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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>AROUND OUR TOWN</b>   <i>Banjos and Ballads At Paris Academy For The Arts</i> . . . . .	<b>28</b>
<b>ARTS &amp; ENTERTAINMENT</b>   <i>Let's Have Spring Fun Together At KPAC</i> . . . . .	<b>26</b>
<b>CALENDAR OF EVENTS</b>   . . . . .	<b>34</b>
<b>FACES &amp; PLACES</b>   . . . . .	<b>24</b>
<b>FEATURE</b>   <i>The Rest Of The Story For Bruce Carlisle</i> . . . . .	<b>9</b>
<b>FEATURE</b>   <i>Bull's Eye For Local Champion</i> . . . . .	<b>11</b>
<b>FEATURE</b>   <i>Wordsmith And His Musings</i> . . . . .	<b>18</b>
<b>GREAT OUTDOORS</b>   <i>Make Spring Official...Head On Down To The Lake</i> . . . . .	<b>14</b>
<b>IN THE GARDEN</b>   <i>Flower Bulbs: A Sure Sign Of Spring</i> . . . . .	<b>32</b>
<b>JUST FOR FUN</b>   . . . . .	<b>23</b>
<b>PARIS CUISINE</b>   <i>Ham-ming It Up For Easter!</i> . . . . .	<b>31</b>
<b>RECOLLECTIONS</b>   <i>The Last Apple And A Brother's Adventures</i> . . . . .	<b>21</b>
<b>REMEMBER WHEN</b>   <i>Spanning Time</i> . . . . .	<b>16</b>
<b>REMINISCENCE</b>   <i>When Smiley Came To Town</i> . . . . .	<b>4</b>
<b>SCHOOL OF THOUGHT</b>   <i>TEAM READ: Learning To Read To Reading To Learn</i> . . . . .	<b>25</b>
<b>SPOTLIGHT</b>   <i>Jean Palmer: Serving Her Country, Serving Her County</i> . . . . .	<b>6</b>



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It's Spring but it's also  
*Mother's Day*

In this issue of **PARIS!**, writers are celebrating the warm sunshine, longer days and colorful blooms with an array of articles.

John Watkins kicks us off with his always humorous take on gardening with a lesson on spring flower bulbs and Steve McCadams is headed to the lake to fish already. If you're looking for something to do, look no further. Rhonda Stanton clues us in on all the spring happenings at KPAC and a new program for your little ones. Meredith Vajda writes about the upcoming fundraiser at Paris Academy for the Arts featuring Sammy Goldstein and Dan Knowles sharing the stage together for the first time.

Looking for a little history? Shannon McFarlin has written about the old Scott Fitzhugh Bridge and the day that Smiley Burnette came to town, as

**ON THE COVER**

*This local landmark is framed by the gorgeous dogwoods at the home of local horticulturist River Byrd. Besides photography, he enjoys traveling, hiking, kayaking, as well as gardening. This photo was taken from his home garden on Volunteer Drive.*

well as our Spotlight article featuring a very special lady from the 6888th battalion.

Karen Geary got the “rest of the story” in a follow-up on Bruce Carlisle and sat down with Jack Tarkington to discuss his new “surprise” book.

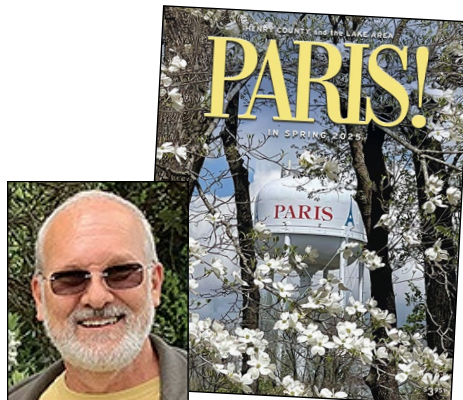
There's so much more in this issue with a story on TEAM READ's volunteers, Jesse Parker, Jr.'s family antics, a wonderful recipe using leftover Easter ham, and an article about a sweet young lady finding her passion early on with her family.

Family is so important and I'd like to dedicate this issue to my precious Moma, Robbie McNutt, who recently passed away. She was born and raised in Henry County and I'm pretty sure she knew almost everyone. She was so friendly and she knew no stranger. She never traveled much and I ask her why once. She said there wasn't much need, “I already live in the best spot.” Truer words were never spoken.

I miss you already, Moma.



*Smantha*



# PARIS!

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# WHEN SMILEY CAME TO TOWN



By Shannon McFarlin

**Y**ou may not recognize the name but you probably would know the face and especially the voice—at least those of you who watch retro television channels like *TV Land*.

Smiley Burnette had a prolific career as a Cowboy Comic. Very prolific, with 171 moving pictures made with the King of Cowboys Gene Autry alone. Smiley was a star of western films, radio programs, television serials, and was a singer-songwriter who played over 100 musical instruments, sometimes more than one simultaneously. And he didn't know how to read music.

He also was an inventor, building some of his unusual musical instruments himself. One was the “Jassackaphone” that resembled an organ with pipes, levers, and pull mechanisms. In the early 1940s, he invented and patented an early home audiovisual system called Cinevision Talkies.

Most people today would remember him for his appearances as rail-

road engineer Charley Pratt for 106 episodes on CBS Television's popular *Petticoat Junction* and seven episodes on *Green Acres*.

So why are we telling you all this? Well, Smiley was a hit in Henry County, too, appearing in the summer of 1952 at the Sundown Drive-In Theater.

Smiley was known for his sunny disposition, high-pitched voice, indistinguishable accent, and battered black cowboy hat. In 1911, he was born Lester Burnett in Illinois (he add-



A publicity photo shows Charlie Starrett and Burnette featured in *The Blazing Trail*.

ed the “e” to his name later in life). He came by his nickname when he read Mark Twain's “The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County” on the radio. The story included a character named Jim Smiley, and Burnette named the character Mr. Smiley. Later, he adopted the moniker as his own.

His big break came in 1933 when he was hired by Gene Autry to play accordion on *National Barn Dance* on Chicago's WLS-AM, which led to co-starring roles with Autry in a series of musical Western features. This is where Smiley introduced his trick voice which sounded like a frog-like croak which he would often use while singing his musical numbers.

Smiley wrote over 400 songs and would sing them in his movies. His classic, “Ridin' Down the Canyon (To Watch the Sun Go Down)” has been recorded by Willie Nelson and Riders in the Sky. Over the years, his songs were recorded by artists as diverse as Bing Crosby and Leon Russell.

Smiley didn't leave his publicity to chance, taking charge of it himself. He organized the national Smiley Burnette Fan Club and made personal appearances at theaters and other public venues. And that's where the Sundown Drive-In comes in.

In the 1950s, Autry retired and other cowboy stars left the scene as the popularity of cowboy musicals waned. Smiley continued making appearances on TV shows such as *Louisiana Hayride*, the *Grand Ole Opry* and *Ranch Party*.

Smiley kept his career alive with his personal appearances at drive-ins, fairs, hospitals, town squares and rodeos. According to the blurb on the front page of *The Parisian* July 16, 1957, "Cowboy Comic Here Wednesday". Noting his trademark battered black hat, the article states that Smiley "true to his name, has become one of the happiest men on earth."

"I got it made," Smiley said. He was wearing the same hat that took him through 171 pictures with Autry and another cowpoke named Charles Starrett.

The stage show Smiley brought to Paris "is a riot of laughter, which has played coast-to-coast in the United States and Canada," according to the article. "Asked how he keeps his spirits so high when he usually winds up a cinema performance in the horse watering trough, Smiley opined: "Happiness is like a butterfly. You wear yourself out chasing it. Sit down and it will light on you."

I.W. Bowden was manager of the Sundown at that time and he said there will be no extra admission for the show over the regular price of the movie ticket. And we bet that's the way Smiley would have wanted it.

Do yourself a favor: Watch Smiley Burnette's musical performances on YouTube. You'll be entertained!

Opposite page, left to right: Publicity photo of Smiley Burnette in his signature black hat; *The Parisian* newspaper clipping announcing Burnette's appearance at the Sundown Drive-In; Burnette played the Hooterville Cannonball's railroad engineer Charley Pratt (right) with Rufe Davis (left) as the fireman/conductor Floyd Smoot on television's *Petticoat Junction*.



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# JEAN PALMER



## Serving Her Country, Serving Her County



By Shannon McFarlin

**D**uring World War II, Lima Jean Palmer was staying with her aunt in East St. Louis when she made a big decision. She enlisted in the U.S. Army and walked right into history.

As a black woman in the 1940s from small town Paris, enlisting in the military was rare— and brave. But it wasn't the last time she would do something brave for herself and her community. After returning home from her military service, and after she finished her education, Palmer became the first woman and first African-American woman to serve on the Henry County Commission. And she served for two terms.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt had created the Women's Army Corps in 1943. Jean knew serving in the military, just like the men in her family, was possible after First Lady Eleanor Roosevelt and Civil Rights Leader Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune advocated for

the inclusion of African-American women in the WAC.

"She wanted to travel and she wanted to do her duty," her daughter Morna Hutcherson said.

What made Palmer's story even more remarkable was her assignment to the 6888th Central Postal Battalion, nicknamed the "Six Triple Eight." It was not only the sole all-African American battalion in the WAC, but they were also the only all African-American, all female battalion, sent overseas during World War II.

This may sound familiar because this is the same battalion's story recently told in "The Six Triple Eight" movie directed by actor Tyler Perry.

