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Morgan County Today

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	CALLED TO SECOND AND IN	STELLEY organ Counties
Tue 05	55° /33°	*
Wed 06	45° /30°	
Thu 07	54° /37°	
Fri 08	59° /42°	
Sat 09	61° /44°	*
Sun 10	62° /43°	7
Mon 11	53° /38°	7
	5	

Know what's **below**.

Call before you dig.

Ms. Avery Pearl Pet Columnist

Well, we have the trees in the house again with sparkling lights. We have 4 of them! This is the

first year that Ms Ivory Girl has been here to see all the pretty things. We are both so well behaved and never bother any of the decorations.

Mimi tells everyone how proud she is of us.I have noticed something strange though, every year the weather turns cold, when the trees come in the house. Does that mean that bringing them in makes it cold? Or is the cold why they bring them in?

I have also noticed that, the music talking about some Santa guy, a dude named

Pet Perspective with Ms. Avery Pearl



Rudolph, a fella made out of snow called Frosty, and the baby born in Bethlehem named Jesus. Mimi's favorite song of all is "A Baby Changes Everything."

Any-woof, Mimi and Pap call this time of the year Christmas.

Wow, can you imagine being so loved and special that all of this is done because it is your birthday?

I sure hope that you all enjoy making memories with those you wuff during this most wonderful time of the year.

Be sure to keep an eye out for the Ms Avery Pearl Christmas Pet Picture Contest coming soon.

For more of my Pet Perspective like and follow me on Facebook at Ms Avery Pearl.

Invitation To Bid

Morgan County Schools is accepting bids for the following: Door replacement and repair at Oakdale School, 225 Clifty Creek Road, Oakdale TN

This bid is for Interior and exterior doors

Specifications can be obtained by contacting Jim Aytes. Maintenance Supervisor, Morgan County Schools at 423-539-8801. Sealed bids should be delivered to Morgan County Schools, 136 Flat Fork Road, Wartburg TN 37787 and should be identified as "2023 Oakdale School Door

Bid opening will be Thursday December 14th, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. in the Large Conference Room of Morgan County Schools, 136 Flat Fork Road, Wartburg TN 37887. Morgan County Schools reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Morgan County Schools does not discriminate based on race, color or national origin in federal or state sponsored programs, pursuant to Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C.2000d).

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

The City of Wartburg will have an upcoming Beer Board meeting on Friday December 15, 2023 to begin at 2:30p.m. The meeting will take place in the conference room at City Hall.

DLARMC CHANGE IN MEETING TIME. The Deer Lodge Abner Ross Center has changed its meeting date. The Center will now meet on the third Monday of the month at 6PM. Please make a note of this change.

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

The City of Sunbright is now accepting applications for a clerical position. Make arrangements to pick up/fill out an application at City hall. For more information call 423-628-5250

St Paul's Live Nativity Sunday, December 10, from 5:30 till 8:00 pm.

COMMODITY DISTRIBUTION

East Tennessee Human Resource Agency (ETHRA) will distribute Commodities, Thursday, December 7th, 8 am to 12 pm, at the Wartburg Civic Center. You may pick up for 3 households only. Please bring a box for your commodities. Households can pre-register prior to distribution date at the ETHRA office located next to Wartburg High School. For more information, call 423-346-6651, option 5. This program is funded under an agreement with the Department of Agriculture. In accordance with federal law and USDA, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race,

color, national origin, sex, age or disability.

The Old Porch Swing



Michael Nance answer is simple, **Columnist**

Many people from my generation still remember visiting their grandparents and sitting on an old porch swing listening to the many stories being shared on the front porch. From tall tales to important lessons of life, the old porch swing was always there rocking back and

Why do we not see many families gathering on the front porch talking and sharing stories these days? The

family entertainment has most

definitely changed.

The porch swing was extremely popular starting in the 1880s and throughout the 1920s. During that time houses lacked air conditioning and the hot summer evenings were much more tolerable sitting and rocking on an old porch swing. The front porch was a place of social interaction, where family and friends shared the events and opinions of the era. By the 1950s, television and automobiles contributed to the demise of the front porch's importance in family entertainment.

Even today, you see porch swings for sale at the hardware store and see them hanging from the porches of houses. But in today's

cyber culture you rarely see family gatherings or the swing getting used. It has become almost nothing more than an ornamental element of the front

I was lucky enough to inherit a circa 1930s era porch swing from my grandfather and grandmother Nance's home. I was appreciative to say the least, as I remember listening to my grandfather, Stobert Nance talk about everything from politics to the garden, all from that old porch swing. After assessing the old porch swing, I realized that it required a lot of work, and it would be no easy task to bring it back to functional life.

I reviewed every bolt, nut and board on the old swing. Although I could not positively identify the manufacturing date of the swing, I am convinced it is depression era craftsmanship based on the use of "hot rivets" in its construction. I could visibly identify burn marks on the wood where rivets were heated and then clamped to mushroom the ends. So, my

approximate date for the manufacturing of the swing is circa 1936-45

After my detailed review of the swing, I traveled to the hardware store and bought twice as many parts as I thought I needed, only to find out I was sorely mistaken. After replacing all the carriage bolts, reglueing damaged spots and staining the swing I began to mount the swing from my front porch ceiling. Without going into detail, I made at least five trips to ACE Hardware in Wartburg to buy chain links, joiners etc. I made so many trips that the folks at ACE were having a good time commenting on

> my planning skills. After spending enough money and time to purchase two new swings, I finally resurrected my grandparents' old porch swing.

Although I spent much more money than it would have taken to buy a new swing, I would have spent that amount again just to keep this old part of my family functional. All of my family remember sitting on the swing. Now counting my daughter, four generations of my family will have sat and rocked on this old swing. The swing itself has now become a story, as there are many memories associated with it.

My uncle Gene recalled as a young boy always sitting on the swing before a summer thunderstorm. As he would rock on the old

swing he would watch the dark clouds approach from the west, traveling from across Smith Hollow. He would enjoy the cool breeze from the storm and only retreat inside the house when the rain forced him too.

Many family members recall one Sunday afternoon when Freeman Newport and his wife Delphie were visiting my grandparents. The couple were rocking on the old swing, while Freeman was telling one of his tall tales. Nearing the crescendo of his story the chain on the swing broke dumping Freeman and Delphie on the porch. Everyone chuckled, joking that it was divine intervention to prevent Freeman from finishing his tale!

So, the next time you see an old porch swing, just remember, it was once a family's primary vehicle for social interaction. I dare say we would all be better off to turn the TV off and visit with family and friends rocking from an "Old Porch Swing".





In Loving Memory

Aaron Jacob "Jake" Young, 22

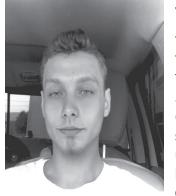
Aaron Jacob "Jake" Young, age 22, passed away November 27, 2023. He was born June 13, 2001.

Jake was a member of the Macadonia Baptist Church on Gobey. He loved fishing and riding

motorcycles, but most of all he loved his family and friends. He loved making people laugh and smile and he had such a good sense of humor.

Jake is preceded in death by his great grandparents John & Sally Bell and Essie Lively Truesdale.

