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Editor's Notes

As much as I love winter, it's hard to argue with sunny daffodils, pink dogwoods and my all time favorite, redbuds. Nature aside, this spring I'm looking forward to two big April events:

On April 18, Cherry Jones (a.k.a. President Allison Taylor of "24") takes part in four back-to-back-fundraisers: Photo Op, "24" Memorabilia Auction, Town Hall Meeting and After Party (sold out). 100% of the proceeds go to non-profit organizations. If you haven't already gotten your tickets for the Town Hall Meeting and Photo Op, they're available at Jack Jones Flowers and Gifts on the square, but they're going fast. Check out www.MyParisMagazine.com for more information or call 731-644-9926.

After the "24" weekend, the World's Biggest Fish Fry takes center stage with all of the frivolity befitting this strange fish who is as much fun to look at as he



is to eat. I've put together my list of favorite Fish Fry activities in chronological order:

1. Serving fish at the Fish Tent with the Downtown Paris Association. We get to meet people from all over the country. It's amazing how far folks will travel for a good plate of fish.

2. Calling the Grand Parade on WTPR (710 AM) with my pal Gaines Hedges. With our band of merry helpers, we provide fun commentary of the fiction and non-fiction variety.

3. Taking pictures at the Small Fry Parade. I don't even have any children in this parade, but those little ones and their intricate floats are hard to resist.

4. Racing a fish (mine or anyone else's) at the Catfish Races sponsored by the Paris Post-Intelligencer. See related story on page 32 and listen to an enlightening interview with Bill Williams and Sue Quinn on MyParisMagazine.com.

5. Eating at the Bobby Cox Memorial Fish Tent. OK, it's not really a tent anymore, but the ambiance is the same: friends and neighbors eating and visiting, hundreds of great posters from the elementary school children, picnic tables galore and delicious fish with all the trimmings.

6. Photographing the carnival at night. I get motion sick, so the next best thing is taking photos of other people having fun going up and down, round and round.

Yes, the rodeo, country dance, mule pull and other events are fun too, but these six are the ones I never miss. In between all the fun, don't forget to relax, stretch out on the hammock and enjoy this issue of PARIS! It's almost as much fun as racing a catfish.

Susan Jones

visit www.MyParisMagazine.com

On the Cover



Photographer Jean Owens found this beautiful field of daffodils on Elkhorn Road. Owens frequently contributes to the Snap It! photo contest on MyParisMagazine.com.

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PARIS!

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Feb 19: Our local catfish landmark, located on the corner of Tyson & Mineral Wells Aves. Photo submitted February 18 by Karen Geary.

The rising sun enhances reflections on the surface of the lake on Volunteer Drive near the elementary school in Paris. Photo by Mike Wilson, Jan. 9.

January's First Place!



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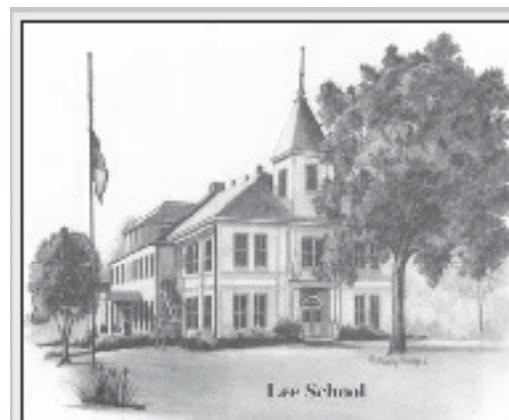


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NET GAINS for GenerationNet

By Dr. Norma Gerrell



It's difficult to find a youngster without an electronic device of some kind in his or her possession. From cell phones to mp3 players, kids today stay "wired." Throw in the opposite sex (especially during the middle school years) and it gets even harder to gain students' attention. Enter Danny Veazey's seventh grade all-male literature class at Inman Middle School where you'll find something completely different: 20 boys with books in their hands. Not only are they reading, they are enjoying it.

Why single-gender?

About 10 years ago, IMS chose to determine if there was a significant difference in comprehension and test scores when students were placed in single gender classes.

A number of questions had to be answered to determine the ef-

fectiveness of the single gender concept:

- When the opposite gender is eliminated from the classroom setting, does it allow for greater comprehension and retention?
- Is it possible to create a learning environment in which all students will feel comfortable freely expressing themselves?
- Does the presence of the opposite gender really inhibit the challenging mind from expressing their inward feelings and emotions, particularly as a young adolescent?
- Can we find even more "common ground" among the same gender in these classroom settings?
- Can we better understand each other and have the freedom to discuss these issues with one another in an academically-based setting?

After all of these questions were answered, single-gender literature

classes became the norm. From one class, the idea blossomed into 10 classes.

Finding a connection

Veazey's approach is to find reading material that inspired him as a youngster. "I have found that we are able to read novels that are specifically gender-related and find a connection with ourselves and the characters in that novel. My ultimate goal for them is to read because they want to and enjoy doing it — to find themselves within a book and become absorbed in it."

They read aloud in partners, small groups and silently. Sometimes you'll find the teacher reading aloud to the class as students follow along in their books. There is an emphasis on vocabulary, plot, characterization, and comprehension.

Jan Anderson's
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Veazey explained that when a young man tells him “that’s not how I pictured the character when we read the book “ as opposed to the character in the movie version of the book — then he knows that individual was totally immersed in that character and found much within that book to cause him to want read on. His knowledge of the book increased, vocabulary increased, as well as comprehension levels.

Project-based learning

Most NetGen learners prefer to learn by doing rather by being told what to do. Experts do not yet know if this preference is fostered by ever-present video games. However, NetGen students learn well through discovery—by exploring for themselves or with their peers. This exploratory style enables them to better retain information and use it in creative, meaningful ways. Thus “project-based learning with text” is an important approach.

A recent project by Veazey’s seventh grade literature class was a real standout. It involved the novel *My Side of the Mountain*, in which Sam Gribley runs away from his home in New York City. He leaves with only a penknife, a ball of cord, an axe, \$40, and a flint and steel set. Veazey’s 12 and 13-year old boys created a survival plan for living on their own and made tools from commonplace materials. They created a display for the school that depicted their vision of Gribley’s living quarters. After seeing the displays, other students commented that they too wanted to read the book.



What's on your list?

IMS teachers have formulated a list of novels that students will read during their literature classes each year. The goal is to have every student reading one novel per six weeks, at least 18 novels during their middle school years. The classics such as *Tom Sawyer*, *My Side of the Mountain*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *The Giver*, and *The Outsiders* hold a place in our hearts and are able to link generations with a common experience. Take the lead from these youngsters: create your own list and go wireless with a good book.



Dr. Norma Gerrell is the Supervisor of Instruction for the Paris Special School District. Visit the "Contact Us" section of MyParisMagazine.com to email her. Gerrell shares the School of Thought department with Dawn Poole, Service Learning Coordinator for the Henry County School System.

Inman Middle School students enjoy reading and project-based learning in Mr. Veazey's seventh grade all-male class.



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A New Beginning

By John Watkins

Ah! Spring at last: and the chance to get some of that good West Tennessee soil under my nails. If you're looking to add something new or unique to your landscape this year, then this article is for you. Below you will find some of the more outstanding plant introductions from recent years and a couple of introductions for 2009. It's always fun to try something fresh in the landscape and there's just something about that new plant smell, don't you think?

Perennials

Below are several noteworthy perennials that offer a welcome splash of color in almost anyone's garden.

- The first candidate was the perennial plant of the year for 2008. Geranium 'Rozanne' is a crane's bill-type geranium with beautiful, violet-blue, 2 1/2" saucer-shaped flowers that bloom from late spring until the first frost. It also shows great heat tolerance and is fairly deer-resistant, as well.
- The perennial plant of the year award winner for 2009 falls into one of my favorite categories of plants - ornamental grasses. Ha-

konechloa macra 'Aureola', while hard to pronounce, is a breeze to grow in a sunny to partial shade location. Individual blades are 1/2" wide and have a bright yellow color with very thin green stripes. The plant grows from 12-18" tall and 18-24" wide, which allows it to fit into even small gardens. Its versatility allows it to be used in a number of different ways: ground cover, a specimen plant, in mass plantings or as a showpiece in containers.

- I have to throw in at least one great new shade perennial, as it seems almost every garden has an area where sun-loving plants just won't cut it. Hosta 'Empress Wu' is not a plant for the meek or subdued gardener. This bold hosta has dark green, deeply veined, thick leaves that can reach 1 1/2 feet wide and long. The overall plant size can reach 3-4 feet in height and cover a 4-5 foot spread. Talk about a conversation piece. I'm not sure who this 'Empress Wu' gal was, but she must have been larger than life.

Shrubs

While some might claim that there's nothing new under the sun

in the shrub department, there are some fresh varieties that show vast improvements over their humble forefathers.

- A case in point would be the new line of hydrangeas called ‘Forever and Ever’. Actually released in 2005, new varieties and colors are being released yearly. What makes this cultivar such an improvement is its ability to flower on old and new wood. This means a profusion of blooms season-long rather than all at once. Plus pruning can be done at any time during the season without compromising next year’s blooms. While most flower colors range from either pink or blue and are dependent on soil pH, the newer varieties can reliably have true white or red characteristics.

- Another addition to a traditional family of plants is the ‘Knockout’ Rose and it truly lives up to its name. Being one of the most disease-resistant roses on the market means they are remarkably easy to grow and require little maintenance. My kind of plant! They flower their little heads off from early spring until freezing temperatures come around. They are “self-cleaning” (no need to dead-

head), very heat tolerant and can be pruned easily to fit into almost any sunny area.

