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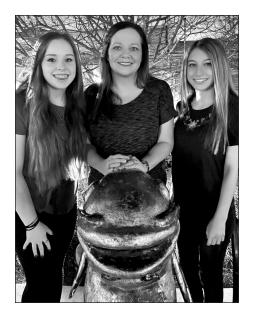
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YES! Fish Fry Is Coming!

After our wild, winter, I'm happy to share the spring flowers, art shows, travel ideas, interesting profiles and stories. I'm especially pleased that the World's Biggest Fish Fry is ON! Although the magazine was completed by the time the decision was announced, the staff of PARIS! joins me in thanking the Jaycees and wishing everyone a great Fish Fry Week!

Speaking of fish, don't miss Chamber CEO Travis McLeese's article on a fish business that is dedicated to both a healthy bottom line and a healthy ecosystem in "Plate Half Full."

Meanwhile, In the Garden editor, John Watkins says it all with his headline, "Change Your Bloomers," where he offers sage advice for making a flowery splash this season.

It's always gratifying when our Henry County young people can make life

On The Cover

Griffin Paschall of Paschall Farms prepares the fields for spring planting in this pastural scene captured by his cousin, Sam Hutson, president of Crove Media. better for other youngsters. Sarah Cate Orr has done just that with the No Limits Livestock Show, from Shannon McFarlin. Barry Hart points out other individuals who deserve our thanks in "Unlikely Heroes."

The name Min-Kyo Jung may not ring a bell, but this South Korean native has found an unlikely home as minister of music at First Presbyterian Church. Read Jung's story, then tune in for more, including gorgeous music, at Paris Podcast.

As last year drew to a close, Henry County welcomed a new generation of public servants as our county mayor, county sheriff and city police chief. Enjoy Karen Geary's conversations with these men.

One never knows what's on the mind of the funny, talented Bill Neese. Let's just say that after reading "Hog Hunting on Horseback," I was thankful that he lived to tell the tale. And while they don't travel on horseback, the Two Travelers certainly get around. They've been day-tripping in Kuttawa, Kentucky, and it sounds terrific.

Let It Snow shows off kiddos, adults, dogs, sled riders, angel makers, and a few Elsas in a photo collage about our recent mega snowfall. Thanks to the readers of Facebook's Henry County, TN 411 for the photos.

Happy Hushpuppies, y'all!

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Henry County and the Lake Area

PARIS!

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This magazine accepts no responsibility for unsolicited manuscripts, photography or artwork. All submissions may be edited for length, clarity and style. **BACK IN THE DAY**

HOG HUNTING ON HORSEBACK

BY BILL NEESE

Bill Neese is a local attorney, a sportsman, a youth shooting team coach and a grandfather. He began writing stories about his family, work, community and coming of age in the South. While composed primarily for his grandsons, his hope is "that these little stories will bring a smile to those who might read them."

hen I was in my 30's and 40's, the whole family was into horses. We owned several and did a lot of riding, including camping on overnight trail rides. We rode regularly and kept our horses in good shape and well trained.

I had a horse I raised from one of my mares. We named him Charlie Horse and the name fit. He was very good-natured, way too smart for a horse and people oriented. That is, he liked people. But, consistent with his name, Charlie was always pulling stunts that were funny and vexatious.

Charlie was terrified of diesel trucks but paid no attention to the discharge of firearms. This made him an excellent mount for following bird dogs on big field quail hunts and bird dog trials. I could stand next to Charlie and shoot a shotgun or even a revolver sitting on his back and he never blinked.

Two well-known sportsmen and friends of mine, whose names I have forgotten, both loved to hunt and were expert marksmen. They somehow came into possession of two Russian wild boars. Since they knew there were a lot of feral hogs in the Springville area of Henry County, they came up with the brilliant idea of releasing the Russian boars there. In this way, they thought, the area would develop into a boar hunting area. The idea worked... well, sort of.

Feral hogs are pigs that have escaped from farms and live in the woods and scrub brush. They feed on roots, acorns, grubs and anything else they can forage. Because they are domestic animals, they have a low survival rate. Since many newborns never reach maturity, the populations remain small. In large numbers they root for food, root out "wallows" and can damage land and crops.

When the Russian boars were introduced, they bred with the feral sows and passed on their hearty genes. The offspring were well-suited for life in the wild. A sow averages 10 pigs per litter and two or three litters a year. With the wild boar genes, many of these pigs survived and soon the area had a healthy population of wild/feral hogs. The landowners were not happy and hog hunters were welcome on their land.

One fall day as the hunting seasons were starting, a fellow horseman and I were discussing ways to effectively hunt the wild hogs. We considered still hunting and stalking since we didn't have dogs. Pigs have a keen sense of smell and hearing and are very cautious. Somehow, hunting from horseback came up. After all, Roy Rogers shot bad guys out of the saddle from his horse at a full run in the movies. How hard could it be?

My friend, a couple of fellow crazies and I loaded up our horses and headed for "hog heaven." I had my Smith & Wesson .357 Magnum with a six-inch barrel. At the time, I practiced a lot and was a pretty good shot.

We fanned out and rode through the woods toward known pig haunts. Evidently the smell of the horses masked our human scent as we got close before the hogs sensed danger and broke into a full run. A large pig stood up and, before he could run, I shot him from a still horse. "This is easy," I thought, not considering that both shooter and prey were motionless at the time of the shot.

As usual, Charlie made no response to gunfire. My friend's horse was also used to gunfire and one of our companion's horses was too far away to be disturbed. However, the fourth horse put on a rodeo – bucking and twisting as we all took off at a dead run through the woods after the hogs.

Soon, the bucking horse settled down and the chase was on. We had

the advantage in that our horses' legs were longer than the hogs' legs. The hogs had an advantage in that our horses' legs were longer than the hogs' legs. The hogs headed for the brush and the low limbs, brush and vines slowed us a lot. The hogs ran under them. We pressed on. Our horses had the advantage of endurance. We would lose the herd only to come upon it resting, and the chase was on again.

Finally, we reached a fairly open spot in the woods. As Charlie sped toward the hogs, I opened fire at the fleeing swine. I still don't know how Roy Rogers hit all those bad guys while Trigger was at a full run. I sure couldn't hit those hogs. Of course, I was distracted by my buddy's bucking horse, but still.

The woods thinned into an open field and we were gaining on them. I emptied my revolver while close to a big boar. The bullets kicked up dust all around him, but no cigar. How could I miss such easy shots? Maybe shooting from a bouncing platform affected my aim.

