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# Morgan County Today

Psalm 100:3  
www.mocotoday.com  
Volume 09 Number 41  
Tuesday, October 10, 2023

Your Community. Your News.

**75¢**



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

**Camping in the Fall**



**Morgan County Today**

Your Community. Your News.

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**USPS PUBLICATION NUMBER (15400)**



**Ms. Avery Pearl  
Pet Columnist**

# Pet Perspective with Ms. Avery Pearl

I am so excited! Ms Avery Pearl Asks Dr Bristol

has been such a success, we are adding a new a column featur-

ing Dr Raymond Holmes!

You guys remember a while back when, I told you about Dr

Raymond Holmes and Roane Dental Associates working on my Bubbas teeth? Well, he did an excellent job!

As you know Dr Bristol is the best veterinarian with the best advise.

I just wuff her!

Well, Dr Holmes is like that, only he deals with all things teeth (for people of course).

He will be giv-

ing advise and suggestions on oral care for all

ages. From the first tooth, to no teeth and everything in between.

So, watch for our first Ms Avery Pearl Asks Dr Holmes. It will be out before Halloween!

His focus will be telling us about how to care for all the little ones teeth, during the sugariest time of the year!

Dr Holmes and his staff treat patients from

several counties including Morgan, Roane, and Anderson at: Roane Dental Associates 2717 Roane State Hwy Harriman TN 37748 865-717-7743



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

**WEEKLY WEATHER**



Tue 10 **72°/45°**

Wed 11 **70°/52°**

Thu 12 **74°/59°**

Fri 13 **71°/59°**

Sat 14 **65°/48°**

Sun 15 **56°/45°**

Mon 16 **55°/41°**



Know what's below. Call before you dig.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**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

**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.

The **Morgan County Tourism Alliance** meetings are on the second Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm held at

Tanners Cafe.

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

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### Jon Craven, 61

Mr. Jon Craven, 61, of Oakdale passed away on October 1, 2023, at his home.

Along with many nieces, nephews, and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents: Thomas & Elizabeth Craven. Brother: Thomas T. Craven, Jr

The family will receive friends on Thursday, October 5, 2023, from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at Davis Funeral Home in Harriman. Funeral services will follow at 8:00 PM with Bro. Jim Disney officiating. The family and friends will meet at 11:00 AM on Friday October 6, 2023, in Pine Orchard cemetery in Oakdale for graveside services.

He is survived by his wife: Carol Huntley Craven.

Son & daughter-in-law: Michael & Megan Craven.

Two daughters & son-in-law: Nicole & Noah Disney, and Heather Stewart.

Brother & sister-in-law: William & Lisa Craven

Two sisters: Debra Zimmermann and Tammy Page.

Five grandchildren: Rylee Milliken, Brighton Stewart, Veda Stewart, Oliver Disney, and Owen Disney.

Davis Funeral Home, Harriman, is honored to serve the family of Mr. Jon Craven during this difficult time.

Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.davisfuneralhomes.com](http://www.davisfuneralhomes.com)

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

## In Loving Memory

### Andrew West, 42

Andrew West, age 42 of Lancing passed suddenly on October 1, 2023.

He was a beloved son, brother and father.

Andrew is preceded in death by his father Kent West; grandparents Dwayne and Virginia Williams and Omar Stringfield; great uncle Dee Williams.

He leaves behind 2 sons Jared and Jayden; parents Cheryl and Calvin Williams; sisters Megan, Ernestina and Sherrie; grandmother Dorothy String-



field; nieces and nephews Conner and Kalina, Gabriel, Selena and Lilly, Carmen, Jeremiah and Shasta; great niece Dellilah and a host of uncles, aunts, cousins, family and friends.

The family will receive friends Wednesday, October 4, 2023 at the Old Potters Chapel Church in Lancing from 4:00-5:00 p.m. with a memorial service to follow at 5:00 p.m. with Bro. Mitch Hawn officiating.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Andrew West.

### Patricia "Katie" Williams, 73

Patricia "Katie" Williams, age 73, left this world on Oct. 1, 2023 to join her heavenly father and her beloved husband Ronald who had went before her just 5 short weeks ago.

Katie was born on March 8, 1950 to Herbert and Stella Paul in Ohio. This is where she met and married the love of her life, they went on to live the rest of their lives together in Tennessee where they raised their 3 children.

Over the years Katie worked outside the home at various jobs but the one she cherished most was wife and mother.

Katie was a beloved mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, and great grandmother.

Katie left this world to be reunited with Ronald, her parents, her 3 brothers and her beloved sisters Nellie Sandells and Elsie Craig.



She is survived by her children, Ruth (Tommy) Bray, Danielle (Ricky) Ward, Sam (Vicki) Williams.

Grandchildren: Curt (Billie) Bray, Tyanna (Trenton) Ward, Brian Williams, Tyler (Savannah) Williams, Nicholas Ward, Brooklyn Ward; great grandchildren: Olivia Bray, Katie Bray, Landon Armes, Waylon Ward, Raylan Ward, Katelynn Ward; siblings: Alice (JL) Williams, Jerry (Sue) Paul, and Irene Coonrod; special friends and neighbors: Janice Carder, Tina Messamore and Donna Byrge.

The family will have a graveside service Monday, October 9, 2023 at Petros Cemetery on the School House Hill at 3:00 p.m. with Dr. Jim West officiating.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Patricia "Katie" Williams.

### Mike Randolph, 69

Mr. Mike Randolph, 69, of Oak Ridge passed away at Methodist Medical Center in Oak Ridge on October 2, 2023. He was a member of Emory Gap Missionary Baptist Church. Mike was a US Army Veteran and was a retired Police Officer after 33 years of services. He loved to play X-Box with his grandsons.

He was preceded in death by his parents: Ralph & Ruth Randolph. Brother: Larry Randolph.

He is survived by his wife: Pauline Freeman Randolph.

Three daughters & sons-in-law: Paula Ann Randolph, Michele Elizabeth Adcock & Stephen, and Samantha Ruth Golonka & Ted.

Brother: Jerry Lynn Randolph. Ten grandchildren: Chandler Powell,

Sebastian Randolph, Carter Powell, Chadwyck Randolph, Cristopher Powell, Erin ~ Leigh Wilson, Jaxson Golonka, Jade Golonka, Aria Golonka, and Jocelyn Golonka. Many nieces, nephews, and friends.

The family will receive friends Friday October 6, 2023, from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at Davis Funeral Home in Harriman. Funeral services will follow at 1:00 PM with Pastor Robert Laymance officiating. Graveside services will follow in Mt Pisgah Church Cemetery.

Davis Funeral Home, Harriman, is honored to serve the family of Mr. Mike Randolph during this difficult time.

Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.davisfuneralhomes.com](http://www.davisfuneralhomes.com)

### Phillip Roy Holder, 88

Mr. Phillip Roy Holder, age 88, of Oakdale, passed away Monday October 2, 2023, at Life Care Center of Morgan County in Wartburg.

He was preceded in death by his parents: James and Imogene Kennedy Holder. One brother: Paul Holder. And one sister: Violet Hall.

He is survived by his wife of 64 years: Barbara Eastridge Holder.

His son and daughter-in-law: Kenneth and Anne Holder.

His daughter: Deborah Holder.

Two grandchildren: Phillip Holder and his wife April, and Bridgett Holder. Six great grandchildren and one great-great granddaughter.

One brother: Ralph Holder.

And a host of nieces and nephews, along with many other family, friends, and loved ones.