Trees

New varieties of small ornamental trees often don’t get the fanfare that their perennial flower and shrub counterparts receive. However, there are some wonderful additions to this category as well.

- ‘Burgundy Hearts’ Redbud is a cultivar of redbud that has a vase-shaped habit and grows 20 to 25’ tall by 30 to 35’ wide at maturity. It has lovely lavender-pink flowers in the spring, but its truly outstanding features are the lush, deep red to purple, heart-shaped leaves that keep their color all season long.

- The small, moderately slow-growing ornamental tree, ‘Golden Raindrops’ Crabapple has a number of great characteristics worth noting. Spring brings a profusion of small white flowers, which is only rivaled by the abundance of distinctive golden-yellow fruit that persists well into autumn. The foliage is unique in its own right. Finely divided and deep green, the leaves give the tree a delicate appearance. It also shows great resistance to diseases that are commonly associated with other crabapples.



I could continue on with this list indefinitely, and I’m sure someone’s favorite new plant did not make the list. But in true advertising form look for more NEW and IMPROVED varieties, same time, same section, 2010.



John Watkins is a landscape designer and Certified Grounds Manager who resides in Henry County. Email him via MyParisMagazine.

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Spring Colds, Flu and Antibiotics...

Healthy Ideas

OH MY!!

By Pat Terrell, RN

It makes sense that spring should be the time when the cold and flu season begins to wane, but traditionally symptoms abound until the end of May. This is caused in part by people spending more time in close proximity with others. But how can you tell if your problem is a cold, the flu or something more?

No quick fix

According to one local physician, many people jump right to antibiotics as a cure. "I very much agree with other physicians that antibiotics are over-prescribed," said Dr. Stephanie Dunagan of Paris. "Antibiotic resistance is growing, mainly due to pressure from patients for a quick fix." Recent thinking bears out Dr. Dunagan's concern. It seems that only a minority of sinus infections are bacterial and will respond to antibiotics, while the majority are viral in nature and will not respond to such treatment.

Do the numbers

Statistics show that sinus problems account for 25 million doctor visits in the United States each year. Antibiotics are used to treat sinus infections 85 to 95

percent of the time. Overuse of antibiotics not only won't help a patient with a viral infection, it will contribute to the growing problem of antibiotic resistance. "Ninety percent of upper respiratory infections are viral," said Dr. Dunagan. "They cause cough, congestion and sore throats. Time is the biggest indication. If the symptoms go on for more than two weeks or are accompanied by a fever of 100.5 or above, it could indicate something more."

Cantankerous, contagious common cold

But what of that common denizen of winter and spring: the common cold? Minor infections of the upper respiratory tract, they are quite "common" with an average of 1 billion cases each year in the United States. Highly contagious, colds are caused by hundreds of different viruses that can be spread when you come in contact with an infected person or object the infected person has touched. Rhinoviruses, the most common cause of colds, can live up to three hours on a person's skin or other objects. Once the virus is on your fingers, it can enter your body through any moist mucous membrane or by inhaling airborne droplets.

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It usually takes about one to three days for the symptoms of congestion, stuffy or runny nose, or sneezing to manifest. In most cases, you can expect a cold to last a week, but they can persist for a longer period. Other symptoms can include mild headache, cough, minor aches, watery eyes or a weakened sense of taste or smell. While there are over-the-counter medications that can aid in reduction of symptoms, many experts advise against them because of side effects. This is especially true for the elderly, according to Dr. Dunagan. "Some cold medications can increase blood pressure," she said. "If you have high blood pressure, problems with the prostate, or a heart

condition, you should contact your physician before taking cold medications."

Cold vs. flu

When symptoms set in, the big question is: how do I distinguish between colds and the flu? While it's hard to discern through symptoms alone, National Institutes of Health guidelines indicate that fever, headache, general aches, weakness, fatigue and extreme exhaustion are all too common in the flu. These symptoms are rarely associated with the common cold. With a cold you may have mild to moderate cough and chest discomfort, while the flu often produces severe chest pain and cough. Smokers and people with chronic bronchitis, em-

"I did not realize what effect my hearing loss had on my relationship with my wife. We can now carry on a normal conversation! Living in the country, I can now hear wildlife sounds again, too. Thank you and your wonderful staff for restoring normalcy to my life."



-Dick Levesque, Marine Artist, Furze, TN

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physema or asthma are more likely to have the more severe symptoms and are more vulnerable to secondary infections. You are urged to contact your physician if you experience severe cold symptoms or coughing that worsens even after other symptoms improve, ear pain, fever of 101 degrees, sinus headache or worsening of any pre-existing chronic lung problems.

Overall, it's always a good idea to avoid individuals who manifest

cold or flu symptoms. And don't forget frequent hand-washing and the use of disinfectants on contaminated objects and your skin. The cold or flu you prevent may be your own.



Pat Terrell is a registered nurse who lives and works in Henry County.

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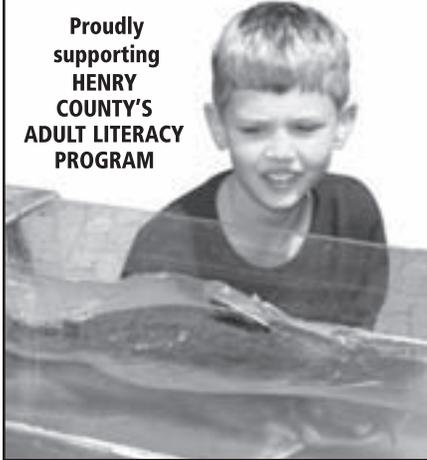
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South of the Mouth of Sandy

By Jennifer Wheatley



The book that everyone is reading “Around Our Town” is *South of the Mouth of Sandy*, a non-fiction account of the people, lifestyles and events of the “Old 23rd,” a former civil district of Henry County that is now home to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Refuge.

A little history

Henry County once had 25 civil districts. The Old 23rd is roughly 10,000 acres, 15 square miles, located on the Benton County line prior to the TVA flooding in 1942 to

create the Kentucky Lake reservoir. It was home to between 100 and 120 families. Accessible only by water or through Benton County now, the area was always a difficult area to reach, a peninsula largely separated by geography from the rest of Henry County.

Local links

Connections to local people and landmarks are at the heart of why so many folks are enjoying this work. For example, David Flowers, president of Commercial Bank, is the descendant of an attorney who defended a murderer described in the book. Evanses, Caldwelles, Martins and McDaniels are throughout the text. McEvoy Funeral Home’s 1925 prices are part of the details. Local historian Wayne Webb contributed some of the photos that bring the names and faces together. There are also GPS coordinates for those who’d like to find some of the locales discussed.

The purpose

Written by Paris native Christopher Terry Evans, the book takes readers back to North Carolina to establish the genealogy of the families discussed. It was Evans’ desire to “preserve family history” that initially led him to write the book, but he found “the story had broad appeal.”

The heart of that tale is a murder that occurs when Tommy Evans, the author’s great-grandfather, takes a stand against moonshiners in his community in 1925. With clear water and rough terrain the area easily lent itself to the pursuit of making whiskey, but the U.S. was in the middle of Prohibition. Moonshining was a moral dilemma, especially for church-going folks. The families of the Old 23rd had several established churches in their community, but the general attitude was to look the other way.

This was not the attitude of Tommy Evans and roughly ten of his neighbors. They went out at night looking for stills, reporting names and locations to law enforcement in Paris. Neighbors soon learned who was providing information. A bundle of switches and random ammunition were left on Evans’ porch. It was a warning.

Evans’ murder brought state and national attention to the tiny, insular community where there was no electricity and the nearest police station was 20 miles away. Suddenly this small group was being scrutinized. Their sins were the subject of Sunday sermons. Governor Austin Peay personally offered to double

the \$1000 reward to find Tommy Evans' murderer.

Witnesses to Evans' murder were uncooperative with authorities. Evans had been warned. The killer, Cloys Martin, was eventually identified but claimed self-defense.

Brought unwillingly and at their worst into the spotlight for a brief moment, the entire area would cease to be within 15 years when TVA flooded the land; the property which remained would become a wildlife refuge. It is as though there were never people or families there at all.

Setting the crimes and federal evacuations aside, the book is full of the details that paint a picture about life at a different time. Evans points out that these families intermarried, lived off the land and rarely had outside jobs. There is the full will and testament of a man who was apparently buried at what would now be the 18th hole at Paris Landing State Park golf course. The Western District Baptist Association was functioning in 1895. Dogtrot cabins served as courthouses.

Local plus

South of the Mouth of Sandy also has encouraged people to look into at their own family trees. Connie McSwain, Library Director for the

W.G. Rhea Library in Paris said that the book "has been highly requested." Several additional copies were purchased by the Library during the year to keep up with requests.

"People who in the past have not been as interested in genealogy research were inspired by this work. The W.O. Inman Room at the Library, where the Genealogy Department is located, and Stephanie Tayloe, Henry County Archivist, have been extremely helpful resources for these new researchers. The customers have been delighted with the results of their research."

Chris Evans, the owner of a newspaper in Kentucky, has had a positive reaction to the book and plans to continue writing. Although the crux of the story is about a time when the people of the Old 23rd were at odds, it's the "neighbor helping neighbor" attitude that Evans hopes will emerge from the text.



Jennifer Wheatley is the Executive Director of the Paris-Henry County Chamber of Commerce.

**Coming Soon to
EarBook
on MyParisMagazine.com:
a conversation with author and
Henry County native Chris Evans.**



Chris Evans discusses "South of the Mouth of Sandy" at an event sponsored by Friends of the National Wildlife Refuge at the Old 23rd District last fall.