We stopped to reload, give our horses a break and discuss our hunting tactics since no one else was having any more success than I was. We decided to try getting as close to the hogs as possible, stopping quickly and shooting from a still horse. That approach also had its drawbacks. First, coordinating the stop of four running and excited horses wasn't easy. Second, once stopped, it took a while for the horse to get still, and by then the hogs were long gone. Third, one horse inevitably stopped later than the others creating a dangerous "down range" situation.

So, we took a snack and water break and then started practicing by shooting at a stump while at a full gallop. We never got consistent, but we got more accurate.

We flushed a couple more groups of hogs and actually killed a few on the run, finally making one out of five shots count. We figured that with a few more hunts, we would get better. However, we never went on another horseback hog hunt as reality set in.

After we loaded the horses, started discussing the day and the excitement wore off, we realized how incredibly dangerous the outing had been to man and horse. It was a miracle that a horse didn't fall or knock its rider off on a limb or even break a leg on the rough ground. The risk of shooting oneself or a companion under those conditions was very high.

No, it wasn't a reasonable activity for grown men to pursue, but damn it was fun! Had we been riding less sure footed and woods savvy horses, no doubt someone would have been seriously hurt. Looking back, I am not sure whether chasing hogs or watching our buddy's horse break into wild bucking with every shot was more entertaining.



"After all, Roy Rogers shot bad guys out of the saddle from his horse at a full run in the movies. How hard could it be?"





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KUPPANA KENEGEN An Unbeatable Day Trip

A COUPLE OF TRAVELERS

unni n.

BY SUSAN JONES AND JOHN NICHOLS

Too often, travelers forget about extraordinary attractions that are just down the road. We hope this series encourages readers to visit some nearby jewels.

ecently, the Two Travelers decided to head north to the unsung town of Kuttawa (Kuhta'-wah), Kentucky. Located a little over an hour north, we were lured by the name, the easy drive and yes, the alliteration. There is something wonderful in the way the words, "Kuttawa, Kentucky" sound, and happily, there is something wonderful about the town, itself, too.

nitriim W

Kuttawa is just off Exit 40 on I-24, which is also the location of Broadbent's Deli. Order a hearty Broadbent's sandwich and fixings for the ultimate picnic lunch. These folks have been making award-winning ham, sausage and bacon for 100 years, so while you're there, buy some to bring home.

The Two Travelers took Highway 62 into town and turned left on Hwy 295 North toward Old Kuttawa. Locals say "Old Kuttawa" the way Henry Countians say, "the Old 23rd." Much of the original town was flooded when Lake Barkley was built, but thankfully, some of the most beautiful portions remain.

While Lake Barkley, a reservoir on the Cumberland can be accessed from several locations, Sliver Cliffs Park has all of the amenities needed for an individual, a couple or a family to have a wonderful day. Playgrounds and restrooms, check. Swim beach and trails, check. Picnic tables and grills, check. Horseshoe pit and volleyball, check.

For those who don't want to deal with transporting their toys, Lakeside Rentals offers kayaks and paddle boards, and yes, they deliver. Kuttawa Harbor Marina (next to the park) rents ski and fishing boats. Bank fishing is also fun and makes for great photo ops. Word to the wise – don't forget your fishing license.

After our picnic lunch, we walked up Vista Ridge past the amphitheater to enjoy some fresh, woodsy air. Hammocks, a good book and binoculars are in our "travel pack," which is always loaded for adventure. One of us stretched out in his hammock in the tall, oak forest and pretended to read. I knew something was off when his book began to snore. The timing seemed perfect for the easy Anderson Trail to the overlook, so I headed out on the short hike to the vista.

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At the top, I was rewarded with a view of an imposing structure on the opposite bank. A few clicks on my phone convinced me that I was looking at Kentucky's maximum security prison at Eddyville. Known as the "Castle on the Cumberland," it is the state's oldest prison facility, having been completed in 1886. But the castle wasn't all that was in view.

The Two Travellers are bird nerds and big fans of the American White Pelican. It is snow-white, has a brilliant, orange bill, a wingspan of up to nine feet with black and white feathers under its wings. Imagine my surprise when, on a spit of land in front of the



prison, hundreds of these birds were being joined by hundreds more.

A big perk for birders is that Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area (LBL) is just across the water. Throughout the season, this overlook is the recipient of eagles, osprey, hawks,



pelicans, great blue herons and numerous songbirds that reside around LBL's undeveloped shorelines.

If kiddos are along, before leaving home check out the kid's pages on Audubon.org and various National Wildlife Refuge sites. It will help their experience and yours. Fill the late afternoon with exploring the woods and water with fun activities for children and remind them to observe Leave No Trace practices.

Ready for a delicious dinner? It's already in your sights at the kid-friendly Hu-B's Restaurant at Kuttawa Harbor. Sit indoors or out and enjoy summer at its finest with stunning views, colorful boats and Hu-Bs signature burger. The kids will love the turtles bobbing around the dock, and everyone will love the live music.

Cap off the day with an after-dinner stroll down Lake Barkley Drive to get a closer look at Kuttawa's handsome Victorian homes dating back to the late 1800s. Engage one of the neighbors, they know a lot of history.

The Two Travelers will be back to Kuttawa this season. We hope to see you there!





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UNLIKELY HEROES

t's been said that some people are born to greatness, but others have it thrust upon them. This is certainly true of those who generally have the wherewithal and means to do something. But how often does the ordinary person rise to the occasion to save a life or beat the odds to achieve something important?

If I were to mention the names Oskar Schindler, Audie Murphy, and Chesley Sullenberger, you would probably recognize them.

Schindler was the most unlikely hero of World War II. He was proclaimed "a truly righteous person" in the state of Israel for saving the lives of over 1,200 Jews from certain death at the hands of the Nazis.

Audie Murphy, born in an obscure community in northeast Texas, became the most decorated soldier of

BY BARRY HART

World War II. Murphy received every U.S. military combat award for valor available from the U.S. Army for his service and was also recognized by France and Belgium. The 150 residents of Kingston, Texas, hailed their favorite son a "true American hero."

Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger was dubbed the "hero of the Hudson" by 150 passengers and five crew members when he safely touched down his crippled aircraft in the Hudson River after a couple of Canadian geese took out his plane's engines.

One note to mention here is that movies were made to memorialize these three unlikely heroes: *Schindler's List* (1993), *To Hell and Back* (1955), and *Sully* (2016).

Most PARIS! Magazine readers will recognize the names of the three unlikely heroes mentioned in the outset of this article. But let me ask you this: Are you aware of the unlikely heroes we have here in Henry County?

