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2 LOCATIONS TO SERVE YOU

3757 Blackburn Mtn. Rd. - Sparta, TN - 931-738-9108
924 Miller Lane - Smithville, TN - 615-597-9166

* Financing Available, W.A.C. See dealer for details.

END OF
FALL
SALE!

Attention: ALL Tree Professionals
DO YOU NEED

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PRODUCTS



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WE HAVE ARBOR PRODUCTS

Visit your local Rotary Dealer for all your Arbor needs.



Moyer's Repair

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Profoundly simple and solid, offering you the best combination of performance, versatility, compact footprint, and low operating cost.

- 52" or 61" deck options
- 27hp Kawasaki FX850 engine
- Hydro-Gear ZT-4400 transaxles
- Up to 12.5 mph ground speeds
- 11-gallon fuel capacity
- 24" drive tires

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MEET OUR NEWEST WRIGHT DEALER!

MOYERS SUPPLY & REPAIR SERVICE
3757 Blackburn Mountain Road • Sparta, TN 38583
(931) 738-9108



Merry Christmas

Clint Conner & The Exit Cross Roads Auction team would like to thank all of our customers & sellers for making 2024 great!

**Just a little recap of some of our 2024 Auctions!
We could not do it without you!**



**59.37+- acre farm
Sparta, TN**



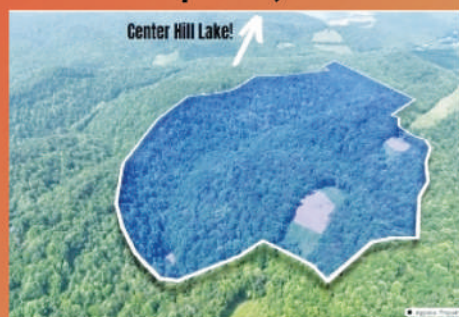
**3 Homes & 12.83+- Acres
Cookeville, TN**



**47+- Acre Farm
Jamestown, TN**



**Home & 84.22+- Acres
Quebeck, TN**



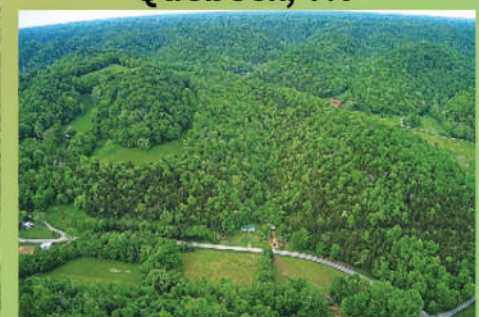
**140+- Acres
Silver Point, TN**



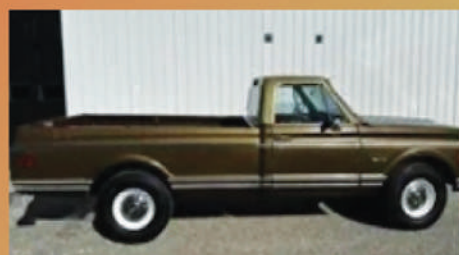
Twin Lakes Equipment



**162.74+- Acres
Cookeville, TN**



**Home & 66.29+- Acres
Whitleyville, TN**



Classic Trucks



Guns/Knives/Ammo



Tractors/Boats/Equip.



Classic Vintage Cars



**Appliance Mart
Cookeville, TN**



**Home & 6.29+-/- acres
Hartsville, TN**

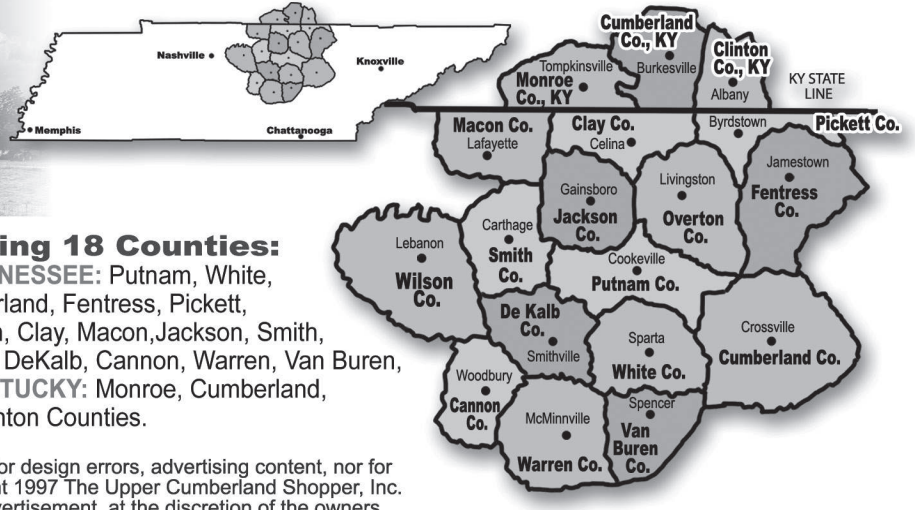
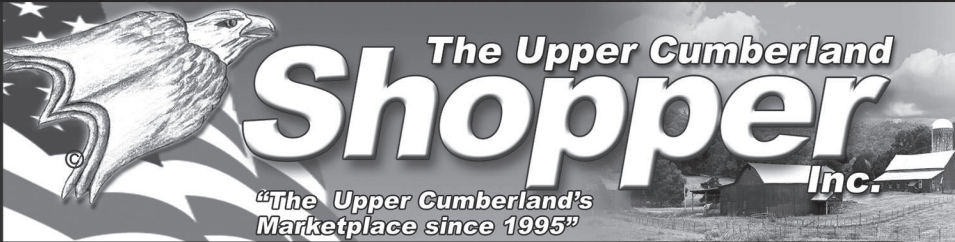


**64.79 Acres
Hilham, TN**



**4 Homes & 164+- Acres
Paris, TN**

"And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins." - Matthew 1:21



Advertising Information Can Be Obtained By:

Phone: 931-372-9978 • **E-Mail:** theucshopper@gmail.com

Mail: 3900 Clouse Drive, Cookeville, TN 38506

Classified Ads: Form inside back cover of each issue

Serving 18 Counties:

IN TENNESSEE: Putnam, White, Cumberland, Fentress, Pickett, Overton, Clay, Macon, Jackson, Smith, Wilson, DeKalb, Cannon, Warren, Van Buren, **IN KENTUCKY:** Monroe, Cumberland, and Clinton Counties.