Find *South of the Mouth of Sandy* at Paris on the Square or the W.G. Rhea Public Library.



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Feature

HERE COME DE' JUDGE

-- *The Barbeque Judge*

By Shannon McFarlin



It all started with the Food Network. And truth be told, Scott Stockdale admits he spends “way too much time watching the Food Network.”

But on one particular occasion, that couch-potato behavior spawned a brainstorm: he now has an avocation that most of us can only dream about — judging barbeque contests.

“I was watching a program about barbeque contests,” he recalled. “It was the summer of 2006 and they actually devoted the whole month of May to programs about these contests. I said to my wife, ‘I wonder how you would become a judge for that?’”

For most people, that would have been the end of the conversation, and the dream. But Stockdale began searching the Internet for information on barbeque competi-

tions and judging.

“I ran across the ‘Memphis In May’ website,” he said. “I saw they were holding a judging class and I thought, ‘Sweet!’”

Soon Stockdale was in Memphis, attending an eight-hour class on how to judge barbeque. He passed the test and has gone on to judge contests—including the esteemed Memphis In May Barbeque Extravaganza.

Barbeque curriculum

“You learn about cuts of meat, the cooking process, what to look for in properly cooked meat — and improperly cooked meat,” he said. “And they teach you what to look for in the operation of the barbeque teams.”

Stockdale said even after you pass the test, you must judge three competitions before you’re certi-

fied to judge Memphis In May. His judging experiences included contests in Arlington and Covington, which gave him valuable expertise before he was asked to be one of the judges for Memphis In May in 2007.

A Bluff full of barbeque

Hundreds of teams enter the Memphis In May competition, lining up their booths for a mile at Tom Lee Park. “That’s the biggest contest I’ve judged,” he said. “And there are 100 judges for it. With so many teams, they need that many judges so that you’re not asked to judge too many teams.”

Stockdale was assigned to judge three teams both on-site and by “blind box,” meaning each team is judged by the way it presents itself at its booth and by a blind taste test. “They call it ‘blind box’ be-

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cause they bring you the pulled pork in a Styrofoam container with a number on it," he said. "You don't know which team's barbeque you're eating."

Pig tales

Half the fun of judging, Stockdale says, is visiting the team's booths. "All the teams have stories to tell, and, of course, they embellish the tales. They all tell you how they came up with their dry rub, how it goes back to this guy's great-great-great-grandfather and how he fought in the battle of such-and-such."

And most of them have a "secret ingredient" that makes their barbeque more special than anybody else's.

Never too early for BBQ

"The biggest surprise I had was how early the judging starts," he said. "These teams have been cooking all night long and the judging starts at 8 a.m. I didn't think I could be hungry for barbeque that early, but once that smell hits you, you're hungry for barbeque."

The best thing about judging, he said, is eating. "You don't leave hungry, I'll tell you that. They want

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the judges to be happy. And you are. Some of this barbeque is just incredible. It's different than eating barbeque in a chain restaurant. They don't have the time to cook it as long as these teams do."

Pig pals

The atmosphere makes it fun, he said. "These teams are close-knit and have genuine friendships, but they're still competitive. It's an interesting dynamic. And some go all-out with their presentation, with elaborate table settings, silver, china and goblets for your water."

Judges aren't paid for their time, he said, except with some thank-you gifts. "It takes time and effort, but I want to do it again, without a doubt. The more you get into it, the more you want to do it."

Stockdale's story does come full-circle. While watching the

Food Network recently, he was able to watch himself on television this time — judging the Memphis In May contest. "That was pretty cool."

(Listen to more of Scott Stockdale's tales from the pit on Ear Book at www.MyParisMagazine.com)



Shannon McFarlin is a reporter for the HenryCountian.com and a freelance writer who lives and works in Paris, TN.

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Faces & Places



◀Perry Atkins and Bailey Compton prepare for the final round of the county-wide, 4H Public Speaking Contest in early February at Inman Middle School. Hear their speeches at EarBook at MyParisMagazine.com.



◀At the Annual Health Fair sponsored by the Paris-Henry County Chamber of Commerce, baby Logan Crawford was among the youngest visitors. Jennifer and Luke Crawford (not pictured) are Logan's proud parents.



▲Scouts Brad Heath and Ethan Jackson show off the race cars they created for the annual Pinewood Derby.



Shonte Sims plays against Dickson County at Henry County High School. ▼

Elijah Caldwell and Jacob Cuthbertson sit atop one of four draft horses that team up to pull Bob Skelding and his RV on a cross-country trip that began in Deerfield, NH, and passed through Henry County. Visit his website at www.wagon-teamster.com.▶



Dottie Kendall, winner of the Heritage Center Mardi Gras Ball costume contest poses with Dennis Graham. (photo by Jean Owens)▶





Amy Martin passes the "tip bucket" as she sings a crowd favorite during the annual Relay for Life Coffee House at First United Methodist Church. ▶



▲Members of the Happy Clovers home school 4H Club (left forefront) Noah Smith, Autumn Smith, Evan Owen and Isaac Smith brightened the day of Henry County Medical Center nurses, including Pam Lackey, RN, with festive Valentine's baskets. (Submitted by HCMC)

Tony Lawrence is named the Cookie Crunch Champion of 2009 as Henry County Girl Scouts kicked off their cookie selling season. ▶



◀Trainer Jules Martell, Carl Holder and Pam Rockwell visit at Freedom Fitness and Tanning during a Chamber Coffee hosted by the fitness center.



◀Nancy Elliott autographs her new book, *Why Raccoon Wears His Mask*, at a recent book signing. The "modern, mythical legend" is illustrated by her mother, Sophia S. Ray. The book is available at Jack Jones Flowers & Gifts on the Court Square.



◀Featured Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day speaker Bruce Cunningham of the Dana Corporation addresses a packed court room during an address following the annual breakfast and march from Quinn Chapel AME Church.



▲Aaron Herman serves up a cold drink during the annual Lion's Club Chili Day.



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2 Time-Saving questions

By Dan Townsend

Whether you're new to our area or you're a native Henry County Diva, there are a few professionals with whom you need to establish a rapport. It's not enough for you to know their names; they need to know yours. Their phone numbers need to be in your cell phone contact list, and your name needs to be on their client list. This doesn't need to happen when there's a crisis, but before you need them.

Among the professionals with whom you should be familiar:

- Your family doctor - There is a nationwide shortage of general practitioners, so don't wait until you're sick to find a GP.
- Your dentist - Do you want someone you've never met digging around in your mouth?
- Your pharmacist - This important person needs to know all of your medical history, allergies, etc.
- Your auto mechanic - Did I throw you on that last one? This person can be as vital as all of the professionals mentioned above. Choosing a repair facility is a decision that should be made when you're in control of the situation, not after a breakdown or wreck.

A recent study by the Automotive Aftermarket Industry Association showed that nearly 9 out of 10 female motorists are involved in the decision-making process for their

household's vehicle maintenance and repair. That means it may be up to the diva in the family to choose a repair facility, but how should you go about doing this?

Finding a repair facility that is a good fit is not as difficult as it might seem. You certainly want to visit them to ask about warranties, loaner cars, days and hours of operation, tow service, etc. But before you pay them a visit, call the facility and ask these two simple questions:

1 Are your technicians ASE certified? A common indication of

quality service is a certificate of Automotive Service Excellence (ASE). ASE's mission is to improve the quality of vehicle repair and service through the testing and certification of repair and service professionals. So ASE certified technicians are a good sign of a great shop.

2 Do you have a list of references I can contact? To really find out about the facility's service record, it doesn't hurt to request references who have used the



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shop before. A reputable facility will be happy to provide references; if they squirm, be glad you asked and move on.

A final thought: After finding repair experts that meet your standards, stick with them. They can make your life easier, and will usually save you time and money. When you're in need of car maintenance, they can prove to be a wise investment.



Dan Townsend is a Henry Countian who teaches Automotive Technology at the Tennessee Technology Center's McKenzie campus. Email him via MyParisMagazine.com.

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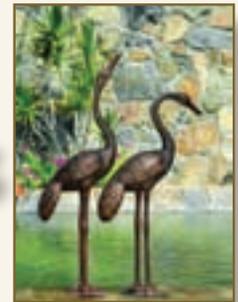
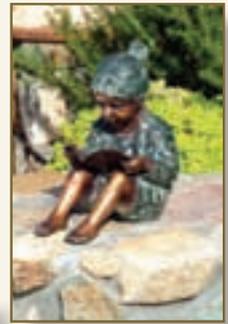
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Calendar of Events – Spring 2009

March 15 through June 1, 2009

(For more events, or to add one of your own, log on www.MyParisMagazine.com)

On-Going Fun

Stay Fit Indoors or Out – The outdoor pool at Memorial Park on Volunteer Drive opens Memorial Day weekend. Need some AC? The Paris Civic Center has a track, weights, fitness machines, fitness instructors and an indoor pool! Pay by the visit or become a member. Located on Volunteer Drive. Call 731-644-2517 for information.

Learn to Play Guitar, Piano, Sing, Paint, Create Pottery and More – Call Lee Academy for the Arts at 731-642-3411 and sign up for classes.

Paint Pottery – Wile away an afternoon painting pottery at “Studio J” upstairs at Jack Jones Flowers in Downtown Paris. Call 731-642-LALA for information.

Latest Flicks – Enjoy six screens and the latest releases at the Parisian Theatre on Jim Adams Drive. Info line is 731-642-7171.

Refuge Discovery Series – It’s something new each month to help Henry Countians connect to nature. See calendar below for info or call 731-642-2091.

