

"JJ's Journal"

(Cont. from A2)

I could scarcely see over the table. I had to learn at an early age about place settings.

I remember one summer when I was about five or six years old, my great-aunt, Lucille was coming to visit. She was my favorite aunt. She always brought lots of candy and toys, and played games with me. I wanted my cat, Ginger, a calico to look especially nice for her.

While Mom and Granny were busy with the final touches on Grammy's house, I thought I would bathe the cat in the kitchen sink at Mom's. I had Mom's best cologne and powder ready for the cat after the bath. The cat wasn't very cooperative and kept escaping. The powder was spilled and the cologne bottle was broken. Mom arrived at just about the time I was drying the cat with her best dish towels.

Aunt Lucille was due to arrive at the bus station in a little less than two hours and the kitchen looked just like hell. Well, just like a kid just gave a cat a bath in it. I don't know who was more upset, Mom or the cat. Mom took a look at the cat's bath water in the sink and was too busy gagging and cleaning with Clorox, Comet, and pure alcohol to spank me for hours. My aunt always traveled with Lysol for "just in case it was needed" and after learning of the cat experience, she helped clean, too.

Another reason I loved these family get-togethers was the food. We would always have miss quantities of everything to eat, special things that were only prepared for "company" and all the dishes you could eat. These were special times and only the best silver, china, and linens were used, and only the best manners were acceptable.

One year, everybody that usually came at intervals during the summer arrived at the same time. There was a serious mix-up in everyone's plans and everyone arrived within forty-eight hours. There were about thirty-five aunts, uncles, and cousins from both sides of the family who were from at least five or six states came to visit at one time. Relatives ate in shifts and people just slept wherever they could find an open spot. But no one had to go to a motel, or eat at a restaurant. My grandmother wouldn't allow it. That was the way we lived for at least four or five days. It might have been better, but it was a lot of fun. I miss "company."

"Letters"

(Cont. from A2)

tion service programs.

Dear Editor, I would like to invite everyone to come and support us Friday night, August 1, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. This is a community event and there will be something for everyone. When you see the faces of the survivors and the unbelievable courage and heroism that they possess, it is truly amazing! The survivors will kick off our event by leading the first lap of the overnight event. Please join us as we celebrate their victories.

Respectfully,
Kelly McClure

Dear Editor,

I was extremely distressed to read of the mayor and city's funding decision to "seek" council, in excess of \$100,000, to assist a private development company. It seems obvious, after reading week after week of our city's need for adequate police protection and, believable salaries, that our city leaders should "seek" funding in this area first and foremost.

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"IT IS WRITTEN"

In Col. 1:15-18 we read, "Who is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of every creature: For by him were all things created, that are in heaven, and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or powers: all things were created by him, and for him. And he is before all things, and by him all things consist. And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence." Paul is affirming the preeminence, supremacy of Jesus Christ in our text. He shows his preeminence in relation to the Father, for he is the image of the invisible God. He shows his supremacy in relation to the physical creation, for he made all things, and sustains the universe. Paul shows the superiority in relation to spiritual creation, for he is the head of the body of the church. He is the beginning, author of salvation & our faith, Heb. 5:9, 12.2. And Jesus is the firstborn from the dead, which is the assurance that we will be raised from the dead, 1 Cor. 15:20-23. Now have you bowed your knee to the preeminent Son of God? Jesus loves you and wants to save you! You must respond in humble submission, by believing and obey the gospel message, Ac. 2:36-41, Ac. 8:35-39.

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Wednesday 7:00pm Radio program, Sunday 8am, 1460 AM

I suppose I don't understand why the residents of Mt. Vernon should bear the added burden of \$100,000+ to fund a new sewer lift station for a private development. Ms. Gilbert, with Wabuck Development has generously offered to seek grant money to assist the city in this endeavor, but grants are not guaranteed and difficult to obtain.

Perhaps Ms. Gilbert could explain how our limited city police force could patrol an additional 60+ low income apartments. Or maybe she can explain the extra time they will devote to writing accident reports on Richmond Street, (the most heavily traveled in our town) due to the increased traffic from her development. It would be wonderful if spending \$100,000+ brought new industry to our community, thus increasing the city's revenue from the occupational tax and fueling our local economy. Sadly, this is not the case.

