GENERAL NEWS

Heaven Is A Lot Like Kentucky

SHELTOWEE IN THE SNOW

Heaven Is A Lot Like Kentucky

By Charles Mattox

The temperature started dropping about the time Captain Daniel Boone selected a choice buffalo cow from the stragglers of the slow moving herd. With a careful aim he made a near perfect shot, striking the cow just behind her front shoulder blade, sending the large caliber musket ball directly through the shaggy beasts' heart. The big cow dropped within a few feet of where it stood.

It had been no small task to keep the militia unit he was in charge of supplied in food. As the leader of 30 men who had been engaged in making salt at the Lower Blue Licks Springs for the past five weeks, Capt. Boone had taken the task of being the primary scout and forager for the group and continually traveled further from the salt making encampment.

His travels took him deeper into what would one day become Bath, Nicholas, Robertson and Fleming counties.

The terrain was not new to him, as he had traveled through the countryside on countless previous occasions. Still, the closest pioneer settlement to the Lower Blue Licks Springs was his home at Fort Boonesboro.

Although the landscape was beautiful, it was also indifferent to the suffering of mere mortals.

He realized he was a long way from home and a long way from his family, as were several of the other men.

He wondered what his wife Rebecca was doing and how the children were behaving.

He contemplated such thoughts as he began removing the hide from the buffalo, shivering as freezing rain began to fall.

At first the freezing rain was only an annoyance, and merely stung his face as he went about his work, but before long the weather turned nastier, and try though he might, there was simply no way he could keep his powder dry in his musket unless he had shelter.

Few historians have noted Boone's extraordinary butchering skills, but it was nearly unequaled along the Kentucky frontier, and thus, within a matter of minutes, he had completely removed the buffalo hide from the cow's carcass and constructed a half-faced shelter with the fresh hide and a few saplings. He quickly started a small fire, which made his laborious task less difficult and discomforting as the freezing rain turned to snow.

His left ankle throbbed in the cold weather, but he knew he was extremely lucky to still have his left foot after a Shawnee bullet shattered his ankle bone eight months earlier during one of their raids on Fort Boonesboro.

He flexed his left foot and felt the familiar tension release as his ankle cracked loudly.

He thought of his dear friend Simon Butler, the lead scout he left behind at the fort.

Butler was using that name because he was running from Virginia lawmen, falsely believing he was guilty of murder.

His actual name was Simon Kenton.

Simon had saved Boone from certain death on the same day Boone had received his dreadful ankle wound.

The Shawnee sprang an ambush on the morning of April 24, 1777 and killed Daniel Goodman within sight of Fort Boonesboro. Simon Butler, Capt. Boone and others, ran out of the fort and were similarly ambushed with Boone being struck in the ankle.

The painful wound sent Boone to the ground and he could not regain his footing.

"We're gone boys!" Boone screamed in a fatalistic warning to others near him.

Soon Shawnee warriors with drawn scalping knives were within grasp of Boone, but Butler came to his rescue; shooting one warrior with his musket and clubbing another who was within moments of striking Boone with a tomahawk.

Simon scooped up Boone and carried him back into the fort, dodging additional warriors as he went. Some reports indicate Simon actually threw Boone into two warriors who were between them and the fort gate, which knocked the warriors down and allowed Simon to once again scoop up Capt. Boone and continue toward the gate.

Jemima Boone, one of Capt. Boone's daughters, met Simon outside of the fort and assisted with carrying her father into the fort.

Boone had requested Simon's presence a few moments later as the raid diminished and his wound was being treated.

"Indeed Simon, you are a fine fellow!" Boone had told the young giant of a scout. Boone was a man of few words and it was a rare thing to hear him openly praise any man, let alone a man who was half his age.

Of course Simon wasn't your typical man. He was one of only a few men along the Kentucky frontier that

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OBITUARIES

Glenn McKee
1924-2008

Glenn McKee, 83, died Sun., Jan. 20, 2008 at Hardin Memorial Hospital in Elizabethtown, KY.

He was born July 26, 1924 to the late Bruce and Eunice Belle Callahan McKee.

He was a member of the Parkway Baptist Church in Hodgenville, a retiree from the Hinkle Construction Company in Paris, a member of the Local 576 in Louisville, and a member of the Kentucky Labor in Lawrenceburg.

He was preceded in death by two sisters, Wilma Joly and Lena Mitchell; five brothers, Edward, Melvin, Leonard, Willard, and R.C. McKee.

