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We love to feel alive in the Fall. It's not so hot and the days are a little shorter. It reminds us to take more time to slow down and enjoy being together. Southerners love a good gathering of folks and Fall is the beginning of gathering season. Alive Magazine wants to show respect and honor to our veterans with a special collection of photos and stories from the area VFW's. We hope you enjoy our little contribution to the many great publications in our area. We celebrate you and the things we country folk like to do.

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VFWS & AUXILIARIES *thrive on* CAMARADERIE & SERVICE



written by: **Bonnie Lill** • photographs courtesy of:
Carole Blish, Debbie Rapp, & Ann Smith

To serve others.

To connect with brothers and sisters who also served.

To be part of something larger than myself.

These desires are not just caprice; they are part of the character of a person.

They are what draw many brave men and women to military service, and what draws them to want to spend their free time with individuals having this shared experience.

Fortunately, Stewart and Henry counties each have an active Veterans of Foreign Wars, or VFW, post to provide many area veterans and active duty military with the opportunity to fulfill those desires.

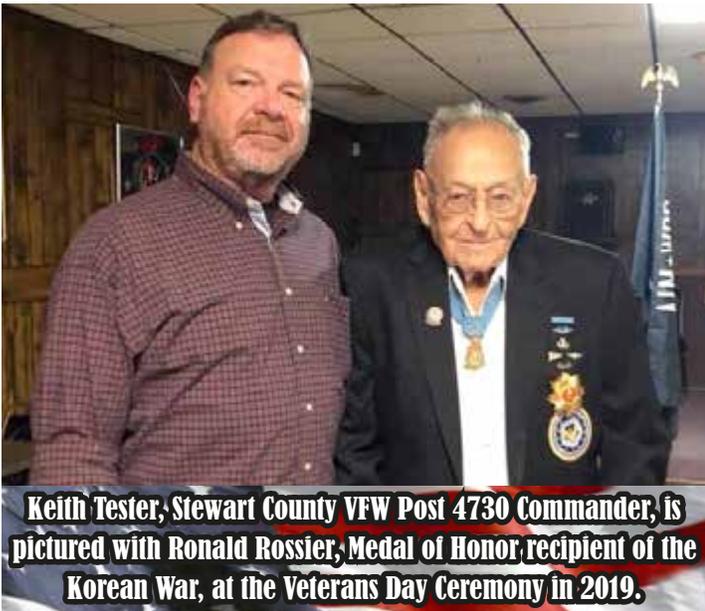
IT'S NOT JUST A BAR!

In Stewart County, the Post home of Carl Wallace Post 4730 and its Auxiliary is on Long Creek Road in Dover. In Henry County, the Post home of Paris VFW Post 1889 and Auxiliary is right on U.S. 79. Both are licensed to serve al-

coholic beverages to members, but some in both communities erroneously think that the VFW is just a bar.

“Maybe it is in some places,” said Post 4730 Commander Keith Tester, “but not here in Stewart County.”

The canteen, Tester explained, is just a place for veterans and Auxiliary members to socialize. It is separate from the non-profit portion of the VFW, which pays the bills for the post and its ongoing service activities.



Former long-time Paris Post 1889 Auxiliary President Ann Smith concurred with Tester’s assessment, saying that it is important for current and former military members to have a place where they can gather with others of the same ilk, and many times that gathering results in concrete ideas for projects to benefit the community as well as other veterans.

Tester admitted that some people may have pre-conceived notions about the VFW being just a bar, but he encourages folks to “give (the VFW) a try – join on an annual membership and give yourself an opportunity to see what VFW and Auxiliary members actually do.”

WHERE THE “FOREIGN” COMES IN

As any military person can tell you, nothing forms a bond with comrades like serving the nation far

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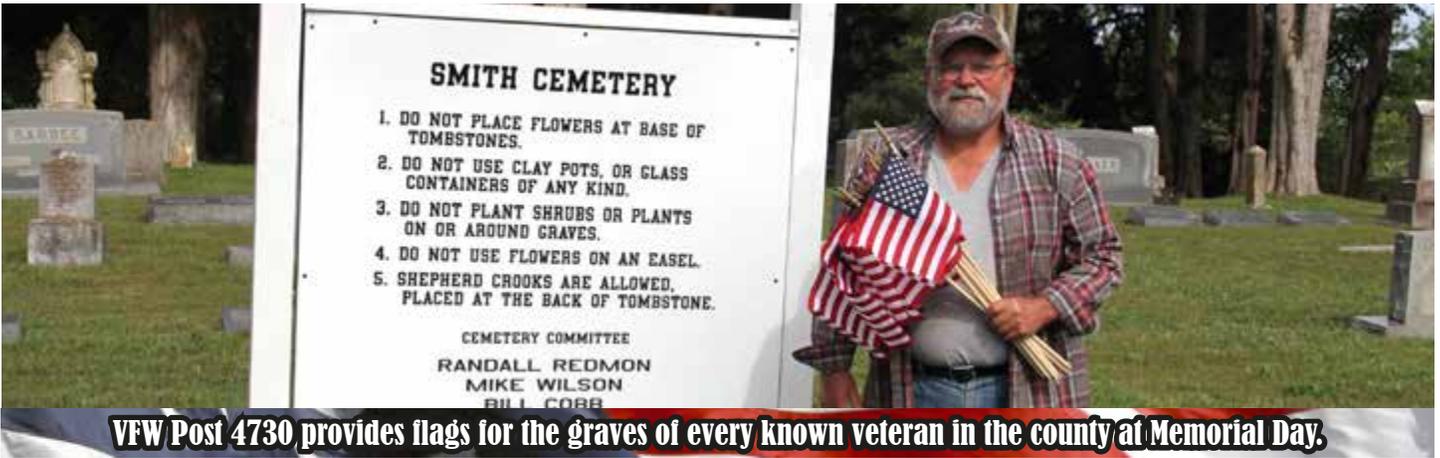
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VFW Post 4730 provides flags for the graves of every known veteran in the county at Memorial Day.