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The Breath of Life

“Praise the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has visited and redeemed his people. He has sent us a mighty Savior from the royal line of his servant David, just as he promised through his holy prophets long ago. Now we will be saved from our enemies and from all who hate us. He has been merciful to our ancestors by remembering his sacred covenant - the covenant he swore with an oath to our ancestor Abraham. We have been rescued from our enemies so we can serve God without fear, in holiness and righteousness for as long as we live.”



Luke 1:
68 - 75
(NLT)

**Community
EVENTS
Calendar**



EMAIL: THEUCSHOPPER@GMAIL.COM FOR A FREE LISTING OF YOUR EVENT!

ONGOING:

Lights in the Park: Dogwood Park's nearly 40-foot-tall Christmas tree will be lit with a 15-minute interval musical light show at the top of the hour nightly between 5 and 9 p.m. now through the holiday season.

Vietnam Veterans of America: The VVA meets for a potluck dinner the second Thursday each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Veterans Building, 90 E. Spring St., Cookeville. All Vietnam Era Veterans are welcome. For more information, email sammybntn1950@gmail.com.

Christmas Forest: The festive Christmas Forest exhibit at the Cookeville History Museum, in its 9th year, is open now through Jan. 4. The event features a display of Christmas trees decorated by local nonprofits and placed throughout our community museum. Enjoy hot cider, Christmas treats and merriment with the organizations who helped create the forest. Admission is free. Call 931-520-5455 for more information.

Donations Needed: The Upper Cumberland Foster Closet is asking for those interested, for

the month of December to donate toiletries.

Christmas Light Spectacular: A drive-thru Light Display. Hidden Hollow Park, 1901 Mt. Pleasant Rd. Cookeville TN. Till New Year's Eve 12-31-2024. Time: 5 - 9:00 pm. The Largest Christmas Light display in the Upper Cumberland. \$7.00 per person (3 under free). Christmas Sleigh Wagon photo Op. Snack Bar, Gem mining next to water wheel spring. Call 931-526-4038 questions.

Chair Aerobics and Tai Chi: The Baxter Senior Center will hold chair aerobics and Tai Chi class every Tuesday and Friday at 10 a.m. Silver Fit approved. For more information, call 931-858-5657.

Twice Told Tales Book Sale: The first Saturday of every month the Putnam County Library will open their used book store from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. PCLF members will get first access the Friday before from 4-5:30 p.m. Memberships are available at the door. \$3 for hardbound books, \$1 for paperbacks and 50 cents for children's books. Book donations are always appreciated. See the librarian at the front desk for more information.

Arts and Crafts Corner: Mondays from 10:15-11:15 a.m. at the Putnam County Library. Join us for a new adult art or craft project each week. Supplies are provided.

December 20-22 Visits with Santa: Santa Claus is coming to Dogwood Park offering a free visit with the jolly old fellow and his elves at the Dogwood Performance Pavilion, 40 E. Broad St., Cookeville from 5-8 p.m.

December 27 Blood Drive: The Blood Assurance Blood Mobile will be at 319 Broad St., Baxter, with Neighbors Helping Neighbors from 1:30-4:30 p.m. All donors will receive an emailed \$25 gift card and all o-negative donors will be emailed a \$40 gift card. Visit bloodassurance.org to register.

December 27 MOVIE: Frozen, Location: Putnam Co. Library. Time: 10 am - 12 noon. Celebrate winter with a special showing of Frozen!

CONTACT INFO TO PLACE YOUR EVENT CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE ~3~ IN THE INFORMATION HEADING. ADS WILL BE EDITED FOR SPACE CONSIDERATIONS.

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This will be our 37th Annual Live Auction Event. High quality antiques, bronze collection, life size bronzes, Remington bronze statues, Victorian, French, Italian and European antiques, Fine American Antiques, Persian Rugs, Garden urns, Benches and so much more.

Barry Wilkinson/Auctioneer
TAL#2463

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2 DAY YEAREND EQUIPMENT AUCTION

1234 HWY 68, SWEETWATER, TN 37874

JAN 1 @ 9AM LIVE AND WITH ONLINE BIDDING
JAN 2 @ 5PM ONLINE ONLY BIDDING



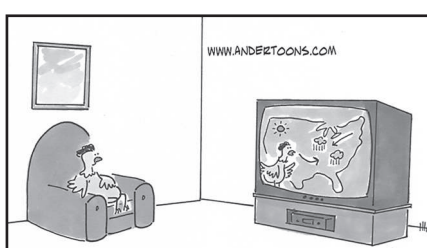
Check our website
regularly for updates

LAST DAY TO CONSIGN DEC. 20 2024
ACCEPTING EQUIPMENT M-F 9AM-5PM EST.

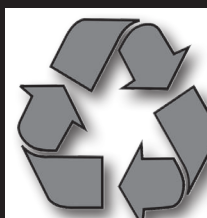
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Reduce | Reuse | Recycle
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RAIN OR SHINE
CONCESSIONS & RESTROOM
HELP INSIDE CLIMATE CONTROLLED
LOTS OF ITEMS



SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 2025, 9:00 A.M.

LOCATION:

SALLY WELLS BUILDING • MACON COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital is located in Memphis, Tennessee and is a leader in pediatric cancer research and treatment. St. Jude treats over 5000 patients each year, regardless of their ability to pay. Proceeds from this auction will go directly to St. Jude in support of their daily operations. So remember, "It's not about us, it's about the kids of St. Jude." For donations or more information call (615) 666-2232.



