

213 TALES

by the late

Michael Dale Profitt

Memories of the late Michael Dale Profitt who lived much of his life on KY-213 and KY-52, now called Furnace Junction, continued from last week.

A few of the boys moved away to Ohio or Winchester. Some said it was because they were about to get caught making moonshine at one of the power houses.

My brother Chester was always getting into things. Once he got into a car at Marble Yard and it backed over a hill. He didn't know how to drive but he finally got a car and started driving. Once, he went to Cob Hill and bought a mule from Tom Watson. He would work the old mule sometimes. We kept it at cousin Carl McIntosh's place.

Chester had bought a 1960 Chevrolet. He later let my brother Sanford have it. He had gotten out of the Army and went back to the Christmas tree factory. Chester had worked there a while. There was a lot of people from Estill County who worked there.

Chester and Glenn went and worked in hay a lot. They bought a 1955 Chevrolet panel truck from Sammy Tipton on Miller's Creek. It was white and had a 3-speed transmission in it. The shifter would get hung up all the time. It just had two doors in front and two in the back. The passenger seat folded forward so you could get in back.

We went a lot of places in this old truck. Glenn and Chester went to work that fall at a farm in Fayette County. They worked for Bud Stepp on the Evans Mill Farm. Ronnel Abney, Walt Dennis and some more worked with them. They cut and housed the tobac-

co and then helped cup the silage up. They would have to get in the top of a big, round silo and walk down the silage. It would make you dizzy walking in there from smelling the silage where it had fermented. It really stunk.

We would go swimming and other things in that old truck. We would go to the drive-in theatre at West Irvine. I would give Chester my money to get in. I would have to sneak in off Stacy Lane Road. Dwight Hall and Steve Chaney would go too.

We cut a lot of cane poles the next summer for bean poles. Glenn had gone to the Army now. We would cut them at Fitchburg. Some of them was 10 or 15 feet long. We put them in the truck and let them stick out the back. We sold sister Barbara some of them. She asked us who was going to get a ladder to pick the beans for us. They were so tall the bean vines run all the way up the poles and came back down some. She was happy with them.

We would ride everywhere then and Chester didn't want me to go most of the time. When I did, I helped pay for the gasoline, but the other boys didn't. Chester always called me "Fat Boy" but now he weighs quite a bit and he wasn't that skinny then -- the "pot calling the kettle black."

Sanford had gotten back from the Army now and was working at the Christmas tree factory on second shift. He started dating Janice Tuttle and would bring her up to the house. He bought the 1960 Chevrolet from Chester and got married to Janice. They moved to Cow Creek and rented a trailer from Millard McIntosh. I would go down there and stay all night sometimes. Millard would joke with me and once he had done something, he took off running with me after him. He didn't think I could run that fast. One time, he fell down and we wrestled a little bit. I would mow Sanford's grass for him. He later bought a house on High Street in Irvine.

When I went to the eighth grade I had Mrs. Mansfield for a teacher. She was a pretty woman who lived in Irvine with her husband who worked at Lewis Funeral Home. We would do things to get her mad. We were mean to her and didn't care then.

Carl Dennis and Donald "Drake" Puckett were in my class then. Billy Paul Dennis had dropped back and was a year behind me. I wouldn't ride the bus home. Donald's sister Ann would pick us up a lot. She lived next to her mom on Tipton Ridge just past the Crowe Cemetery on the left.

One winter, tragedy struck on the mountain when Ann's sister Linda Puckett and Cleta Dennis was out on a date and froze to death when the car they was in broke down. The boys went for help but didn't make it back in time. They had the funeral at Mount Carmel Church and I went to it. It was a sad time on Tipton Ridge. We had lost two of our own people.

We played softball in Alma Puckett's back yard a lot. I would walk out there after school. We would choose up teams and play against each other. There was a bunch of the Pucketts. There was Donald "Drake." He had one short leg. They said it was from polio when he was young. His brothers were David, Alvin, Gerry, Elmer and William. Their younger brother was too young to play. Their older brother, Bobby Gene Puckett and Grace Adams Puckett had two boys who played with us. They were Dwight and Greg Puckett. Their uncle Cleveland Adams would also play. Sometimes we would play at Tipton Ridge's ball field. We had a lot of fun. Alvin, Donald and Elmer are dead now.

We would go to the pit to swim a lot. Samuel Griggs and Dorothy Ashcraft Griggs would let their kids swim there, too. He asked us that we wear clothes because he was pumping the George Pitts lease now. He kept all the grass cut around the power and vac-

uum plant. He was a really nice man. He always used casing head gasoline in his trucks. The trucks would smoke a lot. He later got liver cancer and died. I wondered if working around oil caused it. He never drank whiskey or beer that I know of. He was really religious and would take us to church if we wanted to go. He went to High Street Church of God.

The eighth grade was ok. Mr. George Williamson III loved fishing. He had a paddle made out of a boat paddle sawed off. He didn't use it much and never used it on me. I had enough used on me. Mr. Sutton was the music teacher when I was in the fifth grade. He just came once a week. I got a whopping every week for not singing. I didn't know how to read music. Mt. Carmel hadn't taught any music classes. I would cry and curse really bad. Mr. David Akers would always try to get me to stop cursing. He made a big influence on me. I still think about him.