All services will be private. Davis Funeral Home, Wartburg, is honored to serve the family of Mr. Phillip Roy Holder. Condolences may be sent to the family at [www.davisfuneralhomes.com](http://www.davisfuneralhomes.com)

### Diana Mae Allen Hargis

Diana Mae Allen Hargis of Joyner was called home to be with her Lord on October 2nd, 2023. She is preceded in death by her husband, Roger "Jerry" Hargis; daughter, Stacy Lasig; parents James "Jake" and Lucy Mae Hall Allen, and special cousin Rhonda Burress.



supported them in all their endeavors. Her daughter, Stacy, was her best friend. She loved to go anywhere Rodney was drag racing or showing cars. She adored being "Nanny" to Lily, and could not have been any happier than when talking about Gracy and Luke's many accomplishments.

She is survived by her son Rodney (Alanna) Hargis; grandchildren Lukas Lasig, Gracy Lasig, and Lilyana Vann. She also leaves behind two special "sons" and the fathers of her grandchildren, Joel Lasig and Rommie Vann, III; her beloved cousin Brenda (Elmer) Laymance; and special friends Venia Marlow, Derita Long, and Linda Brasel.

Diane was a faithful member of Liberty Baptist Church where she especially enjoyed the friendships in her Sunday School class. Her family brought her so much joy, and she enthusiastically

The family rejoices at the reunion in Heaven even as they grieve their great loss. They will receive friends and family on Friday, October 6th, from 6:00-8:00 PM at Schubert Funeral Home with the funeral to follow with Pastors Dale Simmons and Ralph Nance officiating. The family will gather at 11:00 AM on Saturday, October 7th and travel to Liberty Cemetery for interment.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Diana Mae Allen Hargis.

### Shirley Jones, 83

Shirley Jones, 83, of Cleveland, TN passed away Thursday October 5th. She is survived by her daughter, Bonita Jones Lee and son, Kenneth Silver, and her 5 grandchildren, Whitney Ownbey, Joshua Lee, Christopher Lee, Michael Silver, and Mitchell Silver. She is also survived by eight great-grandchildren.



a dedicated mother and grandmother with a heart for children and missions. She spent much of her life traveling around the world on medical mission trips spanning five continents, spreading her faith and delivering babies, providing medical care and even building hospitals. She was an inspiration to many and will be deeply missed, though she would be the first to tell you she's just gone home.

Shirley was born in Sunbright, TN December 29th, 1939, the 9th of 11 children born to her parents, Lula Howard Jones and Lloyd Jones. She was Valedictorian of Sunbright High School. She married Cpt. Samuel H. Jones, M.D., going with him on house calls which inspired her to go to nursing school after his death. She later married Kenneth Ray Silver and went on to have a 40 year career as an RN in labor and delivery, eventually becoming head nurse and winning the Florence Nightingale Nurse of the Year award multiple years. She also won the Dr Frist Humanitarian award. She was

A memorial service will be held at Candies Creek Baptist Church in Cleveland, TN on Saturday, October 7 at 2PM.

The Family will receive friends on Sunday, October 8, from 2:30-3:30 pm with the funeral immediately following at Schubert Funeral Home, Sunbright. Interment will follow in the Mt. Hope Cemetery, Deer Lodge, TN.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Shirley Jones.

### Diane Troup Kennedy, 70

Diane Troup Kennedy, age 70 of Deer Lodge, passed away peacefully, surrounded by her loving family. She was a generous, caring wife, mother, sister, and friend. Married to her dear husband Ronald Sr. for 53 years, she proudly walked over 10,000 steps a day making sure he and their family were taken care of. When she became unable to walk, our dad became her caregiver and slept in a chair next to her for the last 10 months of her life. Our mother was devoted to us. She left a job she loved because Jaime didn't like daycare, she carried 12-year-old Tim in her arms when he broke his leg at school, she conquered a fear of flying to rush to Texas when Ron was ill. Always by our side, there was nothing that would keep her from taking care of us. She especially loved all her grandchildren and great-grandchild. She drove hundreds of miles to spend summer days with Archer and Roman and often boasted over 15,000 steps serving them donuts and ice cream. She leaves behind her greatest loves: her husband Ronald Sr.; her children, Ronald Jr., Tim (Christine), Jaime; her siblings, Bobbie



(Dale), James (Christy), Bill (Katia); grandchildren, Kristen (Marcus), Scotty (Bailey), Deven, Joseph, Hannah, Archer; great-grandchild, Roman and many other brokenhearted friends and family. She will be welcomed into Heaven by her mother, Betty; father, James; uncle, Charles; aunts, Donna

and Sharon; brother-in-law, Mike; her best friend, Birdie and so many others who have waited years to hug her again. We know she is there waiting to hold us and she will be greatly missed here.

We invite you to join us to celebrate her life and legacy of love. We will be receiving friends for visitation on Friday, October 6, 2023 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m with all invited to attend the service to follow. Events will be held at Pleasant Green Church of the Nazarene, 902 Twin Bridge Rd., Deer Lodge. We would like to thank the church and all the friends that sent cards and gifts and made her feel loved.

John 16:22  
"Therefore you now have sorrow; but I will see you again and your heart will rejoice, and your joy no one will take from you."

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# Two Different Worlds



**Tom Redmon**  
Columnist

To the readers: The next few columns will be a little different. You might want to save these articles and you might want to think “where did we go wrong?”

Not long ago I wrote an article about a classmate and a friend of mine. He has gone on now but while here Alan gave it his all. He set his goals high and he knew his journey would not be easy but he wouldn't deviate because this meant all to him. Oh! he could build houses because God had given him the skill. He could go up North and get a job but he tried that one summer and it wasn't for him.

Alan's goal was to get an education and teach school, but to do that he needed a good partner and he found her in school and she had to work night shift after graduation because Alan only made \$1,500 a year, and could only bring home \$1,200. But he was willing and Alan earned two degrees and most of another one.

Lisa was another one from a large family but she got a job at Tennessee Tech and somehow she worked her way through college in the 1950's and 1960's.

Tom had set his goal to get a college education and serve his military time before getting married. It was hard but he gave it his all. He did his military duty of four years and only liked two quarters of college before he got married.

Everyone of these people really appreciates their education. They are glad they had to work for it. My Navy commander in basic training said that anything worth having is worth working for. I say Amen!

I liked the world I grew up in. What about you?

Now the Other Side of Life I've started out with this story because I wanted to point out how things have changed. Back then Alan was willing to work for his goal. Now people don't want to work for it; they want the government to give it to them.

Alan was willing to work for such little money that people today would laugh about and call you crazy. They would say \$1,200 a month for nine months. How about \$10,000 a month even way back then. The Superintendent was paid \$7,500 I want more than him.

A boy I knew had come up from Florida to North Carolina. I asked him why he came way up here? He said, “I applied for disability over there and they wouldn't have given it to me. Someone told me to go to Morgan County, Tennessee, anybody can get it there. I'm getting easy money now and I'm pressure washing houses on the side.”

A fellow up the road, now he says he has the right ideal. He said, “I say have a bad back and I know its hard for the doctors to tell so you can fool him. I got him to sign a form and got a second one so to make it sure. Now believe it or not, I get almost as much as I did when I worked. Dog gone easy money.”

I was talking with a recent high school graduate and he told me about his plan. He said, “I will go to Roane State; it's free and my plane after that is to have Uncle Sam pay my way. I asked him why he thought the government owed him an education and he said, because I was born here and I didn't ask for it. Mr. Biden wants to give us money.” I asked him who would pay the money back the government gave him and he said, “Oh, it's free. No one has to.”

