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Safety Center talks begin again

By Mike Steely
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When a mentally ill person is arrested in Knox County, the suspect is taken to jail and housed with other inmates prior to trial. The sheriff's department has estimated that at least 25% of the inmates are in those categories and the housing and upkeep is expensive. Plus those people are temporarily in a facility that holds a harsher and more violent population.

The Maloneyville Road Detention Center is already overcrowded and a new facility to house the non-violent jail population would help free up some space there. Where the new facility would be built isn't known but there's some opposition to building it near the Detention Center.

For several years the need for a special facility, a Safety Center, has been discussed and the matter was on the Knox County Commission's February 16 work-session agenda, in a second effort to ask for bids to build such a facility. The discussion will be postponed as the Safety Center Committee wants to get more agencies involved in the plans. The first round of bidding saw only one bidder, the Helen Ross McNabb Center. Although Knox

County has indicated funds would be provided for its share the city and state have lagged behind a funding commitment. Supporters are asking the city to kick in \$1 million and a promise of state funding has been rumored.

Proponents of the Safety Center estimate the building cost at \$2 million and about \$1.7 each year to operate. Sheriff J.J. Jones says he'd like to see the new Center open before he leaves office and Randy Nichols, the sheriff's special counsel director, has been pushing for action on the proposal since he served as Attorney General. Nichols has said that currently the Detention Center is spending about \$89,000 per month on prescription drugs and medical supplies for the care of inmates and that would be reduced if the Safety Center was built.

The commission's Safety Center Committee met Friday on the 6th floor of the City-County Building with Sheriff's Department representatives to begin discussing the need and the details. The possibility of building the new facility behind the McNabb Center is also being considered. The committee consists of Commissioners Mike Brown, Jeff Ownby, Randy Smith

and Amy Broyles, Nichols, and representatives of other agencies and companies. Additional members include representatives from the District Attorney's office, and the Sheriff's Department.

Brown was elected chairman and he asked Andy Black of Helen Ross McNabb to be a consultant in the process. Black said that the initial facility could be expanded as needed and current plans, which could change, call for a 24 bed unit.

"Let's test drive it and start with a number we can serve," Black said.

Brown said the committee needs to develop an "umbrella agency" to coordinate care with hospitals, other agencies and businesses and is asking that a representative of the city and county mayors' offices become involved. Vivian Shipe, a proponent of a Safety Center, was also selected for the committee.

There's some debate about how large the facility would be, how many beds, how long a patient would stay there and what treatment would be available after discharge.

There is some speculation that the state may kick in more money than previously anticipated which could possibly make the



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY.

Knox County Law Director Richard "Bud" Armstrong (right) listens intently to former Knox County District Attorney General Randy Nichols about plans for a proposed Safety Center during a meeting this past Friday.

new Safety Center larger than currently discussed and possibly turn the new facility into a regional treatment center.

The small meeting room was packed with citizens and officials. Brown said that he will secure the small conference room for the next meeting, which is planned for Friday, February 26th at 1 p.m.

Two committee members may visit a similar facility in San Antonio Texas which has been in operation for 10 years.

"We're just in the preliminary stage," Nichols told the meeting. Speaking of the plans, growth and preparation for a bid, Brown said, "We can adjust it as needed."

BOE Postpones Interim Superintendent Process Decision

By Sally Absher
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Last week the Board of Education defeated a resolution supporting Cultural Competency Training brought forth by Amber Rountree on behalf of Student Representative Sydney Gabrielson. Gabrielson is continuing efforts on this topic started by last year's Student Rep, Adam Hasan.

The resolution supports training for teachers and administrators to better interact and instruct with students from all ethnic, socioeconomic, and religious backgrounds.

While all members of the BOE support the training, at issue was the board majority's desire to wait until the Disparities in Educational Outcomes task force completes their work and brings recommendations to the Board, scheduled for this May. Chairman Doug Harris was especially leery of adopting a

resolution that commits the Board to accepting all the Task Force's yet to be known recommendations. He said, "Frankly, we can't make that commitment because it could come with financial constraints that we're just not able to meet...I'd hate to promise something that we potentially cannot do."

A student-led press conference was held at the AJ Building immediately prior to Monday's board session meeting. Board member Karen Carson complained that she had not been notified about the press conference, and then proceeded to "school" Gabrielson on proper procedure for writing resolutions and organizing press conferences. Gabrielson showed great maturity and class in politely and humbly accepting the criticism, but many who attended the meeting

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A Ballot Guide for Voters

Election roster contains both presidential AND local races

By Focus Staff

With early voting set to begin this Wednesday, February 10, Knox County voters will be faced with a rather lengthy ballot. This year, several local primaries are on the ballot at the same time as the presidential primaries. And in the races for president, not only the candidates but also their delegates are up to be voted on. This can sometimes create a long and confusing ballot at the polling places. In order to help voters navigate these issues, The Focus is providing some guidelines to better understand the upcoming election ballot. Here are a few important things to remember when going to the polls:

It's not just a presidential primary. While Tennessee voters will be making their choice of presidential candidates, there are also a number of very important local races going on in Knox County. These include: Property Assessor, Law Director, as well as County Commission and School Board races in several districts.

Voters need to be aware that these races all appear near the END of the ballot, AFTER all the presidential candidates and several pages of delegates. Even if you choose not to vote on the delegates, it will be important to page through the entire ballot to these local races before casting your vote.

It IS a primary. On both the national and local levels, this is NOT a general election, but a party primary. That means voters will have to declare whether they are voting in the Republican or Democratic Primary when checking in at the polls. Tennessee does not allow "crossover" voting; therefore, you will only be able to vote on one party's slate of candidates. For example, voters wishing to choose between Hillary Clinton and Bernie Sanders will have to vote in the Democratic Primary, and will therefore only be able to vote on local Democratic races. The same is true on the Republican side.

Don't be confused by ALL those delegates. The first thing voters will see on the ballot is the list of presidential candidates. After that, there will be a very long list (more than 100 names) of delegates pledged to each candidate. After casting their vote for president, voters will be allowed to

select up to 14 of these delegates. You do not have to vote for delegates at all. Your vote for president will still be what determines who wins the most delegates. The important thing to remember is that the votes cast for the CANDIDATES will determine how Tennessee's delegates are awarded, and the number each candidate will send to the convention. Voting for the individual delegates only helps determine which SPECIFIC people get to go to the convention, and NOT the number each candidate gets to send.

If you are confused - talk to an official. Do not be intimidated by the technology or the way the ballot is laid out on the screen. If the lengthy ballot on the voting machine is difficult for you to discern, you may still ask an election official for a paper ballot. The important thing is that you vote, and your vote is properly accounted for.

This is an extremely important election, both for Knox County and our nation. Regardless of your party affiliation or choice of candidates, we all need to exercise our sacred right to vote. Early voting begins this Wednesday, February 10, and Election Day is March 1.

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County Candidates Face Off in Forums



PHOTO BY SALLY ABSHER.

BOE candidates L to R: Lori Ann Boudreaux, Grant Standefer, Jennifer Owen, Susan Horn and Buddy Pelot.



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY.

Candidates for Law Director and Property Assessor met the public in a League of Women Voter Forum Thursday. Pictured are, left to right, Andrew E. Graybeal, Jim Weaver, John Whitehead, Nathan Rowell, Richard "Bud" Armstrong and moderator Matt Shafer Powell.

League Hosts School Board Candidate Forum

By Sally Absher
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Last week the League of Women Voters hosted a forum for contested candidates seeking election to the Board of Education in the Knox County March 1 primary election. Early voting begins on February 10.

Jennifer Owen, a former English and music teacher in Knox County Schools, and Grant Standefer, executive director for the non-profit Compassion Coalition are running for the Second District seat currently held by Traci Sanger. In the Fifth District, Susan Horn, elementary education coordinator at Christ Covenant Church; Lori Ann Boudreaux, a former school counselor; and Buddy Pelot, attorney, are vying for the seat currently held by Karen Carson.

Each candidate responded to questions covering on a range of topics, including:

Disproportionate disciplinary actions for students of color and disabled. Nearly every candidate cited the need for cultural competency training. Boudreaux said she would "look at the numbers and do some research." Standefer is aware of cultural differences through work with his non-

profit. Owen said the board has looked at cultural competency since 2007, but so far, nothing has been done. Horn and Pelot also suggested looking at what has worked in communities with similar demographics.

Balance between teaching and standardized testing. Owen said, "When I think of 'balance' I think 'equal' and testing should only be a very small part of the year— test prep measures how well a student can take a test, not what they know." Horn agreed, and said the long testing window for TNReady means students miss out on valuable classroom learning, and often take end of course tests well before the end of the course.

Priorities in working with the funding body. Building relationships and transparency was a common theme in working with the mayor and County Commission. Standefer pointed out that Knox County has just reached the Tennessee average for public school funding. (He may not know that Knox County contributes the 4th highest amount in local per pupil funding of the 95 counties).

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Law Director, Property Assessor Candidates meet at LMU

By Mike Steely
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Five Republican candidates faced the public Thursday evening in a forum at the LMU Duncan School of Law, including two running for Knox County Law Director and three seeking to become the Assessor of Property.

In a court-room setting each candidate spoke briefly before answering questions in the League of Women Voters forum. Matt Shafer Powell, news director at WUOT, read questions from the League and from the audience.

Law Director Candidates

Candidates for office of Law Director included incumbent Richard (Bud) Armstrong and attorney Nathan Rowell. Questions included what each would do to improve the office, should the director be elected or appointed, challenges

facing the office, and if the office should be independent of the County Commission.

Armstrong said his office has reduced the hiring of outside attorneys and lowered the settlement costs. Rowell said he had more litigation experience and has worked for various county and city jurisdictions. At one point Rowell said that Armstrong's office had a \$50,000 settlement over an inmate case and had not considered attorney fees in the settlement which resulted in another \$77,000.

Armstrong explained that the attorney fees not included because the fees were negotiated and reduced to \$45,000.

Both men responded that the Law Director should be elected and not appointed. Armstrong said the director should represent Knox County

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BOE Postpones Interim Superintendent Process Decision

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were shocked by the way she was treated.

Carson responded to a public forum speaker on Wednesday, saying that she had spoken to Gabrielson both before and after Monday's meeting and that as far as she was aware, Gabrielson did not feel "beat down, put down, or disrespected by anything that I had to say." Perception is everything.

Also on the board agenda were a number of revised Board policies. One of the policies recently reviewed was BCBI, "Appeals and Appearances Before the Board." In the current version, this policy also addresses public forum under "appearing before the board." Tracie Sanger brought forth a revised policy BCBI, titled

"Complaints and Appeals to the Board," and a completely new policy, titled "Public Forum" which pulled text regarding appearing before the board from the original BCBI policy.

As noted on social media last week, there was some confusion among regular attendees at BOE meetings who reviewed the revised policy BCBI, and seeing language about public forum deleted, incorrectly concluded that the BOE was eliminating public forum altogether. Despite efforts by some board members to restrict the number of speakers, or the time allotted to speak, the new Public Forum policy maintains almost all of the current public forum procedures.

Slight revisions include those calling the Board

Secretary to sign up for public forum are asked to call by 12:00 noon or speak to the board vice chair in person prior to the start of the meeting. Rountree and Bounds also expressed concern about the sentence in the first paragraph of the new policy: "Meetings may occur, on occasion, when the Chair deems it in the best interest of the district to not include Public Forum."

The first reading of both policies was approved.

The board voted to approve construction contracts for both the Hardin Valley Middle School and the Gibbs Middle School projects. The vote was symbolic only, as the school system is committed to the contracts after approval by county commission at the end of January.

