

TODAY'S WOMAN

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2022

2022



THE WISDOM OF GENERATIONS

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A SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT TO THE
BOLIVAR HERALD-FREE PRESS

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THE SILENT GENERATION



Neta Gallivan poses with her plaque awarded to her from a recent ice cream churn off, winning first place at the Bolivar Elks Lodge contest in August, 2022.

Neta
Gallivan

Interview by Linda Simmons

How have you been able to impart your wisdom to the community?

Back in the 1960's I was in a group called the 20 club and they did volunteer projects for organizations. We went door to door in Bolivar collecting for cancer, which later on they sold daffodils. Also, about the same time the county was raising money to rebuild the old swimming pool. I helped do that. Then later we (the PTA) talked to the school board about raising the teacher's salaries, as it had not been done in a number of years. They had a school levy voted on and it passed. The PTA had a big part in that, as we went door to door asking people to vote on it and we think it had a big part in helping get the vote it needed to pass.

What is something you appreciate about being born in your generation?

I think we learned more of what it took to make a living at that time. I know we always canned lots of veg-

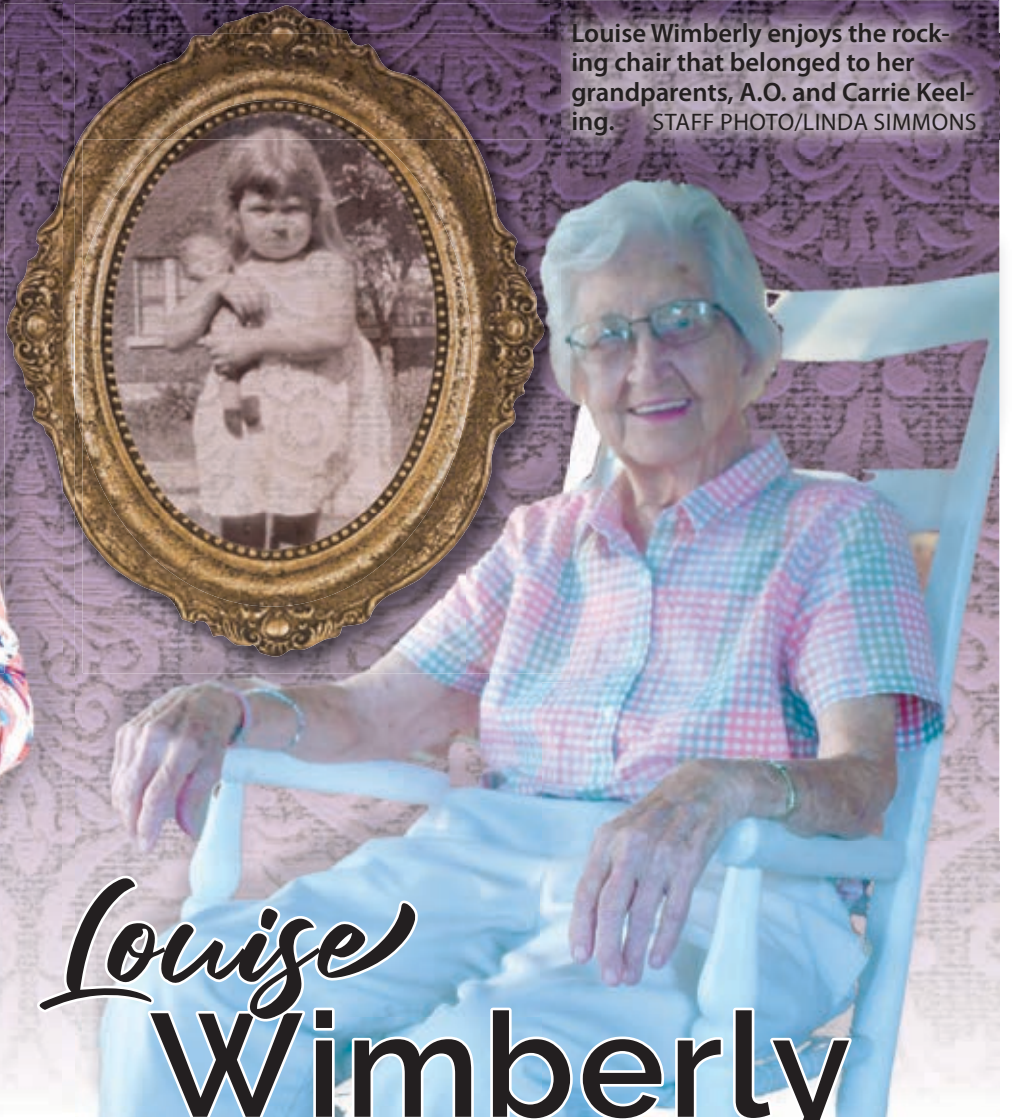
etables and fruits. We put some in the locker plant in town. You rented a locker I think, by the year and we also used it to freeze beef and frying chickens. It was very good food and saved a lot of money. I helped my Mother and Dad on the farm and enjoyed it and learned to do a lot of things by helping and listening. Also, when new inventions came out we appreciated them and learned to use them and put them to work.

