

RUSTY WALLACE
 865-688-8886
KIA KNOXVILLE
 I-75 AT CALLAHAN DRIVE

You'll Love A NEW Kia!!!

200,000
 MILE WARRANTY

ON EVERY NEW CAR!
 The All New 2025 Sportage



*see dealer for details

Morgan County Today

Psalm 100:3
 www.mocotoday.com
 Volume 11 Number 04
 Tuesday, January 28, 2025

Your Community. Your News.

75¢



Morgan County Today
Your Community. Your News.

PUBLISHER:
TOMMY LEE FRANCIS
PUBLISHER@MOCOTODAY.COM

EDITOR:
HEATHER FRANCIS
EDITOR@MOCOTODAY.COM

ADVERTISING:
ADVERTISING@MOCOTODAY.COM

**MAIL DELIVERY
SUBSCRIPTIONS**

CALL 423-346-2329
POSTMASTER:
SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO
P.O. BOX 451,
WARTBURG, TN 37887

IN-COUNTY RATES
\$40: \$35 FOR SENIOR
CITIZENS & VETERANS

OUT OF COUNTY RATES
\$55: \$50 FOR SENIOR
CITIZENS & VETERANS

**PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID
AT WARTBURG, TN
USPS PUBLICATION NUMBER
(15400)**



**Ms. Avery Pearl
Pet Columnist**

Pet Perspective with Ms. Avery Pearl

It's All About The Coat

I sure do hope you guys have been warm this week.

Me, I'm always warm. You would be too, if you had a fur coat like mine.

You see, pomeranian coats keep us warm in the cold and cool in the heat. Ain't that amazing?

Ms Ivory though wasn't that lucky. She is a parti-yorkie and her coat, even though it's beautiful, doesn't do that.

Me, I can play and play when it's cold outside. Ms Ivory does her business and back to the door she flies, ready to go back in. It is the funniest thing to see. She is as fast as a rabbit.



When we go out I have to do my inspections of the fence and each gate. Mimi says I'm like a patrol officer at the prison, on my rounds. Hey, I have to make sure we have no invaders.

Any-woof, my coat keeps me all warm and toasty while I'm on patrol. Then, I go back in to cuddle with my Mimi and Pap or snuggle with my sister.

Every one says that my coat is beautiful and I appreciate that. I can tell you one thing though, it's a chore caring for it. Mimi says I'm worth it though.

I do all I can to help keep my coat all clean and pretty. I even, wash my face every single morning, like a cat. Pap says that is funny.

Well, I guess that's enough about me. I sure do hope you guys have a good week.

WEEKLY WEATHER

**CITIZENS
GAS
UTILITY DISTRICT**
MORGAN of Scott and Morgan Counties

Tue 28	53°/35°	
Wed 29	58°/29°	
Thu 30	54°/43°	
Fri 31	55°/47°	
Sat 01	59°/41°	
Sun 02	63°/44°	
Mon 03	62°/41°	

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

City of Sunbright

Resolution 94-2025
Resolution for american rescue plan act (ARPA) allocation
Approved 1/21/25

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.

COUNTRY FRIED STEAK DINNER

WHAT: Country Fried Steak, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Green Beans, Fresh Baked Roll, Dessert, and Coffee or Tea.

WHEN: Saturday February 1, from Noon to 3pm

WHERE: Deer Lodge Abner Ross Center

COST: Dine-in = \$9.00 Adult, \$5.00 Children, *To-Go and Delivery=\$10.00.

Come to the Deer Lodge Abner Ross Center for a delicious meal with music provided by the Rugby Coronet Band and a Door Prize.

*Delivery within a 5 mile radius of the Center. Please call 423- 965-5000 before 10:30am for delivery.

Drinks are not provided with deliveries.

All proceeds go to pay utilities and upkeep at the Center.

Tennessee 811
Know what's below.
Call before you dig.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR



DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

Plateau Electric Cooperative is seeking a well-qualified, safety-oriented individual for the position of Director of Operations.

This position will lead the Operations Department in employee development, operational discipline, and work coordination to achieve an efficient organization of qualified personnel; to supervise the activities required for efficient operations and maintenance of the distribution lines and services; to provide continuous, reliable, and adequate supply of electricity to meet the demands of the members in Scott and Morgan County. This position will work closely with other departments, including engineering, human resources, business operations manager, and others as needed.

The successful candidate must be self-motivated, dependable, have strong leadership skills, and a high degree of integrity. This position requires a high school education or its equivalent and a thorough knowledge of the principles of the construction, maintenance, and operation of the distribution system. Must have worked a minimum of 8 years as a journeyman lineman.

Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. The Cooperative also offers an excellent benefits package.

All qualified individuals interested in applying for this position shall submit an application along with a resume by January 24, 2025. Resumes should

Journeyman Lineman

Plateau Electric Cooperative is accepting resumes through Friday, January 31, 2025, from qualified candidates for the position of journeyman lineman. Position performs all types of skilled work relative to the construction and maintenance of Plateau Electric Cooperative's overhead and underground electric system. Climbs poles or steel structures and works from aerial lift devices to install conductors, transformers, crossarms, insulators, and other related equipment. Must be willing to work in adverse weather conditions. The position requires a high-school diploma or GED, Journeyman Lineworker Card/Certification, current Department of Transportation Medical Examiner's Certificate, and either a Class A or Class B Commercial Driver's License (CDL). All qualified applicants interested in applying for this position shall email a resume to HR@plateauelectric.com.

Plateau Electric Cooperative is an Equal Opportunity and Drug Free Workplace Employer

LOCAL YOU TRUST
A DEALERSHIP YOU CAN COUNT ON.

2024 FORD F150
CREW CAB 4X4 XLT
\$52,574*
WITH OFF ROAD PACKAGE
Stock #T1826

2024 FORD RANGER
CREW CAB STX
\$33,942*
WITH 3.9% FINANCING UP TO 72 MONTHS
Stock #T1877

2024 FORD F250
4X4
\$48,888*
Stock #T1817

2024 FORD BRONCO SPORT
BIG BEND 4X4
\$32,994*
Stock #T1874

RAY VARNER
CLINTON, TENNESSEE
865-457-0704
RAYVARNERFORD.COM
I-75, EXIT 122
Stock number T1826, T1877, T1817, T1874, with approved credit, after Ford Factory Rebate, Ray Varner Discount

**Country Custom
Tile and Flooring**

Owners: Shawn Hankes & Spencer Hankes

Phone: 865-314-2841

"A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches"
Proverbs 22:1

EZ WASTE AND **LAWN CARE**

423-627-7575

WEEKLY TRASH PICKUP - \$20 LAWN CARE FREE ESTIMATES

— In Loving Memory —

**George "Al" Davidson, 73
United States Marine Corps Veteran**



son III; brothers: Daniel (Carol) Davidson, Charles Davidson, and Jeff (June) Davidson; sisters: Shirley (Jerry) Gooch, Nancy (Bill) Jones, Judy (Edd) Griffith, and Emma Lou Hicks; granddaughter, Candace Davidson; along with several nieces, nephews, and other friends and relatives.

Mr. George "Al" Davidson, age 73 of Lansing, passed away Saturday December 28, 2024 at his home. He was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps. Al enjoyed hunting of all types, especially deer.

