA.

Below are some of the common myths:

If you write off \$500 in business expenses, you'll save \$500 on your taxes

Tax deductions don't provide you with a dollar-for-dollar refund. They lower your taxable business income. The amount of the savings depends on your tax bracket.

You need an LLC to claim write-offs

The truth is that all you need to claim a write-off is to prove that your company is an actual business. The IRS determines whether you have a business by your records, depending on the income from your business and whether you have non-monetary motives behind your activities. Form-

ing an LLC could require unnecessary expenditures if the LLC isn't beneficial.

You can choose an expensive vehicle to go to work and deduct its full cost the first year it's used

The problem with this myth is that there is only a little bit of truth. Employee business expenses were eliminated with the 2018 tax changes. Vehicle expenditures can only be deducted as a business expenses. There are limits on the amount a vehicle can be expensed during the year of purchase, depending on whether it is a car, SUV, or truck.

People who rely on their appearance for work can write off appearance-related expenses

It's very difficult to convince the IRS to write off clothing, make-up, and cosmetic surgery. The IRS has an Entertainment Audit Technique Guide, which state: No deduction is allowed for wardrobe, general makeup, or hair styles for auditions, job interviews, or to maintain an image.

Don't accept tax advice on social media even if a licensed tax professional provides it. Anyone can claim to be a licensed professional. Find an attorney, CPA, or Enrolled Agent you trust for tax advice.

*David Zubler is a tax accountant and Enrolled Agent in East Tennessee, providing tax strategies and representing clients before the IRS, and has over 25 years of tax experience. He is the author of six tax books and has shared tax advice on national TV. He is the founder and president of Your Tax Care. The company provides business and tax education, including David's one-minute tax tip radio recordings at YourTaxCare.com. David can be reached at (865) 363-3019 or contacted by email at david@yourtaxcare.com.*

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# SENIOR NEWS LINE

By Matilda Charles

## Rising Cost of Home Insurance

When I got my home insurance bill and it showed a massive payment for my policy renewal, I actually laughed. I flipped the page over, believing I'd received someone else's mail by mistake ... probably a neighbor down the street. But when I saw my own name, I wasn't laughing anymore when I grabbed my calculator and discovered that the new amount was a 45% increase over last year.

Still, ever hopeful, I called my insurance company, wondering if someone else's home had been plugged into my account. No, it hadn't. The amount listed was indeed for my home, as were the numbers for out buildings, personal property and temporary living expenses.

I called several neighbors: Has your insurance gone up? No,

they all said. I discovered the likely reason for that during a call to a friendly local insurance agent. They're no doubt in the middle of a policy period, he said. Their bad surprise will come when it's time to renew that policy and all the price increases hit them.

There are several reasons why a policy can increase, such as material and labor (which is the big one right now), additions to the house, number of prior claims, your deductible, your credit score and the breed of dog you own.

After several calls to different insurance companies, it's not looking good. What I get so far is that if I decide to gamble and lower my coverage level, I run a risk that something will happen and I'll be stuck for mammoth amounts of money that insurance won't cover.

The only thing that's going to save a few dollars is to pay the whole year upfront and not have to pay the monthly budget fees with every payment.

Take a deep breath before you open your next policy renewal envelope. Good luck.

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# FLASHBACK

By Mick Harper

- 1. Name the first single Diana Ross released after she and the Supremes broke up.**
- 2. Who wrote and released "Your Song" in 1970?**
- 3. Where did the '60s group The Marcells get their name?**
- 4. Who released "I've Told Every Little Star" in 1961?**
- 5. Name the song that contains these lyrics: "Wake up in the morning with the sunshine in your eyes, And the smell of flowers blooming fills the air."**

## Answers

- 1. "Reach Out and Touch Somebody's Hand," in 1970. Ross sang the song at a concert for the Nobel Peace Prize in Norway in 2008.**
- 2. Elton John. This was the first time John reached the Top 10 on international charts. He'd given the nod for it to be cut by Three Dog Night, but they gave him a shot instead.**
- 3. From a hairstyle. The marcel was curls created with an early curling iron. The iron was heated on a gas stove.**
- 4. Linda Scott. The song first appeared in 1932. Dozens of artists have covered the song, including rapper Mac Miller in 2010.**
- 5. "Love (Can Make You Happy)," by Mercy in 1969. The song went to No. 2 on the charts, denied the top slot by a Beatles song, "Get Back."**

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# Hebrews Chapter 12

(Heb. 12:1-11) Christian suffering: it has been perfectly transparent throughout this document that Jewish Christians are under siege from Judaizing forces seeking to destroy them by seducing them away from the faith. Surely the example of the faithful in history can provide encouragement. Figuratively speaking, the heroes of the previous chapter are depicted as a great cloud of witnesses in a grand arena, surrounding the struggling Christians and cheering them on as they run the race of their lives, attempting to remain faithful. (This does not suggest that those in the realm of the dead actually observe earth's activities.)