Photo Showcase & Artists’ Showcase – From paintings to photos, it’s waiting for you at the W. G. Rhea Library. Photo exhibit runs through March 26; art exhibit is March 29 - April 30. Sponsored by the Paris-Henry County Arts Council. Call 731-642-3955.

March 17 –Lakewood 1st Grade Musical presented at the school. For more information, call 731-644-1600.

March 17 – Make your own luck this St. Patty’s Day with **HCMC health screenings** inside Morningside Public Housing Authority, Apt. 34 from 9-11 a.m. For information, call 731-644-3463.

March 17 – Celebrate the day at First Christian Church’s annual **St. Patrick’s Day Luncheon**, starting at 11 in downtown Paris.

March 19 –No school for Henry County School System students. Administrative Day. For information, call 731-642-9733.

March 19 –Third Grade Swimming Program at Paris Elementary School at 6 p.m. at the Civic Center Pool. Admission is free and it’s FUN! Contact Sarah Luffman, PES Swim Instructor, at 731-642-3675.

March 20 – No school for students in Henry County School System. Parent Teacher Conference (Administrative Day). For information, call 731-642-9733.

March 21 – “The Perrys” and “The Gentrys” perform a gospel concert at Krider Performing Arts Center. Tickets available at Promise Land Christian Bookstore or at the door. Email randycrowderministries@gmail.com or call 731-644-2517.

March 23-27 – Spring Break for students in Paris and Henry County Schools. No school.

March 24 – The HCMC Carevan offers screening at Super D Pharmacy on Mineral Wells from 9 -11 a.m. For more information, call 731-644-3463.

March 24 - Cardiac Rehab Nutrition Class is at noon in the private dining room at HCMC. Free class and lunch is provided. Pre-register by calling 731-644-3463.

March 28 – 2009 World’s Biggest Fish Fry Headquarters opens at 10 a.m. on E. Wood Street. Hail to the catfish. Call 731-644-1143.

March 30 and 31 – Paris Post-Intelligencer hosts **Taste of Home Cooking School** at the Krider Performing Arts Center. For more information, call Laura at 731-642-1162.

March 31 and April 1 – W. G. Rhea School presents the **First Grade PE programs** at 6 p.m. at the school. For information, call 731-642-0961.

April 2 – Give blood from noon till 6 p.m. when the **Lifeline Bloodmobile** visits First United Methodist Church in downtown Paris. Call 731-642-2941.

April 4 – Find the answers to life’s burning questions at **Paris Optimist Club Trivia Night**. Doors open at 6:30, game starts at 7:00 at the First United Methodist Church Christian Life Center. Only \$5 per person. For information call Joe Houston at 731-642-5594.

April 5 – The Chancel Choir and Orchestra of First Baptist Church presents, **“At Calvary”** on Palm Sunday evening at 6 p.m. For information, call 731-642-5074.

April 6 – 10 – Visit www.MyParisMagazine.com calendar for information on **Holy Week Services**.

April 10 – Good Friday. No school in Paris and Henry County.

April 11 –Have breakfast with the Easter Bunny at 7:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church CLC. Games, Easter egg hunts and more. For information, call 731-642-4764.

April 11 – Feeling artsy? Be at the V.L. Childs Overlook at the Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge at 9 a.m. for **Painting on the Refuge**. Bring own supplies. Call 731-642-2091.

April 11 – Fish Fry Co-ed Softball Tournament at McNeil Ball Park at 8 a.m. (Rain date April 18 –TBA) For information call 731-644-1143.

April 12 – Easter! He is risen indeed!

April 18 – President Allison Taylor from the hit TV drama “24” comes to Paris for four, back-to-back fundraising events: Photo Op, Silent Auction, Town Hall Meeting and After Party. Purchase tickets at Jack Jones Flowers and Gifts. For info, visit www.myparis magazine.com or call 731-644-9926.

April 20 – The Fish Fry Kick-Off Dance at the Henry County Fairgrounds Pavilion from 7 - 9 p.m. Call 731-644-1143 or visit www.worldsbiggestfishfry.com.

April 21 – Enjoy the Tennessee Men’s Chorale Concert at First Baptist Church at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call 731-642-5074. Hear an interview and concert snippets on Ear Book at MyParisMagazine.com.

April 21 – Fish Fry Carnival opens at 5 pm and runs till 11pm; **Country Dance** is from 5 –9 p.m. all at the Henry County Fairgrounds. There’s something for everyone during Fish Fry Week!

April 22 –The Fish Tent opens at 5 p.m. with the tossing of the hush puppy by the Hostess Princess. Enjoy fish until 9 pm; **carnival** from 5-11 p.m. and a **Christian Concert** at 7 p.m.

April 23 – Fish Fry is in full swing. Get a thrill at the **carnival** from 5 – 11 p.m.; purchase **Arts and Crafts** from 5 p.m.-8:30 p.m.; enjoy delicious fried fish at the **Fish Tent** from 5 –9 p.m.; watch the **IPRA Rodeo** at 7:30 p.m.

April 23 –W. G. Rhea School’s Kindergarten Fish Fry Parade is at 10 a.m. at the school. This is also Field Day for students. For information, call 731-642-0961.

April 23 – Tennessee Technology Center graduation is at the Krider Performing Arts Center. Way to go, grads! For more information call, 731-644-7365 or 731-644-2517

April 24 – Put on your sunscreen, the Fish Fry Grand Parade kicks off at 10:00 am. No school in Paris or Henry County. Don’t miss the **carnival** (11 am – midnight); **Arts and Crafts Show** (8:30 a.m. 8:30 p.m.); lipsmacking **fried fish** (11am – 9 pm) and hoopin’, hollarin’ **IPRA Rodeo** at 7:30 pm all at the HC Fairgrounds.

April 25 - Horse and Mule Farm Pulling Contest is at the Fairgrounds at 10 a.m. **Hush Puppie Dash** (5K Run) takes off at 7 a.m. from Henry County High School. **Small Fry Parade** at 10 a.m. in Downtown Paris at First United Methodist Church. **Catfish Races** are on the Court House lawn in Downtown Paris at 10:30 a.m. **Junior Fishing Rodeo** is at Williams Lake from noon until 3 p.m. **Carnival and Fish Fry Tent** open at 11 am at the Fairgrounds. **IPRA Rodeo** is at 7:30 p.m. For information concerning any of the events, call 731-644-1143 or log on www.worldsbiggestfishfry.com or see event schedule on back, inside cover.

April 26 – Last chance to ride the Tilt-a-Whirl. Fish Fry Carnival opens at the Fairgrounds from 1 – 6 p.m.

April 28 – Inman Middle School Strings present their **Spring Concert** at 6 p.m. at the Krider Performing Arts Center. For more information, call 731-642-8131.

April 30 – Inman Middle School Chorus entertain at the school at 7 p.m. For more information, call 731-642-8131.

May 1 –Paris First United Methodist Church Spring Gathering Luncheon. Call 731-642-4764.

May 3 – Paris-Henry County Youth Orchestra Concert is at the Krider Performing Arts Center at 2 p.m. Tickets available at the door. Call Lucy Ofinowicz at 831-642-8131.

May 5 – Enjoy the Inman Middle School Band Spring Concert at the school at 7 p.m. For more information, call Lucy Ofinowicz at 731-642-8131

May 7 – Give blood from noon till 6 p.m. when the **Lifeline Bloodmobile** visits First United Methodist Church in downtown Paris. Call 731-642-2941.

May 8 and 9 – Tennessee Valley Community Church has **city-wide food drive** to benefit the Henry County Food Bank. Groups will collect at participating grocery stores from 7-9 a. m. on Friday and 9-3 p.m. on Saturday.

May 9 – Children’s Theater sign up and auditions; Ages 9-12 years for “Dear Edwina” from 9 a.m. – noon; ages 13-18 for “Willie Wonka” from 2 – 5 p.m. at the Krider. For information, call 731-644-2517.

May 11 – Paris Elementary School PE/Music Program is at the school gym at 6 p.m. Free Admission. Call Debbie Elliott at 731-642-3675.

May 12 – Mother’s Day. Remember your mom today!

May 12 – W. G. Rhea School Kindergarten Musical is at the Krider. Performances are at 6 p.m. and at 7 p.m. For more information, call 731-642-0961,

May 16 – Children’s Theatre registration for “Noah’s Ark” for ages 5-8 from 9 a.m. until noon.

May 17 –Young ballerinas perform at the Martin Ballet recital, Krider Performing Arts Center at 1:00 p.m.; Call, 731-644-2517.

May 19 – HCMC Learning Center offers “Lunch and Learn on Osteoporosis” featuring Dr. Gulish. Lunch provided plus free osteoporosis screening. Pre-register at 731-644-3463 or on line at www.hcmc-tn.org.

May 22- Henry County High School Graduation. Congratulations mighty Patriot grads. For more information, call 731-642-5232.

May 23 – Last day of school for Paris Special School District. Here’s to summer!

Memorial Day weekend– Swim in the shadow of the Eiffel Tower! **Memorial Park Pool opens** this weekend. Call 644-2517 for specific date and time.