A principal at a poor school in Florida was talking to one of his parents one day. He was well acquainted with Lucy. He said now Lucy you have just had your sixth child and you don't have a man at home. You have five kids all by

machine shop, to the office. They told the man in the office they wanted an application so they could sign up. The man said boys I'm glad you are here because I sure could use some help. They said, oh, we don't want to work here just have to sign up every week to keep getting unemployment checks.

Our society is full of people who don't want to work. The help wanted signs are everywhere, even in the Chick-fil-a restaurants. The people do not want to go back to work because its easier to live off the government.

Colleges are full of people who are there on borrowed government money. Many who borrowed money are now out and there's no way they can pay all the money back. Colleges have raised the price of an education and in the last thirty years many new colleges have sprung up. Just take a look the next time you go into Knoxville.

We no longer have the Alans, the Toms or Lisas who are willing to work for an education. But if our president has his way, he will find a way to pay them. All you have to do is vote for him.

It seems that our young people are being taught that there is an easy way out without working. One teacher asked her students what they wanted to do when they were out of school. More than one little boy said that he would like to go to the mailbox when the checks from Uncle Sam came every month.

Many people have learned to work the system. They cannot get certain things with food stamps but they can get certain things like meat and sale it to somebody and use that money to buy cigarettes or beer.

It seems that the poor who get food, clothes and other things handed to them have it easier than many

different blue-collar workers. Society is hard to understand today.

Are we headed for a welfare state or are we going to be bankrupt?



Webb School in the 1950's



Webb School of Knoxville Today

men. Why don't you go to the doctor and have yourself fixed so you can't have anymore? Oh, no Mr. Brown I love children and every new child brings me more money. I love money too. Two boys, I'd say in their early 20's went into a

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# NOW HERE'S A TIP

By JoAnn Derson

\* Fill your salt and pepper shakers a fourth of the way with uncooked white rice. Dry rice will allow the salt or pepper to flow more freely from the shaker. If your shaker is opaque, you can tell when it's time to add more salt or pepper when the shaker starts to rattle.

\* Mark old toothbrushes with masking tape so you can tell the difference between cleaning brushes and those you use for your teeth. You can clean a toothbrush in the dishwasher. Put it with the silverware.

\* Because fabric softeners can leave residue on the dryer's lint trap, clean yours out at least every other month. Just scrub with plain old soap and water.

\* "Add this to the list of wonderful cleaners for

## STRANGE BUT TRUE

By Lucie Winborne

\* Like verbal language, sign language has tongue twisters, known as "finger fumblers."

\* In Japan, ramen noodles are a fuel source for more than just humans: The Amaterasu Railway's sightseeing train uses biodiesel made out of leftover ramen oil, which has the added benefits of curbing CO2 emissions and supporting local businesses.

\* Physarum polycephalum, a type of slime mold, can solve complex mazes and other spatial problems even though it has neither a brain nor a nervous system.

\* There are 293 ways to make change for a dollar.

\* A bald eagle, upon catching a fish that may be too heavy for it to lift, will use a movement strikingly similar to the human breaststroke to maneuver its prey to the shore.

\* The world's oldest known musical instrument, a flute made from a vulture's wing bone that was discovered in a German cave, dates back nearly 40,000 years.

\* Minnie Mouse's first name isn't Minnie, but Minerva.

\* Rapper Yung Gravy donated nearly 2,000 bras thrown at him during concerts to a women's charity.

\* A candle's flame is blue in zero gravity.

\* Janine Sugawara sued the makers of Cap'n Crunch cereal for falsely advertising its contents by not using

real berries. Her complaint was quickly dismissed, however, when the judge pointed out that there's no such thing as Crunch Berry.

\* And speaking of the good captain, his full name is Horatio Magellan Crunch, after explorer Ferdinand Magellan.

\* You are more likely to have a weird or scary dream while sleeping on your stomach.

\* During the 1980s, American Airlines found it could save an annual \$40,000 simply by removing a single olive from its first-class meals.

\*\*\*  
Thought for the Day: "You know you're in love when you can't fall asleep because reality is finally better than your dreams." -- Dr. Seuss  
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wood floors: tea. Just brew a couple of cups and use the tea as you would your regular wood floor cleaner. It's nice and shiny afterward." -- P.L. in Oregon

\* Use a turkey baster to "squirt" pancake batter into your frying pan. Mix the batter as normal and unscrew the top of the baster to load. You can use it to make letters for fun kids' breakfasts. No drips!

\* "If you have trouble opening the lid on glass jars, try using a pair of standard dishwashing gloves. They work to grip both the lid and the jar. They work especially well if your hands are the least bit moist." -- D.Y. in Pennsylvania

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

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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.

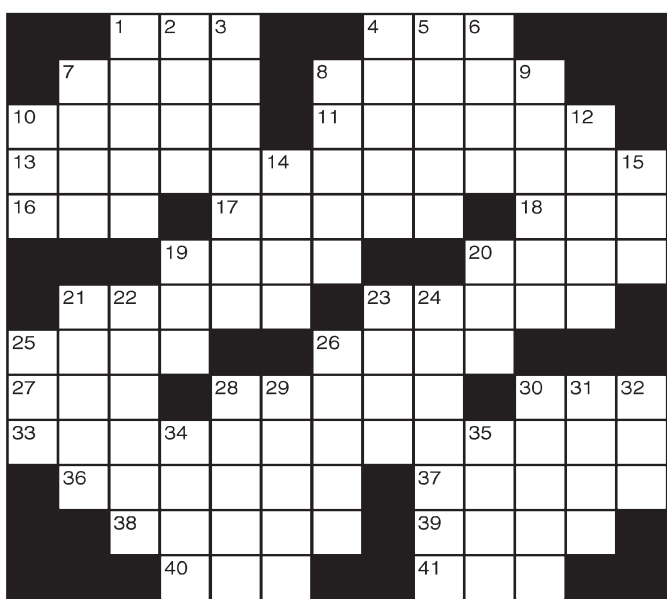
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆◆◆

◆ Moderate    ◆◆ Challenging  
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!  
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## King Crossword

### ACROSS

- 1 Big mouth
- 4 Scoundrel
- 7 Actress Rogers
- 8 Underneath
- 10 Choir member
- 11 Loves to pieces
- 13 Woven containers
- 16 Raw mineral
- 17 Levels
- 18 Cistern
- 19 Pet food brand
- 20 Feel sorry for
- 21 Answers an invitation
- 23 Sandbox toys
- 25 Dandies
- 26 Billions of years
- 27 Simile part
- 28 Egypt's Mubarak
- 30 Pallid
- 33 Company codes used at a stock exchange
- 36 Journalist Bly
- 37 Bakery smell
- 38 Japanese wrestlers
- 39 Minnelli of "Arthur"

