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Morgan County Today

Psalms 100:3

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Volume 11 Number 27

Tuesday, June 17, 2025

Your Community. Your News.

75¢

**An Open Letter From New Scott County Proposed
Landfill Development Group - see page 3**

**6 Jesus saith unto him, I am the
way, the truth, and the life: no man
cometh unto the Father, but by me.**

- John 14:6



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WEEKLY WEATHER



Tue 17 81°/69°

Wed 18 84°/70°

Thu 19 81°/66°

Fri 20 86°/66°

Sat 21 89°/70°

Sun 22 91°/71°

Mon 23 91°/71°



Ms. Avery Pearl
Pet Columnist

Pet Perspective

Happy Father's Day

Ms Ivory and me would like to take a moment to say Happy Father's Day to our Pappy!

Our whole family is blessed to have him in our lives. He is one great man!



He is the best dad and Pap, that any kid (or dog) could ever want. We want to thank him for all he does, for every single one of us. We really hit the jackpot and could not be more grateful to call this great man ours! Everyone who knows him, knows what a truly special man that God made for us

So, Happy Father's Day, Pap. We all wuff you and hope you know what you mean to all of us.

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

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

To whom it may concern:

I would hope the citizenship would withhold any judgment until they have all the information. Obviously the County Commission meeting to include our project caught us completely off guard and unprepared. We look forward to sharing with the community the positive impact we can and will have. We are committed to being a positive force.

In the interim, we have since decided against locating a transfer station at the former Hartco property.

Other plans are proceeding with our project which includes:

- creating a minimum of 25 good paying jobs for CDL drivers, heavy equipment operators, office staff
- developing a technically advanced Recycling Center prior to disposal of non-recyclable materials
- an interactive Learning Center for educating children promoting the benefits of recycling
- city and county school recycling competitions
- over \$1,000,000 per year in Host Fees paid to Scott County
- over \$1,000,000 per year in Host Fees paid to the Town of Oneida
- establish Environmental Science scholarship for student(s)

I also believe the city and county governments should look at what the host fee funds can be used for. Currently, it cannot go into the general fund by statute but must be used for "Solid Waste activities". These funds, or at least a part, should go into the General Fund so they can be used for road construction and maintenance or other community needs. Think about it, \$2,000,000/year could go a long way in improving the condition and safety of the roads in the city and county. The elected officials would have to pursue this. We are more than happy to help.

We want to be a good corporate citizen - so we dropped the Transfer Station at Hartco after we listened to and heard the citizens.

In addition, we will be executing stream restoration and remediation caused by the coal mining on the properties. We will invest an estimated \$2 million dollars restoring the streams to pristine conditions. More information will be provided in the coming days and weeks.

Thank you,

Knox Horner,
President
Trans Rail Ecology, LLC.

City of Sunbright
AGENDA FOR June 16, 2025
Meeting to start at 6:00 PM

Agenda:

- Ordinance 117-25 Budget July 1, 2025--June 30, 2026
- Discussion of Hometown Hero Banners
- Report on Library
- Senior Grant
- Beautification Committee will meet immediately following.

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



ED BUTLER
State Representative

*Wishing all of
Morgan County a
happy & blessed
Independence Day!*

— In Loving Memory —

Ivin Lee Shannon, 24



again, but until then he will be missed sorely.

“And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.” Revelation 21:4

It is with unimaginable grief that we announce the sudden passing of our son, Ivin Lee Shannon, age 24, of Rockwood, TN, on June 8, 2025.

Ivin leaves behind his mother and father, Robert and Crystal Gledhill, his brother Alex Harris and wife, Alyssa (nephew Jaxson and niece Ivy), brothers Silas and Karsten Hamby.

He is preceded in death by his grandfather, Ray Shannon, as well as many other family members.

We look forward to the Lord’s resurrection, where we are confident we will see Ivin

The family will receive friends Wednesday, June 11, 2025 at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg from 3:00-5:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 5:00 p.m. with Bro. Jim Disney officiating. Interment will follow in the Mossy Grove Cemetery in Harriman.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Ivin Lee Shannon.

Ashley Edward Thomas Jones, 50



partner Dawn Ferrell. Ashley enjoyed hiking, nature, spending time with his family, friends and 3 dogs.

Honorable mention to those who also carried Ashley’s heart: Christina (Travis) Raymer and their son Kyle; Victoria (Joey) and their children Jonathan, Faith and Waverly; Elizabeth Ferrell; Amanda Harville and her children Kiara, Cody, Jacob, Gracie and Jason; Jenny Tanksley; and Breann Cameron (Tommy).

Ashley Edward Thomas Jones, age 50, of Sunbright, passed away at his home on June 6, 2025.

He was preceded in death by his mother Betty Kay Childers; grandmother Elsie Johnson; first wife Wendy Jones; and in laws Steve and Pat McGan.

He is survived by his father Steven Jones; his children Brianna Phillips (Austin), Dylan Jones (Shawna) and Dawson Izaguirre (Valerie); sisters Katrina Jones, Priscilla Jones and Savannah Jones; grandchildren Roselynn, Caiden, Madison, Lily Kate, Maci, Mabry and Maggie; and his loving

You may contact the family for more information regarding his celebration of life.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Ashley Edward Thomas Jones.

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.



