

Freedom's Perfect Sound

By Van Yandell

We love hearing our national anthem played. To see the American Olympic athletes win gold and stand on the podium to receive their medals makes our hearts swell with pride.

To watch an American president place his hand over his heart and stand at attention for the playing of the "Star Spangled Banner" gives a feeling of victory and protection.

Our precious flag is respected by the world. To say the United States of America is the greatest nation that ever existed may be controversial to some, but in many minds, it is reality.

Many of us remember when TV stations began the day and ended it with the national anthem and a picture of the American flag.

The story of the writing of "The Star Spangled Banner" by Francis Scott Key should touch the heart of every freedom loving American. Written September 14, 1814, Key was on a British truce ship in the Chesapeake Bay.

Key was inspired after watching a massive American flag continue to fly over Baltimore's Fort McHenry following a relentless 25-hour bombardment by the British Royal Navy during the War of 1812.

Many have died protecting that flag and our grat-

itude cannot be measured. Our respect for them cannot be compared. The sounds of "the bombs bursting in air" still ring loud in their ears.

The horrors of war will never end for those that fought. Many came home missing limbs and thousands of others came home in body bags.

The following is an excerpt from an article I published several years ago entitled "The Sounds of Freedom." It is as applicable now as then and a tribute to our 250th anniversary as a nation.

"Out for my morning hike, I passed by an office building. There was a sloped area along the road and it was grown up with grass and small trees. Realizing I was hearing a sound that was unusual, I stopped and looked into the brushy area but saw no sign of life.

It sounded small; possibly like a chipmunk or maybe even an armadillo; but nothing! Starting up my walk, the sound started again. What could that sound possibly be?

Finally, realizing there was a flagpole in the yard of the building, the sound was obviously the American flag blowing in the breeze. My heart almost exploded; what a beautiful sound the flag was making and I did not recognize it! The sounds of freedom at times fall on deaf ears.

We fail to stop and say "Thank you Lord for this great country and allowing me to be here, a citizen of the great United States of America." Freedom and being an American are among our greatest blessings.

We hear sounds every day of our lives that verify our freedom.

Printing presses running are a sound of freedom. Freedom of the press is precious and must be preserved even though it has been perverted by the politically corrupt. A free press is essential to a republic in that the people have a "right to know."

The sound of children pledging allegiance to the flag is a sound of freedom. The sounds of a high school football game or the academic team competing with other schools teams are sounds of freedom. The clip-clop of an Amish buggy is a sound of freedom.

The sound of the Star Spangled Banner playing at a veteran activity is a sound of freedom. The veterans have paid a very high price for our freedoms of speech, the press, assembly, and many others. They deserve the best of everything this country has to offer; without them, there would be no country.

There are 172 national cemeteries with an undetermined number of graves because the number changes

daily. In Arlington National Cemetery alone there are over 400,000 graves. The sound of silence in these is a sound of freedom that is deafening.

"It is for freedom that Christ has set us free." This statement by the Apostle Paul in Galatians 1, tells us of a purpose of Christ's crucifixion. By His sacrificial death, mankind has freedom from the "yoke of sin" the world had previously experienced.

From the writing of the Ten Commandments until Christ's resurrection, the Jewish people had lived under the burden of being human but being expected to adhere to those commandments of God. Their atonement/redemption came by offering a blood sacrifice on the altar (Hebrews 9: 22). The laws for offering the sacrifice are stated in Leviticus and Deuteronomy in the Old Testament.

Then came Christ Jesus! The sounds of the Roman soldier's hammer driving the nails into our Jesus' hands and feet were sounds of the freedom He offered us by bleeding, suffering and dying for our sins. The sound of the stone being rolled away to allow Him to exit the tomb, resurrected and alive, was a sound of freedom.

Have we as a people, both Americans and Christians,

tuned out those sounds and taken what we have for granted? Obviously, it was not granted easily. The prices paid were enormous. We think of the dead military men and women but they had families; mothers, fathers, sisters and brothers that also suffered immeasurably at their loss.

Their sacrifice set us free from an oppressive government. It is for freedom from sin that Christ has set us free. Only by forgiveness of sin based on His cleansing blood (1 John 1: 9) may we be saved. The suffering of Jesus is unimaginable in today's world of medicines/painkillers.

Are there words to express how precious freedom is? If there are, I do not know them. These great treasures of being an American as well as salvation through a crucified and resurrected Christ Jesus are priceless. Don't take them lightly.