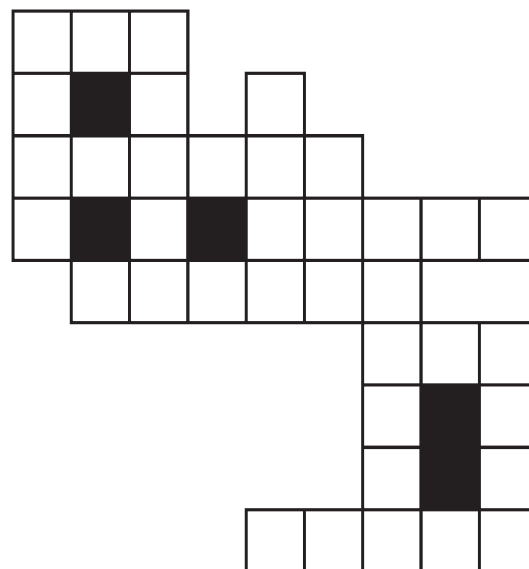


- 40 AOL rival
- 41 Tofu source
- 10 Tango team
- 12 Sports figures
- 14 Eyeglass frames
- 15 Pigs' digs
- 19 Hosp. hook-ups
- 20 Math ratios
- 21 Cello bow application
- 22 Parking spots
- 23 Shetland, for one
- 24 Cracker shapes
- 25 Corpulent
- 26 Road curves
- 28 Big wheels at sea
- 29 Hunter in the sky
- 30 Lightheaded
- 31 Mater lead-in
- 32 Code-breaking gp.
- 34 Heidi of "Project Runway"
- 35 Vivacity, in music

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- OPH
- ♥ CIPENT
- ♥ ESNDQ
- CEIP
- HECNIR
- ♥ AWS
- ♥ NECA
- DEDMI
- ♥ EOR
- WODEST
- ♥ NESRI
- ♥ NWEH



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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# Scott County Today

## LADY HIGHLANDERS WIN BIG AT FULTON, END REGULAR SEASON VS. ONEIDA

By Richard Spears



With three games left in their regular season schedule, Scott visited Fulton Monday (Oct. 2) and shot down the Lady Falcons in a 5-1 display of Scott offensive firepower. Seniors Rachel Garrett and Ellie Lowe, juniors Abby Henson and Riley Lantz (pictured), and freshman Aleeyah Jeffers all drove in goals for the Lady Highlanders, with Jeffers also assisting twice. Scott senior Angel Cooper, and juniors Alyssa Crabtree and Autumn Brummett also provided assists in Scott's scoring. Scott Head Coach Eric Henry said, "Emily Rowe did a very good job at playing keeper, she had some nice saves. Everybody got to play against a Fulton team that is a much improved team over last year. A solid effort from all our girls." With not much rest, Scott traveled to Gibbs Tuesday (Oct. 3) for their final District contest of the year, and fell to the Lady Eagles, 5-1. "We were only down by a goal, 2-1 at the half, but lost two players in the second half to injuries. I was not disappointed with our effort, we had to play 20 minutes of the second half with just ten players due to a couple of yellow cards that were given. We've got a busy week, to say the least with our final home game against Oneida on Thursday, then a home District tournament game on Friday (Oct. 6)," Henry told the Morgan County Today.

In Thursday's action against the Lady Indians, Scott played with a high level of intensity, trailed at the half, 2-0, and fell to Oneida, 4-1. Lady Highlander junior Abby Henson booted in Scott's score. Henry gave his team pink jerseys to wear for the contest, since October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. "The 'pink out' was a surprise. They really appreciated that," Henry said. He added, "We had several offensive opportunities in the game that just didn't result in scores. Both Abby Henson and Rachel Garrett had shots that hit the crossbar, and glanced off." Game summary of Scott vs. Union County will publish next week.

## ALL-DISTRICT SCOTT & ONEIDA PLAYERS NAMED

For the Lady Highlanders, First Team All-District: Ellie Lowe, Aleeyah Jeffers, Rachel Garrett, Kylie Frogge. Second Team: Riley Lantz, Alyssa Crabtree, Bella Sharp. Also, Freshman Player of the Year: Aleeyah Jeffers

For Oneida, First Team: Rory Blevins, Jillian Cross, Jailynd Anderson, Avery Rector (also Co-rookie of the Year) and Ali Smith. Also Ali Smith was named Defensive Player of the Year.

## ONEIDA WINS THIS YEAR'S IN-COUNTY BATTLE VS. SCOTT, PREPARES FOR TOURNEY

In Thursday's (Oct. 5) game at Scott, the Lady Indians looked sharp as they readied to begin post-season play in their District Tournament, set to begin on Tuesday (Oct. 10). Thursday's weather was perfect, in the mid 70's, and a crowd of over 100 spectators watched at Highlander Stadium as both teams played with the passion and energy displayed usually during a championship game, but of course, the unwritten county girls soccer championship was on the line. Both teams took several shots on goal that were stopped by the opposing team's goalkeeper, and not until the 23rd minute of the first half, did Lady Indian junior Jillian Cross score the first goal of the game, and the first of what would be four scores for Cross, as she had the "hat trick plus one" in Oneida's 4-1 win over the Lady Highlanders. Cross scored twice in each half for her game total. Oneida Head Coach Phil Newport said, "I'm proud of our intensity on both offense and defense against Scott. They always play us a hard fought game. This was good preparation for our upcoming District Tournament game against Oliver Springs next Tuesday. I want to also say how proud I am of all our All-District players. This is the sixth consecutive year that we have the All-District Defensive Player of the Year (Ali Smith) coming from Oneida." Oneida's District Tournament game vs. Oliver Springs is set for 6:30 p.m. at Jane Hoffman Field.



## PLAYERS OF THE WEEK



JILLIAN CROSS



RILEY LANTZ



# The Bulldog Banner



## An American Reminder

By: CatFish Cole

**Cole Burchell**  
(CatFish Cole)

God bless America, God bless freedom, democracy, liberty, and all that is this great nation. From the Pacific to the Atlantic, the Everglades to the Great Lakes, God bless every inch and every mile of this land, our land. When compared to that of other nations such as those found in Eastern Europe, Southeast Asia, Sahara Africa, and beyond, we are truly blessed. To demonstrate this imagine a world devoid of the American dream, without hope and opportunity, relinquished of the American spirit. A world vacant of equality and justice, void of all things that compose our nation, people, and beliefs. It is indeed uneasy to bear such a solemn fantasy. Though unnecessary, as a result of the 56 men nearly two centuries ago who relieved the world of this grief by declaring us an independent nation. Imagine where we would be today if not for this monumental event. But why? What makes America so grand? What are our greatest attributes? There is no single answer, but the entirety of which is America, her resilience, faith, and determination.

America has faced every challenge with the spirit of those who have come before us, the patriots at Lexington & Concord, the Yankees at Gettysburg, our farmers during the Depression, the soldiers who spearheaded Normandy, and the first responders and servicemen who gave their lives on Sept. 11 and still today. Time and time again, Americans have sacrificed for the nation

they love, and their love of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, rights conceived to us through the blood, sweat, and tears embedded in the pages of our declaration and constitution. Our freedom, freedom of speech, religion, press, assembly, and petition, are the same beliefs we defended two centuries before and continue to till this day. As it is our identity, we believe no matter what gender, race, religion, or creed all people are endowed with certain unalienable rights. We believe in a government that represents the voice and opinion of the common man. We believe in a fair justice system and that all are innocent until proven guilty. We believe in a nation founded on the moral principles of Christianity and love for our brothers and sisters. We refuse to stray from these beliefs because we appreciate them, and their importance to the identity which is America.



