



Times Remembered
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Mother's Day went well; the weather was nice and seems as though everyone was eating out yesterday. After church my daughter, Tara took me to eat at Olive Garden in Richmond. I was happy to get away since it has been such a hectic week.

We have spent the last week taking our Golden Retriever to the vet's office. She, (Summitt) was fine until last Monday afternoon. She followed every step I made while I was doing some push mowing and fetched sticks as usual.

We finished mowing around noon and I watched her acting odd; she just wasn't herself. Then I noticed that she had lost some weight. I thought she may have eaten something that she wasn't supposed to eat and didn't think much about it.

By 2:00 she wouldn't play or eat, so I called the vet and they worked her in at 5:30. She examined her and she had a high temperature, and had vomited some. She couldn't find anything definitely wrong but did a blood test, a urinalysis, two shots, pain medicine and some antibiotics.

The next morning she was no better. Actually she was feeling worse. I called the vet and she suggested we take her to the Richmond Vet Clinic for an x-ray since she was always chewing on rocks. Perhaps she had swallowed a lava rock from our landscape. We took her to

A Hectic Week

get an x-ray to see what it showed. No rock, no mass, but something was there that looked like a fungus in her lungs.

Wednesday she began struggling to walk, still would not eat much; we did get her to eat some shaved turkey. I was worried; she was going downhill fast. Called the vet again; they wanted to do a special urinalysis test that would be sent to Indianapolis to check for the fungus. Thursday was no change; no better.

By Friday, she couldn't walk at all, would not eat and only drank very little. We took her to the vet again; and she decided to go ahead and prescribe the fungus medicine and keep her all day and administer fluids by IV. She spend the day there but she really wasn't any better at 5:00. We carried her out to the car. She was very sick and for the first time it entered my mind that we might lose her.

Actually, Summitt was Tara's dog, we had kept her since Colton was two years old because they had a small back yard and he needed a place to play. Therefore, she became our dog.

Bob loved her so much. She went everywhere with him. This was our third Golden Retriever. The others, Amber, had died when she was 13 of old age and Savannah started having seizures and passed when she was 8. Tara's other golden, Sierra, died of cancer when she was only 6. Golden Retrievers have a high rate of cancer; but they are the most loving dogs we have ever had and we loved them all so much.

Summitt was never sick; although she was 10, she was still a puppy. She was so full of, life always jumping, playing and running laps up and down our road and back. It didn't seem real that she could be this sick.

We picked her up Friday at 5:00. There was no change the medicine hadn't

kicked in; she was in a terrible shape. She wouldn't respond when we said her name. We went to bed knowing she might not make it through the night. I couldn't sleep; I cried a lot and checked on her often. Her breathing had been fast and hard ever since she became ill and it was worse every day.

I finally went to sleep, but I woke up about 6:00 Saturday and went to check on her. It was a pitiful sight; she had hemorrhaged through her nose and wasn't breathing. I felt of her and she was still warm; probably been gone for thirty minutes or so. I called for Bob to come check her; he said she was dead.

We just can't understand how she went so fast; it is such as shock. We cried for a while and then began to prepare for her burial in the pet cemetery with the three other "golden girls."

Dogs bring a lot of love and enjoyment to your life. They love you no matter what; they are non-judgmental, their love is unconditional. They are there always waiting for you when come home and are so happy to see you.

Losing Summitt is a tremendous loss; I feel like I never want any other dog right now. She's can't be replaced.

TV can be an effective teacher -- of good and bad



America's Heartland
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A mother was reading a book about animals to her toddler and was amazed at her mastery of the sounds they made.

"What does the cow say?" the mother asked.

"Moo," came the response. "And what does the cat say?"

"Meow," the toddler replied.

"OK," said the mother. "Since you're so smart, what does the frog say?"

"Bud, Weis, Er," the toddler said without missing a beat.

It's amazing what kids can pick up from watching television, both good and bad. That's

why we need to be selective in what we allow them to watch. The Bible provides an excellent guide to what kind of TV programs should be on the watch list.

"Whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things" (Philippians 4:8).

I have always loved the story about the father who had a rule that his teenage daughters didn't get to watch movies with vulgarity or obscenity in them.