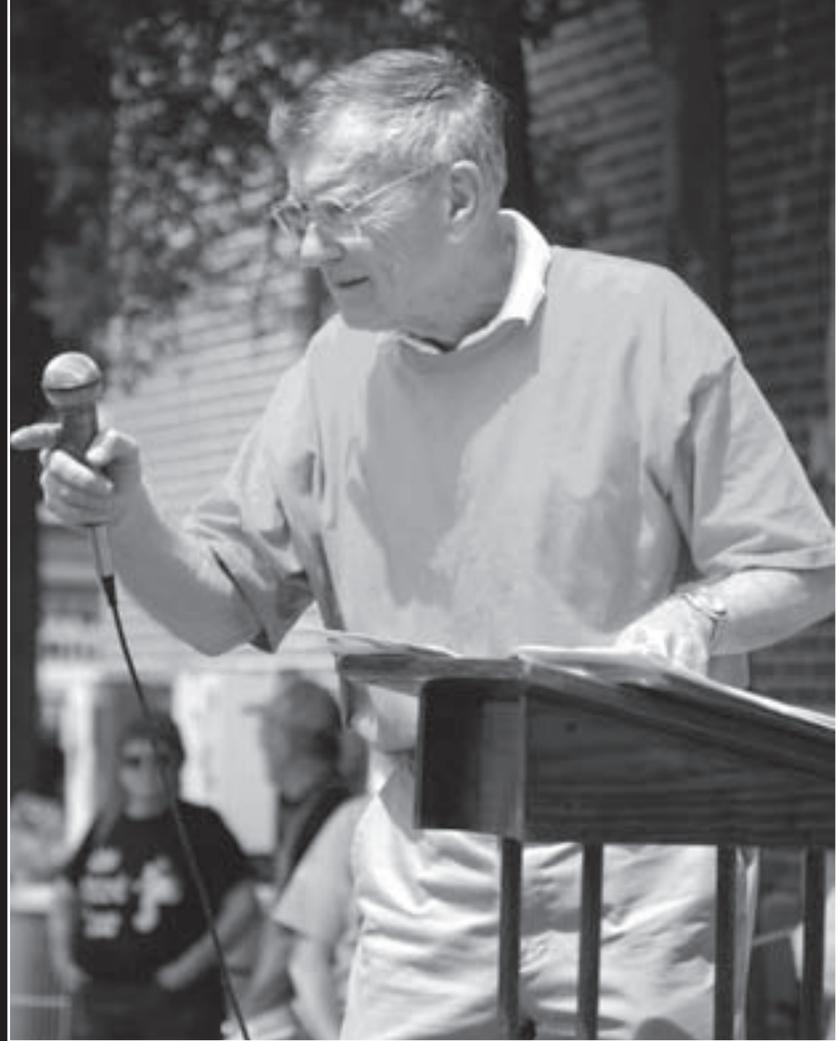
May 25 – Memorial Day observed. No school for students in the Henry County School System.

May 27 – Last day of school for students in the Henry County School System! Yippee!!!

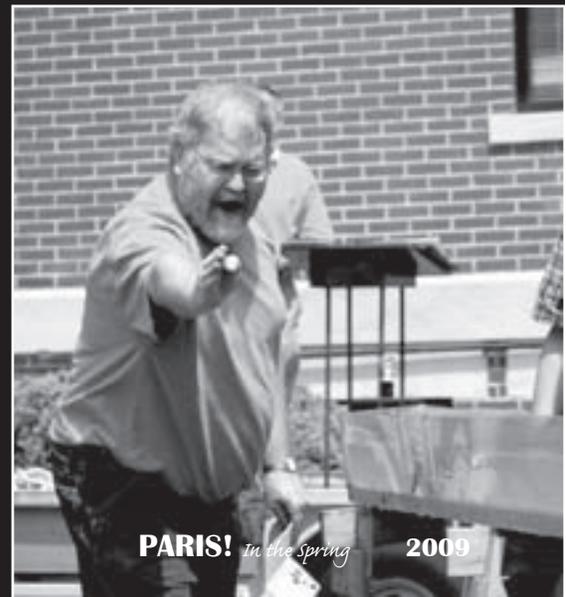
May 30 – Insects and butterflies are the fluttering topic of the “**Refuge Discovery Serices**” at Britton Ford Peninsula on the Refuge at 9 a.m. Call 731-642-2091 for info.

*Times and dates are subject to change. Please double check events before leaving home.

Feature



“ Ladies and Gentlemen, Start Your Catfish!”



In most towns, catfish have their place; they are relegated to aquariums, lakes, walls and plates. But in Paris, the whiskered aquatic vertebrate inspires (and in some cases takes part in) parades, beauty pageants, artwork, dances, thousands of tourists, a stately welcome sign, rodeos, a carnival, 5,000 tons of fish dinners and even races - Catfish Races.

As counterintuitive as it seems, the world renowned Catfish Races are just that - catfish swimming hard and fast toward the finish line. At the raceway (the courthouse lawn) spectators will find specially constructed, 15-foot racing channels (think clear plastic rain gutters), spirited handlers (no special schooling required) and aerated pond water (one pre-race tank, one post-race tank). There are fish paparazzi, alert lane judges, an announcer who bellows, "Gentleman, start your catfish," and bleachers full of fans screaming the names of their favorites: Spirit of Casey,

Moby or Chickasaw Streaker.

There are ecstatic winners in every heat along with wet, but smiling losers. On the sidelines are tables filled with colorful commemorative shirts and caps. And for latecomers who didn't get a chance to enter during the week, they'll take your money right up until race time. Twenty-five dollars buys the opportunity to enter a fish in the races, write a story for the pages of the PI explaining how your fish trained for the event (early entrants only), race your fish (or let an eager handler do it for you), take home a t-shirt or cap and possibly a trophy. There are prizes for the Best Fish Tale, Best Team Spirit, Best Fish Name, twelve or more individual heats and of course, the grand champion.

Like most events of this nature, the real grand champion is not a fish or even a handler, not one person, but many, specifically Bill Williams, editor emeritus of the Paris-Post Intelligencer (PI), Editor Michael Wil-



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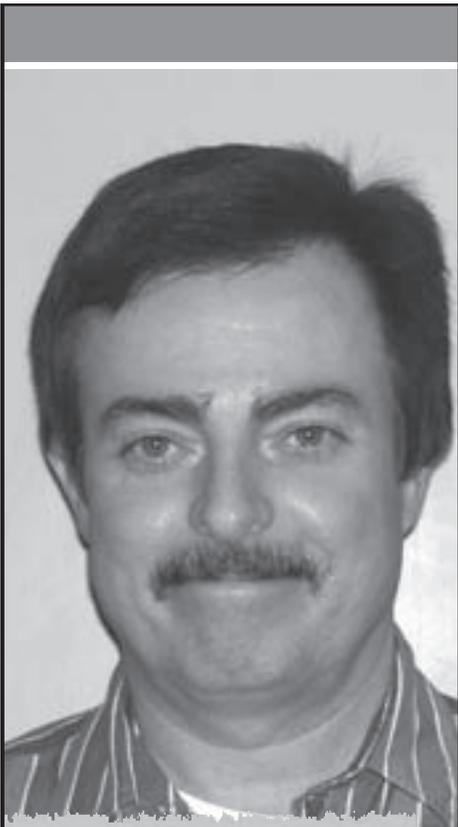
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liams, the newspaper's enthusiastic staff, Sue Quinn, Director of Adult Education for the Henry County Schools, her staff and members of the Henry County Literacy Council, the fundraiser's beneficiary.

The first Catfish Races in Henry County were held in 1987. "We stole the idea," laughed Bill Williams. "It came from the Delta Democrat Times in Greenville, MS." Williams was active in the Literacy Council, which "had no particular funding source. We thought that this would go nicely with the Fish Fry."

Twenty-two years and \$29,000 later, the races are still going strong, as is the Literacy Council, although the mission has changed somewhat. "Originally it taught adults who could not read," said Williams. Today the council is a coordinating agency for groups that work with literacy and adult education, including the Tennessee Technology Center, the Department of Human Services, Job Services, the Family Services Center, Imagination Library or any program dealing with the teaching/learning of children and adults.

"The races have been very profitable for the Literacy Council though the years," said Quinn, who marvels at the financial impact of the catfish races as well as their ability to raise awareness for the group.

She encourages all able-bodied racers to enter the fun by sponsoring a catfish. Applications are available in the PI, at www.ParisPI.net or by calling 731-642-1162. Those interested in volunteering or donating further can contact Donna Winders at 731-642-8655 or log on www.henry12.net/adulted.

After it's all said and done, there's still one lingering question about the whole catfish racing idea. How do racers know that they get the same fish for the second heat? "Well, by the time we dip them out for the second heat," said Williams, "the fish remember who they've raced for."

Sounds fishy to me.



Listen to a "fishy" conversation about the races on Ear Book at www.MyParisMagazine.com.



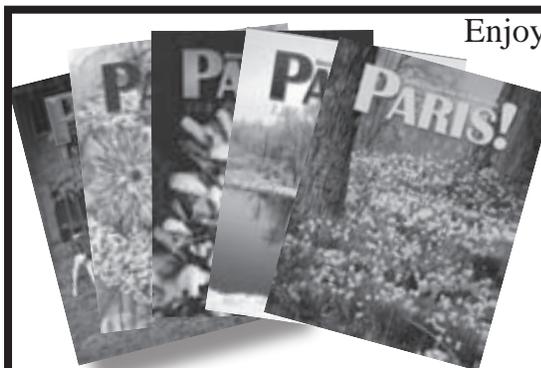
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For more information, visit www.MyParisMagazine.com.



TURN OVER A NEW LEAF...

It's Easy Being Green!

By Julie Perry

Reduce, reuse, and recycle. And for Pete's sake, lose those plastic bags! We are constantly hearing about all the things we should be doing – or not doing – to keep the planet from bursting into flames. We all care about the birds and the trees, but let's be honest: many of us would be more diligent in our efforts if we didn't think it required much effort. So, here they are: tips that are ridiculously easy to follow that make a big difference to the planet.