The board also discussed the procedure for hiring an interim Superintendent. Chairman Harris proposed a process in a January 28 Memorandum to the Board in which he stated that Dr. Tammy Grisson, Executive Director of the Tennessee School Board Association, had "indicated that the Board could empower the Board Chair to identify and talk with potential internal and external candidates and make a recommendation to the full Board for a vote."

That appeared like too much of a power grab to some board members, however. Both Rountree and Patti Bounds followed up with Dr. Grisson, and learned that "We don't keep data on the selection of interim director of schools. As you know,

boards can choose whatever method they like in their selection process. Most boards select an internal candidate, if there is one the entire board can agree upon. However, an external candidate, such as a retired Director of Schools, is always an option."

Terry Hill brought forth a draft proposal on Wednesday whereby the entire board would be available to interview and question any interested candidates. Concerns were mainly around the proposed timeline and the budget process, which occurs in April, and the logistics of having all nine BOE members conducting individual interviews, which was the reason for choosing one person to interview. Lynn Fugate said, "I think if that person was you, this board would support that.

Please think about that."

The board decided to discuss the criteria for the interim Superintendent at their February 17 mid-month meeting, and then vote on the search process in a Special Call meeting at the end of that mid-month meeting. Carson updated the board that the Law Director's legal opinion related to the 2003 Order of Compromise, which she requested on January 6, 2016, was "90% complete." David Buuck, representing the Law Department said, "This has been much more extensive than even I imagined... the document has many ambiguities and vagaries, and that has given rise to a whole lot of conflict... we've had four attorneys working on this in the office."



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Publisher's Position

A great day for Gibbs and Hardin Valley

Groundbreaking for new middle schools is Tuesday, February 9



By Steve Hunley,
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A long-awaited and anticipated day is about to come to pass for two communities in Knox County, and for the people of Hardin Valley and Gibbs, it simply could not be a more joyous occasion.

Over the past year, the two communities located on opposite ends of the county, had joined forces in expressing their need for new middle schools. While the issues facing Hardin Valley and Gibbs were not identical, community

leaders found great common ground in their desire to meet the educational needs of their children. After months of public meetings revealed Gibbs and Hardin Valley middle schools to be immediate needs, the two communities came together and began to ask the school system to build these schools.

Last spring, their voices finally began to be heard. After weeks of debating, voting and crunching numbers, the Knox County Board of Education entered into an agreement with the Knox County Commission and Mayor Tim Burchett to construct the two new middle schools. This Tuesday groundbreaking ceremonies will be held in both Gibbs and Hardin Valley, and the hopes of these two communities will at last be realized.

For Hardin Valley, the need had become apparent in recent years for a new middle school. The Hardin

Valley Academy High School had been opened in 2008 to accommodate the growing number of high school students in deep west Knox County. Neighboring high schools of Karns and Farragut were running at capacity and could not handle the growth facing the Hardin Valley area.

But it soon became obvious that a middle school was needed as well. It is difficult for a community to flourish without all the spokes of the educational wheel in place - which includes elementary, middle, and high schools. By 2014 Hardin Valley Academy had become the largest high school in Knox County, but no direct feeder middle school existed in the Hardin Valley community. That's when community leaders began to express their concerns.

For the Gibbs community, the issues have been different, and based on other extenuating factors.

As a result, the fight has been much longer, and at times even more frustrating. Located in northeast Knox County, Gibbs is a rural but vibrant and growing community that for many years had all the spokes of the educational wheel intact. But in 1991, Gibbs Middle School was closed, and students from the Gibbs-Corryton area were bused to attend Holston Middle School. For many Gibbs area students, the distance was more than 15 miles. This practice of busing in students from Gibbs has continued for 25 years despite the fact that there are two middle schools within 4 miles of each other in East Knoxville.

But after years of what often seemed like a losing fight, Gibbs community leaders felt that a new generation of leadership in Knox County might at last be willing to right the wrong. The Gibbs community came together and began asking

the School Board and County Commission to fix this gross transportation inequity and give their community the opportunity to reach its full potential by returning its middle school.

School Board Chair Mike McMillan and Commission Chair Dave Wright both did a stellar job in making sure the voices of these citizens were heard, and it did not take long to convince other representatives that the right thing to do for Knox County was to build these two middle schools. And so with the help of Mayor Burchett and his staff, an agreement was reached, architects were put to work, and construction is now set to begin.

This Tuesday, February 9, groundbreaking ceremonies will be held at the sites of the two new schools. The ceremony for Gibbs Middle School will be at 11 a.m. at the property behind the current Gibbs Elementary, and the Hardin Valley

groundbreaking will take place at 1 p.m. behind Hardin Valley Academy. The public is both invited and encouraged to attend. Since school will be in session, to alleviate parking, shuttle service will be provided to the Gibbs groundbreaking from the Gibbs Ruritan Park located just .3 miles away. Those wishing to attend are reminded to dress warmly, because these ceremonies will be held outdoors.

Last October the Gibbs community gathered for a celebration cookout under a tent near the building site for the new middle school. Emcee Richie Beeler welcomed the large crowd with the declaration, "It's a great day for the Gibbs community." The crowd responded with cheers of joy. It is always a great day when right prevails. Now another great day has come, and those cheers can echo across an entire county. All the way from Gibbs to Hardin Valley.

Funding and Need for Farragut Business Alliance questioned

By Focus Staff

This coming Thursday, February 11th, the Farragut Board of Mayor and Aldermen (BOMA) will have a town board meeting that may change the future of the town of Farragut in a very serious way. The local business group the Farragut Business Alliance (FBA) will present a proposed Memo of Understanding (MOU) to the BOMA to change its mission from a local business alliance to the economic development branch of Farragut. This was the idea of Town Administrator David Smoak. In the January 25th meeting of the FBA Board Mr. Smoak told how the town needed to hire an economic development director but there was no space left in the Town Hall. So he had the idea to ask the FBA to take the job as a subcontractor to save money for the town.

In that meeting Mike Mitchell, a local resident and member of Farragut Citizens for Responsible Growth and Development (FCRGD), told the Board of the FBA that their group should not get involved in contentious and combative zoning matters like they did with the Smith Road apartments because

they accept monetary grants and, in Mitchell's opinion, it was a conflict of interest. The President of the FBA, David Purvis, said they are a 501 C 6 and they can lobby the town on any matter and it was part of their mission statement to include this kind of lobbying. The FBA voted and approved the \$600,000 no bid MOU with the Town of Farragut with \$200,000 to be paid out each year for three years. Voting on the FBA Board was Town Mayor Ralph McGill and newly appointed Alderman Louise Povlin. Mr. Mitchell asked both McGill and Povlin to recuse themselves when the BOMA considered the matter because of a "conflict of interest." Town Administrator David Smoak said they did not have to recuse but offered no reason why.

Last week on February 3rd the Farragut Economic Development Committee (EDC) met to vote on the FBA MOU with the town. There were eight board members present along with FBA President David Purvis and FBA Executive Director Allison Sousa. In the audience was an unidentified FBA board member, members of the press, and residents

Mike Mitchell, Bob Hill and one other unidentified resident. Mr. Hill was the Chair of the Farragut Municipal Planning Commission for over 27 years. Mr. Purvis explained the history of how the MOU came to be and outlined what the FBA would do as the economic development branch of the town. Farragut Alderman and EDC member Ron Pinchok explained to Mr. Purvis and Ms. Sousa he could not support the MOU as written because in the mission statement it still contained the right to take town tax money and then lobby the town on zoning and policy issues. Mr. Mitchell agreed and said it would take away the value of his vote for Mayor and the two Aldermen he elects. Mr. Mitchell said it would make the FBA an unelected and unaccountable branch of the town government. Mr. Hill spoke and strongly objected to the FBA taking \$600,000 of town tax monies and that they should get their money from dues from their members.

According to Mitchell, in the ensuing discussion some remarkable and surprising statements were made by FBA Executive Director Allison Sousa. In responding

to Alderman Ron Pinchok and FCRGD representative Mike Mitchell she said the FBA did not have members, they had participants, they paid no dues, and the Board of Directors was not elected by the FBA participants. It was actually a committee of eleven people who are not elected by anyone. The FBA membership roster of 290 businesses came from the phone book and the Farragut Business Licenses.

In an interview with The Knoxville Focus, Mike Mitchell said, "It turns out the Farragut Business Alliance is an illusion. It is a website listing businesses in Farragut many of whom were never contacted by the FBA. It is incredible that our Town Administrator could consider doing a no bid contract with a committee of eleven people who have no experience in economic development and demand the right to lobby the town with our town tax money. In the Board of Mayor and Alderman meeting next Thursday Mr. Smoak has a lot of explaining to do. As does our Mayor Ralph McGill and new Alderman Louise Povlin. We need answers and we need them now."

After some discussion a

motion was made and properly seconded. There was a brief discussion, one EDC member said she needed more time. It was too much information to digest in one meeting. FBA President David Purvis refused saying this was going to the BOMA next week. Not said was that they were skipping the BOMA workshop that normally happens for such a large expenditure. Is that a procedural violation of the BOMA? Alderman Ron Pinchok again said he could not support the MOU with the political advocacy statement remaining in the mission statement. Then the EDC voted, one No, four Abstentions, and three Yes. Then both Town Administrator David Smoak and Assistant Town Administrator Gary Palmer said the MOU motion passed. According to Mitchell, Robert's Rules says, "An abstention may, however, have the practical effect of a 'no' vote since a motion may fail for lack of sufficient 'yes' votes." With eight EDC board members present, there had to be five Yes votes for the motion to pass. There were only three Yes votes. The motion failed but was counted as a pass. According to Mitchell, this is

the second time in less than three weeks Town Administrator David Smoak has not followed Robert's Rules of Order to the advantage of the FBA. The first, he said, being the improper appointment of FBA Board member Louise Povlin to the BOMA to replace Alderman Ron Honken who resigned. What happened there was Mayor McGill asked Smoak how to proceed with voting. Smoak said vote for the first candidate nominated which was Ms. Povlin. That is not correct to Robert's Rules. All candidates nominated had to be voted for at the same time with the low vote candidate rolling off until one candidate had a majority. "Smoak's preference for the FBA over the rules is troubling and a concern to residents," Mitchell told The Focus.

Mitchell continued to say, "Thirty-six years ago the town of Farragut was born in a revolt against the Knox County Court, the predecessor to the Knox County Commission. This Thursday there may be a revolution against an unelected business committee that seeks control of the town government."

THE CHALK BOARD

Bits of News About Local Education

By Sally Absher
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Hardin Valley Academy APUSH Class Seeks Tickets to see 'Hamilton'

Students in Ms. Guy's AP U.S. History (APUSH) class at Hardin Valley Academy (HVA) are undertaking an ambitious project that illustrates how students in Knox County Schools are encouraged to "think and learn outside the box."

The Focus was contacted by Gabby Swenson, a student in one of Ms. Guy's two APUSH classes. She and several of her classmates explained that discussions during class frequently reference the musical "Hamilton," currently

playing in New York. "Hamilton" is a musical about the life of Founding Father Alexander Hamilton.

In addition to the historical perspective, the students have become enthralled with the musical, and its creation. The musical is performed by an inclusive cast including primarily people of color. The music is rap and hip-hop, providing a unique twist on the story of our nation's creation and providing a "once in a lifetime learning experience."

They learned that the Rockefeller Center was given a grant to provide tickets for Title 1 schools in New York, and originally hoped they might be given a waiver to qualify for tickets under the grant. That didn't work out, as HVA is neither a Title 1 school, nor located in New York.