While our community has its fair share of war heroes, nationally recognized athletes, and renown stage and film stars, I'm referring to our educators, medical personnel, and public safety professionals, like Inman Principal Jason Scarbrough, The Neighborhood Clinic Nurse Lacey Godbott, and Assistant Police Chief Ean Reed, who are on the frontlines every day of their lives, teaching, mending, and protecting our children.

Truck drivers, grocery clerks, and sanitation workers, like truck driver Sunny Vanderpool who drives for US Foods, Kroger grocery clerk Joe Clayton, and Paris Sanitation Department employee David Page, who are busy everyday delivering, selling, and pick-



LORI AND LARRY SMITH, Parisian Theatre Co-Owners

ing up what is left of the food items and everyday products we all purchase for use.

Other unlikely heroes include, but are not limited to, store clerks, service technicians, and public utility linesmen who spend their days advising homeowners and making repairs that keep the home front operating, like Wal-Mart clerk Amy Sandefer, AgTech service technician Bryan Bennett, and utility linesman Brian Horton.

Waiters and waitresses, cooks, and hostesses, like Blue's Landing waitress Emily Knott, Southside Cafe cook Sherrie Murphree, and Moustos' hostess Kristina Roberts, all stand ready to make sure that your dining experiences are as comfortable as they can be considering the circumstances.

In fact, every single person who lives in Paris and Henry County is an unlikely hero. Your individual contribution to our community - whether you are a loan officer at the bank, a convenience store manager, movie theatre owner, or pizza delivery person, like Regions Bank loan officer Ozzy McBroom, Patriot Express manager Josie Taylor, Larry and Lori Smith, Parisan Theatre co-owners, or Domino's delivery lady Teresa Gray - if you perform your job to the best of your ability and sprinkle in a little kindness along the way, then you have reached "hero status" in someone's mind.

This past year has been difficult for all of us. Some of us have managed to maintain a productive lifestyle considering wearing a mask, socially distancing, and constantly sanitizing everything within our reach.



JASON SCARBROUGH Inman School Principal

Some of us have not been so lucky. There are those who have been exposed to the COVID-19 virus. They have had to endure the "up your nose and out your eyeball" swab, and they have waited patiently for days to learn the results. At times, we have had to endure long waits in quarantine.

We have all been subjected to life-changing events. Some of us had to relearn the process of going to the grocery store to purchase food stock for at-home cooking and dining.

Some had to cancel planned family vacations due to the travel restrictions and find new ways of being entertained. Still others had to consider following newly mandated rules and regulations and have come away with a better understanding of how precious life is.

It is sometimes said that people are too insular and selfish. Perhaps to a certain degree, this is true in our ordinary lives. But when our backs are against the walls, we react without thought for our own safety, we set aside our own concerns to help someone else. That is what we do – we rally around those who need help.

Lastly, thanks to all who sent recommendations for your favorite "unlikely hero." There are many stories we could share and almost everyone reading this article has one that is personal. Don't be reluctant to share their story...but do so from six feet away!

Barry Hart is a retired minister and published author. He can be contacted by e-mail at hartbn@ charter.net.



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NO LINITS! SARAH CATE ORR

arah Cate Orr has found her calling. A senior at Henry County High School, she has organized the No Limits Livestock Show as a way to give the special education students of Henry County an opportunity they otherwise would not have: to exhibit small livestock at the Henry County Fair and to work with mentors who can help them in that endeavor and in life.

With that calling, she has helped so many others and in the process, became the youngest person to receive the Loyal Patriot Award, the highest honor that can be bestowed on a Henry Countian.

In presenting her with the award at the January County Commission meeting, County Mayor John Penn Ridgeway said, "We're living in special times and this is a special young lady. On behalf of the County Commission, I want to recognize her for thinking outside the box. There are great things in this lady's future."

Ridgeway noted that Sarah Cate did not let the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic deter her from continuing the program, even without a county fair this year. "She thought of ways she

BY SHANNON MCFARLIN

SPOTLIGHT

could get her message out. She raised money and went to every school to talk about the program," Ridgeway said.

That determination doesn't surprise her mother, Scarlet Orr. "The bottom line for Sarah Cate is that she finds joy in working with special education students and when she found her love of showing cattle, she wanted to take that love to the students that she cares for so much," Scarlet said.

Sarah Cate herself explained, "As an elementary school student, I often found myself in my aunt's special needs classroom when I had free time. I am sure I started going to her class because I was seeking comfort and familiarity, but I continued going to her class because I bonded with her students. When I struggled to find my place in other social circles, I found an environment of kindness and acceptance in that classroom."

Meanwhile, she had discovered a passion for showing livestock. "I love the challenge of training an animal much larger than me to perform. Showing cattle has given me a level of confidence that I never knew was inside of me. When I step inside the show ring and put on my game face, there is no limit to what I can do! That is how I came up with the name for our organization, No Limits Livestock Show."

Her mother noted Sarah Cate grew up in the small rural community of Jones Mill and "although she grew up around all kinds of animals on both sets of her grandparents' farms, she never owned her own until 2019. That is when she finally talked her father (Jamie Orr) and I into getting her a steer for the Henry County Fair."

Keeping her steer at Howd Farms, she worked closely with the Howd family and learned how to care for the steer and show him. "Soon after purchasing that steer, she had the opportunity to purchase a Hereford heifer from the Young Family in Springville. Sarah Cate soon had another mentor in Chance Young," Scarlet said.

In that process, showing cattle has taken Sarah Cate places and introduced her to people she never thought possible, Scarlet said. "She has been able to travel and show cattle all over the United States. She was able to chat with our governor and learn that he too has a daughter who shares her name (but spelled differently) and that the governor's daugh-







Sarah Cate Orr poses with Katie Harper and her No Limit 4-H calf.

ter also showed Hereford heifers."

Her experiences have "completely shaped who she is today and where she will be headed in the future," her mother said.

For Sarah Cate, No Limits has been a labor of love in the purest sense. She has spent many hours presenting the concept of the No Limits Livestock Show to teachers, school administrators, 4-H leaders and the county fair board.

No Limits became a reality and Sarah Cate said, "Although I went into this project thinking about what we could offer the special needs students, I am excited to see what the mentors will get out of this as well. If you have ever volunteered at a Special Olympics event, you know that, just like the other children, they thrive on the excitement and support they get from a cheering audience. To me, that is the whole point of this project, to show them that they are loved and supported by their community. Also, I want to show these students that they can do things that others can. I want them to feel like there is No Limit to what they can do!"

Even with the pandemic limiting the activities of No Limits this school year, that did not limit Sarah Cate's activities. In December 2020, she delivered 144 gifts to students in every special education classroom in both the Paris Special School District and Henry County Schools. The goody bags contained toys, books and activity packs on agriculture.