I attended a one-room rural school for the first eight years. It was called Ozark, about 1 1/2 miles north of Bolivar. Then it was called the old Fairground road. It's out of Bolivar on Albany Street now. We only went to school for eight months, starting in the middle of August and got out in April. This was scheduled this way, so the boys could work and help farm with their parents.

What are some challenges you've faced as a woman of your generation?

We didn't have electricity and

See **GALLIVAN**, Page 3



Louise Wimberly enjoys the rocking chair that belonged to her grandparents, A.O. and Carrie Keeling. STAFF PHOTO/LINDA SIMMONS

Louise
Wimberly

Interview by Linda Simmons

How have you been able to impart your wisdom to the community?

Wisdom, not in my vocabulary. I have always stayed active in my church and other organizations. Over the years, still to this day, I visit nursing homes and continue to try to bring some joy into others lives.

One of my most rewarding ventures was when I took a prisoner from the Polk County jail with me on my Sunday afternoon trash pick-up routes. I spent hours working in various areas of town picking up trash, pulling weeds and just trying to make the city look presentable. The sheriff at the time, Mike Parson, approached me about letting one prisoner out for the afternoon to work with me. At first I wasn't sure it would work out very well, but it turned out to be very rewarding and I ended up actually making friends with some of the young men as well as hopefully helping

them turn their lives around.

What is something you appreciate about being born in your generation?

I enjoyed the community activities we would be a part of. Saturday night band concerts on the square, county fairs, school activities. And of course, face-to-face conversations...no carrying around phones to occupy our time.

What are some challenges you've faced as a woman of your generation?

These might not be considered challenges, but having to give up physical activities, not being able to go to out-of-town functions, slow down on driving as much, outliving so many friends, all things that change life so much. But living in a town where there are so many that are willing to reach out and offer to help really does make those challenges less daunting.

See **WIMBERLY**, Page 3

Giana Andrews, Frances Haralson, Kim Jenkins, Amy Bayless
(Photo Bomber: Scott Sanders)

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One of her favorite places to be, Neta enjoys being in her kitchen working on her baking projects. STAFF PHOTOS/LINDA SIMMONS

GALLIVAN

Continued from Page 2

running water. Southwest Electric (The Rural Electrification Association) was started in the late 1930's. WWII happened in 1941. They stopped all construction and used all the metal to make bombs, and war material. As soon as the peace treaty was signed they hired all the men (the veterans coming back from service) and material they could get to start building lines again. I had graduated from high school and was working at Southwest Electric and could see all the things happening. The companies started making stoves, refrigerators, new appliances, cars, and many things people want and need. Also, during WWII we had gas stamps, sugar, shoes and I can't remember all. Nylon hose were really a premium. I was at the age that I thought I was really deprived. I found an old postcard telling me I had a pair of hose, bring the card with you. That was back in 1943.

How do you hope to influence future generations of women?

I hope I have given a lot of things I have learned, to my children and grandchildren. I feel they need to learn how to count money without a calculator, or computer to do it for them. You still need to mentally know how to do things, without it being mentally done for you. The power might go off someday and you need to know what to do. I think all women need to know how to make a living. We have learned that it is not just a man's job any more.



A beautiful pecan pie fresh out of the oven. A cherry pie earned Neta a top prize at the 2022 Polk County Junior Livestock Show pie contest.

What message of wisdom would you like to send to women of other generations?

What I said before. Women need a profession. They needed it in the past and didn't realize it, and need it now to help make a living, as well as they might be the sole supporter for the family. Also, I think it is self satisfying to women to have it, even if they aren't using it. The husband and wife need to support each other in making decisions for their children and discuss these things ahead of time, so you can support each other when the time comes. Help get them ready for college before they are there. Don't wait too late, as time comes before you know it.