Even before the founding of the 6888th, the mail was piling up for soldiers serving during WWII because of their ever-changing movements. The 6888th was sent to basic training in Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia. From there, the group sailed across the ocean on the famed "Ile de France" ship

and arrived by train to Birmingham, England.

They found themselves looking at overflowing warehouses stacked with letters and packages. They also found horrible conditions— damp, cold, and overrun with mice and rats. But they set to work on separate eight-hour shifts, seven days a week. They had the motto, "No mail, low morale." The women of the 6888th devised a system for sorting the mail, and in what seemed impossible, the task was completed in just three months. "It's unreal to think that they did all that by hand," Hutcherson said.

After battling the backlog of mail in Birmingham, the ladies crossed the English Channel to LeHavre, France, and on to Rouen, where they dealt with another backlog of mail. It was there that the members of the 6888th were in a parade ceremony and then were sent to Paris, where they marched through the city. It was during one of those parades that pho-





This photograph shows the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion marching in Paris, France, during World War II. Jean Palmer is pictured prominently in the front row.

tos were taken, one of which prominently shows Jean. “She was so tall and she was right in the front row, so you could see her real well,” she said.

Hutcherson remembered that her mother “was so excited about it all. She did talk about it. She got to see Paris, France, and posed with those male soldiers at the Eiffel Tower. She always called it ‘Gay Paree’. She talked about how hard it was to get through all that mail. It’s funny, her sister, Aunt Penny (Cordie Freeman) sent her a lipstick in a letter and drew a stamp on the front of it with the red lipstick. And she got the letter!”

Her niece, Lt. Col. Wanda Bruce Graham, noted that the women of the 6888th were not honored after the war until years later. She said her Aunt Jean was the inspiration for her embarking on a military career herself. She always loved looking at the photos of Jean and hearing her stories. “I loved to look at the photo of her with other African-American soldiers standing in front of the Eiffel Tower.”

Graham said she wears a necklace with a Eiffel Tower charm and it reminds her that both she and her Aunt Jean traveled from Paris, Tennessee, to Paris, France, in their military careers.

After coming back home, Palmer graduated from Central High School, and was a graduate and teacher at Toler’s Business College. She later also worked at the former Lee School.

Hutcherson said she was active in the local civil rights movement and the Black Caucus in Nashville.

“She decided she was going to run for county commission and she won. Two times”, Hutcherson said proudly.

Even when she developed multiple sclerosis, she didn’t let that keep her down for long. “She sometimes would have to go to the VA for a spell. They would help her, and she’d come back and keep going,” she said.

One thing she feels good about, she said, is that Jean did get to see the photos of herself in the military marches overseas and that made her feel good.

“She was very intelligent and just fought for equality,” Hutcherson said. “She was very much before her time.”

In 1982, Jean was presented an award for outstanding service from the local black community. In February 2022, the Henry County Commission honored Jean’s family with a proclamation on her being the first woman and first African-American to serve on the commission.

In November 2018, Fort Leavenworth dedicated a monument to the women of the 6888th, and in a fitting tribute, the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in 2022.

Jean and her husband, Harold Brooks Palmer, who also served in the Army in WWII, are buried in Maplewood Cemetery.

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# THE REST OF THE STORY

## For Bruce Carlisle



**R**adio personality Paul Harvey often said “...and now you’ve heard the rest of the story” when he closed out his broadcasts. He would tell a story about an everyday person or event, cut to commercials after leaving the tale with a cliffhanger, and then returned to finish his story with his classic tagline.

At PARIS! Magazine, we don’t often hear follow-up stories about our

previous articles, but for Bruce Carlisle, he had a heartwarming conclusion to a multi-year search.

He was the subject of our Spotlight story in the Winter 2022 issue of the magazine. Readers will remember Carlisle was a Navy corpsman who ended up teaching Mountain Warfare skills to Marines. He was quoted as saying, “As far as I know, I was the first Black corpsman to be a Mountain Warfare Training instructor.”

It was during that time that Carlisle met the renowned U.S. Marine wartime artist, Colonel H. Avery Chenoweth, who was commissioned to do a mural depicting the Mountain Warfare Unit.

Throughout the years, Carlisle wondered about the mural. “I would check every few years, but I could never find anything about it until 2010 when the new Marine Corps Museum opened.”

Carlisle made an inquiry to the museum, explained his experience to the curator, and asked whether Colonel Chenoweth had left any sketches or paintings from that event. It wasn’t long before the curator sent him a photograph of a Chenoweth painting which prominently featured him in his mountain gear.

In August 2024, Bruce and his wife, Dianne, spent nine days traveling around the East Coast and going to a family reunion in New Jersey. On their way home, they decided to stop in Quantico, Virginia, to tour the Marine Corps Museum. But their main goal was to view the painting of Bruce in person and meet the museum’s art curator, Joan Thomas.

Although the portrait was not on display at the time, Bruce was invited to view it at the storage location nearby. Ms. Thomas pulled a couple of paintings from the mural series but Bruce’s portrait was the best in the group.

“At first, I was amazed at its size,” said Bruce. “Then I just felt honored and humbled.”

“It was an amazing experience,” said Dianne. “You can tell by comparing the paintings that Bruce made a huge impression on Col. Chenoweth. I’m so proud of Bruce. But he jokingly tells me he’s immortal now.”

Since Bruce’s portrait had been pulled from storage, Ms. Thomas sent it out for preservation measures. Once resealed and treated, it will be protected for another 100 years. Perhaps Bruce is correct.

Above: Bruce Carlisle poses with the original painting by Colonel H. Avery Chenoweth.



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# BULL'S EYE

## FOR LOCAL CHAMPION

By Samantha Parker

**A**rchery is an ancient sport that evolved from early humans hunting wild game for survival. Today, it is a popular sport that people of all ages and abilities can participate in for fun and competition. For one local teen, bows and arrows have been her path to higher education.

Henry County High School senior Chloe McElroy recently signed to shoot archery for The University of the Cumberlands in Williamsburg, Kentucky. This has been a goal set

many years ago, that has come true. She is the daughter of John and Gracian McElroy and granddaughter of Dwain and Janna Alexander and Pat and the late Bobby McElroy, all of Puryear.

When asked why she started shooting, Chloe said, "My dad competed when he was young and I'd always been interested. He got me a bow and we started shooting together in the backyard. From then on, I was hooked!" Soon after she joined the Covenant Ranch Youth Archery team

in the fourth grade and has been shooting everyday since!

She has won many national, state, and regional titles during her archery career so far. Chloe said her favorite experience was "winning the S3DA 3D Nationals in Metropolis, Illinois, when it was only my second year of shooting. It really sparked my love for it!"

She and her family travel all over the United States going to Archery Shooter Association Pro-AMs, Scholastic 3D Archery, and National Field



For Chloe McElroy, practice makes perfect...and a college education.

Archery Association competitions to name a few.

Chloe's mother, Gracian McElroy, commented, "We as a family have really enjoyed watching Chloe grow in this sport. She started out really shy and didn't talk much, but she's making all sorts of new friends and even talking to bow companies now. Chloe never meets a stranger," she laughed.

Gracian went on to say, "Chloe's shooting has allowed us time to spend together as a family. We are either practicing everyday indoors, in the woods shooting 3D targets or at a competition. We have the best time together."

Chloe would encourage anyone to join our local team at Covenant Ranch in Paris, Tennessee, to help further their learning of archery. It has many benefits that also allow you to possibly get scholarship opportunities for school. You will meet so many wonderful people from all over that will become some of your best friends for life.

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# Make Spring Official...

# HEAD ON DOWN TO THE LAKE!

By Steve McCadams

**W**hen the dogwoods go on parade, filling the rolling hills and hollows of the region with their unique white displays, Spring has sprung.

There's long been a bit of folklore among the ranks of outdoorsmen that when the dogwoods are blooming the crappie are spawning. Generations of anglers believe it also and have passed on this popular saying whenever fishing stories are told.

Whenever Spring rolls around the Kentucky Lake fishing scene it comes under a spell. Some call it "fishing pox." Seems fishermen get the itch to head out to the big pond created when Tennessee Valley Authority built Kentucky Dam and created our mammoth reservoir. A byproduct of the whole project has been Spring fishing exploits.

Nothing much a doctor can do for those exposed to fishing fever. Warm days and light winds have chased

away winter's chill. No pill or mystery tonic exist for the disease that's known to afflict young and old, men and women, rich and poor.

About the only thing one can do is head out to the lake, fishing poles tied down, and all the other gear jammed somewhere in the vehicle or boat. Throw caution to the wind. Buried treasures await in the fertile waters of Kentucky Lake. Listen closely and there's a chatter coming from the shallow buck bushes and shoreline willows. It's the crappie calling your name.

Once this seasonal transition kicks in there's no stopping it. Sorta hard to explain. Bees are buzzing. Bobwhites whistle a melody of Dixie. Bullfrogs croak, helping spread the word that something strange is underway and the whole world needs to wake and hear about it. A sweet smell of honey-suckle permeates the air. Yet another confirmation Spring slipped through the door when no one was watching.

You can bet your boots that fish on Kentucky Lake are well aware something is underway. Trying to slip Spring passed the fish is like trying to slip down passed a rooster – it ain't gonna happen!

For fish their biological clock is ticking. They've long known the change was coming. Spawning phases trigger hormonal changes, causing the fish to move shallow and seek shallow habitat for dropping their eggs. The abundance of stickups, stumps, bushes, treelaps and other shoreline structure team up to produce excellent spawning territory. Perhaps it's the best time of the year as now fish and the fishermen are close together.

