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# Morgan County Today

Psalm 100:3  
www.mocotoday.com  
Volume 10 Number 39  
Tuesday, October 1, 2024

Your Community. Your News.

75¢

## Eden Dakota Mize



**13 For thou hast possessed my reins:  
thou hast covered me in my mother's  
womb.**

**14 I will praise thee; for I am fearfully  
and wonderfully made: marvellous are  
thy works; and that my soul knoweth  
right well.**

**- Psalm 139:13-14**





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Your Community. Your News.

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Wed 02 **78°/54°**

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Fri 04 **81°/58°**

Sat 05 **78°/55°**

Sun 06 **77°/56°**

Mon 07 **72°/51°**

**Tennessee 811**  
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**Ms. Avery Pearl  
Pet Columnist**

# Pet Perspective with Ms. Avery Pearl

## Guss What You Guys?

My Uncle Herb, Aunt Glenda, and Cousin Carol are coming next week for a visit all the way from Wisconsin.

Ms Ivory and me just wuff Uncle Herb and Aunt Glenda. They are so nice and Aunt Glenda gives really good ear scratches and belly rubs with her long beautiful nails. Ohhh, I'm so excited.

There's a catch though. Mimi is sick with this stuff they call the Covid. It must be bad cause she has laid on the couch and slept a lot this week. That's not like her at all.

Any-woof I sure hope she is over it so we can spend some time getting some ear scratches, I mean giving some wuff, to our favorite people from Wisconsin.

I sure wish Cousin Olivia Faith was coming but, she isn't going to make this trip. She and Noah love to spend time with each other. She is one awesome cousin and one of my heros. I hope we get to see her on the next trip.

Spending time with those you wuff, is the best thing ever. Just look how happy Ms Ivory is. She can't wait, either.

For more of my Pet Perspective like and follow me on Facebook at Ms Avery Pearl.



# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**The Deer Lodge Abner Ross Center** meet on the third Monday of the month at 6:00 PM.

**Coalfield Genealogical and Historical Society** meets the second Tuesday of every month at the Senior Citizens Building at 6:00 PM.

**Morgan County Republican Party** meets the last Thursday of every month at 7:00 PM at the American Legion in Wartburg.

**Tennessee College of Applied Technology Oneida/Huntsville is hiring for the following positions:**

Correctional Programs Coordinator

Campus Location: TCAT Oneida - Morgan County Correctional Complex

Go to <https://careers.tbr.edu/jobs/search> and follow the job link for full job description and to submit an application.



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### Tim Sweat Reminds Residents of Oct. 7 Voter Registration Deadline for Nov. 5 State and Federal General Election

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Tim Sweat today reminded Morgan County residents that they must register to vote by 11:59 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 7, to be eligible to cast a ballot in the Nov. 5 State and Federal General Election.

“It has never been easier for eligible Tennesseans to register to vote,” said Tim Sweat. “If you have not done so already, I encourage you to register to vote and let your voice be heard.”

Registering to vote, updating, or checking your registration status is fast, easy, and secure with the Secretary of State’s online voter registration system, [GoVoteTN.gov](https://www.GoVoteTN.gov), or the [GoVoteTN App](https://www.GoVoteTN.gov).

Using a computer, phone, or tablet, citizens with a driver’s license or a photo ID issued by the Tennessee Department of Safety and Homeland Security can register in a matter of minutes.

“When you don’t vote, you turn over the keys of power to those that do vote. In Tennessee, we want every eligible Tennessean to vote, but first, you must register to vote.,” said Secretary of State Tre Hargett. “To make your voice heard in the upcoming election, Tennesseans must register or make sure their registration is current before the deadline.”

Voters can also download a paper voter registration application at [GoVoteTN.gov](https://www.GoVoteTN.gov). Completed paper voter registration applications must be mailed to your local county election commission office or submitted in person. Mailed voter registrations must be postmarked by Oct. 7. Election Day registration is not available in Tennessee.

Early voting for the Nov. 5 State and Federal General Election begins Wednesday, Oct. 16, and runs through Thursday, Oct. 31. For more information about early voting and other election information, visit your trusted source for election information, [MorganElections.com](https://www.MorganElections.com) or [GoVoteTN.gov](https://www.GoVoteTN.gov) or contact the Morgan County Election Commission at (423) 346-3190.

### Poll Workers Needed in Morgan County for Nov. 5 State and Federal General Election

Wartburg, Tenn.) – Poll officials are urgently needed for the Nov. 5 State and Federal General Election in Morgan County. Workers will be trained to assist at precincts during early voting and on Election Day.

“Poll workers are critical to ensuring the voices of registered voters in our communities are heard,” Administrator Tim Sweat said. “If you are eligible to become a poll worker, we encourage your participation this fall.”

Most Tennesseans qualify to work at polling locations, regardless of their political affiliation. The minimum age for poll workers is 16. Anyone over 18 must be a registered voter in the county they desire to serve.

Other qualifications include:

- Be able to read and write in the English language.
- Cannot be a candidate or close relative of a candidate.
- Cannot be supervised by a county or municipal elected official on the ballot.

“Poll workers are the backbone of elections,” said Coordinator of Elections Mark Goins. “These individuals and their efforts ensure all citizens know that Tennessee’s results are accurate, and our elections remain secure.”

All City, County, and Metropolitan government employees (unless working directly under the supervision of an elected official on the ballot) are eligible, as are state employees. Federal employees should consult with their individual Human Resources Departments to determine eligibility.

People interested in applying should contact the Morgan County Election Commission (423) 346-3190. They can also visit <https://sos.tn.gov/pollworkers>.





**Tom Redmon  
Columnist**

## The Little Children of the World

Nothing can bring tears to my eyes or a lump in my throat faster than a commercial of St. Jude Children's Research Hospital in Memphis, Tennessee. Here are young children, mostly younger than ten-years-old who have cancer; brain, stomach, liver, kidney, etc. These children need a second chance at life and I'm glad that Danny Thomas founded St. Jude so that parents could bring their child to the hospital when they

never receive a bill for treatment, travel, housing and food.

St. Jude has a good survival rate for most childhood cancer. An example for five years survival rate for Neuroblastoma was 10% in 1962 and today it is 75%. For Hodgkins Lymphoma in 1962 was 50%, for today it is 95% and Leukemia in 1962 was 40% and today it is 94%. The overall survival rate has gone from 20% to over 80%.

I have been an administrator in three elementary schools of which one had over 960 students. We had at least three children with cancer. Julie a seven-year-old first grader had Leukemia. Little Julie was a very sick little girl. This was the 1970s and at this time not a lot had been done to stop this type of cancer. At first, she came to the school clinic with a fever and paleness. Eventually Julie had to drop out of school and go to a good hospital to treat her cancer. The school always kept up with these children and tried to help out anyway we could. Since 1962 much has been done in research to help children in their fight for life. Julie lived longer than five years but still she suffered and didn't live an average life of 60 years.

Another thing that happens to children in Florida is not a disease and has nothing to do with illness but is caused by humans.

Some parents with marital problems come to Florida thinking that the sunshine with help solve their problems. What they are doing mostly is moving their problems from one state to another.