from home – or like keeping the home fires burning while a loved one is serving in a foreign land.

service in a foreign land are encouraged to join as well.

The VFW was formed in 1899 after the Spanish-American War as an amalgamation of several small organizations whose focus was the camaraderie born of a shared experience. As the country kept finding wars to get into, the organization grew into one for those honorably discharged American officers and enlisted persons who had served in a foreign war, insurrection or expedition. Today, locally, active duty military with

The Auxiliary was formed for family members, men or women, of someone who served in a qualifying action. For example, if a person's family member served overseas in World War I, II, Korea, Vietnam or the Middle East, that person could join the local auxiliary even if they didn't have a member in the VFW.

WHAT DO THEY DO?

The national organization stresses assisting rehabilitation of the nation's disabled and needy veterans, assisting veterans' widow(er)s and orphans and the dependents of needy or disabled veterans, and promoting Americanism by means of education in patriotism and by constructive service to local communities.

While remaining true to the VFW mission, the Henry County VFW, chartered in the mid-1940s,

and the Stewart County VFW Post, which was chartered in 1964, go about things a little differently.

Henry County's 230 Post members, along with the 125 Auxiliary members, promote patriotism to America in a variety of creative ways, such as hosting activities during the Memorial Day celebration and the annual Veterans Day parade, awarding certificates to businesses that fly the flag daily and encouraging participation in a patriotic art contest, among other things.

The group works with the National Home and Children Program, helping keep up Tennessee's home in Lansing, Michigan, for veteran families.

They also sell Buddy Poppies, participate in the Hospital initiative, work with Veterans and Family Support, help promote legislation to aid veterans and their families, provide necessities and visit with veterans in local nursing homes at Christmas and make up Christmas food baskets for needy veterans.

One endeavor that is close to Smith's heart is the VFW and Auxiliary's Christmas visit to the Humboldt Nursing Home for Veterans, where each year they bring gifts for both residents and nurses.

"That is so very rewarding," Smith said. "We spend a half day there and meet every one of the veterans."

Smith said these are just some of the activities the Henry County group is involved in.

Tester said that the Dover Post 4730 and Auxiliary keep more of their activities local.

"Stewart County is not an affluent place, and we do a lot for the community and for our local veterans, many of whom served in Vietnam," said Tester.

The 220 or so members of the Stewart County post and the 120 Auxiliary members work all year holding dinners, turkey shoots, and other fundraising events to raise money for the popular Children's Christmas Program and other events, said Auxiliary President Debra Rapp. At Christmastime, gifts are purchased for the children



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VFW Post 4730 makes sure they send care packages to their adopted Special Forces Unit.

who are participating, and a big party, complete with Santa and Mrs. Claus is held for the children and their families.

They also give out Teacher of the Year awards at the elementary, middle and high school levels, as well as an Emergency Responder of the Year. Winners go on to the state level, where, Tester said, one

of the latter became a state winner recently.

He also said they have Family Days where they open the door to the public and have families in.

The Post and Auxiliary also make sure that every veteran's grave in the county, whether in

family, church or public cemeteries, has a flag for Memorial Day.

In addition to participating in Veterans Day and Memorial Day observances, the Post and Auxiliary have adopted the 1st and the 4th Battalion of the 5th Special Forces out of Fort Campbell, said Rapp.

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“We help them when they have events, like their Christmas parties, and we help them when they are selling items,” she said. “And we serve at their picnics so the families can just enjoy themselves.”

For Christmas, Tester said that they send care packages containing basic need items to the deployed service persons. Last year, they sent about 200 boxes. Senior Vice President John and Auxiliary stalwart Shelli Senatore are especially dedicated to this effort.

Post members and Auxiliary also hold an annual Easter Egg Hunt (in non-Covid-19 years), and they are sponsoring a boys’ and a girls’ ball team.



VFW Post 4730 members and its Auxiliary place wreaths at the annual Memorial Day Service.

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And the Stewart County Post has a designated Veteran Service Officer to help veterans or survivors with any issues they may be having.