The ticket cost is the biggest obstacle - ticket prices range from \$500 to more than \$1300. Undeterred, Swenson and classmates Maggie Olson, Dominique Rios, and Kendall Shanks are exploring fundraising opportunities so they can travel to New York in May to see the show.

They located a block of 20 tickets through Ticket Master for \$8000. There are over 40 students in the two APUSH classes, so tickets would be available on a first come basis. Swenson said they hope fundraising will cover the cost of the tickets and lodging for two nights, which will total about \$12,000 for 20 students. The students would provide the cost of travel (approximately \$300 each) and meals. They also plan to visit the Alexander

Hamilton home in Manhattan.

The four students have begun talking with local business owners to solicit sponsorships and donations. Shanks said they are planning to partner with a local fast food restaurant willing to donate a portion of the revenue from one evening. Each student who attends the musical will complete a project about the American Revolution and Hamilton's involvement, and how these events helped our country become what it is today.

Ms. Guy told us, "I am blessed with an extraordinary group of students this semester. They are focused, motivated, and willing to go above and beyond to enhance their learning. It is an honor to have the opportunity to teach them in class."

She adds that she has had very little to do with the actual planning of this endeavor. She said she has "given advice when asked, but the entire movement is student-led, which makes it so extraordinary."

Interested businesses and individuals may contact the students at ms.guysapush@gmail.com. If they are successful in their fundraising, Ms. Guy and several other HVA staff will chaperone the trip.

The student have also set up a gofundme account (<https://www.gofundme.com/getustohamilton>) for members of the community who would like to make a donation. The students said any funds raised above the \$12,000 will be donated to charity.

Law Director, Property Assessor Candidates meet

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government and taxpayers and not individual elected officials. Rowell agreed but said one agency should not be against another.

Asked about challenges Rowell said the Law Director person should "simply be doing the job." Armstrong said the office "has no enforcement powers" and the position should advise in a way that is "clear and can be understood."

Armstrong said the Law Director has 500 clients, a \$2 million budget, and his office councils with each department's attorneys. Rowell said the Law Director should take "a more active role in litigation."

In closing Rowell said he

has 20 years of litigation experience and asked voters to look at his resume and vote for him.

Armstrong said the office is "one of the most important positions in Knox County" and that 20 years of litigation doesn't qualify someone to be Law Director.

Assessor of Property Candidates

With no incumbent Property Assessor because of term limits the three candidates, Andrew Graybeal, Jim Weaver, and John Whitehead answered several questions in their appearance.

Questions included the fairness of appraisals, current staffing levels, what technical advances might be made and the most effective way to run the office.

Graybeal charged that the property assessor's office has for the last 8 years made mistakes and the atmosphere there is too political. Both Weaver, the current chief deputy in the office, and Whitehead, a former Property Assessor, spoke of their experience. Weaver said that with the 2017 appraisals coming the office would make at least one visit to every property and be in the field every day. Whitehead said that appraisals are

"an ongoing process" and agreed with Weaver on several matters.

Whitehead said there "probably would be some turnovers" of employees at the office if he is elected. Graybeal said he "did not intend to get rid of employees" and Weaver said he would sit down with each of the 47 employees if elected to talk about their positions.

When asked about technological advances in the property assessor's office, Graybeal said that "the current system doesn't work" and if necessary he would go to county commission because "we may have to spend some money."

Weaver said the property assessor's office does work well and that the state gives it a 96% approval rating. Whitehead referred to changes in 2012 with a new system which he said "had some errors" but added that those mistakes were fixed.

Graybeal charged that the IRS is talking with some of the employees in the office although he did not explain the statement.

Weaver said the office complies with the state, which mandates fair evaluations of property and Whitehead agreed that the state required guidelines are met.

Graybeal said the property assessor's office

"is overlooked" and said the office hasn't had "a fresh set of eyes in 30 years."

Weaver said the office is "100% transparent."

"I'm not a politician, just a person who serves and enjoys people," Weaver said.

Whitehead said that equitability makes property taxes fair.

None of the candidates face Democratic opposition. The first day of early voting starts Wednesday and ends February 23rd.

Primary Election is set for March 1st.

League Hosts School Board Candidate Forum

Cont. from page 2

Smaller class size or expanded technology, given limited funding. Horn would emphasize smaller class size:

"The key to success for our students is having great teachers in the classroom. Smaller class size allows the teacher to focus on individual student needs, the different ways that students learn... technology is great for research, or teaching students how to use technology, not simply with an emphasis on testing."

Pelot and Standefer both said technology is essential to student success and Standefer added, "We need additional funding." Boudreaux said, "Of course I would like smaller class size, but my research has shown that is not cost effective."

"We need to know what we have before we talk about getting more," said Owen. "We have a great deal of technology that is not being utilized, because we don't have enough support to keep that technology running. There are literally computers stacked in closets because they haven't had time to assign them, figure out what to do with them, or repair them. Knox County doesn't know what they have - there is no central inventory."

Familiarity with Teacher Evaluation Rubric. Boudreaux and Owen have personal experience with the rubric, and Horn and Standefer have spoken with teachers extensively about the rubric and are aware of the concerns. Pelot seemed bewildered, saying "I've heard about it, I have not seen it or been subject to it, but I do know there are issues with it...as this race

goes on I'm on the learning curve for a lot of things."

Improving education for Special Education students.

Owen said Community Schools improve opportunities for all students, including special needs students, and stressed the importance of following the IEP and ensuring the student is in the best possible environment. Horn said it is important for all students to be with special need kids whenever possible in the regular classroom. She added, "Make sure the IEP is followed, that all accommodations are being set up and followed so that students can experience that success." Pelot suggested his background in law would help the BOE understand the legal requirements of special education. Standefer spoke of his experience working with disability ministries.

Ensuring students have equitable share of the resources.

Candidates in both the 2nd and 5th district agreed that resources are not being equally shared among all schools, but said it's not always the schools in more affluent areas

that have more resources. Owen said some inner city schools have projectors, computers, and Smart boards in every classroom, and Horn and Boudreaux said schools in Farragut are behind many other schools, and what technology they have is often purchased with PTA/PTSO funds. Horn said, "As a Board we need to encourage our General Assembly and governor... to fully fund the BEP."

One thing KCS can do in next two years to improve college/career readiness.

Horn focused on improving ACT scores, which are the benchmark of "college and career readiness." She said one problem is the amount of instructional time lost due to the greatly expanded TNReady testing window, adding, "Teachers need autonomy to teach the curriculum and organically review in a spiraling method throughout the semester so that students get to the end of the term, have a couple days of review, and take the end of the course test."

Pelot agreed with improving testing situations to avoid disruptions in the classroom, but also reiterated that we need

increased funding and technology. Boudreaux said, "The whole testing thing is not a good predictor of a whole lot of anything." She said kids need everyday life skills, like how to set up a bank account. But she agreed with Pelot about the need for more technology.

Standefer cited the statistic that five states determine the number of prison beds they will need based on third grade reading scores. He supports expanding the number of Community Schools, getting the community involved in the earlier years.

Owen agreed that students need more instructional time in the

classroom. "But," she said, "for students to be college and career ready, we need to stop trying to make our students college and career ready. We don't know what careers are going to be available 5 years from now - In our continual focus on making students college and career ready, we are forgetting to make students society ready. We need to focus on the whole child... the learning, and being able to function with other people... It doesn't matter what they score on a test, if they go to the work place and can't get along with other people... they're not going to keep that job."



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Our Neighborhoods

Historical local companies

By Mike Steely
 steelym@knoxfocus.com

Knox County and East Tennessee have seen some very successful companies over the 225 years since statehood. Firms that grew and prospered, like Kern's Bread, Mountain Dew, Sterchi's, White Lily, and many more. These companies have disappeared and some have re-emerged as brands produced by other firms.

But there are some companies that are historic icons within the region that continue to thrive and many of us don't realize how old the firms are or how they were created.

For instance, Mayo Garden Center was founded in 1879 on Gay Street and now has three locations in Knoxville.

Tindell Building Supply was

founded in 1907 as a saw mill and now has locations on Norris Highway, Morristown, Maryville, LaFollette and Sevierville.

Rose Mortuary is more than 130 years old and has two locations in Knoxville.

Bush Brothers began in 1904 and has grown to be a national brand with its various bean products. While its visitor center is located in Chestnut Hill near Newport its corporate headquarters is in Knoxville. Since 1994 the company's national television ads featuring Jay Bush have become successful.

H. T. Hackney is a continued success after 125 of operation.

Yes, the main distribution center has moved from Knoxville to Roane County along Interstate 40 but continues to maintain its headquarters at 502 Gay Street

since 1991.

The company dates back to 1891 when two brothers operated a feed and grain business on Market Square. By the end of the 20th Century H.T. Hackney was one of the largest food distributors in the South.

During its history the company, at one point, operated coal mines in Jellico, Tn., and even had an automobile company. Over the years H. T. Hackney



From early beginning Knoxville's H.T. Hackney has grown to be one of the largest grocery distributors in the South.

purchased other food distributors including the large Jellico Grocery Company that has warehouses in Tennessee and Kentucky.

Also added to the umbrella of the company were Holland House, a furniture manufacturer,

and Natural Spring Waters. More recently it has acquired H. Home and produces upholstery, living room furniture, recliners and sofas in its Bean Station and Athens, Tennessee, locations.

H. T. Hackney distributes more than 30,000 different products to 20,000 locations in twenty one states including frozen foods, baked good, candy, snacks, tobacco, cosmetics and deli items from its 28 distribution centers in 10 states.

The Fowler Furniture Company in Knoxville and Chattanooga can trace its beginnings back to the Sterchi Brothers. Locally the well-known company was headquartered in the Phoenix Building on Gay Street for fifty years. John, one of the Sterchi Brothers, went into business in 1930 with John O. Fowler.

Therapeutic Foster Parents Needed

By Mike Steely
 steelym@knoxfocus.com

Want to become a foster parent to a child in need? Often children are removed from their homes because of abuse or neglect. Omni Visions of Knoxville is looking for special caring people who will open their homes to these children.

Serenity J. Andrews is the Recruitment Specialist for the company, located at 4709 Papermill Drive, Suite 103, and said, "We are always in need of foster parents."

"We're looking for families with a heart for teenagers," said Rebecca Horton, Recruitment Team Leader.

Horton said that Omni Visions is contracted with



Therapeutic Foster Care is a home-based program for children who need intensive support, supervision, and personal intervention.

the Department of Children's Services and that Omni Visions places children of all ages, even fragile infants, with caring families.

The company maintains a list of 180 foster families

that have been screened and approved for the care of children and the children may stay anywhere from a few months to a few years with the families. Families are reimbursed for the cost

of caring for the children.

"Many children end up in foster care through no fault of their own, often because of what their parents have done," Andrews said, adding, "Teens are the hardest to place simply because of their age, which is unfortunate because they are at a critical stage of life when often a family is needed more than ever."

Omni Visions recruits foster parents, runs background checks and has no-cost training for each family in the care of children. The program also has a resource coordinator that works with foster parents and the children, touching base each week. Prospective foster parents

must be at least 25 years old, pass a background check, have positive references, complete a home study and safety checklist, be in good health, have stable finances, provide adequate living space, and be an active participant in the child's treatment.

These Resource Coordinators partner with the family to develop support services such as counseling, mentoring, tutoring, and respite.

The compensation is for each day the child lives in the home and the Omni Vision staff offers around-the-clock support.

"They are our responsibility," Horton says of the children in the

program.

"The child's opinion is very much part of the process," she said about matching a family with a child.

One of the hardest group of children to place in caring foster homes are sibling groups of two, three, four or more; brothers and sisters who don't want to be separated.