Jake leaves behind his mother Bobbie and stepdad Jason Thomas; father Donnie Young; special grandparents John & Carol Bell and Ray & Christine Young; brothers Donnie Young,



Jr., Zackary Young, Lathan Chaney, Silas Young, and Bishop Young; sister Sally Young; special aunt Suzie Bell, Crystal Cox and husband Jason, Barbara Carroll; uncle Johnny "Johnboy" Bell and a host of cousins and friends and extended family.

The family will receive friends Saturday, December 2, 2023 at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg from 1:00-3:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 3:00 p.m. with Bro. Taylor Adams officiating. Interment will follow in the Bell Family Cemetery.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Aaron Jacob "Jake" Young.

Bradley "Brad" Eugene Heidle, 43

Bradley Eugene Heidle, "Brad", age 43 of Wartburg, TN passed away unexpectedly on November 28, 2023. He was born December 3, 1979.

He will be missed by his family and friends, but we will cherish the many memories that

he has left with us. Will always be remembered by many for his big heart, kindness devotion, dedication, wittiness, and hard work.

Brad is preceded in death by his grandparents Reese and Louise Heidle; uncles Robert Heidle and Jerry Rose, and Donald Gregg; aunt Martha Heidle.

Young.

He leaves behind his parents
Doug Heidle, and Tim & Tammie
Willis; children Brock and Mariah Heidle; siblings Brittany (Stephen) Redmon, Mary Willis, Joe
(Lynsey) Willis, Sami Willis; niecMelissa (Randy) es and nephews Elijah Ruppe,
Winegar; grandchilEmma, Ella, Ethan Redmon, Kh-



loe, Kynlee, Timber Willis; grandparents Eugene and Ann Rose; uncles and aunts Mike (Sherry) Heidle, Wanda Kennedy, Karen Vespie, Patty Nance, Missy Wyatt, and a host of cousins and extended family, all

who he deeply loved.

The family will receive friends Friday, December 1, 2023, at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg from 4:00-6:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 6:00 p.m. with Rev. Ralph Nance officiating. Gravesides services will be on Saturday at 11:00 a.m. in the Morgan Memorial Gardens in Wartburg.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Bradley Eugene Heidle.

Ruby Elizabeth Scott Gosnell, 83

Ruby Elizabeth Scott Gosnell, age 83, went home to be with the Lord and her beloved husband Howard, Thursday, November 30, 2023. She was born May 18, 1940.

Ruby retired after 27 years from the Mor-

gan County Courthouse where she was a Deputy Clerk for the Circuit Court Clerks office. She was a member of the Pilot Mountain Missionary Baptist Church. Ruby's love for her family and friends was a reflection of her love for the Lord. The baked goods and casseroles that she enjoyed making for everyone was her blue ribbons in life. Waiting for this day was her only travel plans. She will be truly missed.

She is preceded in death by her husband of 59 years Howard burg. Gosnell; daughter Serita Gosnell; parents Sam and Glenna Scott; brother John F. Scott; grandson ored Grant Gosnell; father-in-law and mother-in-law Burl and Blanch Gosnell and God-son Billy White. Ruby leaves behind her son Harry (Tammy) Gosnell; special niece



Melissa (Randy)
Winegar; grandchildren Elaine (Adam)
Walden, Troy Gosnell, Tori (Jesse) England, Meghan (Justin) Dagley, Alisha (Ryan) Helton, Matt (Melissa) West and Autumn Nagy; great grandchildren Logan & Kinsley Walden,

Braylee & Teylee Dagley, Brody & Brielle West, Levi, Chloe and Maverie England will arrive March 2024. Sister: Rachel (Lee) Smith and a host of family and friends.

The family will receive friends Sunday, December 3, 2023 at Schubert Funeral Home in Warburg from 4:00-6:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 6:00 p.m. with Rev. Randy Winegar officiating. Graveside services will in be Monday at 12:00 p.m. in the Wartburg City Cemetery in Wartburg

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Ruby Gosnell

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

Matthew 5:4 Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted. - Jesus Christ

Revelation 21:4

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.

Wartburg

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FLASHBACK

BYLINE: By Mick Harper

- 1. Name the last song released by Patience and Prudence.
- 2. Who released "The More I See You" in 1966?
- 3. Which group released "Get Back"?
- 4. Who were the Jordanaires?
- 5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "You're looking kinda lonely girl, Would you like someone new to talk to?"

Answers

1. "Tonight You Belong to Me," in 1964. The two sisters did well reviving a 1927 song that has since been widely used, including in a 2018

- Google commercial and an episode of "The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel." 2. Chris Montez. The song was originally released in 1945 and has been covered by several others over the years, including Ella Fitzgerald and Andy Williams.
- 3. The Beatles with Billy Preston on electric piano, in 1969. An edited version was used in the concert film of the same name with Paul McCartney on his 1989-1990 tour.
- 4. The vocal quartet served as backup to Elvis Presley from 1956 to 1970 as well as backup for Patsy Cline from 1960 to 1963.
- 5. "Sharing the Night Together," by Dr. Hook in 1976. The song was first released by Lenny LeBlanc and others, but it was Hook's version that rose on the charts.
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STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

- * Water itself does not conduct electricity well, but the impurities found in water do.
- * When Ethiopian emperor Menelik II didn't feel well, he would eat a few pages of the Bible. While this curious habit didn't do him any harm as long as his consumption was limited, in 1913, feeling particularly ill after a stroke, he ordered an entire Old Testament book of Kings to be fed to him, a page at a time, but died before he could complete it.
- * Humans can live unprotected in space for about 30 seconds if they don't hold their breath.
- * Two actors have died while

playing Judas Iscariot in live productions of the biblical story by accidentally hanging themselves for real during his death scene.

- * Ever find yourself getting a little sleepy during a virtual meeting? Contrary to popular belief, researchers have determined that the cause isn't information overload, but mental underload and boredom. (Frankly, we're not too surprised!)
- * A 1999 study found that a single square kilometer (247 acres) of the Amazon rainforest can contain about 90,790 tons of living plants.
- * As editors around the globe already know, hearing grammatical errors can cause physical stress.
- * Following a nationwide legal

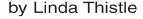
battle (and graceful concession from Gregory's Restaurant and Bar in New Jersey), Taco Bell successfully ensured that the term "Taco Tuesday" can be used freely throughout all 50 states.

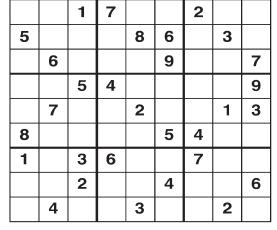
* If Earth's history was condensed into a 24-hour span, life would have appeared at 4 a.m., land plants at 10:24 p.m., dinosaur extinction at 11:41 p.m., and human history would have begun at 11:58:43 p.m.

