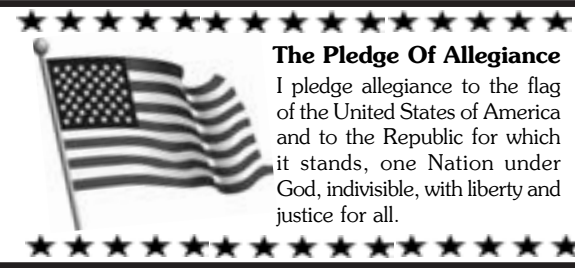


OPINIONS



Memorial Day

Too many people celebrate Memorial Day as the beginning of summer rather than a day of solemn observance.

When Congress changed Memorial Day from May 30 to the "last Monday in May" so that federal and state employees could enjoy another long weekend, the special meaning of the observance was lost on many.

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, was first observed on May 30, 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of both Union and Confederate soldiers in Arlington National Cemetery. Since the 1950s, the 1,200 soldiers of the 3rd U.S. Infantry have been placing small American flags on the graves of all 260,000 gravestones in the cemetery the Thursday before Memorial Day, and then patrol for 24 hours a day to make sure the flags remain standing. In other locations across the country, Boy and Girl Scout organizations place flags on hundreds of thousands of soldiers' graves.

While some communities will let the day go by with no observance whatsoever, we are glad that won't happen here. For a number of years, Waynesboro American Legion Post 120 has been placing small crosses bearing the names of fallen veterans on the main thoroughfare in the city. They serve as a visible reminder of the price that has been paid not only for our freedom, but for the freedom of many nations around the world.

As we have said in the past, you don't have to agree with the politics of war to understand and appreciate the sacrifice of our men and women in uniform.

If you cannot attend a Memorial Day observance like the one at the Burke County Court House on Monday, at least take a few minutes to remember the price that has been paid to protect our freedoms and values.



RFD

By **Bonnie K. Taylor**
General Manager The True Citizen

I have another special graduation to attend this Friday in Greenville.

My niece, Erin Kelly, will graduate from Shannon Forest Christian School.



This has been a bittersweet year for her. She has played soccer since she was a little tike. During her senior year in high school she was captain of the girl's soccer team.

Just into the season she was injured while playing. They taped her up good and she continued to play.

She would limp between games, use ice packs and elevate her leg until it was time for the next game.

She was notified that she received a soccer scholarship to play at Anderson College when she graduated. She was ecstatic, but she had also applied to Clemson and wanted to keep her options open.

She was accepted at Clemson!
On a high, she and her teammates were playing well. At one of

the games she stopped quickly and pivoted to look back down field and her knee snapped.

She was diagnosed with a torn ACL and surgery was required. Since her surgery she has been on crutches with her knee completely straight.

It has been a major pain for her to get in and out of a vehicle and she makes a better passenger if she takes the whole back seat.

The last few weeks as a senior at school have been short days between being exhausted and therapy.

Thank goodness she was exempt for most of her finals!
She will receive her diploma hobbling across the stage and we will be there to see her mark another milestone in her life.

Congratulations, Erin!

Hilliard and Lacy Baker will be hosts for a reception for the grand opening of Coradell's Wedding Chapel this Saturday from noon until 4 p.m.

Coradell's Wedding Chapel is located in the old Burke County Board of Education building on Academy Avenue.

The business is named after Lacy's late mother, Coradell. She wanted her new business to include her mom in some way, and

— See RFD, Page 5

Looking Back

10 years ago: May 21, 1997

The Georgia Department of Transportation announced that acquisition of right of way for the Savannah River Parkway would begin in a few weeks.

Burke County Sheriff Greg Coursey said more than \$13,000 had been raised for the Georgia Sheriff's Youth Homes in a golf tournament. Brothers Mitch, Britt and Wade Marchman won the three-man team event for the second consecutive year. Wade and Mitch had won it in the two previous years under a two-man format.

25 years ago: May 26, 1982

Responding to reaction in the community, Carolina Hospital and Health Services (CHHS) reinstated Jim Emery as administrator of the Burke County Hospital.

Palmer Hardware observed its 60th anniversary.

50 years ago: May 23, 1957

Waynesboro police officer Gordon Tanner was sentenced to life in prison for the shooting death of 36-year-old Herman B. DeLaigle.

Only four precincts cast a majority of votes for a bond issue to build a new library, but the issue carried county-wide by a vote of 651 to 423. The City of Waynesboro voted 543 for and only 50 against, offsetting negative votes in other parts of the county.

75 years ago: May 20, 1932

Jesse C. Palmer Jr. and W. T. Knox Jr. led the flag salute at the unveiling of the monument in front of the "Munneryn House" commemorating George Washington's visit to Waynesboro.