ABOVE: Louise keeps track of her papers and mail in the comfort of the home she has lived in for 62 years. STAFF PHOTO/LINDA SIMMONS

WIMBERLY

Continued from Page 2

How do you hope to influence future generations of women?

Encourage others to stay busy, do volunteer work, get involved in church activities. Always try to find community organizations to be a part of. And always take part in the school activities, even if you don't have kids in school. They are our future so be there to cheer them on.

What message of wisdom would you like to send to women of other generations?

Take one day at a time. Try not to worry about everything. Be optimistic and enjoy what is going on around you. Offer help if possible. Stay interested in all ages, family, school and young people.



ON THE COVER

Can you match these faces? Generations share their wisdom.

TODAY'S WOMAN

September 21, 2022

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Contributors

Quincy Young
news@bolivar
monews.com

Linda Simmons
news@bolivar
monews.com

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BABY BOOMERS



Linda
Simmons

A true dog-mom, Linda loves giving attention to her fur babies, saying that she has gained wisdom from them. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Carol
Poindexter

Recorder of Deeds, Polk County Courthouse

STAFF PHOTO/
QUINCY YOUNG

Photographer, Bolivar Herald-Free Press

Interview by Quincy Young

How have you been able to impart your wisdom to the community?

One definition of wisdom according to the dictionary is 'the quality of having experience, knowledge, and good judgment; the quality of being wise.' I have never thought of wisdom being something that I am full of, but over the years I have had a lot of experiences in various situations. I have a little bit of knowledge about several things (but not a lot of it about any of them), and I am not sure I want to go down the judgment path at all. But whatever wisdom I do have, I am more than happy to share. Although I have never thought of myself as being a good 'teacher,' I guess that part of wisdom is still trying to surface, so whatever I have imparted on to anyone was probably purely by accident.

What is something you appreciate about being born in your generation?

There are so many things about being a Baby Boomer that I love; the fact that it was so long ago isn't necessarily one of them. Growing

up during the '50s and '60s was so different from today. Everything was centered around immediate family and community.

I always lived in small towns and the people of the community always knew each other, looked out for each other and centered their lives around each other. Our social media was getting together over Sunday lunch and catching up with what had been going on. It was just a much slower pace, and while I know there were things that my folks stressed about, it wasn't like today. During that time, the biggest most outrageous thing people were talking about was Elvis Presely and his hip movement on the Ed Sullivan Show. Compared to today's daily scandals, life was really quite calm and slower-paced in general.

What are some challenges you've faced as a woman of your generation?

I was not a great student and didn't find studying to be something I really enjoyed doing. So getting out of high school and just wanting to go to work and not go to college, there were some challenges to getting

See **SIMMONS**, Page 5

Interview by Quincy Young

How have you been able to impart your wisdom to the community?

As Recorder of Deeds, I love to share the history of Polk County real estate and marriage records. I have done my best to get all the records digitized, preserved and accessible online. All marriages are indexed and imaged. I began working in the Recorder's office in 1994. I have watched as great advances in technology made records easier to access with less mistakes in recording information. Experience has given me knowledge of my office and county government. Helping others find a record that is important to them is very rewarding.

My hope is that I am encouraging others to access the records and care about them. Your courthouse is a beautiful building, and the records in it are priceless. Serving the public has allowed me the opportunity to meet people in my community. It is an honor to serve as the Recorder of Deeds for Polk County. I am thankful to live in the best county in the state. If you come into my office and show any interest in the records, you may

be here for a while.

What is something you appreciate about being born in your generation?

It was a slower pace, with no cell phones or computers. People spent more time outdoors. Children could roam freely without fear, you knew all your neighbors. I had the best childhood. I remember when our family got its first TV. It was black and white, and only two stations came in clear. It was a treat to gather as a family to watch Gunsmoke. Air conditioning was a luxury. I was a senior in high school when my mother finally broke down and bought a window unit for the kitchen.

What are some challenges you've faced as a woman of your generation?

Some of the same that women face today: childcare, making ends meet, and finding quality time for your children. Also not being considered for the good paying jobs or taken seriously because you are a woman and have a family. Women are leveling the playing field, but more advancement must be made.

See **POINDEXTER**, Page 5

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Linda's grandsons are the focus of her life. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

SIMMONS

Continued from Page 4

out there and finding out that adulting wasn't always as much fun as I thought it would be. That was also during the Vietnam War, and losing friends to the war was very hard to accept that life wasn't always going to be fun and games.