As you go through the day, the week and the year, listen for the sounds. The flapping of the flag on a breezy morning really caught my attention and I pray those sounds will command your attention."

Van Yandell is a retired Industrial Arts teacher, an ordained gospel evangelist and commissioned missionary. His email is vmy3451@gmail.com

Homemakers Enjoy Celebrating Us

By Becky Greenwell
bgreenw2@bellsouth.net

There are gaggles of geese, coveys of doves, herds of cattle, and schools of fish.

What do you call a group of ladies representing three generations on their annual June Outing?

That's easy: Extension Homemakers having a heck of a good time.

Last weekend this group from the Morganfield Young Homemakers Club, with emphasis on young as young at heart and their guests, got together for a trip away from homemaking, cooking, cleaning, babysitting, and everyday routines.

Sometimes that is all we need for a quick recharge of our batteries—a change of routine. Even with the empty nest, being able to send grandchildren home, and having less laundry accumulating in fewer hampers, a good day out is always a

great day. Several of our members have spent many years together in our homemaker group. Some are newbies to the group, but settled in, and guests who might think, "This is fun!" and join the crowd.

Our ladies, young and old alike, have become as comfortable together as that old pair of house slippers or a big terry cloth robe we still want to wrap up in at the end of the day.

Being together this long and becoming this comfortable with each other, we have discovered that at times we may find ourselves stuck in the middle of a senior moment. When one of us tells a tale and starts reaching for the right word or a person's name it's not unusual to have another of us finish a sentence or pick up the word that had been dropped.

This is why we need several people in our group—if there were only a couple of us,

we may never hear the punch line or hear the end of a really good story, because there weren't enough people there to help finish the story.

That is where those young homemakers come into our picture. We teach them things we have learned, and they keep our minds sharp and keep us young at heart. We are a great group together.

Our Union County clubs meet September through May learning and educating others about life skills, homemaking skills, and leadership skills. When June comes around, we are ready for our June Outing.

Through the years our club has taken day trips to Paducah, Owensboro, and Princeton, Ky., Newburgh and Evansville, Ind., and Harrisburg, Marion, and Equality, Ill., to name a few.

We took boat cruises,

gone to horse races, explored museums, shopped, visited gardens, tried new restaurants, and cuisines. Of course, have eaten many desserts along the way.

This year we spent a Saturday afternoon in Owensboro, Ky. We started with lunch at the restaurant at Preservation Station which is a 39,000 sq. ft. former schoolhouse turned one-of-a-kind marketplace. There are over 60 unique shops, a Southern-style restaurant, and the historic gym is used for community events.

Several of our members hadn't eaten at the restaurant or visited the shops inside the building. I was one who hadn't and was very impressed. We all had a delicious meal and were overwhelmed with all the things in the stores. Of course I had to buy a little something.

Like always there

was talking, storytelling, filling in the blanks, bragging about children and grandchildren, group pictures, and just catching up. From there we split up and went through the stores checking out every room. After shopping we left there and went to Reid's Orchard and some to the Botanical Gardens. I heard several stopped for ice cream on their trips home, including our car.

A few hours later, with our batteries recharged, our girl-talk fix taken care of, and our bellies full we headed home.

At the end of the

day and I was safely home and settled in my recliner with my feet propped up, I breathed a sigh of satisfaction, rest, relaxation, and a thankfulness for all my blessings.

Most especially on this day I was thankful for my gift of Extension Homemaker friends, the time we shared together, food we ate, especially that cup of Pineapple Dole Whip, and a safe return home.

As I drifted off to sleep in my chair there were visions of our next June Outing and fun times dancing through my dreams.

-- PUBLIC NOTICE --

Level-Up Towers is proposing to construct a 195-foot overall height self-supporting lattice telecommunications structure located near Fire Tower Road, Morganfield, Union County, Kentucky (37° 38' 50.1" N, 87° 54' 04.0" W). The proposed tower is anticipated to utilize FAA Style E (medium intensity, dual red/white strobes) lighting.

Level-Up Towers invites comments from any interested party on the impact the proposed undertaking may have on any districts, sites, buildings, structures, or objects significant in American history, archaeology, engineering, or culture that are listed or determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. Comments may be sent to Environmental Corporation of America, ATTN: Annamarie Howell, 1375 Union Hill Industrial Court, Suite A, Alpharetta, GA 30004 or via email to publicnotice@eca-usa.com. Ms. Howell can be reached at (770) 667-2040 x 108 during normal business hours. Comments must be received within 30 days of the date of this notice.

