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# Morgan County Today

Psalm 100:3

www.mocotoday.com

Volume 10 Number 48

Tuesday, December 3, 2024

Your Community. Your News.

75¢

## Inside:

### MoCo & ScoCo High School Girls Basketball Schedules

And she shall bring forth a son, and  
thou shalt call his name **JESUS** for  
he shall save his people from their  
sins.

- Matthew 1:21



7 53807 32032 0

**Morgan County Today**  
Your Community. Your News.

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CITIZENS & VETERANS

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AT WARTBURG, TN  
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(15400)**



**Ms. Avery Pearl  
Pet Columnist**

# Pet Perspective with Ms. Avery Pearl

## Pam Took A Fall!

We had a great time for Thanksgiving, until...

There was a good crowd for Thanksgiving dinner and Mimi is actually the one that snook and gave Ms Ivory and me some yummy ham! It was so good. Then the kids gave us all kinds of yummy little snacks. It was a glorious and delicious day.

Then it happened. Aunt Pam stepped on her shoe string while she was making a to-go box filled with candy and treats. She tried to catch her balance and back she went down the steps, missing all the steps and literally landing on the back of her head, at the bottom!

Her feet flew over her head, then forward landing on the bottom step! It was an horrendous fall! It scared everyone.

November just isn't Pam's month. She has had 2 near fatal car accidents in November and thought she made it through this November without anything bad happening. Then on the very last day, the Fall Heard Around Caney Creek occurred.

The Rescue Squad and Ambulance came. Pap put us dogs in the laundry room so we didn't get to see that part.



Pam went to the hospital and we were all praying that she would be okay. One thing is for sure, we will all remember this Thanksgiving Dinner.

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

**Please,  
pray to Jesus for  
Pam's healing.**

Mon 02	38°/21°	
Tue 03	35°/20°	
Wed 04	46°/37°	
Thu 05	41°/17°	
Fri 06	37°/22°	
Sat 07	42°/30°	
Sun 08	47°/38°	
Mon 09	50°/40°	
Tue 10	44°/32°	

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### PUBLIC NOTICE

Bhavesh Kumar has applied for a permit to sell beer OFF premises at the location known as:

Deer Lodge Mart  
1417 Old Deer Lodge Pike  
Deer Lodge, TN 37726

Anyone having reason to believe that this permit should not be issued, must appear before the Morgan County Beer Board on the 12th day of December 2024 at 5:00 pm in the Office of the County Clerk.

### December 7

The 5th Annual Christmas Drive Thru will be Saturday, December 7 from 10:00 - 1:00 at Frozen Head State Park. Guests can drive through to enjoy holiday scenes while enjoying a cup of hot chocoate. Anyone wishing to participate should email heltons@mcsed.net.

**The Deer Lodge Abner Ross Center** meet on the third Monday of the month at 6:00 PM.

**Coalfield Genealogical and Historical Society** meets the second Tuesday of every month at the Senior Citizens Building at 6:00 PM.

**Morgan County Republican Party** meets the last Thursday of every month at 7:00 PM at the American Legion in Wartburg.

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### Tinkers Welcome Baby Girl Heidi Jean Tinker

Heath and Alyssa Tinker announce the birth of their baby girl Heidi Jean Tinker. Heidi was born on Wednesday October 23, 2024 at UT Medical Center at 5:53 pm. She weighed 8lbs and 3oz and was 19 inches long. Her maternal grandparents are Stanley and Reba Bates and Angel Bates all of Lancing and paternal grandparents are Dion Tinker and Gary and Dee Ashley all of Coalfield. Great grandparents are Bill and Patricia Kees of Oliver springs and Svitlanna Thurmer and the late Dale Thurmer of Oak Ridge and the late Junior and Bonnie Bates, Myrle and Imogene Aytes all of Lancing and Harold and Barbara Tinker of Coalfield.



IN CONJUNCTION WITH TOGETHER MORGAN COUNTY'S 5TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DRIVE THRU

# FROZEN HEAD STATE PARK IS HOSTING A TOY DRIVE

GIVE A TOY TO BRING JOY!

Donate new, unopened toys for children aged Birth - 18. Drop off at Frozen Head State Park Visitor Center by Saturday, December 7, 2024.



All gifts to be distributed to children in Morgan County.

— In Loving Memory —

**Nancy Jean Conway, 80**



Nancy Jean Conway of Sunbright, passed away peacefully in her home on November 23, 2024 at the age of 80. She will be deeply missed by all who knew her. She enjoyed spending time gardening and loving on all of her many beloved animals over the years. Nancy was a member of the Heritage Baptist Church in Sunbright for many years.

She is preceded in death by her father William Spencer; mother Lucille Neff; brother William (Billy) Spencer; son Rick Conway and daughter Cathy Thrash.

She is survived by her husband Callaway (Junior) Conway; sisters Carrie Tinch and Freda Chase; nieces Darsie Wohler, Lori Spencer, Jennifer Spencer, Nicole Spencer, Stephanie Williams and nephews Curt Pemberton, Dylan Chase, Nicholas Chase, and William Spencer; granddaughters Heather Chaffin and Jessica Osborne, along with a host of great nieces, great nephews and great grandchildren.

The family will have a graveside service Wednesday, November 27, 2024 at 12:00 p.m. in the Pleasant Ridge Church Cemetery in Sunbright with Bro. Lynn Galyon officiating.

*Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Nancy Jean Conway.*

**Nancy Jean Conway, 80**



Mrs. Ada Sue Shannon of Sunbright, passed away Wednesday November 27, 2024 at Morgan County Life Care in Wartburg. She retired from Sunbright School where she served as secretary for 34 years. Ada Sue was also a member of Mt. Zion Church – Mill Creek.

