

We're Back on Our Regular Schedule!

The Jackson County Times will be back on our regular schedule starting next week. Monday & Tuesday: 8 am to 4 pm.
Closed Wednesday. Thursday & Friday: 9 am to 4 pm.

Notes to Consider...

History: Men Who Won the Original West, Simon Kenton
By G.S. Morris — 31 December 2018



One of my favorite places to visit in our Commonwealth's capital over the years has been the Kentucky Military Museum (easily spotted on the hill coming into downtown Frankfort with its unique US Army Engineer Corps castle-like architecture). I haven't visited since the museum's remodelling a few years ago but certainly hope they retained their extensive displays on Kentuckians' roles in the little appreciated War of 1812.

My first profile in this look at the men who won the original West was (my oldest daughter's favorite frontier character) William Whitley, hero of the 1813 Battle of the Thames. In looking back over this cast of characters, one can't help but notice the number of times those men rubbed shoulders in civilizing America's original "West" and several rounded out their careers in the War of 1812.

Simon Kenton was another Virginian who lit out for the West with a motivation (Kenton thought he'd killed a man and lived under an assumed name for a number of years before learning his opponent had survived his wounds). A soldier in our Revolutionary cause, he also (like our other profiled frontiersmen) served in the fight against the Indians on the original Northwest frontier in the immediate aftermath of our successful War of Independence.

Finally, Kenton endured probably the most tortuous of Indian captivities of any of the significant original western frontiersmen. His familiarity with the Indians led to him being given the responsibility for identifying the body of the Indian Chief Tecumseh who (as we previously detailed) was most likely killed by (just as he was mortally wounded) William Whitley.

I encourage you to visit with your family the excellent Kentucky Military History Museum in our historically rich state capital. While there, one's mind can't help but imagine there must have been a few occasions in which a majority of these historical giants were all gathered around the same campfire. Something to study about, indeed.

Next Week: Arts & Leisure

May God Bless You and Your Family in The New Year!

Yards to Paradise**PWatch for Falling Trees (Especially Evergreen Trees)**

By Max Phelps

Kentucky has had a record amount of rainfall in the past year, and it's still coming down as I write this, adding to the record total for the season. Saturated soils mean you can get stuck if you get your vehicle off the pavement. It can mean molded corn and soybean crops for the farmer, (and getting his tractors stuck in the fields), and respiratory problems for those allergic to mold. Soils that can't hold anymore water don't hold onto the roots of big trees as tightly as dry ground. Your pine or hemlock tree that has been through windstorms and ice storms before may have you thinking it's ok this time too. Such might not be the case.

I noticed a large pine tree leaning towards a busy US highway the other day. Having traveled the road numerous times, this tree was always straight before. The next big wind, snow, or ice event and this tree will be across all lanes of traffic (if not sooner). And we'll hope none of the good readers of this column are traversing that section when the fall comes.

Yard trees, especially older top-heavy pine trees, planted in sandy soil, or a thin topsoil with shale or hardpan not far below the surface, could be candidates for falling this winter.

Large trees with taproots are probably no threat. These would include some of the oaks, black gum, sweet gum, ginkgo, hickory, black walnut, coffeetrees, to name a few. All deciduous trees that have already lost their leaves are much safer from an unexpected falling in winter than in summer when loaded with leaves.

White pine, Virginia pine, native juniper (red cedar), and hemlock trees are some you should keep an eye on for possible accidents. This is especially true if they are where they could fall on a home, parked car, children's play area, or a busy street. Slopes are apt to be worse than flat areas, but with a little wind any of them could go over. Other pine trees can also fall easily, especially the taller ones that have had bigger timber removed from nearby recently.

Any tree is in more danger of falling when the ground is soupy wet.

The taller the tree, and often pines are the tallest in the landscape, and the fewer or more shallow the roots (and again this applies to many pine trees), then the greater the danger of toppling from winds or a load of snow or ice.

Just as a long pry bar can allow a skillful operator to move a rock much bigger than he can shove or roll or push, so also, the longer the tree trunk in relation to other factors, the less force or push is needed to topple it.

If you are seeking to plant evergreen trees in the lawn, try to select short and stout ones (blue spruce or Scots pine or Swiss stone pine), or tall and straggly-looking ones (cedar of Lebanon and Atlantic cedars come to mind). Those with heavy crowns (thick greenery) and tall trunks, are the more risky.