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Annette Morgan.....615-633-6298	Kyle Woodard.....615-388-7715
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1013 CAVE HILL ROAD • LAFAYETTE, TENNESSEE

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SELLING IN TRACTS IN COMBINATIONS
\$500 FREE DRAWING

31 ACRES / 3 TRACTS (WITH RIGHTS OF COMBINATIONS)
3 BR / 2½ BATH HOUSE W/WRAP AROUND PORCH • CITY WATER • C/H/A
NICELY LANDSCAPED • FENCED & CROSS FENCED • METAL SHOP BUILDING
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JOHN DEERE BATWING BUSH HOG • JOHN DEERE GATOR • YALE TOW MOTOR
MR. GARTH MIDDAGH PROPERTY

BID ONLINE @ WWW.APRO.BID BEGINNING DECEMBER 23RD OR BID ON-SITE

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18TH, 10 A.M. (C.S.T.)

ON-SITE AUCTION LOCATION:
ON THE FARM AND INSIDE THE SHOP @ 1013 CAVE HILL ROAD, LAFAYETTE, TN 37083

OPEN HOUSE
SATURDAY, JAN. 4TH, 10 AM-12 NOON
SUNDAY, JAN. 5TH, 2 PM-4 PM
(COME TO THE OPEN HOUSE AND REGISTER FOR A CASH DRAWING)

SELLER PROVIDING FREE BREAKFAST ON DAY OF AUCTION... PLAN TO GET THERE EARLY!

DIRECTIONS TO PROPERTY AND SALE SITE: Travel Hwy. 10N (Scottsville Road) approx. 5 miles to Cold Springs Road, left onto Cold Springs Road, left onto Cave Hill Road to property and sale site on the right (signs posted)

Information in this ad is believed to be correct but not warranted. Any announcement made day of sale takes precedence over all other advertising.

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Annette Morgan.....615-633-6298	Kyle Woodard.....615-388-7715
Cameron Roberts.....615-388-5576	Jennifer West.....615-830-4956

A grandmother pretends she doesn't know who you are on Halloween.
- Erma Bombeck

When you get tired, learn to rest, not to quit.
- Banksy

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In his career, choreographer George Balanchine created more than 200 ballets.

ANIMALS

Free German Shepherd to good home. 3-1/2 years old, good with kids, friendly, loyal. Must keep away from chickens and other farm poultry. Needs room to run & play. Call Gary at 615-260-6854.

Come meet some great Forever Friends that need Homes at the Putnam Co. Animal Shelter located at: 2600 Gainesboro Grade, Cookeville, TN Call 931-526-364 for hours and make sure to bring pet id# with you. **Barry:** male, Tan/White Labrador Retriever mix dog, 3 years old. **Baxter:** male, orange tabby & white domestic shorthair mix cat, 4 years old. **Big Mamma:** female, Black and White domestic medium hair mix cat, 9 years old. **Turducken:** Female, Black & White Treeing Hound mix, 1 year 8 months old. Make room for a sweet companion in your life! We have lots of wonderful dogs and cats to choose from.

Macon Spay Neuter Assistance. We offer Affordable High-Quality Spay & Neuter Services with Bi-Monthly Transports. **Greatly reduced rates.** Call 615-670-0448 for appointment. www.ms-na.org. Non-Profit 501(c)(3). Macon County.

CARS

2001 Chrysler Sebring LX Convertible. Raymond Johnson 931-265-6258.

CARS

2017 Buick Regal: d AWD, turbo, leather, all power, fully loaded. Only 54K miles. Serviced every 3k miles, excellent condition - \$16,500. Call 931-644-0722.

You Don't Have to Spend a crazy price for a Battery. Good car & truck batteries for only \$50 + tax with exchange. B&K Auto Sales, 2595 W. Broad St. Cookeville. 931-372-1380.

EMPLOYMENT

Class A CDL Drivers Wanted: \$800 to 1,200 per week. Home at least 2 days a week. Please call Gary at 615-260-6854.

Now Seeking Self Motivated, apprentice/helper for professional plumbing co. 931-271-0216.

FARMING

For Sale: Quality grass hay, small squares, 2nd and 3rd cuttings - \$6.00/bale. Tompkinsville, KY. Call 270-459-2075.

FARMING

Farm fresh duck eggs available: \$4/dozen. Putnam Co. Call or text 931-252-0176.

HOUSEHOLD

Three Custom Made Solid Black Walnut tables: 36" wide, 72" long with turned letgs. One **Cherry Table** same dimensions - \$300 each. Take all for \$1,000. Call 931-537-3202 after 6 pm.

LG brand clothes Dryer 'red', with cord, bought new set - \$200. Call 931-864-1028 Byrdstown, TN.

For Sale: Amana 17 Upright freezer, like new condition. Asking \$250. Call 931-707-0207

ABSOLUTELY THE BEST - Your Kitchen Cabinet Headquarters. LOW PRICES Everyday. Finished & Unfinished Oak-Ready to Install Vanity-Ext. Doors-Windows-Kitchen Counter Tops-Tub & Shower Units-Laminate Flooring. Locally owned for over 24 years. **BUDGET SALES - 1930 E. Spring St. (I-40, exit 290) Cookeville, TN.** Call 931-528-8879.

MISCELLANEOUS

Native American Terra Cotta and Rare Points and Blades. Caddo, Quapaw, Mississippian bowls, jugs, etc. Many arrowheads are Paleo period, will consider antique guns part trade. Call 731-412-9514.

Wanted to Buy: Used accordion or accordion repair assistance. Call 636-734-2520.

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**Buy 4 Tires,
Get \$60 OFF**
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See pictures at
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ID 1680

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Services We Provide:

We are a nonprofit organization that provides emergency assistance to individuals and families facing poverty or crisis. Our services include food, utilities, medical expenses, rent, and gas vouchers for out-of-county medical appointments. We are committed to supporting those in need and helping them overcome challenges.



*We Appreciate
Your Support
and Donations!*



Interested in volunteering in the office or helping to unload food trucks? Please call us. Office volunteers must be fully trained and able to commit to weekly hours.