I saw many heartbroken children because their parents couldn't get along or their dads were in jail for domestic abuse. A second-grade teacher saw me before school one day and asked me if I could see a little girl whose daddy had beat up her mother and ended up in jail. Little Denise came in my office crying. Her little heart was broken. How is a school supposed to deal with problems like this? We had many like this one.



We had two little boys who were tardy a lot. They were walkers and they came in over an hour late every day. The didn't have a phone so I decided to make a home visit. There I found the two boys ages seven and six and a half alone in their duplex. The seven-year-old was trying to climb up on the counter to get the cereal for their breakfast. He was in charge because the mother had to work and left the children alone at home. These two kids didn't have much of a chance to make something out of life and I'd say in Bradenton, Florida there were at least 500 just like these.

Children deserve better but when their parents bring them into the world with existing problems and when the father leaves their poor mother having no work skills and no education on how to raise children. I've seen it all and now these children who were ten to twelve-years-old in the 70s and 80s are now out there in the adult world with children and even grandchildren of their own to raise.

What a world.



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— In Loving Memory —

**Independence Taylor Landrum Stringfield, 91**



house with other musicians on many summer nights. She was a great woman but all we ever knew her as was "Mom".

India Stringfield, 91, passed away peacefully. She was preceded in death by her mother and father, and all 13 of her brothers and sisters.

She is survived by her two sons, Scott Thomas Landrum and Charles Taylor Landrum; grandchildren: Victoria Hearn, Taylor Landrum, Michael Landrum, Cody Byrd, Derek Byrd, and a host of great-grandchildren.

The family will receive friends Friday September 27, 2024 from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. at Schubert Funeral Home. The funeral will be at 7:00 with Bro. Lonnie Cook officiating. Graveside service will be Saturday September 28 at 11:00 a.m. at the Lane Cemetery in Lancing, TN.

*Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Independence "India" Stringfield.*

We lay our mom to rest in our Holy Father's Presence. Our Mom was born July 4th, 1933 and her name was Independence Taylor Landrum Stringfield, better known as India. Mom was a wonderful musician, prolific singer-songwriter and she deeply loved Gospel Bluegrass music. Mom loved to perform on stage, like the time she played for FDR in Rockwood, TN, or the time she performed at the Cas Walker Show in Knoxville alongside many country greats like Dolly Parton, The Everly Brothers, Roy Acuff, and Chet Atkins.

Mom gave up the glitz and glam to raise her two boys the best way she knew how, but she always found time to make us laugh or put on a show at the local churches or just at our

**Nancy Lee Ridenour Robinson, 88**



She will be leaving a loving legacy through her children: Russ (Karen) Jones, Angela (Jeff) Sexton, and Michelle (Joel) Sampsel; grandchildren: Caleb (Beth) Sexton, Daniel Sexton, Kaylee (Daniel) Moore, Skylar (Jessica) Sampsel and Walker (Sarah) Watson, along with great-grandchildren: Kinsley, Emmarie, and Luke Sampsel and Rylan, Briar, and Ira Moore; and siblings: Pauline Lawson, David Ridenour, Patricia Rice, and Don Ridenour. She also has left behind the most wonderful neighbors that affectionately called her "Granny" and "Maw".

The family will receive friends Friday, September 27, 2024 at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg from 5:00-7:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 7:00 p.m. Graveside services will be Saturday, at 11:00 a.m. in the Morgan Memorial Gardens in Wartburg.

*Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Nancy Lee Ridenour Robinson.*

Nancy Lee Ridenour Robinson, age 88 of Wartburg passed away September 25, 2024. She was known for her amazing dishes and always having an extra seat around the kitchen table for anyone that stopped by. Nancy was a member of Union Baptist Church. She took pride in being a mother and grandmother, always bringing her family together and blessing others with kindness and love whether it be a warm hug or a fried apple pie.

Nancy was preceded in death by husbands, Elmer Jones and Kenneth Robinson; parents, Ernest and Velda (Patty) Ridenour; and siblings, Chris Cox, George Ridenour, and Tommy Ridenour.

**Judy Lynn Parker Barnette, 73**



Corley (Nacogdoches, TX), brother Roger Parker (Humble, TX), Brother-in-law James Spoerle (Humble, TX), Brother-in-law Charlie Frederick (Garrison, TX), sister-in-law Jeannie Parker (Butler, KY), and Father and Mother-In-Law Lee W. II & Lucille Norman (Humble, TX).

Judy Lynn Parker Barnette, 73, of Lancing, Tennessee, passed away Thursday September 19, 2024, surrounded by her loved ones, after a long 7+ year battle with Malignant Melanoma.

Judy was adored by all who knew her for her kindness, sweet smile, humble character, funny wit, and quiet grace that would shine through every single day. To know her was to love her. She was a member of First Baptist Church in Wartburg, TN. She loved the Lord and led her whole family to HIM. She had a beautiful voice that we know she is using in that Heavenly Choir now. Judy also traveled in the ministry of the gospel music group Eternal Heart for over 25 years as Nanny, Mama, best friend, and biggest Fan. She was one of the BEST cooks around, and anyone lucky enough to eat a meal she prepared would agree! She was employed for over 17 years as a CSR at Citizens First Bank in Wartburg, where she was loved by all who worked with her, as well as customers who also adored her.

Judy was preceded in death by her parents, Louis Parker (Humble, TX), and Charlotte

She is survived by her loving husband of 56 years, Gary Barnette (Lancing), brother John Parker (Butler, KY), Sister Sharon (Dennis) McCallister (Kildare, TX), Sister Linda Frederick, Brother Mike Parker (both of Garrison, TX), Brother-In-Law Lee III (Wendy) Norman (Wartburg), Daughter Tammy (Jimmy) Giles, Son Roy (Heather) Barnette, and Daughter Shelley Kennedy. Grandchildren who knew her as "Nanny", Maci Giles, Eli Giles, Haley (Alex) Lane, Hannah Barnette, Noah (Raelee) Barnette, Christian (Kayla) Redmon and Lily Kennedy. Great Grandchildren Grayson, Brynlee, Lex, Salem, Lennox, Capri, Lucy, Teagan, and Oaklynn.

The family will receive friends Monday September 30, 2024, from 12-2pm at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg, TN. The funeral will be at 2:00 pm with Bro. Roy Langley and Bro. Matt Ward Officiating. Interment will immediately follow at Clear Creek Cemetery in Lancing, TN.

*Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Judy Lynn Parker Barnette.*

**Psalm 123:1**

**Unto thee lift I up mine eyes,  
O thou that dwellest in the heavens.**





## Morgan County Today's Staff Celebrates Birth of Eden Dakota Mize

Morgan County Today staff member Fred Mize III and his family celebrate the birth of their fifth grand-child Eden Dakota Mize. Eden was born on September 28, 2024 at 10:55 pm, weighing in at 9.5 lbs.

Eden's parents Isaiah and Shay Mize along with Eden's siblings Noah and Gracelynn welcome Eden into their loving family.

The Mize family thank Jesus Christ their Lord and Savior for creating such an amazing blessing. God is good!



## The Political Wisdom of Brick Mason



**Michael Nance**  
*Columnist*

Often you can find political wisdom in unusual places. What if I was to tell you that I found more political wisdom from interviewing three brick masons, than I have discovered from any of the main-stream media during the last year? I contend this is a true statement and please allow me to tell you the story.