It was also a time when women were starting to want to be more than a housewife and be a part of the workforce if not running the workforce. I have always been very competitive so most of those challenges I usually tried to meet head on. I was very fortunate to have people in my life willing to give me a chance, share their wisdom with me and help me learn to do things that would become a lifelong passion.

How do you hope to influence future generations of women?

By staying active and hopefully influencing someone to keep hammering away at their dreams; don't let anyone tell you that you are too ambitious. And to always keep in mind that your particular generation didn't invent the wheel. There is always something to be learned from those that have paved the way before you.

What message of wisdom would you like to send to women of other generations?

I don't know if this would be considered wisdom or just common sense, but hold steady to your beliefs and work hard both physically and mentally to make your dreams come true. And don't be afraid to change directions if you find that what you thought was your dream turns out to be a nightmare. Form good work ethics, be on time, be honest, be true to yourself and above all else just be kind.



Carol leads a choir of courthouse employees in a series of songs at a retirement party for former tax collector Debbi Roberts-McGinnis. FILE PHOTO

POINDEXTER

Continued from Page 4

How do you hope to influence future generations of women?

I think it is most important to believe in and be yourself, take time to listen to people, surround yourself with positive people who care about you and forget the rest. Listen to your heart; you never know what opportunity will come your way. Do your best at everything you can, and help people when you get the opportunity. Strive to work well with others. Take care of your health. Get involved in your community, and help to make it a better place for you and your children.

What message of wisdom would you like to send to women of other generations?

First, I would like to thank the women in the past who fought for

our rights. Because of them I can work outside the home, manage my own affairs, and vote! I have had great mentors at the courthouse, women of all ages that shared their knowledge of work and life. I am proud to say that these women are good friends.

To the women of the present, do the job to the best of your ability. If you do not like your job, get another one. Exercise, and always find time for yourself. Life is short, spend it with the people you love. Your children need you; they are the future, so invest in them.

And to the women of the future, find a job you enjoy and hopefully will grow to love. You will make mistakes, so do your best to correct them. Be kind, show respect, and smile. Everyone is going through something. A simple smile is a welcome sight. Remember what is important in life, and do not stray too far from that.

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Back row: Michael Cook, Adam Kumm, Tiffany Corum, Sloan Welch, Nicolas Lantz, Megan Dickens, Ebony Thompson
Front row: Tammy Atteberry, Brittany Campbell, Colleen Ball, Laura Miller, Carol Bookhout, Wanita Lister, Michelle Morris



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GENERATION X



Tamana
Heitz-Peek

Director of Marketing, Citizens Memorial Hospital/
Citizens Memorial Health Care Foundation

Interview by Linda Simmons

How have you been able to impart your wisdom to the community?

I graduated from Evangel University in May 1991 and moved to Bolivar a few months later to work for Southwest Baptist University as the public information officer. A month shy of my 21st birthday, I was fresh-faced and ready to conquer the world. Thankfully I had a few wonderful mentors who helped to guide me through challenging times and celebrated my successes along the way. I've worked at Citizens Memorial Hospital for the last 17 years and love being able to give back by encouraging young professionals new to their careers and partnering with community members to support health care initiatives and business growth.

What is something you appreciate about being born in your generation?

I love my generation (Generation X) because I've learned so much from the previous three generations which included my grandparents, parents and older siblings. Growing up in the 1970s, I heard firsthand accounts about living through the depression and World War II and how my family lived and overcame challenges. I've always been fascinated by history, and I feel so lucky to have learned about some of the most pivotal moments in history through the stories shared by my family. That being said, the 1970s and 1980s were definitely simpler times before computers, social media, 24-hour news and cell phones dominated our lives.

What are some challenges you've faced as a woman of your generation?

There was a lot of pressure for women of my generation to get advanced degrees, have careers, raise families, volunteer and do it all. Raised in the era of women's rights,

See HEITZ-PEEK, Page 7



Lisa
Jarvis

Music Teacher, Childress Music Studios

Interview by Quincy Young

How have you been able to impart your wisdom to the community?

My years of experience in music education has allowed me to teach people all the way from age 5 to age 75. I've taught different instruments, and I've also prepared students to perform in their churches, bands, or just for enjoyment. I also develop close relationships with people and become friends with my students, and I'm still getting to teach music to students at my home studio.

What is something you appreciate about being born in your generation?

The simplicity of life. It didn't seem simple at the time, but looking back, it seems a lot more simple and wholesome. I also feel like there was less stress than there is now, and it seems like

people were more religious when I was growing up.

What are some challenges you've faced as a woman of your generation?