Shady shorelines lure anglers, livid with excitement and enthusiasm, to their locale. Just the thought of seeing a bobber disappear in the dingy water around the roots of flooded buck bushes fuels their fire. Dreams of that tug on the line as a big slab crappie emerges from thick cover is a



sight for sore eyes. It's what puts pep in the step of feisty fishermen.

The anticipation and thrill of Spring fishing trips are known to cure most any ailment. From debts to ailing backs; for a short moment in time they all disappear. Clouds of despair fade into sunsets. When sunny days team up with hungry fish it's a recipe for fun and fellowship courtesy of the "Big Fisherman" in the sky.

Tired and wrinkled hands, sore backs, and feeble bodies somehow return to younger days on the creek banks of life with childhood buddies, sipping a fruit jar of tea Mother wrapped in newspaper to keep it cool never tasted so good.

Gentle breezes slap waves against lakeshores where the banded water snakes silently slither by making no threats. Turtles line up, soaking up sun from their cozy perch as they jockey for position on dead logs.

Thrills of victory replay themselves. Another bite and the pole bends. Yanking in flopping fish that will later be the featured guests at the supper table.



"Thrills of victory replay themselves. Another bite and the pole bends. Yanking in flopping fish that will later be the featured guests at the supper table.."

Spring rejuvenates the mind, body and soul. Friends and family long gone have a way of returning for a friendly visit when a nap takes over and brings them back to your side. Too bad the season of Spring only

arrives once a year. Maybe that's why it feels so special.

Chasing away an unruly dull gray winter with a warm awakening is part of Spring's magic. The world waking up from a winter's nap just like you did as an allusive fish slipped up and just about jerked the fishing pole out of your hand during the peak of the daydream.

A stringer full of fish splashing in the water. Distant sounds of motor boats and fishermen out on the lake of life. Too bad youth is wasted on the young. On a warm Spring day out on the shorelines of Kentucky Lake, you just might find the fish waiting for you with open arms.

Don't be surprised if fond memories of yesteryear return, accompanied by a little dose of youth that you forgot you had. Funny how the rising tide of Spring floats everyone's boat! Don't let this majestic season of life pass you by.

*Steve McCadams is an avid sportsman, hunting and fishing guide, and talented outdoors writer. His email address is [stevemc@charter.net](mailto:stevemc@charter.net).*

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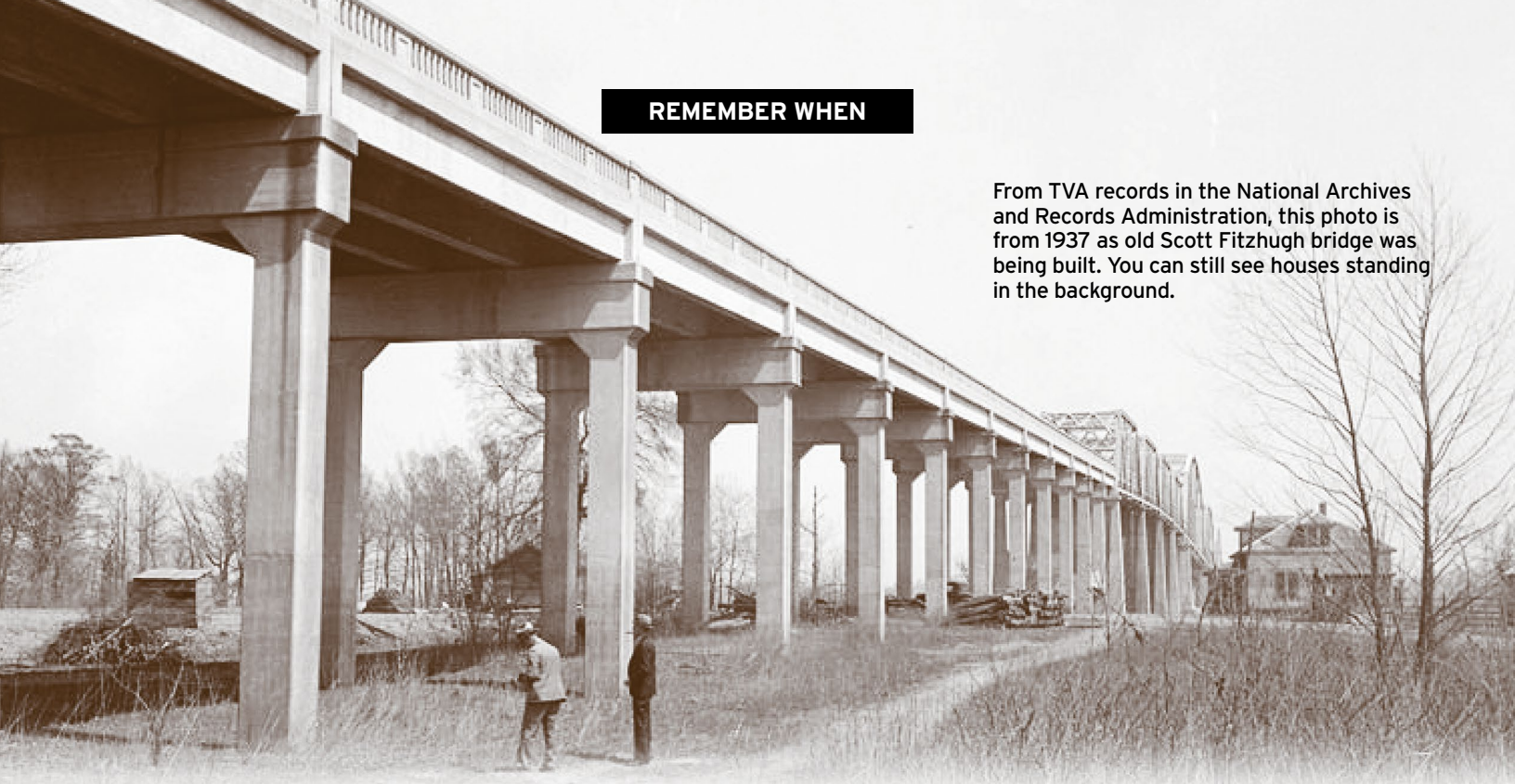
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## REMEMBER WHEN

From TVA records in the National Archives and Records Administration, this photo is from 1937 as old Scott Fitzhugh bridge was being built. You can still see houses standing in the background.



# SPANNING TIME

By Shannon McFarlin

**F**or many of us, these sights were familiar – not to mention unsettling – sights from the past. This is how it looked when you drove over the old Scott Fitzhugh Bridge which spanned the Tennessee River before it was replaced by the Ned McWherter Bridge.

The old Scott Fitzhugh bridge put fear into the heart of even the bravest men and women. It was narrow and you could see through the sides down to the water below. Many remem-

ber having their side view mirrors knocked off if they met another car coming the other way.

It was just two lanes – and not really a full two lanes at that. And if you met a bus or big truck coming toward you, watch out! It was rough.

According to the Library of Congress, the old Fitzhugh bridge was significant as a representative example of the Pratt and Parker through truss types as well as for its historical associations with the State Highway

system and toll bridge program in the late 1920s.

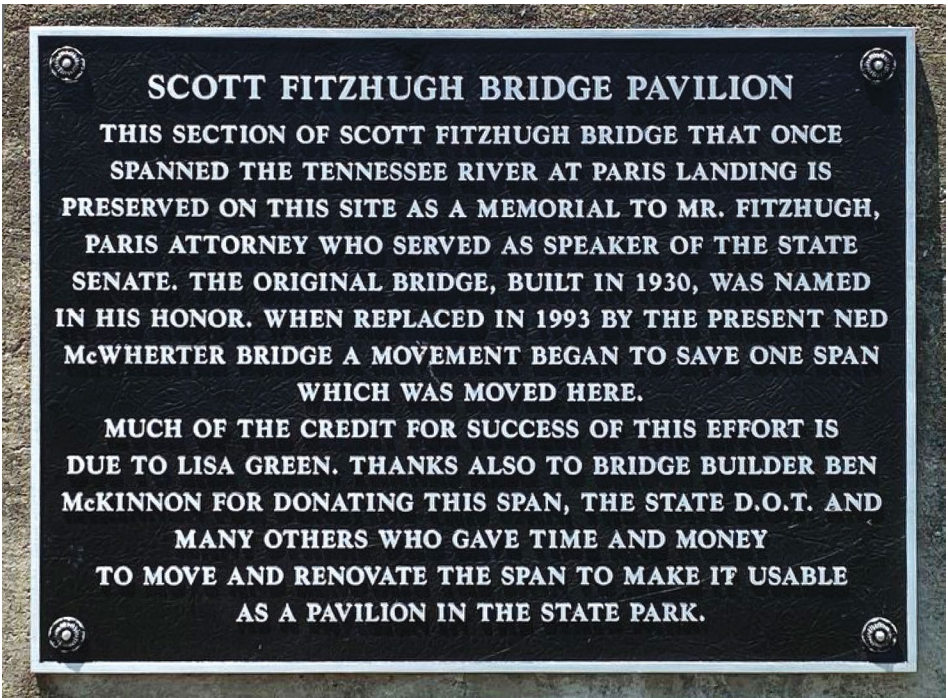
Who was Scott Fitzhugh? There is a section of the old bridge still standing in the Paris Landing State Park which tells you who he was and the history of the bridge. The Fitzhugh bridge was built in 1930 and was replaced in 1993 by the current Ned Ray McWherter bridge, named after the beloved Tennessee Governor whose house looks over the bridge.



This is how the bridge used to look crossing toward the east. Many broken side mirrors happened because of its narrow lanes.