About two months ago I was talking to a lifelong brick mason, who was in his late 50s. Before I realized it, politics became a part of our conversation. I am always interested in different perspectives, and I gained wisdom from this conversation. After the subject of politics had been broached, I asked one simple question; how do you think this year's election compares to elections you have watched in the past?

As he was applying mortar to a brick, he first looked down at his brick, and then looked back at me and said:

"You know, honestly, I have always been concerned with making a living, and didn't never fret too much over who was going to president." Hearing this answer, I was a little confused and replied with: "Really you never worried about who was the president?" He answered in the affirmative and said: "let me tell you why. In all the years past it really didn't matter. If a republican won the Whitehouse, most of the time we had a democratic congress, and if a democrat won the Whitehouse, usually we had a republican congress. Honestly, most of the time. They were forced to meet in the middle to get any work for the country done."

He paused for a moment and looked back up at me with a grin and concluded his very concise statements with: "It isn't that way now, is it?"

Realizing that the brick mason, just imparted a very profound observation, I decided to also conclude the conversation. The next week I found myself on another construction site that had two different brick masons laying a brick retaining wall. I wondered what these folks' opinions of this election cycle would be. I ventured up to the pair, who were both at the very least 60 years old, and struck up a conversation. After some small talk, I asked the pair what they were expecting from this year's presidential election. I immediately got a reply from one of the brick masons who asked: "why do you ask, are you running for office?" I explained that I was interested in understanding what their perspectives were as I was taking an informal poll for a paper I was writing. After the duo made a little tongue and cheek sport of me, they both got serious and went over their concerns in detail. They rattled on various political opinions, which on many they disagreed with each other, but they finally agreed on one point which I think was profound.

They agreed that the President's major requirement was to get the business done for the country, and that required working with the opposing party. They equated it to laying bricks in this way:

They said: we lay bricks and get paid by the brick, if the president's salary was based on how well the economy was, or how much beneficial legislation the president gets passed by congress... should be how they are judged, one of the two stated: "just like us, how much work have you finished?"



Photo courtesy of David Cain

In my opinion, there is a lot of wisdom in all the statements made by the brick masons. They equate in some simple but crucial points. First, the President should not be more concerned with radical policies that shift society way to the left or right, and secondly in the words of former President Bill Clinton, "it's the economy," meaning the president is always judged on the economical conditions he or she creates for the public.





David Zubler  
Columnist

## Don't fall for Fake IRS Agent Scam

IRS impersonators often use threats to intimidate and bully people into paying a bogus tax bill. They may even threaten to arrest their victim if they don't pay.

Once you provide your financial information, a scammer can quickly drain your bank account. The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) estimates that IRS imposters have stolen almost five million dollars in the last five years.

Imposters often target people when they already have personal information, which they can then use to make their con more believable. Suppose the IRS has filed a tax lien. In that case, the con artists can access the lien information at the courthouse or by using a company that provides tax lien providers.

Con artists often choose targets that they believe will be easy prey, such as the elderly. If you are hard of hearing, a thief may use a video relay service and make themselves seem more legitimate through an interpreter. Or, if you speak English as a second language, a scammer could call you in your native language and threaten you with a police arrest.

Typically, the person calling will claim to be an IRS agent and state that you owe back taxes, which must be paid promptly by wire transfer or gift card. The imposter agent will have bogus credentials and a fake name. They can be convincing by knowing a lot about you. The con artist may make the caller ID look like the IRS is calling you.

The IRS initiates contact by mail if you owe taxes, and it is rare for the IRS to call regarding taxes owed.

The IRS will never:

- Call for payment without first mailing you a letter
- Ask for a wire transfer or credit or debit card information over the phone

- Ask for payment via email or demand immediate payment through gift card or wire transfer
- Threaten to bring you into the police or have you arrested
- Not allow you to appeal your case

Call the IRS immediately if you fall victim to a scam.

You can use these options to report phone, email, and other impersonation scams: Contact the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration on the IRS Impersonation Scam Reporting webpage.

Taxpayers can also call 800-366-4484 to report impersonation scams.

Report phone scams to the Federal Trade Commission using the FTC Complaint Assistant. Add "IRS Telephone Scam" in the notes.

Report an unsolicited email claiming to be from the IRS or an IRS-related system like the Electronic Federal Tax Payment System (EFTPS) to the IRS at phishing@irs.gov.

Protect your community by reporting fraud, scams, and bad business practices by reporting fraud to Report Fraud FTC.

For a comprehensive list of recent tax scams, consumer alerts, and information on how to report them, visit Tax Scams/Consumer Alerts.

**David Zubler is a nationally known tax accountant and Enrolled Agent that resides in East Tennessee. He is the author of six tax books and a syndicated columnist who has shared tax advice on podcasts and national TV and has been referred to as America's Tax Guru. He is the founder and president of Your Tax Care. He represents clients nationwide before the IRS and provides tax strategies, and tax education, including David's one-minute tax tip radio recordings at YourTaxCare.com. David can be reached at (865)363-3019 or by email at david@yourtaxcare.com.**



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*Best wishes to all of our local teams!!!*

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Sep 28, 2024  
Coalfield vs Sequatchie - L 14-17



Sep 27, 2024  
Oakdale vs Harriman - L 14-55



Sep 27 2024  
Sunbright vs Oliver Springs - L 0-35



Sep 27, 2024  
Wartburg vs Eagleton - L 20-36



Sep 20, 2024  
Oneida vs Polk County - L 14-21



Sep 20, 2024  
Scott vs Roane - L 21-51



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**Mother creates support system for daughter with APDS**



Elliott Ridge, 6, has activated PI3K delta syndrome (APDS), a rare primary immunodeficiency (PI).

Jennifer Ridge provided the following article with the Immune Deficiency Foundation on September 20, 2024. Elliot Ridge smiles as she sits in her mom’s lap and beats on a drum. A music therapist leads mother and daughter in the exercise as part of Elliot’s weekly music therapy class. She sings, dances, listens to melodies—and learns concepts like her colors and numbers. The sessions bridge a gap between her occupational, physical, and speech therapies, said her mom, Jennifer Ridge.

“It’s not restrictive, it’s free, and she leads the sessions, where a lot of times others lead. It allows her to be in charge when she’s not been in charge of so much of her life,” said Ridge.

Elliot, 6, has a rare primary immunodeficiency (PI), activated PI3K delta syndrome (APDS). The condition affects her speech and cognitive abilities, weakens her muscles and coordination, and causes fatigue. It also upsets her digestive tract, makes her more vulnerable to infections, and puts her at risk of lymphoma, a type of blood cancer.

She’s undergone several ear, sinus, and gastrointestinal surgeries to treat her illnesses. Even though she receives subcutaneous immunoglobulin (SCIG) replacement therapy along with a dozen other medicines, Elliot rarely protests.

“She is miraculous when it comes to going through all that she has medically. I don’t know how she does it,” said her mom.

Ridge ensures her daughter receives the therapies and treatments she requires, including those in the school environment. Elliot has an individualized education plan (IEP) and an individualized healthcare plan (IHP). At first, the school administration and staff resisted approving the accommodations and services that provide proper academic and medical support for Elliot. Ridge then met with the school system director to explain Elliot’s condition and advocate for the implementation of the services.