He was preceded in death by his parents, George and Deloris Davidson; and brother, Paul Jean Davidson.

He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Linda Daugherty Davidson; son, George Allen David-

The family will receive friends Tuesday December 31, 2024, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., with the funeral to follow at 1:00, Bro. Aaron Nance officiating. Interment will immediately follow in the Lane Cemetery with full Military Honors by American Legion Post 149.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of George "Al" Davidson.

**Jerry "Grey Dad" Higgs
United States Army, Korean War Veteran**



"Grey Dad" loved life and the people in it. He was quick with a story or joke and even though you heard it before, he would still make it funny. Jerry was loved by many and will be missed dearly.

He is preceded in death by Mother, Sophia Higgs; Father, Victor Higgs; Son, Wayne Higgs; Granddaughter, Jetta Higgs; Brother, Hubert Higgs; Brother, Victor Higgs; Sister, Pearl Higgs; Sister, Vondale Higgs, Sister Monteen Jarriel.

He is survived by his companion of 20 yrs, Anna Human; Sisters Jedon and Merita; Sons Jerry and Keith; Daughter, Sheree.

Also surviving are several grandchildren and great grandchildren.

A special thanks to Gentiva Hospice Staff for their kindness, compassion, and professionalism.

The family will receive friends on Thursday, January 2, 2025 from 6-7 pm Schubert Funeral Home, Wartburg. Funeral Service will follow at 7pm, with Bro. Joey Aytes officiating. Graveside services with Military Honors provided by American Legion Post 149, will be Friday, January 3, 11am at the Annadell Baptist Church Cemetery, Lansing, TN.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Jerry Higgs.

Jerry "Grey Dad" Higgs was born January, 20th 1933 in Toombs County, Georgia. He graduated from Collins High School in Collins, Georgia.

He was a Korean War Veteran, serving in the US Army, Fort Bragg, North Carolina 1954-1956

From 1963 - 1980, Jerry worked as a Corrections Officer at Reidsville State Prison, Reidsville, Georgia then Brushy Mountain State Prison for another 14 years until he retired in 1995.

After retirement, he didn't slow down. He worked at Petros-Joyner Elementary school as a Custodian and became a beloved member of the staff and a positive influence on children.

Jerry's love for football led him to support the Coalfield High School YellowJackets as a team manager for 30 years. You could find him on the sidelines, rain or shine, always there for the team. Many players passing through that football program will always remember Grey Dad and the influence he had.

He was also a HUGE Georgia Bulldog fan. You would typically find him in a Georgia hat, talking Georgia football. He was truly a Bulldog for life.

Psalm 123:1

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

Rebecca Jane Pittman, 89



In addition to her parents she is preceded in death by her husband Harold Pittman.

She is survived by her 2 sons Darryl Pittman and David (Lesa) Pittman; grandchildren Lucas and Lauren Pittman; great grandson Theodore Pittman and a host of family and friends.

Rebecca Jane Pittman, age 89 passed away January 1, 2025. She was born September 11, 1935 to the late Elmer and Mae Treadway.

The family will have a graveside service Saturday, January 4, 2025 in the Wartburg City Cemetery with Bro. Brandon Peters officiating.

Jane loved gardening, crocheting, watching the birds and loved visits from her family.

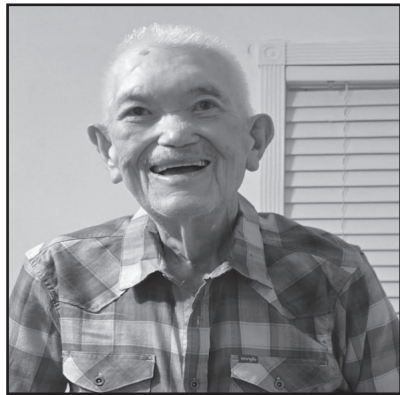
Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Rebecca Jane Pittman.

Obituaries must come from a funeral home to be in the newspaper.



— In Loving Memory —

Dale Wendell Byrd Sr., 88



ron, of Robbins; Johnny Byrd and wife An, of Killeen Texas. Daughter: Hope Miske, of Robbins. Grandchildren: Angela Byrd and husband Charlie Garcia, Johnny Byrd, Sabrina McMahan and husband Douglas, Justin Byrd and wife Rachel. Great Grandchildren: Johnny, Evelyn, Bristol, Carson, Airabella, Galaxie, Ibbby, Holley, and Finley. Special friend Leroy and Diana Cox.

Dale Wendell Byrd Sr., age 88, departed this life at home peacefully with family on January 5, 2025.

Wendell was preceded in death by his parents: William Andrew and Ibbie Byrd. Wife: Naomi Ruth Byrd. Brothers: Glen, Lee, Robert, Buddy, and Lewis Byrd. Sisters: Jean Booth, Mary Connor, and Ruthie Slaven. Special friend: Howard Pace.

He is survived by his sons: Dale Byrd Jr. and wife Sha-

The family will receive friends Saturday at 11 a.m. with services at 12 p.m. Rev. Michael Carroll will officiate. Burial will be in Mt. Hope cemetery in Deer Lodge. Family and friends will serve as pallbearers.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Dale Wendell Byrd, Sr.

Jeffery Lee West, 50



Jeff is survived by his children, Hannah Sexton (Chase) Wittke and J. Tyler (Caitlyn) West; mother of his children, Jeanie Sexton; parents, James and Glenna West; brothers: Jimmy (Lisa) West and John West; nephews: Jody (Cara), James, Ryan and Taylon; nieces: Jadelyn, Jordan, and Bella; Mother-in-law, Ruth Sexton; uncles: Roy, Danny, and Eddie; aunts: Bea, Nelann, Mary, and Cathy; special friends: Amber Lowe, Ray Adcock, Cynthia and Jeff Martin, and Odetta Berry and family; along with a host of other family and friends.

Jeffery Lee West, age 50 of Wartburg, passed away suddenly at Roane County Medical Center on Saturday January 4, 2025. Jeff was an avid hunter and loved fishing with his son. He also enjoyed riding his Harley. Jeff was passionate about music and was proficient at picking the mandolin, of which he played bluegrass music with his family in the West Brothers Band. They played in festivals and at family gatherings. His most loved thing to do was spend time with his children and family. Jeff will be greatly missed by everyone that loved him.

Pallbearers: Jody West, James West, Chase Wittke, Ray Adcock, and Ryan Jackson.

The family will receive friends Wednesday January 8, 2025 from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg. The funeral will follow at 3:00 with Bro. Timmy Russell officiating. Interment will follow immediately after at Wind Rock Cemetery in Oliver Springs, TN.

He was preceded in death by his grandparents: Anna Laura and Jesse Lloyd West, and Wilburn and Lizzie Patterson; uncles: Avery, Junior, Terry, Donnie, Robert, Hubert, and Randell; aunts: Faye, Wanda, Juanita, Brenda, and Editha; cousins: Vanessa, Shelena, Jennifer, and Emily; and father-in-law, Billy Sexton.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Jeffery West.