Pictured is the Scott Fitzhugh Bridge with houses underneath, as the Tennessee River area was being flooded for Kentucky Lake.



The inscription: *This section of Scott Fitzhugh Bridge that once spanned the Tennessee River at Paris Landing is preserved on this site as a memorial to Mr. Fitzhugh, Paris attorney who served as Speaker of the State Senate. The original bridge, built in 1930, was named in his honor. When replaced in 1993 by the present bridge, a movement began to save one span which was moved here. Much to the credit for success of this effort is due to Lisa Green. Thanks also to bridge builder Ben McKinnon for donating this span, the state D.O.T. and many others who gave time and money to move and renovate the span to make it usable as a pavilion in the state park.*

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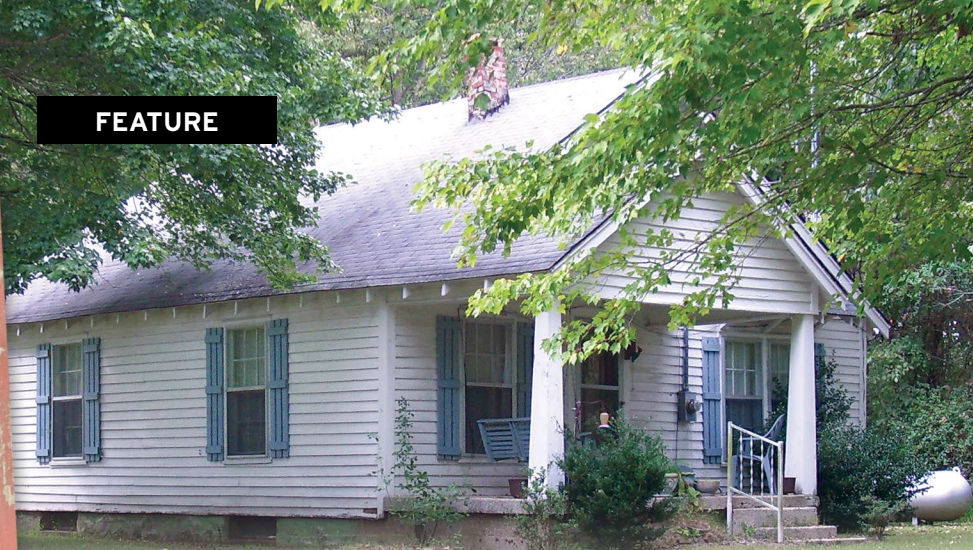
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# MIDDLE-AGED MUSINGS



MEMORIES, THOUGHTS, AND RANDOM  
OPINIONS ABOUT LIFE FROM A  
HENRY COUNTY, TENNESSEE  
PERSPECTIVE

Jack Tarkington



# WORDSMITH And His Musings

By Karen Geary

**T**here's an old adage that states "Everyone has a book in them and that, in most cases, is where it should stay." Maybe so, but for Jack Tarkington, his "Middle-Aged Musings" cumulated into a 539-page book of Henry County lore and interesting viewpoints on life.

Beginning in 2007, the former Paris City Manager wrote a column in *The Paris Post-Intelligencer* on various topics: growing up in Henry County, his United States Air Force career, or mindful events of the day when he sat down to write. After the column ended in 2012, his 520 compositions laid dormant in his old computer.

"When I got a new computer and transferred my documents over from my old computer, the software had upgraded and I couldn't open my files," said Tarkington. "My son David thought he could get the files converted into a usable format so he took it upon himself to do that. This past Christmas when I opened my gift from him, there it was. All my old columns compiled into one big book. He even put them in the order that they were written or submitted

to *The PI* and that formed a timeline of events at the time. It was the best present ever."

Tarkington credited the newspaper's publisher Michael Williams for his cooperation with the project. "Michael gave David permission to print the columns in book form and we are so appreciative."

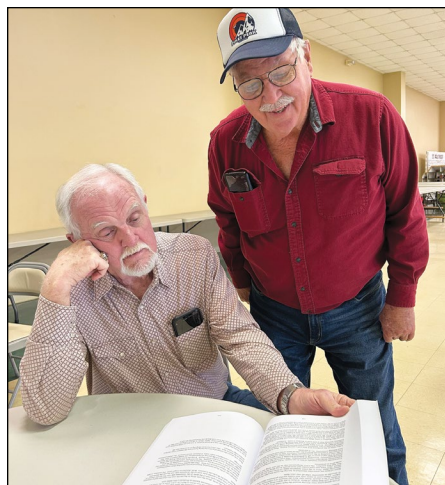
"I'm no journalist, Tarkington confessed. "Most of the time, I wrote

whatever popped into my mind on Sunday night before the column was due at the newspaper on Tuesday."

An interest in the written word came early for Tarkington. "I guess I got my interest in literature from my mother. She used to read to me those little Golden Books as a child. Then I read the comics in the newspaper when I started reading. English teachers taught us to diagram sentences and to not end a sentence with a preposition. That came in handy in the military when writing reports."

Tarkington credits his memory for his storytelling ability. "You might say I've been blessed — or cursed — with a good memory for details. I can remember dates and I can remember things like basketball scores and who sank the winning shot. That sort of thing. Most of my columns come straight from my memory. I might have to confirm a particular detail in an incidence, but mostly I recall easily."

When asked if he had a favorite story, he declined being partial to one. "I wrote about my family and growing up in the north end of the county. Route 2, Cottage Grove. I



Jack Tarkington and Allan Harris look at one of the many stories in Jack's book.

Above: Jack's childhood home.

wrote a lot about my dad. My cousins, too. Playing sports. My years in the military. Although my stories might not be completely accurate, it's what I remembered. But I also wrote about things like typewriter erasers. Now, who do you know writes about a typewriter eraser?"

"I have no regrets growing up in the country like I did in the 1950s and 1960s. Everybody was in the same boat. The men were either farmers or worked in a plant. The women stayed home and took care of the house and kids. Some might have worked in a store. Our doors were never locked, and most people wouldn't even know where to look for their house keys. But everyone knew where the truck keys were. They were in the ignition."

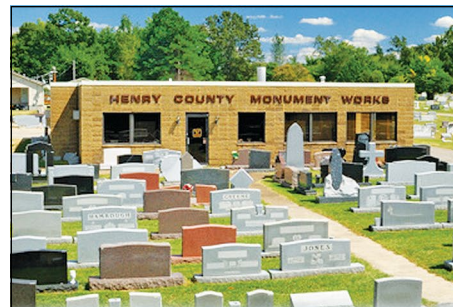
"I remember when my mother was ill, her doctor was deciding whether to send her home or to a care facility. When he asked her if she had any relatives at home who could help her upon release, she replied, 'No, she didn't have a lot of relatives. But she did have a big family.' She had her

neighbors; she had her friends. They took care of her. That's what it means to be in a community."

Community was important in Tarkington's childhood and teen years. Those formative times served him well later in life when Tarkington joined the Air Force during the Vietnam Era.

"I joined to serve my four years and ended up staying for 26." While in the service, he completed his bachelor's and master's degree from Troy University and East Texas A&M University, respectively. He went from there to work for the Nashville-Davidson County Metropolitan government and the City of Paris. Presently, he is serving the community again, this time as an assistant in the local Veterans Administration office.

After Tarkington received his gift book, he showed it to family and friends who wanted a copy for themselves. To keep production costs down, it is available by on-demand printing for \$27.00 each. If you would like a copy, contact him at [jtark@outlook.com](mailto:jtark@outlook.com) or call 731-336-9637.



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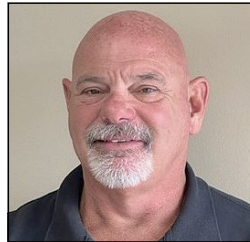
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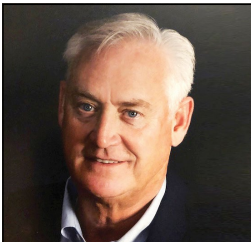
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# The Last Apple

## And A Brother's Adventures



By Jesse Parker, Jr.

**B**ack in the 1960's and 70's Granddaddy Bowden had a black and white paint horse named "Ole Bob". He was a former circus horse and Granddaddy could make him stand up on his hind legs while still riding on his back. Ole Bob could tell each young Parker child how old we were by stomping one foot at a time. One for each year of our age.

For some odd reason, we always had to whisper real low our age into Granddaddy's ear first. "Where Ole Bob couldn't hear it and cheat," he would say. Ole Bob always knew our age, he never got a single child's age wrong. That was one smart horse!

### THE LAST APPLE

One summer when I was very young, we were back home on Bowden Farm for a vacation from Dad's Navy tour in California. Grandma RE had given me an apple to eat and I took it outside. Dad was petting Ole Bob over the side fence. He saw me, put out his hand, and asked for my apple. I thought he wanted a bite. So I handed it to him. BUT NO! He

took that apple, laid it in one hand, held his fingers flat, kept his thumb tight, and put that apple in front of Ole Bob's nose. That horse ate up my whole apple quick!

I was upset and went running back into the house crying to Mom and Grandma that Dad took my apple and fed it to Ole Bob! When I was told "That's the last apple!" I became even more upset.

Dad laughed because he thought I was bringing it out for the horse. His laughter made me even more upset! Usually, Dad would spank us for crying so much over such a little thing, but for some reason he didn't. He felt bad for me, plus Mom and Grandma were mad at him for the whole misunderstanding. So much so that Mrs. RE drove all the way to town, right then, to get more apples. I was surprised and happy, but I felt guilty that I had caused so much trouble for her that day, and sad I caused so much stress on my family over an apple.