Receiving the Loyal Patriot Award and finding success with the No Limits program "has been incredibly humbling," Sarah Cate said, "and given me a new perspective on the community I live in. The amount of support that has poured out of people to help turn my dream into a reality has been a true blessing."

Sarah Cate has been accepted to Oklahoma State University for the fall of 2021. And what will happen to No Limits with her eight hours away at college? "Sarah Cate says she will still be very much involved in the planning of activities for No Limits and has some very excited and capable volunteers to take care of anything that she may not be able to be at in person," her mother said.





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PARIS! In The Spring 2021 13

AROUND OUR TOWN

HENRY COUNTY'S LAN & ORDER

COUNTY

BY KAREN GEARY

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MyParisMagazine.com

Sheriff Josh Frey and Police Chief Rick Watson "We 'grew up' in Henry County law enforcement."

his story is a tale of two longtime friends. Two friends who happen to be law enforcement officers. Two law enforcement officers who were recently appointed to new leadership positions — one elected, one selected.

CAREERS AND RELATIONSHIPS

In November 2020, Paris Police Lt. Josh Frey was elected to fill the vacancy left when Monte Belew stepped down after 14 years as Henry Country Sheriff. In January 2021, Capt. Ricky Watson was promoted to Paris Police Chief when Chuck Elizondo retired after 42 years with the force.

Both men began their law enforcement career in 1999 as patrol officers with the Paris Police Department. Over the years, they served together in the K-9 unit, investigations unit, and the Metro Crimes Unit. Before the election, Frey was patrol lieutenant for the department and Watson was appointed as the assistant police chief.

"I started with the Paris Police first and Ricky soon followed a couple of months later. We have had a great working relationship," said Frey of Watson. "Rick and I have worked together for 23 years. We have had several conversations and we share similar ideas and aspirations for our departments. I can only see that relationship flourishing in the future and that will be good for the community."

SHERIFF JOSH FREY

When asked about his few months on the job, Frey replied, "I love it! Sheriff Belew left me a great department. I am so fortunate to have a great group of men and women who are glad to be on the job and are ready to protect our community. I'm just humbled to be able to lead them on a daily basis."

"I told my deputies I believe in 'God, family, job.' On Monday morning at 8 am, we have a devotional for anyone who wants to attend. It helps keeps us grounded."

Recently, Frey was quarantined due to possible COVID-19 exposure. "I was working from home handling calls and emails, but I couldn't be out in the public. [Chief Deputy] Scott Wyrick was invaluable and he handled the office. And you know what? The department never missed a beat. That is a sign of a dedicated force. It's having the right people in the right place," said Frey.

Frey's immediate goal is to have four patrols per shift. "We can't stop crime completely but we can certainly slow it down by being visible. You just have to be proactive and diligent against crime." Ultimately, if reelected in two years, he would like to see five patrols covering the county.

The Sheriff's Department's outreach programs will continue and be improved upon. "We had the deer meat giveaway and gave away meat from 150 deer through our Deputies for the Hungry program. TWRA (Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency) is bringing us 50 or so deer and that meat will be processed and given to the Food Bank," said Frey. "We'll continue to have the garden and we'll be adding an animal control officer to handle the animal pick-up calls. That will free up our deputies and keep our cars from being damaged. And I can't say enough about (Sgt.) Michelle Brewer and her work with The Shed. We hope to add on to the building before long."

New endeavors involve teaming up with TWRA. "I talked with TWRA and we are going to be offering more hunter and boating safety courses. I have asked for volunteers to take the training and to lead the courses," said Frey.

"We're also going to do more with the Suicide Prevention Coalition. We were the first Sheriff's Department in Tennessee to car wrap one of our vehicles with their suicide prevention information. I can't take credit for that; the wrap was under Sheriff Belew's watch. But we will continue to assist the Coalition in any way we can."

Frey feels it is important to be visible in the community. "I still go out on calls. I still write up reports. I'm a working sheriff. I enjoy being in the public and meeting people," said Frey.



Sheriff Josh Frey sat down with PARIS! Magazine to answer a few questions about his job.

"I have an open door policy. Anyone who wants to sit down with me and discuss some matter, I'm here. I want the public to call us if they see something suspicious. I want them to tell us about their concerns, their likes, or what's on their minds."

CHIEF RICKY WATSON

Chief Ricky Watson's quiet, matter-of-fact demeanor shouldn't fool anyone. He has a lifetime of law enforcement experience that began in his youth. "I played softball with a guy who was a police officer. I looked up to him and the uniform that he wore. I really respected that. The older I got, it seemed like I read daily about crimes in the newspaper or heard about them, and I felt that police work was something I'd like to do. I wanted to help make my community a safer place for children to grow up in, including mine." Now he heads up his own police department of 26 officers and 10 dispatchers.

Watson began his career as a jailer and then became a patrol deputy at the Henry County Sheriff's Department before transferring to the Paris Police Department in 1999. "When I started, you either typed your reports up on an old typewriter in the back office or wrote it up on the side of the road in your car. Technology has really changed police work since those days."

Watson was one of three who developed the idea for the Metro Crime Unit. "In 2005, I worked drug investigations with Josh Frey and Scott Wyrick, who was a sheriff's deputy. We noticed that some of the same people were being arrested in both the city and county. We thought we should have a joint unit that would investigate these crimes together, so we met with then Chief Tommy Cooper and then newly elected Sheriff Monte Belew and discussed our proposal. They liked the idea, and the unit is still sustaining as a narcotics unit today."

"Josh and I 'grew up' in Henry County law enforcement. We think alike, do procedures alike, and that will be a positive factor in our departments," Watson said.

Paris may seem like a quiet little town, but it does have its crime. "80%



Police Chief Ricky Watson goes over some patorl reports with Lt. Mike Ramos.

of our crime is drug related. We have seen an uptick in the use of methamphetamine and even heroin. As marijuana became more legalized, the drug cartels had to switch to other drugs to make money. The same thing happened when there was a crackdown on the prescription drug Oxytocin and hydrocodone. The cartels just came up with substitutes."

Another crime is child abuse and child neglect. "It's really sad some of the cases we see. Some of the abuse these children experience, no child should ever go through. It's terrible," said Watson. "In many cases, that abuse has been going on for years. We just have to find those kids and get them out of those situations."

One of the most prevalent day-today crime in Paris is shoplifting. "It's amazing that somebody will knock people down, running out of the door, for five dollars of merchandise."

It isn't all "bad guys" for Watson. "I really like dealing with people and helping them. It is satisfying when someone thanks us for what we do. If someone goes out of their way to express their gratitude, it's special."