Psalm 86:4-5

4 Rejoice the soul of thy servant: for unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.

5 For thou, Lord, art good, and ready to forgive; and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon thee.

Hallie Harris, 76



Chester (Marianne) Howard; sisters: Katie (Mark) Lewis and Teresa (Greg) Gilbert; along with 9 grandchildren and one grat-grandchild.

Graveside service will be Wednesday January 8, 2025 at 12:00 noon at Flat Rock Cemetery in Chestnut Ridge with Bro. Danny Jones officiating.

Mrs. Hallie Harris, age 76, of the Chestnut Ridge community passed away suddenly Monday January 6, 2025 at her home.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Hallie Harris.

She was preceded in death by her husband, William Lee Harris; parents, Roy and Dorothy Branstetter; brothers: Arnold, Robert, and Daniel Branstetter; and sister, Hazel Brown.



She is survived by her sons: Jason (Suzianna), Tojo (Lori), Roy (Riki), Ron (Tammy), and Bill Harris; daughters: Ann (Robert) McCann and Ashley (Billy) Keeton; brothers: Cass Branstetter, Wilburn Branstetter, Johnny (Marilyn) Branstetter, and



— In Loving Memory —

Nancy Ann Goddard, 90



Keathley and son-in-law Donald Roberts. She leaves behind her daughter Linda Roberts of Coalfield, who was always by her side; grandchildren Kimberly Roberts of Joyner, Amy Jones of Wartburg, Joseph Roberts, and great granddaughter Zoe Jones were a constant source of joy in her life. She adored Zoe and cherished every moment spent with her. Her sisters Betty Duncan of Chattanooga, Thelma Bruce, and Reba Woods of Oak Ridge who shared many beautiful memories with her throughout the years.

Nancy Ann Goddard graced this world with her presence for 90 remarkable years. On January 7, 2025 she passed away peacefully surrounded by her loving family. She was born on May 14, 1934. Nancy's life was a testament to her hard work, dedication, and love for her family and friends. She worked for the Morgan County Schools for almost 20 years until her declining health.

Nancy was a devoted mother, grandmother, sister known for her kindness and warmth.

She is preceded in death by her parents Ethel and Eliza Crowe; siblings Roberta Hall, Sylvester Burgess, and Exie

The family will receive friends Thursday, January 9, 2025 at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg from 5:00-7:00 p.m. Graveside services will be on Friday at 10:00 a.m. in the Western Cemetery in Coalfield.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Nancy Ann Goddard.

Stanley Barton Butler, 88
United States Marine Corps Veteran



Hinds; sister Ellen Daniels and her husband Glenn; special friend Betty Parks and a host of nieces and nephews.

In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by his wife Patricia Coffman Butler; sisters Susie Rose, Ruby Mae Inman, and Allene Bellman; brothers Ernest Neargard, Harvey Fred, Leonard Clay (L.C.), and Walter Glenn.

Stanley Barton Butler of Oakdale, Tennessee went home to be with the Lord on Wednesday, January 8th, 2025 at the age of 88. He was born in Harriman, Tennessee to the late Fred and Cora Butler. Mr. Butler was a 1957 graduate of South Harriman High School. He honorably served as a member of the United States Marine Corps and was a 32 year retiree of Lowe's. He was a member of Boswell Chapel Baptist Church.

The family will receive friends on Tuesday, January 14th from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg. Funeral services at 12:30 pm with Bro. Chris Inman officiating. A graveside service to follow at Roane Memorial Gardens.

He is survived by his son Ernie Butler and his wife Jennifer; granddaughters Courtney Hinds, and her husband Chris, Cora Butler and Emily Butler; great-granddaughter Carsyn

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Stanley Barton Butler.

Tracie Renea Kennedy, 48



"Big things come in small packages" would be the perfect way to describe Tracie because whether it was passion, attitude, courage, or heart she had them all in spades. Never one to hold back, you knew exactly how she felt about pretty much anything in the span of one conversation and if she loved you, she loved you big. Even though we lost a piece of our hearts when she gained her wings, she left behind countless legacies for her loved ones to carry on. Momma taught us by example to love loudly, stand proudly, live unapologetically, and embrace the beauty of everyday magic. Young at heart, she was always ready for adventure, down to try something new, and had an almost magical ability to find treasures anywhere she went.

Tracie Renea Kennedy Passed away peacefully at home surrounded by her loved ones on December 12, 2024. Born on August 30, 1976, she would have told you that she was 21 with 27 years experience and anyone who knew her would have agreed.

Whether it was ginseng on the side of a mountain in the middle of nowhere, a four leaf clover in any patch of grass she glanced at, or a cool rock hidden in plain sight, she found the smallest bits of beauty in everyday things. The treasures that she held most precious, however, are the loves of her life that she was most hesitant to leave behind - Her two daughters, Kristen and Bailey, her three sons, Scotty, Marcus, and Lakota, Nana's babies, Roman, Dixie, Jesse, and Lane, her other half and perfect match, Billy Rakowiecki, her loving mother, Nina VanNorstran, little big sister, Tina Scarborough (David "Hateful") her special Niece and Nephews, Allison, Dylan, and Dalton, and a host of family members who were more like friends and plenty of friends

who were more like Family. Momma took every opportunity to remind us that she loved us beyond the moon and stars. Now that she is there, we can feel that she is telling the truth.

Time will ease your pain

Life's about changing

Nothing ever stays the same.

How can I help you to say goodbye

Its okay to hurt and its okay to cry

Come let me hold you and I will try.

How can I help you to say goodbye

- Patty Loveless



— In Loving Memory —

Patricia Ann Dumas, 83



2025. Patricia and Paul loved to travel in their motor home in their younger years. Paul was truly the love of her life and she cherished him greatly, along with her family and friends whom she enjoyed spending time with.

She leaves behind the love of her life Paul Dumas; son Kevin and wife, Debra; daughter Shera and husband, Mike; 11 grandchildren; 27 great grandchildren and host of family and friends.

She is preceded in death by her daughter Lori Wilcox; sister Brenda Bryce.

Her wishes were to be cremated and buried in VT in the spring.

She will be great missed by all who knew her.

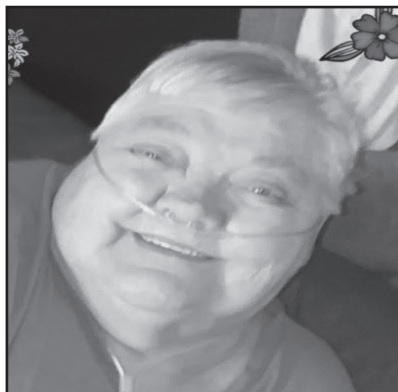
Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Patricia A. Dumas.

Patricia Ann Dumas, age 83 passed away Friday, January 10, 2025 in Huntsville, TN. She was born in North Woodsock, NH., on October 23, 1941 and was adopted by Louis and Eloise Desmarais.

Patricia lived in Johnson Vermont and went to school there. She married in 1961 to her husband Paul Dumas. They were married for 63 years. She drove a school bus, knitted hats for the skiing industry. She later moved to Florida in 1982 where she resided with Paul until she was admitted to a care facility in Tennessee in 2024, where she passed away January 10,

Obituaries must come from a funeral home to be in the newspaper.