She was preceded in death by her husband, James Shannon; and daughter, Sharon Shannon Sexton.

She is survived by her sister and brother-in-law, Sandy and Bill Fredrick of Muncie, IN; son-in-

law, Paul Sexton; granddaughter, Delisa Phillips; great-grandsons: Xavier Phillips and Jaden Chambers; niece, Donna (Jason) Cray; nephew, Stacy Fredrick; and great nephew, Michael Cray.

The family will receive friends Monday, December 2, 2024 at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg from 11:00-1:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 1:00 p.m., Charles Webb officiating. Interment will follow in the Union Hill Cemetery in Sunbright.

*Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Ada Sue Shannon.*

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

**Psalm 123:1**

**Unto thee lift I up mine eyes,  
O thou that dwellest in the heavens.**

**Psalm 86:4-5**

**4 Rejoice the soul of thy servant: for unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.  
5 For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.**





**Tom Redmon  
Columnist**

## My Last Plane Ride in Uncle Sam's Navy

The Chief said, "Redmon there's a squadron of WWII planes coming in this afternoon how would you like to cover them? I said, "boy Chief you know I would." Chief said, "I know you are a WWII buff so go at it after 1200."

It was a beautiful day at the Navy Base of Moffett Field, California. Moffett was a blimp base during WWII. But here in 1961 it was a fighter base and pilots enjoyed flying fast and making

the cows in the pasture less than a mile away quit giving milk when they broke the sound barrier. I loved this base and the pilots. I wrote an article about flying up to Edwards Airforce Base near Bakersfield, California when we had one of our planes to crash in the Greenhorn Mountains. It was good and bad; good when I got to socialize with the pilots and bad when we risked our lives by flying a helicopter alone a smoky ridge.

As I stood by with my camera ready to shoot some of my last pictures for Uncle Sam's Navy the Navy had provided me with some exciting news and a trip to New Zealand.

The planes started coming in and I moved down on the tarmac as they taxied closer. The first pilot who got out of his plane I thought I recognized. When he got closer, I just knew that man had gone through survival training with me.

I stopped him and said Lt. Johnson, I believe you and I went through some training together. He looked at me and asked "what kind of training?" I said it was survival training in 1959. He smiled and said I believe that was the one where we had the boat accident, wasn't it? I said, it sure was Lt. and I was the only man who made it through to complete the course. He said "I can tell you one thing, you sure are one tough sailor." I said, "yeah and a lucky one too."

Johnson and I talked for a while. He said he just flew up from San Diego; North Island to get some flying time in. I'll be here for four or five days then fly back to North Island. I said, Lt. Johnson I am a World War II buff, would you take me for a ride in that great plane? I told him I only had a month left in the Navy and this would be a great way to end my career. The good Lt. said "I believe we might work that out. Meet me at the hanger tomorrow at 1300 and we'll fly away."

These planes were just about antiques and were on their last leg. In a few months they would be in mothballs in Arizona. You know that where a lot of World War II planes, trucks, Jeeps, and other war machines are put to rest.



I met Lt. Jack Johnson at the hanger when I met some other pilots I had flown with. I asked them if they had been back to the Greenhorn Mountains lately. A couple of them came over and talked to me and I told them I had really enjoyed this base. They said they hated to leave; the liberty around here is great.

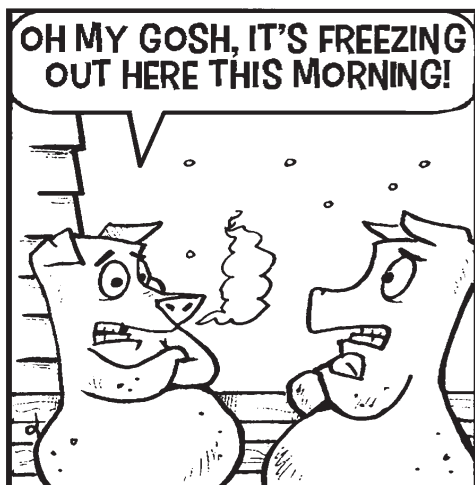
After we flew over the coastline for about thirty minutes Jack said "well Tommy was that enough for you?" I said, "yes, Lt. Johnson, it was and thank you."

Moffett Field is no longer a Navy Base. The government turned it over to NASA in the 1990's but to me this base had quite a history behind it. It was the only blimp base during WWII on the West Coast. It was used in WWII in submarine warfare.

I can assure you that was the best base in the Navy, right Jack?

## Amber Waves

by Dave T. Phipps



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# Showdown on The Southern Border & Immigration



**Michael Nance**  
*Columnist*

President Elect Trump ran his campaign with the omnipresent thesis of America First, and you could say subtitled with “closing the southern border.” His actions since sweeping the country’s electoral college and popular vote have further affirmed his aim at closing the southern border. Trump has tapped Tom Homan as his new border Tsar. In his position he will not only oversee the border, but also maritime interests as well. The Border Tsar position does not require Senate confirmation, so you can expect quick and decisive actions when Mr. Homan gets behind the steering wheel of the border.

Mr. Homan is seen by the boots on the ground ICE agents as one of their own and numerous reports indicate that the morale of the agency is near all-time highs. Holman is a 30-year law enforcement veteran who does not disguise any of his thoughts on the issue, which to many is a refreshing change.

But, although every poll indicates that most Americans want the border closed, many far-left democrats are gearing up for a fight.

When it comes to deporting illegal immigrants, as Trump has promised will happen, a coalition of 24 Democratic state attorney generals across the United States are busy readying or legal actions to either prevent or slow down Trumps deportation efforts.