**Daniel Bunch**  
(Big Man Dan)

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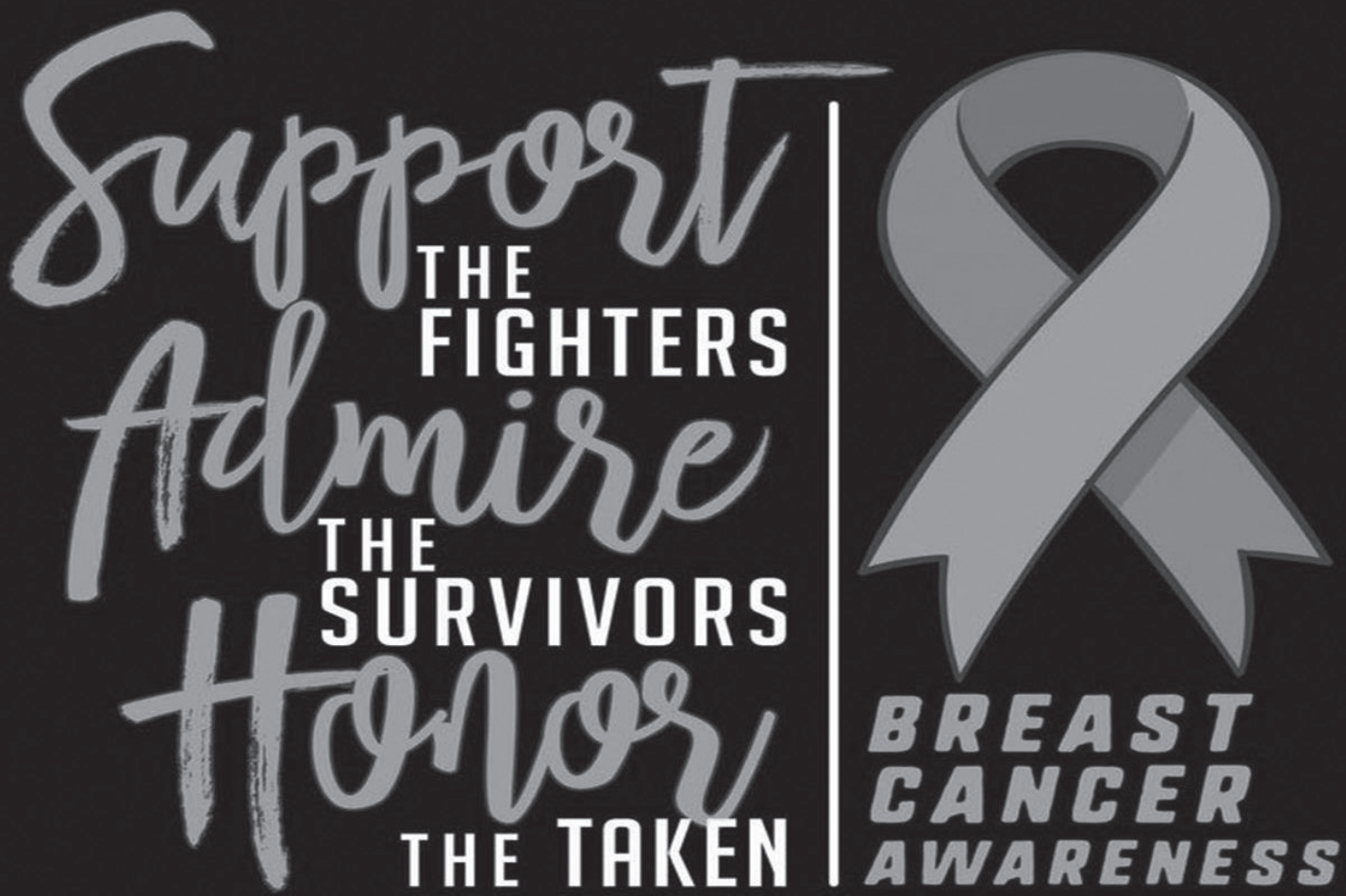
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# Mogadishu, Somalia Summer – 1993



**John Burns**  
*Opinion Columnist*

I was deployed to Somalia with the Ranger company I had cut my teeth with. The men who came before me, had voices that echoed in my head. My time as an innocent, unproven Ranger, had come to a close.

Time to come good on my enlistment oath, and more importantly, see if I am the man in the Ranger creed. Now more than ever, I would be a pawn to evaluate whether, the Ranger leadership model, adopted by the Regiment in 1984, was working?

The mission package adopted for deployment, would be missing one trump card from above, the AC-130 Spectre gunship. This platform alone gives Rangers a direct fire platform, with no vulnerabilities, for the Somali's possessed no anti-aircraft weapons that could reach 5000 ft. above ground level.

The mission was accepted by our task force commanders. Every unit would take part in the planning, the rehearsals, and the eventual execution of the mission. The foundations forged in Fort Bragg, would grow upon our arrival in the Mog, as we began to settle in and prepare for missions.

The hangar became our home. Rodents were dealt with accordingly, when the best shooters in the world, possess 22 LR rounds and firearms. We shared a common billeting area. Common shower area, common weight room, and mess hall. We lived amongst giants.

Our cots were segregated only by elements. We mingled amongst our mentors. They took part in our ranger humor, and taught us a few things that could keep us alive. The best thing for me, was my re-union with my hero, Daniel Busch, now an Operator.

Truth is, Dan and I were like kids together when we spent time alone in Mogadishu. Dan was serious about three things. His relationship to Jesus Christ. His Love for his wife Tracy and their new baby boy. And his desire to serve his nation as a premier Special Forces soldier.

Task Fore Ranger grew into an effective fighting force. What was hard to overcome was the understanding of individual unit TOE structures. The green guys are the best shooters, movers, and communicators on earth. The Ranger TO&e required a little more central leadership role.

We gained some individual sovereignty in my platoon. We had the vehicle mission in Somalia. This allowed for more time traveling at the platoon level through dangerous parts of the city. I believe it helped our drivers on October 3, when it really mattered.

I look back on my time in Mogadishu, God finally allowed me to understand my life unto that point in time. My leadership style was one where I understood that most Rangers assigned to my squad were better than me at most task's. I had to show up every day to earn their respect.

Rangers would rather follow someone they respect; a lot more than they enjoy following someone they fear. The Regiment has a model for soldiering that can- not be duplicated. The microscope is your men.

They watch every move and decision made, to be scrutinized by the spec4 mafia at the earliest convenience. From Private to Colonel, the standard is the same. To grasp that you are only as good as the weakest person in the squad, leads to an empathetic view of leadership.

The ranger platoon is like an internal combustion engine. Valves, bearings, rods, seats, chains, all make up the engine. This holds true in a ranger platoon. Privates, Specialist's, Corporal's, Sergeants, Staff Sergeants, a Platoon Sergeant, and a Platoon leader. All are needed for success.

There were 3 rifle squads under the control of a Staff Sergeant. He has two team leader Sergeants. Who in turn; have one Private first class riflemen. One Saw Gunner, and one grenade launcher/Rifleman making up each fireteam. Constituting the Ranger rifle squad.

The machine gun squad supports the 3 rifle squads. A SSgt oversees

three gunners, each usually Ranger school graduates, and usually the rank of Corporal or Specialist. Three Assistant machine gunners. Specialist's or Private first classes, and three Private first class Ammunition bearers.

The Ranger platoon has a radio telephone operator from within the platoon. A platoon Medic, a platoon Fire support non-commissioned officer and his RTO. On occasion in Mogadishu, we were augmented with Air Force Combat controllers, or an extra Task force senior medic.

A better understanding of ranger TO&e would have enabled planners to recognize e requirement for more rehearsals dealing with catastrophic instances as would be encountered in the battle of the Black Sea.

The greatest obstacle encountered after the bullets started flying, was inflexibility from certain leaders within our task force to fully comprehend what made our ideas about fighting, different. Yet, we still managed to overcome incredible odds to live to fight another day.

