

Community Care

The Ugly Dog

As the title references this little story is how the Chandler Family became the proud owners of the ugliest dog ever. My wife has a bad habit of stopping by the Guernsey County Pound when she doesn't take lunch. It just so happened, the last time she stopped they had just gotten in Toby. Now we have been blessed with two wonderful children, two dogs and a not so large house. The number of people and animals seems to be too many occasionally. So, we or I should say I, wasn't on the hunt for anything to add to this number.

Liz came home, showed me the picture and the story of how Toby's family who had to give him up because of the economy. My first response was that he was truly an ugly dog and no one would want him, including me. The following week he was ending his tour in the pound and Liz was getting nervous. The pound ran his photo in the Daily Jeffersonian and I assumed someone would take him. Much to my surprise, no one wanted him. So guess where Toby lives now... that's right, Buckeye Drive!



While I was against us getting another animal of any sorts, I will say that Toby seems to know we saved him and loves us with all of his little heart. He may be the ugliest dog ever, but he is also one of the most well behaved dogs from the pound I have ever seen. I guess the moral of my story is that sometimes it's not what you can see on the outside that matters, but it's what's on the inside of people and dogs that count!

As always, I hope this Edition finds you living well...

Your Friend and Neighbor,
Bryan E. Chandler

A quarterly publication for the extended family and community of:



Who You Calling a Hick?

By David Leonhardt

For the last time, I live in the country, not in the sticks. And I am relaxed, not a hick.

Ever since we moved to the country, I get the feeling you city-folk are confused. So here is a primer on what it means to be living in the country.

When you walk three blocks from your house in the city, you will be in another neighborhood...and possibly lost. We'll be approaching our next-door neighbor's front porch.

The neighbors are no trouble at all. Sure they play hard rock heavy metal blow-your-brains out music all evening...but the birds and the crickets drown out the racket.

Our neighbor across the road has a sign that stays lit up all night: Bert's Auto Repair. He no longer does auto repair, but he doesn't do sign removal either. See? We have a downtown, too.

We don't need streetlights. We already have the stars, thank you very much. What do you mean, "What are stars?"

You have gangs in the city. Every now and then, somebody loses an ear, a few fingers or a loved one. Ha! We have gangs, too. Our gangs eat the field mice. Bet your gangs won't do that for you.

Sure, I'll mow the lawn. Remind me next month.

Every Monday morning I go for a hike. I tie up my laces. I put on my cap. And I grab hold of two heavy bags. Then I walk. And walk. And walk. And just when I feel like I can carry the bags no farther, I reach the end of the driveway. Yes, Monday is garbage day.

Out here, we ride our mowers and push our brooms. In the city, we hear you do the reverse.

You go to the grocery store to get your food. We cut out the middle man. We pick our own raspberries (both black and red) out back. And out front. And down the hill. And over in the woods.

We grow our own apples; in fact, the trees might give fruit by next year...hopefully.

And when we're in the mood for chicken, we sit silently at the property line with a hatchet, waiting for a stray bird to accidentally wandering under the fence. Or we drive to town for some KFC.

It's true. The nearest grocery store is seven miles away. But it takes me only seven minutes to get there...which is how long it took me to get out of the condo parking lot when I lived in the city.

We don't need bars. We have bonfires. The action gets pretty hot, especially when we have plenty of wood to burn. And who needs alcohol when you can just stand downwind from the fire?

We don't worry too much about breathing in pollution. There's not much of that around here. But we do keep our mouths closed when the mosquitoes are swarming.

Lady bugs are very pretty, but not when there are 30,000 of them squeezing their way into your walls. If only they ate mosquitoes

We have mice. You have rats. Mice are cuter.

Too bad they don't eat mosquitoes.

Sure I commute. What do you think we have a staircase for?

Don't get me wrong, the city's a great place for theatre, basketball and fancy restaurants that serve you itty bitsy morsels on huge white plates with sweeping splashes of colored sauces.

But have you ever noticed how very few depictions of paradise include skyscrapers, traffic lights and hot dog vendors? Come pay us a visit and you can enjoy paradise all to yourself...if you don't mind sharing it with the chickens, the skunk, the crickets, the mice and the mosquitoes.

Excuse me now. I have a mouse trap to empty.

Best Recipes: Chocolate Mint Dazzle

18 graham crackers
 1/2 cup melted butter
 1/3 cup sugar
 1/2 cup softened butter
 1 1/2 cup powdered sugar
 3 eggs, slightly beaten
 2 (1 ounce) squares chocolate, melted
 1 1/2 cup cream
 1 package miniature marshmallows
 1/4 cup crushed peppermint candy



Grease a 9 x 13-inch pan. Crush the graham crackers and mix them with the 1/2 cup of melted butter and the sugar. Press the mixture into the prepared pan. Cream the 1/2 cup softened butter and powdered sugar together in a medium bowl. Add in the eggs and melted chocolate. Beat well and spread the mixture over the top of the graham cracker crust. Beat the cream and marshmallows together and put that over the chocolate layer. Sprinkle the top with the crushed peppermint candy. Refrigerate overnight.

New Options to Personalize Funerals

Chandler Funeral Home is proud to announce the addition of two new casket lines to our selection room. These new caskets produced by Batesville Casket Company come from many years of research. Batesville and Funeral Directors have listened to the families they serve. What families are saying is most important to them is personalization. With these caskets, every family can add a special touch to make the casket represent their loved one's life and also help create a more meaningful service for their family and friends.

LifeStories Medallions – Every life tells a story

The LifeStories Medallion collection combines a sophisticated casket personalization feature with the added element of memorialization to create a lasting tribute to the loved one. Bronze-finished display medallions, featuring themes of spirituality, family and service, are displayed in the lid of the casket, allowing funeral directors to help families “tell the story” and provide an elegant expression of the spirit and personality of the loved one. Unique in the funeral industry, these artfully-inspired medallions serve as a visual eulogy during the service. Each casket is designed to accommodate three medallions, selected by the family from a group of 16 designs. The greatest part of the Life Stories Casket Medallions is following the service they can be removed and kept as a keepsake for the family members.



LifeView Panel – the casket becomes the canvas



For years, families have used memory tables and photo displays as a way to personalize the funeral service and tell the story of an individual's lifetime. Batesville takes this simple, yet highly personal concept to a new level with its LifeView Panel collection of caskets. With the new LifeView Panel, the casket becomes the canvas for telling a life story, using the family's own photos and memorabilia. Located in the lid of the casket, this patent-pending cap panel system is designed with special pleats to accommodate standard size photos or similarly-sized personal items to create a truly meaningful tribute.



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A loving, sensible Plan for the future

Most of us have life insurance, and we at least know that we should have a will. Isn't it strange, that many people consider it distasteful to pre-arrange a funeral? Instead, let's consider why pre-arrangement is really a thoughtful, loving thing to do.

It helps our loved ones - In the first day or two of bereavement, grief makes it difficult for survivors to ponder budgets and make the countless decisions that go along with arranging funeral services.

It fulfills a personal need - We all have some idea of how we'd like to be remembered. Pre-arrangement lets us have a say in that, in whatever details we desire.

For many, it is a necessity - When we live alone, travel widely, or foresee family problems, establishing a funeral plan in advance can give us peace of mind to ensure that our wishes are carried out.

*"Contact us to transfer your existing pre-arrangements
to Chandler Funeral Home for you."*

If this reaches you at a difficult time, please accept our apologies.