So why are the democrats so focused on open borders and against deporting illegal immigrants? The answer is simple, they gain house seats in blue states based on the census results, which do not exempt illegal immigrants. This is not just the author’s opinion, but it is quantified in a Center for Immigration Studies report released in October of 2024.

According to Peter Kirsanow, an attorney and a member of the United States Commission on Civil Rights, he stated the following:

“The net effect of increases in both legal and illegal immigration in the 2020 Census shifted 17 House seats and 17 Electoral College votes, resulting in a net gain of 14 seats in Blue States — ten seats shifting from red states and four from battleground states. That Democratic net gain is greater than the respective electoral votes of all but ten states.”

If Trumps deportation removes illegal immigrants from these blue states, they will lose electoral representation, which aligns representation with those citizens that are legal in the U.S.

Also Trumps deportation efforts have been stated to start with the



criminal elements that have penetrated our southern border. It is a well-known fact that many countries hostile to the United States have unloaded their prison inmates in caravans that have crossed the border during the Biden administration.

The ICE agency itself has affirmed this data, according to Sandra Sanchez who stated the following:

“The head of Immigration and Customs Enforcement told a Texas border lawmaker this week that 435,000 undocumented migrants with criminal convictions have been released by the agency to cities around the United States.”

It is these illegal immigrants with criminal records that Holman has promised to go after first for deportation.

The latest news on Trumps border policies circle around a talk that Trump had with Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum. Many reports indicate that it was a “good conversation,” but the two leaders differ on the approach to the border. This will be an interesting situation to monitor, as Trump has a mandate from the American people to expeditiously solve the border issue.

My prediction is that the border issue and immigration is quickly become a politically dangerous issue for democrats. The far left in their party is gearing up for a fight, while the middle of the democratic party realized during the last leg of the Biden administration that the issue destroyed them at the polls. This issue could fracture the democratic party and alienate them from the American middle-class for a decade. Let’s watch and see what happens!

1 Laura Romero and Peter Charalambous, How Democrats are planning to fight Trump’s mass deportation plan, ABC News, November 18, 2024.

2 Peter Kirsanow, Quantifying Why Democrats Support Open Borders, National Review, October 31, 2024.

3 Sandra Sanchez, ICE released over 435,000 migrants with criminal convictions, ICE head blames ‘sanctuary cities’ for not working with agency, Border Report, October 3, 2024



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# IT'S HIGH SCHOOL BASKETBALL

## Scott High

11/19 @ Carter	W 73-62
11/21 vs South-Doyle	W 63-62
11/22 @ Grace Christian Ac.	L 52-48
11/26 vs Mount Pisgah	W 58-30
12/2 vs Northview Academy	6:30pm
12/5 vs Loudon	6:30pm
12/6 vs Monterey	6:30pm
12/9 vs Cumberland Gap*	6:30pm
12/13 vs Union County*	6:30pm
12/17 vs Anderson County*	6:30pm
1/3 vs Midway	6:30pm
1/10 @ Loudon	6:30pm
1/14 @ Clinton*	6:30pm
1/17 @ Cumberland Gap*	6:30pm
1/21 @ Gibbs*	6:00pm
1/24 vs Clinton*	6:30pm
1/28 @ Anderson County*	6:30pm
1/31 vs Gibbs*	6:30pm
2/1 vs Maryville Christian	3:30pm
2/4 @ Union County*	6:30pm
2/6 @ Midway	6:30pm
2/14 @ Monterey	

## Girls 2024 - 2025

All times local.  
\* - denotes region/district game



# PEC

PLATEAU ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE



## Wartburg

11/19 vs Monterey	W 54-37
11/21 vs Cumberland Gap	W 56-46
11/25 @ Oneida	L 62-57
12/3 vs Harriman	6:00pm
12/6 @ Oakdale	6:30pm
12/9 @ Monterey	6:00pm
12/10 vs Midway	6:30pm
12/13 vs Oliver Springs*	6:30pm
12/17 @ Rockwood	6:30pm
12/20 vs Coalfield*	6:30pm
1/3 vs Oneida	6:30pm
1/7 @ Harriman	6:30pm
1/10 vs Jellico*	7:00pm
1/14 @ Midway	6:30pm
1/16 @ Concord Christian	6:00pm
1/21 vs Oakdale	6:30pm
1/24 @ Sunbright*	6:30pm
1/28 @ Oliver Springs*	6:30pm
1/31 @ Coalfield*	6:30pm
2/4 vs Rockwood	6:30pm
2/7 @ Jellico*	6:30pm
2/10 vs Eagleton College	6:00pm
2/14 vs Sunbright*	6:30pm

## Sunbright

11/19 vs Mount Pisgah	W 62-32
11/21 @ West	W 46-40
11/23 vs Red Boiling Springs	W 57-45
11/25 vs Harriman	W 50-39
11/26 @ Cumberland Gap	L 46-32
12/6 vs Midway	6:30pm
12/10 @ Mount Pisgah	6:30pm
12/12 @ Harriman	6:30pm
12/13 vs TBA Opponent	
12/17 @ Oliver Springs*	6:30pm
12/19 @ Midway	6:30pm
12/27 vs Austin-East***	10:00am
12/28 vs Cloudland	9:30am
1/6 @ Greenback	6:30pm
1/7 vs Rockwood	6:30pm
1/10 vs Coalfield*	6:30pm
1/14 @ Oakdale	6:30pm
1/17 @ Jellico*	6:30pm
1/21 @ Rockwood	6:30pm
1/24 vs Wartburg Central*	6:30pm
1/27 vs Berean Christian	6:30pm
1/31 vs Oliver Springs*	6:30pm
2/4 vs Oakdale	6:30pm
2/6 vs Greenback	6:30pm
2/7 @ Coalfield*	6:30pm
2/11 vs Jellico*	6:30pm
2/14 @ Wartburg Central*	6:30pm