Then came the day that the girls went to their father to lay out their case for watching an R-rated movie. They assured him "it only had a little bit of obscenity in it."

The girls explained that the movie had pros and cons. The pros were that it was a blockbuster that everyone was going to see. It had a great storyline with adventure and suspense. Lots of people from church had already seen the movie and it had gotten rave reviews.

Since the pros outnumbered the cons, they wanted their father to give his permission.

The father asked his daughters to allow him a couple hours to give them his decision.

When they came back, they found him sitting on the couch with a big plate of chocolate brownies on the coffee table. He told them if they would eat one of the brownie's he'd let them watch the movie.

Before allowing them to dig in, this father said the brownies came with pros and cons. He gave a mouth-watering description of the brownies -- how they were moist, made with the finest chocolate and coated with a delicious fudge frosting.

However, he told the girls, he had added a special ingredient -- dog doo. He assured them that it was only "a little bit" of dog doo mixed in with the other ingredients, and that it would be fine to eat.

Needless to say, his daughters got the message. "A little bit" of dog doo fouled the entire batch of brownies. So, the girls surmised through that unsavory object lesson, "a little bit" of obscenity fouls an entire movie.

We learn a lot from what we watch, whether as toddlers or teens or towering adults. Perhaps we should be a bit more discriminating in our viewing habits.

Roger Alford offers words of encouragement to residents of America's heartland. Reach him at rogeralford1@gmail.com.

ABSOLUTE AUCTION

REAL ESTATE (Rain or Shine)

SATURDAY MAY 27TH 10:00AM

We have been authorized by the heirs of the late Mr. Melvin Short to sell at public auction the real property located at 800 Dug Hill Road, Irvine, Ky.

DIRECTIONS: From Irvine, take Hwy. 52 S 1 mile, turn left on Hwy. 499, proceed 3.4 miles. Signs will be posted. From Lexington, take I-75 S to exit 90A, take Martin bypass to Hwy. 52 E toward Irvine, approx. 15 miles to Hwy. 499 (turn right at McDonalds).

REAL ESTATE

This very desirable 106-acre farm (more or less) is level to gently rolling with tillable land, pastureland & timberland. The farm has not been surveyed. The farm has a Columbia Gas pipeline that runs through the farm with the gas lines running to the house & barn. There is approx. 5/10 mile of road frontage on Dug Hill Road, approx. 4/10 mile road frontage on Hoys Fork Road & approx. 3/10 mile road frontage on Riddell Road.

HOUSE: (28' x 36') 2 bedrooms, living room, kitchen, bath, full basement & 2 fireplaces. City water is available. Dwelling needs a total renovation.

QUONSET BUILDING: (40' x 72') Concrete floor & is in good condition.

BLOCK GARAGE: (30' x 40') Has a garage door on both ends.

BARN 1: (36' x 56') 4 bent stock barn with stalls and a loft.