Thought for the Day: "If a man empties his purse into his head, no one can take it away from him. An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest." -- Benjamin Franklin

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Weekly **SUDOKU**





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 "Kapow!" 12 13 British ref. work 15 16 Holler 19 18 12 Director Spike 25 23 24 13 Chemical suffix 27 14 Fall sign 15 Nest egg acronym 35 16 Large, luxurious car 40 42 43 18 Brooch 46 19 Range 20 Collections 52 22 - tear (raging)

- 23 First lady of scat 27 Earth Day
- mo. 29 Transparent
- 31 Dolphins' home
- 34 Traces of smoke
- 35 Agile
- 37 Obtained
- 38 Bygone Peruvian
- 39 Flamenco cheer
- 41 Vacillate
- 45 Quick trip
- 47 Shoe width 48 Pungent
- cheese 52 Aachen article

- 53 54 55 56 57 58
- 53 Sports fig-7 Pivot 8 That guy's ures? 54 Zsa Zsa's sis-9 Kimono sash 10 Samovar ter
- 55 Speck 11 — kwon do 56 Dunkable 17 Ellipse 21 Ballroom treat
- 57 River blocker 58 Actor Brynner 23 Radiates
- **DOWN**
- 1 Radar dots 2 High nest
- 3 Signified 4 Fixes a

6 Fiend

- squeak
- "There's no 5 Newspaper – team!" 33 "Better Call chief
- 26 Billboards 28 Picnic dessert 45 Equitable 30 — Jima

24 Vinyl records 43

dance

25 Back talk

- 31 Roman 1051
 - 46 Streetcar 48 Leary's drug
 - 49 Jurist Lance 50 Fortify

36 Bellow

42 Like a

role

37

Swiss

metropolis

Sledded in

the Winter

Olympics

neglected

44 Streisand title

Vowel group

garden

- 51 A/C meas. Saul" network
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(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.



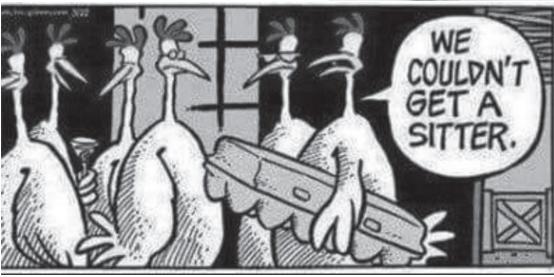


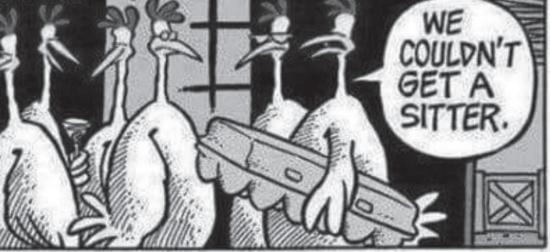






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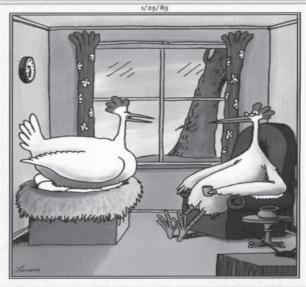






TELL YOU, BOYS, OLD AGE SURE AIN'T FOR





"Well, I laid four Wednesday, three yesterday, and two more today ... of course, George keeps saying we shouldn't count them until they hatch."

Subscribe to the Morgan County Today











Tom Redmon Columnist

I have been interested in music about all my life. You could say I have been a good listener because I didn't inherit a talent for playing music. But when I was in college my third year, I went down to Williamson

Jewelry and looked at their guitars. Although I couldn't afford a Gibson, at the time, and I knew I'd have to do without a few meals I ended up taking a J-45 Gibson back to my room. I believe it cost me \$159.00, a lot of money in 1957, but today its worth over \$2,000.



Now being good on a guitar is hard but learning to play some county songs all you need to know is three major cords. Like Ray Prices' song "My Shoes Keep Walking Back to You" I started in D Major and go to G and C. A good guitarist would probably go to a few minors and 7th cords. So, in the penny books house on North Dixie Avenue in Cookeville, Tennessee I banged away on the new Gibson and learned to play a few songs. At the time Ray Price, Faron Young and Carl Smith were big in the country music field. My first songs I learned to play and sing were Carl Smith's, "Lovely World," Webb Price's, "Back Street Affair," "My Shoes Keep Walking Back to You," and "Wait a Little Longer Please Jesus."

What I planned to do with music was to entertain myself and maybe a girlfriend if she liked country music. At the time I had no desire to play for an audience.

When I went into the Navy, I didn't get to take my Gibson, but when I got to Guam with a lot of time on my hands, I bought me a \$15.00 guitar from a sailor leaving Guam. I got out in the breezeway and played to my heart's content and I hoped not many sailors could hear me. A few did and one said Redmon I've never heard anyone play a guitar like you. I wondered what he meant. Another one said Redmon I'm from Tampa and I know a musician named Bobby who plays on the radio and T.V. I could introduce you to him. I told him I didn't want to play for an audience. This is for me, all alone.

When I got to Moffett Field, my last Navy base I got with a guy who could play lead pretty well. We had a great time when no one else was in the lab where we worked. I even got a tape recorder and recorded a few of our songs. I thought, not bad for two beginners.

When I returned to Wartburg two high school boys who saw my guitar who saw my guitar in my car asked me if I wanted to play in

Ed Where Have You Been All My Life

their band. This turned out to be my mistake. They were good but they knew it.

I know I said I didn't want to perform before an audience but when I started teaching school at Deer Lodge, I made the mistake of playing for them. Soon I was playing with Leonard Coffee and Charles Bonham, two years, I first played an impromptu show on the stage at Central High School. I liked it because my stage fright was almost gone. Soon we were playing at different venues like Deer Lodge and Coalfield Schools.



One night we were playing at Capastronia Restaurant and my first problem happened. One of the high school boys who played the banjo was not invited to play with us that night. It wasn't my fault but the boy came into the place and called me outside. I went out and he attacked me and I had to protect myself. I knocked him into the school bus and he came at me again. I was afraid his mother was going to come on me. The boy finally gave up after getting a black eye and a bloody nose and went home. I didn't have any more problems with him. The boy was good and I heard he played professionally.

When I moved to Cookeville to finish my degree and teach high school I got into a better band in no time. A medical doctor played bass for us and we played all over middle Tennessee. We even played in the Ole Pioneer Theater in Wartburg. We played in Nashville, Sparta, Cookeville, and other locations near Cookeville. It was fun and I don't believe we ever got paid. We played on two radio stations in Sparta and Cookeville. I had no desire to go any higher in my music. Teaching high school was my profession and that is where I concentrated. I had become popular in Putnam County and I was busy with clubs and church worship but I just couldn't leave music alone.

Life took me to Manatee County, Florida and I was in no hurry to get into another band. I did play and sing for the kids at Southeast High and for twenty years that is about all.

The music director at Bayshore Baptist Church found out that I sung and he got me to sing there. I told him I liked to sing but I had no desire to do anything with music but to sing a solo once in a while. But later on, I got the bug. Some good country songs and singers were coming about and I had written a few gospel songs I'd like to practice with a band.

In the late 1980's a fellow by the name of Ed Baker came to Bayshore Baptist Church. No one included me knew he was a good lead guitarist until he brought his guitar to church and played for the Sunday School Class. He asked

the folks there if they knew anyone who could sing country style music. Someone right away said, "yes I know Tommy Redmon sings some."