We are open 9am-12pm and 1pm-3pm,
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Call 931-526-3838
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S/W Home & Lot

Bidding ends Saturday Dec 21st 10am.



2029 Wildwood Ct. Cookeville, TN



Backyard



3 bed 2 bath single wide mobile home situated on a large lot. Convenience plus affordability equals great opportunity. Do not miss this Absolute Auction!
Auction Preview Sunday Dec 15th 2-4pm.

Clint Conner Real Estate Broker/Auctioneer (931)644-7149

CROSSROADSAUCTIONGROUP.COM

Terms: All property in this auction sells "As is, Where is" having given the right to bidders to inspect prior to bidding. No Warranties or Guarantees. Buyers to place a 15% deposit with the balance due on or before 30 days. 2024 property tax paid by seller. 2025 property taxes paid by buyer. All bidding takes place online. 10% buyer's premium applies.



CROSS ROADS AUCTION GROUP
#6589



Vintage Trucks • Tractors • Trailers • Campers •
Boats • Quality Tools • Antiques

ONLINE ONLY AUCTION



Rare 1970 Chevrolet C/20 Custom
Camper Big Block



1976 GMC C15



Massey Ferguson 1431 Tractor



Tracker Targa Boat



Featherlite Horse Trailer



Sierra Camper



Chevy Avalanche



Massey Ferguson 1431
Tractor



Delco Flatbed Trailer



2007 Club Car



CLINT CONNER BROKER/AUCTIONEER (931)644-7149

Crossroadsauctiongroup.com

**BIDDING ENDS AUCTION
TUESDAY JAN PREVIEW
7TH 5PM**
Sunday Jan 5th 2-4pm

4500 Cookeville Hwy Cookeville, TN

Vehicles & Campers: 1970 Chevy Truck, 1976 GMC Truck, Chevy Avalanche, Ford Explorer, Tracer Camper, Four Winds Motor Home, Sierra Camper. Equipment/ Trailers/ Boats/ Etc.: Tracker Targa Boat, Tracker Pro V Boat, Bryant Boat, Massey Ferguson 1431 Tractor, Tyn 949 Tractor, John Deere 2750 Tractor, Featherlite Horse Trailer, Delco Flatbed Trailer, Golf Cart, Guitars: Applause By Ovation, Squire By Fender, Ibanes, Epiphone Special, Cordoba Requito, Mitchell 12 String, Cordoba Ukulele, Fender Champion, Microphones, & Many More Musical Items! Tools/Shop Items/Furniture/ Etc: Dewalt Table Saws, Tools, & More, Craftsman Tool Chest, Tools, & More, Milwaukee Items, Plumbing Items, Lights, Clamps, Rope, Nailers, Fittings, Compressors, Extension Ladders, Drills, Saws, Electrical Supplies, Painting Supplies, Entertainment Center, Dresser, Refrigerator & Freezer, Air Compressors, Heaters, & So Much More! Coins & More: Proof Sets, Proof Quarters, Uncirculated Mint Sets, Silver Quarters.
More Items: African Hartebeest Mount, Livingston Academy Aluminum Stadium Sign, Collectible Dolls, Books, Coke Bottles, Cameras, Computers, Artwork, Picnic Baskets, Globes, Coffee Makers, & More!



CROSS ROADS AUCTION GROUP
#6589

Buyers are encouraged to make any and all inspections and due diligence prior to sale date. Selling "as is". Payment & Pickup: Come at your convenience anytime between Wednesday Jan 8th- Friday Jan 10th, from 9-4pm!

**Matthew
28:16-20**

Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

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has something yet
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- George Santayana

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- Edward H. Dreschnack

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The unique blend of hard work and holiday cheer makes Christmas on the farm unlike any other. The traditions that spring from this lifestyle are shaped by the land, the animals, and the people who work them.

While many families open presents early and spend the day celebrating, farm families often have to wait until after morning chores are done to relax and enjoy the festivities. Yet it is in these moments - with the chilly morning barn visits and the comforting scent of breakfast baking - that farm families create their own deeply meaningful traditions.



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Total Nutrition

Listen To Your Heart

by Mindy Hermann, R.D.

(NAPSA)—It's time to have a heart-to-heart talk about how to take better care of our own hearts. I'm borrowing David Letterman's famous inverted Top 10 list to give you a variety of tips and reasons to enjoy whole grains:

10. Switch to whole wheat tortillas. People who eat whole grain foods regularly have a 20 to 40 percent lower heart disease risk when compared to those who rarely eat whole grain foods.

9. Fill your tortilla with fat-free refried beans. Legumes, including pinto beans (the refried beans bean), soybeans, kidney beans and their relatives, are tied to heart health.

8. Top your favorite casserole with crushed Whole Grain Total®. Not only is the entire Total® family made with whole grain, but the cereals also all have calcium to support a strong body and antioxidant vitamin E to support a healthy mind.

7. Switch from white to brown rice. It's as easy as asking for brown instead of white when you order your favorite Chinese food. Making rice at home? Allow about twice the cooking time for brown, or pick up quick-cooking varieties.

6. Get poppin'. Popcorn is one of America's favorite whole grains. Remember to watch the fat since movie theater popcorn and some commercial brands can be greasy.

5. Enjoy a whole bowl. Eating a bowl of whole grain cereal, such as Total® Cranberry Crunch, takes just minutes and is better at lowering heart disease risk than eating refined grains.

4. Try white. White whole wheat flour, that is. Milled from a whole wheat kernel that is lighter in color, white whole wheat flour has all the benefits of standard whole wheat flour.

3. Start with just one. While the Dietary Guidelines suggest a minimum of three daily servings (for a total of at least 48 grams) of food from whole grains, research shows that just one serving a day reduces risk of heart disease. Once you're getting one, move it up to two and then at least three.

2. Be bold. Try different types of whole grains, such as quinoa, amaranth and blends of different rices and grains. If your supermarket supply is limited, try a natural foods or specialty store.

