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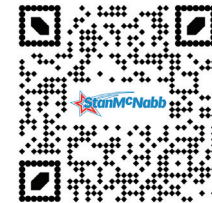
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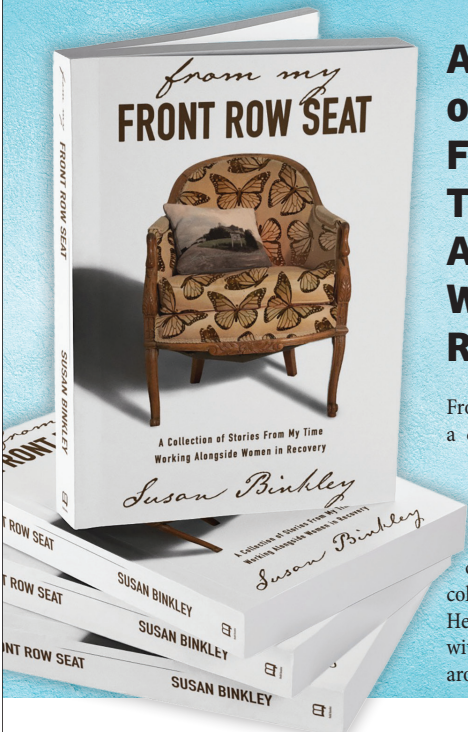


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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Every Gesture of Love is from the Heart

Celebrating everyday love

IT'S HOLDING the door open for the person behind you. It's sending a sweet text when they cross your mind. It's stopping by to say "hi" when they've had a bad day. Showing up and showing love is like medicine for our souls. It lets us dance, sing, laugh, and cry together. It lets us know that someone is saving us a seat at every table. We know that – while we may be off-key – there is someone to sing backup from the passenger seat. And when we have those really bad days, we know there is a shoulder waiting like a therapeutic tissue. These moments, while they may feel

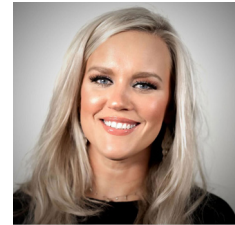
small, carry a heavy weight. It keeps the world from falling apart when it feels so fragile. It keeps our head above the water in the deepest, darkest oceans.

This issue of Good News is about celebrating our love. We're not just talking about romantic love, either. We're talking about the real love that can only come from the heart. Our community is full of actions that show love in every minute of every day. It can be as simple as a "Luv U" text or as kind as holding a door open.

We're proud to share stories of love to make the community a better place. **GN**

Wesley Bryant,
MANAGING EDITOR

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GOOD NEWS IS PUBLISHED BY Exchange Media Group, Inc.

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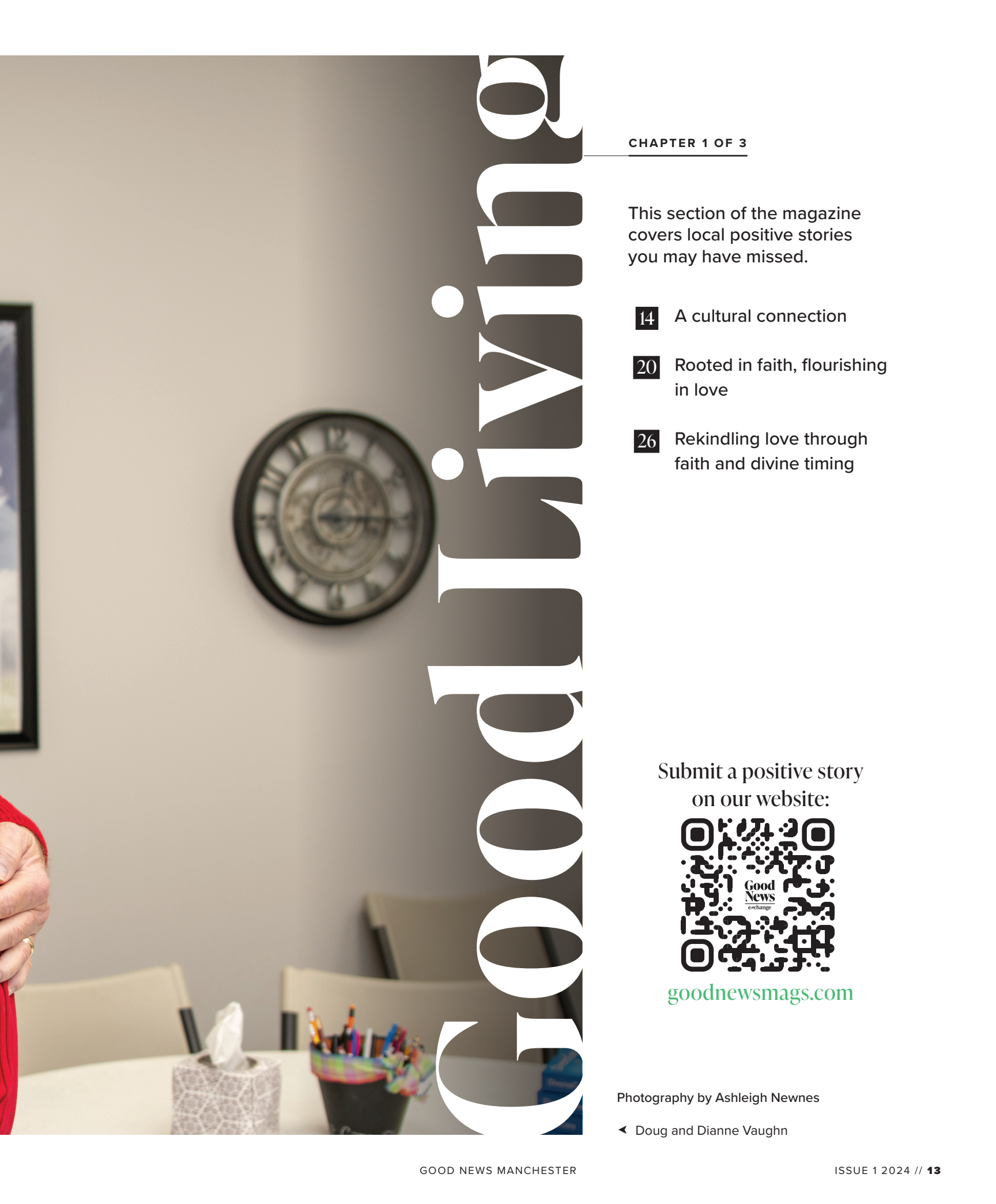
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Good Living

CHAPTER 1 OF 3

This section of the magazine covers local positive stories you may have missed.