Omni Visions also does adoptions and their programs cover Tennessee, North Carolina and Kentucky.

Interested individuals or families can contact Omni Visions by calling (865) 524-4393 or the company is available online at www.omnivisions.com.

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Responsibility

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History Award Nominations Sought

The East Tennessee Historical Society (ETHS) invites nominations from across East Tennessee for Awards of Excellence in the field of history. Each year, the society recognizes individuals and organizations that have made significant contributions to the preservation, promotion, programming, and interpretation of the region's history. The awards have been presented each year since 1982.

Awards are in four categories:

The Award of Distinction recognizes a special project, such as publications, building preservation, or special program, such as a conference, heritage event, publication, lecture series, or other.

History in the Media Award is presented to someone in the field of television, radio, newspaper, magazine, Internet, for outstanding contributions to the promotion of our region's history.

Teaching Excellence Award is for outstanding

or innovative teaching of history at any level, grades one through adult education.

The Society's most prestigious recognition is the Ramsey Award for Lifetime Achievement. This award is reserved for one who, over the course of a lifetime, has made outstanding contributions to the understanding and preservation of East Tennessee history. It is named for ETHS founder and early historian, Dr. J.G.M. Ramsey, author of The Annals of

East Tennessee to the End of the Eighteenth Century.

For more information about the Awards of Excellence or to request a nomination form, please contact the East Tennessee Historical Society, P. O. Box 1629, Knoxville, TN 37901. Phone: 865-215-8824 or visit website at www.eastTNhistory.org. The postmark deadline for award applications is April 8, 2016. Winners will be recognized at the Society's Annual Meeting held on May 3 in Knoxville.

Working with the Board of Zoning Appeals

By Mike Steely
steelym@knoxfocus.com

Although Knox County and the City of Knoxville share the Metropolitan Planning Commission for zoning decisions each jurisdiction has its own Board of Zoning Appeals. Both boards consist of citizens named to those groups and all of the appointees serve with no salary.

The board, or BZA, hears appeals by citizens on various zoning issues such as setback of homes and buildings, width of driveways, curb cuts, parking spaces, and size and number of signs. The two BZAs also hear many other appeals and

requests.

Any citizen, not just the owner or builder, can appeal planning commission decisions. Some appeals go to the Knoxville City Council or the Knox County Commission, depending on the location of the property. Some decisions can be appealed to the Board of Zoning Appeals. All appeals must be filed within 15 days of an MPC decision.

If an appeal is denied by the jurisdictions or the boards of zoning appeals the applicant must wait one year before filing again.

Recently the most decisions being appealed involve setbacks from

city or county streets and the number and size of parking spaces allowed at buildings.

The Knoxville Board of Zoning Appeals is made up of Don Horton, Chairman, and members Barbara Clark, Kristin Grove, Daniel Odle and Charlies Van Beke. It meets the third Thursday of each month in the small assembly room of the City-County Building at 4 p.m. The telephone number is (865)235-2988. Approvals or denials require a vote of three of the five members.

The Knox County Board of Zoning Appeals consists of Chairman Marcus Chady, vice chairman Carson Dailey, Bill Sewell, Cynthia

Stansil, Ron Rochelle, Cindy Buttry, Kevin Murphy and Dennis Sewell. The board meets the 4th Wednesday of each month at 1:30 in the main assembly room of the City-County Building. The telephone number is (865)215-2325.

A vote of 5 of the 9 members is required to approve or deny an appeal.

While members of the boards cannot communicate public business outside the meetings, members of the public are not prohibited from contacting members although such communications are "discouraged."

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John W. Bricker of Ohio

Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

Few politicians have a career as successful as that of John William Bricker of Ohio; state attorney general (an elected position in Ohio), three times governor and twice United States senator.

Bricker came from very humble beginnings, born on September 6, 1893, along with a twin sister, in Madison County, Ohio. Handsome and athletic, John Bricker was quite popular in high school, but concentrated on his studies and his first love, baseball. Bricker went on to Ohio State University where he participated in the debate team when not playing varsity baseball. Bricker was good enough to attract offers to play semi-professional baseball, but opted instead to study law. John Bricker's legal studies were interrupted by the World War. Bricker desperately tried to enlist, but was rejected for service due to a heart murmur. Undaunted, John Bricker tried to enlist in every branch of the service and was rejected by each in turn. Frustrated, Bricker finally managed to get himself admitted in the Chaplain's service with the condition he could not preach, but the war ended before he could be sent overseas. Bricker returned to his studies and began practicing law in Columbus, Ohio in 1920.

By 1923, John W. Bricker had been hired as an assistant state attorney general, traveling the length and breadth of Ohio trying cases. Quite likable, personable, and friendly, John Bricker made friends everywhere he went. Bricker was a member of the Ohio Public Service Commission from 1929 - 1932. John W. Bricker picked one of the worst years in history to make his electoral debut. He ran for state attorney general in 1932, a year when Republicans were being blamed for the Great Depression. Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Democrats swept across the nation like a tidal wave. John W. Bricker was the only Republican to win a statewide office in Ohio that year.

In 1936, Bricker was the logical and most popular candidate available to the GOP to run for governor of Ohio. If anything, 1936 was a worse year for Republicans than 1932 had been and Bricker lost, albeit narrowly. Bricker never stopped campaigning and ran again in 1938. Incumbent governor Martin Davey had become a highly controversial figure and his administration was bedeviled by scandal and corruption. Davey lost the Democratic primary to businessman Charles Sawyer, who lost to Bricker.

1938 was a good year for Republicans in Ohio; not only had John W. Bricker been elected governor, but Robert A. Taft, son of the

late president and Chief Justice of the U. S. Supreme Court, William Howard Taft, had ousted an incumbent Democrat from the United States Senate.

Governor Bricker immediately set out to balance Ohio's fiscal house. When he came into office, Ohio was afloat in red ink; by the time he left office, Ohio had a surplus of some \$70 million (almost a billion dollars in today's currency). Bricker's budget cutting was not universally popular and the governor was challenged in 1940 by his predecessor, Martin Davey. Once again, Bricker was the beneficiary not only of his own personal popularity, but a brutal fight inside the Democratic Party. Two former governors fought bitterly over the nomination. Martin Davey and George White battered one another mercilessly, a fight which Davey ultimately won, but it was a pyrrhic victory, as he lost the general election badly to Governor Bricker.

Bricker sought a third two-year term in 1942 and faced Democrat John Sweeney, who lost by almost 400,000 votes.

In 1944, Bricker was interested in seeking the Republican nomination for the presidency. He was hardly the only Ohioan with presidential ambitions. Bob Taft had been in the Senate only two years when he sought the GOP nomination in 1940, but the senator was up for reelection that year, a campaign he would win only narrowly. Bricker's chief opponent for the GOP nomination was a fellow governor, Thomas E. Dewey of New York. Dewey was as imperious and cold personally as Bricker was friendly and down-to-earth. The New Yorker had pledged when first elected governor in 1942 that he would serve out his term and ran an aggressive non-campaign for the Republican presidential nomination. The 1940 GOP candidate Wendell Willkie wanted another chance and entered the Wisconsin primary and made an intensive speaking tour of the state. His hopes were shattered when he lost badly to non-candidate Dewey. By the time the GOP convention convened in Chicago, John W. Bricker was the chief opposition to the man the tart-tongued Alice Roosevelt Longworth once dismissed as looking like the little man on the wedding cake. Governor Bricker soon concluded he did not have enough delegate strength to beat Dewey for the nomination and withdrew before the balloting. When Bricker made his speech before the convention, the delegates rose in tribute and many observers felt it was the only heartfelt demonstration of the entire convention, far more tumultuous than that given Governor Dewey.

Thomas Dewey had wanted California governor



FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.

Former Senator John W. Bricker of Ohio speaking to a civic club in 1961.

Earl Warren as his running mate, but the Californian refused. Dewey tapped Bricker as his running mate and the two waged a game campaign against Franklin Roosevelt and Harry Truman. The Republicans lost, but the Dewey - Bricker ticket made the best showing of any Republican duo since FDR had first been elected in 1932. The GOP carried Ohio, while Dewey lost his home state to Roosevelt (it was FDR's home state as well). Dewey and Bricker had made a race of it and when he knew he had won, President Roosevelt had been resentful of Dewey, grumbling, "I still think he's a son-of-a-bitch."

Bricker returned to Columbus and formed Bricker and Eckler, one of the most successful law firms in Ohio and the Midwest. Yet, politics was still much on his mind and he was the strongest candidate the Republicans could field against Senator James W. Huffman in 1946. Huffman had been appointed to the U. S. Senate when Harold H. Burton, a Republican, had been appointed to the U. S. Supreme Court by President Truman in 1945.

Huffman was the son-in-law of popular former governor and U. S. senator Vic Donahey, but had lost the Democratic primary in his lone statewide campaign. Senator Huffman was no match for the popular Bricker.

John W. Bricker overwhelmed Senator Huffman, winning 57% of the vote in a big Republican year.

Just months after coming to Washington, Bricker experienced the most harrowing episode of his political life. While walking in the underground tunnels connecting the Senate Office Building to the Capitol, a deranged man who was a former policeman at the Capitol and somehow blamed Bricker for his financial losses, fired off several shots at the senator. Bricker had the presence of mind to duck into one of the Senate subway cars and was whisked away while the gunman was disarmed and

arrested.

Bricker joined Robert Taft in the United States Senate. Senator Bricker would aid his colleague's presidential aspirations in the 1948 and 1952 Republican conventions. It was Bricker who would appear before the delegates to assuage hurt feelings and move the choice of the convention to be made unanimous in Taft's losing bids. The 1952 convention was especially sad for many, as everyone knew it was the last presidential campaign Bob Taft would wage. A year later, Taft would be dead.

Following the death of Robert A. Taft in 1953, John Bricker became the premier Republican officeholder in the State of Ohio. The two men had been completely different, both in physical appearance, style, and substance. Taft's personality was in marked contrast to that of John W. Bricker. Taft was austere and frequently off-putting, while Bricker was accessible and personable. Both were conservative, but Bob Taft was recognized for his intellect, while Bricker was oftentimes derided for being anything but intellectual. Taft was somewhat dumpy and balding, while Bricker was tall, handsome and possessed a head of hair that began to turn white. John Bricker looked like a statesman.

Handily reelected in 1952 while Taft's brother, Charles, was losing the gubernatorial election, John W. Bricker would finally serve with a Republican president with the election of Dwight D. Eisenhower. Yet, Bricker's relations with Eisenhower would not be what either man hoped they would be. If he is remembered today, it is for the proposed amendment to the U. S. Constitution that bears his name: the Bricker Amendment.

Senator John W. Bricker introduced an amendment, in essence, that would have restricted executive authority in making treaties and issuing executive agreements made by the president. Not surprisingly, President Eisenhower was

profoundly opposed to the adoption of the Bricker Amendment.

Senator Bricker's amendment had the strong support of most of his own party and not a few Democrats. The Eisenhower administration had to use every resource at its disposal to fight off the Bricker Amendment. President Eisenhower was caught in a difficult position, as his own State Department was fiercely opposed to the concept of the Bricker Amendment, while most Republican senators supported the idea. In fact, as originally proposed, Bricker's amendment had broad bipartisan support in the United States Senate.

President Eisenhower was forced to look to Senate Democrats to block the passage of the Bricker Amendment. He found a willing ally in the most powerful Democrat inside the Senate, one with presidential ambitions of his own: Lyndon B. Johnson of Texas. Author Robert Caro, the best of Lyndon Johnson's many biographers, wrote, "Defeating the amendment and thereby preserving the power of the presidency - - - his first objective (Eisenhower's) - - - could not be accomplished even if he united his party's liberal and moderate senators against it; there simply were not enough of them."