Both counties promote patriotism by participation in the popular Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy contests, for middle and high school students, respectively. These contests encourage patriotism by offering cash prizes and the chance at scholarships for writing or videoing a piece on a designated theme for the year.

GETTING RECOGNITION - OR NOT

The Auxiliary is charged with keeping up with the records of their activities, and Dover Post 4730 Auxiliary has won statewide recognition for their Community Service Book several times, most recently in 2019-2020, said Rapp.

Both content and presentation are judged, meaning even the best-looking book won't win if the Post and Auxiliary aren't doing much.

As for state and national recognition for Post 4730, it generally doesn't meet the benchmarks set out by the organization, since, said Tester, the Post puts a priority on local involvement.

"Our biggest thing is veteran support and helping the community," he said.

Henry County has met many of those benchmarks and has won several national awards, particularly in the Americanism category.

Smith said she is proud that the work they do is recognized on a national level, although they would still do what they do even if the awards were not forthcoming. She said the veterans are the top priority for them.

THE WORK IS WORTH IT

No one can say that the Post and Auxiliary members don't give it their all when serving veterans and the community.



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The VFW Auxiliary has frequently won the statewide award for their community service record book.

“I retired, and I like helping and keeping the Post going,” Rapp said. “It’s a small post, and we do lots of stuff for vets and the community. We need more younger folks, though, to keep it going.”

Smith agrees that participation by younger vets and military families is essential for the continued success of the VFW and Auxiliary.

“We are losing a lot of the older veterans quickly,” she said, “but also veterans of all ages are passing away. It’s sad.”

Despite that, representatives of both counties see a solid future for the VFW locally.

“Our membership (some of whom are unable to be active members) represents just a small chunk of the thousands of veterans in Stewart County,” said Tester. “I think it’ll go on long after I’m gone. Anyone who is a veteran of a foreign war or a family member of a vet, give us an opportunity to see what you can contribute to the community.”

But why expend such effort?

Tester, who retired from the Army in 2014 after 27 years of service, indicated that it isn’t rocket science.

“It’s a great group of people doing phenomenal stuff,” he said.

Rapp concurred.

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GRASS CLIPPINGS could be valuable to YOUR GARDEN

written by: **Alsey Gwinn Wheatley**

In addition to plumping up tomatoes and saturating cornfields, there has been a large boom of grass growth with the torrential downpour of rain passing through the area. Although this can initially seem like an annoyance, gardeners may be pleased to learn how beneficial grass clippings can be.

Grass can be a great boon for the gardener. It is full of nutrients and organic material that will feed your plants, and promote healthy soil conditions for good microbes and bacteria when mixed into a garden bed. Clippings can even be used as a mulch, adding

a protective layer over the soil to prevent water evaporation. The trick is finding ways to use grass clippings without flooding the garden with weeds. The first step is understanding how weeds spread. Sometimes it is through the obvious route of weed seeds being mixed into garden soil and then germinating. But it is also very easy for invasive plants like bluegrass and purslane to spring up from seemingly nowhere. These invasive plants are growing from plant material that has managed to keep itself at the right levels of temperature and moisture to sprout new roots. The same propagation that will let a gardener turn a rose or berry clipping into a new bush will let weeds run rampant through their garden.

Knowing the two methods weeds use to spread allows a gardener to manage them. Weed seeds can be kept out of grass clippings by not allowing the grass to get tall enough to go to seed. This is, admittedly, not always manageable. There are often times when life gets in the way of all our best efforts to be responsible gardeners. If this is the case, consider taking a walk through the yard. Look out for areas where invasive plants are growing, and avoid going over them with the mower. Once the good grass clippings have been



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gathered gardeners can go back and even out their yard without worry.

It can be more challenging to keep out weeds that are sprouting from plant matter. These weed segments only need to be kept wet and in contact with the soil to grow entire

new plants, especially in the warmer months. The best way to combat this is to allow the clippings time to dry out. They don't have to be fully composted to be safe to use; simply placing clippings in the sun for two to three weeks should do the trick nicely. It may not be the most visually appealing,

but once the clippings have dried out they will no longer have the energy to sprout roots and propagate themselves. Alternatively, gardeners can bury plant material deeply in their garden beds. Even if it results in some sprouting, there is almost no chance of a weed being able to push its way up

through the soil when buried ten inches down or more. This allows for enriching of garden beds without worry, but does require a fair bit of effort.

If gardeners are still seeing weeds in their garden after using these methods then there are two things they can

“Gardeners should feel encouraged to put the resources they have to good use. In addition to being economical, utilizing the clippings of grass that was already going to be mowed simply makes good sense. It will enrich soil quality when buried deep, adding nutrients back into garden beds.”



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do before reaching for the chemicals. The first is good, old-fashioned weeding. It is without a doubt a tedious passtime, but weeding garden beds by hand will eventually yield results. It may take a few rounds of letting what grass is in the bed begin growing, but gardeners will eventually be able to remove all unwanted plants. The second option is to solarize the bed. This process involves stretching a heavy plastic tarp over the garden bed and allowing it to stay there for several months. The lack of sunlight to and increased temperature of the soil below the tarp will kill off any organic material under it. Gardeners should be warned that in addition to requiring an investment of time, this process also causes some die off in the beneficial microbes and bacteria that reside in their beds. However, this is easily remedied with a thorough top dressing of fully decomposed compost.

