

OPINIONS

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SHILOH



Heaven Is A Lot Like Kentucky

By Charles Mattox

Easter, 1862, near the small community of Shiloh, located in southwestern Tennessee

Someone walked by and tripped over him and both exhausted soldiers let out mumbled curses as they tried to find comfort under their makeshift tent that seemed to funnel all the rain directly onto him.

His mind raced with thoughts of the past and the future.

He could now say he bore witness and participate in this great, American Civil War, in what appeared to be a cataclysmic defeat for... well, both armies, though the score keepers would surely check the box "victors" next to the Union Army.

It was Easter, and the 'Orphans' had just received their 'baptism' of fire at this miserable wet, muddy spot of earth, known simply as Shiloh Church, or for the little wharf along the waterway, known as 'Pittsburg landing.'

He would surely mark this moment as one of the monuments of his life, thus far, though since he had raised his hand and sworn allegiance to the Confederacy, he had felt a sadness that went beyond his own emotions.

Saying goodbye to his dear mother and his loving sweetheart had been a painful eternity ago, and yet it seemed as only yesterday.

"I left back in Nicholas County, a little black-eyed, curly haired-maiden whose image at the very moment seemed fairer than all of the angels in Heaven," Ensign Lott Dudley Young would one day, so many years later, tell a special group of General, John Hunt Morgan's Calvary unit veter-

ans, during a reunion held in Carlisle.

John Hunt Morgan was the leader of The Lexington Rifles, a dashing Calvary unit that supported the Kentucky First Infantry Brigade, the brigade that the Flat Rock Grays joined.

The Grays themselves were now known simply as Company H, and were part of the 4th Battalion of the 1st Brigade of the First Infantry of the Orphan Brigade, a group of Kentuckians, many from northeast Kentucky who enlisted and never returned home until the end of the war.

They all had confidence in Capt. William Peter Bramblett, their company commander, and in their General, a man named John Breckenridge, the former Vice President and once Governor of Kentucky.

Breckenridge was a recent presidential hopeful and received over 900 votes in Nicholas County during the Presidential nomination.

It should be noted, and closely scrutinized by the serious historian, that Abraham Lincoln, Republican nominee for President, received only 1, 364 votes in the entire state, out of a possible 150,000.

He received only one vote in Nicholas County. ONE VOTE!

The ferocity and division felt in northeastern Kentucky was unlike, and unequalled to, that of any other region in America, and can scarcely be imagined.

Captain, Phillip Lightfoot Lee of Bullitt County summed up the feelings of many a Kentucky teenage boy when he said he supported the Union and would stand with the Unit-

ed States of America. If the Unites States fell apart, as it currently had, well, he'd stand with Kentucky. If Kentucky dissolved, as it currently had, well, he'd stand with Bullitt County. If Bullitt County dissolved, as it currently had, well, he'd stand with his hometown of Shepherdsville. If Shepherdsville fell apart, as it had, then he'd stand with his side of Main Street.

He thus, eventually, like the majority of the boys closest to his side of Shepherdsville, stood with the First Kentucky Infantry Brigade, which stood with the Confederacy.

Lee was a gallant officer, serving with Young in the Fourth Battalion.

The battalions of the Brigade were separated however after passing through the giant oaks on the way to battle around Shiloh Church. Young was pleased to see Morgan's Calvary Squadron waving those gaudy hats of theirs while singing "Cheer Boys Cheer" as they marched by.

Trees were budding, flowers were blooming, birds singing, all the joyous and happy sights and sounds that anyone could imagine were to be witnessed on this beautiful spring day, and each soldier noticed it as he marched toward the action.

Young and his fellow companions of the 4th battalion were fired upon with the first volley from the 46th Ohio; neighbors for many of the Orphans from "just a cross the Ohio River."

"As they leveled their rifles at us I was sure every man among us would be killed," Young would later remember of that first enemy con-

tact; that first baptism of fire.

But the Buckeyes aimed high with few shots having the desired effect. Young and the rest of the 4th aimed low, as they had been instructed and the slaughter began in earnest.