Any interested party may request further environmental review of the proposed action under the FCC's National Environmental Policy Act rules, 47 CFR §1.1307, by notifying the FCC of the specific reasons that the action may have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. This request must only raise environmental concerns and can be filed online using the FCC pleadings system at <https://wireless2.fcc.gov/UlsEntry/pleadings/pleadingsType.jsp> or mailed to FCC Requests for Environmental Review, Attn: Ramon Williams, 45 L Street, Washington, DC 20554 within 30 days of the date of the National Notice as referenced within the Antenna Structure Registration (ASR) application. Mailed pleadings must include a request to waive the electronic filing requirement along with an explanation of why an electronic filing cannot be made. Refer to File No. A1388470 when submitting the request and to view the specific information about the proposed action. 26-001626b/PEW

-- PUBLIC NOTICE --

CITY OF STURGIS, KENTUCKY
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS FOR STREET RESURFACING

The City of Sturgis is accepting sealed bids for street resurfacing at seven (7) separate project locations within the City Limits of Sturgis. Each individual project location must be priced and submitted as a separate bid. A list of project locations and specifications may be obtained by calling City Hall at 270 333 2166 or by requesting the information via email at billy.adams@cityofsturgisky.com.

Each bid must contain the full name of every interested person or company submitting the bid and shall be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Sealed Bid for Street Resurfacing." If mailed, the sealed bid envelope must be placed inside the mailing envelope, and clearly marked as directed.

Each bidder must also submit the following information:

1. A minimum of two (2) references relating to your history and experience;
2. A minimum of two (2) credit references;
3. Certificate of insurance indicating CGI insurance coverage limits.

Sealed bids will be accepted at Sturgis City Hall until **4:30 p.m. CST (5:30 pm EST) July 7, 2026**. Bids received after the deadline will be considered non-conforming.

Sealed bids may be mailed to:
Sturgis City Hall
PO Box 98
Sturgis, KY 42459

Or hand delivered to:
Sturgis City Hall
106 W 6th St
Sturgis, Ky 42459

Bids will be opened and read aloud at the regular City Council meeting on July 8, 2026 to be held at 4:00 pm CST (5:00 pm EST).

The City of Sturgis reserves the right to reject any and all bids, in whole or in part; to waive any informality in any or all bids; and to accept the bid or part of bid it deems most favorable to the City after the bids have been opened, examined and checked.

7/1c

PUBLIC NOTICE

ORDINANCE NO. 575

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE CITY OF MORGANFIELD ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2026 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2027 BY ESTIMATING REVENUES AND RESOURCES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR THE OPERATION OF CITY GOVERNMENT.

WHEREAS, the annual budget proposal has been prepared and delivered to the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has revised such budget and made necessary modifications,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF MORGANFIELD, KENTUCKY, that the annual budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2027 is hereby adopted as follows:

SECTION 1:

	Resources Available
Fund balance carried forward (estimated)	\$4,175,819.00
	Estimated Revenue
001 General Fund	\$3,467,281.00
002 Agency Fund	\$0.00
003 Municipal Aid Fund	\$73,050.00
004 Economic Assistance Fund	\$115,600.00
005 Local Law Enforcement Block Grant	\$0.00
008 Water and Sewer Fund	\$4,309,400.00
008 GAC Contractor Tank	\$8,000,000.00
008 TAP Granty, U.S. 60 Sidewalk	\$1,064,000.00
020 Gas Revenue Fund	\$3,159,580.00
Total Estimated Revenue	\$20,188,831.00
	Appropriations
Total resources available for appropriation	\$24,364,650.00
	Estimated Appropriations
001 General Fund	\$5,246,223.00
002 Agency Fund	\$0.00
003 Municipal Aid Fund	\$100,000.00
004 Economic Assistance Fund	\$150,000.00
005 Local Law Enforcement Block Grant	\$0.00
008 Water and Sewer Fund	\$12,212,751.00
020 Gas Revenue Fund	\$2,396,614.00
Total Appropriations	\$20,105,587.00
Total Appropriations	\$20,105,587.00
Less Appropriations of Carry-Over Funds	\$0.00
Total Current Year Appropriations	\$20,105,587.00
Estimated Fund Balance At End	
Of Fiscal Year	\$4,259,063.00

First reading May 28, 2026
Second reading June 25, 2026
Published July 1, 2026

RANDY GREENWELL, Mayor
City of Morganfield

ATTEST:
SCOTT CLEMENTS, City Administrator
City of Morganfield