



The Record

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A Warrior's Wisdom

By Dr. Jim Haas

In an 1879 speech at a military academy, General William Tecumseh Sherman famously said, "War is Hell." He was right. War is also hard.

With the U.S. mired in a costly standoff with Iran in Mr. Trump's war-of-choice, its time to consider how to win a war as seen through the eyes of one of America's most respected senior officers of World War II, Admiral Raymond Spruance (pictured). His first great success was as commander of a carrier task force that, thanks to Navy intelligence officers who broke the Imperial Japanese Navy (IJN) code, ambushed Japan's carrier force attacking the U.S. airbase on Midway Atoll northwest of Hawaii on June 4, 1942. Spruance's airmen sank all four IJN carriers with the loss of all their planes and many of their best pilots. It was a turning point of the war.

During the war's last years, Spruance was commander of the Navy's Fifth Fleet in the Pacific. The Fleet was built around more than a dozen new, fast *Essex*-class aircraft carriers (pictured) and included lighter carriers, fast battleships, and hundreds of other combat

ships. He was responsible for defeating Japan's powerful navy, protecting amphibious landings on Japanese-held islands across the central Pacific to the Philippines, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa, and for the innovative fuel and supplies fleet that allowed hundreds of warships to stay at sea for long periods.

In addition to Midway, Spruance's greatest victory was the Battle of the Philippine Sea in late June 1944. In two days, his carrier planes destroyed more than 550 Japanese aircraft with nearly all their crews; U.S. losses were 123 (80 of which ran out of gas after dark and ditched in the water, but 75% of their crews were rescued). While the air battle raged above, U.S. submarines sank the two largest IJN carriers. After its Philippine Sea losses, the IJN's once-superior air power was no longer a factor.

After the war, Spruance, known for his calm under pressure and his razor-sharp intellect, was appointed president of the U.S. Naval War College. He immediately set about developing a new curriculum to enable senior officers to better fight future wars.

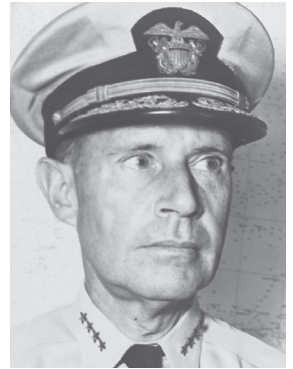
Naval War College courses now stressed

the importance of reliable intelligence, thorough knowledge of international affairs including the foreign policies of the U.S. and other influential countries, and knowledge of new technologies and their likely long-term

evolutions. Courses also emphasized orderly thinking and planning and cooperation among the several military branches and the State and Defense Departments. To expand senior officer's horizons beyond technical aspects of seamanship, Spruance brought in experts from universities and defense industries as visiting lecturers.

Spruance's liberal education curriculum was intended to make the Navy's leaders better informed citizens and "to get the best brains we can get." Academic freedom was fundamental: there wasn't a single "right answer" to a problem. Students were expected to think for themselves regardless of rank and were expected to have open minds receptive to the views of others. The College was no place for know-it-alls.

Contrast the Admiral's approach to that of the current political regime's attack on Iran where orderly thinking and planning was so lacking that the goal was unclear and an exit strategy nonexistent. Spruance's approach was for professional military leaders, but we should expect civilian leaders who set military policy to share versions of the same qualities. Instead, too many lack a deep knowledge of world affairs, academic freedom in schools and universities is criticized, thinking for oneself is replaced by simple loyalty to one man, and expertise replaced by that man's "instinct." Admiral Spruance would be concerned for the future of the country he did so much to protect.





By Sharon Hoover

I guess the heat is on, whoever told me this was going to be the coolest May in 15 years must have been talking about somewhere other than old Kansas City.

The KCK Public Library is kicking off its summer reading program at the Boulevard Drive in Theater on Thursday, May 28 at 7pm. Celebrate summer reading with a free showing of Jurassic Park. Pre-show entertainment will

Comin' & Goin' Turner Style

include book giveaways, bubbles, face painting, a dinosaur activity, soccer with Parks and Rec, KCK-PD's Mobile Gaming, and summer reading sign-up. Food will be available for purchase from local food trucks. Worried that the movie might be too scary for a little one? Join them for the pre-show activities and leave before the movie starts!

Keeler Women's Center is again offering "Intro to Spanish" taught by Brenda Mortell. The classes start on Wednesday, May 27 and continue each Wednesday, June 7, 10, and 17 from 10am- 11:30am. To make a reservation for a class, call 913 689 9375 or www.keelerwomenscenter.org. The center is located at 759 Vermont Ave, Suite 100-B, KCK.

Frieda Tresvan from the KU Diabetes Institute will also be at

Keeler's on Wednesday, May 27 from 10am-12pm to conduct free A1C testing.