That did it. Ed came up to me after church and asked me if I wanted to get together and see if we could play together. I told him that maybe we could do some jamming together but as for forming a band I didn't know. The ting was that I didn't know how good this follow from Ohio was. But I tell you when I first heard him, I was surprised that he wasn't already playing with a professional group in Nashville.

The more we played together the more my assessment of him was, "this fellow can play."

We got together at my big house on 37 th Street out of Bradenton, Florida. We got my son Jason to play bass for us which really helped any country band. I had purchased a bass guitar for him and having the talent he has he had no trouble playing it.

What I liked best about Ed was, he was a good lead player and he wasn't a perfectionist with the ones he played with. Sometimes I was guilty of getting out of time because I played a lot by myself and I didn't have to watch my timing. But Ed would get me back in time and we got to be a pretty

good country band. I did most of the signing but Ed was pretty good signing himself, but he loved to play the guitar best.

So, we played gigs together I learned that it didn't matter what mode you got into Ed could play it – country, gospel or rock. He had played with several bands who played rock and he was good at doing Elvis numbers. But like me I believe his favorite was real country.

My wife Wanda had come down with pancreatic cancer in 1993 and we were in construction of a new school. Wanda wanted us to go with the band and she even watched a few of our shows. We tried to learn new songs and we took in two or three new pickers. One played the twelve-string guitar and he really helped Ed in rhythm.

We never wanted to set up over one show a week but we started getting more calls and before you knew it, we were playing too much.

Sometimes we played only gospel music especially at churches and other groups who requested it. Sometimes we played a lot of country music with a few light rock numbers when requested. Ed could play them all and it gave me a rest.

In 1995 when Wanda's condition started getting worse, we had to take a break and on February 10, 1996 we wrapped up the band. Ed's job moved him to Texas and we were able to get him back once for a visit.

Now we are in contact with Ed again and he wants to come to Florida this winter and play some with Jason and me. Two of our band members are gone so it won't be the same.

I came back to Tennessee in the years of 2005-2010 and played with a good group of musicians and recorded three gospel CD's that I am proud of. I wrote about 40% of the songs on those albums.

All I can say is thank you Lord for the great opportunity you gave me to play and sing music. I did a lot more than I thought I would back in the 1950's.

Also, Ed Baker where have you been all my life?

Historically Speaking
Jack Case letter to Bob Tuck –
A Lesson in Effective Leadership
By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

Colleen Tuck just sent me a copy of a letter her dad, Wesley Robert (Bob) Tuck, received in 1962 from Jack Case, then the division head of Mechanical Operations. Tuck was in Department 2003. I have the original letter that was given to me some years ago.

The letter contains some excellent leadership principles. Here is the content of the letter in its entirety.

To: Mr. W. R. Tuck Date: March 1, 1962 Company Location: Department 2003 Originating Dept: Mechanical Operations Copy to: V. B. Gritzner J. R. Jordon File (Y-12NoRC)

Congratulations on your recent appointment to a supervisor's position in the Mechanical Operations Division. I am proud to welcome you into what I consider to be one of the finest groups of men in this plant.

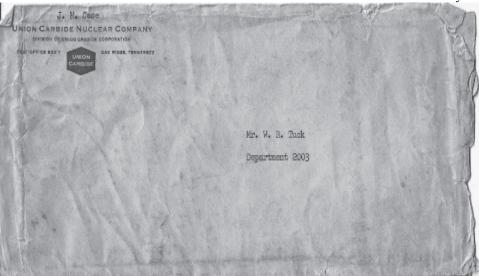
Attached to this letter is a group of company publications which will help you in your new job. Please study them and see your immediate supervisor if you have any questions about the information contained in them.

I would like to add a few personal words about some of the things which I consider important about your new job.

- 1. First of all, I want you to realize that you are a part of the management of this plant. When you speak to one of your employees, you are speaking as a member of management. To him you are the company, and that's the way it should be. To be a successful supervisor, you must know company policy and know how it is interpreted. You can learn this from official bulletins and from your day-to-day communications with your supervisor. Ho well you learn it and how well you keep up with changes and new developments will depend primarily on how hard you are willing to work on it.
- 2. Don't pass the buck. Your supervisor will not appreciate use of excuses or claims that a failure is due to some inadequacy on the art of people who work for you. On the other hand, your employees will have no respect for you if you attempt to shift the responsibility for disagreeable decision or policies to "higher management."
- 3. Be ambitious. I want you to feel that you are capable of doing your boss' job as well as he can. I like to see people prepare themselves in advance for better jobs. In fact, I want you to be trying to get your boss' job but not by cutting his throat. The right way to get his job is to do your own so well that you make him look so good that his boss will promote him.
- 4. Be safety conscious. This division enjoys an enviable reputation for efficient, safe operations. We have this reputation because we worked hard to get it. I expect you to plan safety into every job.
- 5. Be proud of this division. Be proud of Y-12, too. If you cannot feel that you are working in the best division of the best plant in Oak Ridge, then you're not in the right job. If you see something that looks wrong, tell your supervisor. I expect him to either correct it or explain it to you. Sometimes a situation is not exactly as it seem son the surface. Always remember that the best man to help you solve your problems is the man you work for.
- 6. Get along with other people in the plant. Remember that their job is as important to them as yours is to you. Never try to make yourself look good by making someone else look bad. Even if he is 100

percent wrong, you will accomplish more by helping him than by hurting him. Along this line, don't fight with people in other groups. Try to get what you need or want peacefully. If it comes to the point that fighting is the only way out, let me know. I prefer to do the fighting for this division myself.

7. Your most important tool is the people who work for you. There is no job you can do without their help. You already have craft skills for your new job, and you now must learn how to operate your labor force. You cannot drive men. You must lead them. To lead them successfully, you must know them because people are individuals and will respond better when treated as such.



Remember the following general principles:

- a. Treat every man as you would expect to be treated.
- b. Compliment good work.
- c. Criticize poor work, firmly but not harshly.
- d. Listen to complaints and suggestions.
- e. Always take time to explain the "why" of decision or instructions.
- f. Never embarrass one of your men by public criticism, ridicule, or otherwise.
- g. Be friendly without being intimate.
- h. Be firm without being overbearing.

J. M. Case

When I first read this letter, I recalled Jack Case and appreciated him for his leadership and knowledge. I knew him as Plant Manager and respected him. If he knew who I was I never knew it. He was Plant Manager from 1967 to 1982.

Gordon Fee replaced Jack as Y-12 Plant Manager, and served from 1982 through 1990.

He also recalled these additional stories about Jack:

The story comes from one of the plant managers who attended the Albuquerque quarterly weapons managers meeting with Jack in the first trip I took with him to that meeting everyone told me how much they respect Jack and that he was known for bragging about what his people at Y-12 could do, meaning everything thrown at them by the design labs

One of the other plant managers in the heat of a meeting about who was going to get the assignment to build bomb casings when it was announced that Y-12 was the location picked, one of the losing plant managers said to Jack case "I know that you think your people can build anything even including an outhouse!"

At the next meeting Jack presented a shiny brass outhouse with an engraved plaque on it, saying "fabricated at Y-12." Not only was it made of brass, but it was made from an alloy that was almost impossible to weld, and this whole outhouse model was welded together with beautiful, shiny beads.