Elliot now receives preferred seating, more support during instructional time, and support in aiding with her hygiene. Her classroom bathroom receives mid-day cleaning and her classroom is disinfected with an electrostatic disinfectant

spray. Educators sent home a letter alerting parents that an immunocompromised student is in the classroom.

Ridge also convinced school officials to allow both Elliot and her twin brother Walker to be in the same classroom to reduce exposure to infection.

“The last month of school last year compared to how Elliot is doing in school now, you would think they were completely different students,” said Ridge.

“The hardest part was that I’d been doing all that I could. There was nothing more I could do as a parent to support her. The difficulty came in getting people to meet us at the same level, recognize APDS as a primary diagnosis and its effect on the body and the system, and acknowledge that there was a need. But once they got on board, it seemed to be a little bit easier. Now they are making efforts.”





**Elliott Ridge and her twin brother Walker Ridge share a close bond.**

Although healthy as a newborn, Elliot developed chronic ear and sinus infections within her first year, and as a toddler, she had several sets of ear tubes, took continuous antibiotics, and used inhalers. While being treated for the infections, she contracted the adenovirus which caused severe bloody stool.

Elliot visited her primary care physician group, an ear, nose, and throat doctor, and a gastroenterologist, along with therapists for delays in walking, fine motor skills, and speech. Ridge suspected providers hadn't identified the source of her daughter's poor health.

"For four or five months we were in and out of doctors' offices. I thought, 'This is not right,' and I couldn't get anyone to listen and see what I was saying because it would always be just far enough to where the infections were not close enough together. And we hadn't been hospitalized. So, I did some research and found an allergist/immunologist," said Ridge.

The immunologist gave Elliot the pneumococcal vaccine and she failed to produce appropriate antibodies to the vaccine. He also ran genetic testing. Results showed Elliot, then 5, had APDS.

"The immunologist said, 'You need to give me some time to look into this and see what we need to do and how we need to treat Elliot.' And then he came back and said, 'Well, there's not much out there.' And then he asked me what led us to him. And I told him our story and he said, 'OK, we're going to navigate this together and we're going to figure this out,' and so he's been wonderful. He's just very open and he listened," said Ridge.

Elliot started weekly SCIG in June 2022. Her father Jeremy administers the infusions, and Elliot wears her princess dress for each infusion. She takes Benadryl and Tylenol before her SCIG to mitigate side effects and continues to take prophylaxis antibiotics, inhalers, and nasal sprays for her symptoms, along with other medications.

The Ridges plan to enroll Elliot in a clinical trial for leniolisib (trademarked as Joenja by Pharming), a treatment already approved for persons with APDS ages 12 and up. The clinical trial is for pediatric patients ages 1 to 6 with APDS.

"The medical world has come so far in such a short time and things are getting better almost daily. What used to take decades, doesn't take decades any longer, and that is encouraging," said Ridge. Ridge said navigating relationships with family and friends can be tough. She wants people to see Elliot for who she is—an easygoing, social child who loves to play with dolls, read books, spend time with her brother, and accompany her mom to the grocery store. At the same time, she needs people to understand that Elliot requires protection from infection and that includes making sure she avoids contact with people who are not vaccinated.

"It can be very isolating because people can't see inside your home. People can't see inside your body. They don't see what's going on inside, they only see the surface. We don't necessarily talk about it as a family because sometimes talking about it brings a lot of questions and a lot of things you don't have the answer for. But also, once you let it be known, they continually ask about it," said Ridge.

"When we're out, I just want, 'How are your kids doing? Oh, they've gotten so big,' and have that be it. We don't want APDS to be at the forefront of who Elliot is. She's not Elliot with APDS. I want people to see her as Elliot, and support her for who she is, not what she has."

The Immune Deficiency Foundation (IDF) is an important resource for the Ridge family. Ridge used the IDF School Guide for strategies on how to advocate for her daughter and she attended the IDF 2024 PI Conference in June. The conference provided deeper insight into life with PI, said Ridge, and helped her understand that her family is now a part of a strong, vibrant community.

"The zebra effect really hit home. Elliot really is unique, and she has great zeal. It was finding and knowing and recognizing that there is a herd that she is a part of and knowing that the support is there," said Ridge. "Having that footprint fall into place as to how the journey will look for her was eye-opening and so now, I'm at a point where I can sit down and create the blueprints for her life."

Ridge intends to request a proclamation for APDS in her home state of Tennessee next year to create greater awareness of the condition. She also hopes to bring Elliot with her to the next PI conference.

"I think what keeps me OK is knowing that it's all here for a reason and I have the ability to be seen and be heard that not everybody has within their make. And I feel like that is a way that I can contribute," said Ridge.

"It's stressful and draining but it's also what gives me a drive to do it and be there. I'm not only doing this for her but also for those that follow her so that another mother doesn't have to."

## FLASHBACK

By Mick Harper

1. Which singer released "All Alone Am I"?
2. What was the limbo?
3. Name the singer-songwriter who released "Will It Go Round in Circles."
4. Which group released "Owner of a Lonely Heart"?
5. Name the song that contains this lyric: "I belong to another whose love has grown cold, but I promised forever to have and to hold."

### Answers

1. Brenda Lee, in 1962. The original song was Greek, written for a Greek film. Lee's English language version topped the Billboard chart and stayed there for five weeks.
2. The limbo was a dance done by bending backward and moving under a horizontal pole without touching it and without touching the ground while the pole was gradually moved lower and lower.
3. Billy Preston in 1973. The song topped the charts in the U.S. and in Canada but also charted in Australia and South Africa.
4. Yes, in 1983. The song had its beginnings in South Africa when it was recorded on a 4-track tape player.
5. "Please Help Me, I'm Falling," by Hank Locklin, in 1960. After spending nine months on the country chart, the song showed up near the top of the Hot 100 chart. Several artists have released covers over the years, including the Everly Brothers and John Fogerty.



## Historically Speaking Evolution of the UT– Oak Ridge partnership described in new book (part 1)

By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

Carolyn Krause has written a series of three articles based on a recent talk to Friends of Oak Ridge National Laboratory by Lee Riedinger on a 2024 book he coauthored with Al Ekkebus, Ray Smith and William Bugg on “Critical Connections: The University of Tennessee and Oak Ridge from the Dawn of the Atomic Age to the Present.” This article also draws from the book as well as a book by Alvin Weinberg, research director and director of ORNL for 26 years.

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In 1940, the University of Tennessee in Knoxville was poorly managed by its president and poorly funded by the state. It had no doc-

Much to the dismay of Oak Ridgers, the AEC decided to relocate all reactor research to Argonne National Laboratory near Chicago, which would reduce employment in Oak Ridge. Alvin Weinberg became research director in late 1947 of Clinton Labs and later director in 1955 of what became ORNL (also called X-10). He wrote in his 1994 book “The First Nuclear Era: The Life and Times of a Technological Fixer” that “I remained preoccupied with the laboratory’s survival and therefore with defining the purpose of the laboratory.

“I had faith that if Clinton pushed the case for breeder reactor development, the AEC’s decision to move all reactor development to Argonne would never be implemented – and this is what actually happened.” It also helped that the Air Force wanted Oak Ridge to develop a nuclear reactor to propel aircraft.