In the kitchen

Feel free to dine and dash, as using your dishwasher uses less water than hand-washing. Just wait until you have a full load.

Your oven has a light – use it! Don't open the oven door to check on your casserole! Things are cooking; it requires energy to regain the cooking temp.

Don't "space out." To improve your freezer's energy efficiency, use the whole freezer. Conversely, leave space in your fridge. It needs room to circulate cold air.



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In the laundry

Wear it more than once. This doesn't go for everything (unmentionables and socks come to mind), but the simplest way to cut back on your laundry's impact is to just do less of it.

A whopping 90% of energy used for washing clothes goes to heating the water, so when it does come time to do a (full) load of clothes, wash in cold water. Most detergents now specialize in cold-water washing, so whites will still get white without the hot or warm water.

In the bath

Make toilet paper the only "disposable" product in your bathroom. When it comes time to clean this room, avoid the temptation to reach for paper towels, disposable cleaning wipes and once-and-done toilet brushes. Use reusable rags or micro-fiber towels and cleaning brushes.

If you do not have a new low-flow toilet, here is a simple trick. Simply fill a plastic bottle with stones or pebbles, submerge it in your toilet tank. Depending on the size of the bottle, you will be "displacing" the volume of the bottle every time you flush. This technique can easily save a liter or two of water per flush.

And remember, showers are significant water savers compared to hot baths. It takes a lot of energy and water to fill a bath, so treat yourself to a nice soak only occasionally.

In the bedroom

Electric humidifiers are fantastic at regulating air humidity, but an easier, more earth-friendly way to add humidity to a bedroom is with plants. A six-foot Areca palm can release up to one liter of water every 24 hours.

All around the house

Change out your old light bulbs with new, compact fluorescent light (CFL) bulbs. Yes, I know you've heard that million times, but it's true. If every American replaced just one light, we would save enough electricity to illuminate more than 3 million homes per year. So, replace the five most frequently used lights in your home with CFL bulbs.

Recycle. There I said it. We Henry Countians are extraordinarily lucky. Our county offers recycling services right here in our own community. There are numerous drop-off locations throughout the county, from Cottage Grove to Buchanan. And of course we can take items to the Recycling Center



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itself located at 450 Recycling Drive. Refer to the list of recyclable items and begin your very own in-home program today.

For more information on local recycling, visit www.henrycountyttn.org.



Julie Perry turns the lights off if she will not be returning to a room for more than fifteen minutes, and recycles both at home and work.

Recycling Checklist:

The following items can be recycled at the Henry County Recycling Center.

Metals:

Aluminum
Tin/Steel Cans
Dog/Cat Food Cans
Aerosol Spray Cans (empty, no lids)
Scrap Metal
“Dead” Appliances

Plastics:

A raised number (1-7) in a triangle on the bottom of most plastic containers tells you what type of plastic it is and if it can be recycled.

Number 1 PET
Number 2 HDPE
Drink Bottles
Milk Jugs
Cooking Oil Bottles

Paper:

Books
Printer Paper
Newspaper
White Packing Paper
Telephone Books
Magazines
Catalogs
Junk Mail

Cardboard:

Corrugated Cardboard
Brown Packing Paper
Brown Grocery Bags
Cereal Boxes (remove liner)
Other Chip Board Boxes

Batteries:

Auto
Lawn
Nickel-Cadmium

Automotive:

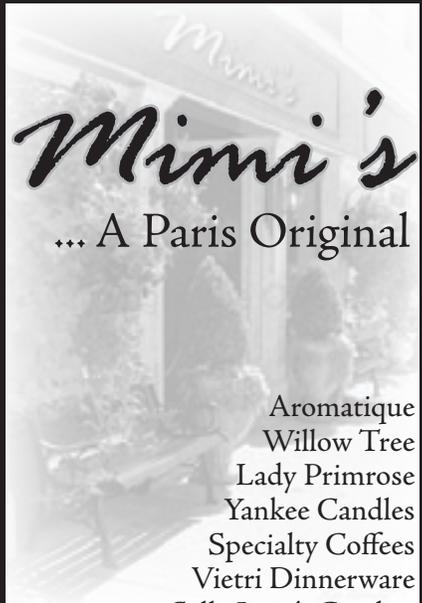
Used Motor Oil
Used Antifreeze

E-Scrap:

Televisions
Computer Equipment
Microwaves
Stereo Equipment
Other Electronic Equipment

Not Accepted:

Household Trash
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Remember These?

By Shannon McFarlin

Have you ever had this experience—driving in the car, listening to the radio and you swear you just heard the singer utter the words “Paris, Tennessee?” Or you’re reading a magazine or book and you find a reference to Paris or Henry County?

You’re not alone — it happens more than you might think. Our little neck of the woods gets more than its share of attention. PARIS! is taking a moment to remember just a few of the times when Henry County was center stage.



“We’re Not the Jet Set”

Recorded by George Jones and Tammy Wynette. Written by Hall of Fame songwriter Bobby Braddock.

Paris, Tennessee, has inspired many songs, but the most famous may be “We’re Not The Jet Set.” And its reference to Paris has inspired other songwriters to spotlight Paris, Tennessee, in their works.

“We’re Not The Jet Set” begins: “By a fountain back in Rome I fell in love with you
In a small café in Athens you said you loved me too
And it was April in Paris when I first held you close to me
Rome, Georgia, Athens, Texas and Paris, Tennessee.”



The Croissants Act Like Biscuits in Paris, Tennessee

Written by Jake Vest, published by Tribune Publishing Co., 1992.

Vest was a columnist for the Orlando Sentinel who wrote the syndicated cartoon, “That’s Jake”. Born in Knoxville, Vest got his first writing job at the Knoxville News-Sentinel, but has lived in Orlando for more than 30 years.

Why that particular title? “Short version is I thought it sounded funny and it probably owes a sub-



but somehow word got around enough to bring in about 200 letters, phone calls and emails through the years from the Paris folk.

“Paris, Tennessee”

Recorded by Kenny Chesney and written by Bob DiPiero, John Scott Sherill, Dennis Robbins.

were songwriters for a band called Billy Hill. “Paris, Tennessee” was written for the group’s second album “which never came out because we broke up.”

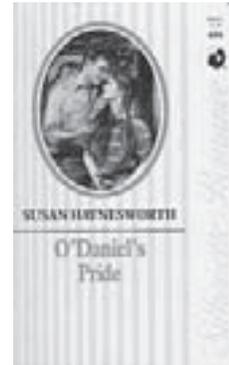
Kenny Chesney was an early fan of Billy Hill “and when he heard we weren’t going to be using the song, he recorded it.”

conscious debt to the old country song ‘We’re Not The Jet Set.’” Long version is that the semi-amateur book publishers here at the newspaper company wanted a title that was pretty much like the previous one, *If You Didn’t Want Grits, How Come You Ordered Breakfast?*...it had sold well, so they, being what they are, wanted to do the same thing again.”

Apparently the songwriting trio wasn’t aware that we do have an Eiffel Tower, but you can’t deny their hearts were in the right place. The last stanza of the song goes, “We might not see no Eiffel Tower/ But I got a cousin that I want you to meet/ He can pick the Wildwood Flower/ Better’n anybody down in Paris, Tennessee.”

“It was never widely-circulated,

DiPiero explained that the three



O’Daniel’s Pride

Written by Susan Haynesworth, published by Silhouette Books, 1988.

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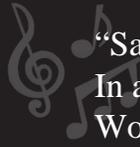
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Sally Got Jack

Songwriter and Singer Keith Sykes graciously has allowed us to publish the words to his song, "Sally Got Jack", which will get your fingers popping and your head bobbing. It can be found on the CD "Don't Count Us Out".



"Sally is a girl from a town called Como
In a county called Henry in the State of Tennessee
Working on the late shift I-40 Truck Stop
Hash browns topping off black coffee ain't no jamboree

Forty-six to get there forty-six back
That's a whole lot of driving on a two-lane track
For a job like waiting on truckers

Sometime living in the country is a pain on earth
But Sally got Jack and Jack got Sally
Y'all know what that's worth



Jack's got a job in the town called Hazel
In the county of Calloway up in Kentucky
Gets off at seven takes the 641 south hang a right at 54
Heading for the one who sets him free

They eat a little dinner drink a little wine
Sally gets ready while Jack unwinds
They only have a couple of hours

Sometime living in the country is a pain on earth
But Sally got Jack and Jack got Sally
Y'all know what that's worth



Saving all their money in a Paris bank
Building their dream house plank by plank
Planning on making babies



Sometime living in the country is a pain on earth
But Sally got Jack and Jack got Sally
Y'all know what that's worth

(Copyright 2001 KSM Warren Songs and EMI/Blackwood Music/Song Island Publishing/Golly Roger Songs BMI. All rights reserved.)

There aren't too many of us that can say we inspired a book, but Lera "Red" McWherter of rural Paris can.

You know you're in for a treat when you open the book and immediately see a map of Tennessee with Paris, Cottage Grove and Paris Landing marked with stars.

The former Gibson's Feed Store provides the book's opening scene and McWherter's homeplace on Jim Hunt Road is central to the story, written by her daughter-in-law whose real name is Susan Robertson of Nashville.

"Of course," she said, "the book is a work of fiction. My husband's family, their farms, and the ambiance of Cottage Grove inspired the setting and the characters. I then wove them into the conventions of the romance genre."

"Sally Got Jack"

Recorded by Keith Sykes, written by Keith Sykes and Roger Cook.