Eisenhower argued the Bricker Amendment would fatally dilute the power of the president to make American foreign policy. Senators tried to reach a compromise with language that would appease both President Eisenhower and Senator Bricker. It was an impossible task. Lyndon Johnson nudged perhaps the most respected Democrat in the Senate, Walter F. George of Georgia, to introduce a substitute intended to kill Bricker's proposal. Senator Bricker was livid, knowing full well that Walter George also supported the idea of limiting presidential treaty making powers.

With his usual political shrewdness, LBJ had picked

the perfect opponent to stall John Bricker's proposal. George had survived a purge attempt to remove him from the Senate by no less than Franklin Roosevelt; George had also served as the highly respected Chairman of the Senate's Finance and Foreign Relations Committees. George was also the most senior member of the Senate at the time and was revered by many of the Senate's members.

President Eisenhower tried to prevent a vote on the Bricker Amendment, as both sides knew it would be close. Nobody was better at counting votes than the wily Texan and LBJ held several cards up his well-tailored sleeve. To pass, the Bricker Amendment needed two-thirds approval and when the vote finally came, it lost by a single vote. LBJ had summoned the mortally ill Harley M. Kilgore of West Virginia to the Senate Chamber to cast the deciding vote.

It was the greatest disappointment of John W. Bricker's political life. Toward the end of his long life, Bricker snapped, "Ike did it! He killed my amendment."

While certainly a conservative, Bricker was viewed by many as an ultra-conservative following his spat with Eisenhower. Senator Bricker ran for a third term in 1958 and was expected to win easily, especially as his opponent was sixty-nine year old Stephen Young, who despite having been elected to Congress several times was considered to be something of a perennial candidate for public office. Bricker likely would have survived an election that saw the Republicans lose thirteen seats in the United States Senate had not his supporters insisted upon placing a Right-To-Work referendum on the ballot in Ohio. The unions came to life and energized members who may very well not have voted otherwise. Bricker, recognizing the danger, begged his friends not to place the referendum on the ballot. His pleas fell on deaf years and he lost narrowly.

Bricker returned to Columbus with his wife, Harriet, and resumed his law practice. The former senator enjoyed a leisurely life with an excellent income and he spent a great deal of time in his magnificent library at his home. He and Harriet were especially close and together they had adopted a son, Jack.

John Bricker continued to be a presence inside Ohio's Republican Party. Despite his seventy-one years, many urged him to run for the Senate again in 1964, but Bricker decided against it. When President Ronald Reagan came to Ohio to campaign for reelection in 1984, ninety-year old John W. Bricker sat on the platform. His beloved Harriet died and Bricker's health began to deteriorate. Bricker's son moved him to an assisted living facility where friends and former employees would visit the former senator. Bricker enjoyed sitting outside his room to smoke an occasional cigar and chat.

Turned down for military service during World War I, John William Bricker died on March 22, 1986 at age ninety-two.

Flat beer and soured milk

I opened up the refrigerator door the other day, got a whiff of something foul, and slammed it shut. Sure, I should have completed a search for the offending item, but the truth is, I was afraid of



By Joe Rector
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losing my lunch by playing detective. The refrigerator in most homes can often produce some unpleasant and downright scary items.

When my brothers and I were young, we consumed milk by the gallons. My children drank a fair amount of the stuff too. These days, Amy and I drink milk or use it for other things occasionally, but nowhere near as often as we did a few years ago. Yes, we both like a bowl of cereal for breakfast sometimes. I've poured out a heaping bowl of cornflakes and covered them with Splenda. Then I'd reach for the jug of milk to pour on the flakes. That first bite has sometimes ruined a whole day. Soured milk on cereal produces a disgusting taste, not to mention a load of disappointment.

eternity and proves to be a good diet aid since I lose my appetite after inhaling. Even worse is pouring out the milk into a glass, only to have it flow with chunks included. Some people can drink buttermilk, but to me, it's no better than a glass of spoiled milk.

We eat well; my dear wife is a wonderful cook. After many meals, she shovels leftovers into containers with the express purpose of serving them the next evening or taking them to work as lunch. Amy knows that I am not a fan of leftovers unless they come from Christmas dinners and include turkey, ham, and dressing. The rest of the stuff doesn't pique my hunger.

We often forget that those leftovers are in the fridge.

Amy gives most things a week before removing and dumping them. However, sometimes food items hide behind other things and manage to survive for too many days. When they are discovered, the lid is removed. A glob of something that was once a part of our meals is stuck to the container. A stinky liquid might also cover the bottom of the plastic, and hairy-looking mold covers the top of the stuff. I joke that we've grown enough penicillin to cure all sorts of illnesses.

Most of the time, I finish a drink that I have. Amy or the kids when they are home will place a half-consumed bottle of coke or sports drinks in the refrigerator, and we all know that none of them will ever be finished. A while later, the drinks are removed, and they have lost their fizz. A complete waste of drink and money goes down the drain.

My daddy drank an occasional beer...only when we boys were gone on vacation or out of the house for extended periods of time. Somehow, he managed to hide remaining cans in the back of the refrigerator.

If we discovered them, Mother would swear she bought them to wash her hair, something I never bought nor understood. At any rate, she'd take one of the bottles to the bathroom, hang her head over the side of the tub, and pour the beer over hair that had just been washed. The stuff "glunked" from the can and never showed even a trace of carbonation. It was as flat as a board, proof that it had stayed longer than its shelf life.

We still cram leftovers into our refrigerator with a vow to consume them the next day. All the while, I know it's a lie because the appeal of a recipe dims over a 24-hour span. I like hot food, not stuff that's been warmed up in a microwave or re-heated in a sauce pan. That means Amy does a better job of cooking portions that we will finish off the first time. Neither of us wants to take on cleaning the refrigerator and find mushy scraps of foods, and we sure don't like discovering flat beer and soured milk.

Due to the vast amount of phone calls and emails I received this week, I would like to discuss a single piece



From State Representative Harry Brooks

Congress. The states' authority for this power resides in Article V of the U.S. Constitution. This authority was given to us by our founding fathers unanimously in 1787. The House sponsor of SJR0067, Representative Sheila Butt, made the point clear that SJR0067 is about states' rights and "showing the federal government the concerns we as states have." In order for a convention of the states to happen, 34 states (2/3) would have to pass legislation like SJR0067 with the same language used in our bill. It is very important that the states that want this to happen have the identical call. We just became the fifth state to pass this identical call. I have received calls from both sides, advocates and oppositions, to this bill. A lot of people have said they are opposed to a convention of the states because it may be a gateway to change many of our values that the Constitution upholds. This question surrounded the House floor on February the 4th, and Representative Sheila Butt had many things to say. The fact is that many states, including Tennessee, are passing faithful delegate legislation that requires their delegate to only discuss what is in this call. In Tennessee, our delegate can be recalled back and charged with a felony if they were to vote on anything other than the three things in this call. Moreover, once the convention proposes an amendment, it would take 38 states to agree on, leaving a large threshold of 13 states to disagree.

I feel as if we have a lot of safeguards with this bill and our concerns need to be dealt with. Our national debt has become so large that it is beginning to threaten the financial well-being of all governments and individual citizens. If the debt continues to grow at the current rate, it is my belief we will reach a tipping point leading to a catastrophe.

If you would like more information on SJR0067, you can visit www.conventionofstates.com. This is a project group that advocates for the convention of states.

I can be reached by email at rep.harry.brooks@capitol.tn.gov or by phone at 615-741-6879.

Prof Loy

It hangs in a special place as an inspiration to others. The diploma is from Tennessee State Normal School, which today is known as East Tennessee State University in Johnson City. It is a remind-



By Ralphine Major
ralphine3@yahoo.com

er of someone whose life influenced so many during their school days. He was long-time educator Harvey Gibson Loy, better known as Professor H. G. Loy. Our father called him "Prof Loy."

Mr. Loy made his home in the Gibbs Community. He became the Principal at Gibbs High School and later Central High School. His legacy was carried on by his daughters. Betty Sharp and her late sisters, Helen Calfee and Inis Smelser, taught at Gibbs, Pleasant Ridge, and Central.

Today, Prof Loy would be pleased that his legacy is being carried on by the next generation in a unique way. Surrounded by a white picket fence, the most recent addition on the Calfee Farms is a

charming place called The Hen House. The antiques and creations business owned and operated by Loy's grandson, Ron Calfee, and his wife, Becky, also teaches old-fashioned skills to today's

generation. They taught many of these skills to their three sons--Matt, Jeremy, and Nathan--while they were growing up. Classes in biscuit making, canning, cooking, cleaning, basket making, quilting, gardening, and crafts are held for children, teenagers, college students, and adults. There are also lots of goats at The Hen House and llama shearings with Carl, the Llama.

Prof Loy passed away in 1991 at the age of 104. He would be so proud of all the learning taking place on the farm at The Hen House. When you visit The Hen House, look for Prof Loy's diploma. It will be sure to spark a story from Ron about his beloved grandfather.



Prof Loy



As your next County Commissioner, I will use my experience to bring a business approach to government. My priorities will be to ensure efficient spending, make tough decisions, keep taxes low, provide our children with high-quality education, and communicate with Knox County residents about important issues that face our communities. I humbly ask for your vote in the Republican Primary on March 1.

- JANET

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Piddle Diddle Update: Saturday, February 13, 2-4 p.m., book signing and pictures may be taken with Piddle Diddle in costume at Barnes & Noble, 8029 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN 37919, 865-670-0773.

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Brad Taylor named football coach at Karns

By Ken Lay

Brad Taylor is once again a head football coach in Knox County. He was tapped by Karns High School and replaces Tobi Kilgore, who resigned in January to pursue administrative opportunities.

He spent last year as an assistant coach at South-Doyle after taking the 2014 season away from the game.

Prior to his brief stint with the Cherokees, Taylor was the head coach at Bearden High School. He led the Bulldogs from 2007-2013.

He resigned from his alma mater following the 2013 campaign after a successful tenure with the Bulldogs.

"I got a chance to recharge my batteries and I'm excited about this opportunity," said Taylor, who graduated

from Bearden in 1994 and currently teaches at South-Doyle. "The biggest things about this are that the job is in Knox County and my family and I have always been here. It's local so we don't have to pack up and move somewhere.

"The other thing is that when I met with the administration, we were all on the same page and they made me feel welcome. I felt like

they wanted me here. I'm looking forward to meeting these young men."

Taylor said that he's hoping to land a teaching job at Karns. Those details, however, have yet to be worked out.

"The administration is working with me on that," he said. "I would like to be in the building at Karns. We have some coaches here who are in the building and

anytime you have coaches in the building, that's a good thing."

Taylor said that he'll look to retain at least some of the current assistants with the Beavers.

He will coach his first game against his alma mater and one-time employer when Karns tangles with the Bulldogs on Aug. 19.

"That makes this kind of neat for me," Taylor said

of the looming showdown against the Bulldogs. "We're going to go out there and play and represent Karns the best we can.

"We're going to do the best we can and we're going to look to get better every week. We're going to continue to work hard. That game will be exciting for my guys because it will be the first game [of the 2016 season]."

Central survives turnovers, scare from Dragons 57-53

By Ken Lay

Central High School's boys basketball team had to survive a bit of a scare at home early last week.

The Bobcats overcame a slow start to claim a 57-53 District 3-AAA victory over Clinton Tuesday night at Central High.

"We had over 20 turnovers tonight and it's been a long time since we've had a game with more than 20 turnovers," Central coach Jon Higgins said. "But you have to credit Clinton because they scrapped.