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- 20** Rooted in faith, flourishing in love
- 26** Rekindling love through faith and divine timing

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Photography by Ashleigh Newnes

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▲ Hailee Miller and Paolo Messina

A cultural *connection*

Fueling global exchange in Middle Tennessee

By Jeriah Brumfield // Photos submitted by Michelle Thomas

EXCHANGE PROGRAMS offer a bridge of understanding, compassion, and friendship. Meet the Academic Program Development administrator and host families of Cultural Homestay International in Tennessee, who all play a pivotal role in fostering connections between exchange students and our communities.

It all began with a simple act of kindness. As a high school student, Michelle Thomas's family welcomed an exchange student into their home. This experience inspired her to tread the path of facilitating cultural exchanges. Years later, when her own children were in high school, she opened her home to not one but two exchange students. In 2014, she joined Cultural Homestay International (CHI), beginning her life-changing career.

Through her experiences, she has seen firsthand the transformation that occurs when young individuals from different corners of the world embrace the opportunity to study in the United States.

With operations in Manchester and Tullahoma, Thomas manages the dynamics between these diverse

locations to ensure the best possible experiences for exchange students. She highlighted the importance of her dedicated staff and the support provided by CHI, enabling them to address challenges swiftly and provide guidance when needed.

Coordinating 54 exchange students in Tennessee poses its own unique set of challenges and rewards. The administrator's biggest challenge is the geographical spread of students throughout the state, making it challenging to interact with each one personally.

However, the rewards are abundant, ranging from witnessing students' accomplishments, friendships, and adaptation to American life to the small joys of hearing them say "y'all."

CHI takes pride in its commitment to acts of kindness, and one such act was a recent food donation. Supporting the school's backpack food program is vital to the CHI mission, as it reinforces the agency's dedication to making the world a better place, one act of kindness at a time.



▲ Terry and Paula Davis with Maela Saille

"These kids have unforgettable experiences, and they take a part of us with them. I always say the hardest part of hosting is when they get on the plane to go home."

-Paula Davis



▲ Juan Bosco Valdivieso Uranga and Leonardo Tu

One of the most heartwarming aspects of the exchange program is the role of host families. Paula and Terry Davis in Tullahoma have hosted exchange students for five consecutive years, creating a truly global family. Their commitment has not only impacted the students but has also enriched their own lives by exposing them to different cultures and traditions. The Davises have stayed in touch with most students they've hosted; some have even returned to visit.

Paula said, "We have family nights where we play cards or watch movies together. We also encourage them to participate in all school activities, such as dances, ball games, dress-up days, clubs, sports, and going out with friends. Our experience hosting over the years is memorable and fulfilling. These kids have unforgettable experiences, and they take a part of us with them. I always say the hardest part of hosting is when they get on the plane to go home."

Over the years, Thomas has witnessed personal growth and transformation in the exchange students she has worked with. Students who arrived quiet and shy left full



▲ Current students in Tennessee with CHI

of life, and the experience taught them to appreciate different ways of living, bettering themselves in the process. Some students have even returned to the U.S. to attend college, with one receiving a soccer scholarship in Louisiana.

Unforgettable moments are a daily occurrence in cultural exchange. Thomas cherishes the return of students to Tennessee and the enduring connections they build with their host families. These bonds are so strong that some students choose to attend college in Tennessee and even settle down in the state.

After all, this is not just about cultural exchange; it's about building lifelong connections and understanding that transcends borders. These dedicated individuals are making the world a smaller, kinder, and more connected place, one exchange at a time. **GN**

To join the team or get involved with CHI, please contact Michelle Thomas at michellethomas325@gmail.com or call (931) 247-0420 for more information.

From fellow exchange students:

"I think my favorite cultural exchange experience was homecoming. I had so much fun with my friends getting ready and then dancing all together." - Matilde (Italy)

"The nature is beautiful, and everybody is so nice and welcoming. Friday nights are definitely part of my favorite memories." - Leonie (Germany)

"People here are super friendly, and the nature is nice." - Suthasinee (Thailand)

"My favorite memory that involves Tennessee is when my American friends took me to Rutledge Falls. It was so special and beautiful. My advice is to go for it. Get out of your comfort zone and live every second like it's the end." - Mariana (Belgium)

"I think it is a great experience to do because it is very good to make new friends, meet new people, know other cultures, see their style of life, and if someone is thinking about doing it, I recommend it." - Alonso (Spain)

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Rooted in *faith*, flourishing in *love*

Michael Young's love-filled quest for unity and redemption

By Jeriah Brumfield // Photography by Ashleigh Newnes

THERE ARE specific individuals in our society who stand out as symbols of hope, love, and steadfast faith. Michael Young, a native of Murfreesboro, is undoubtedly one of these remarkable individuals. His life's journey carries the transformative power of faith, community, and the vibrant impact of love. As a husband, father, community member, Christian, and advocate, Michael Young's life story revolves around one central theme — his profound love for God and his unwavering commitment to sharing that love with others.

"I was raised in a very strong Christian household. The principles were faith, respect, and a work ethic. So, that was the firm foundation of the household I was in. It was all I knew. That's all I saw," Young reflected.

Within this nurturing Christian environment, he laid the foundations for his faith, which would later become the guiding light of his life.