It's not often you hear someone sing about a couple from Como, Tennessee, and driving up 641 to Hazel, but Keith Sykes does it and does it well in "Sally Got Jack." Sykes, originally from Murray and now living in Memphis, explained that his maternal grandparents lived in Paris when he was a boy, "just north of town on 641. I spent a lot of time there and loved being with her.

"I heard them talking of far-away places like Como and being from Murray, we passed through Hazel every trip we made," said Sykes.

Sykes and Roger Cook wrote

the song in Nashville in 2000. "I remember being about halfway through when we stopped to get a map at a nearby convenience store to make sure I was right about the details we used in the song," he said.

His memory was accurate and the song it produced is a gem.

(Have any of our readers come across Paris or Henry County in an unexpected place? We'd like to hear about it. Call Paris! Email us at sjones@MyParisMagazine.com.)



Shannon McFarlin has a master's degree in public history from Murray State University and is a reporter for the HenryCountian.com and a freelance writer.

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LINDA MILLER DESCRIBES HER FAVORITE PART



Hailey Townsend and Linda Miller rehearsing on the stage of the Krider.

When Linda Wilson Miller began teaching speech and drama at Henry County High School, she was just two years older than many of her students. “I graduated at 17 and went through college in three years.” She knew what she wanted, but she had to finish college in a hurry to get it.

What Miller wanted was to teach speech and drama at the new county high school which opened in the fall of 1969, and teach she did. Nearly forty years later, she directs either a play or musical at the Krider Performing Arts Center each spring, a one-act play for state competition and travels with her forensic team to tournaments throughout the school year.

Is her longevity surprising? “If you’d asked me how long I would be doing this, I would have had no idea.” But if you love what you do, is it really a job? Not to Miller.

“Coaching the forensic team and directing the plays is really the part I like the best,” she admitted. “You don’t get to know the kids unless you work with them after hours. Coaching the forensic teams, I’ve been on so many trips, so many buses and had all of those hours of practice.” Play season provides no break in the action. “We cast the show the first of the year and we’re in rehearsal three nights a week for eight weeks. I get to know them on such a personal level. It’s inspiring and rewarding to watch them excel and grow.”

Miller has directed everything from “The Miracle Worker” to “Grease” to “just about everything Rogers and Hammerstein



Linda Miller works with Henry County High School drama students to create sets for their plays.



Linda Miller and Madison Boyd watch rehearsals of “Dearly Beloved.”

ever wrote.” For the musicals she partnered with the school’s choral directors, including Linda Sykes, Kenneth Humphreys and the current director, Jeremy O’Neal. Although she’s directed more than 50 productions, she doesn’t have a favorite.

“I’ve been proud of a lot of the shows that the kids have done, and have tackled things that are more challenging since we got the Krider. The biggest stir in recent years was ‘The Sound Of Music,’” she said. “That set a new standard, but it’s not her favorite. “It would be hard to pick a favorite because they all have things that I could brag about.”

The Krider Performing Arts Center was named for Ruby Krider and her husband, “Daddy Clem.” Miller studied under “Miss Ruby” who is “the reason I wound up doing what I’m doing.” When Miller was at Grove High School, speech was taught privately by Krider at the school. “You gave up a study hall and did it during the school day. We didn’t get any credit but we did have a speech team and we traveled,” explained Miller who went to the National Forensic League tournament her senior year. “Miss Ruby encouraged me to go to Murray State and major in speech and theater. She recommended me for the job at HCHS when I graduated.

I have her to thank in every way.”

Krider left a mark on this county that Miller thinks would delight her. “She would be so pleased that the program is still going and the traditions are carried on. In a small town it’s unusual to have that kind of heritage. I think she’d say, ‘Way to go and hang in there.’”

Miller is hanging in there. She recently directed the comedy “Dearly Beloved” on the Krider stage and as April approaches, readies a one-act play and forensic team members for final competition. Like Krider, she shows no signs of slowing down, and speaks in such vague terms about retirement that it’s difficult to take her seriously.

This teacher, director and coach has what every educator should have after nearly four decades in the field: fond memories. She has videos or DVDs of almost every production. “I watch them and think, ‘O that was so much fun and they did such a great job.’ I’ve had contact with such wonderful young people over the years. I believe in what we do and the value of it and the shaping of young people’s lives.”



Hear more of Linda Wilson Miller’s interview in a podcast on EarBook at www.MyParisMagazine.com.

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EAR BOOK

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By Arthur Lodge

NOW ON EAR BOOK:

- Virgil Wall on Camp Tyson
 - Elliott Moody on the Great Depression
 - Jo Wall on Education
 - Bill Williams & Sue Quinn on the Catfish Races
 - Linda Miller's 39 Years of High School Drama
 - Georg Todd on Integration & Inauguration
 - Sally Lane's Candy on the Rachael Ray Show
 - Tom and Beverly Wood on Medicine & Pharmacy
 - Cherry Jones Remembers
- ...AND MUCH, MUCH MORE!

In the spring, Henry County is bustling with opportunities to get out and about. The PARIS! calendar of events page offers myriad activities at the fairgrounds, the Krider Performing Arts Center, the court square and beyond. But when you're ready to come home, kick off your shoes and hang out online, your first entertainment stop should be EAR BOOK.

EAR BOOK is a feature on www.MyParisMagazine.com where archived reminiscence and discussion of current events have finally found a home. Like the magazine, www.MyParisMagazine.com is a unique place where Henry Countians, expatriates, newcomers and others with strong ties to the area can enjoy the endearing qualities that define our special corner of the world. The dif-

ference is that with EAR BOOK, the stories, events and discussions can be enjoyed with the personalities, vocal traits and phrases left completely intact.

EAR BOOK premiered on January 1, 2009 when MyParisMagazine.com came online. Although I enjoy the other features such as SNAP IT! (daily photos that make me smile); GALLIVANT (fun itineraries and events calendar) and WHO KNEW? (local trivia that's usually new to me) it's EAR BOOK that grabs and keeps my attention.

Some of the conversations are historical in nature. For example, in one of the first interviews, Elliott Moody discusses growing up during the Depression. I even learned how to jump a train in that interview; not that I'm going to do it, but it's sure interest-

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Susan Jones and Brook Smith discuss Smith's winning 4H speech as she prepares to record it for Ear Book on www.MyParisMagazine.com. ▶



◀*Susan Jones works with 4-H Public Speaking Contest Winner Julie Shankle as she prepares to record her speech for Ear Book on www.MyParisMagazine.com.*

ing stuff. There's an interview with Dr. Tom and Beverly Wood that chronicles what it was like to practice medicine in Paris the 1950s, including the early days of East Wood Pharmacy. In another interview, Linda Wilson Miller discusses her 39 years as speech and drama instructor at Henry County High School and her mentor, "Miss Ruby" Krider, for whom the Krider Performing Arts Center is named. Georg Todd, native Henry Countian and current school board member, chats about the early days of integration and the recent U.S. presidential inauguration. Other upcoming interviews on the historic side of things include Herman Jackson, former downtown businessman and country executive; Sam Tharpe, current Mayor of Paris, and principal of Henry School and native Henry Countian and Roland Atkinson, former educator.

Other EAR BOOK interviews deal with current events, which to me are also historical in nature. After all, as soon as an event is over, it's history, right? There's a great interview with Martha Stewart and Sharon Kummerow about Helping Hand, which is need-to-know information for anyone claiming Henry County citi-

zenship. There are interviews with Bill Williams and Sue Quinn on the Catfish Races and Mike Weatherford who promotes demolition derbies and is the subject of a recent documentary. There's even an interview with Michele Atkins about the 4-H speaking contests along with follow-up recordings of the winners delivering their speeches. Now if that's not hometown, I don't know what is.

Perhaps the best thing about EAR BOOK has nothing to do with the fact that it entertains me and enriches my life. Perhaps the best thing is knowing that Elliot Moody's stories about the hard-scrabble days of the Great Depression in Paris, Georg Todd's memories of Central School, the winning 4-H speeches of 2009

and Cherry Jones' description of a man named Crawdad who used to sell popcorn downtown are not lost, but are forever available, in their own words.

If you know someone who would be a good prospect for EAR BOOK, contact Susan Jones via the website. In the meantime, give it a listen at www.MyParisMagazine.com. I think you'll find it as entertaining as I do.



Arthur Lodge is a retired Presbyterian minister, a model car collector and the straight man for the stand-up comedy team, Wilson and Lodge.