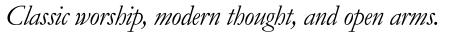
Watson began his tenure by making several promotions within his department. He selected Ean Reed, with 21-years of experience, as his assistant police chief. Other officers to receive promotions were Lt. Greg Underwood, Lt. Eric Long, Lt. Jeramye Whitaker, Sgt. Amber Roaten, and Sgt. Investigator Jeff Smith. They total 99 years of policing experience.

One program the chief would like to start is college internships. "It's getting harder to find good recruits because of the bad image police officers often receive in the media. I'd like to get them familiar with dispatch, get them in the station and out in the community."

THE TALE CONTINUES

The interviews for this story were done separately. When Frey learned that Watson had yet to be interviewed, he joked, "Tell him I'm the one who talks more." When Watson heard the message, he replied, "Yeah, but I'm better looking."

Sheriff Josh Frey and Chief Ricky Watson – yes, two crime-fighting friends.



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FEATURE

There's No Place Like Home

JOHN PENN RIDGEWAY

oremost, County Mayor John Penn Ridgeway wants everyone to know this: "I'm tickled pink to be back home. I look out my window on our courthouse square and know that Henry County is the best place on earth to be."

After being sworn in on the courthouse steps in November, Ridgeway has been working full steam ahead. When asked how he likes his new job so far, he replied, "It's been going good...a bit of a blur, but going good. The county is in great shape compared to other counties. We're in good financial shape, too. Tourism has been hurt by COVID, but our sales tax dollars have been good, regardless. We have businesses and industries looking to expand."

Ridgeway had originally planned on running for the mayoral position in

BY KAREN GEARY

2022, but when former mayor Brent Greer announced his retirement in July, Ridgeway's timetable was moved up. "I prayed about it, asked my wife, Melissa, and family how they felt about it, and I considered other factors, but we decided the time was right to run for office."

Before the election, Ridgeway worked 13 years for Tennessee College of Applied Technology-McKenzie, overseeing budgets and staff, and working with area industries with their workforce needs. He also had previous work experience with the Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development and developing tourism with the Tennessee River Trails Association.

Ridgeway praised his predecessor, Brent Greer. "Brent left the office in fine working order. I have a great staff, and I want to build on his successes and more."

His main short-term goal is to steer Henry County through the COVID crisis. "You know, there's not much we can plan until we can clear this COVID crisis, but it can't stop us either. We are working with the state and national officials to secure the vaccine to get shots in arms. It hasn't been easy, but I can't praise our hospital and health department enough on their outstanding efforts to get people vaccinated."

Another immediate plan is to apply for the federal BUILD (Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development) grant for the widening project of Highway 641. "This is our best option to get the project completed," said Ridgeway.

He is also working with Rob Goad, executive director of the Paris-Henry

County Industrial Committee, to develop a workforce ethics program for young people.

"The program is aimed at teens as young as middle school on what is expected of new employees. It will emphasize careers with college degrees and careers through vocational training. We need to develop a good future workforce here in the county and retain it."

This program will also coordinate with other counties for a regional workforce. "For 20 years, I've seen the need to develop a skilled workforce to attract more businesses to Henry County and surrounding counties," said Ridgeway. "I'd like to see a Henry County Workforce Board begin here."

Traveling to our area is also on Ridgeway's mind. "Bob Nolan has moved from Veteran's Services and has taken the management position at the Henry County Airport. He has some great ideas for expanding service here," he said.

Another goal is for the county to retain and continue to grow the Henry County Medical Center as a regional facility. "We need to be proud of our hospital staff and administration. They're top-notch, especially during this pandemic."

"Our school system is top-rated and the best in the area," said Ridgeway. "We need to continue to expand the programs and building spaces." He pointed out the new football turf being installed at Henry County High School. "There's been controversy over the field's plans, but in the long run, we will have the best high school field in the area. It will be a great improvement."

He would also like to see an expansion of programs at the vocational school and more advanced equipment in place. "It's important for students to train on state-of-the-art equipment that's in factories now."

As Ridgeway talked about the future of Henry County, his excitement was evident. "We have great things going on in Henry County. Great people living here. It just doesn't get any better than this," he said smiling as he looked out his office window.



"Was this in the job description?" Mayor John Penn Ridgeway helps clear ice and snow for the courthouse steps.

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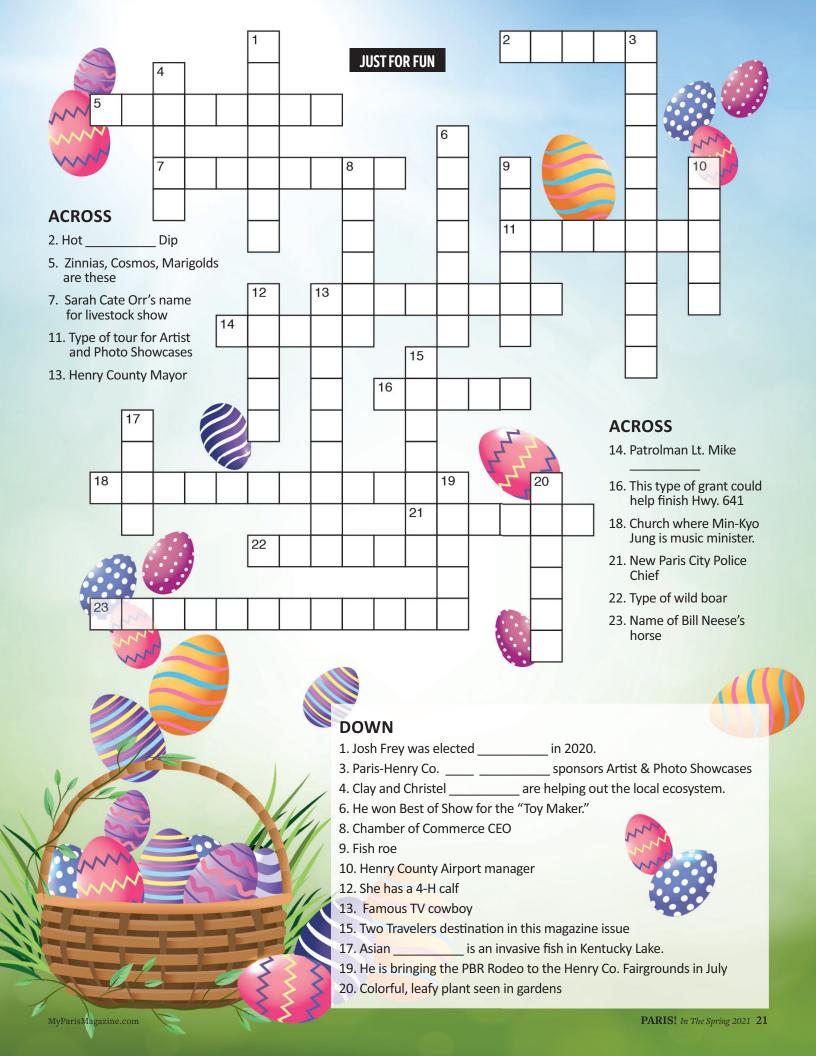
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BEST OF SHODSOS Artist Showcase and Photo Showcase

"Toy Maker" by Dan Knowles was Best of Show at the 2018 Artist Showcase.

pring is in the air and in Henry County that brings art into the spotlight. Two annual events return this spring: Artist Showcase and Photo Showcase, both sponsored by the Paris Henry County Arts Council. Although the showcases will basically be the same as in past years, the pandemic has brought about some changes.

