

Notes to Consider...

Investigative Report:

The Murky Service History of LTC Amy McGrath, USMC (Ret.)

By G.S. Morris — 3 September 2018



You should always be leery of those who wear their service history upon their sleeve. Over the past month, this publication saw fit to attach a disclaimer to my articles concerning my advice as to the most effective strategies for personnel protection. This writer saw fit to include at the conclusion of the last article in that series specifics as to what I did in service (protective service), so as to assure the reader I wasn't inventing the strategies I had detailed in those articles. To my knowledge, it was the first time I've mentioned here in print specifics related to what I did the last

third of my military career.

On the other hand, 6th US House District Democrat Candidate LTC Amy McGrath, USMC (Ret.) has made the cornerstone of her campaign the fact she is a retired fighter pilot who has flown 89 combat missions. More on that next week.

Prior to delving directly into McGrath's service record, it is worthwhile to review an eerily similar chapter in American political history, that of the 2004 Presidential Campaign of Democrat US Sen. John Kerry. Sen. Kerry had very prominently worn his military service in the Vietnam War upon his sleeve. However, the 2004 book written by John O'Neil and Jerome Corsi *Unfit for Command: Swift Boat Veterans Speak Out Against John Kerry*, exposed many of the holes in the purported Kerry service record (for example, John Kerry claimed to have spent Christmas 1968 illegally in Cambodia; a self-described "turning point" in his life. It never happened). Clearly, Sen. Kerry had attempted to use his alleged military service as a device to get votes. Mr. Kerry's ruse was exposed, and that exposure played a key role in his 2004 Presidential Election defeat.

Those who have been in service know all-to-well such exaggerations (and outright falsehoods) concerning military service are sadly not uncommon. While overseas, an office mate of mine had a criminal case in which a man was parading around the airbase where we were located passing himself off as a retired US Air Force major general as he was attempting to secure service contracts for a company he was representing. Someone became suspicious and contacted our office. Long story short, after the second interview with my fellow special agent, the "General" was shuffled off to the airfield to be placed on a plane back to the States after he was relieved of his two star adorned leather flight jacket and other accoutrements; he hadn't even served in the United States Air Force. As hard as it is to believe someone would pull such a stunt, it happens.

Next Week: The Holes in the McGrath Flight Record

Manchester Memorial Hospital to Host Their Annual Mommy & Baby Fair in September

Manchester, KY: Manchester Memorial Hospital (MMH) looks forward to hosting its annual Mommy & Baby Fair 2018 at Eastern Kentucky University (Manchester Campus) on September 21st, from 10am until 2pm.

An Information Area will be set up for the event, which will include several information booths from community resources such as WIC, HANDS, Early Steps and Family Resource Centers etc.

As in the previous year, attendees can expect to have the hospital's Mission In Motion unit on-site conducting free health screenings. The hospital and clinic providers will also be on-site with the teams from Willowbrook Women's Center and the OB unit at the hospital, who will collectively provide information about upcoming free childbirth classes, Kangaroo Care, newborn gift packages and other programs available. Manchester Pediatrics will be in attendance as well to answer inquiries.

Many representatives from MMH will be on hand for Q&A sessions, including the hospital's Nutritionist, who will be on site to provide free consultations to attendees.

By popular demand, the MMH Gift Gallery will also have a booth featuring baby accessories, stuffed toys, and branded clothing. We will also have free photography services for expectant mothers who wish to receive a photo shoot of their pregnancy. Free massages will also be available.

The Mommy & Baby Fair isn't just for new or expecting mothers, however. Women interested in becoming mothers, whether by birth or adoption, will receive the information that they need.

Edward Jones Adds Financial Advisor

Edward Jones Financial Advisor David R. Vickers announced today that a new Financial Advisor, Robyn Vickers Armstrong, has joined his office in London. "Vickers said, "I couldn't be more pleased to announce that my daughter, Robyn Armstrong, will be partnering with me. Robyn has always taken a special interest in how I help my clients and we are excited to welcome her to the team."

Robyn was raised in London, KY and graduated from South Laurel High School in 2001. She attended Georgetown College for her undergraduate work before earning her Doctor of Pharmacy degree at Samford University where she graduated summa cum laude.

Robyn worked as a pharmacist for nearly ten years. She has a passion for helping people. This passion was the driving force that made her consider the career change that led her to Edward Jones. She has had the unique opportunity to be able to watch her father build a career centered around helping his clients and she looks forward to continuing that tradition.

Robyn and her husband Jesse have been married for over thirteen years and currently reside in London. They have a six year old son named Jack. Together they enjoy traveling, playing sports, chasing Jack and staying active in their church.

Armstrong said, "I am excited to be able to learn from Dad's thirty years of experience and wisdom and I am very grateful to have this opportunity to serve our community."

The branch office is located at 908 West Fifth Street. The telephone number is (606)864-8500.