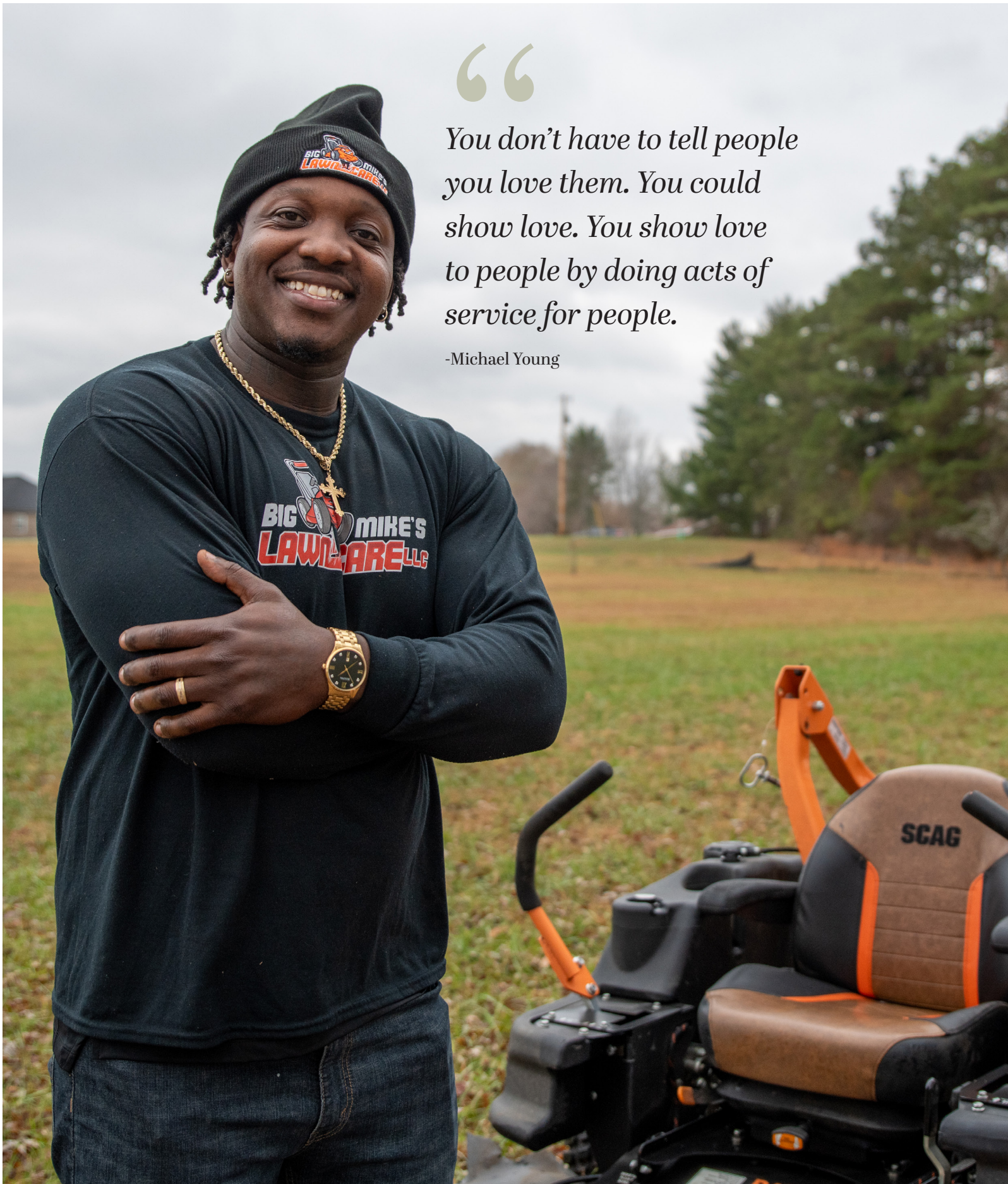
"Waking up in the morning, when I'd walk in the kitchen, my dad would be at the table with his Bible, reading his Bible every single morning."

Young's journey through life was not without its obstacles. As a young adult, he lost his father to bone marrow cancer, which set off a chain of events leading to a period of drug and alcohol addiction and rebellion.

But the seeds of faith planted in his youth and the influence of his father's close friend, Pastor Allen Jackson, were never truly forgotten. A simple phone call from Pastor Jackson led Young to the Be the Bush Ministries and eventually to Canvas Community Church in Manchester. Here, he began his incredible journey to recovery.

The memory of his father's support and the desire to make him proud encouraged Young to graduate from the recovery program and embark on a new life. It was a journey that saw him marry his current wife and reunite with his children, cementing his commitment to be the best husband and father he could be.

Young attributes much of his transformation to the love and support of his mother, who was the rock of their family. One of the most vital lessons he learned



“

You don't have to tell people you love them. You could show love. You show love to people by doing acts of service for people.

-Michael Young



from her was to never give up on people. He now uses that lesson to aid him in the most challenging moments of his recovery.

Young doesn't shy away from discussing his past mistakes, but he acknowledges that he has been forgiven and his past does not determine his future.

"I'm a three-time felon," he said. "I've got violent charges and drug charges. I'm somebody that shouldn't even be in this position, but it's just a blessing in the way God works and how everything went into place," he said.

His experiences have fueled his mission to show others that redemption is possible and no one should be written off.

Young's deep desire to reciprocate the love and support he received during his journey to recovery led him to serve his community. Through Big Mike's Lawn Care, he doesn't just mow lawns but spreads the love of God with each touch. He starts his workdays with a prayer, asking for guidance and offering prayers for his customers.

One of the most heartwarming aspects of Young's journey has been the support and love from the community and other lawn care business owners.

We're not competing down here. We're all trying to make it in life and provide for our families. We all connect. Instead of competition, he sees cooperation and a collective drive to uplift the community.

