

OPINION

Heaven Is A Lot Like Kentucky

Wandering And Wondering Inside The Covered Bridge

I had'n been inside the Johnson Creek Covered Bridge in Robertson County for a while, dear reader, so after taking time to care of a few chores Sunday afternoon, I found myself once again standing amidst the majestic beauty of the ancient wooden structure.

Master Brigswright Arnold Graton has recently finished the historic structure, which spans Johnson Creek, not as though it was always in a state of severe decay each time I'd been inside of it before, now it looked as strong as the day it was built over a century and a half ago.

The ancient wooden beams were mingled with newer ones. Most of the original timbers, particularly the heavier wooden beams remain intact and the carvings and painted names of individuals and lovers are still written upon them for Cupid's aging eyes to still see.

Steve's Report

Identify Crisis

Life is full of stages - periods we must all pass through - and how we come through these situations helps define who we are and what we become.

First is the phase of passing from total dependence to semi-independence, known to many of us as "The Terrible Twos."

You've probably witnessed something like this: A little guy wants a piece of candy and Mommy says, "No, buddy, you've had enough sweets for today."

The toddler keeps one eye on Mom but keeps going for the candy. There are plenty of folks my age who are still throwing tantrums on a regular basis.

What did I tell you? Mommy warns, "Don't make me come over there!"

By this time the child has his hands on the bagging the waters of complete independence. I believe that parents witness a repeat of the same kind of behavior patterns they saw back in "The Terrible Twos."

Recently, I saw a young mother say, "One..." and felt that old anxiety welling up inside and tried to send a telepathic warning, "Watch it, kid, you're about to catch it bad."

"Two..." and my palms started to sweat. "Three..." and my stomach was in knots.

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Heaven Is A Lot Like Kentucky By Cheryl Fulton

by Scooty in days gone by. And I let my mind wander to other unsolved murders and mysterious deaths in our area.

They are literally too numerous to mention here. One of the last times I had lingered inside the bridge had been after looking for evidence related to the death of an old acquaintance, Roger "Scooty" Fulton.

Scooty's body was found at the end of February in 2004 near the confluence of Five Lick Creek and Johnson Creek, not very far at all from the Johnson Creek Covered Bridge.

He was a familiar sight in certain circles in Fleming, Robertson and Nicholas County. He had two gunshot wounds when his partially decayed body was pulled from the creek.

His murder remains unsolved. I sat at one of the picnic tables inside the Johnson Creek Covered Bridge Sunday, and let my gaze fall to a carving that could have been left

shut and waited for the WHACK! followed by a horrible shriek of pain. But it never came. I don't know what happened to you when your mother got to "Three..."

But let's just say I learned that my mother meant business and knew how to back up her words. The next time I heard her say, "One..."

It didn't matter if she was talking to someone else. I dropped what I was doing and ran for cover.

Recently, I saw a young mother say, "One..." and felt that old anxiety welling up inside and tried to send a telepathic warning, "Watch it, kid, you're about to catch it bad."

"Two..." and my palms started to sweat. "Three..." and my stomach was in knots.

Eventually, however, youth passes into independence and adulthood, and then continues to gradually fade away until you wake up one morning and find that you have moved, onto the next phase, "The Middle Ages."

In school, when they talked about the "Middle Ages," it sounded really cool - with knights and castles, dragons and damsels in distress, jousting and sword fighting - neat stuff like that. I don't remember any stories about backaches, knee pain, and high-fiber bran cereal. I mean, what a let-down.

As if that isn't a big enough disappointment, I'm still trying to figure out this new phase of my life - attempting to figure out where I fit in. Let me tell you, it's not easy. Last week, I was speaking to a couple of ladies and they referred to me as "young man." This

There have been no arrests made in connection with those two Fleming County murders. My heart has been silenced more than once when examining the cruel hand of fate and how loved ones of our loved ones still their vibrant lives.

I have also been following the unsolved Fleming County murders of Donald Walker and Marlene Mauk. Their bullet-riddled bodies were discovered May 6, 2004, on Route 45 near Indian Creek. She was last seen at the Video-N-Tan in Brooksville on Oct. 21, 1997.

The skeleton remains of Nicole Van Zant, 27, were found Monday afternoon April 21 just inside the Powell County line near Indian Creek. The single-mother had been missing since January 19 of this year.

There is still no word on her cause of death. Praysure was 17-years-old when she went missing from Brooksville, in Bracken County. She was last seen at the Video-N-Tan in Brooks-ville on Oct. 21, 1997.



Johnson Creek Covered Bridge

The thunderous silence inside the Johnson Creek Covered Bridge. There have been no arrests made in connection with those two Fleming County murders.

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Editor, Nine Months Makes All the Difference

Here is something that most people don't know. If a woman avoids alcohol for the entire nine months of pregnancy, she has prevented the leading known cause of mental retardation in the United States: Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD).

Many women stop drinking as soon as they find out they are pregnant, but alcohol can affect an unborn baby even before a woman knows she's pregnant. The developing brain is highly vulnerable to the poisonous effects of alcohol at every state of pregnancy, even the last trimester. This is why Kentucky will be joining the world in recognizing International FASD Awareness Day on 9/9/09.

Statistically, over 39,000 Kentucky citizens are affected by FASD. Babies with FASD grow into adults with FASID, which means that many families face a lifelong struggle to help their loved ones find supportive education, housing and social networks.

Each of these families have their own story to tell. People in our community today are living with the effects of prenatal alcohol exposure, a disability that is 100% preventable.