In his talk on the “Evolution of the UT–Oak Ridge Partnership” to Friends of ORNL,

graduate courses in physics onsite at the lab.

In the spring quarter of 1946, UT offered graduate courses in chemistry, chemical engineering, mathematics and physics for Oak Ridge contractor employees and Army personnel. The formation of UT’s Oak Ridge Resident Graduate Program marked the beginning of the official UT-Oak Ridge partnership. Graduate courses were held after work for ORNL employees and others at Oak Ridge High School.

In September 1945 a party was held to welcome nuclear physicist Kay Way back to the UT faculty. She had worked at the University of Chicago’s Metallurgical Laboratory. At the party she mentioned that several Midwestern universities were exploring the formation of a consortium with the Met Lab, which became Argonne National Laboratory. She suggested that a similar consortium of southern universities might be willing to form a partnership with Clinton Labs so faculty and students could take advantage of its facilities and expertise and so lab researchers could benefit from collaborations with university professors.

On Dec. 5, 1945, William Pollard, professor of physics at UT and a former researcher on gaseous diffusion for uranium enrichment at Columbia University, seized upon Way’s idea and organized the Conference on Research Opportunities in the Southeastern U.S. at the Andrew Johnson Hotel in Knoxville. The goal was to figure out how to leverage Oak Ridge facilities for the benefit of universities. Representatives of UT and nine universities attended. Pollard was appointed chair of the committee charged with taking the next steps to form a university consortium.

The second critical connection, Riedinger said, was the formation in October 1946 of the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Studies (ORINS), which consisted of 14 member universities including UT and Vanderbilt University. Pollard was the director until 1974. In 1966 ORINS was renamed the Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU).

Riedinger said that ORINS helped make the case for continuation of Clinton Laboratories when many feared the government would close the facility after World War II. In his book, it is stated that “ORINS members were not happy, because their prospects for future research at Clinton now appeared greatly diminished. Stridently worded letters and telegrams were sent to AEC commissioners and President Truman, protesting the decision and its effect on southern universities.”

In his book, Weinberg wrote that “once ORINS was established, it supported the laboratory’s case for survival as an important center of basic research.”

Riedinger suggests in his book that AEC Chairman David Lilienthal helped ensure the survival of Clinton Labs. On Feb. 1, 1948, he announced over the radio that the lab would henceforth be known as Oak Ridge National Laboratory. He said he wanted “ORINS to play a major role in ORNL and noted that he had been involved in the institute’s incorporation (he was one of the members of the early board of directors of ORINS).”

The third critical connection Riedinger mentioned was the formation in 1948 of the UT-AEC Agricultural Research Laboratory, as researched by Al Ekkebus. Because it was believed that 50 cows were affected by the radioactive fallout from the Trinity test, they were sent to Oak Ridge in 1948 for monitoring. They grazed on 5000 acres along Bethel Valley Road where the new Ag Research Lab was set up.

--- Continued on page 15



Lee Riedinger speaks to the Friends of ORNL audience about the content of Critical Connections

tional programs, and the faculty conducted little research. In 1948, Clinton Laboratories in nearby Oak Ridge was facing a challenge to its survival as a major designer of new types of nuclear reactors.

During the Manhattan Project (1943-45), the Oak Ridge lab had distinguished itself by building the world’s first continuously operated nuclear reactor, demonstrating the production and separation of plutonium from the reactor’s neutron-irradiated uranium fuel, and shipping small quantities to Los Alamos, N.M. At the laboratory there it was decided after examining the Oak Ridge samples that a new weapons design was needed to detonate a bomb fueled with plutonium – what became the first atomic bomb upon completion of the Trinity test in July 1945 in the New Mexico desert.

Robert Oppenheimer, former scientific director of the Manhattan Project and director of the Los Alamos lab, had stated in 1947 as a member of the Atomic Energy Commission General Advisory Committee that the Clinton Laboratories were not worth saving. He said, “Most of us think that the evidence is that Clinton will not live even if it is built up” and suggested that Clinton Laboratories be limited to research on and production of radioisotopes.

Lee Riedinger, lead author of the 2024 book “Critical Connections: The University of Tennessee and Oak Ridge from the Dawn of the Atomic Age to the Present,” argued that the survival of ORNL was aided by the evolving UT-ORNL partnership. By the end of the 1940s, he indicated, the two institutions began finding ways to form mutually beneficial partnerships that lifted each other to new levels.

Since 2000, UT, which had become a respected research university, has partnered with the Battelle Memorial Institute (UT-Battelle) to manage ORNL, the Department of Energy’s largest science and energy lab in the nation. Riedinger is emeritus professor of physics at the University of Tennessee and emeritus director of the Bredesen Center on the UT campus. In the early 2000s he was deputy director for science and technology at ORNL.

In his talk he mentioned the critical points at which connections were made decade by decade, primarily between UT and ORNL. He said the partnership began in the fall of 1945 when Martin Whitaker, director of Clinton Laboratories, requested that UT establish and teach graduate courses in the sciences to help the lab retain valuable researchers who wanted to get Ph.D.’s in their fields. UT initially taught two



### Historically Speaking Evolution of the UT- Oak Ridge partnership described in new book (part 1)

By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

Riedinger reported that the Oak Ridge scientists found no long-term effects of the fall-out exposure on the cows. They arrived in Oak Ridge with gray hair but their normal hair color

transported to the Ag Research Lab for injection into a pig. Researchers from Bethesda Naval Hospital in Maryland suspected that the element gallium concentrates in cancerous tumors on bone but needed experimental proof, so they worked with the team of Cyril Comar, director of the Ag Research Lab.

The experiment on the 100-pound pig was a success, stated the book, "as the autopsy showed that gallium did concentrate in the bone, which meant that a therapeutic dose of radioac-



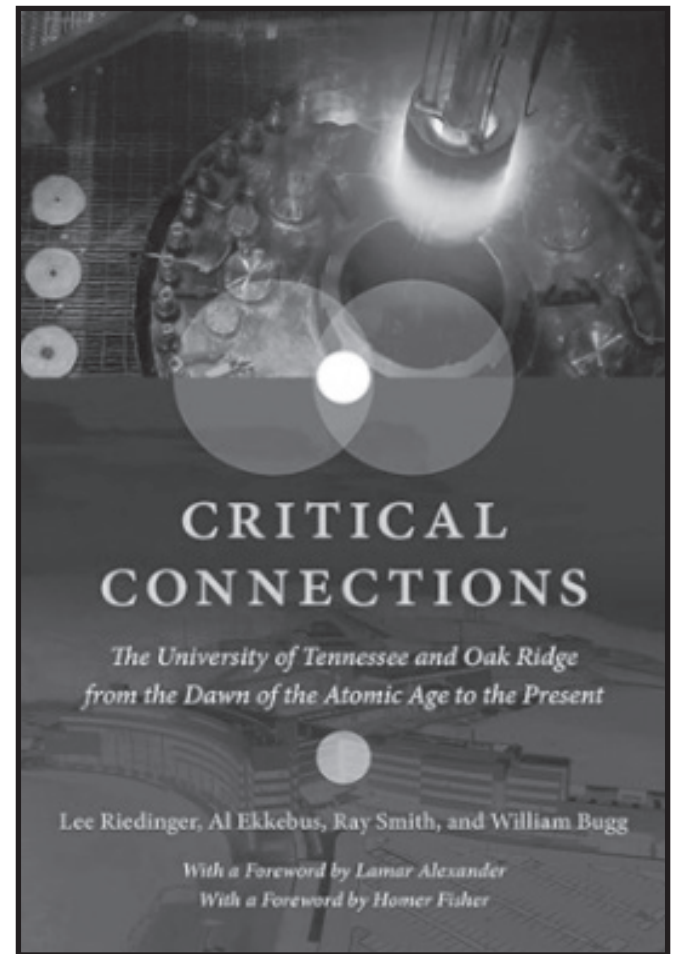
Oak Ridge Journal, August 16, 1945. (Courtesy Oak Ridge Public Library)

returned. The 33 calves produced by the exposed cows were born normal, and no evidence of adverse effects on cow fertility was observed. The milk from the cows was not radioactive.