Edward Jones, a Fortune 500 company headquartered in St. Louis, provides financial services in the U.S. and, thought it's affiliate, in Canada. Every aspect of the firm's business, from the investments its financial advisors offer to the location of its branch offices, caters to individual investors. The firm's 16,000-plus financial advisors serve more than 7 million clients and care for \$1 trillion in assets under management. Visit the firm's website at www.edwardjones.com and it's recruiting website at www.careers.edwardjones.com. Member SIPC.

Inspirational Thoughts Into God's Word

By Lynetta Hunter

Back to the question from last week's column, do you ever wish you could be someone else for a day? Perhaps if there is doubt, fear, worry, or downright unbelief, we can transform for a moment into being Joshua and next week convert into Caleb.

I am Joshua. I know the oath God made with my family many years ago, that we will be occupants of a Promised Land where life will be happy and complete. I've been through times of hunger, drought, loneliness and confusion, but still somehow survived. I saw my ancestors struggle with burdens too heavy to bear, all the while believing there was a better life available. I know God wants me to have a good future, happy life, clear mind, and a free soul. His promise is near and I've seen what can be and the potential of the life that He says can be mine. It's a place where I will be content, my children will be well, and their children will be well. This is my time, for He has promised that I will have the desires of my heart if I keep His statutes and commandments. I've also seen the giants that are there now and I know the fight is real. I'm no match for the war we're getting ready to walk into, but I trust God. I believe He will teach me how to fight the battle supernaturally and I'm willing to take the chance because I would rather die here than to go back to the slavery of Egypt. I'm all in because God promised He would go before me and prove victory for every battle, and He's not going to fail me now.

Yards to Paradise Landscaping

The PawPaw Patch

By Max Phelps

When I was a child in elementary school, the teacher would get out song books and a record player, and we would have Music. One of the songs most of us seemed to enjoy was "Way Down Yonder in the PawPaw Patch".

Well, the kids may not be singing that in school anymore, but it's paw paw time in the country.

From what I can tell the crop seems to be bigger than usual, I guess since the pawpaw trees flower late, the cold weather in March and early April doesn't bother them.

So, "what's a pawpaw?" you may ask. Here are the vitals. It's *asimina triloba* to the botanist. It's the poor man's banana to some. It is the largest fruit that is native to the United States (if you leave out Hawaii). It grows wild in the woods and along streams and forest edge from Louisiana to Ontario. Usually in patches, either from sprouts grown up from roots of an older tree, or from seedlings that have grown from seed of fallen fruits. It also makes an attractive, somewhat tropical looking tree for the yard. (Even though you find it in shaded areas in the wild, you'll find a transplanted tree will grow happily if planted in good soil in a yard.)

The fruits are in the custard apple family, with the pawpaw being the only one that grows in temperate climates. The flavor of the pawpaw can vary quite a bit, as with other fruits. A bit like an avocado, a bit like a banana, but not really like anything else most of us have eaten. Probably the reason you don't find pawpaw at Kroger or Walmart is that they have to be ripe when harvested, and they won't keep but a couple days at room temperature, and less than two weeks in the refrigerator.

So, grow your own, or perhaps you can purchase some at a good farmer's market.

One way for the outdoors person to find some paw paws in the late summer or early fall, is a canoe or kayak trip down a stream. The fertile soil of a stream bank, plus the partial sunlight of the opening that lets in enough sunlight for them to bear a crop, is an ideal situation for this native fruit. So, your odds of finding a patch may be greatest from the perspective of a stream.

Pawpaw trees or shrubs are usually from ten to twenty-five feet tall. Planting two or more in a clump will result in cross pollination, and keep the trees more like the size of a multi-stem sweetbay magnolia; a tree many city folk plant in their yard for landscaping. The pawpaw tree even resembles the sweetbay magnolia tree in appearance.

The blooms are nothing like a magnolia though. They are a deep smoky burgundy color, hang like a small bell, and open up before the leaves bud out on the tree.

The fruits will fall when ripe, and the mess of fallen fruits in a good year may be an objection to having a pawpaw tree. (But, if you like to eat the fruits, either fresh or pureed for baking/cooking purposes, you'll hope to pick the fruits just as they begin to get soft and ripe. You'll also hope you beat the raccoons and opossums to the fruits!)

It's pawpaw time. Try looking for this unusual native fruit. Or consider planting some in your yard for fruits in years to come.


The author is a landscaper in Kentucky. Contact: rockcastles@gmail.com or (606) 416-3911

JACKSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU IS HOSTING A VETERINARIAN CLINIC

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2018

FROM 9:00 AM UNTIL 12:00 NOON

VETERINARIAN
JOEY MINTER
WILL BE AVAILABLE
AT THE JACKSON
COUNTY FARM
BUREAU OFFICE.



IF YOU ARE A JACKSON COUNTY FARM BUREAU MEMBER YOU MAY BRING YOUR PETS FOR THEIR RABIES OR PARVO SHOTS. THE VETERINARIAN WILL HAVE OTHER VACCINATIONS AVAILABLE. IF YOU WISH TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS PROGRAM, JACKSON COUNTY'S FARM BUREAU BOARD OF DIRECTORS WILL PAY UP TO \$5.00 OF THE TOTAL COST FOR EACH PET. (LIMIT 4 PETS PER MEMBER)