


# Picture Perfect Winners



Holmes County Soil and Water Conservation District photo winners were honored at the Mississippi Association of Conservation District 74th Annual Meeting on January 23. Holmes County won six out of the eight categories, and had the overall state winner. Winners pictured above are: Orin Howell, Livi Howell, Tara Howell, Crystal Hood, Hanna Hood and Brad Cain. Hanna Hood won overall state photo and received a cash prize and an a framed copy of her photo. These winners will move onto the national level. (Photo submitted)



## Living With Children

By John Rosemond  
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A journalist recently asked me for the single biggest mistake being made by today’s parents. I was tempted to say, “Having children,” but stopped myself because even if I’d followed up with “Just kidding!” my bon mot would have gone into print. Oh my gosh! It just did!

I do, by the way, believe that some people are simply not well-suited to the responsibilities of parenthood. Nonetheless, I do not believe that people who want children should have to go through whatever process to obtain a “parenting license.” That would represent government intrusion of the most egregious sort, and I’m not a fan of government intrusion in much of anything.

But on with the show: I don’t know how one would determine “biggest” in a list of common parenting mistakes, but the one that causes the most problems for all concerned is the present proclivity for two parents to occupy the roles of mom and dad such that the roles of husband and wife become akin to the Cheshire Cat in “Alice in Wonderland”: that is, mostly invisible. It is an unarguable fact that in a two-parent family, nothing puts a more solid foundation of security and well-being under the feet of a child than the knowledge that mom and dad are in an enduring relationship.

Along those lines, another bigly mistake is paying children entirely too much attention, effectively promoting them to center-stage in the family and making idols of them. Children don’t

handle idol-hood well at all. Let’s face it, adults don’t either. As does the citizen, a child thrives best under libertarian circumstances; meaning he is managed minimally (allowing lots of trial-and-error) while being held completely responsible for the mistakes he will invariably make.

Paying too much attention to children is another biggie. In my experience, which is vast at this stage, ten out of ten children who seem “starved” for attention are not starved at all; rather, they have been for quite some time the recipients of entirely too much. They are attention-addicts, a synonym of which is “obnoxious.” It is entirely unfair to burden a child with obnoxiousness. If I was the Secretary of Parenting, I would only grant licenses to folks who pledged to love their children unconditionally but give them less than fifteen minutes of one-on-one attention a day (excluding during infancy and early toddlerhood, which are unavoidably labor-intensive).

Today’s parents tend to ascribe significance to their children’s emotional output. As a consequence of talking to their children about every emotion they experience, they risk causing their children to become emotionally-driven individuals with little if any emotional resilience. My mother was fond of telling me that I was making mountains out of molehills; that there were children in the world who truly had problems...REAL problems like not having



## DAVE Says

By Dave Ramsey



### Let her take care of the payments

Dear Dave,

My daughter is in college, and I’ve always warned her to stay away from credit cards.

Recently, I learned she got a department store credit card despite my advice. She has stayed within her credit limit, but she has never made enough to eat. She wasn’t about to lend credence to a complaint about not being given a turn, called a name, or some such trivia. For that (among many other things) my mother receives my enduring gratitude.

Let’s see...I have room for two, maybe three more. Ah, yes! How about the habit today’s parents have of assuming a servile squat when they talk to young children? You know, that absolutely absurd “getting down to their level” thing as if they are bowing to royalty. And then, to add the ludicrous to the absurd, finishing what they believe to be an instruction with “Okay?” So what if it isn’t okay?

Last one: Trying to discipline a child who has misbehaved without causing the child emotional discomfort (guilt and remorse) and inconvenience. That attempt annuls the attempt to discipline, which goes a long way toward explaining why so many of today’s parents complain that nothing they do by way of “discipline” works.

That’s because they are doing nothing.

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any of the payments.

At this point, she owes about \$3,500. She’s a good student, and I want to look at this as a young person’s mistake. Should I pay it off for her this one time?