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## Coalfield

11/18	vs Red Boiling Springs	W 59-34
11/20	vs Clarkrange	L 62-36
11/23	vs Cleveland	L 71-50
12/6	vs Rockwood	6:30pm
12/9	vs York Institute	6:00pm
12/10	vs Jellico*	6:30pm
12/13	vs Oneida	6:30pm
12/17	@ Midway	6:30pm
12/20	@ Wartburg Central*	6:30pm
1/3	vs Greenback	6:00pm
1/6	@ Rockwood	6:30pm
1/7	@ Oneida	6:30pm
1/10	@ Sunbright*	6:30pm
1/13	@ Clarkrange	6:00pm
1/17	@ Oliver Springs*	6:30pm
1/23	vs Midway	6:30pm
1/24	vs Oakdale	6:30pm
1/28	@ Jellico*	6:30pm
1/31	vs Wartburg Central*	6:30pm
2/3	vs Clarkrange	6:00pm
2/7	vs Sunbright*	6:30pm
2/11	vs Oliver Springs*	6:30pm
2/14	@ Oakdale	6:30pm

## Girls 2024 - 2025

## Oneida

11/23	vs Sevier County	
11/25	vs Wartburg Central	W 62-57
11/26	@ Oakdale	
12/6	vs Gatlinburg-Pittman*	6:00pm
12/9	vs Anderson County	6:00pm
12/10	vs Oakdale	6:30pm
12/13	@ Coalfield	6:30pm
12/17	@ Campbell County	6:00pm
1/3	@ Wartburg Central	6:30pm
1/7	vs Coalfield	6:30pm
1/10	vs Austin-East*	6:00pm
1/14	@ Alcoa*	6:00pm
1/17	@ Pigeon Forge*	6:00pm
1/21	@ Austin-East*	6:00pm
1/24	vs Oliver Springs	6:30pm
1/27	vs Alcoa*	6:00pm
2/3	@ Anderson County	6:00pm
2/4	vs Campbell County	6:00pm
2/7	@ Gatlinburg-Pittman*	6:00pm
2/11	vs Pigeon Forge*	6:00pm
2/14	@ Oliver Springs	6:30pm



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## Oakdale

11/19	@ Van Buren County		1/31	vs Greenback*	6:30pm
11/25	@ Maryville Christian	L 54-39	2/4	@ Sunbright	6:30pm
11/26	vs Oneida		2/7	vs Harriman*	6:30pm
12/2	vs Oliver Springs	6:30pm	2/11	vs Rockwood*	6:30pm
12/3	vs Jellico	6:30pm	2/14	vs Coalfield	6:30pm
12/6	vs Wartburg Central	6:30pm			
12/10	@ Oneida	6:30pm			
12/13	@ Midway*	6:30pm			
12/20	@ Greenback*	6:30pm			
12/27	vs Unaka***	Time TBA			
12/27	vs Cloudland	2:30pm			
1/3	@ Oliver Springs	6:30pm			
1/6	vs Maryville Christian	3:00pm			
1/7	@ Jellico	6:30pm			
1/10	@ Harriman*	6:30pm			
1/14	vs Sunbright	6:30pm			
1/17	@ Rockwood*	6:30pm			
1/21	@ Wartburg Central	6:30pm			
1/24	@ Coalfield	6:30pm			
1/28	vs Midway*	6:30pm			



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 Friday, November 29th-CLOED  
 Tuesday, December 24th-Christmas Eve CLOED  
 Wednesday, December 25th-Christmas Day CLOED  
 Thursday, December 26th-CLOED  
 Tuesday, December 31st-Closing at 1pm  
 Wednesday, January 1st-New Year's Day CLOED



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David Zubler  
Columnist

## IRS helping you avoid refund delays

The IRS is making it easier for you to protect your information and avoid refund delays in 2025.

As a result of the new change, the IRS is accepting certain e-filed returns that claim a dependent who has been claimed on another person's tax return. If the primary taxpayer includes a valid Identity Protection Personal Identification (IP PIN), their refund will be received even if someone else has already claimed the same the dependent.

The taxpayer listed first on an e-filed tax return claiming dependents can provide their current year IP PIN when they file. If they do, the return will still be accepted. The spouse (if married filing jointly) and the dependents on the tax return don't need to provide an IP PIN if they don't have one.

A return would be rejected in previous years if a dependent had previously been claimed on another return. When a return has been rejected, the return must be mailed. Unfortunately, a mailed-in return takes the IRS about six to eight weeks to issue a refund from the date the IRS receives your return.

Using an IP PIN also helps to prevent you from identity theft. Once an IP PIN is issued, it must be on electronic and paper returns.

The best way to sign up for an IP PIN is through IRS Online Account. The process requires identity verification. Spouses and dependents can also obtain an IP PIN if they complete the required verification steps.

To get an IP PIN, you should create or log into your Online Account at IRS.gov and follow the steps for identity verification. Once verified, you will need to click on the profile tab to request their IP PIN. IP PIN users

must use this number when filing their federal tax returns for the current calendar year and any previous years filed during that same period.

The IRS IP PIN system will be offline for annual maintenance until early January 2025. However, you can still sign up for an IRS Online Account. An Online Account is the first step required to get an IPIN. An Online Account also allows you to securely access account information from previous years, including W-2 and 1099 information. The current year's information becomes available in May. You can access the current year's information months before the extension deadline by filing an extension.

If your return has been rejected due to someone claiming your dependent, you can obtain an IP PIN and efile again and the IRS will accept your efiled return.

Tax returns claiming duplicate dependents for prior years must still be filed by mail if the dependents have been claimed on another return.

