



Tam's Front Porch Ponderings
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Sometimes the simplest things can trigger the strongest memories. Memories buried long ago, waiting to be pulled out and make me smile when I need it most. Several times over the Thanksgiving Holiday, I found myself missing my Daddy more than usual. Of course I think about him every day, but for some strange reason, the past four days he has really consumed my thoughts. I'm not one of those that sit and dwell on the fact that he died way too young, instead I'm eternally thankful that my Daddy was the kind of man that he was. Hardworking, dedicated to his wife and family, a disciplinarian, good provider, loving husband and special Daddy. I just hate the fact that cancer robbed me of

Simple Things

him. That same, horrible, nasty disease that robbed me of his Mother too, my Granny Dessie Lee. That's neither here nor there now, he's gone and nothing I do will ever bring him back but every now and again, I feel his presence.

When I have an unusual feeling that he is near, I find a penny. Call it coincidence if you want, to me it's a sign. Other times Corky will call to me from another room and his voice sounds so much like Daddy's that it makes the hair stand up on my neck. There was a certain lilt to his voice when he said my name, "Tam?" as if he were going to ask me a question. I'm not frightened by it, nor do I believe in ghosts, but the Bible does speak of Good Spirits and Bad Spirits, who's to say our loved ones can't check on us from time to time? This morning's simple thing that invited Daddy's presence into the house, was the common act of polishing my boots.

How many times have I sat and watched Daddy as he prepared his clothes each evening for work the next day? His habit was to bathe, then shave, lay out his clothes and lastly, he would polish his shoes. We carried on many a deep conversa-

tion to the 'swish-swish, (pause) swish-swish' of the brush across his shoes. I'd watch carefully as he dipped the polishing cloth into the little tin with the picture of the goofy looking bird on it. Sometimes he'd offer the tin to me to open for him. The catch on the tin would flip the lid up as I pushed against it. He'd hold the shoes on his left hand and swirl the polish onto them, one at a time, with his right hand. Round and round and round he'd rub, pushing the polish deep into the leather, then he'd place them on the hearth for a moment before picking up the wood handled brush and begin the familiar 'swish-swish (pause) swish-swish' as he buffed the shoes to a high sheen. There was a rhythm to the brush and this morning as I polished my boots, I found myself following the example he had set for me all those years ago. 'Swish-swish (pause) swish-swish, pause', I closed my eyes and inhaled the faint scent of shoe polish that transported me back to a time when my greatest worries were memorizing my multiplication tables.

Now life's worries are far different. I wish he were here to guide and advise me. I find myself thinking 'what would Daddy do?' as I face the challenges of being an adult. Many times my actions mimic those of his and occasionally when I open my mouth, Daddy just falls right out. He left his mark on this family and I know he would...he is...proud of us all as we struggle day to day, to live up to his fine example. The *simple things* were some of his greatest gifts...and greatest reminders of his love and devotion to our family.

So thanks Daddy, you knew what I needed most today, a memory and a smile!



ESTILL LIBRARY BOOKMOBILE SCHEDULE

246 Main Street, Irvine, KY – Call 723-3030

DECEMBER 7-11, 2015

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Northwood Apts. Winchester Rd. Edgewater Dr. Crestview Ct.	Stacy Lane Rice Station West Irvine Race Track Rd.	Wisemantown Station Camp Red Lick Crooked Creek	Sugar Hollow Road Buck Creek Doe Creek Barnes Mtn.	South Irvine Pre-K

"Mommie & Me" and Storytime Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m. & Fridays, 10:30 a.m.