An early experiment that helped launch the field of nuclear medicine, Riedinger said, was performed in 1949 in Oak Ridge. Radioactive gallium-72, which has a 14-hour half-life, was produced in ORNL's Graphite Reactor and

tive gallium could be delivered to a bone tumor for the purpose of killing the tumor."

A sidebar on the experiment in the book indicated some difficulties that had to be overcome at the Ag Research Lab [which was renamed the Comparative Animal Research Laboratory (CARL) in the 1970s]. It took six men to lift the heavy pig onto the autopsy table.



Critical Connections book is available on Amazon.com

Room ventilation had to be improved so that the staff would not pass out delivering a large ether dose to the pig to anesthetize it. Delivery of the gallium was late because the truck ran out of gas. To reduce the foul odor from the dying pig, one technician sponged it with Chanel No. 5 perfume. But the experimental results led to beneficial treatments of humans suffering from bone cancer.

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Next: The evolving UT-ORNL partnership in the decades of the 1950s and 1960s.

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## Becoming the Samekh, Psalm 119 Vs. 113- 120



**John Burns**  
*Opinion Columnist*

Vs. 113 I hate the double minded, but I love your law.

Vs. 114 You are my hiding place and my shield; I hope in your word.

Vs. 115 Depart from me you evil-doers, for I will keep the commandments of my God.

Vs. 116 Uphold me according to your word, that I may live; and do not let me be ashamed of my hope.

Vs. 117 Hold me up, and I shall be

safe, and I shall observe your statutes continually.

Vs. 118 You reject all those who stray from your statutes, for their deceit is falsehood.

Vs. 119 You put away all the wicked of the earth like dross; therefore, I love your testimonies.

Vs. 120 My flesh trembles for fear of you, and I am afraid of your judgements.

Today we encounter the 15th letter of the Hebrew alphabet, the samekh. It holds a numerical value of 60. It looks like a shield when written. Samekh is defined as one who leans upon. Samekh is about trusting wholly in God's written revealed word for our existence.

This section of the incredible acrostic psalm of King David, deals with double minded religious folks who cling to traditions learned in denominational structures. Jesus Christ quipped that one day everyone would do what is right in their own eyes.

Christianity practiced in churches, is now akin to secular self-help laboratories. As if garce somehow replaced the need for unending mercy as revealed to our Jewish ancestors in the Old Testament. The Bible when rightly discerned, teaches that no one can help themselves while in the flesh.

Our salvation completely hinges upon what Jesus Christ did, is doing, and what he will do in our future. He alone is our propitiation for sin. Christian faith is a paradoxical faith, grounded in the total belief in the God-man who died to pay the only debt that matters when I die.

Sin exists everywhere, including in denominational western Churches who practice replacement theology. Claiming God has no plans for national Israel, for they were replaced by gentile western pagans. This denies 87% of the Bible and makes God a liar.

Babylonian traditions and holidays have replaced thus says the Lord. Only one testament is taught leading to the prostitution of grace devoid of the need for unending mercy. None of our current church traditions are scriptural other than to be condemned wholly.

Sin exists everywhere in our members. This fleshly body is hopelessly corrupt. Nothing but the blood of the Lamb of God, can cover a sinner's flesh. Your good deeds can never save you. God judged ancient Israel for allowing the same practices we find in churches today.

Ancestor worship practiced on Mother's Day and Father's Day. The perversion of human sexuality as Valentine's Day is welcomed into church, indoctrinating our children to pagan perversions about human intercourse.

Babylonian Easter replacing the Lord's eternal sacrifice on Passover, and subsequent resurrection on Nisan 17 three days and three nights later. God kept biblical time through the 70 sabbaths established in the book of Leviticus.

The timeline of history is found in the revelation of the Sabbath of years, the biblical Jubilee, and the 30-day lunar cycle upon which the entire plan of redemption was framed. To know where we are at biblically in time, is called prophecy. To discern prophecy, both testaments are required.

The sabbath has never changed. The sabbath of years and the jubilee, teach us how God deals with his stiff-necked people called to teach the world about the coming King of the world.

How God keeps time has never changed and Jesus Christ will only be in the temple during the millennium on Shabbat and the new moon. Show up on Sunday and he will not be there. The sabbath is how God framed biblical history.

Every Friday evening, in every synagogue in the world, the Jews gather to read the Parushim. This is the revelation of time. The assigned scripture reading for the season, was revealed to Moses on Sinai and codified in the life and first and second coming of Jesus Christ.

The Bible is human history written in eternity past by Yeshua ha Maschiach, and revealed to men, as God saw fit. The Hebrew calendar Given to Moses is how God views human history and prophecy. The timeline of history rests upon sabbath paradigms Jesus Christ kept during his lifetime.

King David wrote psalm 119 under the direction of the Holy Spirit to teach all that God gave us a perfect owner's-manual and warranty deed for our lives when he penned the Bible before placing man in the garden of Eden. David is revealing the mind of God in the Hebrew alphabet which is supernatural.

The Bible can only be understood when one is truly born again. The definition of born again hinges upon human humility to undergoes criptural correction defined as God's unending mercy. Without a daily need for mercy, grace is often prostituted and works become legalism.

To be born again is to understand the pre-requisite requirement of mercy in each of our lives every day. Jesus Christ said "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall be shown mercy." Again, Jesus Christ said, "I will have mercy devoid of judgement says the Lord." Is your pastor practicing mercy without judgement?

Does your faith require you remind others of sin, while never finding out what God wants to correct in your life? Is your faith mirror broken? Judge not that ye may be judged oh man! Only the blood of Jesus Christ can profess that one is righteous.

Humility is required to rightly divide scripture. Human ability is not needed by God, for he justifies who he calls, he sanctifies who he alone justifies, and he alone will one day glorify those who come out of Roman religious bondage. Many are called, yet few are chosen to enter the coming Kingdom of Messiah.

We are called as Christians to build bridges of mercy to the fallen world. Come out of church bondage and begin a relationship to Messiah who called each of us to go ye into all the world and teach the gospel of unending mercy leading to the revelation of unwavering grace in the lives of others.

Let him who has spiritual ears hear, what the Spirit of Adonai Elohim is saying.