Gardeners should feel encouraged to put the resources they have to good use. In addition to being economical, utilizing the clippings of grass that was already going to be mowed simply makes good sense. It will enrich soil quality when buried deep, adding nutrients back into garden beds. Or perhaps it will help to regulate water as a top dressing of free mulch. This will make for better soil conditions, meaning healthier and more productive plants for a gardener to enjoy.



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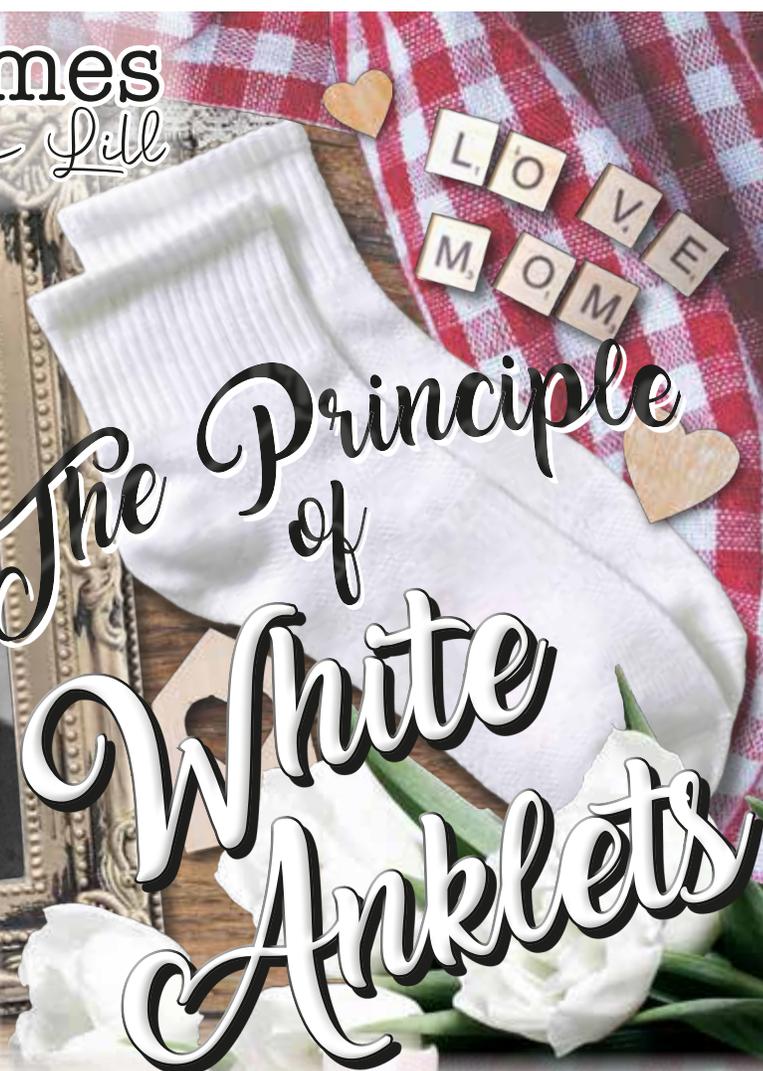


♥ Simpler Times by Bonnie Lill



Pictured: Maureen Brashinger, aka Mom, at her high school graduation in 1942, where she probably did not wear white anklets.

The Principle of White Anklets



In school, teachers hasten to impart to their charges dozens of “principles,” ranging from scientific to spiritual, in an effort to improve their students’ lives.

One rarely-mentioned principle, however, stands head and shoulders above the rest, notwithstanding its street-level name: The Principle of White Anklets.

It was developed by our mom, Maureen Brashinger, a quintessential Southern lady who adapted well to life in south suburban Chicago after she married our father, but who never acquiesced to local fashion trends.

Now, our mom was cool. She did not try to dress like a teenager in mini-skirts and stack heels, nor did she try to impress teens with her knowledge of cool singing groups like the Beatles. Rather, she was cool on her own level, and even our friends recognized it and responded to it.

Mom had what every teenager wanted to have: the quiet guts to not give a rip what anybody else thought about what she wore. And she always insisted on wearing white, cotton anklets on her feet.

“The other ones just aren’t comfortable,” she would say, and off to the shopping center we



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would trek in search of white anklets when her available cache became worn.

Mom was so cool that my sister and brother and I didn't even try to ditch her in stores, but we did try to change her footwear habits.

"Mom, what about these?" our sister Elaine would say as we would pass the displays of popular knee socks. "They've got white."

"No, they'd be too hot on my legs," she would reply.

"Nylons are nice," Elaine would say.

"Nylon doesn't let your skin breathe," she'd say.

And we would roll our eyes and follow her to the minuscule area in the women's section where it was still possible to find some white anklets.

