

MONTGOMERY COUNTY Chronicle

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2025

32 PAGES

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\$2.00 PER ISSUE

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ELECTION RESULTS Cherryvale City Council races won by Norman Johnson, but legal review underway to determine next course of action. See page A3



PENALTIES ABOUND ICC-CCC rivalry game delves into chaos as teams are assessed more than 320 penalty yards due to unsportsmanlike conduct; multiple players and one coach ejected. See page B7

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The timeless humor of Will Rogers "The short memories of the American voters is what keeps our politicians in office."



A Thanksgiving feast offered by Elk City church

Members of the Elk City Christian Church got an early-start on the Thanksgiving feast season by preparing traditional meals — roasted turkey, mashed potatoes, chicken and noodles, green beans, cranberry sauce, dinner rolls, and apple or pumpkin desserts — for the public last Saturday. The church's free Thanksgiving community meal has been an outreach ministry for several years. More than 200 meals were served in dine-in or carry-out formats. ANDY TAYLOR / MONTGOMERY COUNTY CHRONICLE

Proposed ban on public nudity is rejected

A split city council votes 3-2 to reject a proposed law that restricts public nudity in Cherryvale

CHERRYVALE — Cherryvale, the town that once touted itself as "the friendly little city," may have to more to offer than grins and smiles. If you like bare breasts and pantless people, Cherryvale is the place to be. On Monday, Mayor Gary Minnich cast a tie-breaking vote to deny a proposed regulation of public nudity in Cherryvale. By virtue of the council's 3-2 vote to restrict public nudity in Cherryvale, public

area within view of the public"? To quote the proposed ordinance, public is identified as "public streets, sidewalks, alleyways, parks, swimming pools, hotels, stores, restaurants, theaters, clubs, or any other place where a person may be lawfully observed by others, whether public property or private property." Why was the public nudity matter being discussed? The Cherryvale Police Department alerted city councilors two weeks ago of several incidents in which a female Cherryvale citizen was observed walking nude in her yard. However, the current city ordinances concerning public nudity focus solely on strip clubs, police said. City codes do not address the issue of nudity as it is observed from a city street, business or park, the police told councilors. Multiple residents had complained about the unnamed woman whose bare presence was viewed as obscene, the police told the council. The woman's home is in close proximity to Lincoln-Central Elementary School, where teachers have

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to remove students from the school's playground if the woman exposes herself to the public. City police presented city councilors with a proposed ordinance that would address the nudity matter. At the council meeting two weeks ago, councilor Steve Strickland complained that the language in the proposed ordinance did not go far enough in recognizing innocent situations in which a person might be traipsing nude in their private home . . . but with windows open to public view. City attorney Seth Jones said the language in the ordinance would cover those

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EDITORIAL COMMENT To save itself from further shame and embarrassment, Cherryvale City Council should revisit public nudity proposal . . . quickly! See page A4

Liberty man, WWII vet given 100th birthday salute

When one of our country's elders turns 100 years young, there is ample reason to celebrate with a birthday cake. But, when that same citizen breaks the century barrier and is a veteran of World War II, you should double the cake batter and triple the icing.

Ernie Graham of Liberty is a person who deserves such rich treatment. Graham, a World War II veteran who resides with his daughter in Liberty, celebrated his 100th birthday on Nov. 5.

However, he was honored and recognized in several big ways. Graham's neighbors and friends in Liberty threw him a card party at Jack's Place, the local watering hole and restaurant. Dozens of cards were delivered. Cherryvale High School's KAY Club gave him 100 birthday cards . . . as well as a Cherryvale Charger blanket.

ANDY TAYLOR



HERE'S THE STORY



Ernie Graham poses with the signed letter from Douglas Collins, secretary of the U.S. Army, that congratulated the Liberty man for his years of service in World War II and for celebrating his 100th birthday.

He said he read each and every one of those cards. He also applies the Charger blanket to his lap daily. Graham also received a personal letter from Douglas Collins, the

U.S. Secretary of the Army. The signed letter from the Army's top chief congratulated Graham on his 100th birthday . . . and thanked Graham for his service to his na-

tion during World War II. For someone like Graham, the stories of a full century could fill a book. And, deservedly so. He was born in 1925 on a farm outside of Fort Scott, Kan., the last of nine children of a hard-working, agricultural-focused family. He did his duty on behalf of his nation during the war before returning home, moving to Iowa and becoming a repairman and technician on printing presses. That ultimately led him to form his own printing press manufacturing company, which he owned until selling it — and taking a deserved and rewarding retirement — in 1986. However, he spent the next 30 years servicing the same equipment he sold. At age 90, he finally hung up his press apron. And, then there is age longevity. He has surpassed everyone who advised him to "slow down" and "take it easy." Admittedly, age advancement has put the brakes on his memory. He has to think long and hard about certain events from his past.

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