Ms. Gilbert also stated that the new sewer lift station would benefit residents of Greenway Drive, as well as her development. My husband and I are residents of Greenway Drive and would never ask the city for a \$100,000+ expenditure for neither our personal benefit, nor that of the six residences on our street.

Mayor Kirby and the city council need to prioritize. Concentrate on providing adequate compensation to our police department so that our city is protected and we can attract and retain quality police officers. Provide additional funding for our volunteer fire department to further ensure residents' protection. Work with the development board to bring jobs to our community. Work with community leaders and residents to develop some sort of zoning specifics for Mt. Vernon. As cities around us grow, Mt. Vernon has largely ignored zoning issues. Acting Chief Eddie Delano even told Mr. Busell this at the last council meeting, the city basically has no control over roadside vendors who pose a nuisance to others, so long as they purchase a privilege license.

Further, although it has been reported as savings to the City of Mt. Vernon, accepting free Internet service at City Hall from Charter Cable implies extreme favoritism. It was not that long ago that the contract with Charter was questioned. It seems very inappropriate to accept a free service from a company the City has a business relationship with. I urge Mayor Kirby and the Mt. Vernon City Council to tell Ms. Gilbert and Wabuck Development that they must subsidize the \$100,000+ needed for a new sewer lift plant. This seems only fair, since they are a private development.

Personally, I have had no problems with my septic system here on Greenway Drive and I wouldn't accept any "alleged" benefits offered by Ms. Gilbert and Wabuck. If our city police department cannot protect my home and me, personally, access to a new sewer line doesn't amount to a lot.

Sincerely,
Shelley Raines Lewis
10 Greenway Drive
Mt. Vernon, KY 40456

"Points East"

(Cont. from A2)

fresh eggs; dressed rabbits, a chain saw, riding mower, various car parts, plumbing supplies, a coon board, sump pump and various other items from the folks that advertised their wares, and if I didn't need the stuff right then, I might have a need for something. Heck, a prize winning coon board for \$20.00 that would sell for \$300 in Letcher County, how do you go wrong on a deal like that?

Mostly though, I called sellers and found out that stuff I was interested in was long gone.

One old guy in particular, Howard was his first name and I'm not sure I ever got that last, lived in Bear Waller, near reynolds in Madison County and every Saturday he would have something for sale at a ridiculously low price. "A Homeless man with a 20 inch bar that looks like new and sharp as a tack for \$20.00. A Sears riding mower that's never hit a rock and runs like a top for \$25.00. A model 37 Winchester 20 gauge shot less than a box of shells for \$20.00. Ten full stock pullets just now started laying for a dollar each but you have to take em all. Tools he didn't need. Appliances and furniture. But when you called him up the phone was always busy and when you finally got him on the phone, the item you were calling about was long gone. Somebody from East or Clark County had just picked it up or driven it off.

But then he'd talk to you for an hour or two or as long as he could keep you on the phone and wonder why you needed a chain saw in the first place and he'd want to know who you were in that Madison County and what made you move down here in the first place and what you thought about Nixon and what you have any kin folks in Vietnam, and if it was you and you had a hundred dollars to spend on baby chicks, what

kind would you buy and where would you order them from. And this went on time after time for many months. The goods were always sold but Howard would talk my ear off.

So one day, after memorizing his phone number, I dialed the number so it would coincide with his hanging up with the radio station and he answered right off the block. He had a Jon Boat with a motor for a hundred dollars. I intended to be the first caller and it would have taken a fool

to not snatch up this deal. I mean the guy had sold Eddie (the car) in "mint condition" for \$500 a pop on at least two previous occasions, just before I called to inquire about them.

"You got to hurry to beat them collectors when you got a bargain like this," he'd say.

"Boats already gone," he said.

"But I have to be the first caller."

I implored.

"See everything I ever advertised is already sold. I just like talking to

people. Why don't you call me up when I don't have nothing to sell? You got my number."

I called Howard back a few times after that but he was embarrassed that I had caught onto his game and the relationship was never the same. We needed something to trade on. Truth was that Howard was just a lonely old man and everything he ever advertised was a sign of his imagination. But the radio show sure helped him deal with his loneliness.

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