Looking forward, Young envisions himself being actively involved in the community, especially when it comes to supporting children. Through his lawn care service, he sponsors local sports teams and dreams of removing financial barriers for youngsters pursuing their passions.

Young's life is a beaming example of how faith, love, and community can transform lives. His commitment to serving his community exemplifies the very essence of "from the heart." Michael Young, a man of God and a symbol of hope, truly personifies the love and support that our world needs more of.

"I do what I do today because of the people at Canvas Community Church, the people at Forest Mill, and just all my clients and customers. I just feel the love that they're behind me, and I want to reciprocate the same thing. You don't have to tell people you love them. You could show love. You show love to people by doing acts of service for people." GN





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Rekindling love

through faith and divine timing

Doug and Dianne Vaughn turned their love story into a purposeful journey for divorcees.

By Jeriah Brumfield // Photography by Ashleigh Newnes

IT STARTED in high school.

"We were originally in homeroom together in high school, here in Coffee County," Doug Vaughn explained. Although he and his wife Dianne had known each other for three years at the time, their lives took different routes.

"I was a little wilder than she wanted to go with, so she never gave me any attention," he added. However, after their divorces, their paths merged again, and this time, they were guided by a higher power.

DIVORCE AND REUNION

"God brought us back together," Dianne said.

Their reunion occurred at a church, reaffirming their belief that divine intervention played a role in their reunion. This couple is living proof that when God has a plan, nobody else can stop it.

A CALLING TO HELP OTHERS

"We both really feel like this is what He wanted us to do: to help other people that are hurting," Doug added.

Dianne and Doug's separate journeys through divorce were painful, and they recognized that they weren't the only ones hurting. They observed a lack of support for divorcees in their community and decided to channel their own experiences into a mission of compassion.

He explained they often received well-intentioned but unsatisfying advice to "just do the best you can."

Their Christian faith played a significant role in their desire to help others. They were determined to offer guidance to those struggling with the emotional and practical challenges of divorce, focusing on healing and faith. Their journey of creating a supportive



Dianne and Doug
Vaughn



environment began in 2012 when a former minister from the Forest Mill Church of Christ asked them to lead a DivorceCare support group.

Their DivorceCare support program is a 13-week journey featuring 30-40 minute videos covering various aspects of divorce, including deep hurt, finances, childcare, loneliness, depression, and more. Dianne and Doug are quick to admit they are not counselors but individuals who have personally experienced divorce and have found solace and growth in their faith. The videos are presented by experts, each sharing valuable insights on different aspects of divorce.

SUPPORT AND SUCCESS STORIES

Navigating a divorce is an intensely personal journey, and Doug and Dianne have witnessed a myriad of struggles. The most common challenges they address include co-parenting, finances, and forgiveness.

"One of the biggest challenges is forgiveness," Doug noted.

"It doesn't make it okay if you forgive, but it makes you okay," Dianne added.

The couple has witnessed countless success stories over their 11-year journey. One was a young mother who, against all odds, found the strength to rebuild her life. Another centers around a 50-year marriage that ultimately ended in divorce. Through their DivorceCare support program, this individual found a new sense of purpose, engaging in community service and experiencing a profound personal transformation.

AN INCLUSIVE AND WELCOMING SPACE

Dianne and Doug strive to create an inclusive and supportive environment for their DivorceCare support group participants. They welcome people of all backgrounds, denominations, and walks of life.

"We don't care where you've been; we want to help you get to where you're going," Dianne said.

They focus on moving forward, letting go of the past, and supporting one another on their journeys to healing and growth.

The Forest Mill Church of Christ, where Dianne and Doug lead the DivorceCare support program and Chrystal and Anthony Jaco serve as wonderful co-facilitators, has become a safe haven for individuals seeking serenity and guidance during their divorce. They emphasize that their goal is not to encourage new relationships but to help participants rebuild their lives with God's guidance.

BALANCING ACT: LIFE BEYOND DIVORCECARE

For Dianne and Doug, maintaining a healthy work-life balance is paramount. They share hobbies like running their small business, D. Vaughn Designs. Additionally, they cherish individual adventures, like cycling, shooting, and exploring the great outdoors. This dynamic



allows them to find personal fulfillment while sustaining a healthy relationship.

A MESSAGE OF HOPE

Doug and Dianne offer a hope-filled, powerful message as they continue to guide individuals through the ins and outs of divorce.

"We want people to know that good things are coming. You have a new story to write, and it looks nothing like your past."

In the midst of heartache and adversity, there is hope, healing, and a brighter future ahead. Doug and Dianne's message is simple: Unwavering faith in God's plan and a commitment to helping others find strength in vulnerability is the key to living and giving from the heart. **GN**

For more information on Forest Mill's DivorceCare support program, visit divorce.care.org.

WEEKLY DIVORCE SUPPORT GROUP

Divorce Care meets at Forest Mill
Church of Christ, 3388 McMinnville
Hwy, Manchester on Sunday mornings
8:30-10 a.m. in the Fletcher Outreach
Building behind the church. Visit
divorcecare.org/findagroup
for more information.





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Good Stories

CHAPTER 2 OF 3

This section of the magazine covers local people or businesses you need to know about.

- 34 From the Heart
- 36 'Everything flows from the heart'
- 40 'My heart is on impacting and influencing people'
- 44 A love rooted in family and farming

Our stories are based on submissions from local people.

Submit yours here:



goodnewsmags.com

Photography by Ashleigh Newnes

◀ Alexandria and Caleb Gregory

From the Heart

THE CONNECTION between humans — we call it love — is a profoundly beautiful thing. Our Creator built us to have different types of love. The Greek words for the three types are eros, agape, and philio.

Eros is the passionate and romantic love we often think of when picturing two people sharing an intimate bond. It's full of emotion, desire, and longing, and people find it every day.

Agape love is a love that is unconditional and selfless. It's love without expectation or demand, often seen among family members and friends who care deeply for one another.