The faithful must lay aside every impediment that hinders, especially the sin that so easily encumbers (namely the forfeiting of one's faith), and run with endurance the race. This is possible only if one looks forward, keeping his focus on Jesus, who has gone before us as the leader and perfecter of "the faith". This concluding expression may refer to our personal faith, "the faith" system, or both. It does not suggest we are "given" faith unconditionally by the Lord. The expression, "for the joy set before him", may mean as expressed in his prayer (John 17:5 "And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.") and of seeing lost souls redeemed". He "endured" the agony of the cross and "despised" the idea of bearing the penalty of human sin; but by his resurrection he has been seated at God's right hand (v.2).

The Christian must focus his mind on the fortitude of Jesus, who endured the indignities of vile sinners against himself. Thereby we become determined not to grow tired and soul-sick (v. 2). Though these Christians were suffering various forms of harassment, they had not yet shed their blood on the Lord's behalf in their war against sin, as he did for us (v. 4). These brothers appear to have forgotten that God allows hardship to harden (toughed) us (v. 5). They must be reminded of Scripture (Prov. 2:11-12), namely that discipline is permitted as an expression not disciplined, it would be as if we were not true children (v. 7-8). If one honors his father, who admittedly chastens him, why should we not honor God, who is the Father of our spirits (Num. 16:22) so that we might live (v. 9)? How can cultists, the Watchtower Witnesses, contend that humans are wholly mortal?

Our earthly parents have only a few days (relatively speaking) to discipline us, as such seems good to them, But God's interest in us pertains to the development of our holiness---supremely important for our eternal welfare (v. 10). Discipline certainly is not a pleasant experience while being administered; it's painful. However, in retrospect, it proves to be valuable, yielding fruit that issues in peace in the recipient. It becomes evident it was the right thing to do (v. 11).

(Hebrews 12:12-17) exhortation to duty: using the imagery of physical disabilities, the Hebrew recipients are encouraged to get a grip on and tighten up their weaknesses, and not allow themselves to be turned aside from the way of truth; instead, they must strive for spiritual health. The same principle is involved in helping the weak along the way. One of the most difficult admonitions to follow is: "Pursue peace with all people". Some are hateful, vicious, and vindictive. It is difficult not to react, but one must remember the model of the Savior (1 Pet. 2:23). Moreover, one must develop sanctification, dedicated and consecrated service to Christ, without which one will be barred from the Lord's holy presence (v. 14). Every Christian must constantly examine himself carefully to make sure he does not fall short of divine grace (Gal. 5:4).

The danger of apostasy from the faith manifests itself in various symptoms. (A) Some turn bitter, sour---negative within themselves and hateful toward others. One must guard against such. Without such diligence, a bitter root could spring up, troubling you and contaminating others (v. 15). (B) Immorality, sexual license (fornication), has been the downfall of many; one must dedicate himself to purity. (C) Profaneness is a common weakness. It is the subordination of the holy to the material. Esau, Jacob's brother, is a prime example. In a time of physical hunger (certainly not starving), he surrendered to a temporal, physical-material impulse and traded his precious birthright for immediate gratification. Impulsiveness can lead to disaster. Later, he regretted his rashness, but it was too late; the consequence of his decision could not be reversed (v. 16-17).

(Heb. 12:18-29) the tragedy of rejecting Christ: the scene now changes. The mind is transported back to Sinai and the reception of the law of Moses. The application will be plain. The writer is dealing with those who are being seduced to surrender Christianity and return to the Mosaic system, thereby leaving in the dust the teaching of the real Messiah.

When the ancient Hebrews observed the material effects (sights and sounds) and the supernatural phenomena (the very voice of God) that accompanied the giving of the law (Ex. 19:9-23, Dt. 9:8-19), they were terrified (Moses included) (v. 18-21). In contrast, "You (Christians) have arrived at a wonderful spiritual location (environment)". Stick with it!