More information is available on how to sign up at Get an identity protection PIN (IP PIN).

*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.*

## FLASHBACK, By Mick Harper

1. What was "Band of Gold" about?
2. Name the group that released "Love Don't Live Here Anymore."
3. Who was Big Bad John in the song of that name?
4. "Born to Be Wild" was best known for being used in which film?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "As we walk along and I hold her hand, I may never even speak, But my love is strong and she understands."

### Answers

1. Freda Payne's 1970 hit (a song she didn't even want to record) was about a newly married couple who end up sleeping in separate rooms.
2. Rose Royce, in 1976. The song was one of the first to use a Pollard Syndrum, an electric drum with reverb. The song only reached 32 on the Hot 100 chart, but reached single digits in several countries such as New Zealand and Ireland.
3. He was a miner who saved others when a mine caved in.
4. The Steppenwolf hit was used in "Easy Rider" in 1969.
5. "Still Waters Run Deep," by Brook Benton, in 1962. The song appeared on Benton's "Golden Hits Volume 2" album, along with "Hotel Happiness" and "Lie to Me." Benton (born Benjamin Franklin Peay in Lugoff, South Carolina) died of pneumonia in 1988.

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## Historically Speaking

### Meet Kenneth D. Nichols, the Father of Oak Ridge: The Manhattan Project Underway, Part 1

By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

Barbara Scollin, great niece of Major General Kenneth D. Nichols continues her series on his life.

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Ample reasons, most notably leadership skills, personality traits and qualifications, led to choosing General (then Colonel) Kenneth D. Nichols as Deputy District Engineer and subsequently as District Engineer of the Manhattan Engineer District (MED). In this capacity he had supervision of the research and development connected with, and the design, construction and operation of all plants required to produce plutonium-239 and uranium-235, including the construction of the towns of Oak Ridge, Tennessee, and Richland, Washington.

The responsibility of his position was massive as he oversaw a workforce of both military and civilian personnel of approximately 125,000; his Oak Ridge office became the center of the wartime atomic energy's activities. He also was responsible for internal security operations in the production facilities that helped keep the development of the atomic bomb secret.

In this seventh installment of several articles covering the life and accomplishments of Kenneth D. Nichols, we continue to learn of his early work with the Manhattan Project including procurement of high-grade uranium from the Belgium Congo.

Securing the procurement of high-grade uranium, securing a higher priority rating for the Manhattan Project, and clarifying chain of command were urgent priorities for Nichols and others in the Manhattan Project by September 1942.

More important than silver (see 6th article) was the need for adequate uranium to make the fissionable material for the bombs. Early in September 1942 Nichols heard from Thomas Finletter of the US State Department that 1200 tons of high-grade uranium ore from the Shinkolobwe mine in the Belgian Congo was stored on Staten Island. The mine was owned by Union Miniere; Edgar Sengier, as head of the company, was ready to negotiate terms with the United States regarding sale of the ore.

On September 13, 1942, Nichols met with the S-1 committee at the elite Bohemian Grove where "there was no rest for Nick that weekend" recalled Jackie Nichols many years later. She explained that Nick assumed there would be multiple opportunities to ask questions of the scientists attending, but instead they fully engaged him in answering their questions.

The meeting was critically important in establishing focus for the Manhattan Project, including acquisition of the Elza site in Tennessee and the purchase of uranium ore from Mr. Sengier.

Returning to the east coast, Nichols immediately met with Mr. Sengier on September 18, 1942, at his office in New York City. (Not until 1957 did Sengier belatedly send his US State

Department letter of introduction to General Nichols.) The meeting was memorable and the beginning of

a key working relationship as well as a warm, lifelong friendship.

Initially Sengier was skeptical Nichols was authorized by the U.S. government. Nichols recalls, [Sengier said,] "'You say you are from the military. Yet you are wearing civilian clothes.' After reading my ID card [see photo], he motioned me to a seat and inquired what I wanted. I told him I understood

hand on a yellow legal pad; Nichols and Sengier immediately signed. Nichols had just negotiated the lowest price, with an option, ever paid or to be paid for U-308 by the United States. Nichols recalls, "We agreed on a price of \$1.60/pound of U-308, \$1.00 of which went to his company and 60 cents to Eldorado for processing the ore."

Recently in 2023 the yellow paper contract was discovered by NHK's production staff



Lt Colonel Kenneth D. Nichols Clinton Engineer Works Identification Card  
(Courtesy U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Office of History)

he had some uranium for sale. In turn, he asked, 'Are you a contracting officer? Too many people have been around here about this uranium, and they just want to talk. Do you have any authority to buy?' Perhaps too flippantly, I answered, 'Yes. I have more authority, I'm sure, than you have uranium to sell.'

"After thinking about it for a moment, he demanded to know, 'Will the uranium ore be used for military purposes?' I hesitated. I didn't know what I should say to a foreigner about the country's most secret war project. Sengier rescued me: 'You don't need to tell me how you'll use it. I think I know. All I want is your assurance as an Army officer that this uranium ore is definitely going to be used for war purposes.' I could, of course, give him that assurance. He replied, 'Good. Then let's make a deal, Colonel...' We reached a general agreement in about half an hour."

By the time of the meeting, Nichols had arranged a test of the ore. It proved to be the highest-grade uranium in the world, specifically 65 percent U-308. To put this in perspective, Nichols explains: "To illustrate the uniqueness of Sengier's stockpile, after the war the MED and the AEC [Atomic Energy Commission] considered ore containing three tenths of 1 percent as a good find. Without Sengier's foresight in stockpiling ore in the United States and aboveground in Africa, we simply would not have had the amounts of uranium needed to justify building the large separation plants and the plutonium reactors."