West Wyandotte Library is having a Spring Book Sale on Friday, May 29 and Saturday, May 30 during library hours (9am-5pm). They will provide the bag, you fill it with any items you'd like, then take it home for only \$2. Sounds like a deal to me. 1737 N. 82nd St.

South Branch Library, 3104 Strong Ave is hosting "Maintain your Ride" (with BikewalkKC) on Friday, May 29 from 1pm-3pm. Spots are limited and must be registered online with Bike-WalkKC. Information taught in both English and Spanish. Do not bring your bike, this is a class to learn basic bike mechanics. learn the parts of a bike, how they work, how to maintain parts of a bike, and hands-on how to fix a flat. The

class is for children and adults. Families are welcome, very young children will be given an activity to keep them occupied during the class. Specific questions will be discussed after the class.

Mayor Crystal Watson is hosting the "One World Wyandotte Festival on May 29 from 3pm-7pm in the plaza area of City Hall, 701 N. 7th. The free festival will serve as an annual public celebration to honor the cultures, traditions, food, music, art, and people that make Wyandotte County one of the region's most vibrant and diverse communities. Experience international cuisine, live entertainment, cultural performances, family activities, community vendors and global experiences for all ages.

Until next time, stay safe and be kind to those around you.

Stock Market Insights

Oil, Fertilizer, and the New Desert Trade Routes Around Iran

Dr. Richard Baker, AIF®, is the CEO and executive wealth advisor at Fervent Wealth Management.

I have been singing in my head, "East bound and down, loaded up and truckin'" for a few days now, as the continued closing of the Strait of Hormuz has led some companies to create interesting solutions. It looks more and more like a "Smokey and the Bandit" situation.

Iran, which has become increasingly annoyed by the US Navy blockade of its ports, is expanding the area where it says ships can't sail in without permission. This is prompting companies and energy organizations to get creative about moving products around an active bully. Many companies are opting to use trucks to transport their products to other ships across the Arabian Peninsula, utilizing some of the world's oldest trade routes.

For instance, the UAE, which sits across the Persian Gulf from Iran, has ports on both sides of the

Strait of Hormuz bottleneck that are seeing huge increases in truck traffic around the bottleneck to load beyond the reach of the Iranian drones. Fertilizer is being offloaded in Saudi Arabia and shipped by land from the Persian Gulf to Red Sea ports. They were seeing 100 trucks a day before the war; now, over 7,000 trucks per day.

Shipping fertilizer over a huge landmass will never be as cheap or efficient as shipping by sea, but it is starting to lessen the global fertilizer shortage. These team drivers are driving twenty-four hours nonstop and will continue until things are settled. Saudi Arabia has several north/south railroad lines but few east/west. The building of new rail lines to connect the Persian Gulf to the Red Sea is being explored as insurance against Iran or other sea trolls.

Additionally, the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA) recently said it anticipates the Strait of Hormuz will remain closed

through the end of May. This led the organization to announce the release of more than 53 million barrels of oil from the U.S. Strategic Petroleum Reserve. This is on top of the International Energy Agency's (IEA) 400 million barrels of crude from its emergency reserves, all in hopes of lowering fuel prices. Just like the truckers won't fully bring down the fertilizer prices, these barrels of oil won't bring fuel prices back down to prewar levels, but they will help some.

The Strait of Hormuz is the easiest way to transport products out of the Gulf, but it isn't the only way. They just need Jerry Reed and his basset hound, Fred, to take control of things. Or maybe add Sally Field (wowzer in 1977), Burt Reynolds, and their 1977 Pontiac Firebird Trans Am driving up and down the coast to distract the Iranians while more ships start sailing through the strait.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



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Mayor Watson to Host One World Wyandotte Festival on May 29th Celebrating Culture, Diversity and Community

On Friday, May 29th, Mayor/ CEO Christal E. Watson along with the Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, Kansas (UG) will proudly host a One World Wyandotte Festival” to highlight culture and community in Wyandotte County. This annual festival will take place from 3PM - 7PM in the plaza area of the Wyandotte County Municipal Building/ City Hall (701 N. 7th Street, KCK).

Mayor Watson is reigniting the Sister Cities Program for the Unified Government with the One World Wyandotte initiative, a bold and timely vision, to position Wyandotte County as a global hub for culture, commerce, and collaboration. As one component of Mayor Watson’s newly launched One World Wyandotte initiative, the One World Wyandotte Festival will serve as an annual public celebration of the cultures, traditions, food, music, art, and people that make Wyandotte County one of the region’s most vibrant and diverse communities.

This FREE family-friendly festival will bring residents and visitors together across back-grounds and generations through international vendors, cultural performances, community

organizations, youth activities, and Sister City participation and so much more...