As we got older, I guess we recognized the futility of trying to change Mom's views on white anklets, and we accepted them as her hallmark. In fact, we eventually became so inured to her stubbornly comfortable mode of dress that we included them in the final ensemble in which she was laid to rest back in 1997.

While white anklets in and of themselves may have faded into obscurity as preferred family footwear, I hope the concept that made them so popular with our mom is a

legacy passed with fervor from generation to generation.

I hope the world at large will never forget that the externals - car, house, clothes, and yes, even socks - are unimportant. I hope they realize it doesn't matter what others think of what they wear, what they do, what they have, and who they are. I also hope they don't judge others on the basis of externals.

I hope the descendants of Maureen Brashinger, as well as the rest of the world, always stubbornly resist the sway of fickle public opinion and have the guts to be the awesome individuals they were created to be.

And I hope they are cool, just like our mom.

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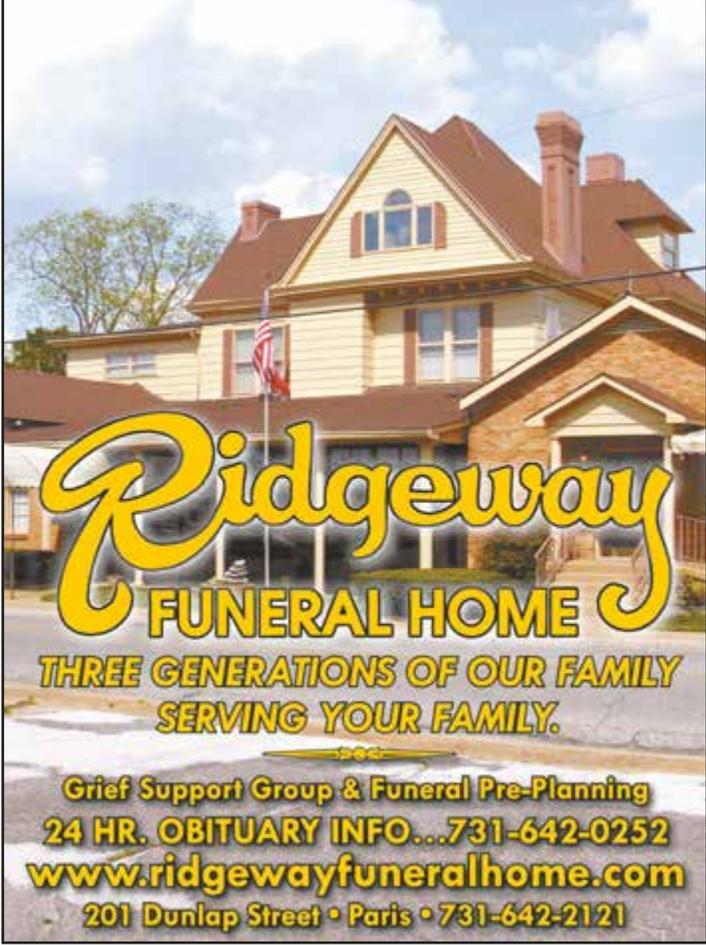
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Community Members that want to make things better



written by: **Jennifer Wheatley**

Do you know the story of Black, White and Paisley? Two gentlemen, one black, one white, hand painted signs that read "Black or White" and "Relax and have a beer!" and posted them in one of their yards near Rochester, New York. People, both black and white, responded to the invitation. They stopped by, they talked, and maybe they gained some understanding. The story made the local news and then became a social media sensation. The idea was simple. It celebrated and spread peace and a sense of community during trying times. Country music superstar Brad Paisley heard about the gathering and had hundreds of dollars worth of beer shipped to the men. He then surprised them with a Zoom call and told them how inspirational they were.

Cool story, right?

Susan Jones, Susan Jones Public Relations, thought so and called her friend Tony Kendall, a high school English teacher, and invited him to help her replicate the idea in Paris, Tennessee. The beer was replaced by soft drinks and the pair, one black and one white, chose a shady spot in the Atkins-Porter community. They posted their invitation on Facebook and people responded just like they did in New York. They stopped by, they

chatted, and maybe they gained some understanding.

The gatherings happen every Friday night the weather is agreeable at six pm under the big oak tree near the Atkins-Porter dog park. Jones shows up with her Prius trunk open and full of snacks. Folks bring a lawn chair, grab a beverage and address what Kendall calls "uncomfortable questions."

Kendall admits to not knowing exactly what to expect from recreating the Black, White and Paisley concept but "thought it was great. We work with each other and sit next to each other, but we don't know each other."

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Tony Kendall (left), Carl Holder and Susan Jones (right) gather for discussion and cold sodas at the Black, White, and Paisley meetings held in the Atkins-Porter community.



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Jones says her expectation was "pretty much what has happened. A bunch of people get together and talk...It's always interesting."

Kendall says the most common questions raised address relations between the African-American community and police. Both he and Jones say systemic racism is the prevalent undercurrent of the conversations. Kendall points out that change can only occur with "an understanding of the problem" and Jones says she is asked "What can we do?"