"They played hard tonight and they did some good things."

The Dragons (13-10 overall, 4-8 in District 3-AAA) held the upper hand early as the Bobcats (19-7, 11-3) were plagued by early turnovers. Central didn't convert its first field goal until late in the opening stanza. Trey Mitchell gave the Bobcats a 7-3 lead with 1 minute, 27 seconds remaining in the first quarter when he scored, was fouled and buried the subsequent free throw. Prior to Mitchell's basket, Central got its only offensive production from the foul line. Markess Underwood made 2-of-4 from the free throw line and Quez Johnson knotted the contest at 3-3 with a pair of foul shots with 2:15 remaining in the opening frame.

After Mitchell gave the Bobcats a four-point lead, the Dragons scored the last five points of the first quarter to take a slim 8-7 lead,

Clinton pulled out to a 12-7 advantage when Trevan Hill scored a basket with 7:19 remaining in the second stanza.

Central began to take better care of the ball in the second quarter and Bobcats saw their shots begin to fall



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.

Central High's Quez Johnson (4) goes up for a layup against Clinton Tuesday night. Johnson scored 13 points to lead the Bobcats past the Dragons 57-53.

a little more frequently.

Johnson scored seven of his 13 points in the second stanza and helped Central open a 26-21 lead by halftime.

The Bobcats went up 31-25 when Mitchell nailed a 3-point shot midway through the third quarter.

Clinton chipped away and pulled

to within 37-35 on a basket by Tyler Thackerson. Thackerson scored 11 points in the game despite being held scoreless in the first half.

He and Daraon Jones kept the Dragons within striking distance late. Thackerson scored six points over the final eight minutes and

Continue on page 3

Vols happy with Class of 2016

By Alex Norman

All coaches say that they are happy with their recruiting classes on National Signing Day. Heck, Derek Dooley put a rose on that Class of 2012 that didn't have one offensive lineman in the bunch. Not one!

But Tennessee coach Butch Jones actually does have good reason for positivity. Jones and the Vols coaching staff closed with a flurry, getting 4 star athlete Tyler Byrd, 5 star safety Nigel Warrior, 4 star receiver Latrell Williams and 5 star defensive lineman Jonathan Kongbo to round out Tennessee's Class of 2016.

"This is a culmination of one to two to three years of hard work by a lot of individuals involved in this process," said Jones. "It is really about relationships. We are in a relationship business. It is earning that trust over time. Our coaches did a great job with that."

When the dust settles, Tennessee is likely to finish with a national ranking around 15 for this class. And while the class won't match the previous two classes in terms of stature, they have continued to build depth with mostly 4 and 5 star athletes across the board. It's a group of 23, including a couple of walk-ons.

"We had some very specific needs in our program this year," said Jones. "We thought we needed to bring in as much speed and athleticism as we could, bring in players that can play multiple positions and give us flexibility whether it's on the offensive side of the ball, defensive side of the ball or special teams. You can never have enough team speed as we have all come to know in this conference. That lends itself to playing well in terms of your special teams."

In the past, part of the recruiting pitch was the opportunity to play right away. Look no further than what defensive end Derek Barnett and running back Jalen Hurd were able to accomplish during their freshman and sophomore seasons. But even with the absurd amount of returning talent on the roster, Jones hasn't given up that part of the discussion with recruits.

"If you sit in a living room of a young man and you promise him that he's going to start, or you promise him playing time right away, I think that's unfair to that individual because of the growth and development that it takes," said Jones. "You never know. Each young man develops differently at their own pace, but what we still can promise is the opportunity to play early. I think we've proven that within our football program. Everyone's always going to have that opportunity for playing

Continue on page 2

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Powell's Malicoat to play baseball at Johnson University



PHOTO BY DAN ANDREWS.



Powell High School baseball player Noah Malicoat signed a National Letter of Intent to continue his playing career at Johnson University on Wednesday. He intends to pitch and play first base for the Royals.

By Ken Lay

Powell High School baseball player Noah Malicoat will continue his career in college.

He made it official Wednesday when he signed a National Letter of Intent to attend Johnson University in a ceremony in the Powell High School auditorium.

"I love the atmosphere there and I love the fact that it's a Christian-based university," said Malicoat, who will soon begin his senior season with the Panthers. "Johnson was the best fit for me and I felt like God was leading me there and I wanted to stay close to home."

Malicoat pitches and plays first base at Powell, where he has helped the Panthers win back-to-back District 3-AAA Tournament Championships. The opportunity to move on to Johnson University

will give him a chance to continue as both a position player and a pitcher.

"I will play both [positions] there," he said.

Malicoat also noted that the fact that Johnson University was a small school also appealed to him.

"I loved the fact that Johnson is a small school," he said. "I wanted to go somewhere where I could get a quality education and not just be another number."

"The campus was beautiful and I liked going there. The [baseball] coach and the admissions clerk said that the professors there would sometimes get your personal information, like your phone number and your e-mail address and they will contact you if you miss class."



Bailey Gale of South-Doyle signs her letter of intent to play soccer for University of Tennessee Chattanooga as her parents, Kevin and Martha, look on.

Vols happy with Class of 2016

Cont. from page 1

time early."

Overall it was a down year for high school football seniors in the state of Tennessee, but Jones did secure 4 star linebacker Daniel Bituli, 4 star offensive lineman Ryan Jones and 3 star tight end Austin Pope (from nearby Christian Academy of Knoxville) from the Volunteer state. Succeeding outside the borders was imperative this year, as always, with players like Warrior and 4 star athlete Marquez Callaway from Georgia, plus Byrd and 4 star receiver Brandon Johnson from Florida choosing the Vols.

"Make no mistake about it, it all stems with home. It's a pride of who we are," said Jones "I think the pride

of this state, it means so much for an instate individual to represent The University of Tennessee more than any other school in the country and the passion behind our fan base, but also we have other states that we view as home territory. So to be able to go in those other states and really assert ourselves was very big for our program and moving forward."

It's hard to say that a 4 star quarterback recruit is the forgotten man in a recruiting class, but that's kind of the case with Jarrett Guarantano. The Bergen Catholic HS (NJ) stand-out has been committed to Tennessee since last April and never wavered in that pledge, so most of the more recent attention has gone elsewhere. But he is likely the most important member of this class and the quarterback of the

future for the Vols.

"Getting a quarterback to commit early was very big for us. You talk about the quarterback position, and one of the intangible traits that you look for are the leadership qualities," said Jones. "Jarrett Guarantano has those leadership qualities, and he was able to build relationships with his future teammates, with his peers. That helped, but also the commitment level. Here's a young man that could've went anywhere in the country, and had everyone pulling on him, even the last week in recruiting. He didn't take one other call."

The hype machine will be churning at full speed for the next 7 months. We'll see if the Class of 2016 can make a difference as the Vols try to win the SEC East for the first time in 9 years.

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Big week includes historic win over Big Blue and signing King Kong

There were some happy moments in Big Orange Country last week.

(Hey Jimmy Cheek, this is still Big Orange Country isn't it?)



By Steve Williams

While I wait on an answer to that question, let's review the good times of the past few days ...

Rick Barnes, despite not wearing a Big Orange blazer, saw the Vols climb out of the Black Hole and run the Kentucky Wildcats all the way through the tunnel and back to Middlesboro last Wednesday night.

(Technically, the Tennessee men's basketball team trailed by 21 points in the first half before rallying for an 84-77 victory.)

UT sports information so far can only confirm it's the biggest comeback win since 2006 but is still researching. I doubt seriously the Vols have ever had a bigger comeback win against such a highly significant opponent.

It definitely will become one of the most memorable triumphs of all times for many Tennessee fans.

Give UK Coach John Calipari credit for telling it like it was - "They came back and blew our brains out."

I wasn't shocked this Tennessee team beat Kentucky. It's like I told the two Kentucky fans I ran into at McDonald's

in Halls after the game. Tennessee can beat any team in the country when they get hot and those great Tennessee fans get rockin' in Thompson-Boling Arena.

Of course, we know all too well, they also can lose any night out when those shots aren't falling. I'll spare you the examples of that. Today's objective is to reflect on last week's good times.

By the way, the two Kentucky fans from Middlesboro were nice but about as blue as the school colors they were wearing. When asked if the Wildcats would make it to the Final Four again this season, one said he wasn't sure if they would or not. "We might not even make the tournament," said the other.

Be safe driving back, I told them as I walked away. Those two guys, I thought, sure have a long, long ride home ahead of them.

Meanwhile, the news of the big Tennessee win was drawing national attention and prominently mentioned on ESPN and other national sports shows.

It would have been the talk of the town on Wednesday had it not been college football's National Signing Day. But even head football coach Butch Jones began his press conference to wrap up signing

day by congratulating Barnes and the Vols.

That afternoon Butch's 2016 recruiting class finished with a home run as 6-6, 260-pound defensive end Jonathan Kongbo III, the nation's No. 1 junior college player, became the Vols' 21st and final signee.

Kongbo, who played at Arizona Western College, picked the Vols over Southern Cal, Florida State and Ole Miss mainly because "I believe they're on the verge of something big."

The addition of King Kong capped a 17-hour flurry that saw Tennessee get three 4-star recruits and a 3-star recruit to rise from No. 22 to No. 14 in the national recruiting rankings.

"It was big," said Jones, talking about the importance of Tennessee's finish. "We still felt that there was room for more speed, more athleticism, and we were going to swing the bat ... you can never have enough speed and athleticism."

The week got even a little sweeter Thursday night when Holly Warlick was presented a cake in commemoration of her 100th coaching win after the Lady Vols rolled past Arkansas 75-57.

Finally, I did receive confirmation - by UTsports.com - this still is Big Orange Country.

And last week it was a happy place.

Johnson University 120, Crown College 110 and Luke Dalton 46

By Steve Williams

Luke Dalton put his name in the Crown College basketball record book last Tuesday night, but he couldn't sign off on a victory against rival Johnson University.

The 6-4 sophomore from Clarksville swished in 46 points to tie a school record set over 20 years ago, but the visiting Royals managed to overcome Dalton's big night, outscoring Crown 120-110 in the National Christian College Athletic Association Division II shootout in Powell.

Dalton tied the school mark that has been held by Travis Walls since Nov. 11, 1995. His 18 rebounds also gave him a career-high double and moved him into 19th place on Crown's all-time rebounding list.

The two longtime foes combined for over 100 points in the first half, and then turned it up a notch. The final score looked like something from an NBA contest.

A spectacular tip-in by Dalton just before the first-half buzzer gave Crown a 52-49 lead.

Johnson erased that deficit by scoring 71 points in the second half.

Freshman guard Taylor Gilpin led the Royals with 24 points as he gunned in six of eight 3-pointers. Halls High product Kenny White, a sophomore shooting guard, followed closely with 22 points and had four steals.

The win kept Johnson tied in first place with Kentucky Christian University

Continue on page 4

Central survives turnovers, scare from Dragons 57-53

Cont. from page 1

Jones had 13 of his game-high 18 points after halftime.

Central took a 51-44 lead when Matt Randolph scored with 2:08 to play.

Clinton had one final gasp and pulled to within 56-53 when Thackerson grabbed an offensive rebound and promptly scored with 12.8 seconds remaining.

Mitchell, who finished with 12 points, salted the game away with a free throw with 11.6

seconds to play. Johnson led the Bobcats with 13 points while Randolph finished with nine.

Central got a late offensive boost from Sean Oglesby, who scored all seven of his points in the final frame.

Higgins said he wasn't all that pleased with his team's effort but lauded Central's perseverance.

"We've had to fight in our last three or four ballgames," he said. "I

wasn't really happy with the way we played but I was proud of the kids for the way that they hung in there.