In principle, the Christian present location, as a member of Christ's church, is the vestibule of heaven itself. The following depiction is filled with descriptives that almost merge the church on earth with the redeemed who already have achieved the victory. It is mount Zion, a heavenly city, characterized by the accompaniment of angels (v. 22); 1:14). It is a community of firstborn ones, with special privileges for those who have experienced the new birth (v. 23; Jn. 3:3-5). God is no longer the stand-off God ("do not touch the mountain" (v. 20), but he is near, and there is the great assembly of the spirits of justified people who have been reckoned as having been perfected (v. 23). Christ is mentioned as well; he is the mediator of the new covenant, and the atoning effect of his blood is apparent (v. 24). The contrast between Abel's blood and the Lord's is ambiguous. The meaning may be that the former was taken by violence, while the latter was the gift of grace.

There is now a strong admonition that goes straight to the core of the matter. To those who are wavering on the brink of apostasy: "See to it that you do not refuse to listen to him who is speaking to you." Those under the old law who refused to listen did not escape divine wrath when they left him (2:2); much more is it the reality that those who now turn away will not escape either, and their judgment will be proportionately more severe (v. 25; 10:28).

A reference to the ultimate day of judgment is now introduced. Borrowing language from an ancient prophet, the writer contrasts the shaking of Mount Sinai at the time the law was given with another shaking (a spiritual one) that will involve both earth and heaven(v. 26; Hag. 2:6). At that time, some things will be destroyed; others will remain (v. 27). Those who have received God's grace and his kingdom and who have rendered service well pleasing to him will not be shaken. With those who have not remained true, it will be quite otherwise. God and his truth must be retained; those who stray from it will experience the consuming wrath of the Creator and ruler of the universe (v. 28-29).



MELVIN HOWARD

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**The Garden Bug**  
**Rosemary room freshener**

Gather one half-cup of fresh rosemary sprigs. Add them to one cup of vodka, place this mixture in a dark place, and leave it to "infuse" for at least two weeks. Pour this liquid through a cheesecloth to remove the used sprigs, then pour the strained liquid into a 1-liter spray bottle. Add 5-10 drops of rosemary essential oil and some purified water, and shake gently before spraying. - Brenda Weaver  
 Source: thelostherbs.com

**THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE**

*And why do you worry about clothes?  
 See how the flowers of the field grow. They do not labor or spin.  
 Yet I tell you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these.*

MATTHEW 6: 28, 29

# Scott County Today



ond. Both Luke Bowling and Adrian Parra played well, but we've just got to learn from this one, and do a better job as we get ready to start district play. Tonight was another hard fought Oneida versus Scott game. I'm proud of how my guys hung in there." Scott is scheduled to play district rival Anderson County at Highlander Field on Tuesday, April 4.



## Hard Fought Battle of In-County Rivals

By Richard Spears

The final score of Thursday's (March 30) soccer game, as Scott fell in an Indian 6-0 win at Oneida's Hoffman Field, may not have reflected how close this game was for almost 75% of the contest. The Indians kept a 1-0 lead, gained from a Luke Barna first half penalty kick, up until

Oneida senior Nick Gilbert drilled a goal, off an assist from Barna, with just over 26 minutes left in the second frame, to put Oneida up 2-0. Indian Mason Keeton scored unassisted two minutes later, to give his team a 3-0 edge. Gilbert followed with a score at the 20 minute mark, assisted by Mason Keeton, then another goal, his third, unassisted, with 13 minutes left in the game, to put Oneida up, 5-0. It was Gilbert's third hat trick in ten days. Oneida sophomore Levi James scored what would be the game's final goal, off an assist from Mason Keeton, with 7:50 remaining to give Oneida the 6-0 shutout victory over the Highlanders. In comments after the game, Oneida Head Coach Derek Keeton told the Morgan County Today, "Scott played extremely hard tonight, we just got a lot of shots on goal (15 for the first half and 19 in the second period), enough shots to win a game. Scott's goalkeepers played tremendously well.

There was an excellent crowd here, and the energy on the field was intense. I'm pleased I got to sub a lot of our younger guys in the game, they did well. We kept our composure in a rivalry game, now we've got to focus on four straight road games to start the month of April."