### PUNISHMENTS AND DECEPTION

I don't remember ever crying about anything else – except for whip-

pings by Daddy. Momma's whippings never hurt us. They did embarrass us, so we tried to avoid her whippings, too. Most of the time she'd say, "If you don't behave, Dad will whip you when he gets home!" and that solved the problem – most times, for most of us. But NOT for my little Brother Tim! He liked to cause trouble. He would even laugh at Mom when she whipped him and say "That didn't hurt!" and get another whipping.

My older brother Harvey was very intelligent. He was born in August 1964. He read one whole entire set of encyclopedias while in kindergarten and first grade and was already doing art work, so Grandma bought him another different set of encyclopedias, plus the Child Craft books to read. So we had 2 whole sets – *Encyclopedia Britannica* 1969 and *The World Book Encyclopedia* 1971.

Harvey would tell me – as Tim was getting his second whipping – "He's so dumb, why doesn't he at least pretend it hurts so he won't get a second whipping from Mom?" So we both told Tim, and that's what he started doing. Pretending to cry,

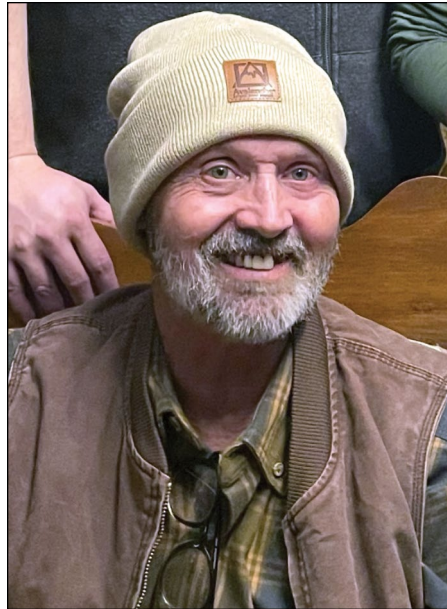
then he'd run around a corner where Mom couldn't see, peek out to me and Harvey, and smile and laugh silently with his hand over his mouth. But we could see his eyes shine!

We thought that was funny until he started pretending that we hit him first, just so we would get a whipping. Then he'd peek around the corner and laugh at us as we were getting whipped. We would get mad! Especially if Daddy whipped us, because it really hurt! Most times, Dad didn't whip Tim because Dad would believe Tim and say, "Don't pick on your younger brother, you are bigger and stronger than him!" That made me and Harvey have real special feelings for Tim. Harsh ones!

### BROTHER TIM

Tim was such a big storyteller that once, he got in trouble in Sunday School when we were living in a California subdivision and had a telephone then. His teacher said, "If you don't behave, I'll tell your mother." Tim replied, "You can't, she's not here!" But she was. The teacher said, "Well, I'll call her!" Tim said, "You can't, we don't have a phone!" She countered, "I will drive to your house and tell her!" Tim quickly said, "We have a long driveway and a locked gate!" The teacher replied, "Then I'll walk!" Tim said "YOU CAN'T, there's WOLVES!"

I could write a whole book about my brother Tim and all the trouble,



TIM PARKER  
Storyteller Extraordinaire

and exciting adventures he got us into and out of. I wouldn't know what to call it. Maybe Tim Sawyer and Clyde Finn— or Clyde Sawyer and Tim Finn— since his name was Clyde Timothy.

He played two roles in our lives. One of adventure, danger and fights! The other role being the guy who hunted and supplied meat for us to eat. He also fixed everything for everyone when something needed to be put together, welded, or was broke down. Many times I've said he was my favorite brother and my worst brother, all rolled into one.

He became a diver, logger, well digger, father, and farmer after he grew

up. His stories are incredible. Many sound made up, but are true, but he adds things in for more excitement and fun. His daughter, Cheyenne, told me she listened to him tell stories about what he did, several times, to his own family each night, and some might not believe him. But she's been with him and witnessed first-hand his mischief when she was young. She said, "If I hadn't seen some of the crazy things Daddy did with my own eyes, I wouldn't have believed him when he came home and told the rest of the family what he did that day!"

Tim is one of the best storytellers I've ever known. It's impossible for anybody else to retell his stories like he does. No one can replicate the hand gestures, body language, voice changes, and funny facial expressions like Tim does as he tells them. He's just great and always makes family and friends laugh.

Tim had a stroke in 2022 and lost use of his left arm and leg. But he still entertains those who call or visits him at home. He is an inspiration of the positivity of life and spreads much joy to many, including his young grandchildren who listen to his stories now and laugh. He has lived an extraordinary life, filled with incredible adventures. There is rarely a minute that goes by that Tim Parker can't make the day a bit brighter.

*Jesse Parker, Jr. is a Navy veteran, former teacher, and mussel diver who loves storytelling.*

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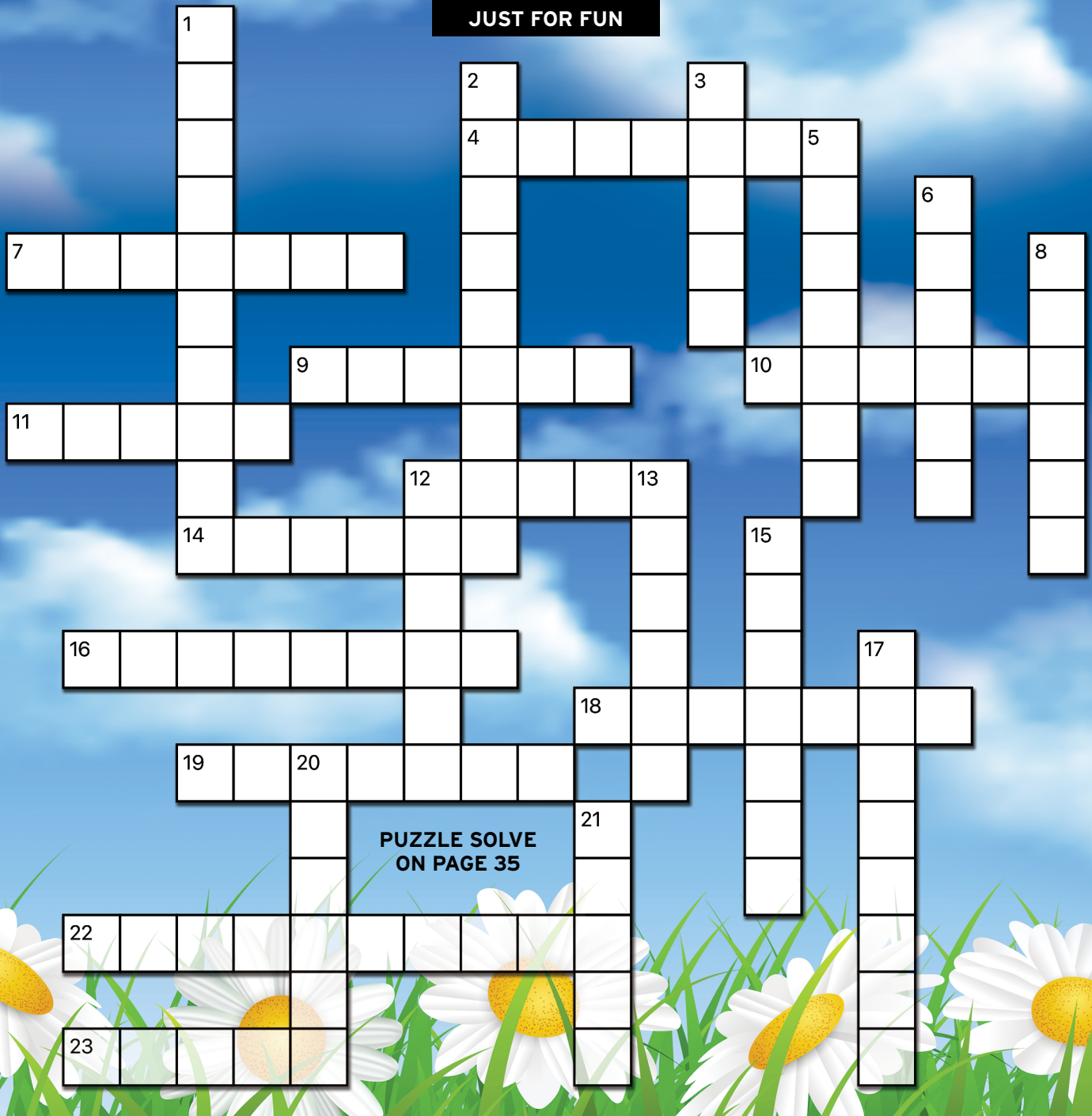


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**ACROSS**

- 4. She is a realtor for Moody Realty Co.
- 7. Type of good eating fish in Ky. Lake
- 9. Meal in a pie shell
- 10. Type of battalion in WWII
- 11. Another name for Mother
- 12. String instrument Dan Knowles plays
- 14. Cute furry, hopping critter
- 16. Name of old Ky. Lake bridge
- 18. We celebrate these professionals on March 30th
- 19. Reflection or thought
- 22. Popular sport played with paddle and net
- 23. He'll perform ballads at Paris Academy for the Arts

**DOWN**

- 1. She was a member of the Six Triple 8.
- 2. Hooterville's train stop \_\_\_\_\_ Junction
- 3. He taught Mountain Warfare skills to Marines.
- 5. Name of local drive-in
- 6. Beauty school
- 8. Tarkington's mother read him these type of books.
- 12. Appearing March 21 at KPAC.
- 13. Old horse's name
- 15. Tim was Jesse Parker Jr.'s \_\_\_\_\_.
- 17. Steve McCadam's mother put tea in this.
- 20. Movie/TV cowboy who came to Paris
- 21. Flowers or light come from these.