Betty Goad, 71



Carla, and Vanessa Jones, and Emily VanNorstran; nephews: Doug Lewis, Chris Bingham, and Zach VanNorstran; and great-nieces: Azalea Underwood and Amelia Underwood.

The family would like to extend a special thanks to the nurses who took such great care of Betty during her illness.

The family will receive friends Monday January 20, 2025 from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 1:00, Bro. Buster Armes officiating. Graveside service will immediately follow at the Family Cemetery in the Annadale Community.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Betty Goad.



Betty Goad, age 71 of the Annadale community, passed away peacefully at her home on Friday January 17, 2025. She attended Roane State Community College for two years. Betty had a love for fishing, flowers, and life in general, but strongest of all was the love she had for her nurses, friends, and her family.

She was preceded in death her parents Ben and Barbara Bingham; siblings Charles, Bennie Joe, John, Bobby, Marget VanNorstran, Ann Louise Bingham, and Janice Carol Bingham; husband Clyde Goad; special nephew Gregory VanNorstran.

She is survived by her companion, Jerry Jones; children: Lisa, Matthew, and Lil' Wayne Jones, and Tammy and Clyde Goad, Jr.; grandchildren: Keyara Steinmetz, Ty'Varion Pryor, and Myia Pryor; sister, Mary Sue Lewis; nieces: Kasslen,

William Terry "Toe" Basler, 79



Terry is survived by and will be deeply missed by his sons: William Terry Basler Jr. and wife Anna Armes Basler and their children; Ethan and daughter-in-law Kaylee, Sally, Noah, and Lucy; Timothy James Leon Basler and wife Lorie Ann Basler and their children; Timothy, Isaac and Trinity Basler; sons in love Gaje Franklin and Kamden Neely Nathan Charles Hal Basler and wife Jeannie Hembree Basler and their children; Brooke and Brylie Basler. Brother: He will be missed by his brother Teddy and wife Phyllis Basler; his sisters: Vicky Basler Boyce, Susan Basler, Melissa Walls Basler, Randi Basler Armes and husband Joe, Mandy Basler Hooper and husband Eddie. Terry will be missed by many more nieces and nephews and poker house friends; special care takers Gladys Chiyongo, Abishai wife Anna and son Ephraim of Petros.

William Terry "Toe" Basler , age 79, of Petros, TN, departed this life January 8, 2025 at home surrounded by his loving sons, siblings, and grandchildren.

The funeral services will be held at Shubert Funeral Home of Wartburg, TN. Nathan Basler will be officiating. Visitation will be held on Thursday 4PM-6PM, Saturday 1PM-3PM with the funeral service beginning at 3PM. Burial will follow the funeral at Petros Cemetery at 4PM.

In the latter years of Terry's life, he shared with his family of his faith in Jesus. Terry was a wise man of few words, many talents, and a strong will.

Terry worked in the communications field providing cable and fiber optics. He helped restore cable, phone, and fiber after hurricanes. His years of experience was instrumental to a younger generation of "cable dogs."

Terry worked as an iron worker for many years. He enjoyed building with rocks and carving them. He built the rock walls around the Petros Cemetery, laid the rock steps, and the rock walls in front of his Petros home. He enjoyed playing poker weekly at his brother's house.

The most important thing to Terry that he built was a life with his family. He worked hard to make sure that his family was provided for.

Terry is preceded in death by his father and mother Willie Dean Basler and Sally Basler White and step-father Jack White. Brother Jerry "Boots" Basler; brother-in-law Bob Boyce; nephews Joshua Crouch and Brandon Hooper; great aunt Rhoda Dagley; special friends June Bug Liles and Florence "Punky" Armes.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be given to Rock Mission of Petros. Donations can be made to Shuberts Funeral Home or mailed to PO Box 355, Petros, TN 37845.

The family of William Terry Basler wishes to thank Morgan County Medical Center employees Tara McCarley, Heather Justes, April and staff..

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of William Terry Basler.



— In Loving Memory —

David Allen Dyer, 68



David is preceded in death by his mother and father Mildred and Williams Dyer; brothers Jesse, James, and Billy and one sister Barbara Hall.

He is survived by his wife Martha; daughter Jordan and granddaughter Maggie Adkins; sister Betty Mills; brother-in-law Matthew (Angie) Barr; sisters-in-law Miriam (Dale) Barr and Mary (Ron) Moen and a host of nieces and nephews and many friends and relatives who he loved and who loved him. He will truly be missed by all those that knew him.

The family will receive friends Thursday, January 23, 2025 at Schubert Funeral Home from 12:00-2:00 p.m. with a memorial service to follow with special friend Vernon Justes speaking.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of David Allen Dyer.

David Allen Dyer, age 68 passed away unexpectedly on Friday, January 17, 2025. He spent 40 years working for Acrolac as a Machinist. He also worked for the Morgan County Sheriff's Dept. As a Volunteer deputy on the weekends, which he loved. When he finally retired, he spent most of his time outside and riding his side by side. In the winter he loved watching our many birds at the feeders.

He was a wonderful husband, father, and grandpa (Poppy). He was one of a kind with a gentle soul. He never hesitated to help anyone who asked.

About 6 years ago we were blessed with a dog "Little Bit" who he loved spending time with.

Eva Maxine Hall, 80



friends; special niece Tammy Branstetter; brothers Asberry Hawn, Marion Hawn, Tommy Hawn, Teddy Hawn, and Lonnie Hawn; sister Anna Jane Dyle.

Maxine was a great lady. She was one of the kindest people you would ever meet. She loved her family, friends and most of all the Lord.

Eva Maxine Hall, age 80 of Deer Lodge passed away January 9, 2025 at her home. She was a member of the Frankfort Church. She loved going to church and she loved spending time riding around.

She is preceded in death by her Cecil and Lennis Hawn; sisters Rosalie Harness, Catherine Kennedy, Thelma Watson and Betty Hensley; brothers Junior and Cletus Hawn.

She leaves behind her husband Randall Hall; sons Jeff and wife, April Hall, Scott Hall; daughter Miranda Hall; grandchildren Eva (Gabby) Hall, RT Hall, Michael Hall, Jason Brown, Riley Brown, Nathaniel Brown, and Kyle Critties; 10 great grandchildren and a host of nieces, nephews and

The family will receive friends Saturday, January 25, 2025 at Schubert Funeral Home from 12:00-2:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 2:00 p.m. with Bro. Doyle Nance and Bro. Tommy Winningham officiating. Interment will follow in the Potters Chapel Cemetery in Lansing.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Eva Maxine Hall.

Obituaries must come from a funeral home to be in the newspaper.



I honor the Morgan County School Board
in January and all year long!!!



Billy Ward



Kasey Perkins



Jonathan Dagley



Kayron Rogers



Benjamin Jackson



Mickey Tucker

**ED
BUTLER**

State Representative

DISTRICT 41



**Your Hyundai Dealer
NOW OPEN
in our NEW location!!!**



**TONS OF NEW
INVENTORY**

**LOCALLY OWNED, PEOPLE YOU KNOW!
WE TREAT YOU LIKE FAMILY!**



**4.9
GOOGLE
RATING**

HOME OF THE 200,000-MILE WARRANTY

RUSTY WALLACE  **HYUNDAI**

RustyWallaceHyundai.com - 865-963-3400

505 Callahan Drive, Knoxville - Exit 110 - 75 North

*see dealer for details



SUMMIT
MEDICAL GROUP
— AT WARTBURG —

**FAMILY MEDICINE
& URGENT CARE**



FAMILY MEDICINE
Jonathan B. Laymance, M.D.
Seth Stewart, FNP-B.C.