In the music business, women have come a long way. I went to Nashville to start my recording career, and it seemed like women had to fight harder to compete with men in the recording industry. Women have come so far, and there are more opportunities now.

How do you hope to influence future generations of women?

Teach women to stay close to God, to pray a lot, and to be true to themselves. I also think it's important to work hard and to not be entitled – don't expect it to come easy; you have to work hard, and have lots of patience and tenacity.

See JARVIS, Page 7

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Top row (left to right): Cindy Young, Terri Cloyd, Sarah Sibley, Ally Murray, Sarah Watson, Barb Haynes, Deb Coble.
Bottom row (left to right): Patty Jones, Hannah Toombs, Michelle Follis, Michelle Woods, Sammy Burks, Annie Artz, Leslie Cantrell.
Not pictured: Anita Ellis, Jenny Williams, Melinda Needham, Myrlla Hall.



Staying involved with the community, Tamara volunteers for various events. Judging cupcakes for the Country Day's competition is one of the more fun jobs.

STAFF PHOTOS/LINDA SIMMONS

HEITZ-PEEK

Continued from Page 6

there was a culture of having to prove your worth. Women in my generation have very strong work ethics and are masters at juggling work, children's sports schedules and activities, and also finding time to run the household. The downside to so much achievement, there were many times I didn't take the time to stop and enjoy the little things.

How do you hope to influence future generations of women?

Women need to know it's OK to take time for themselves, and it's OK to not feel pressured to accomplish it all. The younger generations have different priorities, and I like that they have a more balanced approach to working and home life. I hear people say, "Young people just don't want to work hard anymore," and I think the

older generations probably said that about my generation, too. I'm supportive of more balanced lifestyles, and as I've gotten older, I'm trying to learn a thing or two from younger generations and take more time to enjoy my family and hobbies.

What message of wisdom would you like to send to women of other generations?

I want women to be more supportive of one another. Instead of being competitive and trying to outshine others, women need to reach out and be the one during times of crises and heartache, reach out and be the cheerleader when someone else succeeds, reach out and be available to care and to listen, and reach out when someone feels lonely and doesn't want to go on. Be the one to make a difference. Make friendships with women of all ages, backgrounds and aspirations. Be an encourager!



Lisa loves to sing and make music for audiences alongside her daughter and husband in their band, the ABLeS. STAFF PHOTO/QUINCY YOUNG

JARVIS

Continued from Page 6

What message of wisdom would you like to send to women of other generations?

Respect yourself, and work hard. Don't let anyone hold you back from being your best. Find your passion and pursue it.



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Front row : Madison King, Whitney Copeland, Jenna Viles, Jane Francka and Delpha Jones. Back row: Carole Gray, Tina Degraffenreid, Beverly Smith, Kim Segui, Donita Pirkle and Vanessa Johnson. Not pictured: Cheyanne McGinnis, Allison Blamey, Jeannie Brown, Maddy McCarty



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MILLENNIALS



Laura Jenkins

Outreach Coordinator, Polk County Library

Interview by Quincy Young

How have you been able to impart your wisdom to the community?

I feel like I impart my wisdom through my servant's heart. And as outreach coordinator, I connect people in the community to resources.

What is something you

appreciate about being born in your generation?

I appreciate that my parent's generation taught my generation how to work hard. They taught us how to be creative and not rely on technology.

What are some challenges you've faced as a woman of your generation?

See JENKINS, Page 9



Lacey Allison

Owner, Country Lace Boutique

Interview by Linda Simmons

How have you been able to impart your wisdom to the community?

First, I hope the community sees that I rely on God's wisdom to lead me. He is the reason why CLB is what it is. I hope the wisdom I have shown the community is how important small businesses are. They

are the backbone of the community. I also hope that others with a small dream like mine, have been encouraged to pursue their own dreams that they are passionate about.

What is something you appreciate about being born in your generation?

Well I would have to appreciate

See ALLISON, Page 9



Lydia Lusby, Malinda Goforth

Goforth Home & Lawn Southern Charm Duo

Come shop local with these two! Since 2019 Malinda has been the owner of Goforth Home & Lawn. She brought Lydia on as manager in 2021. They're both originally from the south so you'll instantly feel the southern charm when you walk in the door.

Lydia mainly runs the storefront & schedules services for Bolivar, Polk County & surrounding areas with appliances, mattresses, furniture, outdoor furniture, outdoor appliances, smokers, grills & hot tubs. She coordinates deliveries, installs & haul aways as well. This girl wears many hats!! When not working, you'll find Lydia hanging out with her husband, Jeremiah, & playing with their 3 fur babies.