Both exhibits are open to the public at the W. G. Rhea Public Library during regular library hours, and the public must follow the library guidelines regarding health safety during COVID.

The 35th Artist Showcase will run from March 27 through April 24, but due to COVID restrictions, no public reception or awards ceremony will be scheduled on the opening day of the event. So, what can you expect to see when you visit? Exhibits of some of the finest artwork from Henry County and

BY MARY ANN CLAXTON

surrounding area artists on display!

"This is an opportunity for the artists in the area to come together in a show that lets the community experience a wide variety of media and techniques," said Karen Sinn, President of the Paris Henry County Arts Council. "Past shows have seen creations of exceptional beauty and we expect to see more of that talent in this year's showcase."

Artist Showcase entries are divided into separate categories: ceramics, drawing, fiber, mixed media, painting, and sculpture. Winners will be announced in the media after judging is finished and photographers notified.

Artists may submit three pieces to the Showcase and there is a fee of \$10 for each item. Rules and entry forms are available on the Arts Council's website, www.phcarts.com, under the Events tab. Following the Artist Showcase will be the 29th Annual Captured Moments: A Photo Showcase sponsored by the Arts Council and Dr. and Mrs. Danny Kimberlin. The show opens to the public on Monday, May 3, during regular library hours and closes Friday, May 28.

"In 1992, Arts Council executive director Randy Bucy approached me about sponsoring a Photography Showcase that would be produced by the Council," said Dr. Kimberlin. "This show would be a partner to the Artist's Showcase which had been a popular Arts Council event for years."

"With the advent of the digital age, which made photography available to nearly everyone, not just pros, it seemed like an idea whose time had come. I was excited about a venue for local photographers to exhibit their work and agreed to sponsor the show. In March 1993, the first Photo Showcase opened to 15 photographers who entered 52 photos that were judged in several categories. In 2013, the 21st Showcase opened to a record 62 photographers who displayed a record 182 photographs."

This year's show will include nine categories: altered images, architectural, beginner, black and white, Downtown Paris, mobile photos, natural world, people, and wildlife & animals. Photography by children will have their own separate category.

To register photos or find rules for entry, visit www.phcarts.com under the Events tab.

"I encourage everyone who enjoys photography to participate in our annual event. The varied categories offer many choices for image submissions and all are welcome," said Martha Jo Kimberlin, sponsor and Arts Council board member. Winners will be notified after judging and names released to the media after opening day.

In addition to the displays being open to the public at the library, there will also be virtual exhibit tours for both shows. Produced by Sam Hutson and Crove Media, the virtual tours will open the exhibits to the homebound, viewers outside Henry County, and to those not venturing into public places due to COVID.

The tours will be linked to the Arts Council's website and Facebook page after the opening of the show. Additional links will be announced before the show's opening.

"We feel the virtual tours will enhance our Showcases and expand our audiences," said Sinn. "We will become a part of a national movement to bring the arts into people's home for free during this pandemic."

Art speaks to each of us differently, a product of our lives and experiences. Artists express their personal experiences through various media. But what the viewer takes away from these personal insights enriches their own background and knowledge, and they come away uniquely inspired.

The inspiring messages exhibited in these two shows will bring beautiful expressions of hope in the midst of a world of uncertainty.



Danny and Martha Jo Kimberlin, sponsors of 2020 Captured Moments: A Photography Showcase, present Emilie Johnson with her best of show ribbon and certificate. This year's exhibit will open to the public on Monday, May 3, at the W.G. Rhea Library.



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24 PARIS! In The Spring 2021

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OUR NEIGHBORS

MIN-KYO JUNG'S Musical Ministry



musician's ministry is a unique one. While it may not teach the same lessons as the pastor's sermon, those who have grown up in church cannot imagine Sunday mornings without the melodic sounds of talented individuals enhancing the worship service.

Paris

My father is one of those talented musicians who often shares his talent. I did not inherit my father's gift for the ivories, but instead found a love for singing. When our little family moved back to Paris, my wife and I were invited to join the choir of First Presbyterian Church. It was there we met Min-Kyo Jung.

Min welcomed us with open arms and lots of patience, as we were two young folks without much training or practice. We found Min to have a love

BY DREW WHEATLEY

of his form of ministry. With his experience, natural talent and extensive education, he not only guides a few willing Presbyterians from a frozen state into that of a healthy choir, he creates a choral group in which we are proud.

Recording a podcast episode usually feels a lot like a conversation over a cup of coffee. The microphone is quickly forgotten as we ask questions we've always pondered. Recording a podcast episode with a musician, however, turned out to be a private concert with all of the benefits of a normal interview, as well.

Susan Jones and I had the pleasure of sitting with Min and discovering how and why he traveled from South Korea to Paris, Tennessee, and Murray, Kentucky. He was kind enough to explain his thoughts on ministry and of his adoptive home. While we always expect to go over our estimated recording time, it is a different experience to get lost in a hymn, singing along as your interviewee focuses on his favorite piece of music as an expression of the art to which he dedicates his life. Those who follow the link and listen to this recording, will be glad that we omitted a few questions to make additional time for Min's music.

If you enjoy the hymns as much as the message on Sunday morning or want to hear the story of a gentleman willing to move halfway around the world for his love of music, I invite you to meet Min-Kyo Jung.

This new episode featuring Min and his music is available at susanjonespr. com/podcast.

FACES & PLACES



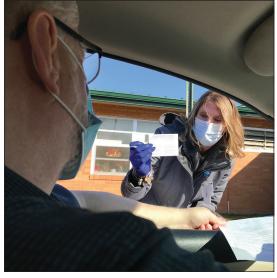
Corporal Dalton Watson with the Henry County Sheriff's Office gets goodbye kisses from his daughter, Lydia, as he was heading off to work.