Accepting new patients of all ages!
Most insurances accepted
including Medicare and TennCare.

URGENT CARE

Monday – Friday: 8am – 6:30pm
Saturday & Sunday: 8am – 4pm

Do not have to be a patient of SMG to visit Urgent Care!
Appointment required. Walk-ins if schedule allows.

1825 Knoxville Hwy, Wartburg




(423) 346-3600

Caring for our community


 **Griffith Family**
PHARMACY

Wartburg

 1236 Knoxville Hwy
Wartburg, TN
37887


 423.346.6337

Rockwood

 600 N Gateway Ave
Rockwood, TN
37854

 865.590.6339

Harriman

 1701 Roane State Hwy
Harriman, TN
37748

 865.590.6337

 griffithfamilypharmacy.com

 *Your Community*
Health Mart
PHARMACY

This pharmacy is independently owned and operated under a license from Health Mart Systems, Inc.

 **State Farm**TM



Randy McFarland

105 S Kingston Street
PO Box 690
Wartburg, TN 37887-0690
(423) 346-7670

www.randyismyagent.com

 **COLDWELL BANKER** Jim Henry & Associates



Real Estate Agent
Glenda Johnson

Direct: (865) 591-6900
Office: (865) 376-2121 x102
License: 251289 TN

glenda6900@bellsouth.net
With all my years of experience in Real Estate, allow me to work for you with all your Real Estate needs.



Plateau DrugCenter

Bill, Brent, & Blake Dunlap, Pharmacists



18157 S Alberta St Oneida, TN 37841 - 423-569-5555

A Valentine's Day tradition for over 20 years!

Milk, Dark, and White Chocolate Covered Strawberries by the dozen available.

**Treat your Sweetheart to the Best!
Order Today!**



Buy One Get One for \$1.00

Everything on McValue Menu!!!

Try our \$5.00 Bags



**Locally owned by
Kevin, Crystal, Danny &
Wanda Hailey
19820 Alberta Street
Oneida, TN 37841**

Your Best Value!!!

LOCAL YOU TRUST
A DEALERSHIP YOU CAN COUNT ON.



RAY VARNER
CLINTON, TENNESSEE

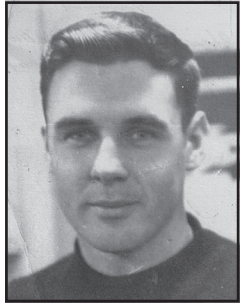


865-457-0704
RAYVARNERFORD.COM
I-75, EXIT 122

2024 FORD F250 4X4
\$48,888*
Stock #T1817

2024 FORD BRONCO SPORT BIG BEND 4X4
\$32,994*
Stock #T1874

Stock number T1817 and T1874 with approved credit, after Ford Factory Rebate, Ray Varner Discount.



Tom Redmon
Columnist

Being Pro-abundant Life

I know many of you who read of this paper will agree with me about abortion but I also know some of you will disagree with me. I also know that its pretty clear that life begins at conception. Science now easily proves that the Bible teaching that life begins at conception is correct, a unique individual come into existence. Hair and eye color, and to some extent, personality, and intelligence, are established at conception and a baby's

heart beats just 22 days after fertilization. We know without a doubt there is life growing inside of a pregnant woman. Yet even the knowledge of knowing that a real human being (God's creation) is growing inside a woman it isn't enough to stop people from making an abortion decision and it is sad to think that this knowledge isn't enough to stop many Christian people sitting in our church pews on Sunday mornings from making abortion decisions.

Recently I got to attend a celebration of life banquet at a pregnancy care center in Plant City, Florida. The big room was packed with town folks who supported the pregnancy care center. Town and county officials really take an interest in helping young girls who get pregnant unexpectedly, and at a stage in life where they are not mature enough to take the responsibility of a baby and certainly aren't able to handle the financial part.

Present at the banquet were some girls with their babies that were saved from being aborted. The key note speaker talked about his experience with the subject of abortion. He and his girlfriend were students at Princeton University. They were both Christians and they were aware what they were supposed to do, but they found themselves in love and eventually they became intimate. The man said we knew the risk but still we took the chance. He said during mid-term break he was at home when he got a call from his girlfriend. She said, "honey I think I am pregnant." A week later back at the college it was confirmed at the school clinic that she was pregnant. The nurse said to her, "you are going to get an abortion, aren't you?" She did not hesitate saying, "no. I want to get married and raise this baby. I know it will be hard. My boyfriend and I have talked about having a family."

The nurse asked her what year she was in here at Princeton? She said, a sophomore and the nurse followed up with another question. "What do you want to do when you graduate?" The woman replied, "I want to become a doctor." The nurse said you have a long road to travel, three years here, then four years of medical school. How are you going to make it with a baby to take care of?" Still the woman said, "God will be with us and we believe in life, this child inside me deserves to live."

This lady not only had one child when she graduated from Princeton but she had two and went on to become a good doctor and even went into the service to serve her country as a doctor.

It was hard for both her and her husband to tell their parents. They had raised them in a Christian home and they wanted them to get through college, but they were supportive in the end.

The boy she had first later graduated from Harvard. They said we had an unpleasant pregnancy but God turned hearts back to Him. We decided to Choose our life and now we are dedicating our lives to help others in unplanned pregnancy.

Most women who have unplanned pregnancies will tell you the

**I AM
A CHILD
NOT A
CHOICE**

reason for considering abortion is the lack of support. A lot of pregnancy centers are not set up to provide support, they help the women in saving the baby but the missing support comes as the child is growing up to reach adulthood. The center in Plant City, Florida is set up to help the mother and father anyway they can after the birth of the baby.



The Pregnancy Care Center in Plant City, Florida

In the scripture Christ says, I have come that you may have life more abundantly. When we think about it, John 10:10 is truly "why" Jesus came. He came for the purpose of abundant life after we are saved from our sins.

The pregnancy center in Plant City had to address the missing support issue. Our God is wise because he has designed the missing support as being the husband and father. The sanctity of marriage and

family as God designed is very much linked to the sanctity of life. It is not

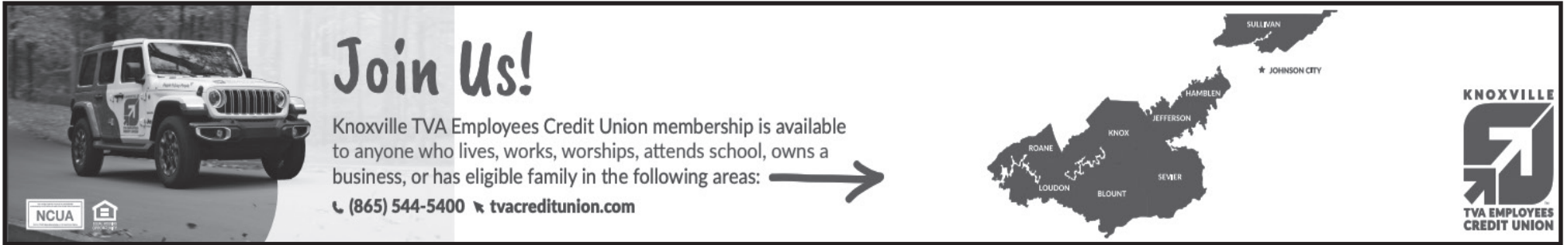
surprising to learn that data shows that 87% of women who have abortions are unmarried.