My Favorite Things



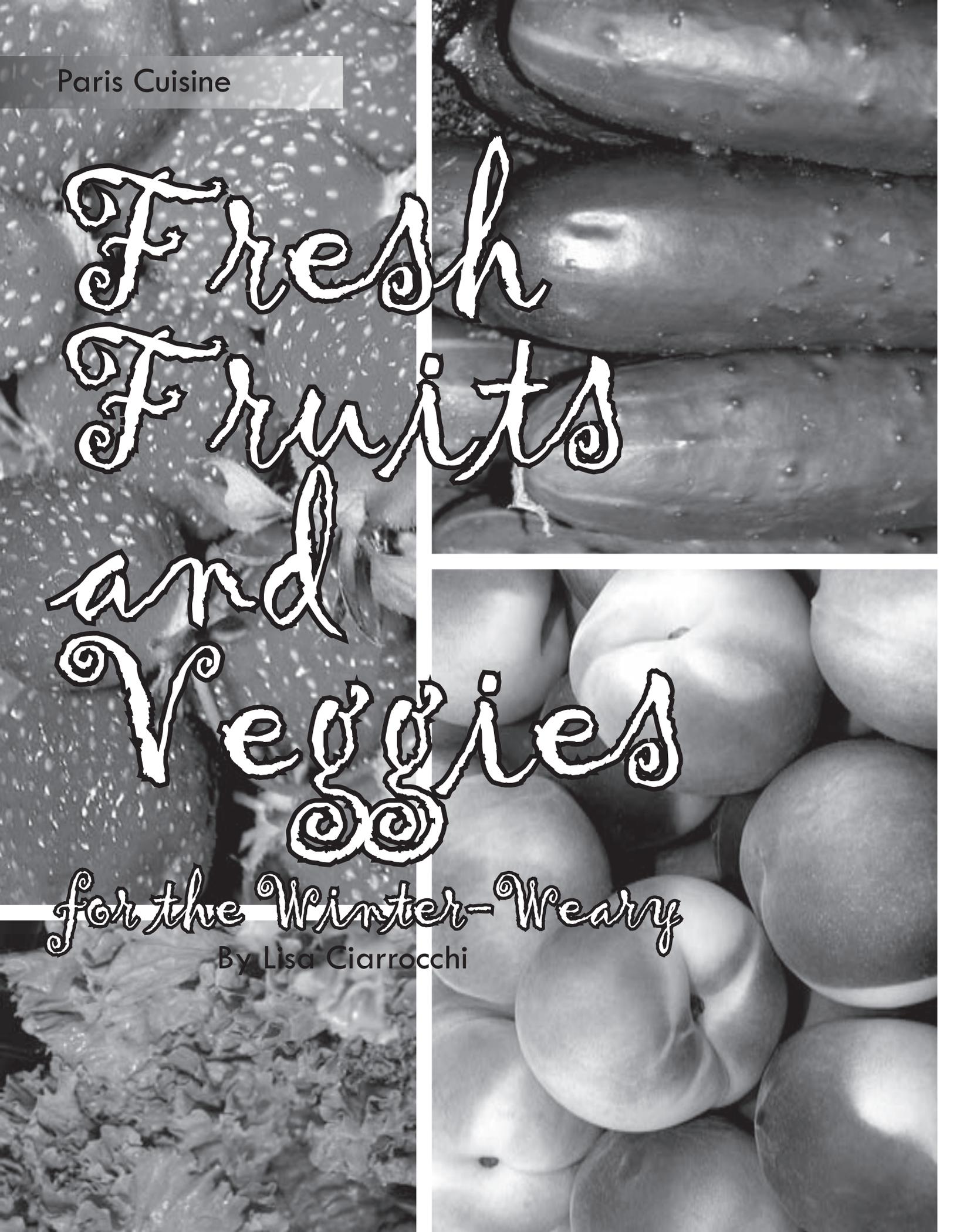
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Paris Cuisine



Fresh Fruits and Veggies

for the Winter-Wearry

By Lisa Ciarrocchi

Spring has sprung and the fever's come! Time to get out, and perhaps run into your master gardening buddies who are buying dirt and choosing their favorite flowers and veggies at the nursery.

I always want to start too early. Fortunately, Roger reminds me of the last frost and holds me back. Once I get started it's hard to stop. One thing's for sure, we all need some sustenance during planting season, so try a few of my favorite quick-and-simple supper recipes. You can savor these dishes with fresh fruits and veggies, whether you've had the patience to grow them yourself or gone to the Farmers' Market. Enjoy!

Potato Pepper Spinach Frittata

3 Tb. Ruggero's Extra Virgin Olive Oil

¾ lb. new potatoes, cubed

1 large onion cubed

1 tsp. minced garlic

8 oz. Monterey Jack or your favorite shredded cheese

6 large eggs

12 oz. sweet and/or hot peppers

1 bunch chopped spinach

Salt and pepper freshly ground to taste

Heat the oil in a large oven-proof or cast iron skillet over medium heat. Add the potatoes and sauté until they begin to brown. Add the peppers, onion and garlic and sauté for about seven minutes more or until the peppers wilt and the onion softens.

Add the spinach, reduce heat to medium low, and cover. Cook approximately three minutes or until spinach wilts. Beat eggs well, seasoning with salt and pepper. Stir in shredded cheese. Preheat broiler. Uncover skillet, and stir in potato mixture. Pour in the eggs, increase heat to medium high, tilt pan and lift mixture to allow uncooked eggs

to run underneath. Stir and continue cooking for approximately five minutes more. Broil the frittata for approximately one minute or until the top browns. Garnish with pepper slices and/or additional cheese and serve. Serves 6.

Beans & Greens-Italian Style

1 lb. mixed greens (turnip, mustard, collard, spinach, other)

1 cup chicken or beef broth

3 garlic cloves, minced

6 Tb. Ruggero's Extra Virgin Olive Oil

1 – 15.5 oz. can cannelloni beans

Optional : olive oil, salt, garlic, pepper, garlic salt, crushed red pepper.

Rinse greens well and cut or tear into large chunks. Heat olive oil in a skillet on medium low then add garlic and lightly sauté. Add broth and greens. Cover and cook 30 minutes or until greens are tender, turning as leaves cook down. Remove lid and cook a little longer until liquid is nearly evaporated. Add additional olive oil, garlic, salt, pepper, garlic salt and crushed red pepper, to taste.

Strawberry Butter

I got this one from a famous area restaurant!

1 10 oz. pkg. frozen strawberries (thawed)

1 cup unsweetened butter (room temperature)

¾ cup powdered sugar

1 ½ tsp. grated orange peel (optional)

Blend together butter and strawberries until smooth, scraping bowl occasionally for 5 minutes. Add powdered sugar and continue to blend approximately one minute. Cover and chill. Serve chilled or at room temperature. Store in refrigerator. Serve with rolls, over pancakes

or crepes, as a breakfast spread or on delicious strawberry bread, below. Can be made five days ahead. Makes a great gift. Makes 2 cups.

Strawberry Bread

3 cups flour

3 tsp. cinnamon

1 ¼ cups cooking oil

2 – 10 oz. pkgs. Frozen, sliced strawberries (thawed)

1 tsp. salt

4 eggs (well-beaten)

1 tsp. baking soda

2 cups sugar

1 ¼ cups chopped nuts (walnuts or pecans)

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Butter and flour two 9 x 5 loaf pans. Sift together flour, baking soda, salt, cinnamon and sugar into large mixing bowl. Make a well in center of dry ingredients and add remaining ingredients, blending well. Divide batter into pans. Bake 45 to 50 minutes or until toothpick comes out clean. Remove from pan and cool completely. Serve with strawberry butter.

Gardener's Granita

4 cups water

1 package Paris Winery Wine Slushie Mix

3 ¼ cups Paris Winery Tower Red (chilled)

2 cups assorted fresh whole berries, nectarines and/or peaches

In a two-quart Tupperware bowl combine slushie mix, water and wine; stir well. Cover and freeze about six hours or until firm. To serve, place in pitcher or individual glass and add fruit.



Lisa Ciarrocchi and her husband Roger own Paris Winery. Email her at www.ParisWinery.com.

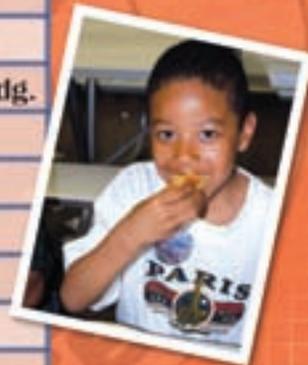
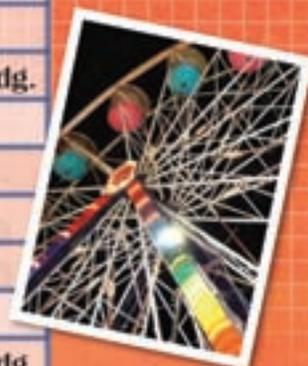
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2009 Fifty-Sixth Annual WORLD'S BIGGEST FISH FRY

Time	2009 56th WBF Event	Location
MONDAY, APRIL 20, 2009		
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Kick Off Dance	Fairgrounds Pavilion
TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2009		
5:00 pm - 11:00 pm	CARNIVAL	Fairgrounds
7:00 pm - 10:00 pm	Country Dance	Fairgrounds Enoch Bldg.
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2009		
5:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Fish Tent	Fairgrounds
5:00 pm - 11:00 pm	CARNIVAL	Fairgrounds
7:00 pm	Christian Concert	Fairgrounds
THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2009		
5:00 pm - 8:30 pm	Arts & Crafts Show	Fairgrounds Enoch Bldg.
5:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Fish Tent	Fairgrounds
5:00 pm - 11:00 pm	CARNIVAL	Fairgrounds
7:30 pm	IPRA Rodeo	Fairgrounds
FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 2009		
8:30 am - 8:30 pm	Arts & Crafts Show	Fairgrounds Enoch Bldg.
10:00 am	Grand Parade	East Wood Street
11:00 am - 9:00 pm	Fish Tent	Fairgrounds
11:00 am - midnight	CARNIVAL	Fairgrounds
7:30 pm	IPRA Rodeo	Fairgrounds
SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2009		
7:00 am - 9:00 am	Horse & Mule Pull - weigh in	Fairgrounds
10:00 am	Horse & Mule Pull Contest	Fairgrounds
10:00 am	Small Fry Parade	Downtown
10:00 am - 8:30 pm	Arts & Crafts Show	Fairgrounds Enoch Bldg.
10:30 am	Catfish Races	Downtown
noon - 3:00 pm	Jr. Fishing Rodeo	Williams Lake
11:00 am - 9:00 pm	Fish Tent	Fairgrounds
11:00 am - midnight	CARNIVAL	Fairgrounds
7:30 pm	IPRA Rodeo	Fairgrounds
SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2009		
1:00 pm - 6:00 pm	CARNIVAL	Fairgrounds



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