

# Every Old Barn Looks Better With A Coat of Paint on It



**America's Heartland**  
**Roger Alford**  
 RogerAlford1@GMail.Com

I love the joke about the three old fellows, all well into their 80s, talking about what they'd like their grandchildren to say about them 50 years from now.

"I would like my grandchildren to say my success as a businessman enriched their lives," the first fellow said.

"I hope mine would say I was a dedicated family man," the second said.

The third fellow had an entirely different take: "I want them to all say I look really good for my age," he said.

Based on the billions of dollars spent every year on beauty aids, looking good is very important to Americans. Many folks are always in the market for

the best in cosmetics, hair products, lotions, perfumes, you name it. But the Bible tells us real beauty isn't on our outsides but comes from deep within.

"Do not let your adorning be external - the braiding of hair and the putting on of gold jewelry, or the clothing you wear - but let your adorning be the hidden person of the heart with the imperishable beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which, in God's sight, is very precious" (1 Peter 3:3-4).

Some have interpreted that passage to mean the braiding or styling of hair is wrong. Others have construed it to mean the putting on of gold jewelry is wrong. Fortunately, no one I know has reached the conclusion that it means putting on clothes is wrong.

We need to understand that Peter was saying real beauty, the kind that matters, shines through from the inside, and has nothing to do with hairstyles or jewelry or fashionable clothing.

When I was younger, I had an endless supply of Bible questions that I would pose to the late

Southern Baptist pastor Denvil Taylor. I vividly recall asking him about this particular scripture, after I had met some well-meaning folks who considered it sinful to wear gold wedding bands and who were absolutely certain lipstick and mascara were unscriptural.

When I asked Brother Denvil about this, his answer made me laugh: "Every old barn looks better with a coat of paint on it." When I asked more directly if it is sinful for people to wear makeup, he made me laugh again, saying: "It just might be sinful for some people not to wear makeup."

Brother Taylor had made his point, and he made it a memorable one.

So, the old fellow who said he wants his grandchildren to say he looks really good for his age could sure enough receive such a compliment, not by smearing on skin creams or so-called man makeup, but by exhibiting Christian character.

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



## Times Remembered Betty A. Young

BYoung505@Outlook.com

I love taking walks when weather permits through the woods around our house. My favorite thing in the fall is to look for hickory nuts, beech nuts and a visit to the persimmon tree to check on, and gather persimmons.

There's a big tree up front beside our driveway. I start checking them as soon as possible; it's a race between us and the deer cabbaging them. Deer love them and so do I! The deer will even try to climb upon the tree to get them. I try to pick them up before the deer and the night critters, (namely, possums) eat them.

You could place sheets under the tree and have someone shake the tree branches from the top of the tree. This method works for several different fruits, like the mulberries on the Mulberry

## Walks in The Woods

Tree that used to be in my Grandfather's yard; we founded on them and fox and possum grapes as kids, but that's a whole new story.

I have heard my Dad talk about when he was a kid that he and some of his friends played "double dog dare ya" with the new kid in the community or sometimes just for fun as a fall game .....Double-dog daring is where they dared one of them to bite the bullet, the persimmon! Yucky! Then they would laugh at the one puckered up until they would have to go wash their mouth out or stay puckered up for a few hours. Dad was always playing tricks on people; he never outgrew it. I always told him he was mischievous.

Years ago there were lots and lots of persimmon trees but you hardly ever see them anymore. I'm lucky to have one on our place.

Just in case you have never tasted a persimmon before it's ripe..... don't try it because it will pucker your mouth..... you'll regret it for a good long time. My Grandmother always said you have to wait until after the first frost before you can eat them or cook them.

I've always wanted to make a persimmon

pudding ever since I saw the recipe in one of the magazines. Getting the pulp from the persimmons can be tricky. You don't want the skin and of course you don't want the large persimmon seeds either. A ricer is great to squish out the pulp or you could use a sieve or a colander and a wooden pestle. Persimmon pulp is loaded with sugar and can be used for just about anything that you'd use like mashed pumpkin or apple sauce. It can be made into pies, puddings, cakes, cookies, butters and fruit leather.

If you ever gather enough persimmons to make Persimmon Pudding here is a recipe for it:

- Persimmon Pudding**  
 1 cup persimmon pulp  
 ¼ cup raisins or nuts (optional)  
 1 cup packed brown sugar  
 2 T melted butter  
 ½ t. vanilla  
 ¾ cup self-rising flour  
 ¼ cup light cream, or half-n-half, or whole milk

Combine all ingredients and beat until well mixed. Pour into a greased 8x8 greased pan and bake at 350 degrees for 30-35 minutes until golden brown.

Cut pudding into squares and serve with whipped topping.