Paris City workers Marcus Russell (standing) and Malcolm Long enjoy the lunch provided by the Chamber of Commerce as a thank you for their hard work.



Mary Catherine Lowe delivers her special love Charcuterie board boxes for Valentine's Day.



Henry County Medical Center's Human Resources Director Rachel Carroll explains the COVID vaccine card to Joe Geary on the first day of vaccinations in Henry County.



Recently celebrating her first birthday, this cutie, Rayleigh Clanton, daughter of Cody and Kendra Clanton, got all dressed up and had a big birthday bash!



Brinley DeLeon, daughter of Melissa DeLeon and Jacob Fitzgerald Sr., is all ready for her first ballet class at the Sandra Kailey Dance Studio.



Seth Bucy captured this beautiful photo of his two friends, Erin Ruggles and Kaitlyn Kollmann, as they were all kayaking on Kentucky Lake at sunrise.

26 PARIS! In The Spring 2021



This cuddly puppy, named Bingo, is so lucky to have found a new home and best friend, Remi Patterson, to play with.



Professional bull rider Cody Nance talks with area reporters during a press conference at the PHC Chamber. He is bringing a PBR sanctioned event to the Henry County Fairground, July 2-3. Seated next to him is his wife, Korie.



Mike Wilson can't live without his gals while at Bloom Boutique's Galentine's Day sale. Left to right, Donna Craig, Randi French, Mike and his wife, Cheryl.



What a cute little guy! Lennox Murnane, son of Caleb and Abbey Murnane, recently turned one year old.



Congratulations to Bobby and Patricia McElroy who recently celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.



Paris City Policeman Jordan Klutts checks on a motorist who had slid off the road during the recent snowfall that crippled traffic and shut down businesses. More snow photos can be seen on page 29.



PARIS! in the SPRING No better time of the year!

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CHANGE YOUR BLOOKERS

h, Spring. What a welcome thought! After brutal snowstorms and frigid temperatures, you are truly a sight for sore eyes.

If you're like me, you're more than ready to get out and play in the dirt again. Well, most of us anyway. I've noticed that more and more people proclaim that their attempts and successes at gardening are mediocre at best and sometimes downright failures.

All this talk about having a "brown" or "black" thumb is troubling and has gotten me to thinking that it may not be the person, but the plant selection that is causing the problem. So all of you self-proclaimed "black-thumbers"

BY JOHN WATKINS

out there take solace, roll those sleeves back up, and give a few of the following flowers a try. They may not be completely foolproof, but they're about as close as you can get without going the plastic route (and please, if you're even thinking about this, give me a call and let me talk you off that ledge!).

Let's focus today with some easy to grow annuals. Now when we're talking annuals, these are the plants that perform their entire life cycle from seed to flower to seed within a single growing season. All roots, stems and leaves of the plant die annually, and yes, that means you have to replant them every year or hope that some of the seeds will form new plants. The good part of this equation is that since they only live one year they generally put on a brilliant show with the frequency and abundance of their flowers.

Whether you're starting from seed or from purchased plants, the following flowers are some of my favorites for their ease to grow and their carefree maintenance once established.

There's a reason Zinnias have been, and remain, one of most recognizable flowers in the garden. Zinnias come in almost every imaginable color except blue with heights that can vary between six inches to almost five or six feet. The actual flower shape can also vary from daisy to spider to pom poms. They do need a sunny spot



Versatile Coleus is well-suited for container gardens and puts on a showy display. The plant comes in many color combinations.

PUZZL	ACROSS 2. PIZZA 5. BLOOMERS 7. NO LIMITS 11. VIRTUAL 13. RIDGEWAY 14. RAMOS 16. BUILD 18. PRESBYTERIAN 21. WATSON 22. RUSSIAN 23. CHARLIE HORSE
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UZZLE ON PAGE 21	19. NANCE 20. COLEUS

and good air circulation, but other than that, just sit back and enjoy the butterflies and hummingbirds that they're guaranteed to attract.

Marigolds are another staple of the flower garden that are similar to the zinnia regarding the varying colors, heights and flower types. They are also great for mixing in with vegetables because of their ability to repel some garden pests, not to mention the fact that they attract numerous pollinators.

Cosmos is a great annual that is often used extensively in wildflower mixes because it tolerates heat and humidity and the fact that it seems to thrive in even poor soils. As a matter of fact, you may often see them growing along roadsides in full sun with no fertilizer or regular irrigation. How's that for easy?

Gaillardia, or Blanket Flower, is in the same family as the sunflower and actually looks like a miniature, but more colorful cousin. They are both drought tolerant and wonderfully colorful with profuse, long-lasting, mounds of bright daisy-like flowers on top of attractive gray-green foliage.

One of my new favorites is a plant by the name of Angelonia. Just the name is enough to give it a try. This snapdragon look-alike has the appearance of a delicate, finicky plant but don't let that fool you. It will bloom nonstop from late spring through fall and add colorful splashes of purple, blue, pink, red, coral, or white while being a magnet for hummingbirds, butterflies and other pollinators.

Ok, so you don't have an area that receives an abundance of full sun. Not to fear, because Impatiens and Begonias can survive and thrive in limited sunlight and provide a colorful oasis in an otherwise bland shady area.

Impatiens are the classical shade garden annual because of their bloom power and wide variety of colors. While they do prefer light to medium shade, they can tolerate a surprising amount of sunlight if you're willing to do a little extra watering.

Begonias are again becoming more and more popular because of their adaptability and the number of varieties being produced. Relatively speaking, begonias are not picky plants and can grow as well indoors as they can outside under a shade tree. With varieties like Dragon Wing (or Angel Wing), Wax Begonia, or the BIG series, there is a size and style for everyone.

And last, but certainly not least, let's not forget Coleus. You know, not all showy plants have to rely on flowers. The stunning leaf colors can border on the wild side with combinations of shades ranging from green, yellow, pink, red, rust, and maroon. And talk about versatility. Coleus can be used as bedding plant, an accent plant, or as the centerpiece of a container. It is also extremely easy to propagate by rooting cuttings in water or potting soil, so you can always save a plant from the winter and have new ones to share or plant next year.

I know, I've probably left out someone's favorite "easy-grow" flower here, but this short list will have you going from "black-thumb" to "green-thumb" in no time. Who knows, you may be so successful that you're elevated to the coveted "chartreuse-thumb"!

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

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THE PLATE HALF FULL

BY TRAVIS MCLEESE | CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, CEO

o some, the pictures attached to this article may seem like simple commerce: bins of product, trucks transporting commodities to a variety of destinations across the country, meats that can turn into a decadent meal or an appealing appetizer. But our friends Clay and Christel Young at North American Caviar are doing so much more than commerce. To them, it's a mission. Not a mission to make a healthy bottom line, but a focused effort to help our local ecosystem.