Philio love is the love of friendship and community. It's about shared experiences and mutual understanding. We often see this type of love in close-knit groups of people who have a deep connection — just like Manchester.

No matter what type of love you experience, it's an essential part of the human experience. Love and connection bring us closer together, allowing us to share life's highs and lows with those we care about most. Good News is happy to share these one-of-a-kind stories from the heart. **GN**





Alexandria & Caleb Gregory



‘Everything Flows From the Heart’

Building a life together through love, hard work, and a strong sense of community.

By Jeriah Brumfield
Photography by Ashleigh Newnes

CALEB AND Alexandria’s story began during their high school years. They attended different local high schools, but fate brought them together one evening at a Sonic Drive-In.

“The thing to do back then was you went to Taco Bell before the movie, walked to the movie across the street, and then walked to Sonic afterward for ice cream. We met there,” Alexandria recalled.

She was just 15, and Caleb was 16. Love blossomed during her freshman year of high school, but as young love often goes,

their relationship hit a bump in the road.

“We dated my freshman year of high school, and then actually Caleb broke my heart that summer,” Alexandria reminisces. After that heartbreak, they parted ways but would cross paths again in college.

“We came back together in college and dated my freshman year as well,” Alexandria continued.

“That time, I broke his heart, and then we went our separate ways for some time again.”

Their journey was far from straightforward, but their love story’s resilience would

soon be put to the test when Caleb faced a life-changing accident at the age of 22.

“We weren’t together at the time, but during his hospitalization from that accident, my heart realized how much I truly cared about him,” said Alexandria.

Their hearts were finally in sync, and their paths would cross again a few years later. This time, they decided to call a truce and start dating, leading to their engagement within a year and marriage not long after. It’s been 6 1/2 years since that moment.



Dreaming Big and Working Hard

Caleb and Alexandria were raised in households with a strong entrepreneurial spirit. “If someone else can do it, I can do it” was the motto they both inherited from their parents.

This mindset instilled in them the belief that hard work and dedication were the keys to realizing their dreams.

While their parents didn’t hand them businesses, they provided invaluable support and wisdom. Alexandria’s parents, particularly her mother, added a strong business sense to her upbringing, while Caleb’s family, known for their artistic talents, balanced the equation with creativity and vision. Together, they formed a dynamic partnership, blending business acumen with a keen eye for innovation.

Giving Back to the Community

For Alexandria and Caleb, community isn’t just a word — it’s a way of life. From supporting local vendors in their country store to championing small restaurants, their

hearts beat for community growth. They’re members of the Coffee County Chamber and Tennessee Back Roads Heritage, actively contributing to the prosperity of their beloved community.

Caleb emphasized the importance of keeping money within the community.

“If you keep your money and spend it in those local areas, that’s what builds the community,” he said.

They embrace the role of community builders, actively participating in various community organizations and events to ensure their town thrives.

Balancing Work and Family Life

Juggling multiple businesses and raising two young children might seem overwhelming to some, but for Caleb and Alexandria, it’s all about prioritizing and finding balance.

“Teamwork is the number one piece. We’re on the same team. We’re not against each other,” Caleb emphasized.

They dedicate time to dream and plan together, using whiteboards to outline their goals and steps to achieve them. Date night is a special tradition that allows them to discuss complex business matters when needed and cherish quality time together.

Their young boys are integrated into their endeavors, learning valuable work ethic, generosity, and community involvement lessons.

A Test of Faith and Resilience

Caleb’s near-fatal accident served as a turning point in their journey. “I just try to remember back to that [and] how thankful I am for life and remind myself that the Lord has a purpose for me,” Caleb reflects when facing rough days.

“Teamwork is the number one piece. We’re on the same team. We’re not against each other”

- Caleb Gregory

Their faith and the belief that doing good will come back to them in some way have guided them through life’s challenges.

Their love story continues to evolve as they build a life together that inspires those around them.

“Everything flows from the heart, and there’s a great reward in loving your neighbors, employees, friends, and family sincerely,” said Alexandria.

“If you love what you do, why you’re doing it, and who you’re doing it for, you’re going to find so much joy in the success of a relationship or a business decision.”

They recently hosted their first Harvest Celebration last October as an annual celebration to commemorate their reopening and to serve the community event. This free annual event offers jump houses, face painting, live music, and hay rides.

Join the family at their annual Valentine’s Day event at Gregory’s Beechgrove Country Store, offering dinner (with sizzling steaks from local farms), music, a photo booth, and flowers. **GN**



*Gregory's Beechgrove Country Store: 13995 Murfreesboro Hwy., Beechgrove, TN 37018
Air BNB Link: Search Oakdale Cottage - Middle Tennessee Escape on Airbnb for more.*

Chandler England



“My heart is on impacting and influencing people.”

Chandler
England's story
reminds us
that support is
reciprocal and
straight from
the heart.

By Jeriah Brumfield
Photography by Ashleigh Newnes

CHANDLER ENGLAND, a Knoxville native, always knew he wanted to settle down and sow his seeds on Manchester soil. When the opportunity to work for Chick-fil-A on the corporate level came up, he quickly applied for the job and was accepted. England's career began in the summer of 2013, marking the start of a journey that would shape his professional path and his deep connection to the community.

England's entrepreneurial spirit stems from his father and grandfather, who owned a Mattress Factory together. Aside from his father and grandfather's entrepreneurship inspiration, England always knew his passion lay in influencing the community and inspiring teamwork and collaboration.

“With Chick-fil-A, I can select and build my own team, and I can have a lasting influence on my team and people in the community.”

Despite majoring in Kinesiology at the University of Tennessee, England's passion for entrepreneurship and desire to positively impact the community led him to Chick-fil-A.

In 2013, after high school, England started his Chick-fil-A journey in Knoxville. Beginning as an entry-level team member, he quickly progressed to a trainer in 2016, contributing to grand openings in different locations. In 2020, he entered Chick-fil-A's Leadership Development Program, overseeing company-operated restaurants and guiding new openings. Now, in 2023, England proudly serves as the owner-operator of Manchester's Chick-fil-A, beginning a new chapter in his career.