Leadership is a principle. It revolves around getting others to accomplish your mission, by providing them with a purpose, a direction, and the motivation to overcome whatever they encounter between where they are at and the finish line of success. Flexibility is an inherent quality. The Rangers had one abiding principle taught to us by men who took part in this firefight: Lead with Led!

To harness warfighters to rules justifying conduct in war, is completely counter-intuitive to success in gunfights. Rangers accepted the challenge of deployment to Mogadishu as part of the JV team. We were there to support our older brothers in Task Force green. I am glad we lived amongst each other.

The confidence to overcome was evident to Rangers as we witnessed the extreme might of the American military apparatus. We were being mentored by the greatest warriors on earth. We lived amongst the men who would show us motivation on a scale I never witnessed.

Through it all, I feel Rangers showed America and our Task force leaders, why Rangers gained the mantra" Ranger's Lead the Way"! I pray our dead have received mercy and grace from a God who continues to shed his grace on those who accept the challenge to defend America. I pray our wounded have recovered and moved on to productive lives fulfilling their dreams.

I pray the survivors would continue to honor our fallen by sharing this story whenever they get the chance. TFR was the greatest experience of my Life. I became a man on the streets of Mogadishu.

I learned that Jesus Christ was indeed who he said he was, as I learned true Christian empathy, while serving a cause greater than myself, as a Ranger weapons squad leader in combat.

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 11-19-2022

*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

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answer

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## Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

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2	3	7	9	1	6	8	4	5
4	9	1	8	2	5	6	3	7
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3	4	2	7	6	9	5	8	1
7	6	9	1	5	8	3	2	4
9	2	8	6	7	1	4	5	3
6	1	4	5	8	3	2	7	9
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## King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 24 mins.

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## Historically Speaking

### Christian influences on the British founder of Rugby, TN

By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

Carolyn Krause concludes a two-part series on Historic Rugby with a review of the life, novels and vision of Thomas Hughes, the British lawyer and politician who founded the utopian community on East Tennessee's Cumberland Plateau. This article is based largely on the perspective of Fred Bailey, retired professor of history at Abilene Christian University and published author of articles and books; he has been teaching courses on Queen Victoria's England at the Oak Ridge Institute for Continued Learning, or ORICL, at Roane State Community College's Oak Ridge campus. Recently, he gave an ORICL lecture on the history of Rugby and on the story about its famous founder and his childhood mentor.

On Saturday, Oct. 7, Historic Rugby (1331 Rugby Parkway, Rugby, Tenn.) will hold its annual Founder's Day for honoring Thomas Hughes and awarding "someone else from recent history instrumental in propelling Historic Rugby and Hughes' now-renowned village into the present and future." The event will feature artists and crafters on site, food at The Canteen and a concert by the Rugby Cornet Band.

Visit [www.historicrugby.org](http://www.historicrugby.org) for information on upcoming events. Enjoy the conclusion of Carolyn's story about Rugby.

The utopian community of Rugby, Tenn., founded by Thomas Hughes, an English lawyer, judge and politician best known for his children's novel "Tom Brown's School Days" (1857), reflected Hughes' values and vision. According to Fred Bailey in his recent ORICL lecture on Rugby, "One volume always on display in the Thomas Hughes Public Library in Rugby, which is across from the chapel, is the children's book Hughes wrote entitled 'Tom Brown's School Days.' It was an incredible little book because of its influence. The American president, Theodore Roosevelt, read it as a boy and said every boy should read it."

Bailey said that Hughes' first children's novel is "not as famous to most people today as children's novels of the 19th century such as Lewis Carroll's 'Alice in Wonderland' or Mark Twain's 'Adventures of Tom Sawyer' and 'Adventures of Huckleberry Finn.' If I had to make the argument which one of these was the most incredibly and overwhelmingly influential of all the books written by Englishmen and Americans in the 19th century, I would rank Hughes' children's book in the top five."

Hughes, who attended Rugby School in England from 1834 to 1842, based his children's novel on his adventures there, including defeat by and later triumph over the bully Flashman, with the help of his more experienced classmate, Harry "Scud" East and a comical boy named Diggs. Tom Brown, modeled after the author's brother George, was then asked to befriend and protect George Arthur, a frail, sensitive and brilliant boy. The peak of Tom's school career was a successful cricket match based on the author's own experiences.

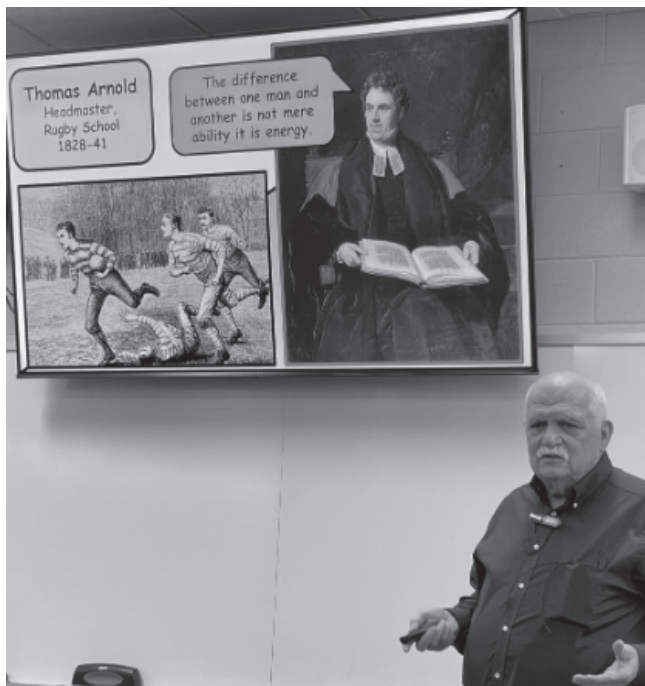
The real-life character influencing Tom Brown was the headmaster, Thomas Arnold (1795-1842), who influenced Thomas Hughes. Tom Brown engaged in fighting to defeat a bully and using his athleticism to excel in cricket, rugby and other sports at school. According to Wikipedia, as headmaster of Rugby School from 1828 to 1841, Arnold "introduced several reforms that were widely copied by other noted public schools. His reforms redefined standards of masculinity and achievement."

According to Bailey, Arnold emphasized the importance of moral and intellectual development in the education of boys but, to reduce fighting among the boys, he did encourage sports such as cricket and rugby, a sport invented in 1823 at the school. "Arnold came up with the idea that sports and other physical activity should be very much a part of an educated man," Bailey said. "The Apostle Paul said that 'your body is a temple for your spirit' so Arnold believed

there is a spiritual aspect of physical activity."

Baron de Coubertin, a French educator and historian known as the father of the modern Olympic Games, became active in promoting the introduction of sports in French schools after visiting Rugby School in 1886 and learning about the late Thomas Arnold. De Coubertin considered Arnold "the father of the organized sports he admired when he visited English public schools" and the reason why so many schools have playing fields.

According to Wikipedia, "When looking at Ar-



**Fred Bailey, ORICL history instructor, talks about his slide on Thomas Arnold, the Rugby School headmaster who was a mentor for Thomas Hughes, founder of Rugby, Tenn. Photo by Carolyn Krause**



**The library interior of Thomas Hughes Public Library in Rugby, which holds about 7,000 books. Hughes' 1857 children's novel, "Tom Brown's School Days," is prominently displayed in the library. Provided by Historic Rugby**



**Across from the Rugby library is the Christ Church Episcopal chapel where the Rugby colonists worshipped in devotion to their "godly purpose." Provided by Historic Rugby**

nold's tomb in the school chapel, he recalled that he felt suddenly as if he were looking on 'the very cornerstone of the British empire.' Coubertin is thought to have exaggerated the importance of sport to Thomas Arnold, whom he viewed as 'one of the founders of athletic chivalry.' The character-forming influence of sport, with which Coubertin was so impressed, is more likely to have originated in Hughes' novel 'Tom Brown's School Days.'"