ABOUT THE BUSINESS

North American Caviar, Inc. (NAC) is a multigenerational family-owned business located in Paris, Tennessee. NAC is a licensed wholesale fish and roe dealer in Tennessee, Kentucky, and Arkansas. They buy paddlefish and hackleback sturgeon when in season and process the roe in their HACCP facility. In addition to caviar, NAC buys catfish, buffalo and the invasive species Asian carp.

Kenneth Linsman, founder, began working in the fish industry over 50

years ago. In the 1970's, Ken worked with his uncle, Frank Hart, the original owner of Hart's Fish Market in Henry County. Together, they built a successful business that sold several million pounds of fish per year.

After many years of buying and selling fish and caviar, Ken formed North American Caviar in 1996 and moved the business from Memphis to Henry County in 2000.

Today, North American Caviar, Inc. still operates under the same business model and philosophy that it did in the beginning. Ken's daughter Christel Linsman Young and son-in-law, Clay Young, operate and oversee the daily operations of the business.

Clay is a commercial fisherman with 25 years of experience. He grew up fishing the Mississippi River in Memphis and he has fished countless lakes and rivers across Tennessee, Mississippi, Arkansas, Kentucky, and Illinois over the years. Clay manages all fish and caviar purchasing for NAC as well as commercial fishing for products NAC sells. Christel has 25 years of experience in office management from the financial services industry where she retired from in 2018.

THE WAR ON ASIAN CARP

In 2018, NAC shifted their resources toward the invasive species, Asian carp, that has become quite the nuisance in Kentucky Lake. With razor thin margins and an undeveloped commercial market, the company had an uphill battle from day one.

NAC met with a sustainable seafood company in California to discuss a business venture for Asian carp. By May of that year, they began processing Asian carp boneless fillet strips for them exclusively. This distributor committed to buying ten thousand pounds of fillet meat a year with plans to grow.

They also began selling Asian carp fish, directly from the fishermen, to a small business in Kentucky that processed five to ten thousand pounds a week. Together these partnerships helped to average buying 35,000 to 45,000 pounds a month of Asian carp from the Kentucky and Barkley Lakes.

Due to their efforts, they have created a market, within their business, for human consumption of Asian carp. They are working tirelessly to help find solutions and a market for the Asian carp species while working with our local Henry County government, our state government, and Tennessee Wildlife Resource Agency.

COVID IMPACT

NAC began 2020 purchasing over 188,000 pounds of Asian carp in January. That momentum stayed strong until mid-February when a few unforeseen things happened in the marketplace. In March, our country was rapidly shutting down due to COVID-19 and the wholesale orders for Asian carp, buffalo fish, catfish, and caviar came to a stop by the middle of March.

On June 8, 2020, NAC was able to reopen at 50%, to begin buying Asian carp and catfish again.

By late July they were able to buy 83,000 pounds of Asian carp and sell "Asian carp bait" orders to lobster fishermen. That number has steadily increased. They purchased 95,000 pounds in August, 183,000 pounds in September and 224,814 pounds in October and maintained those numbers through year's end as a result of the seafood and bait industry reopening.

HATS OFF

Personally, I want to note the effort and vision of Paris Mayor Carlton Gerrell, who has been an advocate of North American Caviar and their



mission since they took on the battle against Asian carp. His efforts have raised awareness to state and federal elected officials, as well as spurred unique investments to help with the work being accomplished.

Are looking to try Asian carp? Stop by Lakeway IGA or Cash Savers or reach out to our friends at North American Caviar.



North American Caviar Asian carp: From lake to table



PARIS CUISINE

ant a quick and simple snack? Try our new take on a couple of dip recipes. The loaded baked potato dip is ooey-gooey goodness on it's own, but I'd never thought of pairing it with hot waffle fries until a friend of mine served it that way. It's delicious! Then there's our hot pizza dip. So simple to whip up and pairs great with tortilla chips or change it up and dip breadsticks. Either way, you won't be disappointed.

HOT PIZZA DIP

INGREDIENTS

- 1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened
- 1 teaspoon Italian seasoning
- 1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese
- ³⁄₄ cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 can (8 ounces) pizza sauce
- 2 tablespoons chopped green pepper
- 2 tablespoons thinly sliced green onion
- Breadsticks or tortilla chips

DIRECTIONS

• In a bowl, beat cream cheese and Italian seasoning. Spread in an ungreased 9-in. microwave-safe pie plate.

• Combine mozzarella and Parmesan cheeses; sprinkle half over the cream cheese. Top with the pizza sauce, remaining cheese mixture, green pepper and onion.

• Microwave, uncovered, on high for 2-3 minutes or until cheese is almost melted, rotating a half-turn several times. Let stand for 1-2 minutes. Serve with breadsticks or tortilla chips.



LOADED BAKED POTATO DIP

INGREDIENTS

- 2 cups reduced-fat sour cream
- 2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
- 8 center-cut bacon, chopped and cooked
- ¼ cup minced fresh chives
- 2 teaspoons Louisiana-style hot sauce
- Hot cooked waffle-cut fries

DIRECTIONS

In a small bowl, mix the first five ingredients until blended; refrigerate until serving. Serve with waffle fries.





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THURSDAY, APRIL 22

 ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW
 5-8:30 pm
 Fairgrounds

 FISH TENT
 Sponsor: Holley Credit Union
 5-9 pm
 Fairgrounds

 CARNIVAL KISSELL
 5-11 pm
 Fairgrounds



FRIDAY, APRIL 23





SATURDAY, APRIL 24

,		
SMALL FRY PARADE	10 am	Downtown
ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW	10 am - 8:30	pm . Fairgrounds
JUNIOR FISHING RODEO		
Free for children up to 12 yrs old .	11 am - 1 pm	Williams Lake
CARNIVAL KISSELL	11 am - midnight	: Fairgrounds
FISH TENT Sponsor: Holley Credit Union	11 am - 9 pm	Fairgrounds
CHAMPIONSHIP BULLS & BARRELS S	HOWDOWN	
with PARSONS & MILAM CONTRACTOR	R 7:30 pm	Fairgrounds
SUNDAY, APRIL 25		

SATURDAY, APRIL 17





MONDAY, APRIL 19

KICK-OFF STREET DANCE Sponsor: Westfalia Farms 7-9 pm Downtown (Fairground pavilion if raining)

TUESDAY, APRIL 20





WEDNESDAY, APRIL 21

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CHRISTIAN CONCERT (\$5)	7-8:45 pm	Fairgrounds
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