Oneida is scheduled to play next at King's Academy on Monday, April 3, followed by a game at Northview Academy on Tuesday, April 4; at Kingston Thursday, April 6. The Indians begin their district schedule on Tuesday, April 11, then return home for a district matchup with Cumberland Gap on Thursday, April 13.

Highlander Head Coach Eric Henry told the Morgan County Today, "Our defense was out of position a lot tonight, especially in the second half. We don't have the depth on our bench that we need, but I'm proud of my guys. We also didn't have one of our weapons on offense, since Skye Babb is still out, but we just gotta shake it off. Our goalies made a lot of saves tonight, 14 in the first half, and 14 in the sec-

## ONEIDA DEFEATS GRACE 4-1

After Tuesday's (March 28) win over Grace Christian at Oneida's Hoffman Field, Indian Head Coach Derek Keeton told the Morgan County Today, "This was a really good victory over an outstanding Grace Christian team, and I could not be more proud of these young men." In action against the Rams, Indian senior Nick Gilbert had three goals for a hat trick. Oneida sophomore Alex Torres scored Oneida's 4th goal, off an assist from Luke Barna in the game's final minutes.



# PLAYERS OF THE WEEK



# NICK GILBERT



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# Morgan County Medical Center is extending our hours in March and April to increase access to COVID-19 vaccines

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## “My Family and I are Fully Vaccinated Against COVID-19”

Hi, I'm Tara McCarley, a nurse practitioner at Morgan County Medical Center. My family and I are fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Taking the vaccine and boosters is the best way to protect yourself and others against COVID. If you aren't vaccinated and have questions, please talk with your primary care provider or visit us during one of our COVID vaccine clinics. We will be happy to answer your questions. The schedule for the vaccine clinics is available online at [morgancountymedical.com](http://morgancountymedical.com).

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### - What ages can MCMC vaccinate?

MCMC carries Moderna COVID 19 immunizations for ages 6 months and up. Both primary series and Bivalent Boosters are available for all ages.

### - Who can have boosters and when?

You can have a booster when:

- It has been at least 2 months since your 2nd or 3rd dose of an mRNA COVID vaccine
- If you received 4 doses of vaccine already but DID NOT receive a Bivalent Booster yet and it has been 2 months since your last immunization, you would be eligible for a 5th shot as a Bivalent Booster
- If you have had a COVID-19 infection, please wait 3 months before getting your next COVID-19 immunization
- If you have had 4 shots including a Bivalent Booster, you are considered up to date and do not need another immunization at this time.
- You can have a Moderna bivalent booster if you completed your first two shots with Moderna or Pfizer

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# The Rise of Nimrod II



**John Burns**  
*Opinion Columnist*

I first began to write about the coming world leader eighteen years ago. Using Hebrew interpretation techniques used by every writer in the New Testament, I turn to the law of first mention to introduce America to the coming prince.

To understand Nimrod, religion, and government with goals to unite both, must be clarified. Nimrod was the world's first dictator. He was the head of the Babylonian religious pantheon, and he was the ruling head of the entire secular system.

The religion Nimrod presided over had three Luciferian elements. The Sun, the moon, and the twelve constellations of stars, which all were being worshipped more than the God who created them. Nothing has changed.

In charge of the priests of Babylon, were fallen angels under the guidance of the original rebel, Lucifer himself. The Babylonian mythology reflects the sons of God again desiring to go in to the daughters of men, to stop God's plan of birthing the Messiah through a pure Jewish bloodline.

Lucifer had convinced Nimrod to rebel against God's covenant with humanity to birth the Messiah. First, the marriage covenant of Genesis 2:24 was violated when Nimrod took Semiramis as a consort. She was in open adultery to her own husband.

The twelve constellations tell God's story of redemption. God intended to birth a Lamb of a virgin who would lay down his life for the entire creation. Semiramis claimed to lay with the creator and be impregnated supernaturally as a virgin. The first rebellion after the flood.

Nimrod was descended from Ham through Cush. He was black, and his family originally settled in Egypt and Africa. I often wonder if the curse upon Ham's descendants, had not caused Nimrod to become a warrior who subjugated Babylon?

Ham had committed the first homosexual act in human history. I often wonder what part the fallen angels played in convincing Ham to do what he did to Noah? Noah would not curse Ham for looking upon him naked. The Hebrew verb used in the scripture denotes Ham performed a deliberate action.