John Burns 9-27-2025

**Staff Sergeant John Burns enlisted into the United States Army on September 23, 1987 as an 11C Infantry Mortarman. He graduated from the 7th Infantry Division, Ranger Class 11/89 and served in the invasion of Panama, Desert Storm and the Battle of Mogadishu while assigned to the 75th Rangers.**

**Some of his many decorations, awards and badges include; Bronze Star Medal for Valor, Purple Heart, Meritorious Service Medal, Sniper Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Combat Infantry Badge and Expert Infantry Badge. Throughout his prestigious military career, he traveled to forty-five countries on five continents and all but two states while serving in the military.**

**He currently serves as the Chaplain for the Special Operations Warrior Foundation. His devout faith demonstrates to all he comes into contact with that he believes nothing but the blood of Jesus Christ can cleanse us from all unrighteousness. He enjoys writing and teaching God's Word while sharing his faith with a dying world.**





# Mark Chapter 2, 3, 4, & 5



Melvin Howard

**(Mark 2:1-12) The paralyzed man at Capernaum (Mt. 9:1-8; Lk. 5:17-26):** The Lord came again to “his own city” (Mt. 9:1). Here he healed a man brought to him by four friends; the miracle demonstrated that he had the authority to forgive sins while on earth however he chooses, hence, possessed the very nature of deity (see Mt. 9:1-8).

**(Mark 2:13-17) The call of Matthew (Mt. 9:9-13; Lk. 5:27-32):** Walking near the Sea of Galilee, Jesus came upon Matthew Levi, the

son of Alphaeus. He was a tax collector on behalf of the Roman government---a despised group, classed with prostitutes. Christ invited Matthew to follow him and he did. Presently, Jesus visited Matthew’s home where there were “many tax collectors and sinners.” The Lord taught them, which ignited the criticism of the scribes and Pharisees. But Jesus pointed out that they were sick (sin-sick) and he was the physician.

**(Mark 2:18-22) The issue of fasting (Mt. 9:14-17; Lk. 5:33-39):** Some of the disciples of John the Baptist approached Jesus and wondered why his disciples did not fast to the same degree they did. The Lord kindly explained there was a time difference in John’s ministry and his.

**(Mark 2:23-28) The disciples plucking grain (Mt. 12:1-8; Lk. 6:1-5):** Passing through a grain field on the Sabbath, the Lord’s disciples plucked some grain and ate. Some Pharisees observed it and criticized him for tolerating this supposedly forbidden act. Jesus responded, appealing to Old Testament precedent and asserting his own authority as deity.

**Mark Chapter 3 - (Mark Chapter 3:1-6) The man with the withered hand (Mt. 12:9-14; Lk. 6:6-11):** Jesus entered a synagogue on the Sabbath and observed a man whose hand was withered. His critics watched him carefully, hoping to catch him doing wrong. He asked the man to step forward, inquiring of his critics if it was wrong to do good on this holy day. He knew what they were thinking (Lk. 6:8), and he was angry with their attitude. He healed the man; immediately, his enemies began to plot his death.

**(Mark 3:7-12) The fame of Christ (Mt. 12:15-21; Lk. 6:17-19):** Jesus moved into the vicinity of the Sea of Galilee and great crowds followed him from various regions. He healed many and cast out demons---who acknowledged him as the Son of God. Yet he forbade these evil spirits to publicize him.

**(Mark 3:13-19) The selection of the twelve (Mt. 10:2-4; Lk. 6:12-19):** The Lord went up into a mountain and called some to follow him. Twelve men were appointed to “be with him,” and their names are Peter, Andrew, James (son of Zebedee), John, Philip, Bartholomew, Thomas, Matthew, James (son of Alphaeus), Thaddeus, Simon (the Zealot), and Judas. (Mark 3:20-21) Family concern: Mark’s material is selective. He has shipped over some of the material covered in both Matthew and Luke (the Sermon on the Mount, the healing of the centurion’s son, the raising of the widow of Nain’s son, etc.). There is a small incident unique to Mark’s account that is worthy of focus. Jesus came into a house and the crowds pressed mightily around him. Then there is mention of his “friends” hearing about this. The Greek expression means “those by his side,” and the allusion most likely is to his family (v. 21). They probably were thinking he was overworked and not thinking straight. That Mark would include this rather negative disposition of the Lord’s family is an evidence of the impartiality of this inspired record.

**(Mark 3:22-30) Controversy with the Pharisees (Mt. 12:22-45; Lk. 11:14-23):** Mark replicates an account of Christ’s conflict with the Pharisees that Matthew covers in much greater detail. Read Matthew’s record.

**(Mark 3:31-35) The true family of Christ (Mt. 12:46-50; Lk. 8:19-21):** This brief narrative is connected with 20-21 (above). Jesus’ mother and brothers had arrived and sought to call him apart. He made it a point, however, to show that there is a higher relationship than mere flesh. It is a spiritual kinship with those who “do the will of God.” For more, see Matthew’s record.

**Mark Chapter 4 - (Matthew 4:1-34) Parables by the sea (Mt. 13:1-53; Lk. 8:4-18):** The Lord went down by the Sea of Galilee and began to teach in parables. The first was the parable of the sower, involving seed that fell upon different qualities of soil. One was hard and resistant; another was shallow, thus unproductive. A third was crowded with thorns and yielded no crop. The fourth was fertile and produced in varying quantities. These soils reflected different attitudes regarding the word of God, represented by the seed. See Matthew’s narrative for a more comprehensive discussion. Mark emphasized that one’s “lamp,” his influence, ought not to be hidden. Instead, it should be exerted for good, for a person will receive in return for whatever measure he has distributed. One must use his abilities wisely. Some things has been hidden in his teaching, but they would come to light eventually. Revelation was incremental (v. 21-25).

The next little parable is unique to Mark’s record. Since it follows the parable of the sower and employs the same imagery, it seems to be a supplement to the former. The “seed” (representing the word of God) is sown in the ground. The progressive development is a marvelous and mysterious process (obviously of divine design), the intricacies of which humanity has not fully understood, nor likely ever will. The plant develops in stages---first the blade, then the ear, finally the full grain in the ear. Ultimately there is the harvest (v. 26-29). The imagery may signify the stages through which one passes en route to becoming a child of God, faith, repentance, and immersion in water for the forgiveness of sins (Mk. 16:16; Acts 2:38). The harvest may suggest the ingathering of the obedient into the kingdom of Christ at the point of conversion (Jn. 3:3-5; Col. 1:13). Following this short story, there is the parable of the mustard seed. For this, see Matthew 13:31-32. Mark thus summarizes Jesus’ teaching in parables, noting that these would have special meaning to the disciples, to whom the Lord would explain them privately (v. 33-34).

**Mark Chapter 5 - (Mark 5:1-20) The Gadarene demoniacs (Mt. 8:28-34; Lk. 8:26-39):** In the country to the east of the Sea of Galilee, Jesus met two men possessed of demons. Mark mentions only one of these, obviously the more prominent. He lived among the tombs, was violent, and could not be subdued---even with chains. He wandered about crying out and mutilating himself. When he saw Jesus, he worshipped him, acknowledging him as the Son of God and pleading for mercy (Mt. 8:28-29).