I know I have witnessed a young man who doesn't want to get married, instead of a courtship like his parents went through he invited a young woman to move in with him and instead of planning a wedding they just act like they are married and before long they had an unplanned pregnancy and many times, they considered abortion.

I don't live in Plant City, Florida but I have chosen to support their pregnancy care center, financially. It takes money. Some of the services they provide are pregnancy tests, provide ultrasounds, adoption information and referrals, pregnancy and parenting classes, fatherhood support, post abortion recovery, material assistance, referrals for community services, Bible study classes and mobile medical units.

The mission of the Pregnancy Care Center of Plant City is to share God's compassion and provision for those facing an unexpected pregnancy and to uphold the sanctity of human life.

To me the gift of salvation that Christ has given us is number one priority and the birth of a baby is number two. When I look at my three children and my five grandchildren, I say thank you Lord for these great gifts you have given me. They comprise of family that my wife Wanda and myself started back in June 1963 on our wedding day in Cookeville, Tennessee. I am 100% pro-life.



Join Us!

Knoxville TVA Employees Credit Union membership is available to anyone who lives, works, worships, attends school, owns a business, or has eligible family in the following areas: →

(865) 544-5400 tvacreditunion.com

Map labels: ROANE, LOUDON, BLOUNT, KNOX, SEWER, HAMBLEN, JEFFERSON, SULLIVAN, JOHNSON CITY.

Logos: NCUA, TVA EMPLOYEES CREDIT UNION

Don't fall for latest tax scam



David Zubler
Columnist

Con artists are taking advantage of a recent IRS announcement.

The IRS announced that it plans to issue automatic payments to eligible people who did not claim the Recovery Rebate Credit on their 2021 tax returns. Approximately \$2.4 billion will be sent to about 1 million people.

No action is necessary for eligible people to receive these payments.

Scammers are sending the following text:

You are eligible to receive a \$1,400 Economic Impact Payment. Please provide your accurate personal information. We will deposit the amount into bank account or mail a paper check withing 1 to 2 business days.

<https://www.irs.gov-notice.com>

(Please reply with "Y," then exit the text message)

The scammers are attempting to get your bank information to steal money from your account.

This message comes from a free Hotmail address and not a secure government email.

The text message includes a link. Never click on a suspicious link from what appears to be the IRS.

The IRS will only text or email you with prior permission. The agency may call you to set up a meeting, but you won't be asked for your personal information because the IRS already has it.

Between now and April, you can expect scam messages which appear to be from the IRS. These messages may promise you money or even threaten you.

Here are some things you should remember to help you spot scams and avoid becoming a victim.

Phone scams

- The IRS doesn't leave pre-recorded, urgent or threatening messages.
- Potential victims are often told if they do not call back, a warrant will be

issued for their arrest.

Other verbal threats include law-enforcement agency intervention, deportation and revocation of licenses.

- Criminals can fake or "spoof" caller ID numbers to appear to be anywhere in the country. They can even spoof an IRS office phone number, or the numbers of various local, state, federal or tribal government agencies.

Email phishing scams

- The IRS will not initiate contact with you by email to request personal or financial information.
- The IRS initiates most contacts through regular mail delivered by the U.S. Postal Service.

- There are special circumstances when the IRS will call or come to your home or business but this is extremely rare. The IRS will send multiple letters first, and once again, this is extremely rare. They are generally to businesses with delinquent employment tax payments who have failed to respond to IRS letters.

- If you receive an unsolicited email that appears to be a scam, you should report it to the IRS. You can forward the email message to phishing@irs.gov. You should not open any attachments, click on any links, reply to the sender, or take any other actions that could put you at risk.

You may also want to consider contacting a trusted tax professional to determine whether someone is attempting to scam you.

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.



setting up an Annuity or Rolling-over an IRA

- ◆ 5%+ BONUSES ON YOUR DEPOSITS
- ◆ YEARLY LOCK-IN OF ALL GAINS
- ◆ PRINCIPAL GUARANTEED
- ◆ A+ COMPANIES
- ◆ ALL INTEREST TAX DEFERRED

DAVIS INSURANCE GROUP

NEW YEAR ...

NEW INVESTMENTS

Let us help you to protect your money!

423.346.4978

316 Eliza Street, Wartburg, TN 37887
Mon.- Fri. 9am-5pm

Allen G. Davis
Owner/Insurance Specialist
allendavisinsruance@gmail.com

Jennifer Davis Ridge
Office Manager/Agent
jridge.davisinsruance@gmail.com

Vanessa Taylor
Office Assistant/CSR/Notary Public
officedavisinsruance@gmail.com

*NO-OBLIGATION ANNUITY RATES *FEATURES MAY VARY

Historically Speaking

President Jimmy Carter

By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

Alan Lowe, Executive Director of the American Museum of Science and Energy and the K-25 Atomic History Museum and who hosts the podcast American POTUS, writes about President Carter. Alan has been engaged over the years in the beginning of the Baker Center at the University of Tennessee (now known as The Howard H. Baker Jr. School of Public Policy and Public Affairs) and is past Director of three Presidential Libraries (Franklin D. Roosevelt, George W. Bush, and Abraham Lincoln). He has been with the AMSE Foundation since 2019.

Alan's knowledge of presidential history has been presented in Oak Ridge Institute for Continued Learning classes and serves well in leading the American POTUS podcast as well as AMSE Cast for the museum. In his term thus far as Executive Director here we have seen the AMSE and K-25 museums grow in service to our community and expand to include national and even international advisory committees.

So, enjoy insights into the life and experiences of President Jimmy Carter as perceived by our own presidential history expert, Alan Lowe:

As we mourn the passing of President Jimmy Carter, 100, on Dec. 29, 2024, his impact on our nation and the world are only now starting to be truly appreciated. His time in the White House was full of challenges and a fair share of missteps and failures, from hostages in Tehran, Iran, and the Soviet Union invasion of Afghanistan, to malaise, the energy crisis and stagflation on the domestic scene.

But historians like Kai Bird, Jonathan Alter and Jay Hakes have been taking a deeper look into the archives and applying fresh perspectives that only the passage of time permits. The result is a more balanced view of a presidency that did indeed have not only some failures but also successes as well, including historic accomplishments such as the Camp David Peace Accords, agreements that ended the decades-long state of war between Israel and Egypt.

That reappraisal is not uncommon for presidents, and I think richly deserved for President Carter. But as we know, much of the evaluation of his life now and later will be based on his remarkable post-presidency, a role that broke the old mold and created a new one for all Chief Executives.

From fighting disease in Africa (including almost eradicating guinea worm disease), overseeing elections around the globe, and helping mediate international disputes, to building houses for the less fortunate through the nonprofit Habitat for Humanity organization, teaching Sunday school, writing and speaking and traveling, Carter seemed to be moving non-stop even as he battled brain cancer later in his life.