**FACES & PLACES**



James McClure and the late, Robbie McNutt were recently named Mr. and Mrs. RoseStone at a recent pageant event held at RoseStone Retirement Community.



Ed Fitzgerald recently went to Venice, Italy and he met the beautiful Maria at a local restaurant.



McKinley Snow of Paris was crowned TCAT Student of the Year at the SOAR Awards in Nashville. She is the daughter of Bert and Lori Snow and graduated from HCHS in 2023.



Henry County Helping Hand received a \$500,000 donation from the estate of Dr. Patricia Smith. Accepting the donation from Brian Tusa, her estate planner were: Johnny Etheridge, Kevin Buie, Oneida Waggoner, Caroline Corley Dunn, Chris Babyar, Brian Tusa, David Flowers, and Allie Harper.



At a retirement reception held in honor of Paris Community Development Director Jennifer Morris, left, City Manager Kim Foster praises the work Jennifer has done for the city.



Senior Capreece Long was sworn into the U.S. Army by 1st Lt. Chloe Thompson of the Montgomery County Army recruiting office during HCHS basketball halftime. She was also crowned Homecoming Queen that night. Her parents Crystal and Derrick Long.



A large crowd was on hand at the annual ABLE Farms benefit breakfast at the Henry County Fairgrounds. Preliminary figures indicate they raised around \$10,000 for the equine therapy program that is in its formative stages. This is just a few of the volunteers they had on hand.



# TEAM READ

## From Learning To Read To Reading To Learn

**T**EAM READ is an individualized volunteer tutoring program under the direction of a classroom teacher for second graders who have trouble with basic reading skills. Since 2017, the program has been coordinated by Sue Quinn for the Henry County Literacy Council. Sue has a master's degree in reading and has worked 49 years in education teaching reading, directly or indirectly.

Every child deserves to be a great reader. Reading is essential to learn and succeed academically as well as function in today's world. Teachers do a great job in the classroom, but some children need extra help in developing necessary reading skills for academic success. The Literacy Council has partnered with Henry County School System and Paris Special School District to enlist volunteers who will commit about an hour a week to working with a student.

Studies show second grade is a critical year for students in which they are making the transition from learning to read to reading to learn.

The goal is to ensure that every student has mastered literary skills to increase academic performance.

All students need and deserve to be good readers because reading is a gateway to learning. Research shows that if a student who is not reading on grade level by third grade, he/she will have trouble succeeding with academics and are four times more likely to drop out of school.

Research also shows that one-on-one reading with a tutor is an effective strategy to build confident, capable readers. It is noteworthy to mention that reading is a complicated process and some students have trouble. School personnel have been supportive and complimentary of the volunteer program. Those interested in enrolling in the volunteer Team Read program can choose which school he/she wants to volunteer.

- Paris Special School District (Rhea) Registration forms are available in school office.

- Henry County Schools (Henry, Harrelson, Lakewood) Contact Dr. Felicia Bates at 731 642-9733. She will

be happy to give specific directions. .

The requirement in both school systems is when he/she enters the school, the volunteer must present a valid driver's license.

It is important for children to be introduced to books as babies and taught that reading is fun. This makes books come alive in little minds.

Our schools applaud Dolly Parton for creating "Imagination Library" whereas, every child enrolled in the program receives an age appropriate book in the mail from birth to five years old.

"Imagination Library" applications are available at the *Paris Post-Intelligencer* on North Market Street and from Literacy Council members, The PI has the database and the postage is paid by donations and small grants..

Left photo: Volunteer Jenifer Cvetkovich (center) helps Ameigh'Elle Floyd (left) and Danielle Freeland (right) with their reading assignment.

Right photo: Nijavien Tharpe (right) shows what he was reading to Barbara Holtgrewe (center) as Kalia Wimberley looks on with a happy smile.

## LET'S HAVE SPRING FUN



# TOGETHER

## AT KPAC!

By Rhonda Stanton

### LEAP INTO SPRING! with Mommy & Me: Music & Play at Paris Civic Center

There's a new opportunity for kids aged three and four at Paris Civic Center. It's called Mommy & Me: Music & Play. KPAC Young Artists has offered opportunities for kids as young as five-years-old through the theatre and music programs, but the question, "Do you have anything for younger children?" was often asked by parents. So...the plotting and planning began and the program was launched!

A weekly theme song anchors the focus for each week's activities which include songs, movement, poems, finger plays, games and crafts. Preschool concepts such as numbers, letters, shapes and colors are incorporated into many of the activities.

The activities move quickly in order to keep the young ones engaged as Alex Hassell, program coordinator for the City of Paris Parks and Recreation Department, leads the preschoolers and their parents in 45 to 60 minutes of fun!

Despite the title "Mommy and Me," dads, grandparents, or any



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CLASSES AT PARIS CIVIC CENTER

responsible adult can participate with the preschoolers in class. The first unit, "Ants in my Pants," has been a definite hit with both the kids and the grown-ups, and "Wiggle like a Worm," the next unit which begins in April 2025, is taking registrations for the 1

pm group on Wednesdays.

If interest grows, a later afternoon class is definitely in the realm of possibility. As always, register for City of Paris and KPAC activities at Paris.RecDesk.com.

Bretta Murrell, who participates with her son Brooks says, "The Mommy & Me class has been absolutely wonderful! Each class incorporates things my preschooler loves: art, music, dance, and play! It's a must-do if you're looking for an affordable educational experience."

Matthew Fisher's grandma, Amy Pacheco comments, "As a former kindergarten teacher, I am very impressed with the quality of the Mommy & Me class. The teacher keeps the children moving through song, dance, finger plays and crafts. It is definitely a highlight to our week!"

Rhonda Stanton, manager at Kridler Performing Arts Center, is the curriculum developer and she is thrilled that Paris Parks and Recreation is now offering this class for younger children.

# SPRING AT KPAC

On Friday, March 21 at 7:30 pm, **Big/Gun** takes the stage! Rolling Stone Magazine says “Big/Gun is the AC/DC Tribute that they would want to see!” This will be Big/Gun’s second appearance at KPAC, and not only do they put on a great show, but they’re great guys as well!

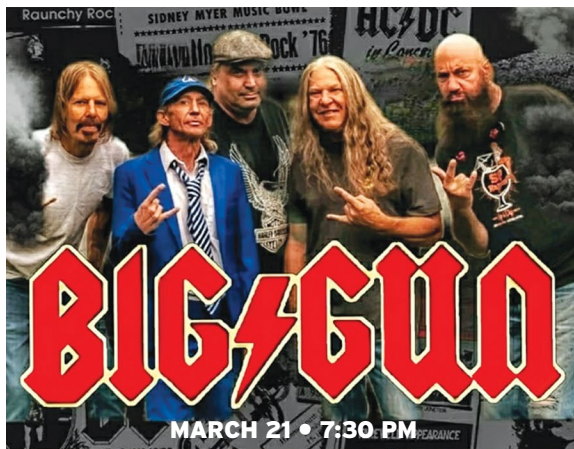
Our last March event is a **Senior Series Concert with Ervin and Andrea Dutton and Friends**. This FREE daytime concert is especially designed so that seniors in assisted living or who attend senior’s groups and have daytime transportation available may attend. You don’t have to be a senior citizen to attend – just show up on Thursday, March 27, at 2 pm and enjoy the music!

On Saturday, April 5 at 7 pm, **The Ultimate Oldies** will smoke it with a fabulous live band and great vocals showing off the best of 70’s and 80’s hit music.

**World Turning Band** is a Fleetwood Mac Tribute that has heads turning for sure in the Nashville regional area and beyond. Look them up on YouTube and join us on Saturday, April 19 at 7 pm.

**Comedian Jon Reep** will perform on Saturday, May 17 at 7 pm. Reep won the world-wide show “Last Comic Standing” with the most votes ever cast on NBC. On a nonstop tour since he burst onto the scene, Jon performs to sold-out audiences at clubs and theaters across the country. He’s one of the only comedians in the world who has performed at both the “Grand Ole Opry” and the “Hollywood Bowl.” His show is guaranteed to make the rafters shake and your biscuits bake.

All this and lots more will be happening at KPAC this spring. Check out the website [KriderCenter.com](http://KriderCenter.com) for ticket information and events. Support your local performing arts center!



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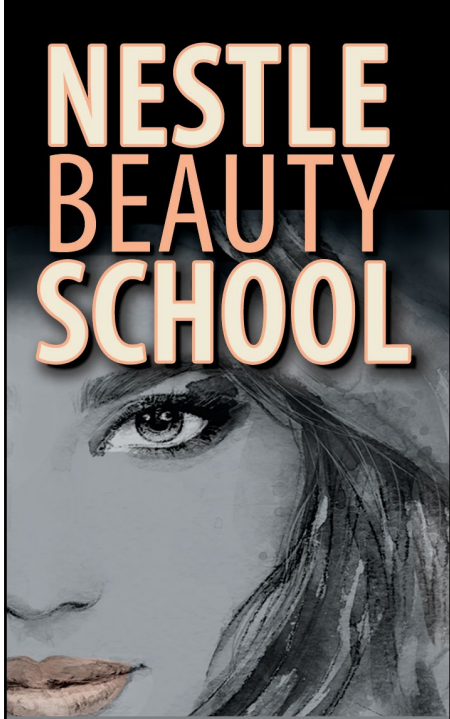
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AROUND OUR TOWN

# BANJIOS *and* BALLADS

at Paris Academy  
for the Arts



By Meredith Vajda

**P**ianist and entertainer Sammy Goldstein is returning to Paris Academy for the Arts for a fundraising concert on Saturday, April 18. The Paris native returns home frequently and says “I’ve performed in venues from New York to Los Angeles, and on cruise ships around the world. But, I’m at my absolute happiest each time I get to come home and perform in Paris, Tennessee!”