The historic meeting was described in detail by Maj General Nichols in his book *The Road to Trinity, A Personal Account of How America's Nuclear Policies Were Made* 1. Before his book was published, however, Lt General Groves and Admiral Strauss requested Nichols send them details of the meeting for their books *Now It Can Be Told: The Story of the Manhattan Project* 2 and *Men and Decisions* 3.

Sengier drew up a short contract in long-

when producing a documentary on the uranium used for the bombs dropped on Japan in August 1945 4. Both Nichols and Sengier had searched for this contract decades after the war was over with no success, so it was quite a feat by NHK to unearth this document.

Colonel Marshall explained Nichols' authority for signing such a contract as this: "Nichols could give orders in my name anytime he wanted to." "Nichols was my deputy officially and in writing and he could sign anything I could sign... over War Department objection, I got him made Deputy District Engineer, so he signed a lot of things."

Nichols also initiated important meetings with C. D. Howe, Canada's Minister of Munitions and Supply to iron out contract delays for heavy-water and uranium refining for the Manhattan Project. Mr. Howe confirmed that the Canadian government had purchased the Eldorado uranium mine and turned it into a Crown Corporation. (Canada's 28 Crown Corporations handled secret projects and manufacturing during the war.) Thanks to Nichols' personal meetings with Mr. Howe, the Eldorado contracts proceeded without problems.

After the war, Nichols and Sengier met again to discuss America's critical need for uranium. Nichols recalls, "I remember one other time when we expanded, or got the Department of Defense to ask for the first expansion of the [Atomic Energy] Commission, they said they could not get enough ore. I said, 'What's wrong with Sengier? He's got enough ore.'

"'Oh, no, he claims he hasn't.'

"They finally arranged to where I went to a party for Sengier and the Commission... I got him off in a corner after dinner and told him we needed more ore. He said, 'Will you assure me it's not going to commercial [uses]? This is [for] military?'

- Continued on Page 13

# Historically Speaking Meet Kenneth D. Nichols, the Father of Oak Ridge: The Manhattan Project Underway, Part 1

By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

“I said, ‘That’s the only reason I’m interested. It’s for the military use.’

“He said, ‘How much do you need?’ So I told him. He said, ‘Well, tell the Commission I’ll be more amenable tomorrow.’ He trusted me, as he knew I had never gone back on my word at any time, and I felt the same way.

“[I had] developed a personal relationship with him... If he told them that he was selling this to where we would have a corner on uranium for ultimate commercial market, why he would have a political problem. If he said he was only meeting our military needs, why, he could get by.”

During World War II, Nichols and Groves were conscious of the fact that the Russians would be a big problem after the war. Nichols recalls a specific concern regarding uranium: “We had a hell of a time... keeping Harry Hopkins from sending [uranium] over to Russia. That happened to fall in my bailiwick and in the early days of the [Manhattan] Project when I was trying to corner the uranium market. We would find Lend-Lease wanted to ship some to Russia. ...So as soon as they tell us where they could buy it, we would go buy it [instead of them].”

The concern continues.

Next up: The Manhattan Project Underway, Part 2

Grateful acknowledgements to K. David Nichols, Jr.; Ray Smith; Sandy Fye; Dr. Bianka J. Adams, Alisa Whitley, Douglas J. Wilson and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Office of History; Hideharu Watanabe and the NHK World-Japan staff; Caroline Six and Lynn Biscop of the National Archives of Belgium; Diane Gulley; Gerald A. Potts; and Bruce W. Scollin for their assistance



Lt Col Nichols, Maj T.T. Crenshaw, Jr. and Dr. J. Robert Oppenheimer meet with the S-1 Executive Committee at the Bohemian Grove, September 13, 1942. L&R: Major Thomas T. Crenshaw, J. Robert Oppenheimer, Harold C. Urey, Ernest O. Lawrence, James B. Conant, Lyman J. Briggs, E.V. Murphee, Arthur H. Compton, Robert L. Thornton, Lt Colonel K.D. Nichols (Courtesy of Peter Kirby and is in the public domain)

with this article.  
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Thanks to Barbara Rogers Scollin, grandniece of General Kenneth D. Nichols, for her continuing insights into aspects of the Manhattan Project that have not been noted before and that sheds light on the role her great uncle had in many of the decisions that contributed to the success of the Manhattan Project.

Citations:

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# Daniel in Babylon



**John Burns**  
**Opinion Columnist**

When the time came for Israel the nation to choose their king, they did what was right in their own eyes. God has predestined one gentile man to become the patriarch to the bloodline that the promised Messiah would be born into. Disobedient Abram the Gentile became obedient Abraham.

Abram was predestined to begin the redemption of humanity and the garden of God on earth. He is called out of his Pagan bondage, to return monotheism to the Garden of Eden in Jerusalem. Initial disobedience cost his offspring 400 years in Egypt.

Abraham believes God and it is accounted unto him as righteousness. The pattern of salvation is established foundationally in Abraham the Hebrew. Genesis 22 is the most profound act of faith in scripture next to the faith of Jesus Christ.

Abraham takes his one and only son, up God's mountain in Jerusalem, binds him to a timber of wood, raises the blade and Isaac says nothing. God intervenes and provides himself a ram for the covenant. This act establishes God's teaching paradigm. A willing son on a lonely hill executed by a loving father.

Isaac completely trusted in the promises God made to Abraham his father. He had been taught that his offspring would eventually birth the world's Messiah. He knew that if Abraham executed him, God's promise was of none effect unless the son of promise, were raised from the dead.