Mike Bradshaw and Bill Thompson worked for Jack and was part of the trip where they had to buy a 10-gallon hat for Jack's girlfriend. The box was too big to fit in the luggage storage compartment on the airplane, so they took the hat out of the box, tossed

the box, and took turns wearing the hat home.

I am convinced that the famous and continuing "Can Do" attitude and slogan still in use at Y-12 came from just such things Jack Case did. His leadership was phenomenal. He kept his union membership card with him and was well respected by all unions. He expected much from his managers and contributed much himself.

His son, Larry Case, worked for me managing the Office of Secure Transport garage. Larry took after his dad in that he led his department well.

Over the years, Jack Case worked as a Toolmaker,

a Craft Foreman, General Foreman, General Foreman for Shops, Maintenance Department superintendent, Maintenance Division Head, Mechanical Operations Superintendent, Assistant Y-12 Plant Superintendent, Deputy Superintendent for the Y-12 Plant and finally Y-12 Plant Superintendent in 1967. He served in that capacity until his retirement in January 1982.

At his retirement, Clyde Hopkins, then Vice President of Union Carbide Nuclear Division, said, "He began work April 10, 1944, as a Toolmaker, and in five years he was a superintendent. In 1954, he became manager of

the largest production division in the plant – the old Mechanical Operations division which involved 40 to 50 percent of the workers in the whole plant.

Clyde continued, "In the 1960's he was made assistant plant manager and a few years later plant manager. Few persons are able to influence the lives of others as Jack Case has. He is one of the major reasons Y-12 has the reputation of a can-do outfit. And there is no question, but people will tell you he is a great fellow to work with."

During his tenure as Y-12 Plant Manager, Case was instrumental in preparing Y-12 to help win the Cold War. He championed the computerization of machine tools throughout Y-12. He sponsored the purchase of numerous machine tools that greatly expanded the capability of Y-12's production. This enabled the grand scale of production of nuclear weapons secondaries during the 1980's that resulted in the complete failure of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War. The Soviet Union had attempted to keep up with the pace of manufacturing that Y-12 accomplished but doing so actually led to the complete collapse of the communist economy.

As a result of Jack Case's renown and his well-known contribution to Y-12 over the years, the name - Jack Case Center, was chosen in 2007 for the new 12,000 office facility that currently houses the main administrative, engineering and support organizations of all of Y-12.

This selection was a choice made by Y-12 employees that represented a 2-1 margin of voters is an indicator that several people still recall Jack Case, the manager at Y-12 with the longest tenure as leader and the person primarily responsibility for equipping Y-12 to help win the Cold War.

The "Oppenheimer" movie has brought attention to our nuclear age, and I find it interesting just how much we in Oak Ridge have seen increased visitation and people wanting to learn about our history. We call it the "Oppenheimer Effect." At present that movie is the highest grossing World War II era movie ever. It has earned over \$850 million (as of 9/4/2023) and is still going.

Stories I published about Jack Case while working at Y-12 as the Y-12 Historian:

https://www.y12.doe.gov/sites/default/files/assets/document/08-02-14.pdf

https://www.y12.doe.gov/sites/default/files/assets/document/08-02-21.pdf



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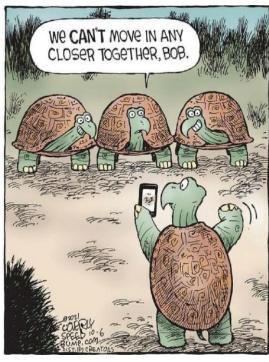
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TCAT Names New Diesel-Powered Equipment Technology Instructor

The Tennessee College of Applied Technology Oneida/Huntsville has named Gabriel Kennedy as the College's new Diesel-Powered Equipment instructor.

Gabriel comes to the TCAT with 20 years of experience as a Diesel Technician. Most of these years were working at Kenworth



in Knoxville. Through his 20 years of working with Kenworth, Gabreil has received many certifications and advanced trainings to keep his knowledge and skills current with the evolving changes in Diesel Equipment Technology field. After learning these skills, he was tasked to come back to Kenworth and train new technicians.

Mr. Kennedy has also been trained in trouble shooting fault codes and navigating wiring schematics for repair of circuits and sensors. He also brings a vast knowledge of working with transmissions, hydraulics, brake and air systems. These are all skills

taught in the Diesel- Powered Equipment program at TCAT Oneida/Huntsville.

TCAT Oneida/Huntsville is excited to welcome Gabriel Kennedy as part of the team of instructors who make the college successful. The college has openings in the next class starting on January 3, 2024.

If you are interested in Diesel-Power Equipment Technology visit our website at www.tcatoneida.edu or contact us at 423-663-4900 for more information.







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David Zubler Columnist

IRS Ramping Up Audits of the Wealthy

Low-income Americans have received an unfair share of audits because it's cheaper and easier than going after the wealthy according to the IRS.

In recent years, the IRS significantly cut back on audits of high-wealth taxpayers and corporations. The audits cost more because the tax returns are lengthy and complex. Additionally, the employee training cost is much more expensive for complex audits.

The IRS is now going after wealthy tax cheats and is focused on staffing up its enforcement ranks. The IRS plans to hire about 20,000 total employees by the end of 2024. They recently announced a campaign to substantially increase audits of high-income individuals and large businesses.

The IRS has assured the public that audit rates will not increase for people earning less than \$400,000 a year. Only the top 2% of the wealthiest people will see a dramatic increase in audits.

According to the National Bureau of Economic Research, when auditors focus on the top 10% of earners, the audit has the potential to bring in \$12 for every \$1 spent. Additionally, when the IRS audits wealthy taxpayers, they are likely to pay more taxes in the following years.

"There has been literally a collapse in audits of high-income taxpayers, big corporations, the wealthy, what have you," said Susan Long, an associate professor of managerial statistics at Syracuse.

"What we want is a fair system, & quot; said Sen. Ron Wyden. & quot; Right now, you have two tiers. You've got working people, nurses,

and firefighters; they pay their taxes with every single paycheck. . . .

With the wealthy, it doesn't work that way."

"I don't think the average person has a single thing to worry about in terms of heightened enforcement," said Robert Nassau, a law professor and director of the Low-Income Taxpayer Clinic at Syracuse University. "In fact, if anything, people like us are going to have less enforcement as the government focuses on the wealthier people."

"We're looking at doing roughly 1 audit out of every 500 taxpayers," said a senior IRS official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not allowed to be quoted for attribution.

"It gives you a cautiously optimistic sense that we are regaining our footing and rebuilding," IRS Commissioner Danny Werfel said. "But the risk now is around ramping up and standing up with these funds to make sure that we're rebuilding capacities in a way that is smart for the long run, but also is meeting taxpayer needs in the short run."

David Zubler is a nationally known tax accountant and Enrolled Agent that resides in East Tennessee. He is the author of six tax books and a syndicated columnist who has shared tax advice on podcasts and national TV and has been referred to as America's Tax Guru.