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



— In Loving Memory —

Lois Marie (Stringfield) Galloway, 93



Lois Marie (Stringfield) Galloway, age 93, passed away at her home on May 31, 2025.

She loved her quilting even in her last year of life. She also had fond memories as a teacher's aide at Sunbright High School.

Lois is preceded in death by her parents Earl and Opal (Human) Stringfield; husband of 57 years George Donley Galloway; infant daughter Donna Denise.

Lois leaves behind her children Melissa Galloway (Robert) Miling and Lori Galloway (Mark) Lyons; grandchildren Mitchell

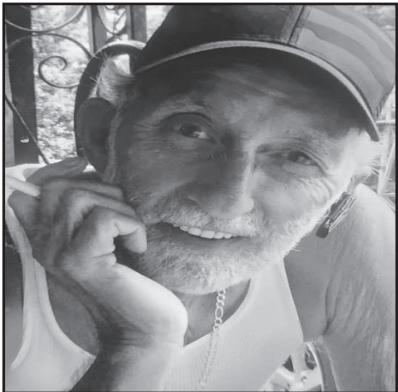
(Sarah) Miling, Ashleigh Miling (Nick) Pipla, Madeline Lyons (Brandon) Duncan; great grandchildren Ayla Miling, Carter Miling, and Cole Duncan.

The family would like to acknowledge caregiver Mary Jo Phillips, Quality Hospice caregivers Brenda and Tianne, and community of loving friends and church family.

The family will receive friends Thursday, June 5, 2025 at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg from 12:00-2:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 2:00 p.m. with Bro. Mike Hammons officiating. Interment will follow in the Sunbright Cemetery in Sunbright.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Lois Marie (Stringfield) Galloway.

Willard Shields Jr.



Willard Shields, Jr., passed away peacefully at home surrounded by family and friends on May 31, 2025.

He is preceded in death by his parents Willard F. Shields and Effie Stewart Shields and baby Willard Shields III.; brother Ted Sexton; sisters Laura Sexton Goe and Fayrene Shields Human and niece Rosie Human Barger; special friend Lena Phillips.

He is survived by his sisters Doris Kay Basler and Willa Dean Patterson; nephews Roger Shields and Jerry (Heather) Patterson, Ted (Pati) Sexton, Johnny Human and niece Vir-

ginia (Bill) Burns; great nieces Ashton (Gabe) Lowe, Aleah Patterson, Martina (Manni), Amanda (Andy) Arndts and Jamie Robinson; great nephews Brandon (Sarah) Shields, and Matthew Ellison; special friends Carylton Jones, Brenda Self, Chucky Kesterson, Jerry (Kay) Alsip, Charlie (Gail) Mabe, Randy (Holly) Goforth, Randall Woods, Benny Jones, Eric aka Oscar Aquhart.

Jr was a truck driver from the age of 16 and loved to work. He loved to ride his motorcycles and wash his many cars and trucks.

The family will receive friends on Saturday, June 7, 2025 at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg from 10:00-12:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 12:00 p.m. Interment will follow in the Lane Cemetery in Lancing.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Willard Shields, Jr.

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

Ricky Lee Woods, 63



Ricky Lee Woods, age 63, of Joyner was called home on Tuesday, June 3, 2025.

Ricky was a lifelong resident of the Joyner Community and was loved by all. He was a loving father, partner, grandfather, and great grandfather.

Ricky is preceded in death by his parents Robert & Hester Woods and his grandparents Claude & Faye Woods and Wayne & Uvine Lowe Justice.

He leaves behind his daughter Jenna (Dammion) Teems; granddaughter Elenor Louise Teems of Atlanta, GA.; long-time partner Julia Chilton and family Christina (Douglas) Beason, Alli Laymance, Kohen Laymance, Wesley Smith, Rebecca Chilton, Jaxon Chilton, Averie Chilton, Sarah (Jake) Simpson, Lorelei Simpson, and Amelia Simpson.

The family will receive friends Saturday, June 7, 2025 at Beech Fork Holiness Church in the Joyner Community from 1:00-3:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 3:00 p.m. with Bro. Mike Nichols and Kevin Nichols officiating. Interment will follow in the Nichols Family Cemetery in Morgan County.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Ricky Lee Woods.

Mary Lou Mehlhorn Solock



Mary Lou Mehlhorn Solock of Wartburg passed away on May 28, 2025.

She is preceded in death by her parents Edward Mehlhorn and Hannah Heidle Mehlhorn and husband Charlie Solock all of Wartburg.

She is survived by a host of cousins, and friends.

Mary was employed as a telephone operator with AT&T and retired after 30 years of service. She actively served as President and Treasurer of the Wartburg Senior Citizens Group. She was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church, a member of the choir, and participated in the Morgan County Choral Society.

The family will receive friends Saturday, May 31, 2025 at St. Paul Lutheran Church from 2:00-3:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 3:00 p.m. with Pastor David Graves officiating. Interment will be in the Wartburg City Cemetery.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Mary Lou Mehlhorn Solock.



— In Loving Memory —

Charlie Frank Williams, 74
United States Army, Vietnam War Combat Veteran



Charlie Frank Williams, age 74, passed away at his home on June 4, 2025, surrounded by his wife and children.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Mary Grace Williams and Jr. Williams.