1. Find the foods you like. With the growing number of whole grain choices in the supermarket aisles, you're bound to find several that you like. Keep up the good work. "Several studies show marked reduction in cholesterol and triglycerides when whole grains, as opposed to refined grains, are part of your diet," says David W. Grotto, R.D., author of "101 Foods That Could Save Your Life!"

Mindy Hermann, MBA, R.D., is a nutrition writer for women's, health and fitness magazines. She is the co-author of "Change One" and the American Medical Association's "Family Health Cookbook."



Mindy Hermann

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Jonathan is talkative and outgoing. He enjoys playing sports such as basketball and football, riding ATVs, playing videogames or just watching a movie.

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'Blessings After Christmas'

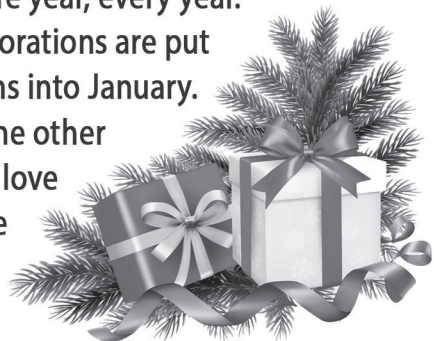
The Christmas season is truly a wonderful time of the year. There is beautiful and fun Christmas music almost everywhere, and the decorations on the homes and inside stores are enjoyable as well. It is inspiring to witness the outpouring of generosity, with so many people giving more of their time and money to help others who are experiencing serious difficulties in their lives. I am very thankful for the generosity of so many people during this time of the year.

Blessing other people is so important for all us to do. God blesses us so that we can be a blessing to others. It is important to stay in that frame of mind after the Christmas season has ended. The decorations will be put away until next year, the special music will be played very infrequently for the next eight or nine months and the frantic pace of the season will give way to a somewhat quieter level of insanity. What will not change is the daily needs of people who are facing severe struggles in every day life. Although our economy has been gradually improving the past year, many people continue to be in severe financial distress. Some are still about to lose their homes, not able to adequately feed and clothe their children, are unemployed or underemployed unable to pay all their bills, and some are homeless.

Whatever you do during the Christmas season to bless other people, please continue to do those things continuously after Christmas, and throughout the entire year, every year.

Needs do not go away after the decorations are put away in storage, and December turns into January.

Everyone needs food, shelter, and the other basics of life. God does his works of love and compassion through His people doing His work. We are blessed so that we can be a blessing.



"This is to my Father's glory, that you bear much fruit, showing yourselves to be my disciples." - John 15: 8



"No, it's just polar disorder."

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- Anonymous

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1 Corinthians 13: 4 - 8:13



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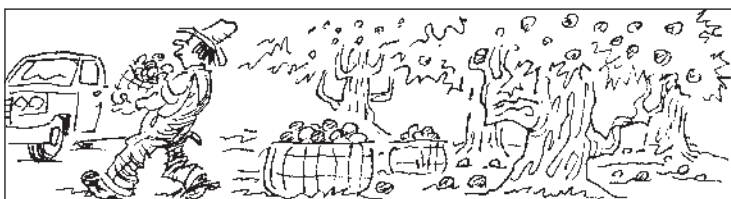
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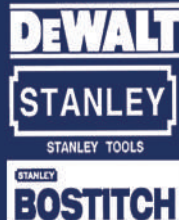
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WTF fun fact #13426

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- Robert Frost



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- Ralph Waldo Emerson

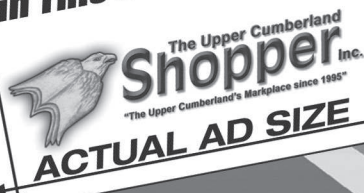
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James 1:13-17

When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

Don't be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters. Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.



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HOLIDAY HINTS

Effortless Holiday Hosting: Simple Tips to Keep Your Home Sparkling

(NAPS)—During the holiday season, as homes filled with laughter, joy, and loved ones, hosting a happy gathering can be a great way to catch up with friends and family—and it doesn't have to feel overwhelming.

With the right plan in place, you can manage the holiday hustle with ease and wow your guests with top-tier accommodations. Here are hints on how:

Surface Cleaning Made Simple

Kick your old, backbreaking cleaning routine and opt for a true do-it-all product great for any surface. Pinalen 2X, available on Amazon, is a great option thanks to its combination of grime-fighting power and affordable price.

"It's easy to overcomplicate kitchen cleanup," celebrity chef and ALEn USA ambassador Marcela Valladolid says. "While I want my holiday flavors to pack a punch, when it comes to cleaning I like to keep it as simple as possible. The holidays are busy, which means I am juggling meal prep on top of my kids and family buzzing around the house. The chatter and energy during this time of year is so special, but when you're hosting, it can lead to added mess and stress—but with a powerful multipurpose cleaner such as Pinalen you really can't go wrong. It makes spot cleaning a breeze, so wiping up spills is a mindless task and I can keep my energy and attention on celebrating with good food and quality time with loved ones."

You can clean nearly effortlessly between countertops, tables, and even floors, using the same bottle for virtually any cleanup task. For extra glam, Chef Marcela underscores the importance of having your house smell as good as it looks, so she recommends opting for Pinalen Luxury Scents to fill your home with soothing aromas that add a hint of elegance.



Holidays can be happier with the help of easy cleaning products and elegant scents.

Plan Ahead for Spills and Stains


Spills happen and stains inevitably follow, so don't let a tipped glass ruin an evening of laughs with the people you love. Chef Marcela always channels her Mexican heritage through her cooking, which means she loves a good sauce and strong ingredients, so she knows that Ensueño Laundry Detergent has your back if you get a little Guajillo Garlic Butter on your tablecloth or if your kids are messy eaters like hers. For anything extra tricky, Cloralen Stain Remover is color-safe and boosts traditional laundry detergent for a powerful clean on everything from clothes, tablecloths and napkins to carpets and upholstery.