## ESTILL COUNTY SCHOOLS MENUS

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

MONDAY Feb. 11	TUESDAY Feb. 12	WEDNESDAY Feb. 13	THURSDAY Feb. 14	FRIDAY Feb. 15
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### SOUTH IRVINE EARLY LEARNING CENTER BREAKFASTS

Sausage Biscuit Oranges Milk	Oatmeal & Toast Peaches Milk	Maple Waffles Peaches Milk	Biscuit & Gravy Hash Browns Milk	Chocolate Muffin Apple Juice, Milk
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### SOUTH IRVINE EARLY LEARNING CENTER LUNCHES

Popcorn Chicken Biscuit Green Beans Applesauce, Milk	Beefy Mac & Cheese Texas Toast, Peas Mandarin Oranges Milk	Bologna & Cheese Sand., Potato Smiles Broccoli Bites Strawberry Cup	Chicken Pattie on Bun French Fries Peaches, Milk	Pizza Corn Pears Milk
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### ESTILL SPRINGS BREAKFASTS

Breakfast Pizza or Toast/Cocoa Puffs Pineapple Asst. Juice Milk Choices	Mini Maple Pan- cakes or Cinn. Toast Crunch/Graham Snacks, Applesauce Asst. Juice, Milk	Donuts or Strawber- ry Poptart/Frosted Flakes, Pears Asst. Juice Milk Choices	Scrambled Eggs or Lucky Charms Bacon/Toast Mandarin Oranges Asst. Juice, Milk	Blueberry or Banana Muffin Fruit Loops Peaches Asst. Juice, Milk
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### ESTILL SPRINGS LUNCHES

Chicken Pattie/Bun Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Pears Milk Choices	TACO TUESDAY Taco/Wrap/Salsa Let./Tom./Cheese Refried Beans, Taco Sauce, Peaches	Chicken Noodle Soup, Gr. Cheese Cauliflower/Dip Baby Carrots Mandarin Oranges	Pepperoni Pizza Corn Steamed Broccoli Pineapple Tidbits Milk Choices	Hot Dogs/Bun French Fries Baked Beans Applesauce Milk Choices
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### WEST IRVINE BREAKFASTS

Breakfast Pizza or Cereal Mandarin Oranges Juice, Milk	Biscuit Dippers & Gr- avy or Cereal Mandarin Oranges Juice, Milk	Mini Cinni Rolls or Cereal Grapes Juice, Milk	Scr. Eggs & Toast or Cereal Peaches Juice, Milk	Assorted Muffins or Cereal Apple Milk
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### WEST IRVINE LUNCHES

Baked Rotini Texas Toast, Corn Romaine Salad Pear Halves Milk	Corn Dog French Fries Steamed Broccoli Applesauce Milk	Chili/Grilled Cheese Cucumber Dip Fresh Oranges Crackers Milk	Bosco Sticks Marinara Sauce Green Beans Peaches Milk	Round Cheese Pizza Corn Tomato/Dip Apple Milk
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### ESTILL COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL BREAKFAST

Breakfast Pizza Frosted Flakes Cereal Bars, Pop Tarts, Apple	Sausage & Biscuit Fruit Loops Cereal Bars, Pop Tarts, Sidekicks	Mini Pancakes/syrup Cocoa Puffs Cereal Bars, Pop Tarts, Applesauce	Breakfast Bun, Trix Cereal Bars, Pop- tarts, Peaches Asst. Juice, Milk	Egg Sliders Cinn. Toast Crunch Cereal bars, poptarts Mandarin Oranges
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### ESTILL COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL LUNCH

Asian Chicken Egg Roll Stir Fry Vegetables Asian Rice Apples/Pears Milk or Juice	Hamburger on Bun or Spicy Chicken on Bun, French Fries Let./Tom./Pickles Applesauce Strawberry Cup	Corn Dog of Walking Taco Bar Mexican Beans Carrot Sticks/Dip Peaches/Fresh Fruit Milk or Juice	Chili w/Gr. Cheese Broccoli & Cauli- flower Bites w/Dip Oranges Sidekicks Milk or Juice	Boscors or Chicken Quesadilla Marinara Sauce Carrot Sticks/Dip Corn, Pear Mandarin Oranges
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### ESTILL COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL BREAKFAST

Sausage, Egg & Cheese Sliders Pop Tarts, Mini Chocolate Donuts Apples or Oranges	Breakfast Pizza Pop Tarts Donut Holes Yogurt Parfait Apples or Oranges	Bacon, Egg, & Cheese Biscuit Pop Tarts, Yogurt Parfait, Donuts Apples or Oranges	Sausage Biscuit Pop Tarts, Yogurt Parfait, Donut Holes Oranges or Apples Juice, Milk	Eggstravaganza Wrap, Poptarts, Cereal, Cereal Bars Mini Choc. Donuts Oranges or Apples
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### ESTILL COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL LUNCH

Cheeseburger on Bun, Chili Dogs Let./Tom./Pickles Potato Wedges Baked Beans Tropical Fruit Sidekicks Juice/Asst. Milk	Corn Dogs Fish on Bun Pizza Hut Pizza Let./Tom./Pickles Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Cantaloupe Applesauce	Burrito Bar Let./Tom./Cheese Refried Beans Corn, Salsa Peaches Pineapples Juice Asst. Milk	Chicken Alfredo, Breadstick Mr. Rib on Bun Steamed Broccoli Corn, Pears Grape Tomatoes Applesauce Juice, Asst. Milk	Chili Grilled Cheese Broccoli Bites Carrot Sticks/Dip Mandarin Oranges Strawberry Cup Juice Asst. Milk
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