He is the founder and president of Your Tax Care. He represents clients nationwide before the IRS and provides tax strategies, and tax education, including David's one-minute tax tip radio recordings at YourTaxCare.com. David can be reached at (865) 363-3019 or by email at david@yourtaxcare.com

Revelation Chapter 13



Melvin Howard

(Revelation 13:1-10) The beast from the sea: This chapter should be carefully studied in the light of Daniel 7, for the two inspired sections have some remarkable parallels. John observes a beast rise out the sea. Notice that Satan is standing "by the sand of the sea," suggesting that the beast derives its power from this archenemy of God. This first beast represents the old civil Roman Empire, which corresponds to the fourth beast of Daniel 7. Many commentators acknowledge this relationship. Mounce says there is "little doubt" that this beast is the Roman Empire.

The monster had seven heads and ten horns. The seven heads apparently signify seven kinds of

government (17:8, where seven heads of the beast are seven mountains, or seven kings---a symbol for government (Isa. 2:2-4; 11:9; Dan. 2:35; 7:17, 23). This imagery would suggest that the Roman Empire had been characterized by various forms of government. John notes that one of the beast's seven heads had received a death-like wound; but, amazingly, the wound was healed. It is a matter of historical record that the Roman Empire, in the mid-fifth century A.D., was invaded by a number of barbarian tribes from the north. A historian says; "By these successive invasions and disruptions, the once vast empire of Rome was reduced to a little territory around the capital". The Roman Empire had been given a death-blow indeed. It is believed by many that Rome's death stroke was "healed" by the growing amalgamation between the empire and the ecclesiastical power of that

Noted scholar Henry Alford identified the "healing" with "the establishment of the Christian (papal) Roman Empire." Barnes said that "the monster had received a fatal wound, until its power was restored by the influence of the spiritual domination of the church of Rome." He argued that pagan Rome "would have wholly and for ever ceased if it had not been restored---the deadly wound being healed---by the influence of the Papal power." One cannot but recall the intimate connection between the fourth beast of Daniel's vision (chapter seven) and the little horn that plucked up three of the beast's horns.

As one considers the balance of the information regarding the seabeast (v.1-10), this important point must be kept in view: from the time the deadly head-wound was received (by imperial Rome), and then was healed, the description is no longer of a strictly heathen power. Rather, the focus of the narrative is now on a politico-ecclesiastical organism, the pagan-papal combination.

The corrupt church---state organism exerted tremendous influence in the Roman world (v.7). Thousands upon thousands worshiped (submitted to) the beast. There were exceptions, of course. Those whose names were written in the Lamb's book of life (v.8) did not yield to the domination of the sea-monster. Those enrolled in the book of life are Christians. The conditions of Heaven's redemptive plan (the death of Christ and gospel obedience) were determined from the "foundation of the world"; hence, it might be said that the saints' names were written at that time.

(Rev. 13:11-15) The beast from the earth: John saw "another" beast arise. The word "another" is important. It translates the Greek term allos, which suggests another of the same kind. What or who is the second beast? We do not believe that the identification is to be found in "the priesthood of the cult of the emperor" or the "Antichrist" who arises at the close of the age (Scofield). Even those who do not agree with the historical approach to Revelation concede that the second beast of Revelation 13 is a decidedly religious movement. William Lee stated that whereas the "first Beast is a material, political, World-power; the second Beast is a spiritual World-power." Elsewhere this beast appears to be synonymous with the "false prophet" (16:13; 19:20; 20:10).

Alford contended that the second beast is the "reviver and the upholder of the first (beast)' (see v.3, 12). He asserted that the beast is "Latin Christianity, in its ecclesiastico-secular form." He argued that this movement included the Roman papacy, but that Romanism does not exhaust the meaning of the symbol. Adam Clarke believed the second beast to be "the spiritual Latin empire, or, in other words, the Romish hierarchy; for with no other power can the prophetic description…be shown to accord." Coffman called it "a perverted religion of Christ.

Consider the trails of this land-beast. (a) He has two horns. Horns symbolize power, perhaps suggestive of a dual, church-state authority. (b) He appears like a lamb (a Christian symbol, suggesting meekness, one offering atonement, etc.), but speaks like a dragon. Every student of church history is familiar with the arrogant dictums of the papacy, which claims to be head of the church and ruler of the world---though, of necessity, this force is somewhat muted in mod-

ern times due to the Bible's influence in the reformatory movement. (c) It exercised the authority of the first beast, the state, thus was both religious and civil. It feigned "great signs" (similar to what Elijah did in the Old Testament in calling down fire from heaven). The word "feigned" is appropriate because God does not authenticate false religion with genuine miracles. Nor can Satan work true miracles. If he could, his dogma would have credentials comparable to the Lord's. Rather, these are "lying wonders" (2 Thes. 2:9). The miraculous claims of Catholicism, of course, are legion. (e) The beast was a persecuting force, killing many. (f) He specifically is identified as having a designation that is the letter- numeral equivalent of 666.

Burton Coffman describes the second beast as the apostasy which occurred in the "historical church." And, in his characteristically blunt fashion, he asks: "What is to be thought of the "Christian scholars" who are either ignorant of this, or who do not have the guts to mention it?"

(Rev. 13:16-18) The mark of the beast: Those who worshipped the beast were said to have an identifying "mark." We believe that the best evidence indicates that 666 represents the ancient name, "Lateinos," a Latin king, who was reputed to be the founder of the Latin empire (Schaff). Consider the following factors.

The name Lateinos in Greek is rendered as follows: L (30), A (1), T (300), E (5), I (10), N (50), O (70), S (200)---which equals 666. This is not conclusive of itself, but it is a starting place. The identification with Lateinos goes back to the very shadow of the apostolic age. Historian Phillip Schaff concedes that it is "the oldest (view)" on record. Irenaeus (A.D. 130-200), a disciple of Polycarp, who was reputedly converted by the apostle John, mentions Lateinos as a "very probable" possibility for the meaning of 666 (though he actually preferred another designation). Similarly, Hippolytus (A.D. 170-236), a disciple of Irenaeus, suggested that 666 may point to Lateinos. Elliott also says that "Andreas, another learned Greek Father who lived some three centuries later, retained the word Lateinos, as one of the admissible solutions."

We must emphasize, however, that it requires more than mere letternumeral equivalency to identify the 666. As Newton pointed out, along "with the name also the other qualities and properties of the beast must all agree. The name alone will not constitute agreement; all other particulars must be perfectly applicable." This factor clearly eliminates names like Mussolini, Hitler, and Martin Luther---which some have argued make as much sense as the designation, Lateinos.

In fact, it would be hard to find a designation more fitting to symbolize the papal system than that of Lateinos, meaning "the Latin man," and apparently having its roots in founder of the empire. If the Catholic Church has been anything, she has been a Latin church. Newton, citing Dr. Henry Moore, observes that the Roman Church Latinizes virtually everything within its grasp---masses, prayers, hymns, litanies, canons, decretals, bulls, etc. The Council of Trent decreed that the Latin Vulgate is the only authentic version of the Bible. When all has been said, we believe that the case which contends that the second beast of Revelation is corrupt, persecuting papal Rome is a very strong one. Does it seem likely that a book dealing with the enemies of God's church should overlook one of the most formidable foes the body of Christ has ever had? Paul certainly spoke of a significant movement that represented a "falling away" from the faith. Did John completely ignore the same movement?