Malinda works from home doing the books for GH&L & managing the "hospitality" side of the business. GH&L provides bulk appliances, mattresses, bases & TV's for hotels across the country. When not working, you'll find Malinda by her husband's side in his business, Goforth Construction, or spending time with their 3 kids. Family is everything to her!

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Working at the library's pirate-themed booth for Country Days in 2021, Laura plays along with some prize-seeking children in the cakewalk. STAFF PHOTO/QUINCY YOUNG

JENKINS

Continued from Page 8

Comparing ourselves as women. We also have to find that balance of knowing when to be meek and when to be bold. And there's even challenges in being caught between the differences of my parent's generation and the generation that follows mine.

How do you hope to influence future generations of women?

To teach by doing, and lead by example. I hope my actions meet my words, and show my servant's heart. I would like for them to know how to choose their battles. There's a season for everything, and I think it's important to know how to use

your voice and to know when to be humble and when to be empowered.

What message of wisdom would you like to send to women of other generations?

That we can learn from each other. We can teach each other and grow from each other's knowledge. Each generation is unique in their own way, and everyone has a story to tell. Never stop learning. Being different is what makes us who we are. Our wisdom comes from each other. And my wisdom also comes from Christ.



STAFF PHOTO/LINDA SIMMONS

ALLISON

Continued from Page 8

the 80/90s fashion because it's making a comeback, haha. I also have to appreciate that there wasn't the technology back when I was younger that there is now. As much as I rely on social media for the boutique, I can appreciate the simple life before social media and advanced technology. Having personable friendships and interactions over coffee or lunch means filling my cup, not conversations through a screen.

What are some challenges you've faced as a woman of your generation?

I guess people not taking my career choices seriously or those who discouraged me. If I had let those comments stop me, I wouldn't be where I'm at. If anything, those challenges pushed me.

How do you hope to influence future generations of women?

I think we live in a time where when we want something, we want it now. Especially when building a business, you have to crawl before you walk. Embrace every moment, learn from mistakes, celebrate successes, work hard, pray harder and be grateful for every stage of growth. Building a successful business will not be an overnight success. It takes grit and faith.

What message of wisdom would you like to send to women of other generations?

I always say, dream big, work hard, pray harder. Keeping God in my business is why it is what it is. Rely on Him for wisdom and that's where your wisdom will come from.

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The Women of the Bolivar Herald-Free Press... It Is Our Honor to Keep Our Community Informed

Front Row, Left to Right: Dee Darr, Megan Huebner, Melissa Burks, Becky Jones
Back Row, Left to Right: Melissa Grant, Mary Ritter, Cindy Davidson, Deanna Moore, Linda Simmons, Amanda Pettit, Pam Rice, Sherry Veitschegger, Quincy Young

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GENERATION Z



Chloe
Gertner

Bolivar High School student & 4-H member

Interview by Quincy Young

How have you been able to impart your wisdom to the community?

In 4-H, I helped to instruct and assist my younger peers within my discipline, like shooting sports and technology. I do my best to help those around me if they're struggling at school with subjects like math, science, and computer science.

What is something you appreciate about being born in your generation?

I appreciate the technology that's available in day-to-day life. I find myself to be very tech savvy, and that's likely due to when I was born. Being raised in the age of information and having connection at my fingertips has inspired many aspects about my personality, skills, and mindset.

What are some challenges you've faced as a woman of

your generation?

I've noticed that even though the world has gotten better about picking at these things, being raised in a technologically advanced world allows you to be subject to a whole lot more people. You hear opinions about what you should be and should not be, and are raised with models all over social media telling you what you should look like. The anonymous nature of social media causes people to say things that they wouldn't say in person.

A lot of women in my generation have grown accustomed to such bold, hateful comments. I've just grown up using these words as motivation. Every time someone tells me that computers or archery or shooting sports are something that I'll always be worse at than my male peers, I just let it fire me up. Their disbelief in my abilities based on my gender only makes me work harder to achieve my goals.

See **GERTNER**, Page 11



Mia
Payne

Manager/Baker, Sweet Kayle Soup & Salad Bar

Interview by Linda Simmons

How have you been able to impart your wisdom to the community?

By working hard! Having a motivated attitude and strong work ethic. Don't complain about the results you don't get with the work you didn't do. Famous words of my grandpa who started the Tracker Marine plant here in Bolivar in 1987.

What is something you appreciate about being born in your generation?