Prepare for Overnight Guests

Whether it's family members coming in from out of town or just accommodating mid-afternoon food comas, if you're hosting a long holiday celebration you might just end up with a few guests ready for a snooze. Ensueño Max Fabric Softener is great for those guest bedroom sheets and blankets to create a cozy, inviting, and fresh-smelling place for anyone staying the night or sneaking in a nap.

Learn More

For further tips and information on cleaning visit www.alenusabrands.com.



CHRISTMAS

A CELEBRATION OF CHRIST

"But the angel said to her, 'Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God. You will be with child and give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; his kingdom will never end.'"
Luke 1: 30 - 33

"And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn. Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be the sign to you: you will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: 'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, goodwill toward men!' " Luke 2:7-14

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Recipe Korner

The Perfect Small-Plate Party

(NAPSA)—Small plates are an ideal way to entertain friends—especially on a Friday night after a long week. The perfect menu does not need to be complicated; in fact, make it super simple by serving easy-to-prepare foods paired with a variety of wines.

Worldly Wines

Experiment and have fun tasting wines from different wine-growing regions. Try Tempranillo from Spain, Pinot Grigio from Italy, Malbec from Argentina and Sauvignon Blanc from New Zealand.

Heated Nuts and Olives

Choose two pretty bowls out of the cupboard and fill one with nuts that have been heated in a dry pan and the other with heated olives fancied up with some herbs.

A Variety of Cheeses

Be adventurous and select a cow's milk cheese, a goat's milk cheese and a sheep's milk cheese. Arrange them on a board and serve with crackers or sliced baguette.

Crunchy Crudité

For a little crunch and something healthy, too, some cucumber spears, radishes, and carrot and celery sticks will do the trick. Serve them with a store-bought hummus or green goddess dressing.

Savory and Sweet

Who doesn't like a little savory and sweet? Try wrapping prosciutto around melon, figs or dates stuffed with blue cheese.

For the pièce de résistance, you can make this:

Baked Polenta with Ripe Olive Peperonata

Prep Time: 15 minutes
Cook Time: 25 minutes

Ingredients You Need:

- 3 tablespoons olive oil, divided
- 2 cups diced red onion
- 4 cups seeded, diced plum tomatoes



More and more people are big on having small-plate parties.

- ¼ cup red wine vinegar
- 1 cup halved Lindsay® Ripe Pitted Olives
- 2 cups diced Lindsay® Red Roasted Peppers or Lindsay® Sweet Cherry Peppers or Lindsay® Sliced Sweet Banana Peppers
- 1 cup chopped fresh basil
- 1 (16-oz.) tube prepared polenta, cut into 16 slices

Cooking Directions:

- Heat oven to 475° F.
- Heat 2 tablespoons of the oil in heavy saucepan. Add red onion and cook over medium-high heat for 3 minutes.
- Add tomatoes and vinegar. Reduce heat; sauté 5 minutes.
- Add olives, peppers and basil; sauté 5 minutes.
- Season to taste with salt and pepper if desired. Keep warm.
- Meanwhile, brush remaining 1 tablespoon oil over both sides of polenta rounds. Place on a large baking sheet coated with cooking spray.
- Bake until golden brown, about 6 or 7 minutes per side.
- Arrange polenta slices on plates and portion olive mixture on top.

Serve and enjoy! For more tasty recipes, please visit www.ilovelindsay.com.

Psalm 139:13-17

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be. How precious to me are your thoughts, God! How vast is the sum of them!

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- Mark Twain

Don't ever take a fence down until you know why it was put up.
- Robert Frost



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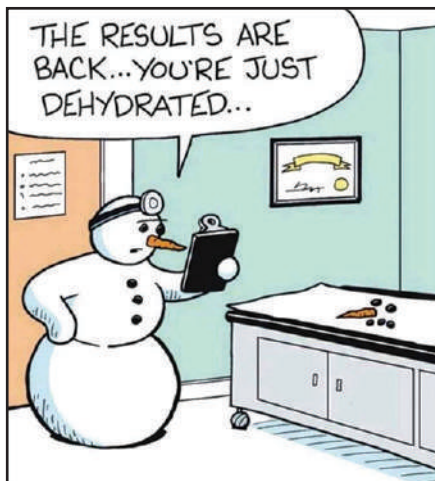
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**USE IT
TO BLESS
OTHERS**



Life is a succession
of lessons which must be
lived to be understood.
- Ralph Waldo Emerson

My Confession

The following was written by Ben Stein and recited by him on CBS Sunday Morning Commentary:

My confession:

I am a Jew, and every single one of my ancestors was Jewish. And it does not bother me even a little bit when people call those beautiful lit up, bejeweled trees Christmas trees. I don't feel threatened. I don't feel discriminated against. That's what they are: Christmas trees.

It doesn't bother me a bit when people say, "Merry Christmas" to me. I don't think they are slighting me or getting ready to put me in a ghetto. In fact, I kind of like it. It shows that we are all brothers and sisters celebrating this happy time of year. It doesn't bother me at all that there is a manger scene on display at a key intersection near my beach house in Malibu. If people want a creche, it's just as fine with me as is the Menorah a few hundred yards away

I don't like getting pushed around for being a Jew, and I don't think Christians like getting pushed around for being Christians. I think people who believe in God are sick and tired of getting pushed around, period. I have no idea where the concept came from that America is an explicitly atheist country. I can't find it in the Constitution and I don't like it being shoved down my throat.

Or maybe I can put it another way: where did the idea come from that we should worship Nick and Jessica and we aren't allowed to worship God as we understand Him? I guess that's a sign that I'm getting old, too. But there are a lot of us who are wondering where Nick and Jessica came from and where the America we knew went to.

In light of the many jokes we send to one another for a laugh, this is a little different: This is not intended to be a joke; it's not funny, it's intended to get you thinking.

Billy Graham's daughter was interviewed on the Early Show and Jane Clayson asked her "How could God let something like this happen?" (regarding Katrina) Anne Graham gave an extremely profound and insightful response.