"We had hardly fired the second volley, when the sharp, shrill voice of Major Monroe rang out amid the roar and din of Battle to 'Fix Bayonets' and the command was repeated by the company commanders," Young remembered of those events, which he wrote about years later in the book "Reminiscences of a soldier of the Orphan Brigade."

Young and his fellow soldiers pushed back and forth against the Union Army of General Ulysses Grant until hostilities ended as the first day of battle faded with the dusk.

Young, like the rest of the Confederate soldiers waited for the final charge, to overwhelm the demoralized Union Army, as the Confederates had routed their foes in the waning hours of the day, but the order never came and the opportunity for total victory was lost as 33,000 Union soldiers reinforced the Union Army that night.

The second day of battle, just beyond the Shiloh Church, would be disastrous for the Confederates. Young and the 4th would face their fellow Kentuckians and the rest of the Union Army.

It would be the men of the First Kentucky Infantry Brigade; The Orphan Brigade, who would hold the line as the rest of the Confederate Army limped, crawled and fell, into the neighboring town of Corinth.

The Orphans lost nearly half of their men on that second, deadly day, and the exultation felt by them after the first day of victory was crushed with sorrow following the second day's defeat.

He and the other survivors limped into Corinth late that night, and over the next 48 hours as torrents of rain fell.

Lott Young, like many lying around him, closed his eyes and hoped for a weary sleep that still mercilessly did not come; the horrid images and pitiful sounds of the wounded could never be erased from his mind.

"Yep, we sure went to church today, didn't we boys?" Their sergeant, Ed Thompson asked quietly with a tone of solemn and wise sorrow they had all shared, to which many simply grumbled, "Shiloh Church" in understanding.

And then another among them piped in saying, "Well, I'll not be going to that church no more, boys. I'm not sure I like the sermons they preach. It was as if Satan himself was doing the preaching to us."

"Amen to that, brother," Lott Young grunted under his breath, as did many that lay amid the horrid cries of the wounded and dying. Young imagined this was to be the worst day of the war, of this God-awful war, dear reader, but he was wrong about that. The worst was still to come.

If the Good Lord is willing, we will rejoice Lt. Young and his fellow Kentucky Orphans within the confines of this column as they attempt to survive the destruction that awaited them and thousands of others for both armies.

From the Table

By Tim Bailey

Well, I'm sitting here watching the gentle rain come down, which does give me a calm feeling, but not so much for the big baby Golden Retriever I am babysitting. I cannot figure out why she is so afraid of rain, especially thunder/lighting. Dad thought she might have got a shocked during a storm years ago, but I have found out that other dogs are scared as well. I don't know if the dark, wind, or cold bother other dogs, though. I think she is just spoiled along with her other mental disorders??

utes, we decided to go in. As we rounded the corner of the house a big clap of thunder shook the ground. Needless to say, Bailey jumped and took off for the basement door. I will say I was right behind her, hoping she would stop and not just keep running like she was known to do. We got inside her in the cage and covered up because you know that stops thunder and lighting.

As things calmed down, I thought of dad saying that about Bailey and got to thinking of small snip-pets of my past some are funny some not but all nice to keep in my small brain. I remember lying by the big

floor heater at mamaws. I was coloring a bird a Robin, I even remember I was coloring the orange part. I must have been really into it cause dad came up from behind me and grabbed me, scaring me big time. It made me mad cause it got me out of line or at least that is what I said. Maybe that is why I still try to scare people nowadays, especially family members - it was instilled in me at a young age.

Another time me and dad were unloading silage, and it was really cold, like in the teens. I was bundled up but using a corn wagon with the small door which could be rolled up and

down for corn, but it would stop up with silage. I was digging out a blockage and for reason dad rolled up the door, catching one of my fingers. I didn't feel it cause of the cold but could not pull my hand back. Yelling at dad I got his attention, and he told me to go wash it off in the milk room. It didn't hurt, I told him, but went to wash it. Well as soon as the warm water hit, the blood starting rolling. No major damage, but to this day I have a little scare to remind me of that day.