The curse upon the descendants of Ham has plagued the black African peoples for a long time. Jesus Christ holds the key to their curse being lifted. Only the belief in Jesus Christ's death, burial, and resurrection can release anyone under a curse supported by God the creator.

Nimrod and Semiramis gave birth to the religion of Babylon. It is centered upon human fertility in women, the deification of the womb of women, and the worship of the creation centered in the perversion of God's Mazza Roth. Job 38 explains this story originally taught by Enoch.

Nimrod's descendants would work to divide creation into moon worship, sun worship, and pagan astrology. Babylon became the city of man on earth. Wherever Babylon traveled, rebellion away from biblical monotheism begins. America is no different.

If one were to draw a line from the north pole to the south pole while traveling straight through Jerusalem, a conundrum must be confronted. Why is every religion east of Jerusalem following a lunar calendar, and why is every religion west of Jerusalem following a solar calendar?

Why is every language east of Jerusalem written from right to left, and every language west of Jerusalem written from left to right? Is the secular world working to unite the Babylonian pantheon and are we on the verge of seeing a new world order established from ancient Sumer on the Euphrates River in Iraq? Jesus Christ warned us that where the carcasses lie, there the eagles will be gathered.

This is an allusion to the gathering of the world's armies united under the banner of an eagle, preparing to invade Israel during the last half of the tribulation coming upon our world. The forces of darkness have united right before our eyes, but do we have ears to hear what the spirit is saying?

The clue lies in the names of Daniel's three friends. Shadrach means he who worships the sun god, Meshach means he who worships the moon god, and Abed-Nebo or he who serves Nebo.

To understand Nebo is to understand the rebellion Lucifer led in heaven before he was placed in charge of the all the kingdoms of this world. He has one-third of the angels at his disposal and Nebo was the fallen angel in charge of Babylon. He took his orders from the Nachash, the shining one, Lucifer.

Our president has united the Catholic Church, with Islam in Iraq, and he sure governs like the man identified as the man of lawlessness governing the western leg of the revived Roman empire spoken of by Daniel, Ezekiel, and Jeremiah. Micah identifies the coming world leader as an Assyrian.

Assyria was the epicenter of Nimrod's Babylon and it is no coincidence that America has built a multi-billion-dollar embassy in Baghdad to unite the future Assyrian dictatorship in Babylon after the United States dollar has collapsed, the United Nations will move its headquarters to BABYLON.

Israel is on the verge of being duped by our President as he negotiates with Iran. The Shiites control Iraq and Iran and they believe their Mahdi is alive as I pen these words. They are the house of the moon god. The Pope in Rome represents the house of the sun god. The reformation church flies under the banner of Rome as the reformation follows the Roman religious calendar established by Pontifex maximus in Babylon. The sun worshippers will soon unite with moon worshippers married to Nebo and government.

The Luciferian trinity has manifested in my lifetime. They will soon exalt themselves above all that is called God.

The Bible identifies God as Elohim. He is the creator of the universe and he alone is to be worshipped. His plan was first perverted by Lucifer and continued by the man Nimrod after the flood. I believe Nimrod was the son of a fallen angel and a daughter of Cush. I believe we will soon see the anointing of the last world dictator in Babylon and he will look and act exactly like Nimrod.

Choose God's plan today, the time is indeed short for gentile salvation.

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

He is alive forevermore and he is coming for his virgin bride very soon. John Burns 9-10-2022

*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.*

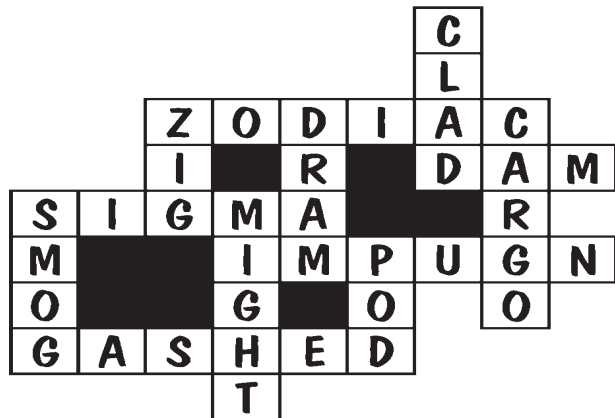
*Some of his many decorations, awards and badges include; Bronze Star Medal for Valor, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, Sniper Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Combat Infantry Badge and Expert Infantry Badge. Throughout his prestigious military career, he traveled to forty-five 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



## Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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

## King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 21 mins.

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

# MoCo Today's Veteran of the Week



We honor the nine Soldiers who were killed on Wednesday, March 29, 2023 in a night training accident, when two HH-60 Black Hawk helicopters crashed in a field near Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

Warrant Officer 1 Jeffrey Barnes, 33  
 Cpl. Emilie Marie Eve Bolanos, 23  
 Chief Warrant Officer 2 Zachary Esparza, 36  
 Sgt. Isaac John Gayo, 27  
 Staff Sgt. Joshua Gore, 25  
 Warrant Officer 1 Aaron Healy, 32  
 Staff Sgt. Taylor Mitchell, 30  
 Chief Warrant Officer 2 Rusten Smith, 32  
 Sgt. David Solinas Jr., 23.

Maj. Gen. JP McGee, commanding general of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), said in a statement on Friday. "This is a time of great sadness for the 101st Airborne Division. The loss of these Soldiers will reverberate through our formations for years to come, now is the time for grieving and healing. The whole division and this community stand behind the families and friends of our fallen Soldiers."

Please keep the families of these fallen veterans in your thoughts and prayers all in the precious name of Jesus Christ.

## Law Enforcement Officer of the Week

We honor the two Metropolitan Nashville Police Officers who faced evil head-on putting their own lives on the line by killing Audrey Hale who took the lives of six innocent people including three nine-year-old children on Wednesday, March 29, 2023 at a private Christian School in Nashville.

Rex Engelbert and Michael Collazo, both members of the Metropolitan Nashville Police Department, fatally wounded the shooter, police said.

Officer Rex Engelbert

Body camera footage shows Engelbert, a four-year veteran of the MNP, pulling up to The Covenant School and grabbing a rifle from the trunk of his police car. He unlocks the school doors, saying, "Let's go, I need three," as he enters the school with three other officers.

The police team canvases the downstairs rooms until Engelbert hears shots from above, "it sounds like it's coming from upstairs," he says and runs straight up the school stairwell.

Alarms whirring and booming rifle shots could be heard in the footage as the officers locate the shooter three minutes after entering the school. Engelbert fires his rifle at the shooter.



Those who know Engelbert weren't surprised by his actions. "He's a gentle giant," his brother said in a statement.

A Chicago native, Englebert graduated from Loyola Academy, a Jesuit school, in 2014. In a statement, the school said it recognized the role that the "quick response" of Engelbert played in the school shooting and that it will "pray for him and all our first responders who are called to a life of service to others every day."

Officer Michael Collazo

A Nashville native, Officer Michael Collazo is seen in the body camera footage running up the school's stairs with three other police officers. He shouts, "Shots fired!" and directs the team to "go right." He locates the shooter and pushes in front, with his handgun raised, and fires. "Suspect down, suspect down," he radios.

His actions also did not surprise friends and family that know the nine-year MNP veteran and Marine Corps veteran. His sister stated that he is, "braver than she ever imagined."

Collazo served six years in the Marine Corps until 2016, reaching the rank of sergeant. While serving, Collazo was awarded a Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, among other accolades.



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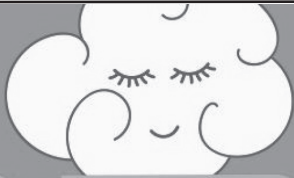
To be eligible for E-Pay, you must have had service at the same location for at least one year and your membership must be in good standing with Plateau Electric.

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# April 2023



## Morgan County Schools

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

**3**  
**SPRING BREAK**

**4**  
**SPRING BREAK**

**5**  
**SPRING BREAK**

**6**  
**SPRING BREAK**

**7**  
**GOOD FRIDAY**

**10**  
**SPRING BREAK**

**11**  
**Breakfast**  
Pancake on a Stick  
Juice  
**Lunch**  
Popcorn Chicken  
Macaroni & Cheese  
Green Beans  
Garden Salad  
Fresh Veggies & Dip  
Side Kick

**12**  
**Breakfast**  
Sausage Biscuit  
Fruit Parfait  
**Lunch**  
Spaghetti or Chicken Alfredo  
Roasted Broccoli  
Caesar Salad  
Veggie Sticks & Dip  
Garlic Sticks  
Fresh Fruit