**(Mark 5:21-24; 5:35-43) The resurrection of Jairus’ daughter (Mt. 9:18; Lk. 8:4):** Jairus, a ruler of a synagogue, had a daughter who was very ill. He believed the Lord could heal her and, falling at the Savior’s feet, petitioned him to do so. Finally arriving at the ruler’s house, Jesus indicated he would raise the girl from her death bed, but observers laughed about the matter. Jesus took her by the hand and raised the twelve-year-old girl from the dead.

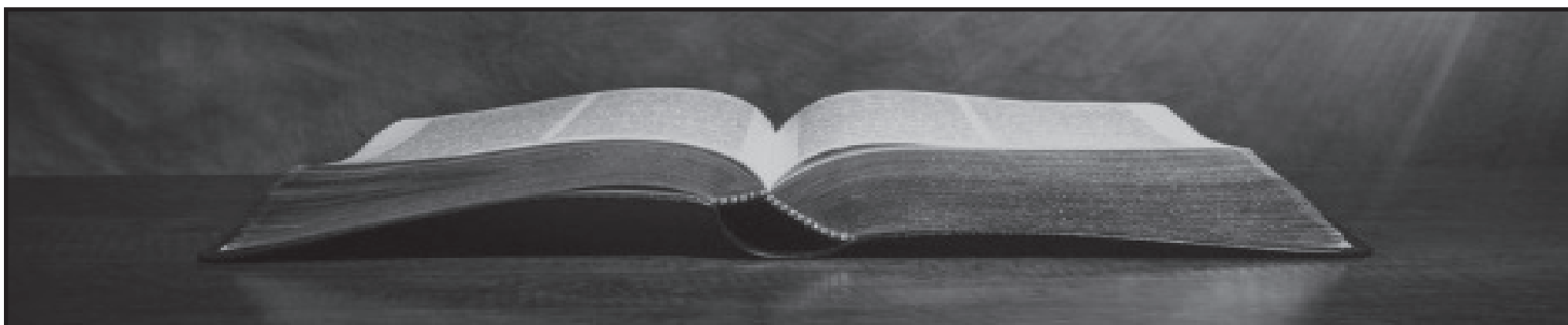
**(Mark 5:25-34) Touching the hem of His garment (Mt. 9:20-22; Lk. 8:43-48):** A poor lady had been afflicted with a blood hemorrhage for twelve years. She had spent all her resources but had only grown worse. She slipped in behind the Lord and touched the border of his garment and was healed immediately. When Jesus determined who it was who touched him, he declared that her faith in action made her whole. He encouraged her to go in peace. Compare with Matthew’s record.

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## The Lord’s Church

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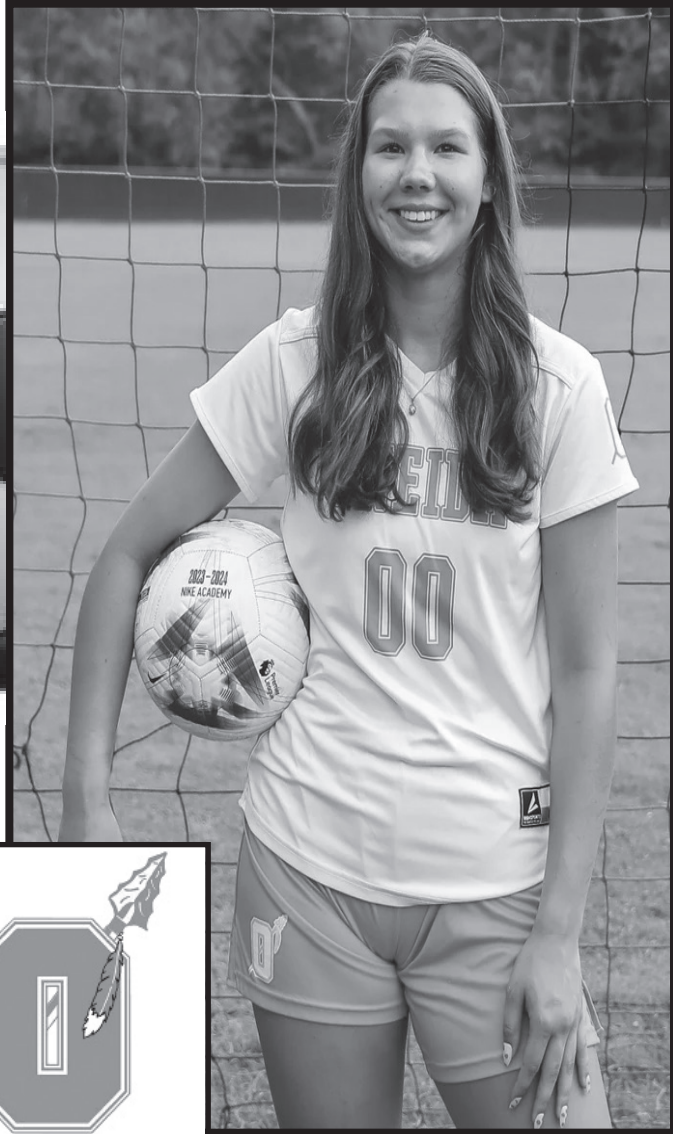




# Scott County Today

**Oneida High School  
Lady Indians Soccer Player  
of the Week**

**Scott High School  
Lady Highlanders Soccer Player  
of the Week**



**Larissa Jones**



**Kilah Marlow**



**PLAYERS OF  
THE WEEK**



**LARISSA  
JONES**



**KILAH  
MARLOW**

## SCOCo GIRLS SOCCER SCORE CARD



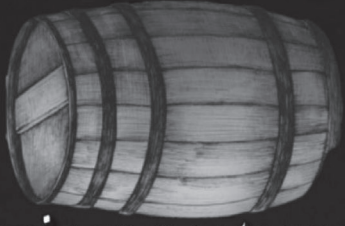
**Sep 23, 2024  
Scott vs Monterey - W 6-0**



**Sep 30, 2024  
Oneida vs Roane Co. - Upcoming**



# Mi Barril



Mexican restaurant

Mi Barril Mexican Restaurant celebrates their first year serving the wonderful people of Huntsville.

Carlos Perez & the Mi Barril family thank the Huntsville community for their support & they look forward to many more wonderful years to come.



## Erika Lynch Nurse Practitioner

Now accepting  
new patients!

Erika is a Nurse Practitioner with 13 years of combined nursing experience. Erika has been with the Circle of Life for over a year and sees patients of all ages Monday-Thursday 0700-1730. She has a diverse background of experience including: primary care, addiction medicine, obstetrics/women's health, pediatrics, and acute care in both the emergency room and intensive care unit. She began her nursing career as a LPN after graduating from TCAT Oneida in 2012. She completed her undergraduate at Lincoln Memorial University in 2019 and graduated from Tennessee Technological University in 2023 with her MSN.

Erika is native to Scott County and lives here with her two sons, Greyson and Emerson. When she is not in the clinic, she enjoys spending time with her family and friends and coaching little league soccer. She is excited to continue to serve her hometown and looks forward to seeing new and familiar faces. Erika is currently accepting new patients and accepts most insurances.



Call today for an appointment (423) 569-3762  
189 Andrew Drive, Oneida, TN 37841



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