Having 5 generations of influential family to teach, educate and inspire me on how to obtain and follow through with my goals and dreams. It's all about the follow through.

What are some challenges you've faced as a woman of your generation?

Stereotypes! Everyone thinks my generation is enabled and entitled, and to be honest, they are! I have, however, been raised to work hard for what I want and that means daily proving the "haters" wrong!

How do you hope to influence future generations of women?

Having an open mind. Take advice from older, more knowledgeable people and respect their opinion. Listen, and don't just hear what they are saying. Save money but have fun. Trust God! Learn to cook, sew, change a tire, use a drill, and budget your money. Older generations have been there done that. So, learn from them. They have your best interest at heart. My great-granny Dot was a single mom and a successful business owner in an era that women were "supposed" to stay in the home barefoot and pregnant.

See **PAYNE**, Page 11

Hometown Banking... With a Woman's Touch!

Bolivar Main

Left to Right- Rachel Claunch, Robin Woodmarsee, Abby Lamke, Trisha Turner, Robin Sawyer, Felicia Jump & Gayla Stauffacher

Bolivar Downtown

Left to Right- Jaylee Branderhorst, Trina Sanning & Brooke Henry

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As a 4-H member, Chloe competed with 690 other competitors in late-July at the National 4-H Shooting Sports competition in Grand Island, Nebraska. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

GERTNER

Continued from Page 10

How do you hope to influence future generations of women?

I hope that I can inspire them to succeed in ways that subvert the expectations of those around them. It's important to always let someone be themselves and express themselves with what they really enjoy, offering help along the way. I plan to always lend a helping hand to those who need it, and I hope that my current and future achievements can pave the way for future generations to become motivated and inspired.

What message of wisdom would you like to send to

women of other generations?

Your gender doesn't define your abilities or your success in life. No matter what those around you will say or if someone tries to put you down based on one of your characteristics, persist on. Chase your dreams to the end of the earth if you must, and be proud of your accomplishments along the way. Who you are, what you are, and what you look like should never be something that you are afraid or discouraged about. Never give an inch to those who try to push you down. Show the world who you are, even if it doesn't fit into the cookie cutter definition of a woman.



STAFF PHOTO/LINDA SIMMONS

PAYNE

Continued from Page 10

Not only did she go against the odds, but she also received small business of the year multiple times for her success! That was in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Determination, motivation and maybe stubbornness is in my blood.

What message of wisdom would you like to send to women of other generations?

Past: Thank you for paving the way. Present: Do or don't do! There is no try! Future: Surround yourself with positive people. Don't go with the crowd or what the popular vote is. Do your research, and step out on faith! I'm glad I did!



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Left to right: Front row: Naomi Buckner, Cheryl Nutt, Dr. Shay Sechler, Jennifer Walker Back row: Jill Reynolds Toni Ward Bailey Ewing Bylinda Edwards Michelle Henson Not pictured...Kim Christiansen

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Row 1: Abby Yohn, Ginger Muller, Alle Pickering, Mary Hopwood, Darian Spindler, Beth Dixon Row 2: Ruth Medley, Donna Aasby, Shontel Cunningham, Jennifer Wendel, Karen Stevenson, Tammy Milburn, Brittnee Hill Springfield Office: Amanda Apple, Michelle Grover, Joanna Cook Not pictured (Jenna Salemie, Reanna Schrader)



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Who from Our Community Helped You Become the Businesswoman You Are?