**13**  
**Breakfast**  
Breakfast Burrito  
Fresh Smoothie  
**Lunch**  
Salisbury Steak  
Mashed Potatoes  
Green Beans  
Garden Salad  
Sister Schubert Roll  
Fruit Parfait

**14**  
**Breakfast**  
Breakfast Pizza  
Banana  
**Lunch**  
Chicken Sandwich  
Tater Tots  
Pasta Salad  
Cole Slaw  
Fresh Veggies & Dip  
Watermelon

**17**  
**Breakfast**  
Egg & Cheese Croissant  
Fruit  
**Lunch**  
Hamburger on Bun  
Trimming  
Baked Potato Wedges  
Baked Beans, Brussel Sprouts  
Tossed Salad  
Cool Tropics

**18**  
**Breakfast**  
Sausage Biscuit  
Fruit Parfait  
**Lunch**  
Mandarin Chicken  
Noodles  
Steamed Rice  
Steamed Vegetables  
Garden Salad  
Fresh Fruit

**19**  
**Breakfast**  
Breakfast Pizza  
Berry Cup  
**Lunch**  
Chicken Drumstick  
Mashed Potatoes  
Green Beans  
Fresh Garden Salad  
Fresh Fruit  
Strawberry Shortcake

**20**  
**Breakfast**  
Steak Biscuit  
Banana  
**Lunch**  
Frito Chili Pie  
Lettuce, Tomatoes  
Cheese, Onions  
Steamed Corn, Garden Salad  
Fruit Parfait

**21**  
**Breakfast**  
Eggs, Biscuit & Gravy  
Fruit Smoothie  
**Lunch**  
Chicken Nuggets  
Mac & Cheese  
Steamed Vegetables  
Hot Roll  
Jell-O w/ Fruit

**24**  
**Breakfast**  
Chicken Biscuit  
Juice  
**Lunch**  
Pizza  
Steamed Corn  
Caesar Salad  
Fresh Veggies & Dip  
Fresh Berries  
Baked Cookie

**25**  
**Breakfast**  
Breakfast Pizza, Cereal  
Fresh Fruit  
**Lunch**  
Chicken Sandwich  
Seasoned Fries  
Baked Beans  
Pasta Salad  
Tossed Salad  
Jell-O Cup w/ Fruit

**26**  
**Breakfast**  
Mini Cinnamon Rolls  
Fruit Smoothie  
**Breakfast for Lunch**  
Eggs, Gravy & Biscuit  
Chicken or Sausage  
Potato Patty  
Fresh Berries  
Fruit Parfait Bar

**27**  
**Breakfast**  
Breakfast Burrito  
Banana  
**Lunch**  
Chicken Tenders  
Macaroni & Cheese  
Green Beans, Brussel Sprouts  
Tossed Salad  
Hot Roll  
Berry Cup

**28**  
**Breakfast**  
**Lunch**  
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# Morgan County Today

## Easter Coloring Page



"I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." (John 10:10b)

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## Springtime Perfection: Easy and Colorful Meringue Cookies With a Secret Twist!

Could these cookies be any more perfect for springtime? I think not. They're sweet, pastel and light as a feather. The technique of making meringue has been used in European baking since the 17th century and is a staple ingredient in classic desserts like pavlova and lemon meringue pie.

While they look impressive, they're astonishingly easy to make. And if I can make these, you can make these. Let everyone think you moonlight as a pastry chef in a French patisserie. It'll be our secret.

Speaking of secret, there's an unexpected ingredient in these meringue-based cookies. We use gelatin dessert powder (such as Jell-O brand). Besides giving these cookies their beautiful colors and fun fruity flavors, the gelatin makes the meringue exceptionally stable and very easy to work with. The stable texture makes using a piping bag with a tip to create beautiful flower shapes easy and fun.

I imagine my dear readers rolling their eyes thinking, "She's lost her mind. Not only is she expecting us to make meringue, but she wants us to use a piping bag." Believe me, I used

to be scared of both things, too. But as I said, if I can do this, anybody can.

If you can use a mixer, you can make meringue. You simply whip the egg whites, adding sugar and gelatin powder. If you choose not to pipe them, just plop by the spoonful and bake. Using a piping bag is great fun. I have no piping skills whatsoever! The internet is filled with easy instructional videos. You can invest in some reusable bags and a few tips for under \$5. Any mistakes you make you can scoop back into the bag and try again. Or just eat them. I won't tell.