For Hughes, sports and physical activity were so

important that he made sure the residents of Rugby, Tenn. had many recreational opportunities. According to the HistoricRugby website, "Lawn tennis grounds were laid out and used frequently. Colonists and visitors enjoyed rugby, football, horseback riding, croquet and swimming in the clear flowing rivers surrounding the townsite."

Largely because of his religious education and physical activities at Rugby School, Hughes embraced Christian socialism and Muscular Christianity. Christian socialism (called the "social gospel movement" in the United States) regards capitalism to be rooted in the sin of greed and to be the cause of social inequality, poverty, illiteracy, and warmongering. Like Arnold, Hughes wanted religion to make a difference by improving society during an era of industrialization and urbanization.

This religious and political philosophy enabled the British people under Queen Victoria to justify "controlling one-fourth of the world because they believed they were doing good by spreading the glories of English Christian civilization across the globe," Bailey said. "Arnold's religious ethos became the religion of empire; of an England that carved up Africa, that overawed India and the Far East, and that had set its sights upon domination of world trade through the construction of a canal across the Isthmus of Panama."

The same year that Hughes founded Rugby, he published the sequel "Tom Brown and Oxford," which used the term muscular Christianity. This philosophical movement that originated in England in the mid-19th century valued patriotic duty, discipline, self-sacrifice, masculinity, and the moral and physical beauty of athleticism. Hughes' book, Bailey said, declared that "a man's body is given to be trained, brought into subjection and then used for the protection of the weak, the advancement of all righteous causes and the subduing of the earth which God has given the children of men."

According to Bailey, the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) was an important outgrowth of Christian socialism in England and America's similar social gospel movement, which emphasized living Jesus' teaching to "love one's neighbor" rather than living only by faith in the Christian religion's doctrines and sacraments. The first YMCA, founded in 1844 in London by George Williams, was initially intended as a refuge for young men seeking escape from street hazards such as gambling, drinking and prostitution. Williams also sought to attract young men like himself who desired to work together on tackling social problems.

The first YMCA in the United States, which opened late in 1851 in Boston, Mass., was founded by Captain Thomas Valentine Sullivan, an American seaman and missionary. Bailey said that in addition to the YMCAs, other American outgrowths of the social gospel movement were the mainline American denominations that had social agendas (such as the United Methodist and United Presbyterian churches), the National Council of Churches and the American Civil Liberties Union.

While the sport of rugby was invented and played at England's Rugby School, which had a strong Christian influence in the 19th century, the American game of basketball also had Christian-related roots. It was devised in the winter of 1891-1892 by James A. Naismith, an instructor at the YMCA Training School in Springfield, Mass.

Thomas Hughes, founder of Rugby, Tenn., and an outstanding athlete at England's Rugby School, would likely be comfortable in 21st century East Tennessee. This region in the Bible Belt offers social services through churches and nonprofit service organizations. And its fans faithfully follow University of Tennessee and other school teams that play football, basketball, soccer, tennis and even rugby.

I hope you have enjoyed Carolyn's stories about Rugby. It is a most interesting place to visit. I enjoyed being invited to speak on Oak Ridge history there a few years ago and Fanny and I spent the night in the historic Newbury house. What a delightful experience. Also, there are several trails nearby and the library is amazing as is the restaurant. Rugby is a really neat place to visit.

# Revelation Chapter 3

(Rev. 3:1-6) Sardis---Sardis was some thirty miles southeast of Thyatira. Jesus operates in conjunction with the “seven Spirits” (the perfect Holy Spirit) (1:4) and has the churches under his control (1:20). He is intimately aware of their “works” (which are not noble). They have a reputation of being a lively group; actually, they are spiritually dead. The remaining fragment of fidelity was thus to be more watchful and attempt to save their fading faithfulness. None of their works had been brought to a state of completion. They were good starters, but sorry finishers! There was a point in their past when they had “received” the truth and listened to it, they must rekindle their desire for obedience and truly change (in repentance) the direction of their lives.

If they continue to become lax and do not watch (by keeping their lives spiritually intact), the Lord will come unexpectedly, and they will be unaware of his punitive judgment until the very hour of its implementation. There was a minority in Sardis that had not defiled themselves by indulging in sinful rebellion. These would walk with him “in white,” in the purity of his forgiving grace. They were deemed worthy because of their submission to his will. Those who continued to “overcome” would walk with the Lord in “white.” White is a symbol of both purity (7:14) and victory (9:11, 14). Contrary to the unfaithful, these would not have their names blotted out of the book of life. God has a record of those who belong to him; the text, by implication, teaches that names of the unfaithful will be “blotted out.” The child of God can apostatize and be lost. Too, the Lord will confess the names of the faithful before his Father and the angels (Mt. 10:32-33). This is conditioned upon “overcoming.” Hear the words of the Spirit (2:7).

(Rev. 3:7-13) Philadelphia---Philadelphia was twenty-eight miles southeast of Sardis. Jesus is depicted in two ways: “true” (genuine) and the one who “has the key of David” with the exclusive power to “open and shut.” The metaphor is borrowed from Isaiah 22:22 and reflects the Lord’s sole control of who enters the kingdom of which David’s was the precursor (Lk. 1:32-33; Jn. 3:3-5). No one enters the kingdom of God apart from Jesus Christ (Acts 4:12). Being aware of their “works,” and yet the fact that they possibly were “weak” in size or ability, the Savior had opened a “door” to them, because they had “kept his word” and had not “denied his name.” The door could have been that of opportunity (1 Cor. 16:9) or that of reward (3:20).

The saints in this city were exposed to hostile Jews who were wicked, hence described as a “synagogue of Satan.” They lied in claiming to be God’s Israel (Rom. 2:28-29). Happily, however, some of them would come to recognize that Jehovah loved the church, hence they would become Christians and be able to worship God truly. Because of the fidelity of these saints (no word of criticism at all), they would be preserved from the “hour of trial” that would descend upon the Roman Empire. History verifies that Philadelphia alone escaped the wrath of the Roman emperor Trajan (A.D. 98-117).

Christ’s movements of “blessings” or “punishments” are frequently designed as “comings,” not to be confused with the second coming. Thus, the church was to “hold fast” their relationship with Jesus, not allowing others to divert them from the path of truth, thereby losing their “crown.” This is clear testimony of the possibility of a Christian being lost. It is a stake through the heart of Calvinism. In contrast, those who “overcome” will be like a strong “pillar” in God’s temple (most holy place, the church (1 Cor.

3:16; Eph. 2:20), firmly established. A triple “name” is bestowed: “my God” (a family designation) (Num. 6:27), “the city of my God” (heavenly citizenship), and “my own new name” (redeemed by Christ himself). Those who are spiritual will listen to the Spirit’s revelation (2:7).

(Rev. 3:14-22) Laodicea---Laodicea was forty-three miles southeast of Philadelphia. It may have been established by Epaphras (Col. 4:12-13). It was renowned for its woolen products and eye medication. There is no word of praise for this church. Jesus is described as the “Amen” (the authenticator of truth), the “faithful and true witness” (trustworthy), and “the beginning of the creation.” This latter phrase does not mean he was a created being, as “Jehovah’s Witnesses” allege; rather, he was the source of all creation (22:13; Col 1:18; Jn. 1:3). Jesus was aware of their “works,” and such were not to their credit. They were “lukewarm” fence-straddlers who made the Lord sick! The lukewarm are more dangerous to the cause of Christ than those cold-dead.

