OPINION

The opinion page does not reflect to the views of the KyNewsGroup.

By Cecil Lawson

Nature prepares for the next season

It's been over a month since the autumn equinox, the turn to fall, and I notice changes all around me.

The declining sunlight hours have led wilderness creatures to begin fattening themselves for the coming winter. During my travels the last few weeks I've seen numerous deer, squirrels, bluejays, and red-tailed hawks. A swift six-point buck bounded over the roadway into a nearby field. There was a half dozen dead does by the roadways, recently hit. I've had to keep my speed low on country roads due to squirrels picking seeds and bugs from the holes in the asphalt. Last weekend I counted four red-tailed hawks flying over roadside fields from one end of the county to the other, searching for mice and rabbits.

I took a few minutes one afternoon last week to enjoy the warm weather, and I was fascinated as sparrows and bluejays teemed through the garden plants and peach tree and smoke tree, flying over the recently-mowed back field and back and forth to the woods in the hollow below.

Look along any roadway, and you'll see fallen walnuts and hedge apples, and yes, the leaves are turning, perhaps not dramatically, and drifting down from the trees.

My wife and I enjoy watching an orange and white stubby-tailed cat who roves the neighborhood, and he's been around more than usual, setting off our cat Sadie, the youngest of our pride, who growls at the outside cat through the window. The rest of the other cats could care less. I would suspect this cat, too, is preparing for winter. Sadie also recently caught a mouse somewhere in the kitchen and left it as a present for us in the floor.

Our kittens have heeded the change in seasons and are noticeably eating and drinking more. I find myself filling their large water fountains every day or two, whereas it was less frequent in the summer. Of course, I still have to keep their food bowls full, otherwise I get stared down when at breakfast and dinner times.

I also find myself drifting away from the couch and my desk this season, to take in the clear, dry days, to see the spectacular sunrises and sunsets, and the fog floating over the hills and hollers in the morning.

The light changes, and something inside ourselves changes if we take the time to notice.

By Sherry Brown

Encouragement That Takes You Higher

Walking in Grace

BY EDWARD GRINNAN

Story compliments of Guideposts.org

These past few weeks since my wife, Julee, passed I feel as if I have been walking in grace with the outpouring of your prayers and compassion.Each day I feel your empathyand your love lifting me up on this daily journey, a journey I know so many of you havewalked. I feel as if you are helping me follow in your footsteps from darkness to light andacceptance by sharing your experience, strength and hope.

Isn't that what walking in grace is all about? Sharing our daily journey in faith. For years we have produced a popular book of devotions, Daily Guideposts, 365 story-based devotions produced by a group of faithful writers many of you say have come to feel like family to you. As one of those longtime writers, I can attest to that feeling. You are more like a family than an audience.

After much discussion, research and prayer we have changed the title of Daily Guideposts to Walking in Grace. The title is the only thing that has changed. You will still enjoy the short personal stories of faith-in-action by a family of writers you have come to know and love. Each devotion starts with a Bible quote, just as before, and ends with a personal prayer that you can apply to your own life—an opportunity to dig deeper into the spiritual lesson of the devotion. As in everything we do, the devotions are story-driven so that you can better identify with the author's problems, spiritual solutions and triumphs, so you can put yourself in the writer's shoes and share their walk in grace.

When we launched Daily Guideposts some 47 years ago it was virtually the only other publication we had apart from Guideposts magazine. So, the title made sense. Today we have a several devotional books as well as our website and social media pages and apps. There are plenty of ways to engage with the content you love daily.

Years ago, I had to be talked into writing for Daily Guideposts. It's a long story but eventually it was the embrace of you, the audience, that kept me writing even to this day. Writing devotions opened my eyes to God's daily presence in my life, to His abiding and often unexpected grace in my walk of faith.

Scripture of the Week

Psalm 27:4 One thing I have desired of the Lord,That will I seek: That I may dwell in the house of the Lord. NKJV

LOCAL NEWS

Vikings fall to the Musketeers, 43-7

By Michael A. Clary
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The Rowan County Senior High School Vikings, under Head Coach Allen W. Harris, have fallen to 4-5 on the season, following their 43-7, home-game loss to the Greenup County Musketeers on Friday, Oct. 23, 2026.

The Vikings had 107 passing yards and only 25 rushing yards against the Musketeers whopping 320 passing yards and 182 rushing yards.

Vikings QB Luke Schroeder completed 8 passes from 14 attempts for 55 yards, with 2 interceptions; Matthew Hamilton completed 2 passes from 4 attempts for 48 yards, with 1 interception and 2 sacks; while JT Judd completed 1 pass from 1 attempt for 4 yards.

Leading the Vikings in receiving were Bentley Barnett with 2 receptions for 48 yards; Memphis Hinton with 3 receptions for 44 yards; Braydon Hall with 1 reception for 14 yards; and JT Judd with 1 reception for 8 yards.

On Special Teams, Luke Schroeder had 1 PAT (points after touchdown), and punted 3 times for 113 yards, with his longest punt being 54 yards.

Leading the Vikings in rushing were JT Judd with 7 carries for 35 yards, including 1 TD; Jack Richardson with 1 carry for 4 yards; and Memphis Hinton with 3 carries for 1 yard.

Leading the Vikings defense were Brody Barnett with 12 tackles, which includes 1 tackle for loss, and 0.5 sacks; Jack Richardson with 10 tackles; Hunter Bradshaw with 6 tackles, which includes 0.5 tackles for loss; Gabe Burchett with 5 tackles, which includes 1 tackle for loss, and 0.5 sacks; Braydon Hall with 4 tackles; Landon Messer with 2 tackles, which includes 1 tackle for loss; Gage Holbrook with 1 tackle for loss; and Jace Lipfird with 0.5 tackles for loss.

The Vikings will finish out the 2026 regular season at home, this coming Friday, Oct. 30th, against West Carter.

Go Vikings!!!

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