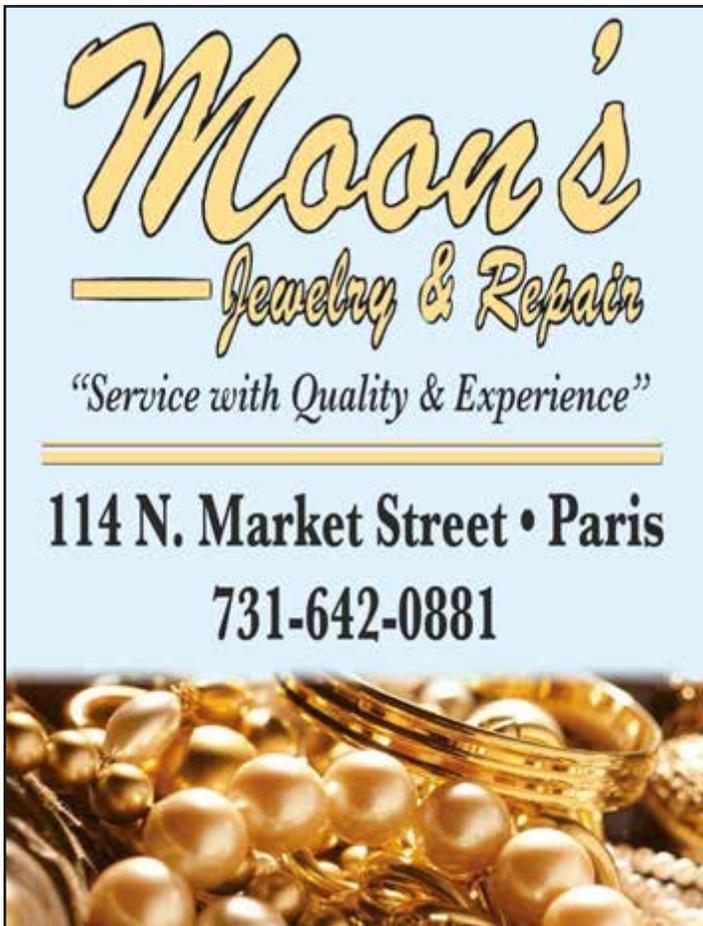
A frequent participant in the conversations is former Paris City Manager Carl Holder, who says he began attending because "there was tremendous frustration about Black Live Matter and no real knowledge, understanding or interaction." The most meaningful conversation for him has been when three of Kendall's four children participated. Holder describes Nate (23), Natalee (20) and Nick (19) Kendall as "bright, articulate and understanding" and is grateful for their willingness "to ask and answer."

Holder also says the sessions have raised personal questions for him. "Had I really understood? Even if I knew black people, did I really know?"

Kendall addressed the same theme. He says that shared experiences of racism in businesses and public venues are met with responses of "I did not know that" from some of the participants. The conversations have been eye-opening for him too. They have also been quite optimistic and he says the participants are "willing to be open and listen."

Kendall states that "My hope is for the next generation." He wants to see everyone have "the same chance to fail or succeed on a level playing field."

Jones and Kendall met in the third grade, in the midst of desegregation in Henry County schools. Kendall assumes now that they were standing in an alphabetical line and remembers that no one had spoken to him, until the little girl whose last name began with 'J' turned around and said "Hi, I'm Susan Jones." And so the conversation began.



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Down Home Cooking Recipes



Herb Roasted Turkey with Pan Gravy

1 (12 pound) turkey • 1 tablespoon olive oil • ¼ teaspoon kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper • 1 (26 ounce) carton chicken stock (Regular or Unsalted) • 3 tablespoons lemon juice • 1 teaspoon dried basil leaves, crushed • 1 teaspoon dried thyme leaves, crushed • ¼ cup all-purpose flour

Remove the package of giblets and neck from the turkey cavity. Rinse the turkey with cold water and pat dry with a paper towel. Tie the ends of the drumsticks together. Place the turkey, breast-side up, on a rack in a roasting pan. Brush the turkey with the oil. Season with the salt and black pepper. Insert a meat thermometer into the thickest part of the meat, not touching the bone. Stir the stock, lemon juice, basil, thyme and 1/8 teaspoon additional black pepper in a large bowl. Reserve 1 3/4 cups stock mixture for the gravy. Pour the remaining stock mixture over the turkey. Roast at 325 degrees F for 3 hours or until the thermometer reads 165 degrees F., basting occasionally with the pan drippings. Begin checking for doneness after 2 1/2 hours of the roasting time. Remove the turkey from the pan, cover and keep warm. Spoon off any fat and pour off all but 1 1/2 cups pan drippings. Stir the reserved stock mixture and the flour in a medium bowl until the mixture is smooth. Add the flour mixture to the pan. Cook and stir over medium heat until the mixture boils and thickens, scraping up the browned bits from the bottom of the pan. Season, if desired. Serve the gravy with the turkey.