Civil service examinations were being administered for the position of fireman at the new Waynesboro Post Office. Duties included firing and caring for the boilers as well as various janitorial duties. The salary was \$1,260 per year.

Steven Rice

PARENTAL GUIDANCE

Heaven knows that today's movies are violent. If a movie is to gross more than 10 million it has to have heads cut off and/or



blood hitting the camera lens not to mention scanty clad females whose birthday suits seem to do little to further the plot.

Violence in film and television is a real problem and not many dispute the graphic content, but have you seen Donald Duck recently?

When I was little, I remember my uncle always had four or five Beta tapes of Donald Duck and the Three Stooges to keep his two nephews occupied when we paid a visit.

I grew up on Tom and Jerry, Chip and Dale, Mickey, Minnie, Donald, Goofy, Larry, Moe, and Curly. But now that I have a rug rat of my own and I am revisiting these movies, I've got to tell you, I'm a bit surprised!

I'm not railing against Walt Disney, but watch a Donald Duck short when you get a chance. Typically Donald has some battle with an insect, a bee or a worm.

There is one episode where Donald is redecorating his home and a bee minding his own business sees Donald's new red flower wallpaper and mistakes them for the real thing. After a few failed attempts at pollinating the paper, Donald decides to have a little fun with this creature, to which (not to ruin the story), Donald and the bee exchange would-be fatal blows to the head, heinie

(yes that's how you spell it), and home.

Who can forget the time that a colony of ants tried to ruin Donald's picnic? That'll fetch an R rating today.

And then there's the episode when Donald called Daisy "toots" (and I'm *not* sure if that is how you spell it). I will only write "toots," I'm actually afraid to say that word out loud.

What about the Three Stooges? If I had a nickel every time Moe slapped Larry and poked Curly in the eyes, Bill Gates would be cutting my grass (I bet he'd have a pretty cool lawnmower, though).

Did you see the episode when Moe put Curly's head into a letterpress? As parents we try to keep our children away from any unhealthy influence. But for whatever reason, we have always loved sex and violence, both of which appear in movies rated A to Z.

Well, actually movies that are rated from G to R, but you get the picture. I'm not one to advocate throwing away the television or even throwing away Donald Duck.

I actually like Donald Duck. But there needs to be some human adult telling a human child that a two-dimensional duck squishing a two-dimensional cricket is not real life.

In real life that sort of behavior is not to be tolerated. And I don't think telling our children this will make them "soft" or unprepared for life ahead of them.

But I do think *not* telling them opens the door for them to act like Donald, Goofy, Mickey, Minnie, Tom, Jerry, Chip and Dale. In other words, like animals.

Bill Shipp

A CONSUMER GUY AS A GOVERNOR

Widely known consumer-protection guru Clark Howard is considering running for Atlanta mayor when Shirley Franklin's term expires at the end of 2009.



Clark, here's a message from one professional advice peddler to another: Don't do it.

Step back and take a hard look at what such a campaign would entail. A 52-year-old white guy would be taking on the Atlanta black establishment to capture Atlanta City Hall. To most informed observers, such a race looks like an impossible mission from the get-go. Sonny Perdue could become Atlanta mayor easier than Howard, who looks too much like a high-energy boat

rocker.
Lisa Borders, the Atlanta city council president, is seen as the current establishment favorite to become mayor. Barring a major

change in the political climate, Borders is likely to remain the establishment's pick right up until Election Day.

Besides, media types don't often make good candidates. They usually talk too much. Their faces turn red or their noses grow longer when they fib. A long time ago, Hal Suit, news director and anchor for the largest TV station in the state, ran as a Republican for governor. Though Hal Suit was a household name and obviously a likeable and informed candidate, Democrat Jimmy Carter stomped him at the polls.

Don't get us wrong. We're not advising Clark to avoid running completely — just try for another office, one in which he can do some real good. The Atlanta mayor's office is probably not one of those places.

Clark should go for governor.

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Roy F. Chalker
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Roy F. Chalker Jr.
Editor & Publisher

Bonnie K. Taylor
General Manager

Elizabeth Billips
Associate Editor

Jill DuMars, advertising composition and computer photography; **Susie Barefield**, classifieds and circulation; **Betty Belk**, accounting and bookkeeping; **Deborah Kitchens**, receptionist and advertising sales; **Lavonna Drawdy**, advertising composition and design and advertising sales; **Lisa J. Chance**, page designer; **Kathy Vause**, Sales; **Anne Marie Kyzer**, staff writer; **Diana Royal**, staff writer; and **Bobby Bolton**, delivery.

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