England's ties to the community go beyond professional aspirations. Growing up in Knoxville's suburb, Fountain City, he experienced the support of a tight-knit community. Now in Manchester, he recognizes



“...just because it’s a national brand doesn’t mean we’re not a local business.”

- Chandler England

the similarities between the communities. People in Manchester genuinely want to see England succeed, just as his hometown supported him.

“It’s one of those places where everybody knows everybody. Everybody goes to one high school, and you grew up playing the same sports with the same people. And people are really excited to see you succeed within the community,” he remarked.

“Once I came to Manchester, I still felt that from this community, even though I didn’t necessarily know a ton of them. People here in Manchester genuinely want us to succeed. They want to partner with us in whatever we’re doing. And they’re just excited that we’re here. And I’m excited that we’re here as well.”

The journey was challenging. Despite initially planning to become a doctor, England shifted gears toward Chick-fil-A, a decision met with understanding from his family. Moving away from home for the first time to pursue his career in Phil-

adelphia, England missed important family events. His dedication and sacrifices paid off when he was selected to open the Chick-fil-A in Manchester.

Since the restaurant’s opening on Aug. 31, 2023, England has actively engaged in community initiatives. The Shared Table program sees surplus food donated twice a week to the local food bank, Storehouse Food Pantry. Additionally, England sponsors schools, sports teams, and youth programs, emphasizing his commitment to education and youth sports.

“Anything from 4 years old to high school sports — it’s something I’m very passionate about. And so that’s kind of where I’ve chosen to focus my giving strategy.”

England’s leadership style is influenced by his background in sports. He employs the ESRC method — expectations, skills, resources, and consequences — to guide his team. As a former multi-sport athlete, England’s coaching presence resonates with his team, creating shared unity and purpose.

The most rewarding aspects of England’s role are twofold. Firstly, he can impact his team’s development and success, instilling a work ethic and inspiring them to pursue their dreams. Secondly, the positive influence on the community provides a space for people to enjoy meals and escape daily challenges within the welcoming environment of Chick-fil-A.

From the heart, for England, means giving his all every day to impact people’s lives positively. His passion lies in building relationships, making connections, and supporting the community in any way possible. Despite being part of a national brand, England emphasized local ownership and his personal involvement, spending long hours immersed in the community.

“I’m in this community. I’m ingrained in this community. So just because it’s a national brand doesn’t mean we’re not a ‘local business.’”

As England continues to write the story of Chick-fil-A in Manchester, his dedication to building relationships and making a lasting impact on the community remains at the heart of his journey.

“My heart is on impacting and influencing people. I try to come in every single day to try to do that and better the community in any way possible.” GN





Ray and Elaine Weaver

A Love Rooted in Family and Farming

Uncovering the Weaver family's journey as a farming family.

By Jeriah Brumfield
Photography by Ashleigh Newnes

RAY AND Elaine's story began long before their own time. Their families had known each other for generations, but a twist of fate truly brought them together. As Elaine's father worked a public job, Ray's family managed a different calling — the family farm. Their paths diverged in upbringing, but their roots in Franklin County soil would become the foundation of their lasting bond.

"We're right on the edge of the Coffee and Franklin County lines. Just 5 miles

through the woods, I could be at my mom and daddy's house. The families had always known each other," Elaine recalled.

On a fateful day in August, on Ray's 21st birthday, their paths converged in a wild turn of events. One of which was Mort Lloyd, a prospective congressman's tragic airplane accident in 1974, which Ray spotted. Elaine's mother invited Ray into their home to watch the news later that day. The rest, as they say, was history.

Their love blossomed rapidly, defying the modern pace of courtship. In just six



months, they decided to embark on a life-long journey together, a testament to the strength of their connection and the era in which they came of age. As they approach their 49th wedding anniversary, their strong partnership gives hope to couples navigating the complexities of marriage.

"He is my true soulmate. And just to see the love that he has for the farm and the children and the love for God, I could not have been more blessed to have someone in my life like him," said Elaine.

For Ray and Elaine, farming was more than a profession; it was a calling passed down through generations. Their dedication to the land runs deep, with two Tennessee Century Farms to their name. Ray's early exposure to the love of the land, inherited from his father, solidified his destiny as a steward of the farm. It was a destiny he embraced with open arms.

"We've added lots and properties to it, but the original farm was handed down to my father. We go back further than 100 years ago. We go back to pre-Civil War."

While Ray worked the land and was recognized for his excellence in test demonstration farming in the '80s, Elaine chose a different path, guided by a childhood dream of becoming a schoolteacher. Her 38-year career in education was filled with the joy of witnessing young minds flourish. The sparkle in a child's eye as they grasped a concept or read a word became her greatest reward. Her dedication and compassion extended to special needs children.

"It was like a little light bulb covered over the head and the joy of seeing them learn and enjoy what you were doing. We tried to make teaching fun, and at that time, kindergarten was."

Their journey was not without its trials. Both Ray and Elaine faced intense bat-

tles with cancer and witnessed God create strength and resilience out of their weakness and pain. Through it all, they leaned on each other, finding solace in their shared faith and unwavering support.

As Weaver Farms continues to thrive, a new generation steps into the fold. Their two sons, Jamie and John, bring fresh energy and a dedication to preserving the family legacy. Jamie, a graduate in animal science, is the driving force behind the farm's continued success. John, a Methodist minister, is vital to the farm's community involvement, bridging the gap between faith and agriculture.

Ray and Elaine's dedication to their community and the preservation of the land is evident. They are active members of various organizations, including the Soil Conservation Service and Farm Bureau, advocating for the importance of agriculture in everyday life. Their involvement extends to their church, Hillsboro Methodist Church, where their faith intertwines with their commitment to the land.