She said, "I believe God is deeply saddened by this, just as we are, but for years we've been telling God to get out of our schools, to get out of our government and to get out of our lives. And being the gentleman He is, I believe He has calmly backed out. How can we expect God to give us His blessing and His protection if we demand He leave us alone?"

In light of recent events...terrorists attack, school shootings, etc. I think it started when Madeleine Murray O'Hare (she was murdered, her body found recently) complained she didn't want prayer in our schools, and we said OK.

Then someone said you better not read the Bible in school. The Bible says thou shalt not kill, thou shalt not steal, and love your neighbor as yourself. And we said OK.

Then Dr. Benjamin Spock said we shouldn't spank our children when they misbehave because their little personalities would be warped and we might damage their self-esteem (Dr. Spock's son committed suicide). We said an expert should know what he's talking about. And we said OK.

Now we're asking ourselves why our children have no conscience, why they don't know right from wrong, and why it doesn't bother them to kill strangers, their classmates, and themselves.

Probably, if we think about it long and hard enough, we can figure it out. I think it has a great deal to do with "WE REAP WHAT WE SOW."

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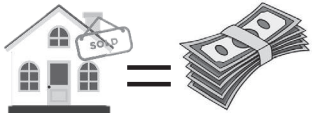
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"Finally, I'm sure you've heard the rumors about these new flying goats going around. I have no idea if they're true, but all the same, let's really dazzle the old guy this year, OK?"



"While watching a large oceangoing cargo ship slip quietly into the Atlantic I noticed a mark on the side of the ship. Having been in the Navy for several years, I was rather embarrassed to ask my friend what it meant. 'It's a Plimsoll Mark,' he said with authority. It was not an answer that helped at all, so I asked, 'What's a Plimsoll Mark?' 'It's a load-line on the ship that shows how much cargo the ship can carry safely under different conditions. For example, the closer the line is to the water, the more 'at-risk' the ship would be in a storm.' The Lord has a 'load-line' marking on each of us. As we read in Psalm 103:14, 'for He knows how we are formed, He remembers that we are dust.' The Psalmist assures us that God knows our limitations - what we can safely and securely 'carry.' None of us are immune to trials - nor are any of us excused from being tempted. All of us, in one way or another and at one time or another, face similar types of trials and temptations. None are new. None are different. They come at different times in different situations from different directions appealing to our different weaknesses. As Paul wrote, 'No temptation has seized you that is not common to others, And, God is faithful! He will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, He will also provide you a way out.' He knows our 'load-lines' and will not let us sink. However, we must be careful not to put ourselves at risk.

All About Gifts by Lisa Luck



'Tis the season for giving gifts. There is no mistake. Ads are on TV, the radio, magazines, and on the internet. Buy this, buy that. Don't forget great aunt and uncle so and so. The constant hammering on gift-giving makes one feel a little guilty about not having a long (or short) shopping list. Commercialism around the holidays hypes up enthusiasm - even momentarily for those who don't have any enthusiasm whatsoever for shopping. When we buy a gift for someone we love, we actually are trying to buy them happiness. Just a little money (or a lot) brings a happy smile, a hug and, yes, a tiny bit of happiness.

Gifts can be categorized in several different ways. Some gifts are destined to live forever, passed along in families from generation to generation to remind us of the past and the relatives who paved the road before us. These are usually greatly appreciated as they are one-of-a-kind and have been in the family forever. Other gifts are brief and temporary - and are made to be consumed immediately. Think candy, wine, jars of special food stuff, beautifully packaged. These gifts are good for minimalists who don't want any dust gathering on a cluttered shelf. You know who they are. They are the ones that firmly say, "I don't need anything. My happiness comes from getting less - or even nothing."

Other gifts are utilitarian, designed to be used daily. These are frequently not appreciated when they are received as they are not that glamorous or special. I received a "gag" gift once made up of a roll of toilet paper taped to a plunger. Whoop-tee-do. What a stupid gift. Although initially disappointed, I warmed up to the gift when I realized weeks later we were out of toilet paper. And it was a dark and stormy night. I put it out in its full glory in the bathroom and it was the best gift ever for a few days. I can hardly wait to need the plunger.

And if you want to give a gift - that's fine! You do you. As a gift-giver you are getting happiness out of giving someone else happiness. I get it! Gifts are frequently more pleasurable for those who give the gift than receive it. It's hard to know what someone really, truly wants as opposed to what you think they would really, truly want. I am amazed at those who power through packed shelves and stores intent on finding the perfect gift.

Another gift to consider giving is the one of time. Planning an experience for the one you love to have time to visit, talk, get caught up and bond can also bring happiness. This gift can range in price from the cost of traveling the world to just going down the road to a local park, walking the trail or sitting together on a bench. A day trip, coffee or lunch can also hit that happiness spot. Enjoy the holidays - with or without gifts!

Lisa Luck is a writer and concerned citizen living in Cookeville, TN



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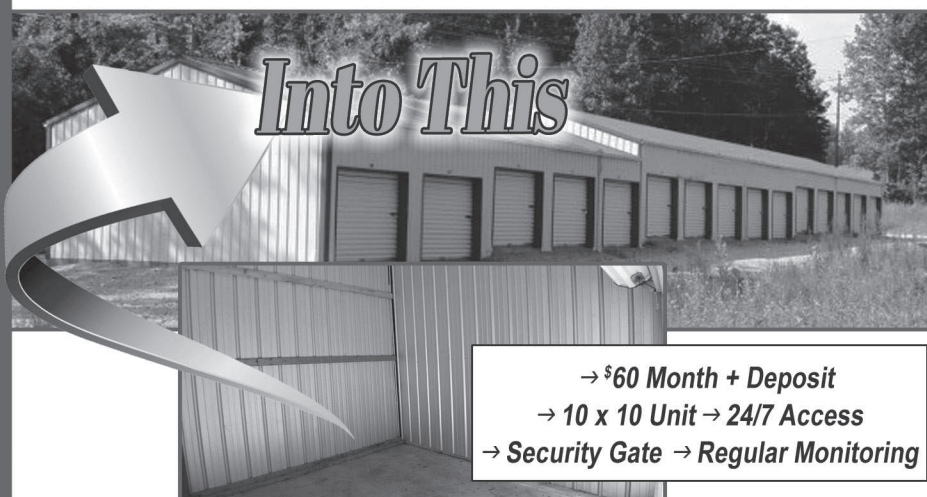
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There is still
no cure for the
common birthday.
- John Glenn

He who laughs at
himself never runs out
of things to laugh at.
- Epictetus



IF YOU LOVE ME
KEEP MY COMMANDMENTS
JOHN 14:15

WTF fun fact #8796

In a group of 23 people, there's a 50-50 chance that two of them have the same birthday.

wtfunfact.com

Jesus and The Mud Puddle....