"Every game in our district is a battle."

The Bobcats beat the Dragons 66-36 in Clinton earlier this season but Higgins said that his squad saw a different Dragons team on Tuesday night.

"We beat them pretty handily over there but that was a long time ago and teams change," Higgins said.

Clinton runs past Lady Bobcats 50-26

By Ken Lay

When Clinton High School's girls basketball team lost to Central in a holiday tournament in December, Lady Dragons coach Alicia Phillips decided that it was time to make some changes.

"We've changed the way that we run our offense since Christmas time," Phillips said after Clinton shook off a lethargic start to down the host Lady Bobcats 50-26 in a District 3-AAA game at Central High School Tuesday night. "We played much better in the second half tonight than we did in the first half."

"In the first half, they got some good shots and they made them. In the second half, we played much better defense."

The Lady Dragons (3-20 overall, 3-9 in the district) and Lady Bobcats (2-21, 0-14) were embroiled in a tightly contested battle throughout

much of the first half and Central held a narrow 16-14 edge midway through the second quarter before Clinton scored the final 11 points of the first half and opened a 25-16 halftime advantage.

"We had a big run at the end of the first half and that changed the complexion of the game," Phillips said.

The Lady Bobcats scored the first five points of the third quarter as Lazaia Peebles and Teyanna Beard made consecutive baskets to pull Central to within four points. Peebles buried a 3-point shot to make the score 25-21 with 4 minutes, 21 seconds remaining in the third stanza.

The Lady Bobcats didn't come any closer as the Lady Dragons closed the frame with a 12-0 run.

Central scored just 10 points after halftime and the Lady Dragons took advantage of some second-chance

opportunities to pull away for a seemingly lopsided victory.

Lady Bobcats coach Josh Brannon said that he was pleased with his team's effort.

"The biggest difference in the game was that they had some second chances off of their rebounds," he said. "We're still a very young team and we had some turnovers and we tried to speed up the tempo and we turned the ball over."

"I thought that our effort was there. Our girls played hard and I thought this was a pretty good basketball game."

Defensively, the Lady Bobcats couldn't find a way to stop Clinton center Kelley Wandell. She had 16 points to lead all scorers. Nikki Jones added 16 points for the Lady Dragons.

Peebles scored 15 points for the Lady Bobcats and Beard finished with eight.

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After special senior season, football wasn't most important for Scott

(This is Part 3 of a series on Terence Scott, former Central High football standout who went on to star at the University of Oregon in 2008. Scott crossed many hurdles growing up in Knoxville, and then chased his dream to play Division 1 football. He plans to return home soon and wants to help Knoxville pull together and put an end to recent gun violence and gang activity that has claimed innocent lives.)

By Steve Williams

The trees and mountains in Oregon weren't all that reminded Terence Scott of Knoxville and East Tennessee.

Sitting in the University of Oregon stadium on a recruiting visit brought back memories of first experiencing big-time college football and seeing the Tennessee Vols play in Neyland Stadium.

"When I was a kid I used to go to UT games with my friend Tyler Scott and his family," recalled Terence. "I used to imagine what it would be like having all those people scream for me. And here I was at the University of Oregon having that opportunity."

Scott quickly knew this was where he wanted to play as a junior and senior. "I don't know what came over me. At that moment, I told them this is where I want to come and I signed right there."

Coming off two excellent seasons at the College of the Canyons, Scott arrived at Oregon in 2007, the

same year Chip Kelly came aboard as the Ducks' offensive coordinator and implemented his famous no huddle, fast attack.

Mike Bellotti was already in Eugene as Oregon's veteran head coach.

Scott was being redshirted his first season at Oregon, but team injuries forced coaches to put him in for one play the sixth game of the season, costing him much of his junior campaign.

"So there went my clock for my junior year," said Scott recently, looking back on his collegiate career. "All I had left was my senior year for any hope or desire to go on to the NFL."

Terence was so upset with his redshirt being burned liked that, he pulled away from the football program the following summer.

"When they did that to me I changed," he recalled. "I lost the fun of football. My attitude changed ... I pushed away from the whole organization, changed all of my classes, stopped working out with the team."

Scott said he "had to come back to the basics" and his roots - Gladiators youth football in Knoxville and Central High football - in order to pick up and continue his college career.

He started getting up at 4 in the morning, did his training on a mountain, made his own food and made sure he went to all of his classes to keep his academics in order.

"That summer," however, Scott

said, "I was told by the receiver coach that Mike Bellotti, Chip Kelly and himself didn't believe in me anymore because I hadn't shown up."

At that point, Scott was willing to settle for any spot on the depth chart.

"Is there any way I can be a possession receiver?" Scott asked. "Just let me come in on 3rd and 20 and I'll get the first down for you coach."

"He said, 'I don't know.'" Scott went home to gather his thoughts.

"I had come too far not to play," he recalled. "I had come too far to not be the player that I knew I was. So I started camp as the No. 6 receiver. Humble, quiet."

His approach paid off.

"Slowly but surely guys started getting hurt," said Scott. "Guys started not doing what they needed to do ... I can remember the first day they let me run with the ones. They came down and said, 'Today you're going to run with the ones, but you're not going to play this year.'"

"Now me knowing me - give me any opportunity and I'm going to take off with it."

And Scott did just that.

"I didn't look back," he said. "I had my best year my senior year. I was the leading receiver when I left. I was the leader of the team. And I did what I said I was going to do when I started - I played Division 1 football."

According to the Oregon football web site, Scott earned honorable mention on the All-Pac 10 team and won the Dudley Clarke Memorial Award as the team's most improved player.

The CHS product, who started all 13 games, had career highs of eight catches and 125 yards in his last game for Oregon - a Holiday Bowl win over Oklahoma State.

Scott finished strong, averaging 101.7 yards receiving over his final three games. That included 93 yards and a 76-yard touchdown - the longest reception of the season in the conference - at rival Oregon State and 87 yards and a TD against Arizona.

Terence got off to a great start too, with six grabs for 117 yards, including a 60-yard TD, in the season opener against Washington.

"Coach Kelly showed me a whole different scheme of football," said Scott. "I loved playing that style."

He had a 51-yard scoring run against Utah State in his first career carry and went on to average 14.2 yards on nine carries.

Both of his catches against Stanford (28 yards) occurred during the final two minutes and were a big part of a game-winning 74-yard drive.

Oregon finished with a 10-3 record.

Scott increased his weight to 185 pounds and hoped to be drafted in the National Football League, but that phone call never came.

He later spent his last \$100 for a tryout in Portland with the British Columbia Lions of the Canadian Football League. He landed a spot on the team's taxi squad, but it wasn't what he thought it would be. "The fun was gone," he remembers.

Scott spent one season with B.C., and then came back when Pamela was pregnant with their daughter. When he learned his first child was on the way, Scott's desire to return to Eugene was even greater as he wanted to be with the mother of his child throughout the pregnancy.

Terence said he first thought the pregnancy would motivate him even more to play professionally - providing a means to feed and provide for his family - but it affected him differently. He wanted to be there to go through the pregnancy and birth.

"I remember telling Pamela I'm done," he said. "I realized football was over for me, because I was excited about my daughter."

Scott also remembers his last day at practice and a teammate telling him he had left his cleats behind. "He said, 'You forgot your shoes.' I said I wouldn't need them anymore. I was in the real world now."

Terence's daughter, Jamiah, is now five years old and he and Pamela also have a 17-month-old son, Terence Jr.

NEXT WEEK: Part 4 - Reaching out to his dad, life in Eugene and saying 'Thank you' to Knoxville.

Johnson University 120, Crown College 110 and Luke Dalton 46

Cont. from page 3

in the Mid-East Region at 5-1 and improved the Royals' overall record to 8-12.

"This is my first year at Johnson University, so this was my first game against Crown," said head coach Brandon Perry. "I've heard the history and how they've had some tough battles over the years. It was good to be a part of it and a part of this atmosphere. It was a great night."

Coach Perry said he thought his team's defensive pressure was the key to the win. Crown had 16 turnovers.

A victory over Johnson would have been huge for Crown, which lost its first 13 games of the season before breaking into the win column at Appalachian Bible College on Jan. 29. The Royal Crusaders (1-15) will get another chance when they play at Johnson University on Feb. 16 at 7 p.m.

In addition to basketball and his academics, Dalton has been in the National Guard for a year and a half, said head coach Jared Berry. He is averaging 20.2 points and 9.5 rebounds per contest through 15 games.

"Every game we can count

on Luke to shoot 50 percent from the field, get to the rim and get the big men in foul trouble," said Coach Berry. "He just makes great decisions with the basketball and he's got a great shot, so when they sag on him and leave him at 15 feet, he knocks those down, too."

Scoring inside and outside, Dalton made 20 of 34 field goal attempts and was five of seven on 3-point shots. A better night at the free throw line - he hit one of six foul shots - would have given him the scoring record outright.

Jerimah Gillespie and Chad Manious added 19 points apiece to Crown's

total. John Boutchia chipped in 15. Manious also contributed 11 assists.

Johnson also got 19 points from Gunner St. John, 15 each from Jordan McClendon and Rickey Bowen and 10 from reserve Kenton Guilion.

Crown jumped out to a 7-0 lead, but Gilpin's second trey gave Johnson its first lead at 24-23.

White sank both ends of a 1-and-1 to give the Royals a 40-34 advantage with 3:22 showing in the first half.

Trevor King banked in a 3-point shot to put Johnson up by nine (72-63) in the second half. Crown charged

back and got within two points (74-72) on Boutchia's layup.

The Royal Crusaders, however, could never get even and Johnson built a 13-point margin on another 3-pointer by Gilpin at the 9-minute mark. The Royals surpassed the century mark with over

seven minutes remaining.

Crown made a late run and got within seven (111-104), but Dalton missed two free throws with 1:18 to go.

Three-point baskets by Dalton and Gillespie pulled Crown within six points with 24.8 seconds left, but two clutch free throws by backup

senior guard Nick Marshall gave Johnson an eight-point cushion.

"It's always a crazy game, going back and forth," said White after facing Crown a third time in his college career. "It's a great rivalry, always fun and I can't wait to play them again."



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The Doctor is in

a weekly column by
Dr. Jim Ferguson

Seasons

Well, we have it on authority: Punxsutawney Phil did not see his shadow on February 2nd, Groundhog Day, and therefore we will have an early spring. This prediction makes about as much sense as the predictions of thirteen polls which said Trump would win the "Hawki Cauci." Frankly, I distrust pollsters as much as I do politicians and the media. I'm ready to turn it all off, but I can't because it's all over the TV and radio, and the robo calls just keep coming.

Actually, I'm ready for spring - but not Obama and Hillary's Arab Spring which is an unmitigated disaster. As a matter of fact, I'd rather it be hot than cold. Maybe my age has made me a skeptic because I also distrust the hype about anthropogenic (man-made) global warming which largely comes from dishonest politicians and media types who are not scientists. Folks, please realize that funding for climate research is dependent on political correctness and group think.

Recall that commissions for music and artwork came from kings and popes in times past. An artist must please his benefactor if he wants more work. Remember, look beyond what they say these days and ask yourself why they're saying such and such. Simply put, follow the money.

The season I least like is the election season. A poll of 2000 millennials (age 18-29) by The Reason Foundation recently caught my eye. This generation voted overwhelmingly for Obama and supports big government. Millennials are sympathetic to gay marriage, pot and 40% prefer socialism to capitalism, though only 16% can define socialism. Many are flocking to Bernie Sanders and making Hillary "feel the Bern." We shouldn't be too hard on millennials because two thirds of self described liberals and more than 50% of Democrats have a favorable view of socialism. Maybe they all think socialism just means being sociable.