This one was with papaw while hanging out with him. He kept watch on me several times - more about

that later - and he was better than uncle Oscar at that job. I was wanting to figure out how to make some money because the Christmas before I didn't get my go-cart. Being a 6 or 7 year old and excellent driver, I knew that would be a safe toy for me. Papaw told me if I would get one of the big feed sacks from the smokehouse and catch as many grasshoppers as I could, it would help the farm, and he would pay me of every hopper caught. He said the grasshoppers

were eating all the grass. I thought about it and turned down his offer! Between him and my uncles I was learning fast.

These are just a few that pop up from time to time in my head. I am sure all of you have them, and it is nice to keep those short memories stored away to be called on from time to time.

That said, take care of yourself and mother nature and of course all BE KIND.

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CITY OF SHARPSBURG, KENTUCKY
AMENDMENT TO
ORDINANCE NO. 310-2004

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SHARPSBURG, COUNTY OF BATH, COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY, THAT: THE ABOVE NAME ORDINANCE IS AMENDED AS FOLLOWS:

Section 2.2 - Sewer Rate Schedule for City Customers
SEWER RATE SCHEDULE
INSIDE CITY CUSTOMERS

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|
| Basic Sewer Charge Per User Per Month | 21.95 |
| Per 1,000 Gallons | 4.29 |

Section 3.3 - Sewer Rate Schedule for Pleasure Ridge Apartments

| | |
|---|-------|
| Basic Sewer Charge Per User Per Month 32 Unit | 21.95 |
| | 4.29 |

Sewer Deposit Fee

The sewer deposit fee shall be \$150.00 6/15/2019 (Amended)

THIS AMENDMENT TO ORDINANCE NO. 310-2004 BECOMES EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY UPON ITS ADOPTION, APPROVAL, AND PUBLICATION AS PROVIDED BY LAW AND RATES FORTH HEREIN BECOME EFFECTIVE FOR SERVICES PROVIDED AS OF April 1, 2025
ENACTED THIS 5th DAY OF April 2025

FIRST READING: March 1, 2025
SECOND READING: APRIL 5, 2025

Dorothy Clemons, Mayor
ATTEST:
Tonya Briscoe, Clerk
Published: April 10, 2025

RESOLUTION #04-2025

Fair Housing Resolution

LET IT BE KNOWN TO ALL PERSONS of the City of Sharpsburg that discrimination in the sale, rental, leasing, financing of housing or land to be used for construction of housing or in the provision of brokerage services because of race, color, religion, sex, familial status, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity is prohibited by Title VIII of the 1968 Civil Rights Act also known as the Federal Fair Housing Act, the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988, and Executive Order 13988; and

WHEREAS The Fair Housing Act, enacted on April 11, 1968, enshrined into federal law the goal of eliminating racial segregation and ending housing discrimination in the United States and commits recipients of federal funding to affirmatively further fair housing in their communities; and

WHEREAS the City of Sharpsburg is committed to the mission and intent of Congress to provide fair and equal housing opportunities for all, it is the policy of the City to implement programs to ensure equal opportunity in housing for all persons regardless of race, color, religion, sex, familial status, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that within available resources the City will assist all persons who feel they have been discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, familial status, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity to seek equity under Federal and state laws by filing a complaint with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, Compliance Division.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City shall publicize this Resolution and through this publicity shall encourage owners of real estate, developers and builders to become aware of their respective responsibilities and rights under the Federal Fair Housing Act and amendments and any applicable state or local laws or ordinances.

SAID PROGRAM will at a minimum include: (1) printing and publicizing of this policy and other applicable fair housing information through local media and community contacts; (2) distribution of posters, flyers, and any other means that will bring attention to those affected, the knowledge of their respective responsibilities and rights concerning equal opportunity in housing; and (3) prepare an analysis of impediments to fair housing choice and actions to mitigate such impediments.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This resolution shall take effect April 5, 2025

Dorothy Clemons
Mayor, City of Sharpsburg

Tanya L. Briscoe
Attest — City Clerk

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