Isaac's willingness to be sacrificed, was rewarded by his father sending Eleazar, to the land of Abraham's nativity, to find his son a bride. A return to Babylon and the Pagan world Abram was called out of. Eleazar means comforter in Hebrew. The father sent the comforter to find his son a willing virgin gentile bride.

This is repeated in the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Christ's willingness and faith that his father would raise him from the dead, was rewarded by the comforter being released into the Roman and Greek speaking world to find the Lord Jesus Christ a willing virgin bride.

The paradigm of the levirate marriage covenant is how God undergirded the gospel message. From Adam to Abraham is about a seed war. God planned to redeem humanity through a specific bloodline. That bloodline eventually birthed Messiah through a chosen virgin, descended from Adam through David.

Isaac receives Rebekkah only after her family receives a dowry as payment for her hand in marriage. The world's dowry for Jesus Christ's hand in eternal marriage was paid on a wooden cross on the lonely hill called Calvary. Isaac and Rebekkah consummate their marriage only after Rebekkah is redeemed out of the Pagan world and brought to the promised land. Israel the land can only ever be understood, when you realize it is the lost garden of God on earth, Eden. Jerusalem is the garden and Moriah is the holy mountain.

The battle for Israel is being waged by the seed of the serpent. God gave the land to Abraham and his descendants forever, because it is the home of God the Creator on Earth. It is where God placed man in the garden. It is the place where the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, was touched too soon.

That same tree is the tree upon which Messiah would be executed.

Isaac and Rebekkah, birth Esau and Jacob. Jacob God has loved and Esau God has hated. Esau sold his birthright to become the progenitor of the coming Messiah to Jacob. God knew this would happen when the twins wrestled in Rebekkah's womb.

Jacob would take two wives and two concubines to birth the twelve tribes of the family who would become the nation known as Israel. Each son would be given very specific blessings and cursings, when Jacob was dying.

Levi would become the family of God's priests and Judah would be the progenitor of the bloodline of Israel's future King. John the Baptist was the authorized high priest born to the bloodline of Levi. Upon his death, Jesus Christ established the priesthood of the high priest Melchizedek.

At Christ's first advent, he became high priest over his own sacrifice. His death would end in the borrowed tomb of Joseph of Arimathea housing his dead body for three days and three nights. The resurrection was rewarded with Jesus Christ paying the dowry for our hand in marriage.

We are Christ's reward. His kingship will not be realized until after the Jews of Israel have been chastened for the last time. The line of kings in Israel is descended from the loins of Judah. Mary was descended from Judah through David. Jesus is Israel's promised coming King.

As Israel the nation came out of Egypt, rebellion led to the 40-year desert wondering. When the conquest of the land does begin under Joshua, he fails God in subduing seven principal cities. God raises up seven judges who also fail God and compromise with the same seven cities.

God raises up Samuel. Samuel would eventually be used by God to anoint Saul, Israel's choice for king, and David, God's man on the throne. Saul was descended from Benjamin. David is descended from Judah.

David's descendants fracture his united monarchy within one generation. King Solomon has two sons who divide the united monarchy. The Northern Kingdom made up of ten tribes, is completely inundated with paganism and eventually sat up two golden calves in Samaria and Dan.

The southern tribe of Judah maintains one bloodline from David to Messiah. The paganism in the north would see God raise up an Assyrian to invade the land and take the ten tribes into captivity. Daniel is taken to Babylon in 586 BC with his three friends, Hananiah, Azariah, and Mishael.

Daniel was God's way of preserving the bloodline of Messiah as he punished his stiff-necked people who had been warned to repent and return unto him and his plan for their lives. Daniel would be prime minister of Babylon and then serve three subsequent Medo-Persian kings for 70 years.

John Burns 9-22-2024

**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.**



# Luke Chapter 11 & 12



**Melvin Howard**

(Luke 11:4) The Model prayer (Mt. 6:9-13): On a certain occasion Jesus had been engaged in prayer. After he concluded, a disciple, having waited respectfully, approached him (perhaps on behalf of others) and requested: "Lord, teach us to pray, like John taught his disciples." The Teacher then gave them a condensed version of the "model prayer" that is incorporated into the Sermon on the Mount.

(Luke 11:5-13) The parable of the persistent friend: The Savior now illustrates one of the key principles undergirding effective prayer.

Prayer is to be humble, fervent, believing, and patient. A man had a visitor arrive at the unexpected midnight hour. Because he had no food to set before his guest, he went to a neighbor to solicit help; he asked for three loaves of bread. The neighbor was irritated; he had retired already and his children were settled in bed. Nonetheless, the needy neighbor kept on asking. Though the man was not inclined to raise and provide the bread out of the most noble motive, because of his neighbor's "importunity" (almost shameless begging), he arose and gave him the needed bread. The parable is one of contrasts. If a grumpy neighbor yielded to persistence, how much more will a loving, benevolent God respond to his people who fervently approach him in prayer. Three verbs, in an ascending scale of actions ("ask," "seek" and "knock"), are introduced to emphasize the point. Each reflects a grammatical tense in which sustained action is implied.

In addition, a good father would not deceive his child with gifts that are misleading (stone for bread) or harmful (scorpion for egg). Certainly then, a Heavenly Father can be depended upon to provide "good things" for his children who fervently solicit him (Mt. 7:11). The reference to the "Holy Spirit" (v.13), when compared to Matthew's narrative, would appear to suggest that the Spirit operates providentially in implementing answers to our prayers.

(Luke 11:14-54) The blasphemy of the Pharisees, the sign of Jonah, the light of the body, and the Pharisees rebuked.