We used to catch a ride to school sometimes. Charlie Bill and Frankie Muncy would be cleaning the Wig Wam parking lot. They lived on Cow Creek. I didn't try to play basketball that year. Our new principal was coaching the basketball team. His name was also Mr. Williams but I don't know his first name. He was about 6'6 tall and bald headed. I didn't much like him.

They tried to get me to play football that year. I went to practice a few times. I would ride with someone to Kiwanis Park to practice. I would have to hitchhike home with my bag full of gear.

Chester decided to go to the Air Force that year. He went on what they called the "fat boy" plan. He had to lose so much before they would take him. They finally took him. He had double-jointed knees and couldn't stand up straight, but they operated on his legs in the Air Force and he served his time.

Continued next week

Library Happenings

Estill Public Library

by Shannon Horn

Hello readers!

May 22nd, 2019

'Tis that time again; time for another Library Happenings. I've been so busy this week that I almost forgot about writing this week's article. Hard to believe, but we are halfway through the month of May. That means that Summer Reading is quickly approaching. We have some wonderful activities planned for the summer and I will share a few of those with you right now!

June 1st Beanstack Set-up Day

We will be using Beanstack again this year. If you would like help getting your Beanstack account set up then stop by June 1st from 9:00-2:00 and we will help get you in the system. If you register a new library card on this day you will be entered to win a prize. Beanstack helps you keep track of the books you've read, the amount of time you have spent reading and the events that you have gone to over the summer. The badges you earn by using Beanstack can help you win prizes!

Touch a Truck

Our first Thursday program for the 2019 Summer Reading Program will be the Touch a Truck program. We will be hosting this at the Irvine United Methodist Church across from the library. This will take place from 1:00 to 2:00. We have several cool vehicles that will be at this event. There will be a firetruck, police cruiser, mail truck and even a bucket truck. There will be several more, but I won't

ruin the surprise. We will have several prizes to give away that day too!

Bookworm Book Club

The Bookworm Book Club is a new book club for children ages 10-12. We will be reading two books during the months of June and July. We will read *How to Eat Fried Worms* during the month of June and then we will move on to *The City of Ember* in July. As we read the books we will do several fun activities and we will finish the month off with the movie based on the books. The books will be coming in soon and the children can stop in and check out the first book within the next few weeks!

Summer Feeding Program

During the Summer Reading Program we will also be a Summer Feeding Site. The schools will prepare bagged lunches that will be sent to the library every Wednesday and Friday at 11:15. The lunches will be available for kids 18 and under. This would be a great time to get the kids into the library for books. We will also have a craft time after lunch on Wednesday.

Pickin' in the Park

Our concert last week with Chris and Jenn Shouse went really well. The weather and the music were wonderful. On the 28th we will be hosting Donovan Howard and June 4th will be Better than Yesterday. The weather has been great so far and we hope that it continues to as we have more concerts.

I also wanted to let everyone know that on May 28th and 29th we will only be open from 9-5. There is a staff training that day so the majority of us will be in the meeting room for those two days. But all services will still be available during those two days, including a free notary.

There will be more next week! Until then...

Ideas for stretching your monthly retirement check

After years of hard work, dedication and saving, you have finally made it! Retirement is now in sight. As you prepare to retire, you need to remember basic financial principles to make your retirement funds last as long as possible.

New retirees may be tempted to go on exotic vacations or spoil their children and grandchildren with purchases, but lavish spending can cause a person's retirement savings to quickly dwindle.

You should continue budgeting your retirement income much like you did when you had a full-time job. Start planning your monthly budget a few years before retirement begins. Know your anticipated monthly retirement income. Track your monthly expenses to get a good idea of the amount you spend each month on necessities like groceries, utilities and car and home insurance. Remember to include the unique budget items that come along with retirement. For example, your health insurance plan may change or have different coverage levels or copay amounts in retirement. Familiarize yourself with your plan and make sure you include your anticipated monthly out-of-pocket medical expenses in your budget. Set aside money each month for an emergency fund to cover any unexpected expenses. Include additional income in your budget for entertainment like eating out, movies, leisure activities and trips because, after all, retirement is about doing what you have always wanted to do.

If you find you are having trouble making ends meet, getting a part-time job is a common way for people to make their retirement nest

egg last longer. In addition to supplementing your income, a part-time job can also provide you with social interaction and a daily routine. If you do get a part-time job, make sure your income does not exceed the Social Security earnings limit if you are between age 62 and your full retirement age and receiving Social Security benefits. In 2019, the limit is \$17,640. For every \$2 you earn over this limit, you lose \$1 in Social Security benefits and may be hit with additional income tax penalties.

Another way to stretch your retirement savings is to downsize your home. Moving to a smaller home can save not only on your mortgage payment but can cut down on your utility, maintenance and insurance costs as well. Consider moving to a neighborhood where housing costs are lower, especially if you no longer need to worry about school district or work commute time.

Many people plan on traveling in retirement. The good news is you can do it on a fixed budget. Now that you have more schedule flexibility, consider going during your destination's off-peak times. Often, hotels, airlines and other hospitality and tourism businesses will offer discounts for vacationing during a less busy time of the year.

Whether traveling or staying close to home, be sure to take advantage of all the senior discounts you can. These can help you stretch your monthly income.

You can receive more information about family financial management at the Estill County office of the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service. **Source: Kelly May, senior extension associate**

Attention 2019 Graduates

For our upcoming Graduate Section, please submit your name and a high-definition color photo by Friday, May 24th to The Estill County Tribune.

You may send it by email to news@estilltribune.com