And that large tree that has worried you in the past, maybe in a thunderstorm, might be a candidate for removal as soon as possible. Conditions this winter may only get worse, increasing the odds of falling evergreen tree accidents. Prevention is often better than a cure. And this applies to heavy older trees that may need to be cut and removed from your property.

Risks are up, so keep an eye on those big tall evergreen trees. Especially if they are close enough to do big damage should they fall unexpectedly. If your big tree falls onto the neighbors property, you or your insurance company will be liable for damages. Obviously, you don't want a major tree falling on your own home or automobile either.

The author is a landscaper.

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Inspirational Thoughts Into God's Word

By Lynetta Hunter

To really understand the necessity and importance of prayer, one must go through a circumstance without prayer; then it's easy to see how the lack of divine help is not worth neglecting to pray for those things.

(1 John 4:19) We love Him because He first loved us. From the beginning of scripture to the end, God initiated relationships with humanity. The accounts of Jesus prove His unconditional love and the apostolic doctrine supports His desire to have personal interactions with His people.

(Is. 38:5) When Hezekiah was told that he would get sick and die, he didn't accept it; instead he turned from it, turned his face to the wall, and prayed to God for a healing. God added fifteen years on to his life and gave him a miraculous sign to prove it. There are times when we have nowhere else to turn but to God because no one else knows or cares about our sorrow, can't understand our problems or concerns, or feels the urgency of needing intervention. It's in that one-on-one, face to the wall conversation that miraculous power takes over the need and something unexplainable happens.

(Mt. 7:7) Jesus promised here that good gifts will be given to those who don't give up on asking for them, (Ja. 1:5, 4:3) Apostle James taught that good things will be given when they are asked for and not contrary to God's will, and (Eph. 3:20) Apostle Paul confirmed that God is able to do exceedingly abundantly more than we could ask or think. They all knew that (Ja. 1:17) every good and perfect gift comes from God, many of them through earnest prayer.

KSP Chooses Kentucky-Bred Corvette Stingray Coupe For 2019 Trooper Island Raffle

The Kentucky State Police are featuring a true American icon this year to support their Trooper Island Camp for disadvantaged children. The agency is selling raffle tickets for a chance to win a new 2019 Corvette Stingray Coupe. Born and bred at GM's assembly plant in Bowling Green, Ky., this legendary sports car is cloaked in a torch red exterior with a jet black leather interior. It's equipped with a 6.2 liter V8 engine that provides up to 460 horsepower, an eight-speed paddle-shift automatic transmission, a removable carbon fiber roof panel and a driver-focused cockpit full of enhanced technology. A full list of features and equipment can be found at <http://kentuckystatepolice.org/trooperislandcorvette/>. To view a 90 second video about the car, click on <https://youtu.be/r8WH5X8z9Lc>

Tickets are \$10 each and will be available at any KSP post or CVE region office located throughout the state on Dec. 28. Tickets are now available to be purchased online by debit or credit card payment at <https://squareup.com/store/trooper-island-inc>. They can be purchased at the KSP booth at the Farm Machinery Show at the Kentucky Exposition Center February 13-16 as well. Only 25,000 tickets will be sold. The winning ticket will be drawn on August 25, 2019 at the Kentucky State Fair. Ticket holders do not have to be present at the drawing to win. Raffle winner is responsible for all tax and license fees. (Charitable gaming license #0000633.)

Trooper Island is a free summer camp for disadvantaged boys and girls age 10-12 operated by the Kentucky State Police on Dale Hollow Lake in Clinton County. It is financed entirely by donations, no public funds.

New Rates at Jackson County Transfer Station

To the citizens of Jackson County, due to the rising operational and replacement equipment costs, we are forced to raise the disposal fees at the Jackson County Transfer Station.

Beginning January 1, 2019, all permitted haulers monthly rates, for residential households, will increase to \$15.00 per month.

Monthly rates for those citizens who self-haul will increase to \$13.00. Total increase for those customers who pay by weight will increase by one-half cent to .045 cents per lbs. Although these increases are minimal, we regret any inconveniences this may cause. We strive to keep disposal costs as low as possible for the citizens of Jackson County.

If you have any questions, please contact the Jackson County Transfer Station at (606) 287-7688.