Coffman was right on target when he writes:

There are at least seven whole chapters of the NT devoted to that phenomenon called the apostasy; and, if Revelation is the kind of book it is devoutly believed to be by this writer, there is no way for that apostasy to have been omitted from its pages. Where are the eyes of those scholars who can write a whole commentary on Revelation and never even mention it? What kind of astigmatism can be blind to the plainest references to it, and what kind of deafness is it that cannot hear the thunder of these middle chapters of Revelation?

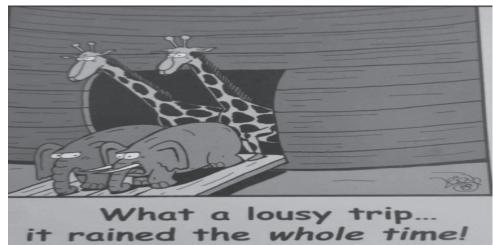
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at Kingston High School

Monterey High School

Coalfield High School

Cumberland Gap High School *

at Cumberland Gap High School *

at Anderson Co. High School *

Anderson Co. High School *

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Clinton High School *

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at Coalfield High School

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Nov. 16, 2023 Van Buren Co. High School (N)

Nov. 28, 2023

Dec. 1, 2023

Dec. 5, 2023

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Jan. 9, 2023

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Dec. 5, 2023	at Monterey High School	6:30 PM
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Jan. 9, 2024	Maryville Christian		6:30 P	M
Jan. 12, 2024	at Jellico High School		6:30 P	M
Jan. 16, 2024	at Rockwood High School		6:30 P	M
Jan. 19, 2024	at Wartburg Central High School		6:30 P	M
Jan. 22, 2024	Knoxville Ambassadors		6:30 P	M
Jan. 23, 2024	Harriman High School		6:30 P	M
Jan. 26, 2024	at Oliver Springs High School *		6:30 P	M
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Feb. 6, 2024 Jellico High School 6:30 PM Feb. 9, 2024 Wartburg Central High School 6:30 PM Make the play and get in a Ford!

Jan. 29, 2024 Rockwood High School Jan. 30, 2024 at Midway High School

Feb. 2, 2024 Coalfield High School

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Wartburg W



Nov. 14, 2023	at Eagleton College and Career Academy	W 31-11
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Dec. 1, 2023	Oakdale High School	L 31-36
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Dec. 5, 2023	at Midway High School *	6:30 PM
Dec. 8, 2023	at Oliver Springs High School *	6:30 PM
Dec. 12, 2023	Rockwood High School	6:30 PM
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Dec. 19, 2023	Greenback High School	7:30 PM
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Jan. 5, 2024	at Jellico High School *	8:00 PM
Jan. 9, 2024	Midway High School *	6:30 PM
Jan. 11, 2024	at Grace Christian Academy	6:30 PM
Jan. 12, 2024	at Greenback High School	7:30 PM
Jan. 16, 2024	at Oakdale High School	8:00 PM
Jan. 19, 2024	Sunbright High School	6:30 PM
Jan. 23, 2024	Oliver Springs High School *	8:00 PM
Jan. 26, 2024	at Coalfield High School *	8:00 PM
Jan. 30, 2024	at Rockwood High School	6:30 PM
Feb. 2, 2024	Jellico High School *	8:00 PM
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All times local. * - denotes region/district game







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Coalfield C

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Dec. 7, 2023	Oneida High School	6:30 PM
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Dec. 12, 2023	Midway High School	6:30 PM
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Dec. 21, 2023	at Greenback High School	6:30 PM
Dec. 29, 2023	(N) Harriman Christmas Tournament	6:30 PM
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Dec. 30, 2023	(N) Harriman Christmas Tournament	6:30 PM
Jan. 5, 2024	Sunbright High School	6:30 PM
Jan. 9, 2024	at Mt. Pisgah	6:30 PM
Jan. 12, 2024	Oliver Springs High School *	6:00 PM
Jan. 16, 2024	at Harriman High School	6:30 PM
Jan. 18, 2024	at Midway High School	6:30 PM
Jan. 23, 2024	Jellico High School *	6:30 PM
Jan. 26, 2024	Wartburg Central High School *	8:00 PM
Jan. 29, 2024	Greenback High School	6:30 PM
Jan. 30, 2024	at Oakdale High School	6:30 PM
Feb. 2, 2024	at Sunbright High School	6:30 PM
Feb. 6, 2024	at Oliver Springs High School *	6:30 PM
Feb. 8, 2024	Scott High School	6:30 PM



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Oneida

Nov. 21, 2023	at Oakdale High School	W 59-45
Nov. 27, 2023	at Harriman High School	6:30 PM
Nov. 28, 2023	Coalfield High School	6:30 PM
Nov. 30, 2023	at Clarkrange High School	L 58-73
1101. 30, 2023	at Clarki ange High School	L 30-73
Dec. 5, 2023	Oakdale High School	6:30 PM
Dec. 7, 2023	at Coalfield High School	6:30 PM
Dec. 8, 2023	Clarkrange High School	6:00 PM
Dec. 12, 2023	Eagleton College and Career Academ	ny * 6:00 PM
Dec. 15, 2023	at Gatlinburg-Pittman High School *	
Dec. 18, 2023	Campbell Co. High School	6:30 PM
Dec. 20, 2023	(N) Anderson County Christmas Tou	
Dec. 21, 2023	Clinton, TN (N) Anderson County Christmas Tou Clinton, TN	
Dec. 22, 2023	(N) Anderson County Christmas Tou Clinton, TN	6:00 PM rnament 6:00 PM
Jan. 2, 2024	at Campbell Co. High School	6:00 PM
Jan. 5, 2024	Gatlinburg-Pittman High School *	6:00 PM
Jan. 9, 2024	at Austin-East High School *	C.00 DM
T. 12 2024	No JV Game	6:00 PM
Jan. 12, 2024	at Pigeon Forge High School *	6:00 PM
Jan. 16, 2024	Alcoa High School	6:00 PM
Jan. 19, 2024	at Oliver Springs High School	6:30 PM
Jan. 23, 2024	at Eagleton College and Career Acad	
T. 26 2024	D' F II'. I. C. I I. 4	6:00 PM
Jan. 26, 2024	Pigeon Forge High School *	6:00 PM
Feb. 2, 2024	Austin-East High School * No JV Game	7:30 PM
Feb. 6, 2024	at Alcoa High School	6:00 PM
Feb. 8, 2024	Campbell Co. High School	6:00 PM
Feb. 8, 2024	Pickett Co. High School	5:30 PM
Feb. 9, 2024	Oliver Springs High School	6:30 PM

WALLACE



Oakdale High School

Feb. 9, 2024

Nov. 14, 2023 Van Buren Co. High School Nov. 21, 2023 **Oneida High School** Nov. 27, 2023 at Oliver Springs High School Nov. 28, 2023 Jellico High School Dec. 1, 2023 at Wartburg Central High School

Dec. 5, 2023 at Oneida High School

Dec. 8, 2023 at Midway High School * Dec. 12, 2023 at Pigeon Forge High School Dec. 15, 2023 Greenback High School *