He is survived by his wife, Eva Williams McKee; two daughters, Phyllis (Larry) Mitchell and Sharon (Randy) Hedges, all of Carlisle; a son, Phillip McKee of Lexington; two step-daughters, Charlotte (Mitchell) Grimes of Hodgenville and Sheila (Mike) Embry of Bowgn; three sisters, Jean Bretz of Lexington, Jeanette Hicks of Lexington, and Josephine Hughes of Ashland; a brother, Julian McKee of Carlisle; a special daughter-in-law, Karen McKee of Carlisle; and 10 grandchildren and 8 great-grandchildren.

Visitation was held Tues., Jan. 22, 2008. Funeral services were held Wed., Jan. 23, 2008 at the Bennett-Bertram Funeral Home in Hodgenville with the Revs. Calvin Halcomb, Don Powell, Jr., and Warren Trayler officiating. Burial followed in Red Hill Cemetery in Hodgenville.

Condolences may be expressed online at www.bennett-bertram.com.

Shiloh Justice Bowen
2006-2008

Shiloh Justice Bowen, born Oct. 27, 2006, died Jan. 16, 2008, she was 1 year, 2 months and 20 days old.

She is survived by her parents, Thomas Ray Bowen Jr. and Joanna Gail Byrd Bowen of Carlisle; two brothers, Joe Noble of Milan, IN and Harley Ray Bowen of Carlisle; maternal grandparents, Tom and Connie Byrd of Richmond; paternal grandparents, Starr Susan Bowen and the late Thomas Ray Bowen of Louisa,; aunts and uncles, Jeremiah Byrd of Lexington, Jonathan and Leah Mayabb of Campton, Tom and Rebekah Yeager of Campton and Rachel Byrd of Richmond, Tamera and Greg Ward of Georgetown, Kelly and Homer Smith of Inez, Rhonda and Dennis Carter of Huntington, WV, Brian and Tracey Bowen of Louisa and Allen and Ann Bowen of Inez, Ky. She is also survived by a host of other relatives and friends who loved her dearly.

Funeral services were held on Sunday Jan. 20, 2008 at the Clark Funeral Home with the Rev. Richard 'Doc' Maynard and Rev. Gregory Ward officiating with burial in the family cemetery. Clark Funeral Home in charge of arrangements.

Michael Allen "Batman" Flora
1985-2008

Michael Allen "Batman" Flora, 22, died Sun., Jan. 20, 2008.

He was born March 26, 1985 to Jeff Flora and Karen Bach .

He was preceded in death by his grand parents, James and Pauline Flora, grandfather, Jess Bach, Sr., uncle Jess Bach, Jr., and cousin Bruce Buckler.

He is survived by his mother, Karen Bach of Mt. Sterling; father, Jeff Flora of Carlisle; son, David Allen Flora of Jeffersonville; grandmother, Mary F. Bach of Carlisle; sister, Sarah Flora of Carlisle; the love of his life, Stacy Watkins of Jeffersonville; nephew, Caidon Lee Stone of Carlisle; aunts and uncles, Brenda Amburgy, Darlene Walker, Ann Brierley, Barbara Bach, Jennifer Bryant, Paula Watkins and Joe Bach, all of Carlisle; and several special cousins and many special friends.

Visitation will be held on Wed., Jan. 23, 2008 from 5-8 p.m. at Taul Funeral Home in Mt. Sterling. Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Thurs., Jan. 24., 2008 at Taul Funeral Home, with Rev. Mark Foglio officiating.

In lieu of flower donations, please donate to: David Allen Flora Trust Fund, c/o Whitaker Bank, 30 W. Main St., Mt. Sterling, KY 40353.

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By Ramona Hollar George
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The Barterville United Methodist Church had 18 members who traveled to Nicholasville, Saturday night to the Assembly of God Church to encourage and support their pastor Rev. Troy Miller, who is holding a revival there for most of the past week.

Don Adams took cousin Phyllis Brady to eat at Bianche's Resurant in Cynthiana recently. The exchanged many gifts and visited a long while.

Our communities extend sympathy to the family of Leroy Earlywine, who passed away Sunday in a hospital in Lexington. He was a member of the Berry United Methodist Church.

Phyllis Brady visited Holly McCree Perrine and family. She visited Daley Kennady, Gina Thacker, Fred Hollar, Mary Riggs, Phyllis Price, Stanley Morris, Francis Broderick, and others the past week.

Rev. Julian Hammonds had the 1:30 service at Johnson Mathers Health Care. Walden Fridemore led the singing. Rev. Hammonds talked mostly about prayer.

David Doyle had several visitors besides family members recently some [illegible] and the [illegible] Chaphan.

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