He is survived by his wife, children, brother, Lyndell Williams of Norris, sister Debbie Williams Flick (Jim) of Oak Ridge, and special nieces and nephew, Shannon Harness (Scotty) of Oak Ridge, Gary Province (Haven) of Briceville, and Brittnee Williams of Norris.

Charlie was a devoted husband to his wife, Patty. Together, they built a stable, loving home; a home filled with strength, warmth, and unwavering support. He was a proud father to three children: Lyndell Joe Williams (Sherri), Michelle Campbell (Late husband -Joey), and Lyndon Williams. We always knew we were loved. We always knew we were safe. He

made sure of that every single day.

Our dad was the most amazing man. His life was rooted in love, dedication, and service- to his family, to his country, and to his community. He gave so much of himself without ever asking for anything in return.

Before he was a husband or father, he was a soldier. He served in the United States Army during the Vietnam War as a reconnaissance soldier, courageously providing intel for critical missions. For his bravery, he was awarded the Bronze Star. That courage, that sense of duty- it followed him throughout the rest of his life.

In 1981, he began a long and dedicated career as an EMT with Anderson County EMS, serving faithfully for 34 years. He also worked for Morgan County EMS, serving our community for over 20 years. Through those years, countless lives were touched- saved - by his hands, his calm under pressure, and his deep compassion.

Dad didn't just do a job. He built a legacy. He mentored generations of EMT's and Medics, passing on not just knowledge, but integrity and heart. In 2014, he was honored with the Region 2 EMS Director's Lifetime

Achievement Award- a recognition of the profound and lasting impact he made in emergency services. And in 2015, when the Anderson County EMS Next Steps Scholarship was renamed to the Charlie Williams Award and Scholarship, it was more than a tribute. It was a promise; that his commitment to community service would live on.

As much as Dad gave to his work and to others, there was one role that mattered the most to him, and that was being Papaw. His grandchildren were the absolute light of his life: Hannah Heidle, Lauren Heidle, Marcus Williams, Connor Williams, Ashley Foster, James Foster, and Brently Williams. Every story he told, every smile he gave, somehow always found its way back to one of them. They brought him joy, laughter, and pride beyond measure. The love he had for them was deep, constant, and unmistakable.

Charlie Williams touched more lives than we can count. His legacy lives on in the EMT's and Medic's he trained, in the families he comforted in their darkest hours, and in the love he poured into his family each and every day.

To us, he was a hero. Not just for what he did, but for who he was. Kind. Strong. Humble. Fun-

ny in the quietest ways. You always knew when he was in the room--not because he needed attention, but because everything just felt a little steadier, a little more grounded.

Dad, thank you. Thank you for the sacrifices, the love, the strength, and the example. Thank you for being our foundation and our protector.

We will carry you with us always.

We love you.

The family will receive friends Monday, June 9, 2025 at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg from 5:00-7:00 p.m. with the funeral to follow at 7:00 p.m. with Pastor David Graves officiating. Graveside services will be Tuesday at 2:00 p.m. in the Oak Grove Cemetery in Rocky Top.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Charlie Frank Williams.

Psalm 123:1

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



Michelle Richardson, 56



Michelle Richardson, age 56, passed away peacefully at her home on May 24, 2025. She loved to spend her time with her grandchildren, she loved laughing, singing, and she loved her dog Harley.

She is preceded in death by her parents Burl & Frankie Daugherty.

Michelle is survived by her children Jennifer Lowe, Tasha Richardson, Johnny Rhea, JR., Masheala Lynn Dodge; siblings Beverly Devaney (Tommy), Becky Briggs, Amanda

Dupee, Ray Phillips, Kim Phillips, April Phillips, and Nicole Phillips; several grandchildren including two on the way and a host of extended family and friends.

The family will receive friends Thursday, May 29, 2025 at Schubert Funeral Home in Wartburg from 3:00-5:00 p.m. Graveside services will follow in the Adcock Cemetery in Coalfield.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Michelle Richardson.

— In Loving Memory —

Imia “Jean” Hamby, 70



In Loving Memory of
Imia “Jean” Hamby

Jean, beloved grandmother, devoted mother, and cherished friend, passed away peacefully with family by her side on May 23rd, 2025, at the age of 70.

She is proceeded in death by her parents Martha and Stanley Hamby, partner of many years, Joey Daugherty, daughter Martha Bedingfield, brothers Ellis, Robert, Jim, Roger, LD, sister Lori and nephew Ray Hamby.

She was the heart of our family-known for her kindness, strength, and endless love.

Her warmth touched everyone she met, and her memory will live on in who knew her.

She is survived by her daughter Lola, grandsons, Greg, Camryn, and DJ. Granddaughter Brittany, great-grandson Matthew, Sisters Annie, Trish, Edith, Wanda, and Debbie, special friend James, and a host of nieces, nephews, and friends.

A service to celebrate her life will be held on Tuesday May 27th, 2025, from 5 to 6 PM at Schubert Funeral Home, Wartburg. Funeral service will follow at 6 pm with Bro. Roy Langley officiating.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Imia “Jean” Hamby.

Larry Wayne Brown, 48



Larry Wayne Brown, known by many as “Fat Daddy”, rode his last ride on May 26, 2025.