For the first time, Sammy will share the concert stage with Dan Knowles and friends, for an evening of banjos and ballads from the two performers separately and together.

Sammy is a local favorite with many friends from his years growing up in Paris, and many more getting to know him from the fundraisers he’s performed for local groups over the years. Paris Academy for the Arts has been a grateful beneficiary of his talent. Sammy’s shows range from ballads and Broadway to standards and a few surprises, always delivered with anecdotes and quips.

Dan Knowles, a multi-talented musician, luthier, and artist, has also performed concerts that have benefited Paris Academy for the Arts. On this evening, he will be joined by Eddie Coffey and Mark McWherter,

both members of Dan Knowles’s Hot Band, which hasn’t performed since 2008, and by local musician Gideon Shepherd. Dan has said that “some of his favorite performances have been at Paris Academy, for audiences who appreciate the informal, friendly atmosphere of a welcoming setting.”

Sammy encourages his fans to join him for a unique experience, saying “it will be so much fun to share the stage with Dan Knowles for this show...including a couple of duets! Expect an uplifting evening.”

Dan will include favorites from his shows on Mississippi River cruise ships and past concerts, with a couple

of audience sing-alongs added. The final close-out will be a duet with Sammy in a fitting end to what will surely be a memorable evening.

The Banjos and Ballads concert is at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 18, 2025, in the Ray Harding Lunchroom at Paris Academy for the Arts. There will be a free reception following the concert in the Gallery space.

Tickets are \$30 each and may be obtained from the Academy's website schoolforarts.org and at the Academy any weekday morning. The Paris Academy for the Arts is located at 402 Lee Street.



Dan Knowles will include songs from his Mississippi River cruise ships' shows.

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# HAM-MING IT UP

*For Easter!*

**H**ave you ever heard the expression “they use everything about the pig except the squeal”? In a way, it’s true. Ham is a versatile meat, and meals cooked with it seem to shine, especially the Easter ham. Any leftover ham can easily be made into economical dinners and appetizers. Here’s a recipe your family is sure to love!



## HAM TETRAZZINI

### INGREDIENTS

- 1 lb. spaghetti, broken in half
- 2 cups diced ham
- ½ tsp. salt, plus more to taste and for pasta water
- ¾ cup dry white wine
- 3 cups chicken broth
- 1 cup frozen green peas
- 1 cup grated parmesan cheese, divided
- ½ cup panko breadcrumbs
- 2 tbsp. chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley
- 6 tbsp. salted butter, divided
- 8 oz. white mushrooms, sliced
- 4 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 3 tbsp. all-purpose flour
- 1 (8-oz.) package cream cheese, cubed
- 1 cup shredded white cheddar cheese or Swiss cheese
- ½ tsp. ground black pepper, plus more to taste
- Nonstick cooking spray

### DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat the oven to 350°F.
2. In a large pot of salted water, cook the pasta 2 minutes less than the package instructions. Reserving about ¾ cup of pasta water, drain the pasta, rinse, and set aside.
3. In a large pot, melt 1 tablespoon of butter over medium heat. Stir in ham and sauté until golden and fragrant. Remove ham to a plate.
4. In the same pot, heat 3 tablespoons of butter over medium-high heat. Add mushrooms and salt; sauté until mushrooms release their liquid and begin to turn golden. Stir in the garlic and cook until fragrant. Pour in the wine and allow it to cook with mushrooms until the liquid reduces by half.
5. Sprinkle in flour and cook until flour is slightly toasted. Slowly pour in the broth and stir, cooking until the sauce thickens.
6. Reduce the heat to medium low. Gradually add cream cheese, stirring until combined. Do not boil the sauce. Add ham, peas, cheddar cheese, and ¾ cup of parmesan. Stir to combine. Add pepper and salt to taste.
7. Add cooked spaghetti and stir to combine. Add pasta water, about 2 tablespoons at a time, to loosen the sauce. (Add up to ½ cup of water, as needed.)
8. Meanwhile, in a medium microwave-safe bowl, microwave remaining 2 tablespoons of butter until melted. Stir in breadcrumbs and remaining ¼ cup of parmesan.
9. Spray a large (3-quart or 13x9-inch) baking dish with nonstick cooking spray. Pour mixture into pan. Drizzle top with another ¼ cup of pasta water to keep the spaghetti from drying out. Sprinkle with the breadcrumb mixture.
10. Bake until casserole is bubbly and crumbs are golden brown, 20 minutes. Allow to rest for 5 minutes before serving, sprinkled with parsley.



# FLOWER BULBS

## A Sure Sign Of Spring!

By John Watkins

**H**ave you noticed that some years it's just hard to get into the mood for Spring? Here's a good example. As I sit down to write this article in mid-February, we have just gone through 70 degree temperatures, torrential flooding, hail, tornado warnings, and two inches of snow. And that was all within a 24 hour period!

So if I seem a little surly, there's your reason right there. However, even though that pesky groundhog says there's six more weeks of winter, I know that Spring will eventually get here and all will be right again in the gardening world. One thing to look forward to in the coming weeks is the almost magical appearance of the beloved flowering bulb.

While I have my reservations about some flowering bulbs (don't get me started on tulips), nothing says Spring like a field full of daffodils or the breathtaking aroma of hyacinths. So, let's take a little deeper dive into just what bulbs are, when to plant, and how to take care of them properly.

First of all, just what is a flower bulb? The short answer is that a bulb is a relatively large, globe-shaped, underground bud. These specialized structures are comprised of layers of modified leaves, known as scales, which surround a central bud or shoot. This neat little package basically contains everything the plant needs to grow and bloom.

However, in a broader sense, the term "bulb" can also refer to plants with tuberous roots, tubers, corms, or rhizomes. So, to keep it simple, I'm just going to lump all of the plants I'll talk about here into the category of bulbs. If we want to break down the list a little bit, there are two main categories: Spring bulbs and Summer bulbs.

Spring bulbs are also called "hardy bulbs" as they can spend the winter in the ground and actually require several weeks of cold temperatures to break dormancy. These are commonly planted in the Fall and include the likes of tulips, daffodils, hyacinth, crocus, and allium. Summer bulbs are considered "tender bulbs" and are usually planted in the Spring to

flower or leaf out in the Summer or sometimes into the Fall. These include such plants as gladiolus, lilies, caladiums, elephant ears, and dahlias.

Since these little packages of joy are supposed to contain all they need to survive, you would think that you could just toss them around and let them do their thing. However, if you want the greatest success, here's a few pointers to get you started.

### WHEN TO PLANT

In our area (Zone 7), Spring flowering bulbs can be planted as soon as the ground gets cool, which is most often in October to November. For summer-flowering bulbs your best bet is around May to June.

### WHERE TO PLANT

This takes a little bit of thought. Bulbs are pretty tough little guys and will perform almost anywhere as long as you have good sunlight and, more importantly, good drainage. Planting Spring bulbs under deciduous trees (those that lose their leaves) is fine since they will most likely flower

before the trees provide too much shade. However, since the foliage on the bulbs needs a good amount of sunlight to store up food, they may not perform as well the next year.

As far as soil types, bulbs need a loamy or even slightly sandy soil to keep them from rotting from lack of drainage. Bulbs are very versatile in the landscape. Formal plantings will require a few more bulbs as they need to be planted fairly close together in clusters for a big impact. Naturalized plantings can be scattered and will most likely multiply and come back year after year.

And if you mix the plantings up with early, mid- and late-season bloomers you can continue the show throughout the season. You might also consider some companion plantings to go along with your bulbs. Having a “cover crop” like daylilies, coral bells, hosta, or hellebores, you can avoid any unsightly foliage when your bulbs are past flowering.

#### HOW TO PLANT

Plan ahead for new areas to plant bulbs. Again, good drainage is a must, so amending soils ahead of time will ensure the bulbs get off to a good start. Planting depth is also important. Planting too deep will cause the bulbs to bloom late or maybe not at all. Planting too shallow may risk damage from cold temperatures. A good rule of thumb is to plant the bulbs to a depth two to three times as



deep as the bulb is tall. Some bulbs are hard to tell which end is up, but most will have a “pointy” end which will go up and roots that go down. If you’re not sure, just plant it on its side and it’ll find its way up! If you’re like me and have critters that like to munch on or dig up your plants, you can save some heartache by either planting them in “bulb baskets” or shallowly burying some chicken wire over the area. (Dang squirrels!)

#### HOW TO CARE FOR YOUR BULBS

While most bulbs are pretty carefree, there are a few ground rules to follow. It’s great to cut back any spent flowers or harvest them for a beautiful arrangement but leave the foliage alone, please. Just like me over the winter, the bulbs need to store up a lot of energy for the next year and do this by building energy from their foliage. Wait until those leaves

turn yellow or wilt to the ground before cutting them back entirely. Too many times have I seen disappointed gardeners wondering what happened to their bulbs the second year when they cut back the foliage too soon.