I suspect other terms

such as right-wing or leftist are often used without a clear understanding of what these terms mean. Arguably, if you can't define socialism or capitalism how can you vote for the self described socialist Bernie Sanders or the capitalist Donald Trump? Even liberalism, progressivism and conservatism are poorly conceived in many people's minds. Can you differentiate between fundamentalism and evangelism? The talking heads in the alphabet media certainly can't. Consequently, in this election season it seems fitting to understand the terms bandied about.

America is a capitalist country and we'll start here. The word capitalism comes from the Latin word for head. Capitalism is based on private ownership of the non-labor means of production. Examples of capital goods are buildings, raw materials and machines. Capitalism is an unequaled engine of production. It fueled the Industrial Revolution and American prosperity. Millennials were apparently never taught this perspective by their liberal professors, and they won't hear it from Bernie. Fortunately, the abusive, unbridled capitalism of the 18th century "robber-barons" is now long gone.

Modern liberalism is not the "classical" liberalism of the Founders of our country who opposed restrictions on individual liberty. The Founders' "old

liberalism favored free markets, limited government, private property, and equality under the law. Modern liberalism began in the 1920s as a rebranding of the increasingly unpopular Progressive philosophy that brought prohibition and the income tax to Americans. Later, liberalism became unpopular and so they again changed their name to "modern" progressives. Self described examples are Obama and Hillary Clinton. Some people believe big government, taxes and regulations can fix our problems, but it can't. Socialism is fine, until "you run out of other people's money."

Conservatism stems from the Latin word conserve or preserve. This perspective emphasizes traditions and social stability. There is no comprehensive conservative ideology because many types of conservatives exist. Sometimes a term is best defined by examples. There are fiscal conservatives like our own Congressman Jimmy Duncan. Religious or social conservatism might be represented by Billy Graham. Mark Levine is a Constitutional conservative who holds to the original language of our nation's operating agreement. Rush Limbaugh espouses political conservatism and says he's the "big voice on the right." Obviously, he opposes the voices on the arbitrary "left" such as progressives.

Progressivism is not represented by the white-

garbed Flo of the Progressive Insurance company. Incidentally, this insurance company was begun by Peter Lewis whose liberal-progressive and "leftist" philosophy would be the opposite of Ronald Reagan's. The progressive ideology arose out of "populist" yearnings of the late 1800s. Populism derives from the Latin word populus or people and is a philosophy that focuses on the differences between "the people" and "elites." Donald Trump has been labeled a populist.

Socialism arose in the 19th century in opposition to capitalism and the abuses of the Industrial Revolution. Socialism's desire is to abolish capitalism and establish collective ownership of all means of production. Class struggle may be integral to bringing about social change, and may be violent as in the Russian Revolution. Class struggle in Russia brought about an extreme form of socialism known as communism where a small ruling elite governs the masses. Lenin once said that the "goal of socialism is communism."

Another mechanism of social change is slower and may be brought about through the Cloward-Piven strategy. These two socialists and Columbia professors articulated a policy of increasing government complexity with unending promises to the masses, thereby fostering unrealistic

demands and an eventual collapse of the economic system. The result will be tyranny run by elites. Cloward and Piven were lauded by Obama in a Rose garden ceremony during his first term.

The media stated that Ted Cruz won in Iowa because of the evangelical vote. Until a few years ago I could not have distinguished between an evangelical and a fundamentalist Christian. I discovered the fundamentalist perspective began in the late 1800s and holds to a literal interpretation of the Bible. An example would be that the universe and the earth were created in six days as noted in Genesis. Personally, I believe the Bible is more a compendium of truth rather than facts, so I am not a fundamentalist. However, I do unabashedly proclaim the Gospel message, and like the disciples of Jesus, Martin Luther and Billy Graham, I identify with evangelical Christians.

You may find this essay odd and non-medical. My defense is that I am not a conformist nor will I be pigeon-holed into a particular topic because my column appears in the Focus under Health and Well Being. I believe there is more to health and well-being than bodily functions.

You may email Dr. Ferguson at fergusonj@knoxfocus.com

Parent leaders are the 'voice' for their children, the community

By Valarie Bouchard
 Anderson County Healthy Families
 Home Visitor, Prevent Child Abuse
 Tennessee

Parents take on many different roles in the lives of their children: cheerleader, counselor, teacher, friend, and so many more. A role we don't hear about as often though is advocate. What exactly does that mean? Simply stated, advocates are the "voice" who speak on behalf of their children. Parents can be leaders and advocates in the home, in their children's schools, in their neighborhood and community, or in the larger society. Their advocacy and leadership shapes the development of children, schools, programs and policies, and other families.

All parents are advocates and leaders in the lives of their

children. When choosing a pediatrician or a childcare program, you are acting as an advocate and leader. Parents advocate for their child's well-being, and they grow as leaders as their children grow. Parent advocates can act as mentors in the classroom, share skills with other parents, coordinate events for children and families, or serve as translators or cultural liaisons. They bring out the strengths in other parents. Advocates participate in parent meetings, advisory committees, policy councils, and other governing bodies as well as community or state coalitions. They also represent children and families in the development of policy legislation.

Why is advocacy so important? According to the Annie E.

Casey Foundation, parents who act as partners in their children's development are critical to healthy development, early learning and school-readiness. Parents who serve in leadership roles strengthen families, service systems, and communities that support children's readiness for school. Research supports parent leadership as a way to create stronger families and organizations. A prime example of advocating for your child and parent leadership having national, long-lasting impact is the evolution of special education services for children with disabilities. Parents have been the driving force for creating civil rights and educational legislation at the national level.

Being an advocate for your

children reaps benefits for everyone involved. Parents who are involved in advocacy and leadership activities positively influence their children's learning experiences and serve as an important role model, not only for their children but for other parents as well. Benefits to programs, schools, and agencies include more accountability and improved services for the family.

Since 2008, Prevent Child Abuse Tennessee's Parent Leadership Initiative has led the state in developing parents as leaders in community efforts to prevent abuse and neglect and promote community support for healthy child development. The parent Leadership Initiative engages parents whose children or families are directly impacted by local

and state programs and child welfare and education policy. The Initiative teaches and encourages leadership skills, giving parents the essential tools to advocate for their own children and to be the "voice" to speak on behalf of other families at local, regional, and state levels. The initiative also provides training, onsite consultation, and "Community Cafés" to promote parent leadership and assist local and state organizations in their efforts to infuse parent voices in program and policy decisions.

For more information about Prevent Child Abuse Tennessee's Parent Leadership Initiative, or to nominate a parent in your community to serve as a Parent Leader, please visit www.pcat.org.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call to artisans

The Foothills Craft Guild is accepting new member applications from fine craft artisans for their upcoming JuryFest on March 9. Membership applicants must reside in Tennessee, and crafts must be of original design produced within the past two years. The Guild is the oldest nonprofit artisan guild in Tennessee, and their annual fall show has been designated as a Top 20 Event by the Southeast Tourism Society. Please visit the "How to Join" section at www.foothillscraftguild.org for more information. For questions, please contact Bob Klassen, klassenbob0619@gmail.com, or Ken Shipley, shipleyk@apsu.edu.

Central High School Spring Fashion Show

Central High School PTO presents "Fountain City Meets Hollywood," a Spring Fashion Show featuring Prom Wear on February

11 at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium. Special Guest Emcee will be VolQuest's Brent Hubbs. Students will be modeling clothing from The Gilded Gown, Regal Tuxedo, Nothing Too Fancy, Liz's be.YOU.tiful Boutique, Marc Nelson Denim, Altar'd State and Rue 21. Admission is \$5 at the door.

Ed and Bob's Night Out

Ed and Bob are headed back to Corryton for their next Ed & Bob Night Out in Knox County. Knox County At-Large Commissioners Ed Brantley and Bob Thomas will be at Henry's Bakery & Deli at 7231 Tazewell Pike, Wednesday, February 17 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. to meet the people of north Knox County and listen to their concerns.

Fountain City Town Hall Meeting

Fountain City Town Hall will meet Monday, Feb. 8 at 7:00 p.m. at the Church of the Good Shepherd,

5337 Jacksboro Pike. Representatives from the City of Knoxville will report on progress made in cleaning up Fountain City Lake. All are invited to attend.

Heiskell Community Center

The Heiskell Seniors monthly program/luncheon will be held on Thursday, February 11 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Please note that the location has changed to 1708 W. Emory Road in Powell (the former Wheeler Karate Building). First Century Bank in Powell will be providing our program. Please attend to see our new home and to learn about future programs. All seniors are welcome, bring a dessert and a friend.

No charge, donations appreciated. For more information call Janice White at (865) 548-0326.

NKBPA February Meeting

The North Knoxville Business and Professionals Association will meet Friday, February 12 at 7:45 a.m. at the Wesley House Community Center, 1719 Reynolds St, Knoxville, TN 37921.

The speaker will be Anne Wallace, the City of Knoxville Deputy Director of Redevelopment. Wallace previously held the department's project manager position.

Wallace has a master's degree in landscape

architecture from Auburn University, and is an AICP certified planner. She worked as a planner for the Knoxville-Knox County Metropolitan Planning Commission before coming to the city in 2008. As Project Manager, she has overseen the Cumberland Avenue Corridor and Downtown projects, as well as redevelopment efforts in the downtown north area and brownfield assessments at former industrial properties across the city.

Sequoyah Elementary Kindergarten Open House For Parents

Sequoyah Elementary is hosting a Kindergarten Open House on Friday, February 19 from 9 till 11 a.m. This is an organized meeting for parents of upcoming kindergarten students to provide them with information about the next year and Sequoyah Elementary in general. Enrollment packets will be provided to register students that will begin in the fall of 2016. This gathering is for adults only with a later Kindergarten Round-Up on April 12. That event is when children will get to meet the teachers and see the classrooms. Call 594-1360 if you have any questions or desire further information.

Community Development Announces Grant Applications

The City of Knoxville's Community Development Department is announcing its grant applications for program year 2016-2017 (for activities funded after July 1, 2016). The grant applications are available to download at www.knoxvilletn.gov/development (under "Community Development Block Grant and Homeless Grant" at top of page).

The two grant applications are:

- The Community Development Block Grant, a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) grant program that funds activities that primarily benefit low- and moderate-income persons/households and areas in the City of Knoxville. High-priority needs for CDBG (under the 2015-2019 Five-Year Consolidated Plan) include strengthening neighborhoods, promoting economic development and promoting affordable housing.
- The Homeless Grant, which may include funding from multiple sources - the City of Knoxville, Tennessee Housing and Development Agency and HUD. This grant program funds activities in the City of Knoxville that meet the high-priority need (under the 2015-2019 Five-Year Consolidated Plan) of reducing and ending homelessness.

"This is a great opportunity to provide resources to citizens to address improving community needs," said Community Development Director Becky Wade.

A mandatory Technical Assistance Workshop for all applicants will be held at the John T. O'Connor Senior Center, 611 Winona St., on Thursday, Feb 11, 2016 at:

- 10 a.m. for CDBG applicants
- 11 a.m. for Homeless Grant applicants

The deadline for filing an application is noon on Friday, Feb. 19, 2016, by mail, FedEx or hand delivery. The City will not consider any application received after that time.

More information about the 2015-2019 Five-Year Consolidated Plan can be found at www.knoxvilletn.gov/development under "Reports and Plans."



Jack Neely, President of the Knoxville History Project, spoke at the recent Knoxville Chapter of the Daughters of The American Colonists meeting. Pictured with Neely are Julia Springer, 1st Vice President, and Mary Carmichael, Regent.

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