He was recognized for his efforts with the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 1999 and the Nobel Peace Prize in 2002.

I was fortunate to meet him on several occasions, but the encounter I remember most vividly occurred not long after I was made director



Former President Jimmy Carter with Alan Lowe at the Carter Center in Atlanta, 2009
(Courtesy of Alan Lowe)



Former President Jimmy Carter and former First Lady Rosalynn Carter with National Archives representatives at the Carter Center in Atlanta, 2009, Alan Lowe is third from right
(Courtesy of Alan Lowe)

of the George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum in Dallas, Texas. The president and the First Lady, Rosalynn Carter, invited all presidential library directors to tour the recently renovated museum of the Carter Center in Atlanta. During what was an unforgettable morning, they led us on a tour of the exhibits, personally detailing their memories at each turn.

Afterwards we sat in a conference room where President Carter asked if we had any questions. For the first time in my experience, my director colleagues appeared to be tongue-tied. I must admit such silence is rare – presidential library directors are typically a very confident group.

Finally, I piped up and asked him to tell us about his work in Africa and why he placed such an emphasis upon those efforts. His face lit up and for the next 20 minutes he gave us a detailed review of the challenges faced in Africa by tropical diseases such as the one caused by the parasitic guinea worm present in contaminated water and how the Carter Center was addressing them. (According to Harvard Public Health, only 13 cases of Guinea worm in humans were recorded in 2022, compared with 3.5 million cases 40 years ago).

Carter's passion for the subject was ob-

vious, and his enthusiasm lit up the room. The other directors joined in, and we spoke with the president and Mrs. Carter for another hour. As I realized vividly that morning, Jimmy Carter's legacy will far outlive his four years in the White House and even his 100 years on this Earth. He was a good president and a great man.

Thank you, Alan, for a great review of not only President Jimmy Carter's accomplishments but your personal interactions with him and First Lady Rosalynn Carter. Such opportunities as you have had are rare for many. Your insights gained through your varied experiences well serve you in the role you are now engaged in here in Oak Ridge. We are proud of the work you are doing.

As the next chapters of the history of Oak Ridge evolve and the museums you direct continue to support all that is Oak Ridge history and accomplishments, the coming nuclear renaissance may well bring additional attention to us and the museums. Keep up the good work!

President Trump's Cabinet Confirmations



**Confirmed
Pete Hegseth
Secretary of Defense**



**Confirmed
Kristi Noem
Secretary of Homeland Security**



**Confirmed
Marco Rubio
Secretary of State**

The land of Rivers



John Burns
Opinion Columnist

America has been blessed by our creator with rivers of living water. In the flesh, and in the realm of the spirit. Rivers teach lessons on patience, virtue, fear, courage, humility, reverence, and awe. It seems rivers are gifts that keep on giving.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And The Word became flesh and dwelt amongst us. From the mouth of two witnesses, God perfects praise. John introduces us to the

Written Word of God who Became Flesh and dwelt amongst men for a season.

To the casual reader, and from a literature perspective, this is a profound scientific statement. Science is the rendering of time-space in our physical reality. The debate looms over random processes based on solely mechanical explanations, or is design the foundation of reality?

In construction, miracles occur. The project begins with an idea from an engineer, He or she is a person schooled in Math, science, geology, and mechanical processes. Engineers are licensed at the PHD level. Highly educated and usually specialists in construction. He or she has a vision.

The engineer then proposes his ideas to an architect. The architect can think in three dimensions. He is responsible for transmitting the idea from the engineer, and placing it on paper. He renders the three-dimensional vision onto a two-dimensional plane.

This Architectural drawing is then given to the construction company who proposes a bid, based on the rendering of time. They combine the idea, with, the blueprint, and the men or women who can complete the task in time and under budget. Doing the most with the least.

The miracle occurs, when the highly educated Engineer, and the highly educated Architect, with the Contractor, able to manage time, trust their plans to simple construction workers, who learn and apply their knowledge every day, with little or no education. On -the Job training.

A trinity of human knowledge, requires an army of uneducated humans to accomplish their ideas about what civilization should look like. Without even knowing it, the God of creation is accomplishing the exact same thing, with differing ideas about what civilized looks like.

Elohim is the engineer, architect, and Contractor, able to complete his ideas about what makes life complete and what is the centerline on the engineering project I refer to as Human Life? What is the plan of God, and is there a true centerline on the drawing we call our universe?

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.

Opinions expressed by readers and columnists do not necessarily reflect those of Morgan County Today

WHAT EVERYBODY WANTS FOR THE NEW YEAR !!!

NEW FDA Approved Semaglutide Plus and Tirzapatide

Injections Now at Dr's Weight Loss Clinic!

"Walk-ins" Welcome

Call to schedule your FREE Consultation



Physician Supervised
Prescription Diet Pills
Lipo Myoden
B12 Injections
Health and Wellness Supplements

DR'S WEIGHT LOSS CLINIC

**19102 Alberta Street, Oneida, TN
423-286-7546**

**1035 Old Hwy 127 S, Jamestown, TN
931-879-8444**

Luke Chapter 18



Melvin Howard

(Luke 19:1-10) Jesus and Zacchaeus: Christ was passing through Jericho, located in the Jordan valley about eight miles northwest of where the Jordan enters the Dead Sea, and about seventeen miles from Jerusalem. There was a man named Zacchaeus who was a “chief tax collector,” meaning he was a supervisor over other collectors. Two trade routes converged at Jericho and Herod had a place there, making it an ideal place for the collection of taxes. Zacchaeus, therefore, was rich. Normally, publicans were hated, though Luke treats them kindly in his record.

The publican obviously had heard of Jesus and wanted to see him and learn about who he was. This was not an interest of mere curiosity. He might have heard of the Lord’s willingness to befriend publicans (15:1-2). Being of short stature (some suggest the phrase means youthful in age), he climbed a “sycamore” tree—a species of wild fig, thirty to forty feet high, with gnarled branches, easy to climb. When Jesus came to the place he: (a) spoke to Zacchaeus, knowing his name with no previous association; (b) treated him kindly by offering association with him; (c) exerted his authority by telling the publican what he was going to do; (d) stressed the urgency of the situation by instructing him to “make haste.”

Zacchaeus was entirely submissive; he hurried down, received the Lord, and rejoiced at the Savior’s gracious overture. When the crowd saw this, there was a negative “buzz,” for the tax collector was perceived as “a sinner,” exceptionally so. Indirectly, the barb is aimed at Jesus for his unsavory association with this man. Did Zacchaeus hear the criticism? Possibly, for he seems to respond, addressing Christ directly. “Look, Lord, half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have overtaxed anyone, I restore four times the amount” (Ex. 22:1). This is commonly taken to be a pledge of repentance, with the present tense verbs employed to emphasize the certainty of what he intended to do. On the other hand, he may be starting what his actual policy was. There has been no call to repentance from the Lord, and there is no confession from Zacchaeus.