Spiked Caramel Apple Cider

8 cups apple cider • 6 tablespoons caramel ice cream topping, divided • 1 tablespoon turbinado sugar • 1 teaspoon kosher salt • 1/8 teaspoon apple pie spice • 1 1/2 cups spiced rum • 8 cinnamon sticks

Stir together apple cider and 4 tablespoons caramel ice cream topping in a 3 1/2- or 4-qt. slow cooker until smooth. Cover and cook on Low for 3 to 4 hours or on High for 1 1/2 to 2 hours. Mix together sugar, salt, and apple pie spice in a small shallow bowl. Pour remaining 2 tablespoons caramel topping into a small saucer. Dip the rims of 8 mugs or heatproof glasses into caramel topping, evenly coating the rim; then dip into spice mixture. Ladle hot cider into mugs. Add 1 1/2 fluid ounces (3 tablespoons) spiced rum to each mug and garnish with a cinnamon stick.





Marbled Pumpkin Cheesecake

1 1/2 cups crushed gingersnap cookies • 1/2 cup finely chopped pecans • 1/3 cup butter, melted • 2 (8 ounce) packages cream cheese, softened • 3/4 cup white sugar, divided • 1 teaspoon vanilla extract • 3 large eggs • 1 cup canned pumpkin • 3/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon • 1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. In a medium bowl, mix together the crushed gingersnap cookies, pecans, and butter. Press into the bottom, and about 1 inch up the sides of a 9 inch springform pan. Bake crust 10 minutes in the preheated oven. Set aside to cool. In a medium bowl, mix together the cream cheese, 1/2 cup sugar, and vanilla just until smooth. Mix in eggs one at a time, blending well after each. Set aside 1 cup of the mixture. Blend 1/4 cup sugar, pumpkin, cinnamon, and nutmeg into the remaining mixture. Spread the pumpkin flavored batter into the crust, and drop the plain batter by spoonfuls onto the top. Swirl with a knife to create a marbled effect. Bake 55 minutes in the preheated oven, or until filling is set. Run a knife around the edge of the pan. Allow to cool before removing pan rim. Chill for at least 4 hours before serving.

Seafood Stuffing

1/2 cup margarine • 1/2 cup chopped green bell pepper
1/2 cup chopped onion • 1/2 cup chopped celery • 1 pound crabmeat, drained and flaked • 1/2 pound medium shrimp - peeled and deveined • 1/2 cup seasoned dry bread crumbs
1 (6 ounce) package corn bread stuffing mix • 2 tablespoons white sugar, divided • 1 (10.75 ounce) can condensed cream of mushroom soup • 1 (14.5 ounce) can chicken broth

Melt the margarine in a large skillet over medium heat. Add the bell pepper, onion, celery crabmeat and shrimp; cook and stir for about 5 minutes. Set aside. In a large bowl, stir together the stuffing, bread crumbs and 1 tablespoon of sugar. Mix in the vegetables and seafood from the skillet. Stir in the cream of mushroom soup and as much of the chicken broth as you like. Spoon into a 9x13 inch baking dish. Bake for 30 minutes in the preheated oven, or until lightly toasted on top.



Candied Sweet Potatoes

4 pounds sweet potatoes, quartered • 1 1/4 cups margarine • 1 1/4 cups brown sugar • 3 cups miniature marshmallows, divided • ground cinnamon to taste
ground nutmeg to taste

Preheat oven to 400 degrees F. Grease a 9x13 inch baking dish. Bring a large pot of water to a boil. Add potatoes and boil until slightly underdone, about 15 minutes. Drain, cool and peel. In a large saucepan over medium heat, combine margarine, brown sugar, 2 cups marshmallows, cinnamon and nutmeg. Cook, stirring occasionally, until marshmallows are melted. Stir potatoes into marshmallow sauce. While stirring mash about half of the potatoes, and break the others into bite-sized chunks. Transfer to prepared dish. Bake in preheated oven for 15 minutes. Remove from oven and cover top evenly with remaining marshmallows. Return to oven and bake until marshmallows are golden brown.