He was born on July 4, 1977, Larry was a true firecracker from the start. He lived life on his terms, with a love for the open road and the deep rumble of a Harley beneath him. His passion for classic square body Chevy’s is unmatched, and his taste in music was as wide as the stories he told. He also dedicated over 30 years of his life to serving his community as a correctional officer.

Larry is preceded in death by his father Allen Brown; father-in-law Phill Shannon.

Larry is survived by his wife of 29 years Stacey Shannon Brown; daughters Hailey Brown, Chelsea (Justin) Eustace, and Samantha Shannon; mother Betty Brown; sister Toshia (Jerry) Cromwell; brother Todd (Kathy) Brown and a host of other family and friends.

Larry’s legacy lives on in the lives he touched. His memory will ride on in every thunderous engine, every good song turned up loud, and every joke shared in his honor.

Ride easy, Fat Daddy!

The family will receive friends Friday, May 30, 2025 at Schubert Funeral Home from 12:00-1:00 p.m. with a graveside service to follow in the Sunbright Cemetery in Sunbright.

Schubert Funeral Home is honored to serve the family of Larry Wayne Brown.

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David Zubler
Columnist

Overcoming the IRS staff reduction

The IRS is currently planning for major staffing and budget cuts next year to try to lessen the impact on taxpayers.

Next year’s tax season could be very challenging for the IRS. The new budget request proposes about a 60% reduction in IRS technology and operations supporting staff and a 40% cut in its spending.

Last tax season, the IRS phone lines went relatively smoothly. About 87% of IRS calls were answered during this year’s filing season, and the average wait on hold was an average of three minutes.

With the expected decline in staff, the IRS estimates that it will only be able to answer 16% of its calls next filing season.

In addition to dealing with a substantially reduced staff, major changes to the tax code will require a significant amount of additional training for most employees.

Several former IRS leaders have expressed concern about the IRS ability to provide an acceptable level of customer service in next year’s filing season.

Former IRS Commissioner Larry Gibbs said the IRS will have a much larger workload getting ready for next year’s filing season if Congress approves the tax code changes in the new bill. “You’re going to change a lot of the tax law with this ‘big, beautiful bill,’ and that means you’re going to have to train your folks on the telephone. That means the demand levels are going to be huge when you get toward the filing season next year if this act passes. That’s where the risk is, from the standpoint of the IRS next year — non-compliance,” Gibbs said.

Chuck Rettig, who served as the IRS commissioner during the first Trump administration, said new hires are no substitute for the institutional IT knowledge the agency is losing. “The technical areas where the IRS is hugely deficient, you cannot rely on what today would be entry-level people or less than five years,” Rettig said.

Former IRS Commissioner John Koskinen stated, “It is not as if the IRS has not implemented automation.” But the question is, no matter how sophisticated the artificial intelligence is, it simply produces questions, and somebody’s got to go then pursue those, with either a call, a letter, an investigation, or a full-blown audit,” Koskinen said during the May 28 panel.

You take steps to prevent refund delays. Most efiled returns are processed quickly. However, your refund may be delayed for several reasons.

The IRS may review your return if reported income doesn’t match their records (e.g., W-2s, 1099s). Be sure that all your numbers are entered correctly.

If the IRS suspects identity theft, your refund may be flagged for review. Setting up an IRS Identity Protection PIN (IP PIN) before filing your return will prevent your refund from being delayed by an identity theft review. You can request and access your IP PIN if you have set up an IRS Online Account.

Sending requested documents by mail could take months for the IRS to process. You can upload requested information to the IRS through the IRS Document Upload Tool (DUT). This is a secure and efficient way to send documents to the IRS, especially when responding to certain notices.

Being proactive can help to eliminate refund delays and interact more efficiently with the IRS.

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.



Historically Speaking

Manhattan Project 2.0: Oak Ridge's Nuclear Renaissance (Or...We CAN do another Manhattan Project today!) Part 2

By Ray Smith - Oak Ridge City Historian

In part 1 of this series, I recalled being asked to provide information on why the Manhattan Project was so successful. I compared the timelines for the X-10 Graphite Reactor (nine months) to the Hermes Reactor (six years).

I also expressed that the very first thing that must be done is to eradicate the very thought, "We could NEVER do that today!" That attitude MUST go! Replace it with "We CAN do another Manhattan Project today!"

Enter Kairos Power: The Hermes Project: Fast forward to the 21st century, and Oak Ridge is once again a focal point for nuclear advancement. Kairos Power, a California-based company, is developing the Hermes Low-Power Demonstration Reactor—a fluoride salt-cooled high-temperature reactor. Scheduled to be operational by 2027 (remember the Graphite Reactor was built in nine months!), Hermes represents the first next-generation reactor approved for construction by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in over 50 years.

Kairos Power's approach emphasizes iterative development, drawing inspiration from agile methodologies seen in the tech industry. By constructing smaller, non-nuclear Engineering Test Units alongside Hermes, the company aims to de-risk technology and accelerate commercialization. This strategy contrasts with the traditional, lengthy cycles of nuclear projects, aiming instead for rapid innovation and cost reduction.

Leadership Then and Now: The original Manhattan Project thrived under decisive leadership. General Groves' military precision, Colonel Nichols' logistical expertise, and Oppenheimer's scientific vision were instrumental in achieving what many thought impossible.