### PASTEL MERINGUE COOKIES

Yield: approximately 36 cookies

Total Time: 2 1/2 hours

4 egg whites

1/4 teaspoon cream of tartar

1/2 cup sugar

1 (3 ounce) box gelatin, any flavor



www.JasonCoblentz.com

**These show-stopper cookies are perfect for  
Easter.**

Preheat oven to 225 F. Carefully separate egg yolks from the whites, taking care that absolutely no yolks get in the whites. Reserve yolks for another purpose.

In a completely clean and dry mixing bowl, beat egg whites and cream of tartar on high speed. When whites

reach soft peak stage, gradually add the sugar one tablespoon at a time. Continue to beat until stiff peaks form. Turn mixer to low and gradually add gelatin powder until incorporated.

On a parchment lined baking sheet, drop mixture by tablespoonfuls or use your piping bag fitted with a decorative tip to pipe meringue mixture into shapes as desired. Bake for 1 hour, then turn off heat. Without opening the oven door, leave them in the oven for another hour to further dry.

Once dried, these cookies can be stored in an airtight container at room temperature for up to a week, or in the freezer for up to a month.

I made these cookies using five flavors of gelatin. Pineapple was the family favorite, but each flavor was enjoyable.

Unfortunately, adding the gelatin means they're not Kosher for Passover. Of course, you can omit the gelatin, double the sugar, add a teaspoon of vanilla and a few drops of food coloring. Et Voila!

Perfect for Easter, bridal or baby showers, these cookies are a show-stopper. You can add sprinkles, top with colored sugar or dip the bottoms in melted chocolate. You can combine different colored batters in the piping bag for multicolor swirl effects. At a cost of under \$2 a batch, these spectacular cookies are certainly frugal and fabulous!

\*\*\*

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

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## VETERANS POST

by Freddy Groves

### Employees Banned From Working at VA

After all the instances of fraud unearthed by the Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Inspector General over the years, I was not surprised to see this special report of something else they uncovered: "Stronger Controls Help Ensure People Barred from Paid Federal Healthcare Jobs Do Not Work for VHA."

Those who are excluded from getting a VA health-care job are those who previously committed "healthcare fraud, patient abuse, controlled substance violations, or acts subject to license revocation," among other things such as Medicare fraud. The Health and Human Services OIG keeps a list of those excluded people, but the VA OIG recently ran a test sample of a single pay period, and yes, they found people on that list employed by the VA.

What apparently happened was that the human resources (hiring) staff didn't correctly do as they were required by federal law, which is run the names of potential new hires through the list to make sure they hadn't

been excluded from employment. In instances of surname changes, the previous last names weren't checked even though they were noted on the hiring documents.

But that wasn't the only error. The VA's Office of Integrity and Compliance was also required to do a monthly computer check of all Social Security numbers of people being paid to make sure excluded people hadn't slipped through the employment cracks. They pointed to a computer coding error as the reason they weren't.

Enter the OIG, who made recommendations so it doesn't happen in the future. One of those recommendations is to do a comprehensive audit of the Social Security numbers of all VA employees to see if any additional names show up.

There will be new training, of course, of the people who didn't follow policy, plus written guidelines, plus redundancies with multiple eyes looking at data and processes.

You have to love the VA OIG and the people who work there. Surely they have the highest satisfaction level of any who work in government.

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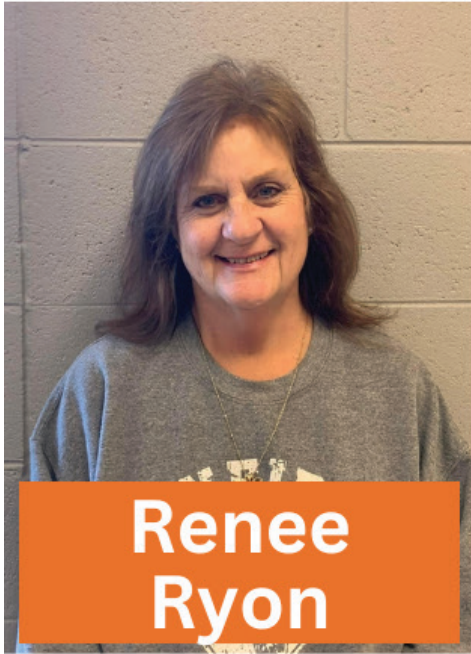
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