

NEGATIVE from 4 very sad day, he thought it was the best way, so he got a shovel and a wheelbarrow and went to work. As he poured lead over land of the old abandoned well, a strange thing began to happen. As the dirt fell on the old man's back, he shuddered and trampled it down. This process went on for several hours until the dirt had treated the same way. The old man would just shake it off and tramp it down. Finally, the old well was completely filled and the man was standing on level ground. Then, he just walked away free from the prison that was to his grave. Obviously, this is not a true story, but it does make a wonderful point. The dirt thrown on the old man's back could be compared to the

negative comments and the negative experiences we all have had from time to time. When they do occur, we can either shirk them off or let them bury us. The choice is ours. Earlier, I mentioned we should live our lives in such a way we wouldn't mind selling our souls to develop a working gossip. This is, perhaps, the best way on earth to keep from being too many negative comments said about us. The next time this happens to you, and it will happen, I hope you will remember the story about the farmer and the old well. "JUST SHAKE IT OFF." EDITOR'S NOTE: Jim Davidson is a motivational speaker and syndicated columnist. You may contact him at 2 Bentley Drive, Conway, Arkansas 72032.

Tobacco leader visits China

Danny McKinney, Chief Executive Officer of the Burley Tobacco Growers Cooperative Association, recently visited China to establish coalitions and explore marketing opportunities of U.S. burley tobacco in China. The purpose of this initial visit was to meet with and develop a working relationship with tobacco and trade officials of China. McKinney was accompanied by Chris Vick, Cameron Turley, and Xiang Shouping of Andros, Vick & Associates, LLC, a consulting firm from the Burley Co-op hired to assist in securing burley sales in China. McKinney traveled to China on Sunday, February 25th and returned Saturday, March 3rd. During his visit he met with several key individuals in China's tobacco industry. Some of those individuals included Guo Shengou, Vice

President, Ling Yi, Deputy General Manager of the Leaf Department, and Bian Ka, Deputy Director all of whom are with China National Tobacco Import & Export Corporation. He also met with Zhou Shangyong, Vice President of China National Leaf Tobacco Administration, and Wang Hong, Deputy Director of the Foreign Liaison Division of China State Tobacco Monopoly Administration, and Zhou Ruizeng, Director of the General Affairs Office and Foreign Affairs Department for the China State Tobacco Monopoly Administration. This trip was a first step in the plan to sell U.S. burley tobacco to China. This venture became a reality when U.S. Congress signed an unprecedented trade agreement with China. Selling U.S. burley to China has had many obstacles with one of the main problems being the

potential of blue mold contamination in China. Many studies, discussions, and visits by Chinese officials have calmed this concern greatly. A protocol has been signed and McKinney is confident that the blue mold issue will be resolved. The potential of a new market with China gives hope to tobacco growers in a time when many of the traditional customers are importing more foreign tobacco. China has more smokers than U.S. and this local population, though China currently grows the tobacco it uses, the Burley Co-op hopes to introduce the unique quality of U.S. burley into their products. "This is the first step of a long journey," said McKinney. "We look forward to what lies ahead for the future of U.S. burley farmers."

FIRES from 1

But upon our arrival, the barn was totally engulfed in flames and nothing could be done to save it. "It was a total loss. And because there was a considerable amount of hay in it, we left one truck and three firefighters to keep an eye on spreading," Phillips said. "Hay is so easy to ignite that it extinguished with water, you have to let it burn itself out." The barn belongs to William Maquard. Firefighters have determined that electricity probably started the fire. No foul play is suspected. About the time some of the firefighters returned to the station, a third fire alarm was sounded. "It was a grass fire on Snake Ridge near the Bourbon County line," Phillips said. "We're guessing around 80 acres. It is a rather large fire and had been burning for quite some time and burned an extensive area." Both Bourbon and Nicholas

MSU to offer business workshop

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Records. Mark I Brown Jr., other hearing, paid in full. William Bruce Buckler, pretrial conference, operating a motor vehicle under the influence of an intoxicant, results produced pretrial conference March 12. Kristie N. Carpenter, arraignment, give false name/address, resisting arrest, bonded out, review March 12. Thonch Gail Coleman, arraignment, harrasing communication's, not guilty plea, pretrial conference April 2. April D. Dailey, arraignment, assault/motor injured, arraignment, sexual abuse, defendant posted cash bond, pay March 19. Luciano Gallegos, review, assault in compliance drive. Melissa G. Glass, arraignment, criminal littering, possession open alcohol beverage container in motor vehicle, not guilty plea, pretrial conference March 26. Kevin Hughes, arraignment, assault/motor injured, arraignment, Jason Livingwood, arraignment, theft by deception, restitution paid, \$10 plus cost, show cause other hearing April 30. Gerald M. Ludwig, arraignment, speeding 15 mph over limit, guilty plea, traffic school, show cause other hearing April 30. Chuck Merk, pretrial conference, theft by deception, restitution paid, \$10 plus cost, show cause other hearing April 30. Tina Cain, pretrial conference, possession of marijuana, paraphernalia; lab report pending, pretrial conference March 19. David W. Farrow, pretrial conference, careless driving, failure to wear seatbelt, preliminary conference April 9; possession of marijuana, lab results provided, preliminary conference March 19. Arthur Lee Jones, court trial, driving on DUI suspended license, court trial April 9; clerk to obtain updated DHR. Robert C. Linville, show cause hearing, show cause order March 26.

Records. Roy E. Lutes, court trial, operating a motor vehicle under the influence of an intoxicant, waiver, guilty plea, \$200 fine, \$250 service fee, pay court costs, suspend operators license, show cause order May 7. Thomas C. Major, pretrial conference, speeding 15 mph over limit, paid in full. Dallas D. Vaughn Jr., review, lab results pending, preliminary conference April 25; possession of marijuana, lab results pending, preliminary conference April 23; use/possession of drug paraphernalia, lab results pending, preliminary conference April 29. Jerry W. Whitaker Jr., show cause hearing, pay \$50 today. Melissa Mae Martin, preliminary hearing, criminal abuse, bond \$2,500, preliminary conference March 19. Tina Lyons Sears, preliminary hearing, criminal abuse, bond \$2,500, preliminary conference March 19. Shirley Adams, court trial; pass fine, 2 years plus costs, show cause order April 23. Kenneth Lee Brumley, other hearing, bond \$2,500, hearing rest March 12, to complete at least 37 hours community service by March 12. Kenneth Lee Brumley, other hearing, bond \$2,500, hearing rest March 12, to complete at least 37 hours community service by March 12. Kenneth Lee Brumley, other hearing, bond \$2,500, hearing rest March 12, to complete at least 37 hours community service by March 12. Kenneth Lee Brumley, other hearing, bond \$2,500, hearing rest March 12, to complete at least 37 hours community service by March 12. Kenneth Lee Brumley, other hearing, bond \$2,500, hearing rest March 12, to complete at least 37 hours community service by March 12. Kenneth Lee Brumley, other hearing, bond \$2,500, hearing rest March 12, to complete at least 37 hours community service by March 12.

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