ESTILL COUNTY SCHOOLS MENUS

Milk is included with every meal; plus assorted juices included with breakfast

MONDAY December 7	TUESDAY December 8	WEDNESDAY December 9	THURSDAY December 10	FRIDAY December 11
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ELEMENTARY BREAKFASTS				
WG Mini Cinni Rolls Apple	Strawberry Yogurt Sooby Doo Snacks	Pancakes Applesauce	Dutch Waffle Orange Slices	Muffins Pineapples

SOUTH IRVINE LUNCHES				
Popcorn Chicken Roll Mashed Potatoes Steamed Broccoli Pears	Bologna Sandwich Corn Pork & Beans Oranges Milk	Chicken Noodle Soup, Crackers Grilled Cheese Carrots & Celery/Dip Banana	Bosco Cheese Bread Sticks Marinara Sauce Cauliflower/Dip Green Beans, Fruit	Hamburger/Bun Let./Tom./Pickles Potato Smiles Cole Slaw Apples

ESTILL SPRINGS LUNCHES				
Popcorn Chicken Roll Mashed Potatoes Steamed Broccoli Pears	Bologna Sandwich Baked Beans Corn Oranges Milk	Chicken Noodle Soup, Crackers Grilled Cheese Carrots & Celery/Dip Banana	Ham, Roll Mashed Potatoes Green Bean Cooked Apples Milk	Bosco Cheese Bread Sticks, Marinara Sauce, Green Beans Cauliflower/Dip Peaches

WEST IRVINE LUNCHES				
Popcorn Chicken Roll Mashed Potatoes Steamed Broccoli Pears	Individual Cheese Pizza or Bologna Sandwich, Corn Cucumber Slices/ Dip, Oranges	Chicken Noodle Soup, Crackers Grilled Cheese Carrots & Celery/Dip Applesauce	Bosco Cheese Sticks or Calzone Marinara Sauce Pork & Beans, Fruit	Hamburger/Bun Let./Tom./Pickles Chips, Cole Slaw Pork & Beans Apples

ESTILL COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL BREAKFAST				
Dutch Waffle Cinn. Toast Crunch Cereal, Apple Chocolate Pop Tart Assorted Juices Milk Choices	Sausage Biscuit Lucky Charms Brown Sugar Cinn. Pop Tart, Pineapples Assorted Juices Milk Choices	Pancake Porky w/syrup Cocoa Puffs Cereal Chocolate Pop Tart Applesauce Juice and Milk	Mini Strawberry Pancakes w/syrup Trix Cereal Strawberry Pop Tart Banana Juice & Milk	Cream Cheese Bagel Cinn. Toast Crunch Cereal Bar, Reeses Puff Cereal Chocolate Pop Tart Peaches

ESTILL COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL LUNCH				
Chicken Tenders or Buffalo Tenders Texas Toast, Apples Mashed Potatoes Steamed Broccoli Mandarin Oranges	Stuffed Crust Cheese Pizza or Taco Snax Romaine Salad Grape Tomatoes Corn, Fruit	Hamburger or Pork Chop on Bun Let./Tom./Pickles Baby Bakers Diced Peaches Bananas	Chicken Noodle Soup, Crackers Grilled Cheese or Chicken Pattie/Bun Green Beans, Slaw Fruit	Hot Dog or Deli Turkey on Bun Baked Beans Carrot Sticks/dip Fresh Oranges Tropical Fruit

ESTILL COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL BREAKFAST				
Muffins, Cereal Pop Tarts Yogurt Banana or Apple	Sausage & Biscuit Cereal Pop Tart, Yogurt Banana or Apple	Chicken Biscuit Cereal Pop Tart, Yogurt Apple or Banana	Bacon, Egg, & Ch. Biscuit, Cereal Pop Tart, Yogurt Banana or Apple	Breakfast Pizza Cream Cheese Bagel Cereal, Pop Tart, Yogurt Banana or Apple