For Ray and Elaine, "from the heart" is not just a theme but a way of life. Their love for each other, their family, their community, and the land itself resonates in every facet of their story. Through trials and triumphs, their commitment to one another and their shared values is the beating heart of Weaver Farms.

"We've been married for 48 years, but I love her more than I did when we were first married. Through the years, you start with the physical attraction, and then it goes on to the mental attraction because you go through different stages of life. But you love each other more all the time," said Ray. GN

"We've been married for 48 years, but I love her more than I did when we were first married."

- Ray Weaver



How the Good News Magic Happens: From Submission to Print

How does a story get into Good News Magazine?

Nominate someone to be featured in Good News Magazine.

Since Good News launched, we have received hundreds of nominations for people to be covered. Ever wondered how a story finds its way into the pages of our magazine? Well, the answer is simple: it's all thanks to you! Not only are the stories about local people, but they come from other local people, too! Here's a glimpse into the journey of how stories come alive in Good News Magazine.



Step 1: The submission process: goodnewsmags.com

We believe that everyone has a story worth sharing, and we rely on our readers to help us discover these extraordinary individuals. Submissions are made through our website and include the following details:

- A nominee's name
- Contact information (phone and email)
- The reason for the submission, along with why they qualify as a "Good News" story. This may include their contributions to the community, impactful deeds, family life, occupation, and more.
- We're not looking for you to write the story or find a superstar. We believe everyone has a story, and we only need relevant information. Our writers will do the rest!

Step 2: Selection and theme assignment

We tell stories about local people and what they are doing to make a difference. We have told stories about charities, medical staff, volunteers, school staff, and your next-door neighbor. Again, everyone has a story. While we feature six remarkable individuals in each issue, keep in mind that our production schedule is planned months in advance. So, if someone isn't featured in the upcoming issue, there's still a chance they'll be highlighted in the future. We keep all submissions on file for potential use.

Step 3: Interviews and photo shoots

Once a story is selected, our talented writers and photographers swing into action. We continue to be inspired by the stories submitted to us, and we complete the interviews and photo shoots several months before the issue goes to print. Our writers may conduct interviews via phone or video chat, while others prefer in-person meetings with the individuals behind the stories.



What's next in Good News Magazine?

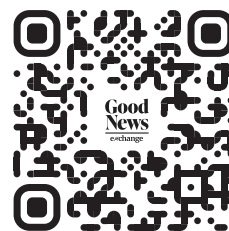
Currently, our dedicated team of magazine writers and editors is hard at work crafting stories under themes like "Charity Spotlight," "The Learning Curve," and "Shop Local." We are excited to announce the next theme needing story submissions is **"Independence."**

What we seek in Independence stories:

We are looking for local veterans in our community who are willing to share their stories. Do you know a veteran in your community who faced and overcame challenges? Or veterans who now use their experience to assist others? Or, you might know of charities led by veterans that positively impact the community. We're looking to highlight such veterans and their inspiring stories in our upcoming Independence issue.

Do you know someone who deserves to be in Good News Magazine?

Let us know with a submission at www.GoodNewsMags.com or scan the QR code. Share your stories with us, and let's continue spreading the Good News together.







CHAPTER 3 OF 3

This section of the magazine covers local things to do.

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Submit a positive story
on our website:



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Photography by Ashleigh Newnes

◀ Justin Bryan, Jamie Newman,
and Thomas Bellamy

Manchester Police Department Angel Tree Program - Dec. 15

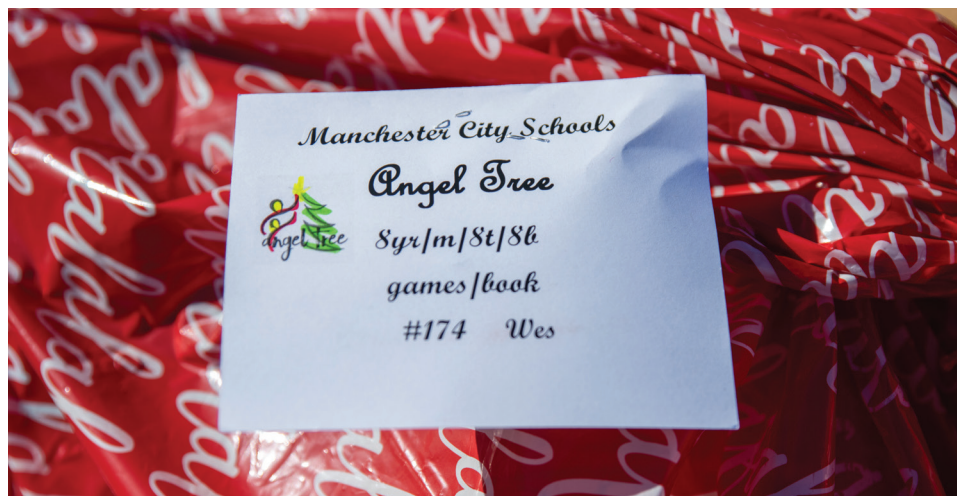


Photography by Ashleigh Newnes

On Dec. 15, 2023, members of the Manchester Police Department handed out gifts and food boxes to children and their families for Christmas.



1. Dale Robertson and Emily Penick 2. Bryan Eldridge 3. Justin Bryan, Jamie Newman, and Thomas Bellamy 4. Dawn Adams 5. Trey Adcock, Brandon Tomberlin, and Ben Sneed



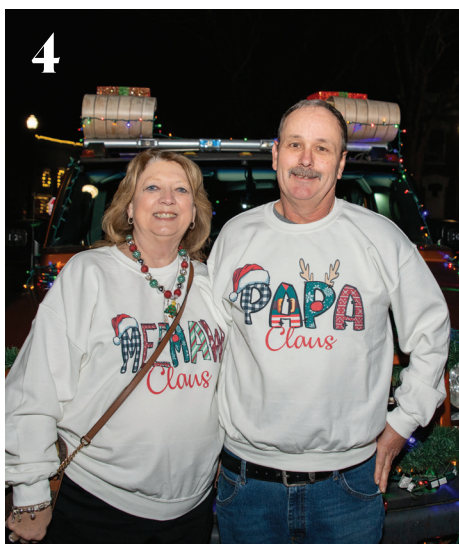
6. Ben Sneed 7. Alicean Stottlemeyer
8. Emily Penick and Dawn Adams

Manchester's Downtown Stroll - Dec. 15



Photography by Ashleigh Newnes

On Dec. 15, 2023, Manchester's annual Downtown Stroll hosted by the Manchester Chamber of Commerce was a big success with storefront decor contests, food trucks, a s'more station, a Christmas movie on the big screen, and carriage rides.