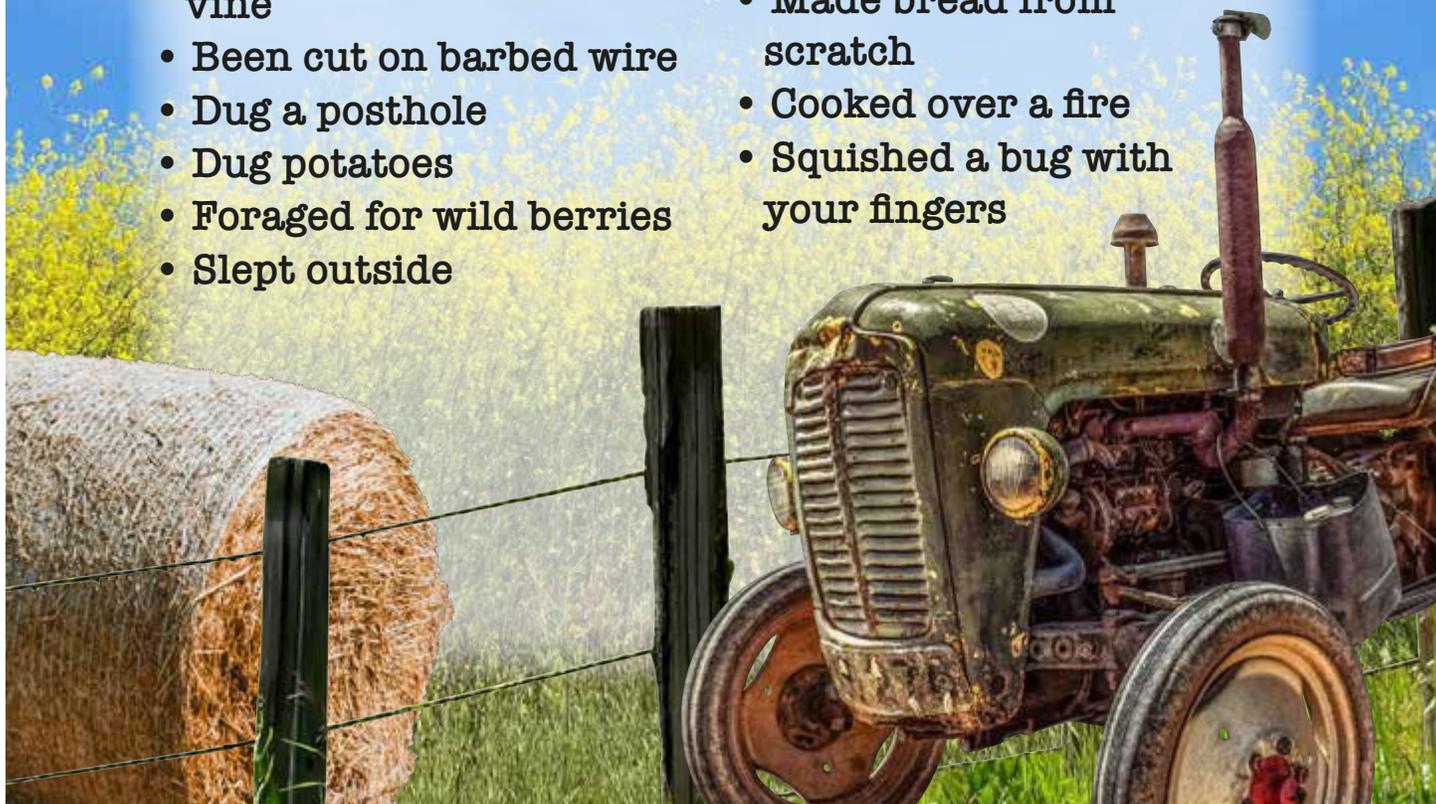


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- Given away garden produce
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The Legend of the

Jack O' Lantern

Everyone loves it when, after a hot summer, that cool fall feeling starts to linger in the air. Thoughts of hot chocolate by the fireplace, bonfires roasting marshmallows and family gatherings start to come to mind. Carving pumpkins is also a favorite past time during the fall as well. But did you know that pumpkin carvings and Jack-o'-lanterns have an ominous legend attached to it? Here is how that story goes...

The legend begins in the 1500's in Ireland. "Stingy" Jack was drinking with the Devil in a bar. Now, understand, everyone called Jack stingy for a good reason. He never liked to pay. He cleverly convinced the Devil to turn himself into a coin to pay for the bar tab. The

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Devil complied. Stingy Jack stuck the coin in his pocket instead along with a silver cross. The Devil was stuck in the shape of a coin until he promised not to take Jack's soul when he died. The Devil agreed and was released. Later Jack talked the Devil into climbing a tree to gather some fruit, instead of paying for it. Again, the Devil complied. Jack quickly carved a cross on the tree trapping the Devil. Jack made the Devil agree a second time to not take his soul when he died. The Devil had no choice and agreed.



Dallas Tynes scooping off the inside of his jack o'lantern top.

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Emma Jo Chapman beginning to carve her pumpkin.

Eventually, Jack actually died. But God would not take his soul into Heaven for making deals with the Devil and sent him down to Hell. The Devil kept his word to Stingy Jack and would not take him into his domain. Instead, Jack was cursed to eternally wander the Earth in the dead of the night with only a single coal ember to light his way. Jack carved out a large turnip and created a lantern to carry his coal. He soon became known as Jack of the Lantern.

The people of Ireland would start carving mean faces on turnips and gourds and placing candles in them to protect their homes from Jack-o'-lantern, as he soon became known. As the Irish migrated to the

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United States, they brought the legend and tradition with them. Pumpkins became the lantern of choice because they were more abundant in the states and easier to carve and place candles within. As the legend of Stingy Jack has faded, the pumpkins have become more friendly and fun.

Next time you are out trick or treating and you see carved pumpkins on the porch, think about poor ole Jack of the Lantern out roaming in the dark of the night. The Irish believe the Jack-o'-lanterns protect the home from his spirit. So, keep in mind to always use caution if you are trick-or-treating, but you won't have to worry about the spirit of Stingy Jack.



Dalton Tynes with his finished Jack O' Lantern.



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