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- Janieca Hancock- "Lou Kemp was my kindergarten teacher. She established a solid foundation of learning, cooperation and compassion. Although, she wasn't afraid to resolve an issue when necessary. She has a gift of making students and others feel loved and special. I value the influence she has had on me and so many in our community." (25 years in Banking)
- Donna Marquis- "Pat Burns of Firstar Bank in Humansville, MO AKA US Bank. Pat hired me as a part-time Teller with no experience which turned into a career that I love. I will always remember her and appreciate her guidance. PS- Janieca is pretty great too!!!" (22 years in Banking)
- Kelly Barnhouse- "My mother was my greatest influence in building my work ethic, dependability, teaching me how to manage bank accounts, accounting and manage day to day tasks. She started me working at Foremost where she worked and taught me what work was done running a business. My other influences were my business teachers in high school, Eva Peterson and Sheryl Morehouse. They taught me so much in high school. " (45 years in Banking)
- Darlene McBride- "My mother always worked outside the home & on the farm, she hardly ever sat down unless it was working up garden vegetables or to eat with the family. " (37 years in Banking)
- Lori Rice- "I have been blessed with so many influential woman that have had an influence in my path to becoming a successful businesswoman. Mary Kay Ash was the first woman entrepreneur that caught my attention. She took what she loved and found a way to be successful with her career. Included in her business model was a way to empower other women to do the same. In my career, it is my mission to be a resource to others and to be an inspiring woman in someone else's life. A quote to remember: "To love what you do and feel like it matters, how could anything be more fun?" - Katherine Graham." (14 years in Banking, 9 years in Insurance)
- Shelley Choate- "Audrey Hepburn once said, "Nothing is impossible, the word itself says I'm Possible." Her life's history and all she has contributed to the world as a young girl and woman in the 30s, 40s, all the way through until she died in the early 90s shows strength, perseverance, and grace. If she could do it through some of the most horrific times in history, then I can too. No matter the trial, I'm Possible." (11 years in Banking)
- Mary Brummett- "It would be my mother, She would say to me all the time if I was struggling with the day's task, 'Be the best you can be today and that's all that matters; tomorrow is a new day'. I miss her dearly." (30 years in Banking)
- Cassie Prikryl- "If I had to pick one woman who has impacted me the most, it would be my mom. She is the most selfless and hardworking woman I know. I have always looked up to her and still aspire to be just like her." (2 years in Banking)
- Katelynn Nelson- "The woman that has influenced me the most would have to be Mallory McCutchen. Mallory has been a longtime friend of mine that has always pushed me to be the best version of myself in every aspect of life. She has always helped me through every hardship I have experienced as an adult. I truly believe I would not be where I am without her. She is the most selfless, loving and hard working woman I know. I am extremely grateful to call her a friend." (4 years in Banking)
- Maddison Anderson- "My close friend Juliette is someone who has influenced me greatly. Growing up close through school and watching her work hard and begin to thrive in her career early in life has inspired me to work harder myself to become a better businesswoman" (2 years in Banking)
- Whitney Ehbrecht- "Mrs. Shantra Tucker. She was one of my high school teachers but she's always been more than that to me. She has helped shape me into the person I am today. Being a part of her JAG class has definitely provided me with the best business skills I could have straight out of high school and so much more." (6 months in Banking)
- Lauren Ford- "At my first job, I was blessed with the opportunity to work under the management of Marlene Jones at Cramer Veterinary Clinic in Stockton, Missouri. Through the tough days, she reminded us of the good that was still in our lives. She set the example to treat all people with respect and kindness. Marlene made me feel appreciated doing a job that often goes unnoticed. I never doubted my ability to do any part of my job asked of me. If the job was working cattle, a C section on a dog or cleaning up messes, Marlene would take the time to teach and guide me through it all. Marlene's examples of leadership, kindness, and joyfulness are things I strive to hold true to in my career today." (1.5 years in Banking)
- Allison Wiebe- "I have had the opportunity to have many influential women in my life who I can contribute my success to. These women have been family, friends, teachers and preachers. These women have helped shape, mold and nurture both my life and career success" (new to Banking)
- Mattie Wright- "One of the most influential women in my life would be my mom, Bobby Wright. My mother, being a business owner herself, has taught me how to be genuine and that hard work is the most important thing you can bring to a workplace. I will forever be grateful for all she has taught me!" (6 months in Banking)

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- Jan Wilson- "The person who influenced me the most in my life was my grandma. She taught me how to work hard at everything and be responsible for myself and my actions. She always loved, laughed and lived every day to the fullest. (38 years in Insurance)
- Carla Fuller- "What an epic moment for me to share: 32 years ago in 1990 I was hired at Bankers Insurance Agency. It was the book of insurance business that came from Polk County Bank. Wanda Wainscott was involved in that transition and she trained me for a short stint. My favorite two comments from her were, 'A penny is worth finding' and 'Don't ever give up your integrity for any situation'." (30 years in Insurance)
- Nicole Watson- "Besides my beautiful mother, a woman named Loretta Blair has influenced me on my path to be becoming a successful businesswoman. Loretta is a sweet lady that I became really close to while I worked at Cox South Labor and Delivery. I considered her my 'work mom'. She always listened to me, believed in me, and guided me—all through the word of Jesus. Much like my mother did when she was still with us on this earth. When I was leaving Cox South she told me to keep my head up, mind straight, and I would do amazing things in this world. To this day, I keep in touch with Loretta Blair. She is a real blessing in my life and I am thankful every day that I get to have her in my life." (6 months in Insurance)

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