Howard County Sheriff Jerry Marr got a disturbing call one Saturday afternoon a few months ago. His 6-year-old grandson Mikey had been hit by a car while fishing in Greentown with his dad. The father and son were near a bridge by the Kokomo Reservoir when a woman lost control of her car, slid off the bridge and hit Mikey at a rate of about 50 mph. Sheriff Marr had seen the results of accidents. "Mikey, what happened?" Sheriff Marr asked. Mikey replied, "Well, Papaw, I was fishin' with Dad, and some lady runned me over, I flew into a mud puddle, and broke my fishin' pole and I didn't get to catch no fish!"

As it turned out, the impact propelled Mikey about 500 feet, over a few trees and an embankment and into the middle of a mud puddle. His only injuries were to his right femur bone, which had broken in two places. Mikey had surgery to place pins in his leg. Otherwise the boy is fine. Since all the boy could talk about was that his fishing pole was broken, the Sheriff went out to Wal-Mart and bought him a new one while he was in surgery so he could have it when he came out.

The next day the Sheriff sat with Mikey to keep him company in the hospital. Mikey was enjoying his new fishing pole and talked about when he could go fishing again as he cast into the trash can. When they were alone Mikey, just as matter-of-fact, said, "Papaw, did you know Jesus is real?" "Well," the Sheriff replied, a little startled. "Yes, Jesus is real to all who believe in him and love him in their hearts." "No," said Mikey. "I mean Jesus is REALLY real."

"What do you mean?" asked the Sheriff. "I know he's real 'cause I saw him," said Mikey, still casting into the trash can. "You did?" said the Sheriff. "Yep," said Mikey. "When that lady runned me over and broke my fishing pole, Jesus caught me in his arms and laid me down in the mud puddle."



Remember...just when you think your stuck too deep in the mud to get out...Jesus will be there to take care of you!

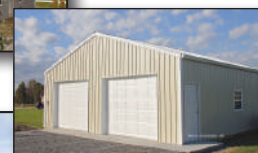
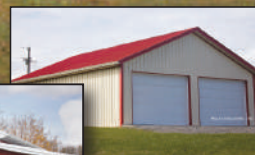
Middle age is when
your age starts to show
around your middle.
- Bob Hope

Never underestimate
the power of stupid
people in a large group.
- George Carlin

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Time For Tariffs?



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United States. He has stated that upon his inauguration he will impose a 20% tariff on all goods arriving in the United States from Mexico and Canada, and a 35% tariff on all imports from China. The stated purpose of these tariffs is to encourage Americans to purchase more products that are made in the United States, thereby creating more jobs. There are several reasons why this is a flawed approach to getting American citizens to buy more American made products, and create more American jobs:

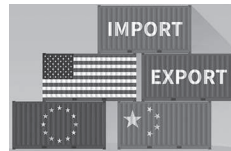
- Many products that we buy which are imported from foreign countries are no longer made in the United States. If we want to purchase a product that is not made in the United States, our only available option is to purchase an imported version of that product. If there is a tariff added to that product, the seller of that product will simply add the 20% to 35% tariff to the price of the item. The tariff is essentially an additional tax that will be added to the purchase price.



- A large portion of products that are made in America contain parts that are imported from other countries. When an American manufacturer purchases imported parts to go into an American made product, that manufacturer will raise the price of that product

to pay for the additional cost of the tariffs. A tariff in this case is a tax that is baked into the cost of many products that we buy, and it is a tax on many American made products.

- Tariffs, simply put, raise prices of the products that Americans buy. When prices of goods rise, consumers buy less. If consumers buy less, manufacturers are forced to lay off workers because they have less work for them to do. In this situation, tariffs eliminate jobs instead of creating them.



this situation, tariffs eliminate jobs instead of creating them.

- If the United States imposes tariffs on imports from Canada, Mexico, and China, those countries will also impose their own tariffs on American imports to their countries, raising the cost of American made products that we export to them. This will cause those countries to buy less American goods, causing a further loss of American jobs.

- We, as consumers, pay the cost of tariffs in the form of higher prices, and the Federal Government keeps all of the income from the tariffs. Tariffs are simply new, burdensome taxes on Americans.

As Americans, we need to be contacting our elected representatives in Washington, DC to demand that they DO NOT impose these damaging tariffs on things that we buy every day. We must demand that they hear from all of us: "NO NEW TAXES!"



Luke 18: 9 - 14

Jesus told this parable: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people - robbers, evildoers, adulterers - or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.' "But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.' "I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

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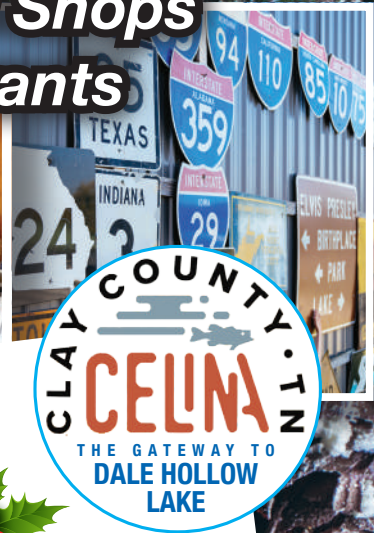
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