Today's nuclear renaissance in Oak Ridge requires a new cadre of leaders who can navigate complex regulatory landscapes, foster public trust, and drive technological innovation. Collaboration between federal agencies, private companies like Kairos Power, and local stakeholders will be crucial. Transparent communication, community engagement, and a commitment to safety will define the success of modern projects.

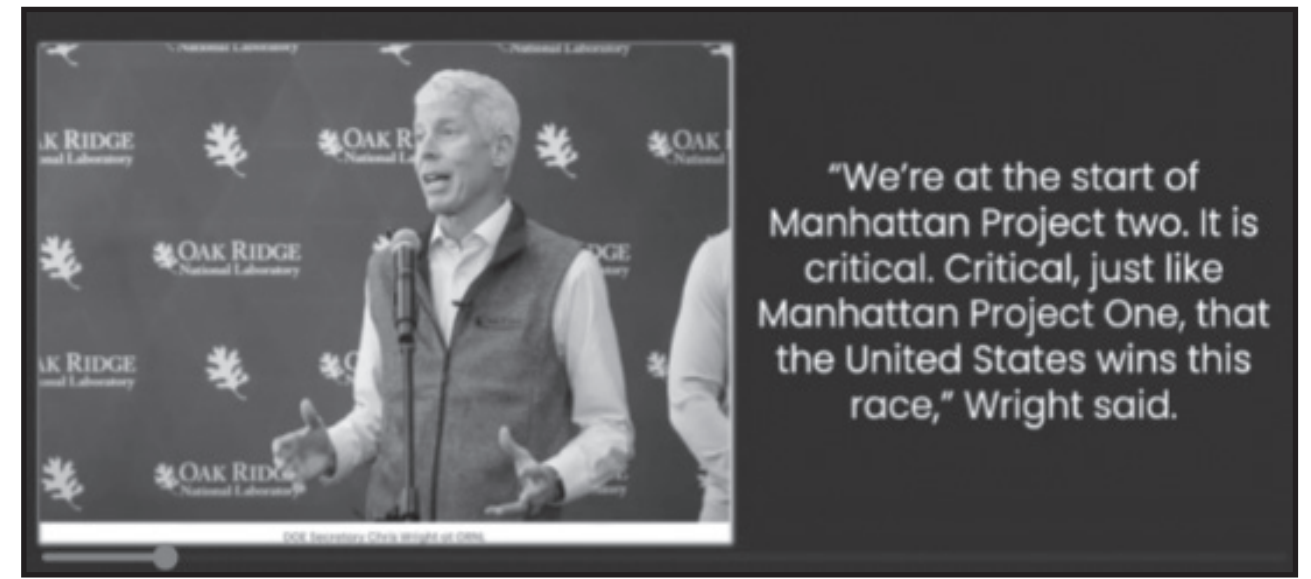
The Road Ahead: As Hermes moves toward completion, Oak Ridge stands at the cusp of a new era in nuclear energy. The city's rich history serves as both inspiration and foundation for future advancements. By embracing the lessons of the past and fostering visionary leadership, Oak Ridge is poised to lead once more in shaping the future of clean, reliable energy.

It's a rare thing in history when science, industry, and government come together with such a singular purpose that they change the world. The Manhattan Project—America's race to build the atomic bomb during World War II—is one of those moments. In just two years and nine months, the United States built the infrastructure, refined the uranium and plutonium, and designed and tested two different types of atomic bombs. And they did it without the help of computers, the internet, or even modern project management software.

So, how did it happen? And could we do something like this today?

In review, today, let's look at the same five key reasons stated earlier that the Manhattan Project was successful, reasons that stand in stark contrast to how most large projects operate in today's environment. And think with me of how "We CAN do another Manhattan Project today!"

1. Unprecedented Federal Authority and Funding: First, the project had unmatched government support and funding. Once the decision was made, there were no half-measures. General Leslie Groves was given extraordinary authority—he could



The Department of Energy Secretary Chris Wright has challenged Oak Ridge to lead the second Manhattan Project! He is looking to be told what a second Manhattan Project for nuclear energy will be and what it will take to create the sense of urgency, effectiveness, and success that characterized the first Manhattan Project. (Courtesy of Mark Buckner's presentation and Oak Ridge National Laboratory)

acquire land, materials, and personnel without going through the usual bureaucratic channels.

By the end of the war, the U.S. had spent over two billion dollars—that's more than \$30 billion in today's money—all on a secret scientific gamble. There was no annual budget review, no waiting for congressional approval, and no press coverage to second-guess the process.

Compare that to today, when even modest infrastructure projects can take years just to clear the permitting process. This MUST change, quickly!

2. A National Sense of Urgency and Unity: The second reason was the wartime mindset. The United States had just entered World War II after Pearl Harbor. Hitler was invading Europe. The stakes couldn't have been higher.

There was an overwhelming sense of national purpose, and defeating fascism was priority number one. Scientists who had been working in academia or industry dropped everything to join the cause. They weren't thinking about tenure or patents—they were thinking about stopping Nazi Germany from getting the bomb first.

It's hard to overstate the unity and urgency that defined the American home front during World War II. Today, with our divided politics and fractured media landscape, that kind of unity is difficult to imagine.