(Luke chapter 12:1-12) The leaven of the Pharisees: Following a dinner in the home of a Pharisee (11:37, Jesus engaged a number of visitors on a variety of religious issues. Eventually, a huge crowd of thousands assembled, stumbling over one another. The Lord took advantage of the situation to instruct his disciples about the "leaven" (corrupt teaching) of the Pharisees. The time would come when their subversive methods would be exposed---especially on the day of Judgment (v.2-3).

There is also a warning about persecution. Men may kill the body, but that is the extent of their destruction. Thus, be courageous and do not fear them. It would be far better to reverently respect him who has the power to punish in eternal hell (v.5). Do not live in slavish fear. God watches over the sparrows that scarcely are worth anything when sold in the marketplace; surely, then, he will watch over his faithful people. With strong hyperbole, the Lord emphasized the protective care of God by noting that he even counts the hairs of our head (v.7). Those who are courageous enough to confess Christ will be likewise acknowledged before the angels and God himself (Mt. 10:32). "Confess" literally means to "say the same," to endorse the claims that Jesus made for himself. Those who deny him will suffer a terrible consequence (v. 8-9).

Those who blaspheme (speak against) the Holy Spirit (an expression for rejecting his message of redemption) will have no post-earth opportunity for salvation. This life is the only era of opportunity (Mt. 12:32). "Be confident in your proclamation of the gospel, for the Holy Spirit will instruct you in your preaching message." This promise, of course, was restricted to those to whom the promise was particularly made. (The apostles Jn.14:16-17; v. 25-26; Jn. 15:26-27; Jn. 16:7-14).

(Luke 12:13-21) The rich fool: A man approached Christ soliciting his assistance in settling a family dispute over an inheritance. Jesus responded that he was not here to resolve such matters. At the same time, he diagnosed the man's spiritual malignancy. He had a covetous streak that needed remedy; hence, the following parable.

There was a certain farmer who was highly skilled at his craft. He produced abundant harvests. He was preoccupied, however, with how to retain it all. His philosophy was: "Get all you can and can all you get." He never thought beyond self. About a dozen personal pronouns punctuate his sentences. He "reasoned within himself" rather than seeking divine counsel. His bright idea was to tear down his old barns (note the plural) and build newer, larger ones. He never thought about "eternal" barns (v. 33; "purses that was not old"). He would simply congratulate himself and be content

with what he had laid up for years ahead.

The problem was he had no "years" in the chronological bank---not even a week. The "foolish" man would give account that very night. Then where would his prosperity be? Fought over by kinsmen? Taken by government? He would be a pauper in hell. Shrouds have pockets. "Riches kept by the owner thereof to his hurt" is a sad though common evil (Eccl. 5:13). How many elders Christians leave their assets to worthless children who have no interest in the cause of Christ? Is such good stewardship? We will give account for the management of our earthly prosperity (Lk. 16:2). There is an alternate reading of verse twenty. Instead of "your soul is required," the sense may be, "they shall require your soul". This may suggest that his treasures were instrumental in his undoing. Every Christian must learn to be "rich toward God" (v. 21).

(Luke 12:22-48) The cares of this life and servants---watchful and foolish (Mt. 6:25-34; 2:45-51): This segment elaborates further on the necessity for constant preparation. Girded loins (A tied-up garment facilitating action) and burning lamps are symbols of vigilance. There must be a constant state of preparation in view of the Lord's return. Those who remain prepared will be wonderfully rewarded: it will be otherwise for those who are not. The Savior's return will be at an unexpected time. This destroys the false prophecies of modern date setters. Some flirt with disaster, laboring under the impression they will have last-minute opportunities for repentance. An unexpected arrival of Christ will nullify that vain hope. There will be no invitation songs on the day of Judgment. The Lord makes an important point that illustrates the fairness of divine justice. Those who died unprepared, yet in their ignorance, will be punished with a lighter penalty, while those who know the will of Christ, yet disobey in utter rebellion, will be punished more strenuously (47-48; Mt. 11:22; Heb. 10:29).

(Luke 12:49-53) Truth divides: Jesus speaks of casting fire upon the earth and the implied effect---either to purify or to destroy. He hints of the persecution that will come to those who identify themselves with his gospel. In fact, the fire was kindled already, as demonstrated in the mounting storm of opposition to his teaching. His coming "baptism" was the overwhelming measure of suffering he would have to endure on the cross for the sins of others. It was never intended that Christianity should result in a tranquil mode of life. In that event, the masses would embrace it for all the wrong reason. Rather, the consequence of religious conviction will be division---not the wrong type, but the noble kind, that of principle. Tragically, though necessary, even families will be torn apart---the wheat separated from the chaff.

(Luke 12:54-59) Signs of the times: Jesus spoke to great crowds and his courage was amazing. He reminded them that they could interpret the signs of weather fairly easily---rising clouds in the west would bring showers off the Mediterranean, and a wind from the southern desert region heralded a heat wave. Their interpretative skills, however, did not allow them to decipher the religious and moral atmosphere of the Palestinian world, "this time" (v.56), the current climate of religious crisis. They could have, but would not. They were hypocrites---the idea behind the term being a "phony," an expression signifying "speaking from behind a false exterior."

They refused to identify Jesus as their promised Messiah, though the signs were perfectly transparent. They resisted identifying the degeneration that had become characteristic of the Hebrew system, the corrupt priesthood, the denigration of the Mosaic law, the legalism of Pharisaism, and the liberalism of Sadduceism. They could not see the gathering storm clouds of oppressive Rome, soon to be providentially employed by the sovereign God as a punishment for the nation's apostasy. They were blind and hopelessly head-over-heels in rebellion. They could not "judge" (v.57), so they would be judged. A judgment was on the horizon (the impending destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans in A.D. 70), and there would be no release---much like the penniless prisoner who can never be released from his confinement until he pays his fine---which, of course, he will never be able to pay!

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