There are a few simple things you can do: First: make sure that all your friends, family, teenagers and colleagues know that there is no safe time, no safe type and no safe amount of alcohol if a woman is pregnant or could become pregnant.

Second: make sure that your local physicians know that you support them in giving a clear No-Alcohol message to pregnant women in your community.

Lastly, learn everything that you can about this issue, and be an advocate for women, kids and families.

For more information, please contact Kentucky's FASD Prevention Enhancement Site at lmg@bluegrass.org or 859-624-3622.

Respectfully, Melissa Hill KY ASAP and Nicholas Counties for Safe and Drug Free Community

past weekend, however, I helped chaperone a youth dance. Some of the teenagers agreed to coax me out onto the dance floor to join in the fun by telling me, "C'mon, you're probably the coolest old person we know!" Well, thanks... I think.

So, what is it? Am I a "young man" or an "old person"? Being described both ways in a single week left me feeling confused and unsure about who I am. But then I asked a close friend for clarification and they set the record straight by recommending Geritol, ginseeng, and garlic gel capsules to help stimulate healthy brain activity.

The two ladies were just being polite. And that's my two cents, Steve Scoaf

OBITUARIES



Jerry Ray Patton II

Jerry Ray Patton II, 14, of Carlisle died on Friday, Aug. 21, 2009 at the U.K. Medical Center in Lexington.

He was born in the Nicholas County Montgomery County on June 6, 1995 to Jerry and Joyce Hatton.

He is survived by his parents, Jerry and Joyce Patton; his twin brother, Jackie Patton; two sisters, Eva Hernandez, Dustin Hunt, and Ruth (Jermey) Cecil; one nephew, Jeffrey Cecil; three nieces, Brandie Hernandez, III, Rick Crump, Ja-Cheyenne (Coco) Hernandez, and Alex (Cecil) maternal grandparents, Larry and Margaret Hatton Moore; paternal

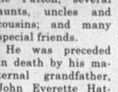
grandmother, Nellie Patton; several aunts, uncles and cousins, and many special friends.

He was preceded in death by his maternal grandfather, John Everette Hatton; his paternal grandfather, William C. Patton; three uncles: John Douglas Hatton, Anthle Patton, and Donald Patton.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2009 at the Nicholas County Elementary School with Bishop Ted Marshall, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, officiating. Burial followed in the Longview Cemetery in Bethel.

Funeral services were held on Tuesday, Aug. 25, 2009 at the Kendall Springs Cemetery in Bath County with the Rev. Lowell Rice officiating. Clark Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

David Randall Jones



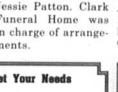
David Randall Jones

David Randall Jones, 84, husband of his loving wife, Mildred Marie Jones Jones, was called to be with our Heavenly Father on Saturday, Aug. 22, 2009. He was born on April 18, 1925 in Nelson County to the late William Clark and Grace Delle Limerick Jones Sr. David retired from Lewis working in sales, was a Navy Veteran of WWII and member of Carlisle Christian Church.

Additional survivors are a daughter, Nancy Treadway of Paris; three granddaughters: Jessica (Steve) Fryman, Heather and Chelsea Treadway, all of Flemingsburg; five great-grandchildren: Lora, Grace and Brook Hardin and Alexis Cooper; two brothers: L. C. Jones of Louisville and William (Barbara) Jones of Bloomfield; and other family members, nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by four sisters and one brother. Services were held at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 25 at Betts & West Funeral Home in Nicholasville. Burial was in Blue Grass Memorial Gardens.

Hubert "Bob" Colvin



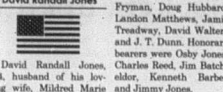
Hubert Bob Colvin

Hubert "Bob" Colvin, 92, of Winchester died on Saturday, Aug. 22, 2009 at the St. Claire Medical Center in Morehead. He was born in Montgomery County on Oct. 16, 1916 to the late Dennis and Minnie Carpenter Colvin. He was a WWII Veteran and retired police officer.

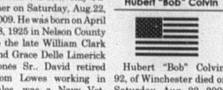
He is survived by two nephews: Raymond (Betty) Donaham of Mt. Sterling and William Robison of Morehead; one niece, Rosemary Thomas of Sharpsburg; and several grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Graveside services will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 29, 2009 at the Kendall Springs Cemetery in Bath County with the Rev. Lowell Rice officiating. Clark Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Palbearers were Steve Fryman, Doug Hubbard, London Matthews, Jamie Treadway, David Waters and J. T. Dunn. Honorary bearers were Oby Jones, Charles Reed, Jim Batchelder, Kenneth Barbee and Jimmy Jones.



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The Carlisle Mercury The Carlisle Mercury is published every Wednesday by M.C. Investments dba The Carlisle Mercury, 218 N. Locust Street, Carlisle, KY 40311

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HEADLINES: Editorial copy deadline is 5 p.m. Friday. Advertising copy with proof deadline is 5 p.m. Friday, advertising copy without proof, 10 a.m. Friday. Classified advertising deadline is 10 a.m. Tuesday. PHOTOS/ELECTRONIC ADVERTISING: Color, black and white and digital photos are all accepted. Digital photos should be submitted in the jpg format and can be emailed. Old photos will be accepted at any time. Please do not submit newspaper clippings or photocopies. Photos may be picked up after they are published in the newspaper. Electronic advertising must be submitted in pdf format and can be emailed to the above address. LEGAL ADVERTISING: Four-Act, Size 7/8. Deadline 5 p.m. Friday. All submitted copy must be signed and include a daytime phone number.

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