3. **Centralized Scientific and Industrial Collaboration:** Third, the Manhattan Project was successful because it brought together the best minds in science and industry under one coordinated umbrella. Robert Oppenheimer, Enrico Fermi, Niels Bohr, and hundreds of others were gathered at secret research sites like Los Alamos, Oak Ridge, and Hanford. At the same time, industrial giants like DuPont, Union Carbide, and Westinghouse stepped up—not for profit, but for national survival.

This wasn't just a research project. It was a full-scale industrial operation involving over 130,000 people across dozens of sites. And it was all overseen with centralized decision-making. That's a sharp contrast to today, where large projects often get bogged down by competing interests, subcontractor disputes, and decentralized management.

4. **Security and Secrecy:** The fourth reason is often overlooked: security and secrecy. The Manhattan Project was so compartmentalized that many workers at Oak Ridge and Hanford had no idea what they were working on. Entire cities were built in secret. The project wasn't subject to Freedom of Information Act requests, social media leaks, or endless press scrutiny. There were no live tweets from Los Alamos.

That level of secrecy wouldn't be possible today—and maybe it shouldn't be. But at the time, it allowed the project to move swiftly and without the noise and distraction that often delay big initiatives now.

5. **Willingness to Take Risks and Innovate:** Finally, the project succeeded because there was an extraordinary willingness to take risks. Multiple uranium enrichment methods were pursued at the same time—gaseous diffusion, electromagnetic separation, and even thermal diffusion—because no one knew

which would work. They didn't wait for perfect data. They built pilot plants while still designing the full-scale ones.

Some additional insights from Barbara Scollin who is writing for Historically Speaking and is using Major General Nichols' book, *The Road To Trinity* for some of her research:

1. Clear delineation of military command structure: Colonel James C. Marshall personally chose and established the chart of command for the Manhattan Engineer District.

2. General Groves' unique personality and qualifications, which also included a high level of intelligence, a high energy level, clear decision-making, and a tendency not to turn back.

3. To succeed in Manhattan Project 2.0 will require a crusader(s) with ego and vision to carry the project to fruition.

4. Extremely limited paperwork: When Groves and Nichols turned over their records, it was only one file cabinet drawer. Almost everything was done by verbal agreement. There was no time to document every decision. Back then, your word and handshake could be trusted.

5. Ability to change course or cancel a contract when things aren't working out. As soon as a group or individual has completed their specific assignment, let them resign or be fired.

6. Compartmentalization with only a small handful of individuals fully informed of all aspects of the project.

7. Secrecy

8. Holding individual responsible (not organizations, committees, companies, but individual people): Groves and Nichols met with the top person at every site and delegated the responsibility for the contract to that top person – whatever the title, CEO, Chairman, PhD, and held the accountable for solving the problems for that site. Finally, all problems were resolved around a table with all the experts in attendance. No one left the room until the problem was solved.

Failures were seen as part of the process. At Hanford, engineers designed the first nuclear reactors ever built to create plutonium, with no real blueprint other than theoretical physics. And somehow, it worked.

In today's world, we often expect perfect knowledge before taking the first step. But the Manhattan Project proved that progress sometimes requires bold leaps into the unknown.

So, what can we learn from the Manhattan Project?

We live in a world facing enormous challenges—climate change, energy transition, and emerging technologies. To solve them, we will need the same ingredients that made the Manhattan Project work: clear purpose, national unity, empowered leadership, collaboration across sectors, and the courage to act boldly.

The question is no longer just "could we do it again?" The real question is: what's stopping us from trying? Remember, replace "We could NEVER do that today" with "We CAN do another Manhattan Project today!"

John Chapter 16



Melvin Howard

(John 16:1-6) Coming Persecution: The apostles would be severely tested in the days to come. The Lord attempted, therefore, to encourage them that they might not stumble. Jesus highlighted impending Jewish persecution when he warned that Christians would be expelled from synagogues (When given opportunities to teach) and even murdered by those who thought they would be serving God by such exterminations (as in the case of Saul of Tarsus). The reason for such outrageous conduct would be an absence of knowledge of both God the Father and his Son (v. 3). Christ gives his disciples further advance warning of the hardships that await them. Later, they will remember these precautionary admonitions and be even more impressed with the Savior’s prophetic abilities (v. 4). Other matters, his leaving, he had not discussed extensively with them; such would have been premature at the beginning of his ministry (v. 4).

Apparently, the disciples were in such a state of trauma they hesitated to ask, “Where are you going?” Their hearts “were filled with sorrow” as they contemplated the things he had spoken.

(John 16:7-15) The Promise of the Comforter: There was a chronological order in the implementation of things to come. Christ must first return to the Father, and then the Comforter (the Holy Spirit) would come, being sent by the Lord himself (v. 7). The Spirit would stand by the apostles and supply their needs. On the other hand, his message through the inspired spokesmen would “convict” those at variance with the Father and his Son.

The word “convict” carries the idea of exposing and rebuking wrong conduct. A three-fold division is highlighted. (a) A conviction of sin is the revelation that such is a violation go divine law (1 Jn. 3:4). If there is no law, there is no sin (Rom. 4:15). Sin is not a self-defining process; it is a choice to live apart from divine law. In this case it involved a refusal to believe the evidence concerning Christ’s identity. (b) They were to be convicted with respect to righteousness because they had rejected Heaven’s plan for accounting one righteous by means of Christ’s atoning death (Rom. 3:21). The Lord’s sacrifice, preliminary to his going “to the Father,” where he functions as high priest, was largely to be rebuffed by Hebrew society. (c) There will be a conviction regarding judgment. The firmly fixed judgment of the “prince of this world” (v. 11; 12:31; 14:30) is a token of the judgment that will fall upon those who have followed him (Matt. 25:41).