“We are extremely excited to host the One World Wyandotte Festival, said Mayor Watson. “This festival is more than just a great time on a Friday; it will highlight what makes Wyandotte County unique. From our diversity, cultures, food, music, art, and shared experiences, we are truly One Wyandotte!”

Interested in Participating in the Festival as a Vendor?

Any business or organization interested in becoming a vendor, or providing a donation at the One World Wyandotte Festival is asked to contact the Office of the Mayor at 913-573-5010, or via email at mayorwatson@wycokck.org.

Vendor registration fees are only \$25.00 per vendor. Submit your registration before the deadline of Friday, May 15th at 5PM.

Special Thanks to the One World Wyandotte Sponsors!

Support for the One World Wyandotte initiative and this event were made possible from various community sponsors.

One World Wyandotte

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Mayor's Office
913-573-5010
MayorWatson@wycokck.org
<https://www.wycokck.org/engage-With-Us/Calendar-of-Events/One-World-Wyandotte-Festival>

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Market Insights... ...from page 2

"We gonna do what they say can't be done, We've got a long way to go and a short time to get there. I'm east bound, just watch ol' Bandit run!"

Have a blessed week.

www.FerventWM.com

This article was written by humans for humans because AI doesn't have this quality of sarcasm.

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Sources: 1. https://www.wsj.com/world/middle-east/the-new-route-around-hormuz-involves-a-massive-convoy-of-trucks-fdc306c3?mod=hp_lead_pos8 2. <https://shippingwatch.com/logistics/article19284146.ece>

Fervent Wealth Management is a financial management and services entity in Springfield, Missouri.

Quotes To Ponder

By Tom Valverde

Asked how much Americans' financial situation was motivating him to seek a deal with Iran, President Trump replied, "Not even a little bit." He continued: "I don't think about Americans' financial situation. I don't think about anybody. I think about one thing — we cannot let Iran have a nuclear weapon, that's all." The remark drew criticism from Democrats and others who said it showed indifference to rising consumer costs and economic pressure on working families.

The president made the regrettable comments just prior to his "State" visit to China. His trip was more a visit to improve trade with China, after the terrible effects of the president's Tariffs on imports from China. Just look at his companions; all multi-Billionaires.

Actions speak louder than words and what this president has done to the economy of the United States is not to be tolerated. Our people are suffering and his primary concern are the CEOs and the billionaires. And they want only more dollars for themselves and they are using AI to do away with many jobs. And as he worries about Iran having a Nuclear weapon, there's no awareness of the Soviet Union or China being just a phone call away to ask for one. A new world order is a real threat, especially when the rule of Law is not in place.

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Tom's Tasty Treats

By Tom Valverde

This week's tasty treat is one that I'm sure everyone had in their childhood years and baked with love by our mothers. It's a delicious quick bread that is a snap to make! Will you give it a try?

Mom's Banana Bread

Ingredients:

3 ripe Banana s

2 lg. Eggs

1/2 c Butter, melted

1/2 c Brown Sugar

1/2 c Sugar

1/2 c Milk

1 t Vanilla

1 1/2 c Flour

1 t Baking Powder

1 t Baking Soda

1 t Salt

1 t Cinnamon

1 c Pecans or

Walnuts, toasted

Set the oven to 325° and grease a loaf pan. Mash the bananas and add the melted butter. Stir in the sugar and brown sugar until smooth. Add the eggs, Vanilla and milk and mix

together well. Add the flour, one cup at a time together with the baking powder, baking soda and the salt. Mix until well combined. Add the nuts. Pour batter into a loaf pan and bake at 325° for 55-60 minutes or until golden brown. A variation adds 1 c Chocolate chips at the end.

If desired frost the top of the loaf with Cream cheese frosting:

8 oz. Cream Cheese

1/2 c Butter

2 1/2 c Powdered Sugar

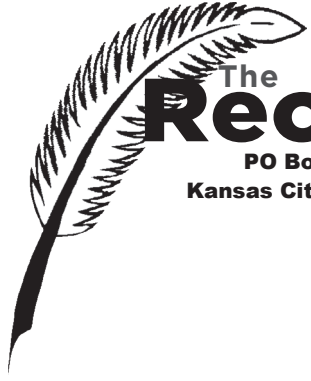
1 t Vanilla

In a bowl mix the cream cheese together with the butter until blended. Add the powdered sugar a little at a time and stirring well before each addition. Add the Vanilla and stir in well. Scrape the bowl as needed. Frost the top of the cooled cake. Garnish with more pecans or walnuts on the top. Slice and serve with a cup of coffee or a glass of milk. Your house will have a beautiful scent as the cake is baking. Store in the refrigerator, covered with plastic wrap. You will love this banana bread and it will bring back memories of your mother's baking. Enjoy!

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