For your Summer bulbs, you will most likely have to dig them up and store them until the following Spring. You can do this by cutting them back at the end of the season, removing as much soil as possible, drying them on newspaper for a few days, and then storing them in a cool, dark, and dry location, preferably in a paper bag or cardboard box with some holes cut out.

And there you have it, your complete primer on the joys of planting bulbs all wrapped up in a tiny little package.

*John Watkins is grounds director at Discovery Park of America and resides in Henry County.*



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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### ONGOING EVENTS

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**GET ARTSY** - Learn to play an instrument, sing, create pottery, paint, and more at Paris Academy for the Arts, schoolforarts.org.

**LATEST FILMS** - Enjoy the latest movie releases at the **PARISIAN THEATRE** on Jim Adams Drive. Info line is 731-642-7171.

**LOOKING FOR A GOOD BOOK TO READ?** - Head over to the **W.G. RHEA PUBLIC LIBRARY**. You can find something to read, check out a DVD, or find something cool for the kiddos to do. Inquire about the summer Reading Program for kids! For information call 731-642-1702.

**LET'S GO FISHIN'**- Paris Landing Marina has lots of **FISHING TOURNAMENTS** coming up! So grab a pole and head out to beautiful Kentucky Lake. For more information contact Rob Marcum at 731-641-4474.

### MARCH

**MARCH 17 - St. Patty's Day Luncheon** at First Christian Church. For great food and fellowship stop by from 11 am- 1 pm. For more information call 731-642-3181.

**MARCH 18 - A Taste Of Ireland The Irish Music & Dance** at KPAC, 7:30 pm. Ticket prices vary and can be purchased at Eventbrite.com. For more information call 731-644-2517.

**MARCH 21 - BIG GUN**, the AC/DC Tribute Band, is back at KPAC. Join them for a head-banging good time at 7:30 pm. 731-644-2517 for info.

**MARCH 21** - What a great way to start off the warmer months! Head out to **Camp Hazelwood** for a **Spring Hike!** From 10 am-1 pm enjoy a wonderful hike while taking in those breathtaking views. Free for all and fur babies welcome. For more information contact Christa Davidson at 731-641-4465.

**MARCH 21-22 - Downtown Paris Spring Open House** in beautiful Downtown Paris. Starting at 10 am both days, be on the lookout for special prices and activities at all the unique stores and not to mention all the food trucks. For more information call 731-653-7274.

**March 24-28 - Spring Break** for the Henry County School System and the Paris Special School District.

**MARCH 27 - Ervin & Andrea Dutton and Friends** will be playing all your nostalgic favorites at 2 pm. Free admission. Call 731-644-2517 for more information.

### APRIL

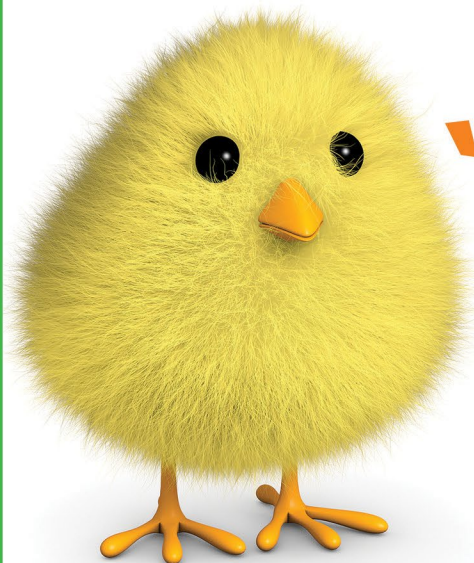
**APRIL 3** - Lie down, give blood, eat a snack, save a life. **Lifeline Blood-mobile** is at First United Methodist Church from Noon - 6:00 pm.

**APRIL 5 - Ultimate Rock & Roll Show** will play at KPAC at 7 pm playing hits from the 70s and 80s. Tickets are \$27-\$33. For more information call 731-644-2517.

**APRIL 6** - The **Paris Big Band Swing Concert Band** will play at 2:30 pm at KPAC. Tickets: \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. For more information call 731-644-2517.

**APRIL 6-23** - The finest area artists display their talent at the **39TH ARTIST SHOWCASE**. W.G. Rhea Library, 400 W. Washington St. For information call 731-642-3955.

**APRIL 13 - Palm Sunday**



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**APRIL 14-18** - Join us for **HOLY WEEK SERVICE** each day at Noon at Grace Episcopal Church located at 103 S. Poplar St. Different speakers will give brief devotions daily with light lunch provided. For more information call 731-642-4764.

**APRIL 18 - GOOD FRIDAY!**

**APRIL 19 - World Turning Band: A Tribute to Fleetwood Mac** will perform at 7 pm. Tickets are \$35/\$50. For information call 731-644-2517.

**APRIL 19** - See you at the Paris Landing State Park Marina for the **Carl Perkins Center Cast-N-Blast Fishing/Hunting Event**. For more information call 731-642-8455.

**APRIL 19 - The World's Biggest Fish Fry 5K Hushpuppy Dash** is at 8 a.m. at Henry County High School. Register at 7 am; entry fee \$20.00 or \$15.00 if preregistered. Call 731-644-1143.

**APRIL 19 - Eiffel Tower Park Easter Egg Hunt** starts at 10 am. For more information call 731-642-3431.

**APRIL 20 - EASTER SUNDAY,** Christ is Risen!

**APRIL 20** - The community is invited to **EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE** at Trinity United Methodist Church's pavilion at 6am, 409 N. Wilson St. For information call 731-642-3427.

**APRIL 23** - It's **Administrative Professional's Day**

**APRIL 23** - Fish, fish and more fish! The all you can eat **FISH TENT OPENS** at the Henry County Fairgrounds from 5-9 pm. After you eat, head over and check out the carnival!

**APRIL 25 - No School!** PSSD and Henry County Schools are closed to celebrate the **World's Biggest Fish Fry Grand Parade** at 10 am.

**APRIL 26 - Small Fry Parade** at 10 am in Downtown Paris, followed immediately by the **Catfish Races** at 10:30 am on the courthouse lawn.

**MAY**

**MAY 1**- Stop by First United Methodist Church and visit the **Lifeline Bloodmobile** from Noon-6 pm.

**MAY 1 - National Day of Prayer**

**MAY 2** - Time for **Spring Gathering Luncheon** at First United Methodist Church. 11 am-1 pm in the Christian Life Center. Tickets available at the door; dine-in or take out. Call 731-642-4764 for more information.

**MAY 4-20** - The Paris Henry County Arts Council presents the 33rd Annual **Dr. Danny & Martha Jo Kimberlin Photography Showcase** at the W.G. Rhea Library. Admission is free. Call 731-642-3955 for more information.

**MAY 5 -9** - Thank a teacher during **Teacher Appreciation Week.**

**MAY 11**- Remember your Mom! It's **MOTHER'S DAY.**

**MAY 17** - Check out **Comedian Jon Reep LIVE** at KPAC performing at 7:30. He's famous for winning "Last Comedian Standing" and so much more. Tickets are \$25/\$35. For more information call 731-644-2517.

**MAY 22 - Summer break** is here! The last day of school for everyone in the Henry County School System and Paris Special School District

**MAY 23 - Henry County High School graduation.** Congratulations to our grads! For more information, call 731-642-5232.

**MAY 26 - Memorial Day!** Remember our fallen soldiers. Be sure and attend the various scheduled events for our heroes around town. For more information call 731-642-5212.

**CROSSWORD SOLVE - PUZZLE ON PAGE 23**

**ACROSS:** 4. EDWARDS, 7. CRAPPIE, 9. QUICHE, 10. POSTAL, 11. MOMMY, 12. BANJO, 14. RABBIT, 16. FITZHUGH, 18. DOCTORS, 19. MUSINGS, 22. PICKLEBALL, 23. SAMMY

**DOWN:** 1. JEAN PALMER, 2. PETTICOAT, 3. BRUCE, 5. SUNDOWN, 6. NESTLE, 8. GOLDEN, 12. BIG GUN, 13. OLE BOB, 15. BROTHER, 17. FRUIT JAR, 20. SMILEY, 21. BULBS

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# Index

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ATA.....	10	Neese Law Firm.....	13
All Temp Heating & Cooling *	5	Nestle Beauty School.....	27
Attitudes.....	7	Orr Investments Management *	19
Board of Public Utilities.....	33	Paris Civic Center.....	35
CBTC Investments / LPL Financial.....	2	PARIS! Distribution.....	34
E&W Electrical Solutions *	13	Paris Academy For The Arts.....	10
Edward Jones *	29	Paris-Henry County Arts Council.....	2
First Baptist Church.....	5	Paris First United Methodist Church.....	12
Foundation Bank *	30	Paris Insurance Agency.....	13
Grace Episcopal Church.....	12	Parisian Theatre.....	30
Henry County Monument Works.....	19	Peppers Automotive Group *	15
Hosford Electric.....	12	Servall Restoration.....	17
Joe Mahan Ford*	8	Sight 2 See Family Eye Care.....	30
Lakeway Animal Clinic.....	29	Southside Cafe.....	29
Lakeway IGA.....	30	Tennessee Valley Community Church.....	27
Landmark Realty.....	17	Trolinger's.....	10
McEvoy Funeral Home.....	13	Twin Lakes Dental Associates.....	17
Mineral Wells Animal Clinic.....	22	West Tennessee Bone & Joint *	Back Cover
Moody Realty *	20	West Tennessee Medical Group *	Inside Front Cover
Moody Realty / Teri Edwards.....	Inside Back Cover	Wyatt Severs Fine Woodworking.....	2

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