There were other things the disciples needed to hear, but they were unable to bear them in this moment of impending crisis. Those gaps would be filled in later when the Holy Spirit came upon them (Acts 2); he would guide them into all truth necessary for their apostolic mission (v. 13). The expression, “all truth,” limits religious truth to the first-century apostolic proclamation. The faith was “once for all time” delivered (Jude 3). After the New Testament canon was completed, no additional revelation was given--not by Mohammed, the Pope, church councils, Joseph Smith Jr., etc. The Spirit will not speak independently of the other persons of the Godhead, but he will communicate consistent with the divine purpose generally. This is not intended to reflect upon the Spirit’s omniscience (14:26; 1 Cor. 2:10-11). The Spirit would enable the apostles to foretell things to come (2 Thess. 2:1-12; 1 Tim. 4:1).

The Spirit’s role would be to glorify Christ (15:26). His work would embrace the full range of tenses---past, present, future. He would remind them of the teaching of Jesus, guide them into all truth, and reveal to them things to come.

The divine nature of Jesus and his bequeathed authority from the Father are evidence aplenty of his deity. The Spirit would provide ample testimony of this.

(John 16:16-24) Imminent Departure: The Lord informs the disciples that in a “little while” they will see him no more; then, in a “little while” they would see him. Various ideas are expressed by expositors as to the meaning of this text. Some suggest that it refers to: (a) his imminent ascension, then the second coming; (b) his resurrection, followed by various appearances in that forty-day period before the ascension; (c) his ascension, then his indirect coming via the Spirit on Pentecost ten days later (14:18). The last two of these are possibilities. The first scarcely is; such would employ the phrase, “little while,” in radically different ways.

The disciples were confused about the nature of the Lord’s language (v. 17). They repeatedly asked one another (the force of the verb) what he might have meant by this enigmatic language. Jesus told them he knew they were confused. In essence, he said they would have to wait a while before they could appreciate the significance of his language (v. 20-22). He supplied them with a prophetic analogy. Just as a woman goes through anguish in child birth but afterward is overwhelmed with joy, even so, their sorrow regarding his death would be remedied by the joy of his resurrection.

The expression, “that day,” likely refers to the outpouring of the Spirit on Pentecost. He would not be with them personally (for he had ascended), but he would send the Spirit, and by that means the Father would supply them with all necessary information. As they solicited the Father for help, by Christ’s authority (Col. 3:17), they would be fully supplied and their joy would be profuse (v. 23-24).

(John 16:25-33) The Matter of Dark Sayings: Jesus acknowledged that he had spoken to them in “dark sayings” (obscure figures of speech), but the hour was approaching when that would be necessary no longer. The “code” language had been in their interest; it would become clear in the light of a new day. They would “plainly understand” his earlier instruction with the coming of the Holy Spirit. By his authority, they could approach the Father for information and he would join their petitions to God (v. 25-26).

Verse twenty-seven is wonderful indeed. “The Father love [the Greek word signifies tender affection] you, because you have developed a lasting warm love [so the force of the verb] for me, and have come to firmly believe [abiding force] that I came forth from the Father.” “I came from the Father and am about to go back to him.” Speaking honestly, but saying more that they knew, the disciples affirmed they now understood his “dark sayings.” They affirmed his omniscience (v. 30) and his pre-earthly existence (30b). Their temporary post-resurrection lapse in faith (Mk. 16:11, 13) would demonstrate that they spoke prematurely.

But the compassionate Savior brought them down a bit. He asked, “Do you really believe? The hour is approaching when you all will be scattered, each man to his own place [Mt. 26:56], and I will be left alone---except for the Father, who is ever with me” (v. 32). (Read Matthew 27:46 “Why have you forsaken me?”) These words were designed to give the apostles a sense of peace---partially at that time; in greater measure later on. Yes, there was “tribulation” (persecution) to come. In spite of that dark cloud, they should be of good cheer (strong courage), for: “I have overcome the world.” The verbal tense indicates complete and permanent victory. The book of Revelation is an appendix on this declaration!

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RUSTY WALLACE AUTO GROUP CELEBRATES TWO GRAND OPENINGS

It's been a busy time for the Rusty Wallace Auto Group, as two new dealerships have opened in Knoxville within just a few weeks of each other. Rusty Wallace Hyundai recently celebrated its grand opening in their location at 505 Callahan Drive in Knoxville, which is just off Exit 110, I-75 North. NASCAR Hall of Fame driver Rusty Wallace was on hand for the event, as well as famed Knoxville singer/songwriter Con Hunley, who with his band entertained a well turned out crowd while Rusty Wallace signed autographs for his fans.

General Manager Brandon Chaffins of Rusty Wallace Hyundai (pictured below with Wallace and Rusty Wallace Nissan GM Gene Morris) said," We've really been blessed by the Lord with this great location, and are thankful for all the good folks who came out to our Grand Opening. The response from our customers has been awesome. I thank God every day for being able to serve people who are in need of a new or used car, or service work. I believe anyone who comes to see us will see that we are a different kind of car company, as well as all the Rusty Wallace dealerships."