Laodicea boasted of its riches that had piled up, perhaps attributing such to God’s providence, hence being self-deceived as to their spiritual status. They fancied they needed “nothing” (Lk. 12:15-21). But they were totally blind as to the nature of their condition before God. They exhausted the lexicon of unfaithfulness---wretched, miserable, desperately poor, blind, and necked! The Lord’s advice was that they access the treasures only he could provide. Then they would be truly “rich,” not shamefully naked, but clothed with white (pure) garments, with eyes spiritually “medicated,” thus able to see again.

Even though the Lord is “sick of” these sluggish saints, he wants them to know he still has affection for them, and such is evidenced by this epistle of reproof and chastisement. They must reactivate their zeal and repent, or they would be without hope. Christ is represented as “standing at the door” and lightly, though repeatedly, knocking. Was there not one soul who would open the door and invite him in? Were it so, the Lord would anxiously come in and “eat” with him. Was this a figure for common fellowship? Does it hint that he was not with them when they ate the sacred “supper”? Matthew 26:29 “But I say unto you, I will not drink henceforth of this fruit of the vine, until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.” Acts 20:7 “And upon the first day of the week, when the disciples came together to break bread, Paul preached unto them, ready to depart on the morrow; and continued his speech until midnight.” 1 Corinthians 11:23-27 “For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the same night in which he was betrayed took bread: And when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord’s death till he come. Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink this cup of the Lord, unworthily, shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.”

They would not permit the Savior to sit down with them in common communion. In his generosity he offered them a place with him on his throne---if they would only “overcome” by reclaiming their fidelity. Was it too much to ask? They listen to the teaching of the Spirit (c. 2:7). BIBLETALK.TV Mike Mazzalongo FortifyYourFaith.org



MELVIN HOWARD

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**The Garden Bug**  
**Purple Honey**

In North Carolina, there are areas where some local honeybees have been known to produce honey that has a purple or bluish hue. No one is sure what makes this happen exactly or how many conditions affect this process. Some researchers theorize that some hives collecting nectar from sourwood tree blossoms in summer are the reason; others say hydrangea flowers, titi plants, kudzu blossoms or elderberry flowers cause the unusual coloration. Beekeepers who find their hives producing this rare honey say it tastes fruity.

Sources: newsobserver.com, honeybeesuite.com — Brenda Weaver

**THE ILLUSTRATED BIBLE**

So the Lord gave to Israel all the land of which He had sworn to give to their fathers... The Lord gave them rest all around, according to all that He had sworn to their fathers... the Lord delivered all their enemies into their hand. Not a word failed of any good thing which the Lord had spoken to the house of Israel. All came to pass.

JOSHUA 21:43-45



David Zubler  
Columnist

## Relief for improper ERC claims

The Taxpayer Advocate recently announced relief for businesses that filed incorrect Employee Retention Credit (ERC) claims.

Many improper ERC claims have been prepared by unscrupulous companies who have preyed on businesses. The IRS included promoters of ineligible ERC on the Dirty Dozen list of tax scams. There were so many fraudulent ERC credits claimed that the IRS stopped accepting ERC applications.

The IRS is auditing the ERC claims and the penalties can be huge. If an IRS auditor believes there is fraud, the penalty is 75% of the ERC received. As an example, a business that received \$50,000 ERC would be required to pay back the \$50,000 ERC and \$37,500 in penalties. However, if an unscrupulous company claimed the ERC, you may be able to have the penalties removed due to the bad guidance you received.

If an unscrupulous company fraudulently claimed the ERC, you are still responsible. These companies often charge fees based on the amount of the ERC refund, which gives them an incentive to claim large fraudulent refunds. This option helps businesses that were misled by unscrupulous promoters. However, if you willfully filed a fraudulent ERC claim, withdrawing a fraudulent claim will not exempt you from potential criminal investigation and prosecution.

You may be able to get a first-time abatement of penalties if it's the first time you incurred them in the last three years.

If you are concerned about potential fraud penalties, your ERC claim should be corrected before you receive an IRS audit letter.

The IRS is also working on a settlement initiative for businesses

that believe they shouldn't have claimed the ERC and want to repay it.

If you improperly claimed the ERC, you will be able to withdraw your claim as long as it has not been processed and paid. Requesting a withdrawal means you are asking the IRS not to process your ERC claim. If the IRS imposes an ERC audit penalty, it is due immediately. Failure to pay the full amount immediately can lead to more penalties and interest.

If your business is no longer in operation, you can request an installment agreement. Generally, you have up to six years to pay the full amount. If you are unable to pay the full amount, you may want to consider an offer in compromise or currently not collectible status.

If you discover the company claimed a fraudulent ERC, you should report them by filing Form 14242 Suspected Abusive Tax Promotions or Preparers.

If you suspect a company filed your ERC fraudulently, you should find a reputable tax professional to review your ERC claim.

*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

## Cellphone Safety

If you've had a cellphone for several years and are now quite comfortable using it, you might be tempted to add more functions and fun to it to make it handier and more valuable to you.

However, there needs to be a line drawn somewhere.

Beware the types of apps you install on your phone. (App is short for "application," and it's thought there are nearly 9 million different apps in the world.) The thing to ask yourself before you add any app is this: If technology experts who run large computer systems struggle to keep those systems safe from scammers around the world, how much success are the techs at your bank or grocery store likely to have with cellphones?

The more apps you have on

your phone, the more at risk you are.

Clicking the wrong thing on an app, or even downloading it, can install malware on your phone. At the very least, it can send your number back to scammers. Armed with only your active phone number, they can do a reverse search for you on Whitepages and potentially find your home address and then your banking information and much more. They can lock you out of social media, barrage you with scam text messages and calls, have all your calls forwarded to another number or lock you out of your phone until you pay a ransom. They can send scam messages that appear to have come from you. If you access email on your phone, your area of risk widens substantially.

Some suggestions from the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) to keep your phone safe:

**Lock it.** Depending on the brand you have, used a passcode or a screen lock. Keep the software updated.

**Back up your data.** Learn about backing up to the "cloud" or your computer.

**And before you add any app to your phone, ask yourself if you trust it.**

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# FLASHBACK

By Mick Harper

- 1. What are the only words on the cover of the original Beatles white album?**
- 2. What was the only No. 1 Crystals song?**
- 3. Name the bestselling single of all time.**
- 4. What was the Marrakesh Express?**
- 5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "Don't come knockin' around my door, Don't wanna see your shadow no more."**

## Answers

- 1. It said simply "The Beatles" in embossed letters. Later pressings had "The Beatles" printed. The first few million copies were individually numbered.**
- 2. "He's a Rebel," in 1962. "Da Doo Ron Ron (When He Walked Me Home)" came in at No. 3 the following year.**
- 3. "White Christmas," by Bing Crosby in 1942, per a recent (2020) Guinness World Records. The song has sold 50 million copies, far ahead of Elton John's 33 million copies for the double A-side "Something About the Way You Look Tonight"/"Candle in the Wind 1997."**
- 4. As written in the Crosby, Stills and Nash song, it was the train from Casablanca to Marrakesh in Morocco. The real train is spelled Marrakech.**
- 5. "American Woman," by the Guess Who in 1970. The song was written by Burton Cummings and Randy Bachman, but for this song, credits included other band members Garry Peterson and Jim Kale.**

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