1. Abby Bucy 2. Shawn Wolf, Amber Wolf, Toyomi, Tammy Crozier, Dee Wolf, and Bill Crozier 3. Melissa Doak, Seth Doak, Sara Doak, Kelsey Maybrey, and Ella Grace Doak 4. Karen and Charles Willis 5. Mary Burt, Tony Burt, and Sandy Clark



6. Saige Adams 7. Caroline, Yvette, and Bonnie Parsley 8. Brayden, Becky, and Billy Fanney 9. Amber McFarland, Ashley Abraham, Pam Bussell, and Jenny Orr



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GOOD TIMES

EVENTS CALENDAR

January 20

12:30 pm **2024 Winter-Spring Vegetable Seed Growing Collaborative**
709 Daddy Green Rd.
Christiana

A collaborative event for vegetable seed growing for anyone in the Manchester area.

January 27

7:00 am **Monthly Fundraiser Breakfast**
VFW Post 10904
130 Shelton Rd.
Manchester

Join us for our monthly fundraiser breakfast. Takeout available.

February 3

12:00 pm **Grace Chili Cook-off Fundraiser**
Grundy Recovery Alliance
Community Endeavor
67 Old Hwy. 56 Coalmont

This is a chili cook-off fundraiser for the local community.

February 10

10:00 am **DIY Class Three-panel Arched Sign**
The Farmhouse
at Two Trees
439 Smith Mill Rd.
Fayetteville

Join us for a fun and creative DIY class, where you'll get hands-on and tap into your inner artist to craft a beautiful Romans 12:12 inspired three-panel arched sign.



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10:00 am **Sweet as Candy Crafts Show**

Coffee County Fair
420 Hendrixson Dr.
Manchester

The fourth annual crafts
show event will be in full
swing in Coffee County.

12:00 pm **Drum Making/ Teaching Circle with Elder Strong Heart Bear**

IAOMAI Retreats
52 Lillypad Ln.
Tracy City

Community members
are welcome to come
make drums and learn at
the IAOMAI Retreats in
Manchester.

February 24

11:00 am **Third Annual Miss Southern Sweetheart Pageant**

University of Tennessee
Space Institute
411 B H Goethert Pkwy.
Tullahoma

The community is
welcome to watch. Door
admission fee of \$5 (free
for those under age 10),
and each contestant
receives one free
admission.

For more events and to submit an event visit:

www.GoodNewsMags.com/events
or call (800) 247-7318



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Bomb Pop
Chocolate/Vanilla
Twist Cone
Fudge Brownie Bar
Nerd Bomb Pops

NOVELTY & NOSTALGIC CANDIES

BAKERY

Oatmeal Cream Pie
Macarons
No Bake Cookies
Jumbo Peanut Butter Cups
Brownies
Chess Squares
Mudslides
More



BREAKFAST

Serving Light Breakfast Items

SPECIALTY DRINKS

- Pumpkin Spice Latte
- Toasted Marshmallow Mocha
- Cinnamon Churro
- Espresso
- Cappuccino
- Latte
- Hot chocolate
- Hot tea



Menu is subject to change.



Café, Bakery & Gift Shop

Wed. & Thurs.: 11:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Fri.: 11:00 AM - 8:30 PM
Sat.: 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Sunday: 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Lunch 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Dinner 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Cafe located at: 210 N. Irwin St., Manchester, TN - (931) 723-2491

Our Coffee/Ice Cream Shop is located at: 109 W High St., Manchester, TN (Right around the corner from the Cafe)



Good Music, Good Food

Appetizers

Fried Pickle Chips

(Battered and fried in house until golden brown)

BBQ Nachos

(Deep fried tortilla chips, topped with Smoked pulled pork, ranch beans, Nacho cheese, and jalapenos)

Potato Skins Loaded with Pork

(6 skins fried golden brown topped with bacon, Pork, and shredded cheese)

Chicken

3 Piece Chicken Tender Plate

(3 jumbo chicken tenders breaded and fried To perfection. And your choice of 2 classic sides)

Loaded Chicken Breast Plate

(2 grilled chicken breast topped with bbq Sauce, cheese, and diced tomatoes, and 2 classic sides)

Baby Back Ribs

Full Rack Rib Plate

(1 whole slab of smoked in house Ribs with our homemade bbq sauce Glazed on the with 2 classic sides)

Smoked Pulled Pork

Loose BBQ plate

(Smoked in house & seasoned with our Secret rub, our plate comes with 2 classic Sides and pickles)

Smoked Brisket

Brisket Sandwich Plate

(Our brisket is smoked in house seasoned With our secret rub, on top of a brioche bun)

**Enjoy BBQ & Live Music
indoors every weekend!**

Concerts will be held outdoors

BINGO

Every Monday
& Wednesday
\$100 payout

TRIVIA

Thursday Night
\$100 payout



620 Woodbury Hwy.
Manchester, TN 37355

931-954-5377

Hours: 11:00 A.M. -9:00 P.M.

Live music on weekends

9576 Manchester Hwy.
Morrison, TN 37357

931-635-2259

Hours: 10:30 A.M. -8:30 P.M.

Prater's
Bar-B-Que
& Catering