General Manager Brandon Chaffins of Rusty Wallace Hyundai, Rusty Wallace and Rusty Wallace General Nissan GM Gene Morris

Rusty Wallace Honda GM Chad Campbell echoed Morris' sentiments. He said, "There is a noticeable difference at our dealerships, but that's not because of anything we have, other than a dedication to doing business with Godly principles."

Rusty Wallace Kia GM Jake Bull, added,"I've been doing this for a while. Once someone gives us the privilege of serving their needs, not only will they become a customer for life, they will bring family and friends to see us also. We attribute that all to the grace of God."



Pictured are from left to right, Rusty Wallace Honda General Mgr. Chad Campbell, Rusty Wallace GM Jake Bull, Nissan GM Gene Morris, Rusty Wallace Loyalty Manager Christy Blevins and Coach Taylor.



UT player Joakin Dodson Hayden O'Brien gets some hands on experience changing a tire.



Crabby Road

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it with a group of people?



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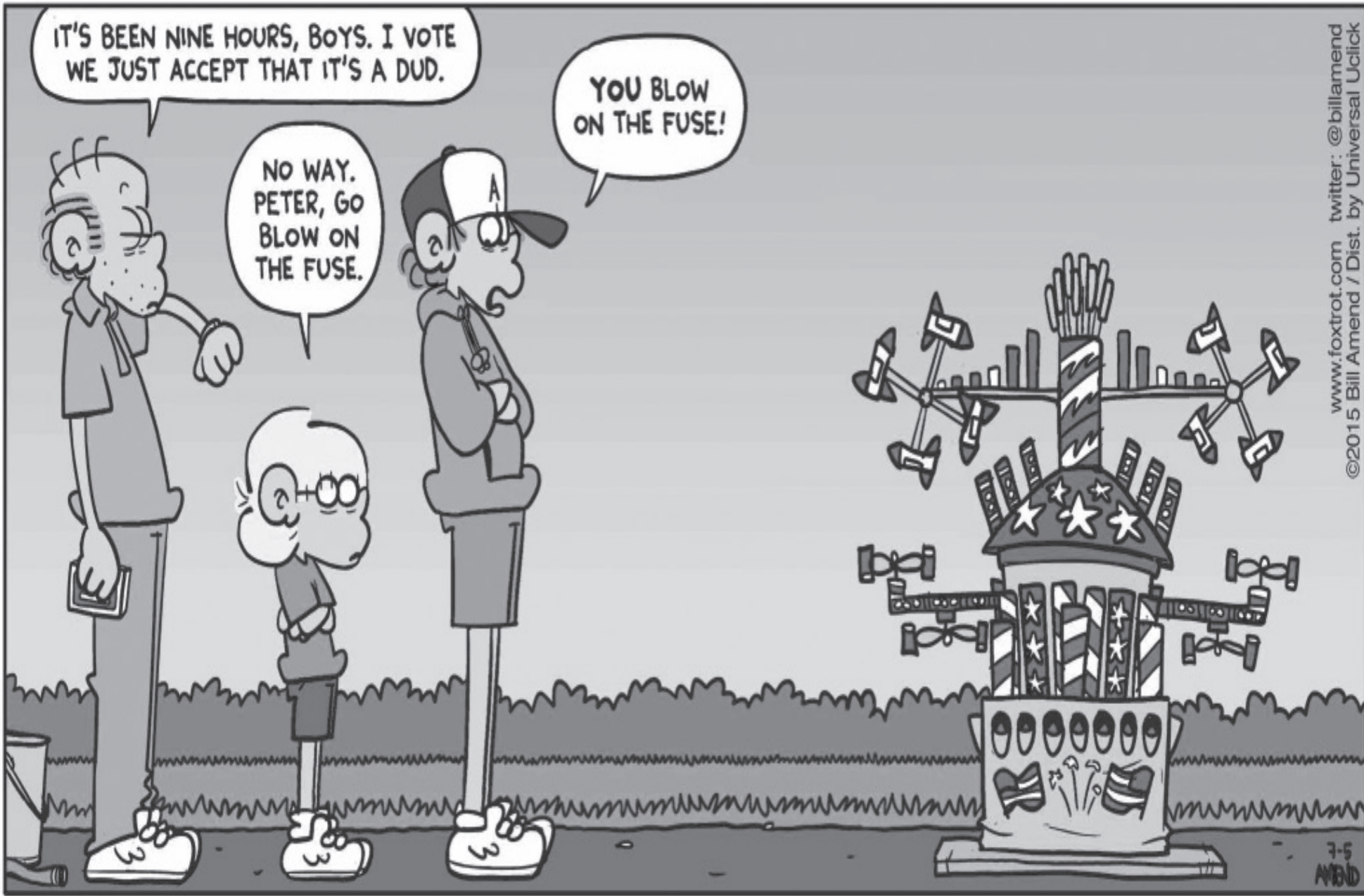
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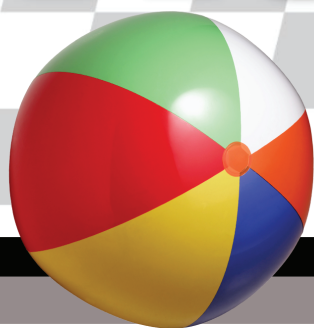
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