ESTILL COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL LUNCH				
Cheese Stuffed Breadsticks Pepperoni Calzone Romaine Salad Grape Tomatoes, Corn, Pineapples Pears	Chicken Tenders WG Roll or Ham- burger on Bun Potato Wedges Steamed Broccoli Let./Tom./Pickle Pears, Pineapples	Meat Ball Sub Chicken Patty on WG bun Glazed Carrots Green Pepper Slices Let./Tom./Cheese Tropi. Fruit/Peaches	Chicken Alfredo Breadstick Pork Chop on Bun Steamed Broccoli Carrot Sticks Pineapples Mandarin Oranges	Ham/Roll, Grilled Chicken Patty/Bun Sweet Potatoes Green Beans Ice Cream Cup Applesauce Peach Cup

Offered Daily: Pizza Line
Sandwich Box, Salad Box

West Irvine Intermediate receives grant from Macy's to perform, "Yes, Virginia The Musical"

This holiday season, West Irvine Elementary will stage a performance of "Yes, Virginia The Musical," an original production based on a true story of 8-year-old Virginia O'Hanlon, who wrote a letter to the New York Sun newspaper in 1897, inquiring about the existence of Santa Claus.

The school musical program debuted in 2012 as part of Macy's holiday "Believe" campaign and was performed by elementary and middle schools nationwide.

According to West Irvine's chorus director, Ricky Glynn Chaney, West Irvine Elementary was one of 100 schools and community organizations across the country to receive a local grant from Macy's to assist with production costs, and will welcome the holiday season with another dress rehearsal performance of "Yes, Virginia The Musical" for only the students in the West Irvine Elementary gym on December 10 at 1:00 p.m. Then, the parents/guardians and community are invited to watch the performance at 6:00 p.m. in the West Irvine Elementary School gymnasium.

On behalf of West Irvine Elementary School's staff, Mr. Chaney, along with principal Ms. Lorretta Cruse, and assistant principal Mrs. Toni-Garrett-Hall, want to thank Macy's for giving us this grant that helped pay for a wireless microphone system.

"Yes, Virginia The Musical" had tremendous impact on local communities when we introduced the program," said Martine Reardon, chief marketing officer for Ma-

cy's. "The positive response was incredible, and participants told us that the royalty free assets helped them stage productions they may not have otherwise been able to produce, giving children an opportunity to engage in the arts and experience all the excitement and fun of being in a play. Macy's is proud to offer 'Yes, Virginia The Musical' again, and we look forward to another season of magical performances."

"Yes, Virginia The Musical" is part of Macy's beloved "Believe" campaign, which supports Make-A-Wish®. During the first and second weeks of December, Mr. Chaney will be promoting The "Believe" program that encourages children of all ages to drop their stamped letter to Santa either at the red Santa Mail letterbox at their local Macy's, at a designated drop-off point in the school or at our local post office located at 230 Main St, Irvine, KY 40336. For every letter received, Macy's will donate \$1, up to \$1 million, to Make-A-Wish, helping to grant the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions.

"Yes, Virginia" was created and produced by Macy's and JWT in conjunction with The Ebeling Group and MEC Entertainment, a division of Mediaedge:cia. "Yes, Virginia The Musical" was adapted from the animated special and storybook by Chris Plehal, Wesley Whatley (music) and William Schermerhorn (book and lyrics), the Emmy® Award-winning creative team behind the original song "Yes, Virginia (There is a Santa Claus)."



Poinsettias

The Aztecs called these plants *cuetlaxochitl*. The sap within the stems was used to control fevers, and the bracts—its petal-like, red leaves—were used to make a reddish dye. Montezuma, the last of the Aztec kings, would have the plants brought into what is now Mexico City by caravans, as poinsettias could not be grown there due to the city's high altitude.

Source: extension.illinois.edu — Brenda Weaver



Cordially Invites You to Our

12th Annual Christmas Arts & Crafts Show

Saturday, December 5, 2015
 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

ECBE Central Office gymnasium
 253 Main Street, Irvine, KY

Everyone Welcome

Over 35 Local Artisan Booths
 Silent Auction Items

Live Music of the Season
 Food Concessions

50/50 Pot

Donations at the door: \$1.00 or 1 can of food for the local food bank

Handicapped Accessible

For more information call 723-5694 or 723-4678