Joseph

Dear Joseph,

You’re right, this is a typical young person’s mistake. Like a lot of mistakes our kids make, it’s one that’s bad and wonderful at the same time. It’s bad because, if she had just listened to dear old dad, she would’ve avoided a mess. It’s wonderful, though, because it gives you the opportunity to provide her with a real world, teachable moment.

I understand you wanting to help her out “this one time.” It means you have a good heart, and that you care about your daughter and love her. There’s a reality here, though, I hope you won’t overlook. It’s her debt, not yours. She knew what she was doing when she signed up for that credit card. She knew what it meant, what was expected, and she is the one who should have to make good on the repayment. The entire deal is legal and fair.

At this point, my advice is to put your arm around her, talk to her, and lovingly explain where she went wrong and why it was a bad idea. You can even help her find a part-time job if she doesn’t have one right now, so she can pay off her debt and get out of this mess. But leave the payments to her.

My guess is by the time she finishes working her tail off to pay this debt she will have learned a lesson she’ll remember for the rest of her

# Valentines on the Beach

The first time I ever saw the Gulf Coast of Mississippi I was a young bride of only seventeen traveling with a husband of the same age. We married in October of 1962 and our delayed honeymoon was to Gulf Port, Mississippi, and then on to New Orleans. We had very little money and absolutely no experience as travelers. Of course in 1962 everything was so much more inexpensive but if you calculate your earnings into the scenario, they were still

all our company conventions were held at the Broadwater Beach Hotel in Biloxi. We went to our first nightclub, Gus Stevens, and saw our first celebrity, Johnny Rivers. (Did I tell my age?) We were on the coast when Jane



## Peggy’s Take

We have just, this afternoon come in from a four day trip to this beautiful area of our state. This time we stayed at the Hard Rock Hotel. I can tell you assuredly that it is much more grand than the first place we ever stayed. This time there were so many people, all colors, all nationalities, all different economic standings, some on walkers, some in wheel chairs, and some like us just aging gracefully. Of course we celebrated our Valentine’s Day and my Valentine carried me out for a steak dinner and we did sit on the beach once again, still holding hands after so many years. We have so many good memories of the blue waters, lapping waves, great restaurants and still holding hands on this another Valentine’s Day.

During our Valentine’s dinner, I ate roasted Brussel sprouts and they were delicious. This is my version of the recipe.

Mansfield was killed in a car wreck here after performing at this same nightclub. I tasted my first shrimp and lobster. As a child we grew up on comfort food and seafood was “catfish”.

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### Roasted Brussel Sprouts

2 slices of bacon, diced and cooked till almost crispy in a large skillet. Push to the side and add a bag of fresh Brussel sprouts, cut in half and cook until almost brown and then incorporate the bacon with the Brussel sprouts. Add salt and pepper and cover the pan stirring frequently for about 4 minutes. Add 1 Tablespoon of Maple Syrup and cook an additional 2-3 minutes.

\* Peggy Sims is a life-long resident of Attala County and columnist.

## EXPRESS GRAIN COMMODITY PRICES

Crop	CBOT Month	Delivery Period	Futures Price	EGT Basis	Net Price	Change
Wheat	Jul 19	2019 Jun	5.09	-0.22	4.87	-0.04
Corn	Mar 19	2019 Feb	3.75	0.10	3.85	0.00
Corn	Sep 19	2019 Aug	3.94	-0.04	3.90	0.00
Soybeans Sidon	Nov 19	2019 Aug-Sep	9.52	-0.48	9.04	0.04
Soybeans G'wood	Mar 19	2019 Feb - Deferred Pricing only	9.08	-0.44	8.64	0.04
Soybeans G'wood	Nov 19	2019 Aug-Sep	9.52	-0.35	9.17	0.04
Soybeans Minter City	Nov 19	2019 Aug-Sep	9.52	-0.38	9.14	0.04
Rice	Mar 19		9.995			-0.190
Rice	Sep 19		10.225			-0.215
Cotton	Mar 19		70.22			0.090
Cotton	Dec 19		72.80			0.090

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