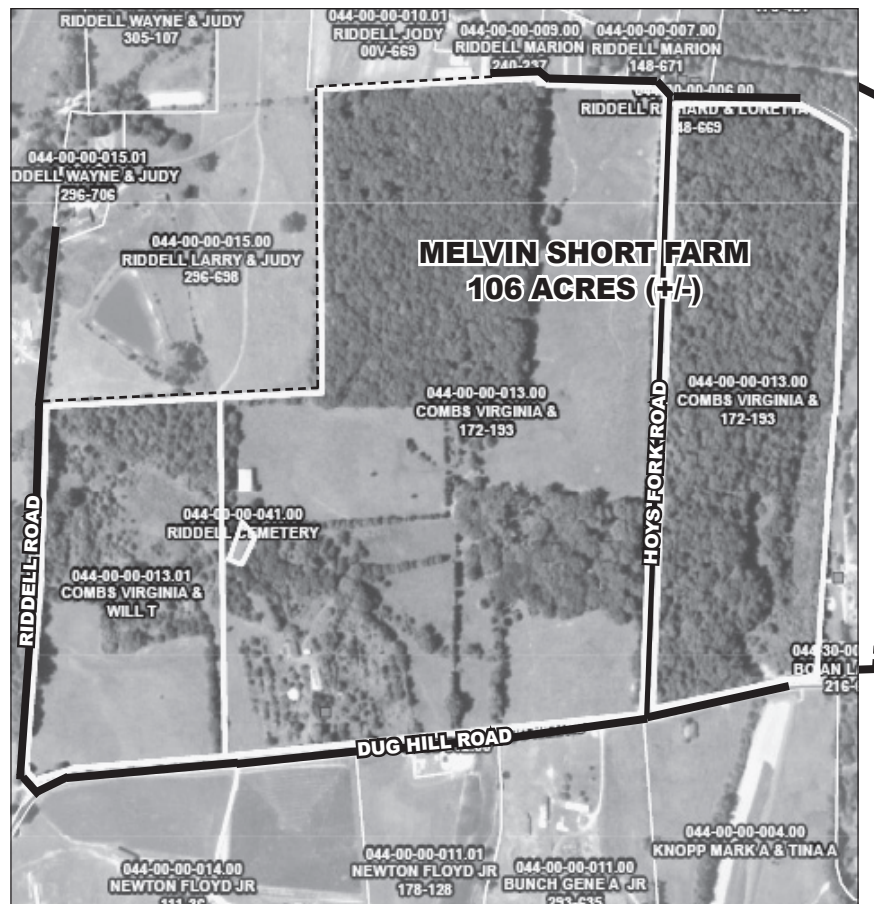
BARN 2: (40' x 60') 5 bent barn with a concrete foundation, gas lines to barn & a loading chute. This barn has sliding center doors & double doors on end.

BARN 3: (40' x 72') Tobacco barn with a concrete foundation.

There are several other buildings. The farm has a water tank, several springs & a nice large spring fed pond. The property is fenced & cross fenced with mostly #9 woven wire.

TERMS: 10% down day of sale with balance on or before 45 days with delivery of deed. 2017 property taxes will be prorated. Property is being sold in "As Is" condition with no warranties expressed or implied. Any & all inspections are the responsibility of the buyer to be made prior to day of sale. Announcements day of sale takes precedence over printed material. NO BUYERS PREMIUMS!

AUCTIONEER'S NOTES: Very desirable location & farm. Farm has been in family since early 50's. Ideal for cattle or horse operation, could be subdivided & has TIMBER (check out the large oaks & other timber - Easy to harvest). Looking for pastureland, woods for hunting or just country living at its best--THIS IS THE ONE!! Call for more information.



Dollar General Literacy Foundation Awards Nearly \$185,000 to Kentucky Organizations Estill County Adult Education Receives \$4,500

The Dollar General Literacy Foundation announced the award of nearly \$185,000 in literacy grants to Kentucky nonprofit organizations, libraries and schools this morning including \$14,500 total in Estill, Madison and Lee counties.

These funds are aimed at supporting adult, family and summer literacy programs within a 20-mile radius of a Dollar General store or distribution center across the 44 states Dollar General serves, and plan to positively impact the lives of nearly 6,000 Kentuckians.

Estill County Adult Education in Irvine received \$4,500.00; while Lee County Adult Education in Beatyville, and Project Read/Madison County Literacy Council, Richmond, each received \$5,000.00.

"Dollar General is excited to provide these organizations with funding to support literacy and education throughout the 44 states we serve," said Todd Vasos, Dollar General's CEO. "Providing these grants and supporting the communities we call home reflects our mission of Serving Others

and it's rewarding to see the impact these funds have."

Statewide grants are part of more than \$7.5 million that the Dollar General Literacy Foundation awarded this morning. Recipients of today's grant announcements plan to use Dollar General Literacy Foundation funds to help adults learn to read, prepare for the high school equivalency exam, promote childhood summer reading or learn English. Kentucky recipients are listed below and a comprehensive list of grant recipients may be found online at www.dgliteracy.org.

The Dollar General Literacy Foundation is also currently accepting applications for youth literacy grants through Thursday, May 18, 2017. Youth literacy grants support schools, public libraries and nonprofit organizations in implementing new or expanding existing literacy efforts. Funding can be used to purchase new technology, equipment, books, materials or software to enhance literacy programs. Applications are available online at www.dgliteracy.org.

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