Dec. 19, 2023 at Jellico High School Jan. 5, 2024 at Harriman High School *

Jan. 5, 2024 at Beech Senior High School Jan. 8, 2024 Grace Christian Academy - Knoxville

Jan. 9, 2024 **Oliver Springs High School**

Wartburg Central High School Jan. 19, 2024

Jan. 12, 2024

Pigeon Forge High School Jan. 23, 2024 Midway High School *

at Greenback High School * Jan. 29, 2024 at Grace Christian Academy - Knoxville

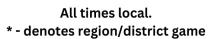
Rockwood High School *

Jan. 30, 2024 **Coalfield High School** Feb. 2, 2024 Harriman High School *

Feb. 6, 2024 at Rockwood High School *

Feb. 9, 2024 at Coalfield High School

> **Helenwood Food 423-569-8110**



W 55-46

L 45-59

L 48-49

6:00 PM

W 36-31

6:30 PM

6:30 PM

6:30 PM

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John Burns Opinion Columnist

Atlanta Federal Prison Camp

I was given a reporting date to begin serving my sentence in July 1999. I would not report until November. I had separated from my wife. I was renting a room in a single wide trailer owned by my using buddy's sister.

I was splitting time between her house, and the house where my wife and daughter were living. It was more convenient to stay with my daughter at the house she lives in, then trying to

shuffle her around while I was using heroin.

I somehow decided to get a little help from Methadone supplied by a clinic in Columbus. I shifted between that and the heroine. I found Methadone to be much more addictive than any other narcotic I ever consumed

Replacing one substance with another in the life of an addict, is counter intuitive to real recovery. It will provide a sense of normalcy if your goal is truly to get off narcotics. The hard truth is, the addict uses narcotics to mask whatever is going on inside their decision- making process.

The drug is the thing that covers the insecurities of addressing shortcomings. It is a small symptom of what drove a person to seek refuge in something we know will overcome us. I learned to compare it to a hamster in a cage with one of those round wheels.

The hamster can see what freedom looks like in his cage. The wheel is his coping mechanism. He gets on that wheel fully knowing it always ends up right back where the wheel started, getting nowhere fast. Yet still he gets on that wheel going nowhere. That is my stronghold.

I had known exactly where narcotics would take me since I was 15 years old and I first tried pills and powder substances. Eventually bowing to the pressure of injecting heroin with guys I was working in construction with. I watched three friends overdose by the time I was 17

Lost another few my first year in the Army. Somehow, I had managed to stay away from the allure of narcotics while serving. When I was accountable to only myself again, I fell back into the company of narcotics to suppress the mood swings I was having dealing with civilian hierarchies and societal rules.

I violated their rules by returning to addiction, and now I would have to pay the piper. But before I would report to prison, I would use heroin every day for 57 days. I would get a ride from my wife and daughter to the Federal prison Camp. I crossed the Chattahoochee River twice on our way.

I began to ponder my time as a Ranger on Ft. Benning. If I was ever going to return to sanity, I would have to look at exactly where it began to unravel in my life. Or: did I ever have the sanity to unravel? No middle ground. When the wheels fall off John Burns' car, they all fall off! I reported to the camp, and was assigned to H dorm. My counselor kept his office in the G dorm, so my stay in H dorm would be temporary. I did however meet the man who would ignite a desire to learn about the Jesus of the Bible in H dorm.

Willie Davis was a very large black man. When he introduced himself to me, he could tell I was sick. I was going through withdrawals for a few days. He did however pose an interesting question? Whiteboy, Do you intend to leave here how you got here, or do you want to change yourself for the better?

He handed me a bible and invited me to an inmate church service on Wednesday evening. I was Catholic. I had not heard anyone address Jesus Christ this way since I first heard Dan Busch read me his bible. Then I read in the bible; from the mouth of two witnesses, God perfects praise

I moved to the G dormitory and made new friends. I was for the first time in my life, experiencing time as a true minority. I was one of four white men in a dorm of 100 people. We shared a common area, a common shower, and we had two men in each concrete cubicle.

I began to understand prison life and how it requires a hustle for survival. I won't give up my secrets but, I managed to come up with a few of my own, that kept me in ice cream, and honey buns which I immediately gave to my cell mate Lemuel George.

He and I spent many nights hashing out what was wrong with society. Why are narcotics in every minority neighborhood in America? Does America incarcerate minorities as a means of keeping them from voting in elections? Is America inherently racist?

I had been white my entire life. I never contemplated any other struggle but my own. Now, I was in prison learning about struggles by people I did not look like. In the end, we are all just squirrels trying to store nuts for the winter!

I learned to accept people for who they are, not the labels society deems I adopt. I learned to take people one at a time. I held debates with men who told me they hated me and, in the end, we somehow managed to co-exist in a very dangerous setting.

My time in the prison camp was marked by intense Bible study, writing speeches for a prison club I had joined called speech crafters. It gave me insight into the lives of men I never dreamed I would learn to call my prison family of brothers in Christ.

These men gave me another building block in my ever- increasing Christian foundation. They showed me practical Christian empathy as we all began to understand what drove us to incarceration together.

I finally began to understand how precious freedom is, only after mine had been taken away. No excuses. I believe God had allowed me to get to this point, to remove presuppositions as to the limits of his love.

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 11-27-2022 RLTW

Staff Sergeant John Burns enlisted into the United States Army on September 23, 1987 as an 11C Infantry Mortarman. He graduated from the 7th Infantry Division, Ranger Class 11/89 and served in the invasion of Panama, Desert Storm and the Battle of Mogadishu while assigned to the 75th Rangers.

Some of his many decorations, awards and badges include; Bronze Star Medal for Valor, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, Sniper Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Combat Infantry Badge and Expert Infantry Badge. Throughout his prestigious military career, he traveled to forty-five countries on five continents and all but two states while serving in the military.

He currently serves as the Chaplain for the Special Operations Warrior Foundation. His devout faith demonstrates to all he comes into contact with that he believes nothing but the blood of Jesus Christ can cleanse us from all unrighteousness. He enjoys writing and teaching God's Word while sharing his faith with a dying world.

Opinions expressed by readers and columnists do not necessarily reflect those of Morgan County Today



Weekly SUDOKU

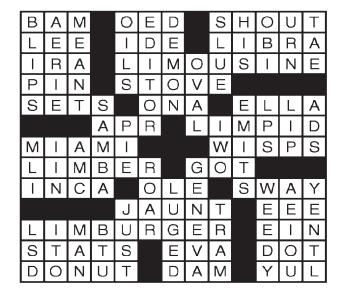
Answer

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

— **King** Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 26 mins.



LADY INDIANS DOMINATE HARRIMAN 59-44 ONEIDA INDIANS FALL TO HARRIMAN 79-61

Photos by Terry Futrell



Oneida's Grady Keeton (21) drives for a layup past Harriman defender Jordan McCullum (35).



Lady Indian Larissa Jones (33) drives for two points as Harriman's Emory Thompson (44) defends.



Oneida's Raylie Bush (5) drives for a layup over Harriman's Aaralyn Humphrey (20).



Harriman's 6'8" Jordan McCullum (35) stuffs one as Oneida's Mason Keeton (11) looks on. McCullum scored 36 points against the Indians.

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