Christ declared: “Today salvation has come to this house” (v.9). “Salvation” might refer to various people of that household who acknowledged Jesus as Lord. The detested publican, who by occupation had forfeited his standing as a “son of Abraham”—from the Jewish perspective—was acknowledged as such by the Savior (Jn. 8:39). Again the Messiah had demonstrated he was fulfilling his mission to “seek and save the lost” (v. 10).

(Luke 19:11-27) The parable of the pounds: As the multitude reflected upon the meaning of Jesus’ words, and as he rapidly was approaching his appointment with Calvary, there was great anticipation that the “kingdom of God was immediately to appear.” There still was not a clear vision of the nature of the kingdom. Many of the disciples harbored the notion that a political regime was to come and that the Messiah would overthrow his enemies and establish a kingdom reminiscent of David or Solomon’s administration (Jn. 6:15; Lk. 24:21; Acts 1:6). Christ, therefore, told the following parable to show them that his kingdom was of a different nature, that its establishment would not occur until after his ascension, and that it would be “a long time” (Mt. 25:9) before judgment would be rendered. This parable is not to be confused with the parable of the talents in Matthew 25:14, though there are some overlapping principles.

A certain nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom, later to return. (a) “Nobleman” means well-born. This represents Jesus. He was conceived by a miracle which established his identity as the Son of God. (b) The “far country” (indicating he would not return soon) into which he went was heaven. (c) His kingdom (reign) would be received while he was in heaven (Dan. 7:13-14), not on earth at the time of his return (as millennialism alleges).

He called ten servants and gave to each a “pound” (the equivalent of about three months’ wages for the working man). They were charged with the responsibility of good stewardship; they should increase the amount received. But “his citizens” (the Jewish leaders and others who stubbornly rejected his teaching) “hated him.” They did not merely dismiss him; they detested him—even as many do today—declaring: “We will not have this man reign over us.” To refuse Jesus Christ as king is the equivalent of “hate.” Since his reign is over the kingdom, and the kingdom is the church (Mt. 16:18-19), disdain for the church reflects upon the Lord

himself. Colossians 1:13 “Who hath delivered us from the power of darkness, and hath translated us into the kingdom of his dear Son”. Colossians 1:18 “And he is the head of the body, the church: who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.”

The nobleman’s return pictures the Second Coming of Christ and the judgment that will accompany it. Each of the servants was called to give personal account. Three of these are mentioned illustratively. One had taken his lord’s money and multiplied it by ten, another by five, and the third none at all. Then, with perfect equity, the first two were rewarded commensurate with the manner in which they had served. Attention was focused then on the third. His stewardship had been rotten. In fact, he had not even tried to be productive. Instead, he hid his money and rationalized his slothfulness by accusing his master of being harsh and dishonest. The rebel servant was sternly rebuked; he had not even done the minimum, letting the money draw interest. He, therefore, was deprived of the money, which was given to the servant who had multiplied his ten pounds. It is important to notice that each of the faithful servants was rewarded in proportion to the ability he had utilized. Just as the wicked will be punished in greater or lesser degrees (Mt. 11:22-24; Heb. 10:29), final rewards will correspond with one’s ability and opportunity. All vessels will be full, but they will vary in size.

Christ concludes with a verdict. Those who refuse him as king are counted as enemies. They were, therefore, to be slain in his presence. Their judgment would be eternal torment in the presence of the Lamb (Rev. 14:10).

(Luke 19:28-44) The triumphal entry (Mt. 21:1-11; Mk. 11:1-11; Jn. 12:12-19): For the complete please read all of these verses.

When the crowd praised Christ as he entered Jerusalem, some of the Pharisees were indignant and said to Jesus: “Teacher, rebuke your disciples” (v. 39). But the Lord, with strong personification, declared: “If they hold their peace, the stones will cry out.” If nature proclaims the glory of God (Psa. 19:1), it might similarly praise his Son. Later, one stone did bear testimony to Jesus as God’s Son (Mt. 28:2; Jn. 20:2; Rom. 1:4).

As the Lord came near, he saw the city (probably from the side of Olivet) and “wept over it” (v.4). The verb suggests he burst into tears, accompanied by audibly anguish. He lamented the ignorance of his people and their resistance of true peace which resulted from their spiritual blindness (v. 42). Jesus foretells the coming Roman invasion with details of the siege and the horrors of the bloody conquest. All of this occurred because they refused to recognize that God had “visited” them with mercy in the form of his Son (v. 44).

(Luke 19:45-47) The cleansing of the temple (Mt. 21:12-17; Mk. 11:15-19): Read these verses. In spite of his dramatic thrusting of the corrupt commercializers from the temple, Jesus still taught during these last days leading to his death. His adversaries were frustrated indeed, for they could not figure out what to do, because the crowds, continued to hang on his every word.

BIBLETALK.TV Mike Mazzalongo
FortifyYourFaith.org

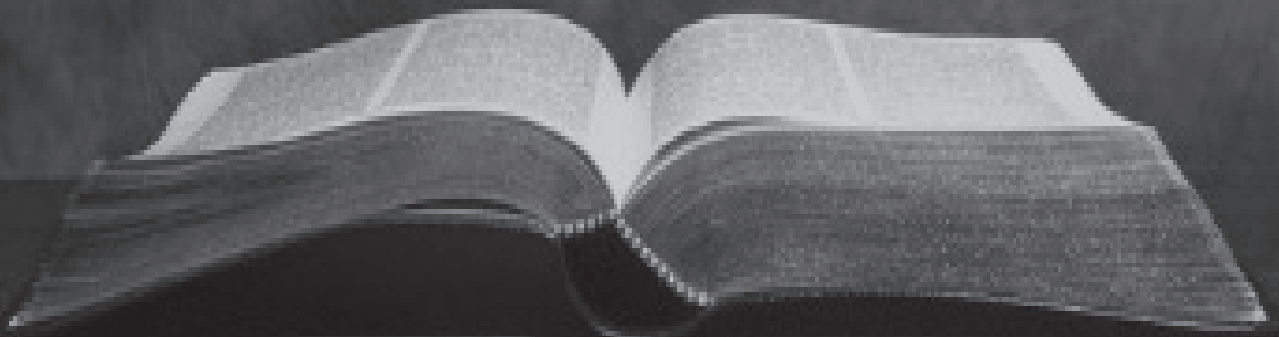
Melvin Howard’s Weekly column is sponsored by

The Lord’s Church

102 Paxton Road, Lancing



Opinions expressed by readers and columnists do not necessarily reflect those of Morgan County Today





RAY VARNER



Used Cars and Ford Factory Service
NOW OPEN to serve you!!!



Come See Us Today!!!

**1226 Knoxville Hwy, Wartburg, TN 37887
423-346-6227**

**Elizabeth Bieri
Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM)**



*Now accepting
new patients!*



Prenatal (Pregnancy) Care

Women's Health

Preventative Care

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

RustyWallaceKiaKnoxville.com

**We Love Our Customers
and You'll Love Your New Kia!**

**Nobody
Beats
Our
Prices!**

**Excellent
Service
Before &
After the Sale!**



2025 Kia Telluride



2025 Kia Sorento



**Home of the
200,000
mile
warranty!**

**RUSTY
WALLACE**



865-688-8886

**KIA KNOXVILLE
I-75 AT CALLAHAN DRIVE**

*see dealer for details